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VOLUME 29 NUMBER 61

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Memo

A big welcome

Plymouth-Canton Schools Superintendent Jim Ryan will speak at the Canton Newcomers Club at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 2, at the Sunflower Club House, 45800 Hanford. For information, call Nancy Patel, (734) 354-8988.

Waiting on guests

Some of the Plymouth Whalers will be at the Bob Evans Restaurant on Ford Road at 1-275 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3. They will wait on guests. A raffle will be held for Whaler merchandise and Bob Evans gift certificates. Proceeds of the raffle will go to the Karmanos Cancer Institute. Bob Evans is the official sponsor of the Plymouth Whalers Kid Club. People who attend will receive a coupon for a free kids' meal the next time they visit Bob Evans.

School business

A day off from classes for students wasn't the only impact of the Jan. 27 snow storm that hit the area. The inclement weather also canceled a Plymouth-Canton Board of Education meeting scheduled that night. While most of the agenda items originally scheduled for that meeting will be dealt with at the board's regular meeting Feb. 10, the board decided to deal with one issue at a workshop Tuesday, Feb. 3. The item has to do with the district's telecommunications services, and deadlines imposed by the telecommunications request-for-proposal process, which force the board to act sooner. The Feb. 3 workshop starts with an executive session at 6 p.m., and the telecommunications item will be dealt with after board members come out of that session. Questions can be directed to the district's public relations office, (734) 416-2755.

Chorus scholars

The Plymouth Community Chorus is offering three scholarships to students pursuing an education in the vocal field of performing arts. One \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a graduating high school senior, and two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to students in grades 6-11. The scholarships are intended to assist in the pursuit of studies in the field of vocal music, an applied vocational career in vocal music, academic study of voice or the study of voice for recreational or community singing. Applications must be postmarked by March 31 and can be obtained by calling Sherrie Northway, (313) 533-4796 or writing the Plymouth Community Chorus, P.O. Box 700217, Plymouth, MI 48170.

Schools fall short of state marking

Canton, Salem percentage points short in MEAPs

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

Two Plymouth-Canton high schools and two middle schools failed to make the grade in the latest report card from the state, which scores how well individual schools are doing to meet the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

In scores released Friday, East and Pioneer middle schools failed to reach Adequate Yearly Progress, in which schools are judged on improvements related to Michigan Education Assessment Program scores, attendance and parental participation, among other factors. At the high school level, both Canton

and Salem high schools failed to reach AYP because not enough students took the MEAP. Plymouth High School scores are incomplete because the school doesn't have all four high school grade levels yet.

Both East and Pioneer, despite having relatively good MEAP scores, failed because special education students didn't score high enough on the standardized tests.

"Both schools have a higher concentration of special education students because we transport students from across the district to those two buildings," said Verna Anible, executive director of instructional services. "They're expected to make the same level of progress on the MEAP tests as other students."

PLEASE SEE MEAP, A6

Red Wing provides mom and pop service

BY JOANNE MALISZEWSKI
STAFF WRITER

Some customers assume Red Wing Shoes in Canton is a mom and pop shop.

"They assume we are married," said employee Beverly Burpo, about herself and store manager Bob Mathews.

"This is like making people feel comfortable in their own home," Mathews added.

They take no offense. On the contrary, they say that's a good sign. That means customers find them and the environment friendly and inviting.

At the current location in the Canton Corners shopping center at Lilley and Ford roads for about five years, the store, owned by Norm Johnson, used to be in the Harvard Square shopping center for seven years. Before that, Red Wing Shoes was known as the Plymouth Bootery & Repair at Wing and Main streets in Plymouth.

Red Wing Shoes is known for its work boots. "We are probably the second or third boot company in America," said Mathews who has managed the store for about 1 1/2 years.

If the shoe fits



Beverly Burpo and Bob Mathews, manager of Red Wing Shoes in Canton, offers old-fashioned customer service at the store now in the Canton Corners shopping center.

Man charged in shooting returns to jail

A preliminary examination for Keenan Williams, 28, of Sumpter Township, charged in the Jan. 18 shotgun death of Bernard Lester Williams, was adjourned Friday until Feb. 20. The two were related.

Keenan Williams' attorney, Dan Hunter Jr., requested the adjournment and the prosecution agreed.

Judge Ron Lowe asked Williams, who appeared in the courtroom on crutches, if he was waiving the 14-day rule for a speedy hearing. Williams said he was.

"The specific reasons we are requesting the adjournment," Hunter told the court, "is that there are still some reports we need. We need an autopsy and we need photos for us to adequately defend our client."

Lowe granted the request and Williams was remanded to the Wayne County Jail on a \$750,000 cash bond.

He was arraigned Jan. 20 on a charge of second-degree murder, which carries a life sentence if convicted.

Williams was arrested just hours after Bernard Williams was shot to death in a Canton mobile home. Police were called to the home by the female resident, who was identified as Keenan Williams' girlfriend.

She told police that both Williams men and a Romulus man had been at her home drinking. When she was out of the room, the woman told police, she heard loud arguing followed by three shotgun blasts.

When she returned to the living room, Bernard Williams was lying on the floor and the other two men were gone. Both men were located by police and the Romulus man was released.

Berger shares some memories of earlier days on the job. Page A4.

Retiring firefighter has seen his share of tragedy

Now it can be told. But many years ago ... he can't remember exactly how long ... Canton firefighter Steve Berger didn't want to talk about it.

"We responded to what was supposed to be an apartment fire," he said last week.

"Someone called and said he could see smoke coming from an upstairs window and could hear crackling sounds."

When Berger and other fire fighters arrived on the scene, they put a ladder up to the window.

"It was fogged over, we could hear crackling and what seemed to be smoke coming out," he said. "We pounded on the window but didn't get any response."

Someone broke the window with the nozzle of a fire hose while someone else was trying to get into the building downstairs.

When they got through the broken window, they found themselves in a bedroom with a couple in bed.

And the fire? "It was a portable clothes dryer that was venting out the window," he said. "Fortunately that story never made the newspaper."

Until now. Berger, now a lieutenant, retired last week after serving 32 years with the department. He was one of the original fire fighters hired when the department was formed in 1972. He's the last one left.

Berger shares some memories of earlier days on the job. Page A4.



Firefighter Steve Berger laughs as he recalls some of his antics in the early years of his career.

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LOOKING AHEAD
Goodbye friends
Readers share their predictions on Sex and the City. See Thursday's Filter section.



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Living longer seminar set Canton grandmother charged with abuse

Renee Merckx, CLTC, CSA with Mass Mutual, will host an Evening Under the Stars, Living Longer & Loving It! on Feb. 12 at Laurel Manor, 39000 Schoolcraft in Livonia. The event is hosted in conjunction with The Senior Alliance, Rob Bovitz of Bovitz & Co., CPA, and Graphic Communications. This event provides helpful information about successful aging. Norm Bouchard, a nationally recog-

nized speaker and entertainer, will present Living Longer & Loving It, as well as the Spirit of Aging. His unique blend of storytelling, humor, and music will make this event worth attending. Admission is free of charge, and guests must pre-register to attend. Proceeds from the event will be donated to The Senior Alliance. For more information, contact Merckx at (734) 658-4317.

A 42-year-old Canton grandmother was arraigned last week on one charge of second-degree child abuse after her 15-month-old granddaughter was found with first- and second-degree burns to her feet, legs and left arm.

A plea of not guilty was entered for her before visiting Magistrate Ted Johnson in 35th District Court. She was released on a \$10,000 personal bond with the condition that she have no contact with the girl and no alcohol.

According to Canton Police, the Wixom girl was dropped off by her parents at her grandmother's home about 3 p.m. Sunday. When the father came to pick her up at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, he noticed the burns and took her to a pharmacist, according to Canton Detective Sgt. Todd Mutchler. After he took her home and her mother saw the burns, they took the girl to a hospital in Novi where she was treated and released to her parents. Mutchler said the burns appeared to have been caused by hot water.

TUBS TAKEN

Westland police notified Canton police after they arrested a man and recovered a bathtub enclosure. A packing slip listed an address on Deer Creek Drive in Canton, which was a home under construction.

Westland police are holding the suspect.

In another case police were called to a house under construction on Emerald Pines in Canton where a bathtub was reported stolen.

DAMAGE TO CARS

An Ohio woman reported that her car, a 1999 Saturn, was damaged while parked in the 43000 block of Fredericksburg in Canton. She said someone broke the side window and mirror while the car was parked on the street.

A Southampton Drive resident told police someone smashed out the driver's side window of his 2000 Dodge while it was parked on the street.

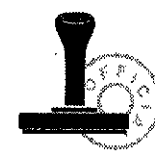
A Redfern Drive resident reported someone broke the driver's side door of his 1990 Mercury Sable and stole 100 CDs from the vehicle.

A resident of the 1300 block of Ranier said someone broke the rear window of his 1996 Cougar, causing \$250 in damage.

BUSINESS THEFT

An employee of a business in the 43000 block of Joy Road reported that someone stole parts from two benders. He said it was the second such theft from the site.

FOR THE RECORD



"For the Record" appears in every edition of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. This

column soon will expand to include births and district court proceeding. Other obituaries can be found inside today's paper. Look for Passages to view paid obituaries.

Deaths

- B**
Bame, Donna Lee, 73, of Livonia, died Jan. 28
Bast, Arthur A., of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 4
Bilaitis, Myrtle M., of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 6
Bunnel, Gordon A., of Gig Harbor, Wash., died Jan. 20
Butterfield, Ruby M., of Eastpointe, died Jan. 16
- C**
Colli, Kathy A., of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 7
- D**
de la Cruz, Julio Jr., of Detroit, died Jan. 16
- F**
Foley, Regina M., of Bloomfield Hills, died Jan. 18
- G**
Gruschewski, Elfriede, of Lake Orion, died Jan. 1
Guzik, Josephine (Joey), of Bloomfield Hills, died Jan. 2
- H**
Haddix, Max V., 85, of Pontiac, died Jan. 23
Hauk, Ross K., 79, of Plymouth Township, died Jan. 27
Hill, Earnie, 77, of Farmington Hills, died Jan. 27
- K**
Kaminskis, Marjorie E., of Rochester, died Jan. 6

- Key, Junior C., 83, of Rochester, died Jan. 2
Key, Laura, 82, of Pontiac, died Jan. 9
King, Barbara J., of Auburn Hills, died Jan. 10
- L**
Logan, Danny, of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 13
- M**
McKenzie, Barbara A., 66, of Troy, died Jan. 10
Meyer, Virginia, 62, of Canton Township, died Jan. 26
Moskal, Eugene, 82, of Hazel Park, died Jan. 29
- P**
Povliches, Beatrice, of New Baltimore, died Jan. 16
- R**
Reynolds, E. Allene, of Washington, formerly of Rochester, died Jan. 19
- S**
Severson, William K., of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 3
Smith, Russell, of Auburn Hills, died Jan. 18
Sowles, Keith J., of Auburn Hills, died Jan. 5
Stahl Arethur, of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 2
Swisher, Marshall S., 92, of Auburn Hills, died Jan. 1
- T**
Thorpe, Matthew R., of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 19
Thorpe, Russell, of Rochester, died Jan. 6
- W**
Wendler, Carlton J., of Bloomfield Hills, died Jan. 1
Weir, Louis, of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 19
Wyrembelski, Irene "Albina", 76, of Farmington Hills, died Jan. 4
- Z**
Zajac, Michael, 85, of Rochester Hills, died Jan. 24

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Party store massacre case goes to trial

A statement made to police by murder defendant Leslie Gordon will likely be admitted in court as she faces trial this week for the killings last Sept. 11 of four people at Neil's Party Store, in what became the worst massacre in Westland history. A video that captured much of what happened inside the store also is expected to be shown, Westland police Sgt. David Heater said. Jury selection is scheduled to begin Monday morning as Gordon, 24, of Detroit faces trial in front of Wayne County

Circuit Judge Annette Berry. Authorities have said the trial may spill over into next week. Gordon, who didn't fire any shots during the massacre, will face trial alone because Detroit triggerman Michael Lamont Schofield, 30, shot himself to death after he led police on a high-speed chase following the killings. Defense attorney Marvin Barnett is expected to contend that Gordon was fearful of Schofield and that she was under his control. The video shows Gordon going into the

party store with Schofield, and she appeared calm as he opened fire on employees and customers. The video also shows Gordon calmly wiping off the store door, in what authorities said was an attempt to rid it of fingerprints during the botched robbery. Inside the store, Schofield shot and killed worker Feras Yousif, 29, of Oak Park and customer James Kuebler, 35, of Westland. Schofield fired other rounds that injured employee Conrad Hasper, 24, and customer Fuad Abuali, 29, both of

Westland. The video shows Gordon alerting Schofield when two other men drove up in a pickup truck. That's when Schofield went outside and killed Kenneth Sherman Littlefield, 63, and his nephew Keith Gaddis, 44, both of Canton. Gordon will face life in prison, if convicted as charged. She faces trial for four counts of first-degree murder, four counts of felony murder, two counts of assault with intent to murder and two counts of assault with intent to rob while armed.

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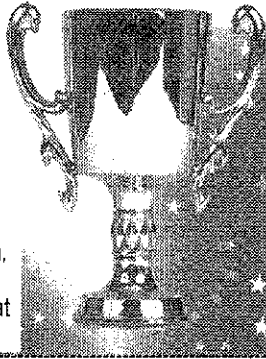
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Help pick 'Best Of' winners

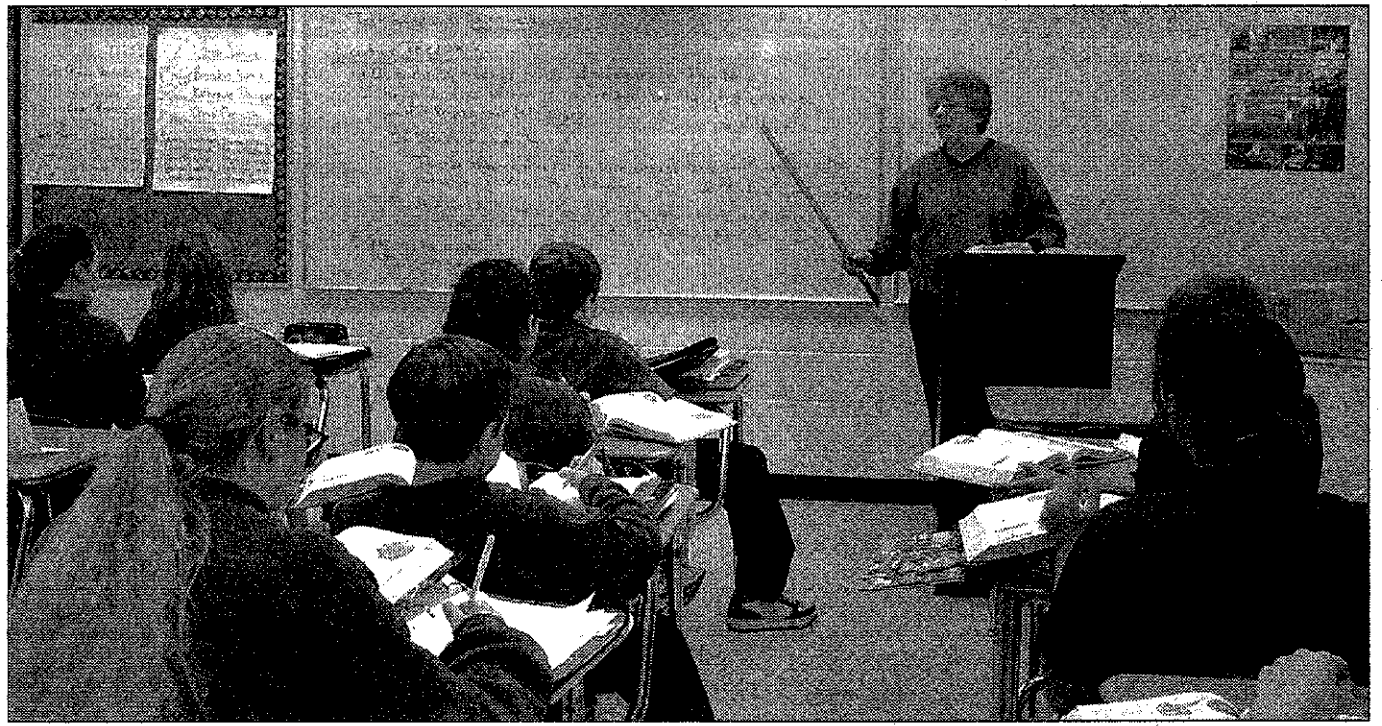
What's the "best ..." in our hometown, in metro Detroit? Help us pick the People's Choice for Filter and the Best Of in your community.

Readers who submit ballots for the local Best Of and People's Choice Award will be entered in a drawing to win gift certificates to area malls and restaurants, movie tickets, sporting events and more.

Metro Detroit has so much to offer. Help us spread the word about your favorite places to eat, shop, hang out and visit by participating in our contest.

To be eligible for the drawing, you must complete both the local and People's Choice Award ballots. The People's Choice ballot can be found in Thursday's *Filter*. Cut out the ballots, complete them and mail or fax to the address listed, or cast your ballots online at www.hometownlife.com.

Entries must be received by Wednesday, Feb. 11. Drawing winners will be notified by phone. Look for the People's Choice awards in *Filter* on Thursday, March 25, April 1 and April 8, and the Best Of local awards on March 25.



Students praise OLGC science teacher Patricia Fair for her ability to make learning science fun. Fair was honored as Science Teacher of the Year by the Engineering Society of Detroit Affiliate Council.

Students praise teacher's ability to make learning fun

BY TONY BRUSCATO
STAFF WRITER

As a young girl, Pat Fair really didn't have much interest in studying science.

"I didn't like it as a kid because most of my teachers didn't make it fun," said Fair. "It wasn't until I was a senior in high school when I had a teacher make it interesting."

Interesting enough that Fair, now a middle school science teacher at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Plymouth, has been selected as Science Teacher of the Year by the Engineering Society of Detroit Affiliate Council.

And, if you talk to her students and colleagues, Fair is the perfect choice.

"She's a great science teacher," said Adrienne Bortell, 13, of Plymouth, who was feeding the lizard and African clawed frogs in the new science labs at OLGC. "She's very good at explaining, and makes science fun."

"Ms. Fair will compare science with things in real life so you understand it better," said Bortell. "Like relating an atom

to a blueberry muffin.

"She can be tough, but that's not bad," she said. "It's more good than bad."

Chris Cieniuch, 12, of Plymouth said he didn't like science until he had Fair as a teacher.

"She brings out examples and uses a lot of hand motions," said Cieniuch. "She explains everything thoroughly, and makes it fun."

Fair is receiving the award for promoting science and engineering to students, and actively promoting the Science and Engineering Fair of Metro Detroit. In fact, during her 18 years at OLGC, Fair has sponsored 728 students in the science fair, six of whom were Grand Award winners, and 116 who finished in either first or second place.

"I hope to inspire them, but they are smart kids," said Fair, who lives in Garden City. "You give them something to do and they just take off with it."

Fair graduated from Frostburg State University in Maryland with a degree in history, and a minor in science. She moved to Michigan,



OLGC teacher Patricia Fair was named Science Teacher of the Year by the Engineering Society of Detroit Affiliate Council.

received her master's degree in science from Eastern Michigan University, and taught for a year at St. Bernadine's in Detroit before the school closed. After spending time in the automobile industry, it was back to teaching for Fair.

"I got back into teaching because I just couldn't imagine a day without it," she said. "I just love it."

The reason, according to Fair, is "because of the kids."

"They keep you young. And, at the junior high level, they are very enthusiastic."

Whatever you give them to do, they are very gung ho about it.

"They're fun to work with, and you can have a good time with them," she said. "That's how I like to teach."

Those are all the things that make Fair different from the science teachers she had as a young student.

"I had a science teacher that was so grim that he never cracked a smile," said Fair. "It was so terrible going into that class. I hope never to become that way. Science can be fun, interesting, something you can relate to all the time."

Fellow OLGC teacher Mary Thompson of Canton Township has had Fair teach five of her children.

"She really raises the bar in what she expects her students to know," said Thompson. "She has such high standards for students, and yet they meet those standards she sets."

Principal Kay Reilly said the school is proud of Fair and her accomplishment.

"Pat makes science come alive for kids," she said. tbruscato@oe.homecomm.net (734) 459-2700

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Firefighter shares his memories

Steve Berger has some memories of his 32 years with the Canton Fire Department.

"We didn't have paramedics back then," he said. "But we had a 1968 Ford van that the fire fighters converted into an ambulance. We used it to transport victims to the hospital."

And he recalls that traffic accidents were a lot worse than now.

"There were no seat belt laws," he said. "People would fly down the roads because there wasn't much traffic. And they would fly through the windshields when they had a bad accident."

In his 32 years with the department, Berger was never injured on the job. But he's seen his share of tragedy. The most

memorable, though he tries to forget it, was being called to the scene of the crash of Flight 255 several years ago -- the crash where only one child survived.

"We came down to Middlebelt," he said. "There was nothing we could do. It was almost like being in a movie set."

When newspapers reported the crash, Berger started reading the stories but then stopped.

"I didn't want to know about their personal lives," he said. "It was just too tragic."

In his retirement he plans to start working on his collection of antique cars, which he hasn't had time to restore.

He's got three Model T's, a model A stake truck and a couple of other collectibles.



Firefighter Steve Berger, who is retiring, talks with his boss Canton Fire Chief Mike Rorabacher.

SHOES

FROM PAGE A1

TAKING THEIR TIME

This is your old-time shoe store. Don't tell the staff what size you wear. They will find out for themselves. First-time customers sit down and get fitted. "It's an unwritten rule in this store. Our shoes are expensive and we want you to come back," Mathews said. Customer information is placed on a card, which the staff refers to when it's time for a new pair of shoes. "We also condition the shoes to make them last longer," Burpo said.

For Mathews and Burpo, selling shoes is more than just making a

fashion statement for customers. It's about selling a good pair of shoes that fit and that are comfortable for each customer's feet. "Everyone is fashion-oriented today. If you don't take care of your feet at a young age, you will pay for it at an older age," Mathews said. So bad are most people's feet that the store also sells fitting appliances. "Hammer toes is the big thing. Women usually get them because they have squashed their toes into pointed high heels," Mathews said.

Until she began working at Red Wing Shoes, Burpo assumed she was alone in finding shoes to fit well. "Everyone has feet trouble. I find that other women have the same problems I have -- finding wider widths and finding shoes that are comfortable."

HOMETOWN TOUCH

The company name comes not from the Detroit hockey team, but from a town in Minnesota. "It's a cool little town. It reminds you of going to Mayberry or a place where Wally and Beaver would be," Mathews said.

The company, which will celebrate its centennial next year, still has some boot lines they made in the mid-1930s. "Red Wing boots are the benchmark of work shoes. We feel we do it better than anyone else," Mathews said. "We are the premier work shoe in America."

Just ask the customers. A man recently brought in his boots -- bought when he was in college in the 1970s -- for resoling. "Some of these guys have been wearing their shoes for 25-30 years. They refuse to wear anything else to work," Mathews said. Admittedly a bit pricey, Red Wing shoes, which are adult shoes, start in the low \$90s and go up to the mid-\$200s. "It's the premium components. We use the finest leather. Quality control at Red Wing is outstanding. They never wear out." Depending on which style, boots are steel reinforced.

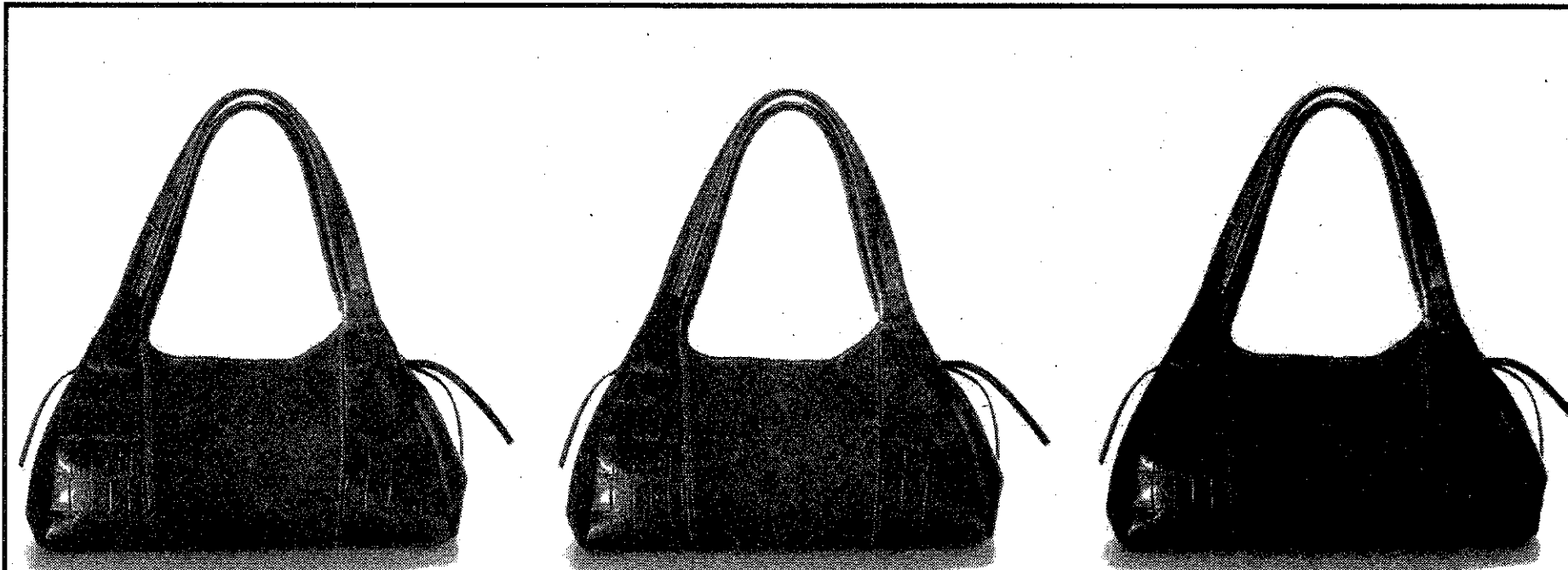
Red Wing offers work boots, casual and active and leisure shoes, as well as New Balance tennis shoes. The store carries Dansk clogs, used a lot by nurses and restaurant workers. Also available are Worx, for the frugal buyer, as well as Vasques, which are for hiking and trail walking. Irish Setters are sports casual shoes. "We even carry fishing shoes," Mathews said.

Despite the different lines, it's the work boots that sets Red Wing Shoes apart. "That's our bread and butter," Mathews added. "You can't be everything to everyone. In my opinion, that's why a lot of retail shoe stores have gone out."

Retail is Mathews' life. He started at Hughes & Hatcher in 1976 in the Macomb Mall. Like Burpo, he enjoys people. Being on a first-name basis with the customers is not unusual. The customers keep coming back and they get to know each other. Burpo's husband, Randy, is a customer. About 1 1/2 years ago, she was shopping with him at Red Wing. "We were just talking with Bob and I said, 'I should work here.'" It just so happened that Mathews was looking for a part-time employee. "You really do meet people," Burpo said.

Red Wing Shoes will be at the Men's Expo March 13 and at the Harley Fest June 19. "It's a trunk show, like a fashion show. We will show all the new lines," Mathews said. Red Wing also offers a Shoemobile -- a store on wheels -- that travels to manufacturing and industrial plants.

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Current smart money seems to be on Kerry-Edwards ticket

The day after the Iowa caucuses, Michigan Democrats were as deeply confused as I've ever seen them over their choice of a presidential nominee.

The day after New Hampshire, it seemed highly likely that, barring a jolt nobody can foresee, that John Kerry will go on to a victory in the state's caucuses Saturday.



Jack Lessenberry

Then, suddenly, Kerry's campaign in Iowa took off, spurred by the dramatic appearance of a Vietnam veteran whose life was saved by the future politician when both were soldiers once, and young. There began to be a sense Dean might not be quite ready for prime time, which accelerated with reports that his wife wouldn't serve as first lady and would instead stay in Vermont and practice medicine.

The day after Iowa, Michigan Democrats woke up to discover Gephardt was withdrawing, Edwards had come out of nowhere to finish a surprisingly strong second, and that Howard Dean had not only come in a bad third, he had startled the nation with his "I have a scream" concession speech.

"Now I wish I had voted for Edwards," Donigan sighed. Mark Gaffney, president of the state AFL-CIO, said that he too was switching to Edwards, but wasn't suggesting to the rank-and-file what they should do.

Yet the New Hampshire primary, which often has given the nation quixotic results (recent winners include Pat Buchanan, Ed Muskie, Paul Tsongas, you get the idea) seemed to clear people's heads. John Kerry and Howard Dean both come from bordering states, but Kerry crushed Dean by a 3-2 margin in a huge turnout.

Wesley Clark and Joe Lieberman had pinned all their hopes on New Hampshire, and both were squished. Edwards, who devoted little time to the state, scored 12 percent, about the same as Clark, but a big come-down from his 32 percent in Iowa.

Suddenly it seemed to be John Kerry's game to lose, and he had the football. Early polls had shown Dean with a big lead in Michigan, but the day before New

Hampshire, the respected EPIC/MRA showed Kerry with 37 percent, statistically identical to his 38 percent in Iowa and 39 percent in New Hampshire.

Nobody else was close. Dean and Edwards were at 14 percent, and everyone else was in the low single digits. Suddenly money was flowing into the Kerry campaign, and the flood of Internet contributions that put Howard Dean on the map were said to be drying up. Mr. Dean got a new campaign manager, tried to remake his image, and was doing all the things a presidential campaign does when it gets into trouble.

The very things, as a matter of fact, the Kerry campaign was doing two months ago.

Naturally, the other candidates say it is still early. But it really isn't. Washington state votes the same day as Michigan. Then, before February ends, eight more states vote before March 2, the mother of all primaries. That day, 10 states vote, most of them large, including California, New York and Ohio.

When that night ends, the contest ought to be essentially over.

Here's what the smart money was saying last week: The ticket is all but certain to be John Kerry and John Edwards, and they are going to give George Bush the fight of his life.

To be sure, the same smart money was on Howard Dean and a Bush landslide at Christmas. One thing can't be denied, however. If a Democratic candidate holds all the states Al Gore won last time and adds North Carolina, President Bush loses.

That may not happen, and it is a long way from January to November, or even the summer conventions. But for Democrats, both seem a lot closer than just a week ago.

Jack Lessenberry is editorial vice president of Hometown Communications. He can be reached by phone at (248) 901-2561 or by e-mail at jlessenberry@homecomm.net.

Michigan ongoing 'jobs problem' won't be solved anytime soon

Jobs, jobs, jobs and jobs. That's the problem in Michigan. Unemployment continues at a depressingly high 7.2 percent, even as the national unemployment rate has inched down in the recent uptick in the economy. That figure doesn't include those who have stopped looking for work or those who have accepted lower-paying jobs outside their field.



Hugh Gallagher

In Greenville, Electrolux decided to take its jobs south to Mexico, ignoring every bribe the state could offer it. Steelcase has announced more job cuts, most outside Michigan, but an indication of continuing problems in Michigan's once-thriving office furniture business.

The mini economic boomlet of the last five months has not made its way to the Great Lakes State.

Gov. Jennifer Granholm walked the extremely tight rope of trying to present a program that will win acceptance from a "no taxes, no way, no how" Republican Legislature while not completely alienating her own party. She offered up a seven-point package of programs aimed at promoting job growth.

Proposals included changes in tax policies to make them more "business friendly," interest-free loans for engineering majors who stay instate (paid for by surpluses in a state college loan program, so no need to worry about taxing anyone) and some easing of regulatory rules without totally ravaging the environment.

She reserved her sharpest criticism for federal trade policies. "How can a state so reliant on manufacturing compete with countries paying \$1.57 an hour or with countries offering no benefits, no labor and no environmental standards?" she said.

The answer is, they can't. The fatal flaw of NAFTA and other free trade agreements is this lack of uniform, or near uniform, standards. Of course, manufacturers would love it if we all became Third World countries with employees making \$1.57 an hour. (Well, actually, they wouldn't because then nobody would have enough money to buy their products. It's a puzzle.)

On the national level, President George W. Bush is seeing silver linings in every cloud. The stock market is up, companies (especially those who have taken their jobs overseas) are reporting a profit, the war in Iraq has meant some healthy contracts for Halliburton and other companies.

But not everyone seems completely convinced. I may be reading too much into it, but even our conservative, Republican member of Congress, Thaddeus McCotter, released a tepid, at best, response to the president's State of the Union address.

"As our troops and our nation strives and sacrifices to transform rogue enemies into peaceful nations to increase our homeland security, Washington must promote policies to strengthen Americans' homeland security," McCotter said in a press release. "Southeast Michigan residents deserve to realize the same economic recovery many other homes are beginning to experience across the country. As the president addresses the needs of our changing economy, I encourage him to serve as an ally of our nation's manufacturers to preserve and promote this indispensable engine of our economy."

Bush's first foray into promoting his own jobs agenda was in support of his plan to provide \$250 million to the country's 1,200 community colleges for a job training partnership with employers.

Schoolcraft College President Conway Jeffress welcomed the sentiment, but questioned the commitment. Jeffress pointed out in a recent Observer story

that the amount proposed wouldn't provide much money, though any little bit is welcome. He also questioned a job training program that wasn't tied to a job retention program. It's frustrating to be trained for a high-tech job and then find out that the only places hiring for those jobs are in Shanghai and New Delhi.

But the president is right, community colleges like Schoolcraft are the place to provide training in many technical occupations, but only if they lead to employment.

Granholm's other strong moment in her State of the State was her passionate defense of state workers, often the objects of abuse for Republican legislators and party leaders. As she pointed out, state workers continue to supply needed services to the people of Michigan even as their numbers have been reduced by 8,000 and their ability to do their job has been undermined by other cuts.

Those cuts do not include the many school and municipal employees who have lost their jobs and the many new graduates of our (in Granholm's phrase) extra-ordinary colleges and universities with teaching degrees and no teaching positions.

A state that won't enhance revenues when it needs to also adds to the unemployment problem.

There aren't any easy answers. Businesses will continue to seek cheap but qualified employees, even if it means going to Timbuktu.

Governments will try to make taxes and regulations less onerous, but they can't (shouldn't) give away our future.

Meanwhile, colleges, community colleges, trade schools and apprentice programs continue to turn out workers who need a place to work.

Hugh Gallagher is the managing editor of the Observer Newspapers. He can be reached by e-mail at hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net, by phone at (734) 953-2149 or by fax at (734) 591-7279.

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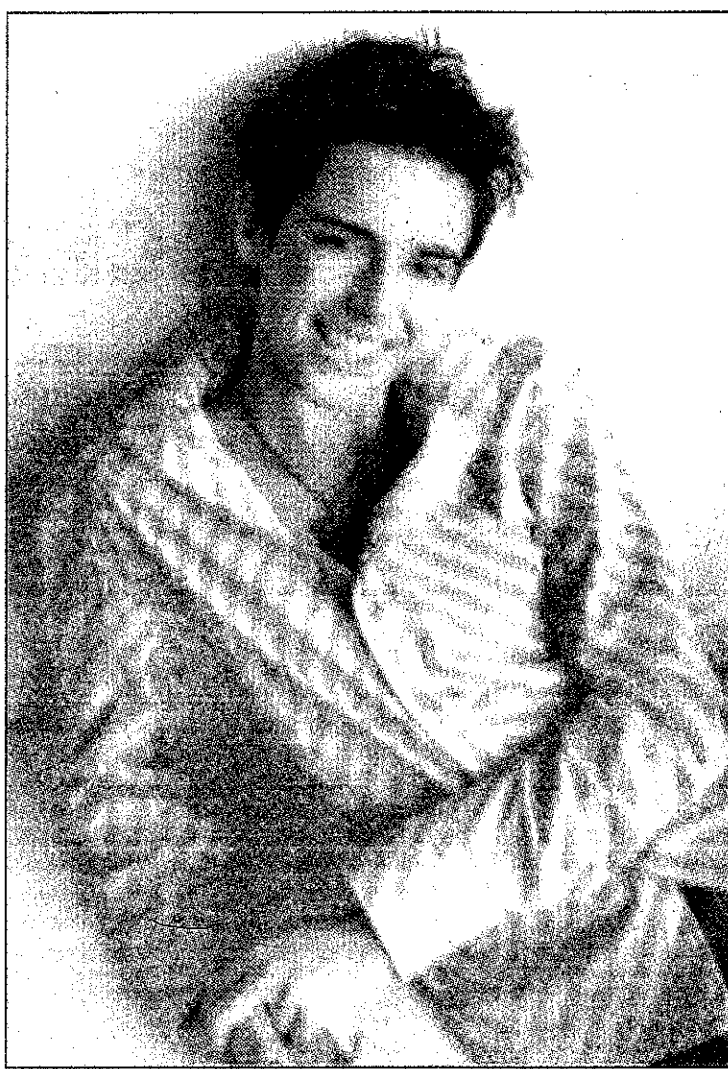
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On tour

Jerry Reid, 16, of Canton, is touring with Jordan Knight (New Kids on the Block) and will perform 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5 at the Magic Bag. Reid's album will be released later this summer. He is touring to more than 25 cities across the U.S. as well as a couple of stops in South America and Europe. For more information on Jerry Reid, you can visit his Web site at www.jerryreid.com.



MEAP

FROM PAGE A1

"Ultimately, the No Child Left Behind Act says 100 percent of students have to score in the highest category on the MEAP tests," said Anible, "and, if they don't, that school will be listed as underachieving."

Ironically, East received an "A" for current level of student performance on the MEAP, while Pioneer recorded a "B." Both schools received a composite score of "B," but because the special education students didn't make high enough progress, neither achieved AYP.

Schools that haven't met the federal guidelines on the MEAP tests for five years face severe consequences.

"We're looking at each one of our special education students to see if there is any way we can bolster the program to support them more completely," said Marsha Hoff, East principal. "If we find any area where we can do better, we'll support that."

Hoff said it's very difficult to expect 100-percent proficiency from every student, in every sub-group.

"We ask our special education students, by and large, to take the MEAPs like every other student in our school,"

she said. "There are alternative tests, but we would rather have our special education students stretch themselves, because we think it will help them grow academically."

Phil Freeman, principal at Pioneer, said evaluating a building based on less than 5 percent of the student population "is an inaccurate picture."

"I don't think it's a surprise that students with disabilities have the most difficulty scoring high on the MEAPs," said Freeman. "The MEAP is only one measure of student performance. It doesn't measure the social, emotional and academic progress that they make."

Both Canton and Salem high schools received an "A" for student achievement on the MEAP tests. However, despite a composite score of "B" for each school, they failed to make AYP because not enough students took the MEAP tests.

The guidelines indicate 95 percent of students must participate in the MEAP exams. Salem had 94.2 percent, while Canton was at 91.2 percent.

The tests are not a state requirement for graduation, and there are no repercussions for students if they don't take the MEAPs.

"Our test scores are good, but we have to show how we can make improvement," said Canton High School Principal

Cassandra Smith. "It's not necessarily unrealistic, but it's certainly tough."

"We'll be talking to staff about how to improve, and talking to the kids to let them to know how important the MEAP is for both them and the school," she said.

While the district is penalized for not having enough high school students take the MEAP tests, Plymouth-Canton is generally at the top in the state for students receiving \$2,500 Merit Award Scholarships for high marks on the test.

In 2003, Canton had 304 scholarship winners, while Salem had 300.

In 2002, 284 Canton students received Merit Award Scholarships, while Salem had 273.

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 11:45, 1:50, 4:20, 7:10, 9:20
 FRISAT LS 11:30
 THE BIG BOUNCE (PG-13)
 11:50, 2:10, 4:30, 7:30, 9:35
 FRISAT LS 11:45
 BIG FISH (PG-13)
 11:30, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
 WIN A DATE WITH TAO HAMILTON (PG-13)
 11:40, 2:00, 4:10, 7:00, 9:15
 FRISAT LS 11:25
 ALONG CAME POLLY (PG-13)
 12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:25
 FRISAT LS 11:35
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Sidelines

Grid All-Stars

Several area football players have been selected for the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association All-Star Game in East Lansing in July.

Redford had the most representatives with Catholic Central running back Derek Brooks, St. Katherine Drexel defensive back Kenny Smith and Thurston defensive back Darran Matthews.

Westland John Glenn tailback Matt Smitherman was selected, along with Canton wide receiver Devin Thomas, Farmington center Max Meyer and Farmington Harrison defensive back Charles Stewart.

Strong swim

The Oakland University men's swim team ran its dual-meet record to 5-2 with a win over St. Bonaventure Friday, and Salem graduate Eric Lynn contributed heavily to that victory.

Lynn finished first in the 100-yard backstroke (52.50) and was part of the 200 medley relay team that won (1:34.75).

Soccer committee

A committee is forming to lobby officials of Major League Soccer to bring a franchise to Metropolitan Detroit.

The committee is hosting monthly meetings for interested individuals to get involved in the process, which was started by Mid-Michigan Bucks' owners, Jim and Dan Duggan.

To show the MLS a strong commitment from soccer enthusiasts in Detroit, the committee is looking for a leader from each age group soccer club from around the area. The goal is a nine-month push to sell 5,000 season-ticket trusts for \$10 each.

Those interested in joining the committee, or for more information about the committee, e-mail Kyle Karns at kyleswoosh@aol.com

Booster change

There's been a change in the Plymouth Wildcat football boosters meeting. The new date is 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, in Room 401 of Plymouth HS.

Parents of current football players are asked to attend this first meeting of the new year. The new boosters' board will be introduced.

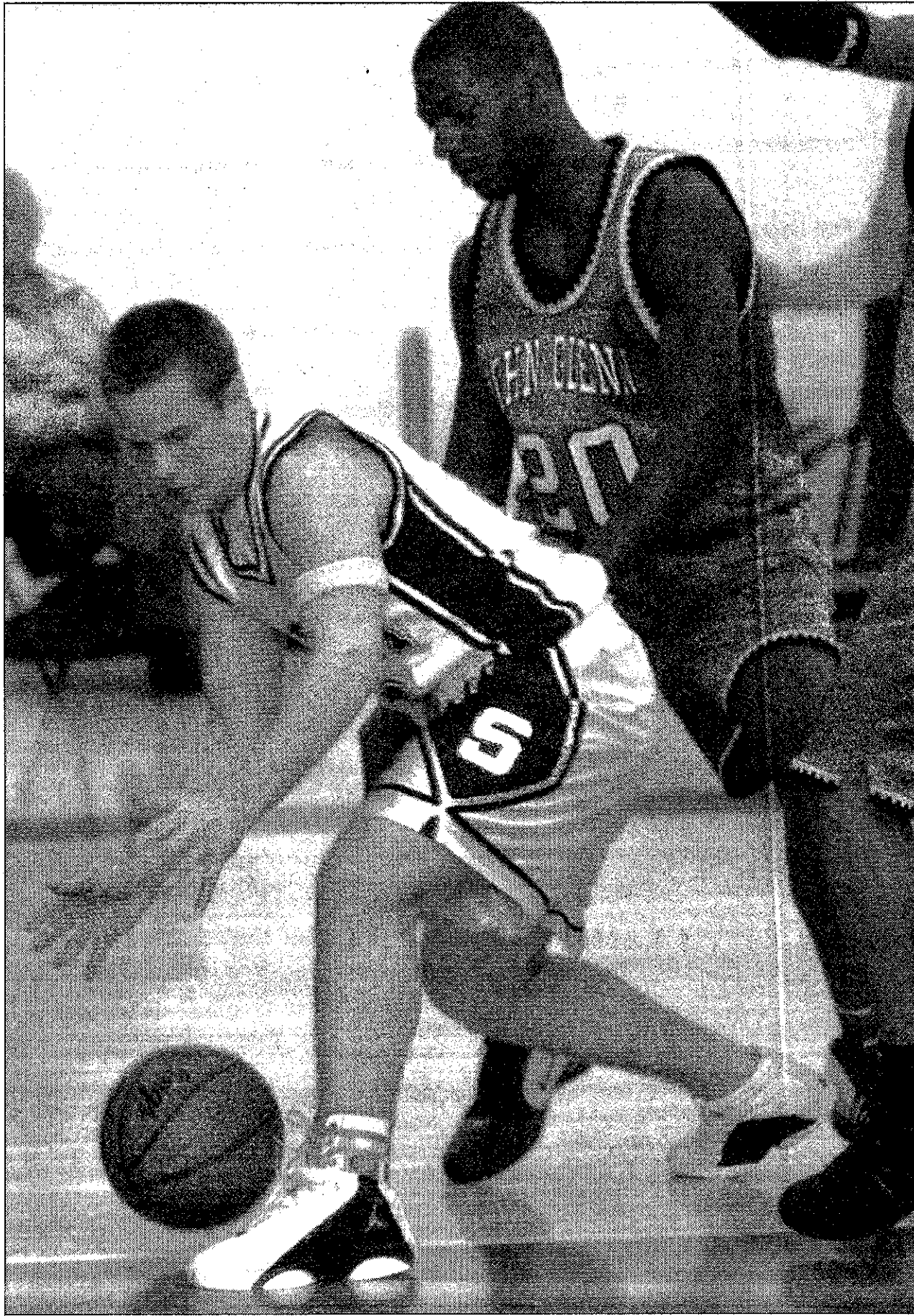
Fund-raiser

Next Saturday is Salem Football Day at the Canton Big Boy, located on Ford Road across from Meijer. Support the Salem HS football program by dining in or carrying out, from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.



Simply turn in a coupon at the counter when you pay your bill. Canton Big Boy will donate a portion of the total sales to Salem football.

For more information, call Linda Sorensen at (734) 476-3903.



Salem's Eric Vanston (white jersey) tries to evade John Glenn's Sam Williams, something the Rocks had problems doing all game long in their 40-25 loss.

Rockets top Rocks

Defense the key in Glenn's 40-25 victory over Salem

Offenses on both sides struggled Friday when Westland John Glenn visited Salem for a key Western Lakes Activities Association Lakes Division basketball showdown. The better defense, however, belonged to the Rockets, who emerged with a 40-25 triumph.

The two teams were both unbeaten in division play entering into the game. Glenn improved to 7-4 overall, 4-0 in the division; Salem slipped to 5-7 overall, 3-1 in the Lakes.

"They took us right out of the game," said Rocks' coach Bob Brodie. "They outplayed us on both ends of the floor."

As for his own team's lack of scoring punch, Brodie said, "Credit their defense. And our execution offensively wasn't what it should have been."

"They outplayed us everywhere. And it was a physical game."

The Rockets led 6-4 after one quarter, then pushed their advantage to eight with a 12-6 second quarter. "The kids showed patience and took good shots,"

BASKETBALL

said John Glenn coach Joel Lloyd. "I thought we played hard, tough defense. They run a good motion offense. We have to be ready to take our cuts and defend their movement."

"Also we had to play more deliberate because they play a sagging defense."

What was really sagging for the Rocks was their offense.

The Rockets' eight-point halftime lead grew to 12 after three quarters — a nearly insurmountable amount, considering Salem had scored just 17 points to that point.

Glenn's Barry Eberhardt was the only player on either team to reach double figures in scoring; he had 18. Derrick Bush and Mike Jones netted five apiece.

Salem was led by Brad Clark with seven points. Brian Bradley and Dominique Washington scored five each.

The road doesn't get any easier for the Rocks this week.

After opening the season by playing eight of their first 10 games on the road, they played twice at home last week.

This week, they go back on the road with games at Northville Tuesday and at Wayne Memorial Friday.

Penalties lead to loss for Whalers

The struggles continued for the Plymouth Whalers Friday in a penalty-filled 7-4 loss to the Owen Sound Attack in an Ontario Hockey League game at Compuware Arena.

A total of 23 penalties were called against the Whalers, the last two to goalie Paul Drew for leaving the crease early, with a 10-

OHL HOCKEY

minute misconduct added on. The Attack were called for 16 penalties.

The power play proved to be a pivotal factor in the game. Owen Sound converted 4-of-8 chances; Plymouth was 1-of-6.

Several players sparked the Attack, with Pat Jarrett scoring two goals and assisting on two others, Mark Giordano collecting five assists, Andre Deveaux getting a goal and three assists, and both Pavel Voroshinin and Stefan Ruzicka getting a goal and two assists.

Plymouth kept it close for two periods, James Wisniewski (from Canton) getting the Whalers' first goal at 2:06 of the first period to knot it at 1-1. But Owen Sound scored three times in the first period and maintained a one-goal lead throughout the second period, despite goals by Plymouth's Mike Knight and Gino Pisellini.

The Whalers did tie it at 4-4 on Brent Mahon's goal at 4:16 of the third period, but the Attack scored three times after that to win going away.

Mahon had a goal and an assist for Plymouth, and Vaclav Meidl had two assists.

Drew had 28 saves in the game for the Whalers; Owen Sound

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY, B3

Cortellini's scoring burst lifts Canton

A strong third quarter, sparked by Andy Cortellini's 13-point outburst, allowed Canton to take command of its Western Lakes Activities Association basketball game against Livonia Franklin and post a 62-52 triumph Friday at Canton.

The Chiefs improved to 7-4 overall, 3-1 in the Western Division. The Patriots fell to 3-8 overall, 1-3 in the division.

"Tonight was a little tougher than I anticipated," said Canton coach Charlie Paye. "Franklin played really well in the first half. In fact, we'd scouted them twice before and we never saw them play that well."

"Their coach said it was the best they'd played all season."

Indeed, the Patriots came out smoking, outscoring Canton 21-14 in the first quarter. The Chiefs narrowed the gap to 37-34 at halftime, then turned the game around

BASKETBALL

with a 19-6 scoring spree in the third quarter that gave them a 53-43 entering the fourth quarter.

"That turned the game around right there," said Paye.

Cortellini ignited Canton's streak; he finished the game with 17 points, six assists and four steals. D.J. Bridges contributed 13 points and seven boards, and Matt Paye had 12 points, all coming on four three-pointers. Brad Waidmann scored seven.

James Kelly and Matt McCullough were top scorers for the Patriots with 12 points apiece.

The win allowed Canton to remain in the WLAA West Division race with a 3-1 record. The Chiefs must face non-division rival Westland John Glenn Tuesday

before traveling to Northville for a division showdown on Friday.

Paye put it in a simple enough perspective. "We just got to take care of our business and it won't be a problem," he said.

Ply. Christian 67, Oak. Christian 47: A 16-3 second-quarter romp propelled Plymouth Christian Academy to a 20-point win over Auburn Hills Oakland Christian Friday at PCA.

"That was a great game for us," said Eagles' coach Doug Taylor. "We shot the ball really well for us."

The win also ended PCA's six-game losing skid to Oakland Christian, dating back to 2000.

The Eagles led 21-15 after one quarter, then elevated that to 37-18 by halftime. The Lancers cut into that a bit in the

PLEASE SEE BASKETBALL, B2

Ladywood overwhelms Penguins, 7-1

Molly Zarb and Jess Blaesser were the catalysts in Livonia Ladywood's 7-1 Michigan Metro Girls High School Hockey League triumph Wednesday over Plymouth-Canton-Salem at Plymouth's Arctic Pond.

Zarb finished with four goals and one assist as Ladywood improved to 11-4. Jess Blaesser collected five assists.

Jenna Keenan, Mary Beth O'Dea and Laura Szwed contributed one goal each, while Vanya Sigro, Brittney Holtz and Joy Troczynski had one assist apiece.

The Penguins, beaten by Ladywood 7-1 in the season opener, averted the shutout when Erika Perkovich scored in the final period from Sheila Gillespie and Olivia Pennabaker.

Ladywood outshot the Penguins, 30-20.

Danni St. Onge was in goal for the Blazers, while Amanda Watkins was in goal for Plymouth-Canton-Salem.

Churchill 6, Canton 3: Justin Stadler's hat trick and one assist propelled Livonia Churchill (13-2-2) past

the Chiefs (3-9-2) in a Western Lakes Activities Association crossover Wednesday at Edgar Arena.

Brandon Hayes contributed one goal and one assist for the state-ranked Chargers. Xander Younce and Sean Burke (short-handed) had the other goals.

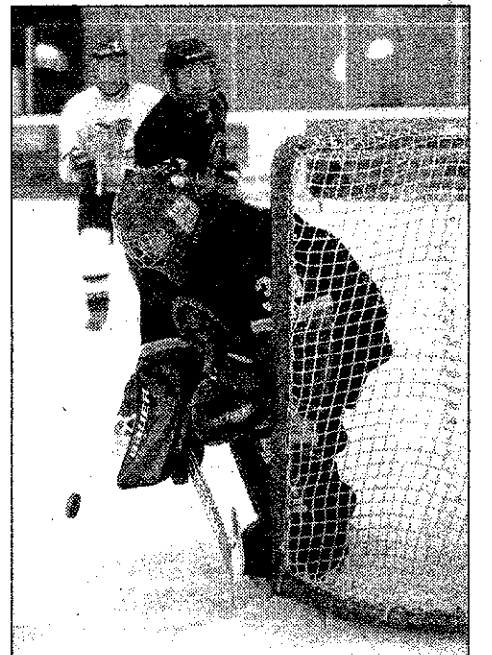
Churchill outshot Canton, 42-23.

The Chiefs trailed 2-0 in the second period when Reece McCabe struck for a goal, trimming the lead to one. However, the Chargers reasserted themselves, scoring three-straight goals.

Churchill led 5-1 in the third period before Canton cut the deficit to 5-3 on Garrett Hyman's power-play goal (assist to Matt Oliver) followed by Paul Stevens' goal with seven minutes remaining (assists by Nick Leadford and Kevin Tollison).

However, the Chiefs never got any closer and the Chargers clinched it with an empty-net goal with :17 to play.

Churchill netminder Justin Bolla made 20 saves, while Tony Hylko had 36 saves for Canton.



P-C-S goalie Amanda Watkins stops this shot by Ladywood Wednesday, but she had to face too many in what ended up a 7-1 loss.

Coach ejected, but Ocelots win

The fireworks started early Wednesday night in Roscommon as the Schoolcraft College men's basketball team routed host Kirtland Community College, 118-82. Coach Carlos Briggs was ejected five minutes into the game by referee Joe Kavulich after protesting the lack of what he perceived to be flagrant foul calls. Assistants Fred Cofield and Gary Mazza finished out the game as the Ocelots, who led 57-36 at halftime, improved to 18-2 overall and 9-0 in the Eastern Conference of the Michigan Community College Athletic Association. Kirtland, coached by former Redford Bishop Borgess High and Schoolcraft coach Glen Donahue, falls to 12-7 and 3-5. Guard Ryan Baumgartner, a

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

transfer from Miami of Ohio, led Schoolcraft with 23 points, including five 3-pointers. Lamont Arrington, a 7-foot center headed the University of Houston, added 20 points and 11 rebounds. Anton Palmer, who sat out the first half along with Derrick Ponder and Ricky Morgan for missing classes, added 14 along with Ty Scott. Marcus Johnson chipped in with 11, while Johnathan Burris had his best outing of the season with 10 points and 11 rebounds. Kirtland's Martin Samarco led all scorers with 29. "Fred and Gary did an excellent job of keeping the guys

composed," Briggs said. "We just hope they'd stay together and the most important thing was to win." **MADONNA 82, UM-DEARBORN 81:** There's something about playing against Michigan-Dearborn that brings out the best in Madonna guard Dan Kurtinialis. Wednesday night was no exception for the Dearborn Edsel Ford grad. Kurtinialis tied the score with 39 seconds left, then hit a pair of free throws with 3.7 seconds left to give the Crusaders a win over Michigan-Dearborn on Wednesday night. The senior wound up with 16 points, three assists and two steals to help the Crusaders improve to 9-13 overall. Noel Emehiser was the big gun, however, scoring 24 points, while Chad Nadolni had 14 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists. After being tied at half at 42-all, Madonna pushed the lead to 74-65 with just over five minutes left. But the Wolves (8-15) came back and used a 13-4 run to tie the score at 78-all. David Myers led UMD with 30 points and 13 rebounds, while Tyrone Carreker had 22 points with 10 rebounds and Christopher Shepard had 10.

BASKETBALL

FROM PAGE B1

third quarter, outscoring PCA 13-6 to narrow the gap to 43-41. But PCA's 24-point fourth quarter was too much for Oakland Christian to overcome. The win boosted the Eagles' record to 7-4 overall, 3-1 in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. The Lancers fell to 4-5 overall, 1-1 in the MIAC. Dan Carty paced PCA with 24 points, including four three-pointers, and four assists. Aaron Ciborowski contributed 15 points and 11 rebounds, Lew Tripp had four points and seven boards and Steve Sumner scored seven points and dished out six assists. In the pivotal second quarter, Sumner and Carty each scored five points. Oakland Christian got 12 points from Jamie Morrow.

Inter-City 52, Canton Agape 49: Despite a heroic fourth-quarter effort by Charlie Henry, Canton Agape Christian couldn't quite catch Allen Park Inter-City Baptist Friday in Allen Park. The Chargers stayed unbeaten in the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference with a 4-0 record; they are 7-3 overall. Agape fell to 2-2 in the MIAC, 9-3 overall. The Wolverines fell behind at the outset, trailing 15-10 after one quarter and 24-15 at halftime, partially due to Jordan Napier's foul trouble. Napier, Agape's leading scorer and rebounder for the season, was limited to 10 points and nine boards. Agape made no headway in the third quarter, getting outscored 12-10 to fall 11 points behind, 36-25. That's when Charlie Henry took over. Henry rattled the Inter-City defense for 16 fourth-quarter points, including three three-

pointers, as the Wolverines pulled to within a basket. "We got to within two a couple of times," said Agape coach Chuck Henry. "We had a shot to put it into overtime with 1.9 seconds left. Our guy got a good look, but just couldn't hit it." Charlie Henry finished with 27 points, with four triples and no turnovers. Inter-City got 14 points from Kevin Newsome and nine from Jason Yunk.

CC 73, Notre Dame 28: A 25-0 run in the second quarter spelled the difference on Friday night as Redford Catholic Central routed Harper Woods Notre Dame at CC. "We traded baskets at the beginning of the quarter, then off we went," said CC coach Rick Coratti as his team held a 16-12 lead through the first quarter. "We got a lot of steals off the press and they turned it over." Jim Cash had 10 of his 21 points in the run, while Garrett Senczyszyn had all seven of his points in the run. CC outscored Notre Dame 27-3 in the second quarter. "Garrett really sparked us off the bench," said Coratti as his Shamrocks moved to 11-2 overall and 5-0 in the Central Division. "He's been playing more and more and doing a nice job off the bench."

Dan Waterstradt led CC with 22 points, 17 rebounds and 10 blocks to complete the triple-double. Rob Fragoso had seven points and seven rebounds, while Adam Mercer and Chris Harding came off the bench to score six points each. Darrell Clements had seven points to lead Notre Dame (3-8, 0-5 Central). **Wayne 68, W.L. Central 55:** Senior guard Genois Safford paced a balanced scoring attack Friday with 18 points as Wayne Memorial ended a

two-game losing streak with a win at Walled Lake Central. Wayne is 6-5 overall and 2-2 in the Lakes Division of the Western Lakes Activities Association. Central falls to 4-6 and 1-3. Junior guard Danny Walsh and freshman guard Rodrick Walker each chipped in with 14 points. The Zebras jumped out to a 35-15 halftime lead and never looked back. "We played with passion, a sense of urgency," Wayne coach Wayne Woodard said. "We took care of the basketball. We valued the ball every possession. "It was probably our most complete game since we beat Belleville." Junior center Brad Buckhardt led the Vikings with 14 points. Senior forward Nick Van Dike added 10. Wayne made 11-of-20 from the foul line, while Central hit 13-of-22.

Churchill 61, W.L. Northern 42: Livonia Churchill (3-9) snapped an eight-game losing skid Friday with a victory over WLAA newcomer Walled Lake Northern (2-9). It was Churchill's first victory since Dec. 16 when the Chargers upended Garden City, 68-56. Junior center Eric Felner led the victorious Chargers, who jumped out to a 29-12 halftime lead, with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Senior forward Tim VanDusen added 14 points and nine rebounds for Churchill. Senior forward Tristen Thomas grabbed nine rebounds. Junior forward Joel Darin scored 16 for the Knights. "We pressured full-court," Churchill coach Jim Solak said. "We played good, aggressive man-to-man defense and were converting off their turnovers. The kids played hard and did a great job."

Schoolcraft crushes Kirtland

Four Schoolcraft College women's basketball players reached double figures in scoring Wednesday, and the Ocelot defense forced 38 turnovers, in subduing Kirtland CC 87-53 in a Michigan Community College Athletic Association game played in Roscommon. The victory gives Schoolcraft a 7-2 record in the MCCA, 13-6 overall. Kirtland is 4-16 overall, 0-8 in the conference. The Ocelots were led by Tiffani Pattillo with 15 points, Takara Tuff with 13, Tara Charles (from Redford Bishop Borgess) with 11 and Ashley Gibson with 10. Amantha Combs and Sara Tyree con-

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOP

tributed nine points apiece. Pattillo also had eight rebounds, five steals and three assists, while Charles totaled five assists and two steals and Gibson got four assists and two steals. Combs grabbed six boards and Tyree had three steals. Kirtland was paced by Kenzie Steward's 11 points. Brianna Glasscox and Janel Kenyon had 10 apiece and Lori Hinkle scored nine. Kenyon's eight rebounds led the Firebirds.

While Kirtland committed 38 turnovers, SC had just 18. The Ocelots were 19-of-23 at the line (82.6 percent), the Firebirds were 12-of-16 (75 percent).

Madonna 88, Michigan-Dearborn 24: Just five days after crushing Concordia University by 40 points, Madonna University got it going once again in a lopsided win at the University of Michigan-Dearborn Wednesday. The Crusaders' 64-point win was their second-largest margin of victory in school history. Four Madonna players scored in double figures, with Lydia Prusinowski netting 14 points. Madonna improved to 8-14 overall with the win.

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LIVONIA STEVENSON 109 SALEM 77
Jan. 29 at Stevenson
200-medley relay: 1. Stevenson (Garrett Baringhaus, David Gosdzinski, Steve Helewski, Matt Massman), 1:46.17. 2. Salem, 1:46.53.

SWIM RESULTS

200 freestyle: 1. Nick Dixon (S), 1:50.96; 2. Travis Hatt (LS), 1:54.80.
200 individual medley: 1. Penn Chou (S), 2:14.43; 2. Jason Anderson (LS), 2:19.21.
50 freestyle: 1. Helewski (LS), 23.97; 2. Nick White (S), 24.43.
Pat Sautural (S), 1:01.82.
100 freestyle: 1. Matt Jurcak (S), 51.82; 2. Brendan Cummings (LS), 53.50.
500 freestyle: 1. Dixon (S), 4:58.90; 2. Hatt (LS), 5:07.00.
200 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Cummings, Massman, Andy Schoff, Hatt), 1:35.87; 2. Salem, 1:38.12.
100 backstroke: 1. Jurcak (S), 58.76; 2. Adam Whalen (LS), 1:00.39.
100 breaststroke: 1. Casey Johnson (S), 1:07.31; 2. Jason Anderson (LS), 1:08.30.
400 freestyle relay: 1. Stevenson (Helewski, Cummings, Baringhaus, Hatt), 3:30.39; 2. Salem, 3:34.43.
Dual-meet record: Stevenson, 5-1 overall, 3-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association; Salem, 4-3 overall, 2-1 in the WLAA.

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Canton proves too tough for Plymouth

There were some good scores posted by Plymouth's gymnastics team Wednesday, but not enough to overtake a tough Canton squad — even if the Chiefs were still a bit short-handed.

Canton dominated three of four events in topping the Wildcats, 133.95-121.80 in a dual-meet at Plymouth. The win improved the Chiefs' dual-meet record to 4-2 overall, 3-2 in the Western Lakes Activities Association.

Minna Pirzadeh had two first-place finishes for the Chiefs, capturing top honors in the vault (8.65) and uneven paral-

GYMNASTICS

l bars (8.5). Pirzadeh also placed fourth in the floor exercise (8.35) and scored 7.45 in the balance beam. Her 32.95 all-around score was second best in the meet.

Other standouts for Canton included Kara Ahern, who won the beam (9.2) and was second in floor (8.95), bars (8.3) and vault (8.55). Her 35.00 all-around was the best score posted in the meet.

Canton's Kaitlyn Burns also had a first-place finish, winning the floor (9.1). Burns also

place fifth in bars (7.85) and scored 7.45 in beam.

Audra Ahern was the Chiefs other standout, placing third in vault (8.4) and tying for third in bars (8.1), and taking a fourth in beam (8.4).

She scored 7.85 in floor and was third in the all-around (32.75).

For the all-freshmen-and-sophomore Plymouth team, beam proved to be the best event. Ali Saker and Amy Quiambao tied for second in the beam (8.45), Chelsey Pickard was fifth (8.25) and Courtney Pickard placed sixth (7.85).

Saker also tied for third in the bars (8.1), while Courtney Pickard was sixth in the vault (8.0), beam (7.85) and floor (8.0). Courtney Pickard was fourth in the all-around (30.25).

Perhaps the best news for the Chiefs was the limited return of Alyssa Kelley, perhaps their best gymnast, who's been out with a sore back. Kelley competed in the floor exercise and finished third (8.7).

Canton goes against Walled Lake at Walled Lake Central Monday.

HOCKEY

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goalie Robert Gherson had 24 stops.

The loss dropped the Whalers three points behind division-leading Sarnia in the OHL's West Division. They're 22-17-8-3 for 55 points. Owen Sound is 21-19-7-4 (53 points), last in the Midwest Division.

Whalers slip

On Wednesday, the Whalers made a long trip and got nothing out of it.

In a West Division game played in Sault Ste. Marie, Plymouth surrendered three third-period goals in absorbing a 4-1 loss to the Greyhounds. The result still left Sault Ste. Marie in third place in the division, seven points behind second-place Plymouth.

Both teams got first-period goals, then went scoreless in the second. John Mitchell scored for the Whalers, with assists from Jonas Fiedler and John Vigilante. Scott Dobben accounted for the Greyhounds' goal.

Sault Ste. Marie took control with a pair of third-period goals by Tyler Kennedy and Reg Thomas. The Greyhounds last goal was scored by Jeff Carter into an empty net. Jordan Smith also contributed

a pair of assists.

Paul Drew stopped 32 of 35 shots on goal for the Whalers (Sault Ste. Marie's last goal was scored into an empty net). Kevin Druce stopped 23 of 24 Whaler shots.

West stars best

A pair of Whalers were part of the OHL All-Star Classic Tuesday in Peterborough, Ontario, and they both contributed in the West team's 7-2 victory over the East.

Danny Fritsche of the Sarnia Sting and Petr Kanko of the Kitchener Rangers each scored a pair of goals for the West. But the defense was equally impressive, with the Whalers' Paul Drew starting in goal and playing the first half of the game before giving way to Ryan MacDonald of the London Knights, and defenseman James Wisniewski (from Canton) providing steady play on the blue line.

Drew faced 16 shots in his 29 minutes in goal and stopped them all.

By that time, the West had built a 3-0 lead; that would be pushed to 5-0 before the East scored.

London's Corey Perry and David Bolland and Chris Campoli of the Erie Otters had a goal and an assist apiece for the West, which was coached by Kitchener's Pete DeBoer, the Whalers former head coach.



Gino Pisellini scored one of the Whalers' four goals against Owen Sound, but it wasn't enough in the 7-4 loss Friday.

THE WEEK AHEAD

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Monday, Feb. 2
 G.P. Liggett at Clarenceville, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 3
 Salem at Northville, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Central at Churchill, 7 p.m.
 Stevenson at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Lutheran N'west, 7 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Luth. North, 7 p.m.
 Redford CC at U-D Jesuit, 7:30 p.m.
 Ply. Christian at A.P. Inter-City, 8 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 6
 Canton at Northville, 7 p.m.
 Churchill at W.L. Western, 7 p.m.
 John Glenn at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Salem at Wayne, 7 p.m.
 Lutheran N'west at Luth. Westland, 7 p.m.
 Hamtramck at Clarenceville, 7:30 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Bethesda, 7:30 p.m.
 Canton Agape at Ply. Christian, 7:30 p.m.

PREP GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Monday, Feb. 2
 Churchill at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.
 Franklin at John Glenn, 6:30 p.m.
 Northville at Salem, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Western at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Canton at Wayne, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 3
 Huron Valley at Taylor Baptist, 6 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Hamtramck, 6:30 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Harper Wds., 6:30 p.m.
 H.W. Regina at Ladywood, 6:30 p.m.
 A.P. Inter-City at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 4
 John Glenn at Churchill, 6:30 p.m.
 Wayne at Franklin, 6:30 p.m.
 Salem at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Western at Canton, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5
 Ladywood at Mercy, 6:30 p.m.
 Harper Woods at Clarenceville, 6:30 p.m.
 Lutheran East at Luth. Westland, 6:30 p.m.
 Canton Agape at Ply. Christian, 7 p.m.
 Huron Valley at Bethesda, 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 6
 G.P. South Invitational, 8:30 a.m.
 N.B. Huron Invitational, 9 a.m.
 Schoolcraft Invitational at Salem & Northville, 9 a.m.
 Canton at Andover Tourn., 9 a.m.

PREP HOCKEY
Monday, Feb. 2
 Franklin vs. South Lyon at Kensington Valley Ice House, 6 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 3
 P-C-S Penguins vs. Port Huron, 6:30 p.m. at Arctic Edge Arena
Wednesday, Feb. 4
 Ladywood vs. G.P. South at Arctic Pond, 6 p.m.
 Franklin vs. Canton (Edgar), 6 p.m.
 Redford CC at Trenton (Kennedy), 7 p.m.
 Stevenson vs. W.L. Western (Edgar), 8 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5
 P-C-S Penguins vs. Univ.-Liggett, 6 p.m. at G.P. McCann Arena
Friday, Feb. 6
 Salem vs. Country Day, 5:50 p.m. at Oak Park Arena
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Canton at W.L. Northern, 1:20 p.m.
 Stevenson at B.H. Cranbrook, 2 p.m.
 Salem vs. Chelsea, 7 p.m. at Arctic Coliseum
 Redford CC vs. Brighton

at Compuware (Olympic), 7 p.m.
PREP WRESTLING
Tuesday, Feb. 3
 Wayne at John Glenn, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 4
 Redford CC at Roch. Adams, 5:30 p.m.
 Clarenceville at Lutheran North, 6:30 p.m.
 Luth. Westland at Luth. N'west, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5
 Churchill at Plymouth, 6:30 p.m.
 Franklin at Canton, 6:30 p.m.
 W.L. Northern at Stevenson, 6:30 p.m.
 John Glenn at Salem, 6:30 p.m.
 Wayne at W.L. Central, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Battle Creek Central Inv., 9 a.m.
 Inlster Tournament, 9 a.m.

PREP BOYS SWIMMING
Tuesday, Feb. 3
 Salem at Canton, 7 p.m.
 Redford CC vs. U-D Jesuit at Livonia Comm. Rec. Center, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5
 W.L. Western at Canton, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Northern at Salem, 7 p.m.
 Churchill at Franklin, 7 p.m.
 W.L. Central at Stevenson, 7 p.m.
 Wayne at John Glenn, 7 p.m.

PREP GIRLS GYMNASTICS
Monday, Feb. 2
 Canton vs. Walled Lake, 7 p.m. at Walled Lake Central
 Livonia Unified vs. Brighton at Churchill High School, 7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5
 Salem at Hartland, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Canton Invitational, 9:15 a.m.
 A.A. Pioneer Invitational, noon.
PREP SKIING
Monday, Feb. 2
 Ladywood vs. Hartland at Alpine Valley, 9 a.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5
 Divisionals at Alpine Valley, 9 a.m.

COMPETITIVE CHEER
Sunday, Feb. 1
 Catholic League at Ladywood, 11 a.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Ladywood Invitational, 9 a.m.
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Wednesday, Feb. 4
 Schoolcraft at Alpena, 7:30 p.m.
 Aquinas at Madonna, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Delta at Schoolcraft, 3 p.m.
 Madonna at Spring Arbor, 3 p.m.
COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
Wednesday, Feb. 4
 Schoolcraft at Alpena, 7:30 p.m.
 Madonna at Aquinas, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Delta at Schoolcraft, 1 p.m.
 Spring Arbor at Madonna, 3 p.m.
ONTARIO HOCKEY LEAGUE
Sunday, Feb. 1
 Whalers at Sarnia, 6 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 6
 Whalers at Erie (Pa.) Otters, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 7
 Whalers at Toronto, 2 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 8
 Whalers vs. Sault Ste. Marie at Compuware Arena, 2 p.m.

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COACHING POSITIONS

Redford Union is looking for several coaches for its athletic programs. For the spring season, RU is seeking a girls junior varsity soccer and junior varsity baseball coach. For the Fall 2004 season, RU is seeking a varsity girls swimming coach, an assistant varsity football coach and a boys junior varsity soccer coach. For more information or to apply, please call athletic director Brett Steele at (313) 242-4270.

Plymouth High School is looking for a ninth-grade softball coach for the 2004 season. For more information or to apply, please call athletic director Terry Sawchuk at (734) 582-5700/02.

Salem HS is in need of a varsity girls track coach. All candidates must be high school graduates and have experience coaching at the high school level or competing in track at the collegiate level. Those interested must have a schedule compatible with that of the high school; CPR and/or first aid training is preferred, as is a demonstrated ability to work with parents and children. To apply or for more information, call Salem athletic director Tom Willette at (734) 416-7775.

Livonia Ladywood has openings for a girls junior varsity golf coach and girls varsity and junior varsity tennis

coaches. Interested candidates can fax their resumes to Ladywood High School at (734) 591-2386.

Canton HS is accepting applications for a freshmen softball coach. Experience in fastpitch softball is necessary. For further information, contact Canton athletic director Sue Heinzman at (734) 416-2925.

Redford Thurston is looking for a varsity girls basketball coach. For more information, please call athletic director Al Chambo at (313) 535-4000, Ext. 1166.

Plymouth Christian Academy needs a varsity track coach, a junior high school track coach and assistants for both positions. For more information or to apply, call PCA athletic director Doug Taylor at (734) 459-3505, Ext. 138, or email him at dtaylor@plymouthchristian.org.

Troy High and Troy Athens high schools are in need of girls water polo coaches. Interested candidates are asked to contact Troy director of athletics Jim Feldkamp at (248) 823-5093.

Livonia Clarenceville is seeking a junior varsity boys soccer coach for the upcoming season. Those interested should call athletic director Tim Wilson at (248) 473-8926 or varsity coach Cassandra Gray at (734) 564-0993.

It's tough keeping up with the Joneses

In the Jones family of Livonia, everyone averages over 200. Mother Pam leads with a 210 average, bowling in the Ladies All-stars. Papa



Ten Pin Alley

Al Harrison

Keith is not far behind at 205, and their 16-year old son Scott is also at 205. Now along comes 14-year old Andy, who was in a great position to capture the Young American Bowling Alliance (YABA) title at the YABA City Tournament Jan. 18 at Sunnybrook Lanes in Sterling Heights. Andy bowled his best ever with a 223-300-225 for a 748 series. His previous highs were 289 and 735 in the Saturday YABA Youth League at Country Lanes in Farmington Hills. He also bowls in the Masters Division in the Sunday Youth (SYC), a Sunday morning traveling league run by Ed Wright and Bob Black. Even though Andy is only 14, he is an eleven-year bowling veteran, having started at age 2 1/2. Now a freshman at

Livonia Stevenson HS, he is on the freshman basketball team and plays baseball, golf and roller hockey, and gets high marks in the classroom. Even if it isn't a requirement in the Jones family to average over 200, Andy is right up there with a 208 in his YABA League. Pam and Keith both bowl in the Friday night Greenfield Mixed League at Country Lanes. Big brother Scott owns the only 800 series in the Jones family (he did that at age 14) and this 300 game by Andy is the third one recorded by the Joneses. His mother has two perfect games in her portfolio. What's next for the Jones family? No place to go but up. Incidentally, Pam Jones is the coach of the Clarenceville HS boys and girls varsity bowling teams. That team is going places this season. But it still must face Stevenson — what a battle that will be, mother coaching against her son Andy's team. The 12th annual Senior Masters Championship Tournament just finished at Airway Lanes in Waterford. It is one of many local events brought to you throughout the year by the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. John Bennett of Clarkston was the winner (\$1,500 first

prize) and Richard Kurt of St. Clair Shores was the runner-up (\$1,000). Observerland residents who cashed in were: Rick Capaldi of Canton (3rd), Larry Franz of Redford (4th), Bill Haynes of Rochester Hills (5th), Phil Horowitz of West Bloomfield (15th), Rick Eiermann of Garden City (17th), Dan Mytty of Livonia (25th), Daniel Mayer, Jr. of Waterford (35th), Bruce Hobart of Birmingham (43rd), Edward Flowers of West Bloomfield (46th), Ed Austreng of Waterford (53rd) and Mark Parise of Canton (57th). In the Super Senior Rolloff the winner was Ed Malinowski of Livonia, who defeated runner-up Enrico Odorico of Macomb, 212-193. The GDBA Senior Masters (age 50 and up) is one of the toughest bowling events in the area. The list of past winners and participants includes many luminaries who have made a mark for themselves in local competition over the years, including a number of Hall-of-Famers. Congratulations to all the winners, past and present, all of whom participated this year. The date for the Ninth Annual Senior/Youth Challenge at Redford's Mayflower Lanes is Feb. 7.

Opening ceremonies start at 10:30 a.m., with the bowlers taking the lanes at 11 a.m. The format features youth league bowlers going head-to-head against the senior leaguers from Mayflower and Beech Lanes. The money presented for scholarship awards is generated from 50-50 drawings held from September through May. Door prizes are donated by local merchants, restaurants and businessmen in the area who have been so generous that there are nearly enough prizes for every participant. Several celebrities have been invited to take part in the opening ceremonies, highlighted by the traditional first ball. Ron Lancaster, who was instrumental in creating this highly successful annual event, gets that honor this year. To date, over \$30,000 has been awarded to kids for college or trade school usage. The fund has been named in memory of the late Frank Urbank, a top-notch bowler who enjoyed helping student/athletes in the learning process. Al Harrison is a resident of Livonia and a director of the Greater Detroit Bowling Association. He can be reached at (248) 477-1839, or by e-mail at: tenpinalley@sbcglobal.net.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO STATE LAW 267.252, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE AT B&B TOWING, 934 W. ANN ARBOR RD., PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, ON THE DATE AND TIME LISTED BELOW:

Wednesday, February 4th, 2004 6:00 pm.

YEAR/MAKE/STYLE/MODEL	ID NUMBER	CASE NUMBER
1989 Mitsub 4-D Galant	JA3BR46V3KZ037744	03-2777
1991 Dodge 4-D Shadow	1B3XP68JMN575445	04-0012

INQUIRIES REGARDING THESE VEHICLES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO OFFICER BRIAN WALKER, CITY OF PLYMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT 734-453-1234, EXT. 532

LINDA J. LANGMESSER

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept proposals up to 5:00 p.m. Monday, February 16th, 2004 for the following:

ENGINEERING CONSULTING SERVICES

Proposal forms may be picked up and submitted to Canton's DPW Building, 4847 Sheldon Rd, Canton, MI 48188 or you may contact Todd Ziilincik at (734) 397-1011. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

TERRY G. BENNETT, CLERK

WRESTLING RESULTS

LIVONIA CHURCHILL 41 CANTON 36
Thursday at Churchill

103 pounds: Alex Fowler (LC) tech. fall over Sam Santilli, 16-0; 112: Nick Poole (C) pinned Tim Hecksel, 1:12; 119: Justin Smith (LC) tech. fall over Jay Fleischmann, 2:37; 125: Kris Felice (LC) dec. Steve Hogg, 7-4; 130: Corey Phillips (C) pinned Eric Brace, 2:53; 135: Ryan Webb (C) pinned Jamie Murray, 5:35; 140: Konrad Konsitzke (C) pinned Josh Kelly, 2:14; 145: Steve Hoesy (C) pinned Danny Clement, 1:48; 152: Danny Gaffke (LC) pinned Marwan Faraj, 3:46; 160: Ben Adams (LC) pinned Alex Amberg, 4:30; 171: Manuel Schubert (LC) maj. dec. over Pat McWhirter, 26-12; 189: P.J. Caram (C) pinned WanBin Duan (LC); 3:39; 215: Hafeez Qureshi (LC) pinned Dave Kersten, 2:53; **Heavyweight:** Pat Draheim (LC) pinned Donnie Laramie, 1:16.

Dual-meet records: Churchill, 15-0 overall, 4-0 in the Western Lakes Activities Association; Canton, 11-10 overall, 2-2 in the W.L.A.A. **Next meet:** Canton at Livonia Franklin, 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT PURSUANT TO STATE LAW 267.252, 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:

Wednesday, February 4th, 2004 5:30 pm.

YEAR/MAKE/STYLE/MODEL	ID NUMBER	CASE NUMBER
1991 Chevy 2-D Euro	2G1WN14T3M9161873	03-2824
1988 Audi 4-D 80	WAUGB0898JA264829	03-2913
1990 Pontiac 4-D Grand Prix	1G2WJ54T6LFP243902	03-2975
1992 Olds 4-D Cutlass	1C3AL54N4N6306881	03-2981

INQUIRIES REGARDING THESE VEHICLES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO OFFICER BRIAN WALKER, CITY OF PLYMOUTH POLICE DEPARTMENT, AT 734-453-1234, EXT. 532

LINDA J. LANGMESSER

PLANNING COMMISSION NOTICE CITY OF PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2004 7:00 PM (734) 453-1234

A regular meeting of the Planning Commission will be held in the Commission Chambers of the City Hall to consider the following:

PUBLIC HEARING FOR: SPECIAL USE AND SITE PLAN APPROVAL
SP 04-01 Dog Day Care of Plymouth
673 S. Main Street
ZONED: B-1, Local Business
APPLICANT: Royal Palm Enterprises, L.L.C.
Nancy Janoch

SITE PLAN APPROVAL
SP 04-02 Office Building
1005 W. Ann Arbor Trail
ZONED: O-1, Office
APPLICANT: D.J. Maltese Consulting, LLC

All interested persons are invited to attend. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City 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 the meeting/hearing, to individuals with disabilities. Requests for auxiliary aids or services may be made by writing or calling the following:

Carol Stone, ADA Coordinator
201 S. Main Street
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-1234, Ext. 206

PLYMOUTH TWP. PD 734-453-3869 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 2/06/04 at 10 am at Mayflower Auto Transport, 1179 Starkweather, Plymouth, MI a public auction of the following:

1990 Oldsmobile Cutlass	1G3NL14U5LM751074
1992 Saturn	1G8ZK5476N244416

Publish: February 1, 2004

Canton Community Junior Baseball Softball Association Spring 2004 Registrations for Boys and Girls Ages 4-18*

Registration is open to boys and girls ages 4-18* who are residents of Canton, Plymouth or the PCCS school district. All new registrants must show proof of age and residency at time of registration. Fees range from \$75 to \$120 for recreational leagues, with travel team fees slightly higher. All fees are NON-REFUNDABLE. Payments made to CCJBSA in cash, money order or personal check. Credit cards or debit cards are NOT accepted.

Games will start middle to end of May and run thru mid July. All registrations will take place in the **Ballroom of the Summit in the Park, 46000 Summit Parkway, Canton.** For more info call **734-394-5489** and leave a message...or call:

- Chris Angel (teeball/baseball ages 4-12*)...734-981-3007
- Jay Obsniuk (baseball ages 12-18*).....734-981-3272
- Rich Rohn (rec. or travel softball).....734-981-5989
- Dave Urquhart (rec. or travel softball).....734-254-0016
- Ron Goble (travel baseball ages 10-12*).....734-207-8889
- Marc Madias (travel baseball ages 13-15*).....734-207-5424

*Ages as of Jan. 1, 2004 for softball and as of July 31, 2004 for teeball and baseball.

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Friday & Saturday **\$89** per-person

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Friday & Saturday **\$149** per-person

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- Ligert **MUENSTER CHEESE \$2.99** Lb.
- Great with Wonder's **BIG WHITE BREAD 99¢** Ea.

BOB'S INSPECTED BEEF

- WHOLE BEEF TENDERLOINS \$5.79** Lb.

BOB'S PORK LOIN SALE

- Boneless Pork **LOIN ROAST \$2.09** Lb.
- Loin **PORK CHOPS \$2.49** Lb.
- Rib **PORK CHOPS \$2.29** Lb.

BOB'S CORN FED BEEF

- ROUND STEAK \$2.59** Lb.

GREAT FOR CHICKEN SOUP

- Fresh Whole **STEWING CHICKEN \$1.19** Lb.

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- BROCCOLI 99¢** Ea.
- CHICKEN LEGS 59¢** Lb.
- GROUND ROUND \$1.99** Lb.
- CATFISH FILLETS \$3.69** Lb.
- CODFISH FILLETS \$4.39** Lb.
- PERCH FILLETS \$2.89** Lb.
- WHITE FISH FILLETS \$4.29** Lb.

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 Baker, John
 Bartman, Ruth
 Bashawaty, Alicia
 Bee, Donna
 Bell, Greg
 Bethany Bible Church
 Big Boy
 Bird Elementary
 Blackburn, Bobbie
 Blackerby, Linda
 Blue Family
 Boliard, Tara
 Bonnett, Nicky
 Bord Family
 Bowers, Stacey
 Boy Scout Troop #1537
 Boy Scout Troop #743
 Bradley, Kevin
 Brown, Diana
 Brownie Troop #1288
 Brownlee, Christina
 Budd Family
 Burk, Chuck
 Burket, Candy & Brooke
 Burkhardt, Carol
 Bush, Ron
 Business Direct Weekly
 Bykowitz, Christina
 Calille, Stephanie
 Calvary Baptist Church Youth
 Cannon, Kathryn
 Canton B.P.W.
 Canton Crush
 Canton Friendship Church
 Canton High Cheerleaders
 Canton High School Class of 2007
 Canton H.S. JV Cheerleaders
 Canton Rotary
 Canton Senior Adult Program
 Canton H.S. Soph. Student Council
 Carl, Matt
 Carter, John
 Cassidy, Mike
 Chagas, Susan
 Chapman Family
 Cherry Hill United Methodist
 Chin, Lia
 Christian Community Church
 Church of God
 Clark, Martin
 PCEP Close Up
 Colizzi, Joy
 Collins, Kelly
 Community Counseling
 Community Federal Credit Union
 Constantine, Angelo
 Cooper, Nan
 Cooper, Bob
 Cowing, Craig
 Cox, Charlie
 Crosswinds Church
 Cub Scout Pack #1540
 Cub Scout Pack #746 Den 7
 Cub Scout Pack #760
 Cub Scout Pack #854
 Cub Scout Pack #903
 Cudini, Kim
 Czarkowski, Marlene
 Daniels, Danny
 Darichuk, Sherri
 Davidson, Crystal and Beulah
 Davis, Kim
 Dewaters, Matthew
 Dewstow Family
 Diaz, Denise
 Distel, Emma
 Duff, John
 Duguay Family
 Dunkin Donuts AMOCO
 Dunlap, Lisa
 Dunleavy, James
 Edgemont Elementary PTO
 Edwards, Courtney
 Exchange Club of Canton
 Eyrin, Kim
 Farmer Jack



Feirari, Millie
 Finlan Insurance
 First Baptist Church Plymouth
 First Methodist Northville
 First Presbyterian Church
 Plymouth
 First Presbyterian Northville
 First United Methodist
 Foley, Rachel
 Forrester Family
 Franke, Jordan
 Galarneau, Craig
 Gall, Therese
 Gall, Bob
 Garbutt, Annette
 Geddes, Diane
 Geiger, Tara
 Geneva Presbyterian Church
 Gentry, Maya
 Germain, Lindsay
 German American Club
 Gideon's International
 Girl Scout Troop #1388
 Goldsmith, Allison
 Goscinski, Al
 Gray, Dick
 Greenlee, Madaynne
 Greenshields, Jim
 Grim, Mary
 Growth Works
 Grzesik, Richard
 Gulau, Dave
 Gutowski, Joy
 Hagen, Pam
 Haling Family
 Hamrick, Susan
 Harmon, Sam
 Harris, Mark
 Harsha, Hugh
 Hazlett, Julie
 Head, Lindsay
 Henderson, Kathy
 Hernandez Family
 Herrera, Linda
 Hillside Middle School
 Himminger, Dennis
 Hirschlieb, Luis
 Holcomb, Krista
 Holy Trinity
 Houli, Hussein

Hoving, Schuyler
 Huddleston, Katie and Rickey
 Hull, Stephen
 Husted, Don
 Huynk, Theresa
 In Memory of Jack Kenyon
 Isbister School
 Jabara, Jim
 Jacobs, John
 Jaskierny, Doug
 Johnson, Richard
 Joliffe, Happy
 Gall, Therese
 Judson, Karen
 Kappler Family
 Kiwanis of Plymouth
 Knights of Columbus
 Kohlow, Robin
 Koltunchik, David
 Korona, Kelly
 Kosky, Sandy
 Lack, Thomas
 Lake, Kathy
 Leiby, Jennifer
 Levine, Jessica
 Lovelady, Nancy
 Lynch, Derek
 Malcolm, Michelle
 Marschak, Stella
 Martin, Kathy
 Martin, Marie
 Martinek, Dorothy
 McCloud Mary
 McElroy, Michelle
 McKendry, Bill
 Merrifield, Cindy
 Minty, Denise
 Moore, Steve
 Moraine Elementary
 Myers, Ross Salvation Army
 Canteen
 Nadeau, Eric
 PCEP National Honor Society
 Nesler, Sarah
 Neu, Debbie & David
 New Beginnings Youth Group
 Nork, Libby
 North Bound Student Ministries
 North Middle School
 Northville Christian Church
 Missionettes

Northville City Administration
 Northville Co-op Preschool
 Northville Fire Dept.
 Northville H.S. Honor Society
 Northville Kiwanis
 Northville Mothers Life Members
 Northville Police Dept.
 Noyes, Chris
 Oestreicher, Bobbi
 Oliver, Pam
 Olsen, Jessie
 Optrex
 Osmer, Mike
 Ostrowski, Steven
 Our Lady of Victory
 P.E.O.E.A.
 Palaikis, Reni
 Panec, Jake
 Pavro, David
 Pawel, Kargol
 Peacock, Rachel
 Peck, Colleen
 People to People Student
 Ambassadors
 Pickey, Dwight
 Pilkiwicz, Jessica
 Pirzabeh, Mina
 Plater, Sue
 Plymouth Business &
 Professional Woman
 Plymouth Canton Civitans
 Plymouth Canton Honor Society
 Plymouth Christian Academy
 Plymouth Community Council
 on Aging
 Plymouth Community Fire Dept.
 Plymouth Interact Club
 Plymouth Lions Club
 Plymouth Optimist Club
 Plymouth Twp. Clerk's Office
 Rajesh, C.
 Rasko-Loehnis, Ann
 Reardon, Emily
 Rector, Emma
 Reisen, Amy
 Rener, Pat
 Renner, Smith
 Reuter, Coreen
 Reuter Family
 Reynolds Family

Rick Smith and Kathy Henderson
 Robertson Family
 Rolfe, Colin
 Rood, Pat & Roger
 Roofner, Zack
 Rossow, Andy
 Rotary of Plymouth
 Rotary Interact Club
 Rowe, Heidi
 Ryans, Nick
 Saint Vincent DePaul O.L.G.C.
 Salem H.S. 2006 Student Council
 Salem H.S. Football
 Salvation Army Advisory Board
 Salvation Army Tae Kwon Do
 Schendel, Barbara
 Schneider, Ray
 Schwan, Kristen
 Schwinn, Sarah
 Seventh Grade Youth Methodist
 Sherwood, Nate
 Shoemaker, Adam
 Short Family
 Sibbold, Janet
 Silver Springs Elementary
 Slowek, Nancy
 Smith, Dale
 Smith, Libby
 Smith, Mark
 Smith Elementary
 South Middle School
 Spencer, Gail
 St. John's Episcopal
 St. Michael Church Congregation
 Church
 St. Michael Church Youth Group
 St. Thomas A'Becket
 Stack, Nicole
 Stewart, Pat
 Stoehr, Carolyn
 Stone, Judy
 Stott, Matthew
 Sulkowski, Barbara
 Sullivan, Ken
 Swigart, Tom
 Swiger, Jessica
 Tae Kwon Do
 Talmadge, Kyle
 Tate, Robert
 Team Lightning Robotics
 Tennant, Lia
 Thomas, Katie
 Thomas, Laura
 Thomas, Nina
 Thompson, Ellen
 Thornton Creek Elementary
 Trapp, Richard
 Trinity Episcopal Church
 Trinity Presbyterian
 Trinity Presbyterian Youth
 Tucker Insurance
 Urabe, Takayuki
 Van Buren, Robert
 Varley, Ro
 Vietnam Vets of America #528
 Village Barbers
 Vincent, Doug
 Wade, Janelle
 Wallace, Julie
 WalMart
 Ward, Katie
 Wardynski, Anne
 Ware, Roger
 Wartmann, Joshua
 Watson, Doris and Donald
 Wells, Alia
 Werda, Alan
 Wester Family
 Williams, Benae
 Williams, Robbin
 Wilson, Joseph
 Wilstang, Cherie
 Windecker, Brett
 Wise Solutions
 Wooderson Family
 Wortmann, Joshua
 Wurtzbacher, Jason
 Y.M.C.A. Plymouth
 Yee, Sheryl and Aidon
 Yoder, Carol
 Zdan, Barb
 Zoellner, Jeffrey



If we have forgotten anyone, please forgive us and know that we thank you.
 To those of you who dropped money in the kettles, thank you very much!

The Salvation Army

9451 South Main Street • P.O. Box 6296 • Plymouth



Sandra Anselm

Test your colors first

Last week, we talked about starting a painting project and steps you need to follow in picking a color scheme for your next decorating project. The next step is to go shopping.

The color chips at the local paint stores are a start only because they are so small. Select a few different ranges of colors from more than one paint company and at different stores. Most stores usually carry three to four brands. Even if you have a favorite brand of paint, that doesn't mean you can't select a color from another company's chart and have your color choice (computer matched) in the brand and finish you want.

Purchase a quart only of the color choice for a test board. Painting a test board is simple and very helpful in visualizing the color choice in the room. Buy a half-dozen white poster boards from the department store and a few three-inch sponge craft rollers from the craft store. Paint two coats of the color on the board and tape two poster boards up on opposite walls. Leave the painted poster boards up a few days and live with the color before making a final decision on the new color. You can do this with multiple color choices or

So if your room is not spacious and/or you have sizable furniture pieces in a small room, stay with the lighter shades and bring out deeper colors in your accessories.

shades of color.

Keep in mind that the darker shades will make a smaller room more closed in than a lighter shade. So if your room is not spacious and/or you have sizable furniture pieces in a small room, stay with the lighter shades and bring out deeper colors in your accessories. Just because a deep color looks great in a magazine photo, doesn't mean it will in your room. Compare all components of your room — size, furniture, windows and lighting — before trying to copy designer looks in magazines.

If you are really experimenting with color choices, there is a less expensive way to paint your poster boards. Select from the multiple acrylic paint colors that are offered at your local craft store. They are usually less than a dollar for two ounces and two bottles would be plenty to paint two coats on two boards. Once you have narrowed down the color and/or shade from the acrylic craft paint, then take your board into the paint department and either select the closest color to the paint chips or have the color computer matched. Bravo! No more anticipating whether the color is going to fit your style or look good in your room.

Sandra Anselm is the owner of Awesome Room Makeovers. She can be contacted at (734) 748-9403 or www.awesomeoomakeovers.com, decogoddess@earthlink.net

Opening act

Young vocalist on her way to opera career first

Annie Radcliffe's love for opera grew out of her student days at the University of Michigan School of Music. But long before landing her first lead role in Ann Arbor, Radcliffe was learning to sing in the youth and adult choirs at Garden City Presbyterian Church. Piano studies during that time furthered her knowledge of music and sight reading. The combination of the two prepared her for the musical theater she would later perform at Plymouth Canton High School.

Moon Over Buffalo, Crazy for You, Grease, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Brighton Beach Memoirs and South Pacific whetted her appetite for the stage. After graduating in 1999, she headed off to the University of Michigan with one wish — to someday sing and act in musical theater.

"As I started, I became exposed to opera and fell in love with it," said Radcliffe, a 22-year old senior majoring in vocal music performance at the U-M School of Music. "Opera fits my voice type. It's very dramatic, probably more dramatic, very theatrical."

During her five years at Michigan, Radcliffe has "grown a lot as a vocalist," but never dreamed that her first role would be a lead one. In March 2003, she became Atalanta in Handel's *Xerxes*. With only seven members in the entire cast, Radcliffe spent much of the time in the spotlight.

"It was difficult from the perspective that I never had a role before," said Radcliffe, a mezzo soprano. "I had to focus on technical and then coordinate with being on stage and in front of people."

The performances went so well that Radcliffe auditioned for Puccini's *Fuor Angelica*. By November 2003, she was back on stage after taking workshops in opera and arias. Even though she had to switch teachers halfway through her university studies (she now takes voice with Loretta Bybee), Radcliffe is well on her way to a career in opera.

During a summer program in Italy a couple of summers ago, Radcliffe had the opportunity to attend an Italian conservatory, where she learned techniques like Bel Canto. This summer, she plans to continue her opera studies in a program at Middlebury College in Vermont.

But before then, Radcliffe must meet her graduation requirements. At 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15, she will give a recital in Britton Recital Hall at the University of Michigan School of Music, 1100 Baits Drive, Ann Arbor. The program is free and open to the public.

Radcliffe will perform four different language sets — Italian by Mozart and Handel, English songs Copland composed to poems by Emily Dickinson, German by Schubert, and French folk songs in a vernacular by Canteloube.

As a voice major, Radcliffe was required to take French, Italian and German along with diction classes. She says, "the more you sing, the more you become familiar with the language."

That will help when she returns to Italy. After graduating in May, she plans to take a year off to work and study. During that time, she plans to audition for the chorus of Michigan Opera Theatre productions at the Detroit Opera House. Radcliffe is serious about making opera her future. The only reason that she also



Annie Radcliffe's first role was as Atalanta in Handel's 'Xerxes.' Here she's trying to retrieve a letter from one of the characters disguised as a flower seller.

majoring in English literature, she explains, was to be more well-rounded.

"I could end up going to graduate school or to Europe, where there are more opportunities to audition and perform," said Radcliffe, who currently has a job as a soloist at the First Church of Christ Scientist-Ann Arbor every Sunday. "Someday I'd love to sing at

the Metropolitan Opera in New York or with Lyric Opera Chicago. If I accomplished that, I would feel I was there."

In the meantime, her father David is recording the recital for a CD.

"We're very proud of her," said Radcliffe's mother Linda of Canton.

Local Christian Science church hits the century mark

BY BRAD KADRICH
STAFF WRITER

Mary Baker Eddy founded the Church of Christ, Scientist in 1879 with a healing mission embracing humanity, based on her 1875 book, *Science and Health*.

Twenty-three years later, a few earnest students of the ministry in Plymouth, who had been meeting together more or less informally, decided it was time to organize. Under the guidance of Eddy disciple Annie Knott, the Plymouth contingent met for the first time in April 1898.

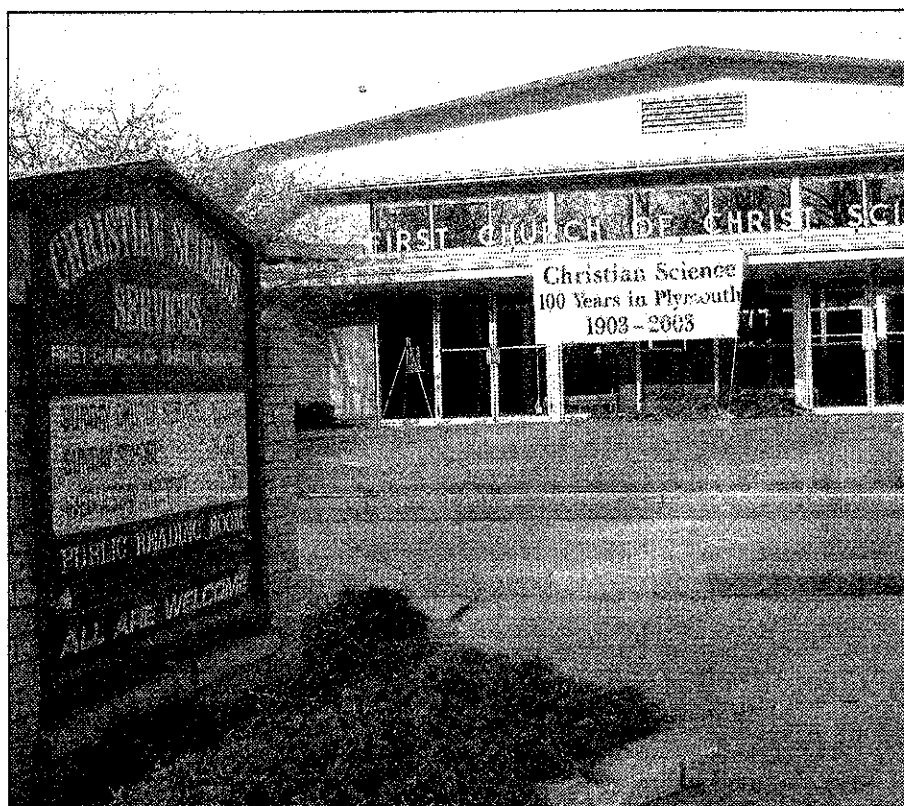
Five years later, the First Church of Christ, Scientist-Plymouth was born, and it's been a going ministry ever since.

"My parents became interested in Christian Science, so it became part of the family," said Richard Moore, a former First Reader who has been a church member since 1952.

The first meeting took place April 26, 1898, in a room above what is now Gabriel's in downtown Plymouth. Less than a year later, the church opened its first Reading Room, now a staple of all Christian Science churches. Judge W.G. Ewing gave the first official lecture July 23, 1899.

Once the church was a going concern, it was time for an actual building, and the first cornerstone was laid in a sunrise ceremony was conducted July 17, 1903, at the church site, which is now the Plymouth Historical Museum.

"The old interurban car wasn't running, so some people walked all the way from Northville," said Sharon Rea, who chaired the church's Centennial



Plymouth's First Church of Christ Scientist marks its 100th year this year.

Committee. "The church has always been a part of the community."

As the church grew, the need for more space came with it. To accommodate members, three sets of folding doors separating the original Reading Room from the church had to be taken down and put back up. The Sunday School was growing. It was time to move.

That first structure was eventually

sold to the city and razed, and the church built a new facility on Ann Arbor Trail. Work began in fall 1957, and the first service at the new location — its home ever since — was conducted in October 1958.

The church has grown and now includes some 75 members. Services are conducted twice a week — at 10:30 a.m. Sunday (with Sunday School) and a Wednesday evening

'We're taught to pray anytime there's something wrong, or causing disharmony in the community. It's been a practical religion because it heals.'

Richard Moore
longtime member

service. Readers are elected to read Bible lessons, and 26 different topics are among the featured discussions.

Services generally include one reading, three hymns, one musical solo and a collection. The readings come from Eddy's book, *Science and Health*.

"It gives you a better spiritual understanding of the Bible," Rea said.

Church members strongly believe their faith continues to serve a vital need in the community.

"We're taught to pray anytime there's something wrong, or causing disharmony in the community," said 30-year member Moore. "It's been a practical religion because it heals."

First Church of Christ, Scientist is located at 1100 W. Ann Arbor Trail. The Christian Science Reading Room is located at 873 W. Ann Arbor Trail at Forest. For more information, call the church, (734) 453-0970.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hayes Longtime Plymouth Township residents Jim and Mary Hayes have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary...



Main and Church streets in Plymouth.

Opera showcases talent

Eight of Metro Detroit's professional singers present favorite opera show stoppers 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Metropolitan Church of God, 13400 Schaefer near Grand River, south of Schoolcraft, Detroit.

Tickets are \$15 adults, \$12 seniors and students, and available by calling (313) 273-5580 or (248) 547-2027.

Some ways to reignite passion in marriage

Q. My husband and I have been married for 14 years and I don't think we have done anything new or interesting together in a long time. I don't feel comfortable wearing a see-through negligee to bed, so how can I recreate the passion in our marriage?



In my last column (Jan. 18), I wrote about how passionate love inevitably declines in a marriage over time, and I featured a passionate love quiz developed by Drs. Elaine Hatfield and Susan Sprecher. Passionate love declines because at the beginning of a relationship everything is new and exciting. We learn interesting and novel information about our partner every day, which fuels passionate love. Plus, at the early stages of a relationship, most of us idealize our partners and see them through rose-colored glasses. As time goes by, we take the rose-colored glasses off and begin to see the imperfections that every partner has. We know what our partner eats at a restaurant, thinks about politics and might enjoy doing on a Sunday afternoon. This information increases companionate love, the love that is characterized by support, intimacy and friendship, but it also weakens feelings of passionate love. That is why we have to work quite hard at reigniting the passion and romance in our marriage. Remember, our relationships have to be about fun and personal growth as much as they involve caring for children, earning a living or achieving security. Here are a few Love Doctor tips on how to recreate passion in your marriage.

Go to a place that interests both of you and can create new memories. 3. Do activities together where arousal can get transferred to your private, intimate relationship. For example, go on a roller coaster ride, see a scary movie or exercise together. Studies show these arousal producing activities increase passionate love, as long as you do them with your spouse. 4. Nurture a friendship with your spouse. Being good friends helps to keep the passion alive in marriages. 5. Reacquaint yourself with your spouse by playing a board game together. 6. Attend a Relationship Enrichment Workshop together to clarify expectations and rules for your marriage. 7. Hold hands and use other small endearments to keep romance alive. These are necessary for couples to feel physically bonded. Remember, while passion is an integral element in a couple's relationship, it should not become the foundation of the relationship. Passion is only one of the components necessary to establishing a loving, successful relationship over time.

Terri L. Orbuch, Ph.D., is a psychologist, sociologist, author, Oakland University professor, and research scientist at the University of Michigan who has studied the romance and relationship and marriage and divorce patterns of thousands of individuals nationwide for over 16 years. She is president-elect of the International Association for Relationship Research. Listen to the Love Doctor 7-7:30 a.m. every Thursday on WNIC-FM (100.3). To submit a question, e-mail the Love Doctor on her Web site at www.detroit-lovedr.com.

Painter brings animals alive

Rock painter Paul Janus demonstrates his unusual ability of developing animal images on rocks as part of the regular meeting of the Garden City Fine Arts Association at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, in the IMC Room at the Maplewood Center. The public is welcome. Janus' work is in several galleries, including the Art Gallery/Studio in Garden City. Daughter Jennifer Perkins sells some of the rocks alongside her jewelry at local summer art fairs. The rocks are also available in the Livonia Senior Center gift shop.

focused on painting since retiring from the automaker two years ago. "I've always enjoyed doing caricature and cartooning," Janus said. "That's what gave me the idea to paint funny little animals on rocks. Thirty years ago, I did cartoons of animals on rocks. It has to be the right rock." Janus spends hours on the beach and at the lake looking for the perfect rock. "It has to be shaped like an animal with a smooth surface," Janus said. "It has to qualify to be an animal." Dogs, cats, birds such as penguins, almost any animal becomes funny and whimsical in Janus' hands. The Garden City Fine Arts Association is sponsoring a series of art classes, including basic drawing and oil and watercolor painting, this winter season. There will also be intermediate drawing for ages 10 and up. For more information, call (734) 422-6400.

Star Struck

(Feb. 1-Feb. 4) By Dennis Fairchild

ARIES (March 21-April 20)

Something that's been worrying you will no longer in the days ahead. The problem itself will not have changed, but your attitude toward it will. At last you can see that it was only in your mind that it was formidable. Change your mind and you can change the world!

TAURUS (April 21-May 21)

There will be some sort of clash in the coming days between what you want to do and what others expect you to do. If you're wise, you'll realize it might be better to put your own needs on hold. It's not about nice; it's about doing the right thing.

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)

Certain issues will come to a head this week, and you must sort them out once and for all. It may at times be a bit messy emotionally; please go easy on yourself. Twins! Next time (and next month), don't pretend that everything is fine when you know it's not.

CANCER (June 22-July 23)

It is not what you get that counts in life, but what you give. And if you give love without question at this time, you'll make such a difference in so many lives that the world will be a much better place. Just one small act of kindness will spark far-reaching changes.

LEO (July 24-Aug 23)

You seem to believe that anything is possible and that no matter what you do, it will work out for the best. That's a great attitude to have, but don't take it to extremes. Despite what you may think, you're only human. The higher the climb, the farther the fall.

VIRGO (Aug 24-Sept 23)

You shouldn't need reminding that you're free to make your own decisions in life, and that while others may try to persuade you, they mustn't be allowed to coerce you. Some things shouldn't be bargained away. You must fight for your freedom now - bark loudly!

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23)

Because the approaching Full Moon takes place in the most sensitive area of your solar chart, you'll be even more emotional than usual at this time. Focus on matters of a practical nature and try not to focus on things you've lost. Few things in life should be taken seriously.

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

Yes, someone may have it in for you, Scorp. And yes, you must be on your guard. But, no, you don't have to curl up in a ball and hide yourself away from the world. Carry on with your life as usual, but be aware of what's going on around you. An Aries can assist.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21)

Something you hear or something you read will inspire you now. Above all, it'll make you realize that up until now you've been living and operating well below your potential. It's not too late to make up lost ground, but you have to be quick. Stop dreaming and start doing.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 21)

Someone in a position of authority will make life uncomfy for you now and, most likely, you'll give as good as you get. That's fine as far as it goes, but don't go too far. Has it not occurred to you that they might be hoping you'd overreact? Don't fall into their trap.

AQUARIUS (Jan 22-Feb 19)

You won't be able to please everyone right now, so you need to decide whom to support and whom to oppose. Before you make that decision, you must accept that not even those you love have the right to dictate the terms of your existence. Say "no" to emotional intimidation.

PISCES (Feb 20-March 20)

There has never been a better time to start your life anew, Fish! There has never been a better time to put your past behind you and think only of the future. The trials and tribulations of recent years have passed and will bother you no more. Breathe deeply, now.

Dennis Fairchild is the Birmingham astrologer-author of several books on divination. For personal astrological-intuitive consult info, call (248) 646-3555 or e-mail DenFairchild@aol.com.

Valentine says 'I love you'

Say "I Love You" with a Singing Valentine and leave your sweetheart speechless. Nothing says you care like a Singing Valentine delivered by a barbershop quartet from the Wayne Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. The barbershop quartet will serenade your sweetheart at home, work or anywhere else you choose in Livonia, Canton, Garden City, Northville, Plymouth, Wayne, and Westland. Valentines will be available Friday-Saturday, Feb. 13-14. The cost is \$40 and includes two love songs, a red rose and personalized Valentine's Day card. The singers will even deliver your special gift. If you wish to present the Singing Valentine in person by singing with the quartet, the cost is only \$20. Call 734-981-6342 to schedule a delivery between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 13-14. Send e-mail to Valentines@WeSingBarbershop.com. Orders will be taken until Feb. 11. The Wayne Chapter and the Barbershop Harmony Society are nonprofit organizations.

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Advertisement for the 2004 Novi Home Improvement Show. Features include: 'The latest technology, products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, remodeling, arts and crafts, decorative accessories, spas, electronics, heating cooling and appliances.' Special Guest: Chef J. Warren. Dates: Friday, January 30; Saturday, January 31; Sunday, February 1. Location: Novi Expo Center.

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Rx Briefs

Serene setting

Cancer care center recognized for its sensitive design

BY LEN IDEN
CORRESPONDENT

The art of healing takes many forms — from the compassionate care of a physician and the expertise of his or her staff — to the successful treatment received by the patient.

It's also true that today's healing arts go beyond the traditional doctor-patient relationship to include what some call a "holistic" approach. In fact, the boundaries of current medicine have expanded to consider the environment in which the patient is treated — and healing is encouraged and realized.

The Karmanos Weisberg Cancer Treatment Center in Farmington Hills was recently recognized for its unique and successful design of a gentle and serene building environment. The northern Michigan lodge-like setting was planned and designed to be a place where patients and their families could be relaxed and at ease while undergoing radiation treatment and chemotherapy for various types of cancer.

In addition, the center offers patients a broad spectrum of complementary programs, including genetics testing, cancer counseling, support groups, message therapy, nutrition support, yoga, art and meditation.

The medical facility received a prestigious 2003 Award of Excellence from Modern Healthcare, an industry-leading business news weekly published by Crain Communications. And there was high praise for its friendly and comfortable ambience by the panel of judges.



Forman

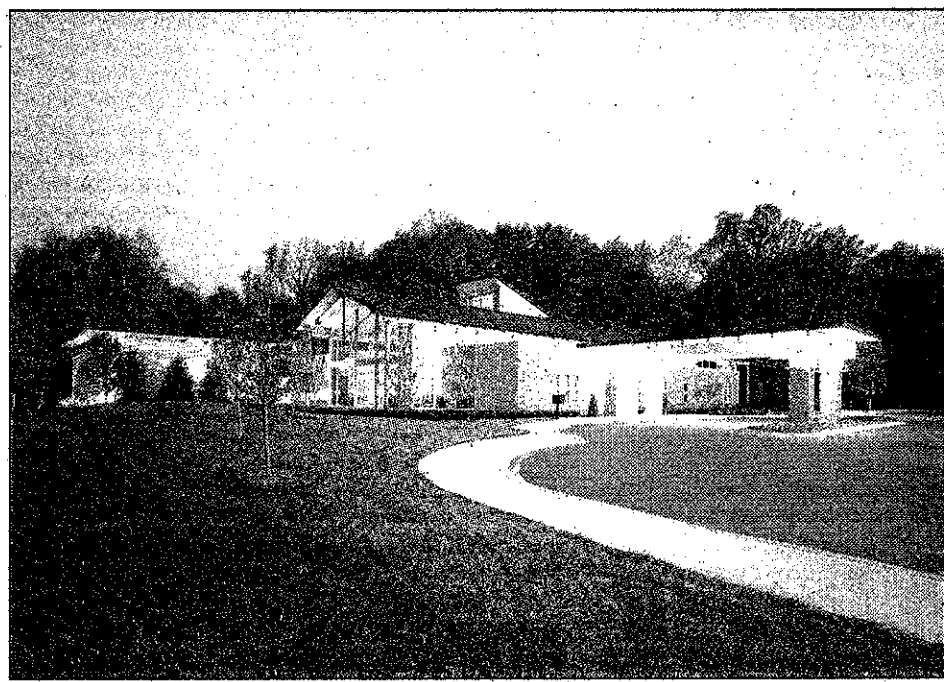
"This project reflects a caring and compassionate environment that blends well into the naturally wooded site," said one judge. He added that the Weisberg center is "a dignified and elegant setting that would put many patients and their support systems at ease."

Another judge complimented the building's design features and said that they "bring exterior spaces into the patient areas." Added another judge, "This project gives (patients and families) privacy and a sense of warmth and personal peace not possible in most super-sterile environments."

The Weisberg treatment center was honored along with eight other world-class healthcare organizations that included facilities operated by the Texas Heart Institute, Kaiser Permanente, and the Phoenix Children's Hospital. That's pretty good company for a two-year old facility, and it's plenty of reason for its medical director, Dr. Jeffrey Forman and his staff to be proud of the award recognition.

PLEASANTLY SURPRISED

"We're extremely pleased and pleasantly surprised to receive the award based on the number of co-award winners and the impressive medical projects that were not recognized," said Dr. Forman. "Most importantly, feedback



LASZLO REGOS

The architecture of the Weisberg facility was designed to reflect an inviting Northern Michigan lodge setting. Project architects were Cannon Design, St. Louis, Mo., and TMP Associates, Bloomfield Hills.

from our patients for the facility has exceeded our expectations. We set out to design an environment unlike most hospitals, where our patients can experience surroundings that encourage the healing and recovery process."

And as one would expect, the Weisberg facility is equipped with state-of-the-art radiation technology to help deliver the finest treatment protocols possible.

"Our linear accelerator uses a high-tech planning system that allows our technicians to deliver radiation to the precise target while avoiding surrounding tissue. The system is called IMRT for Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy," said Forman.

"Another key technology is called BAT for B-Mode Acquisition And Targeting. We use BAT to precisely identify the location of the prostate during radiation therapy since the prostate can slightly move from treatment to treatment," he

added. Future plans for the Lawrence and Idell Weisberg facility are under discussion and include expanding the current treatment technology while adding space that complements the calming and healing environment.

Concluded Forman, "While we're thrilled to have received the Modern Healthcare award, our mission, of course, continues to focus on healing each patient with compassion and success. We believe the Weisberg facility can continue to be a place where our patients and their families can visit with optimism and hope, a place where their minds and spirits can be nurtured while their disease is treated with the world's finest technology and a staff dedicated to each person's complete healing."

Len Iden is a West Bloomfield writer/consultant. (liden007@hotmail.com)

Prostate screening

St. Mary Mercy Hospital in Livonia is hosting a Prostate Screening and Men's Health Day 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, March 6. Prostate cancer is the most common non-skin cancer in American men, with about 221,000 new cases in 2003, according to the American Cancer Society.

Prostate Screening Day consists of a blood test for Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA), Total Cholesterol and HDL, a prostate exam by a physician and a blood pressure check. It is suggested that men 45 years and older get tested.

PSA results and other forms of screening allow men to access prostate cancer treatment during the early stages of their disease. Whether immediate treatment is required or not, symptoms can be monitored by your doctor. Early screening and early detection can save lives.

A \$10 donation to the new St. Mary Mercy Cancer Center is optional. To register, call (734) 655-8963.

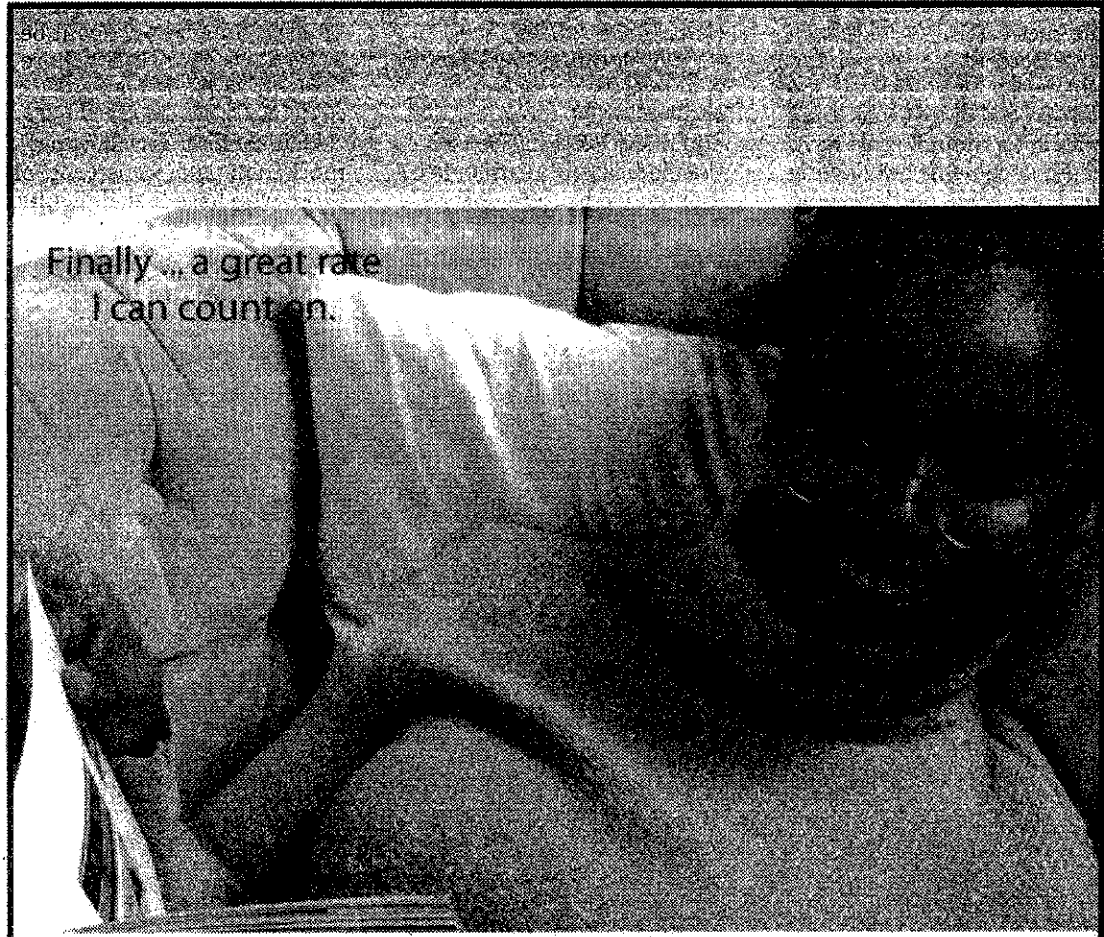


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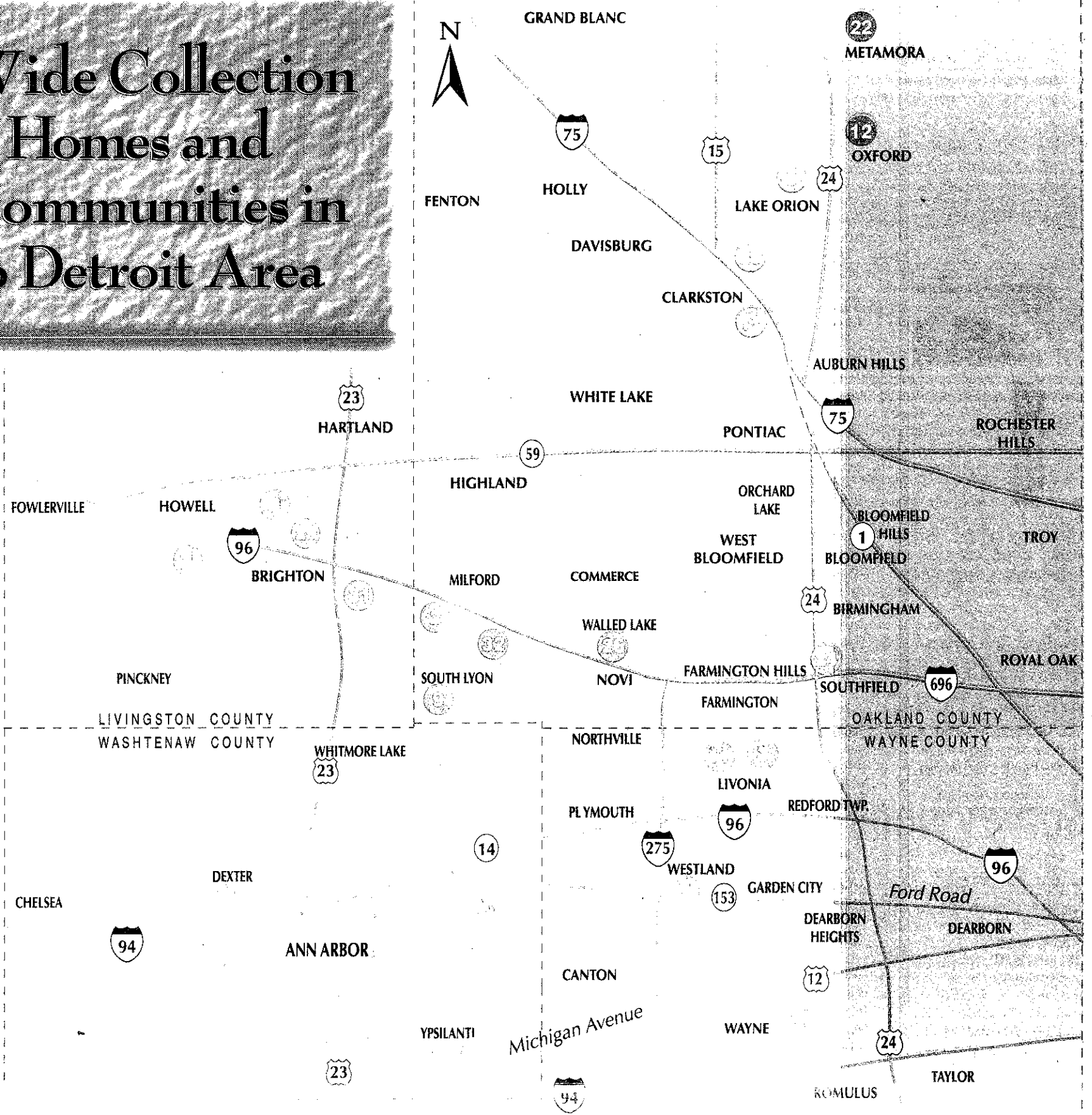
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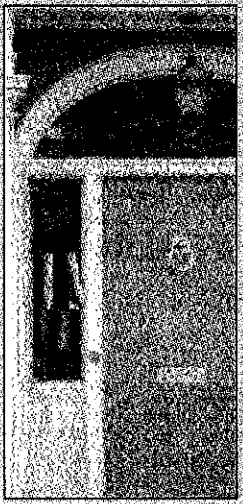
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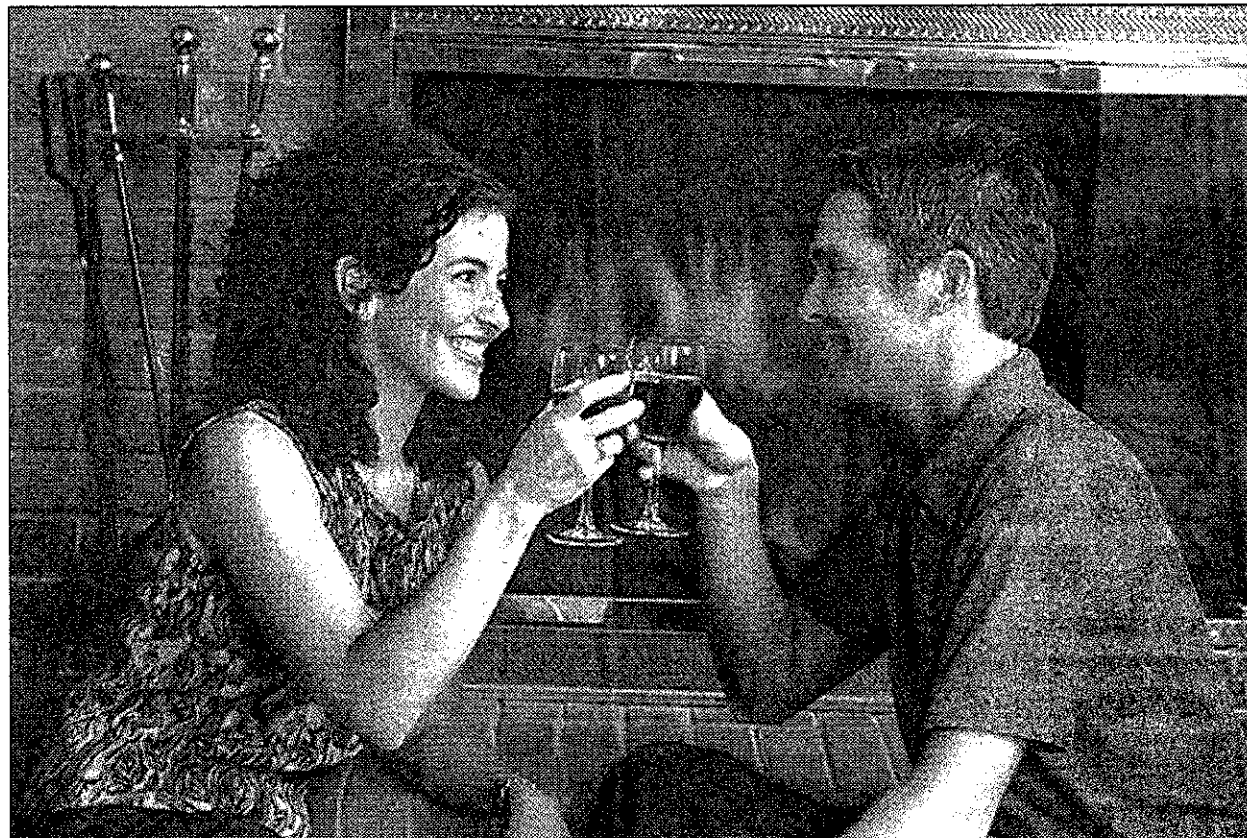
Celebrate your move with family, friends

Just spent months signing off on a new lease or mortgage? Hired movers, packed boxes and basically rearranged your life? Whether it's a new apartment down the street, a change of address across the country or simply a renovated kitchen, new digs are a great excuse for a party.

Don't worry about waiting until your space is perfectly decorated with just the right accents - your friends are just curious to check out the place. After all those moving pains, here are some ways to throw a seamless, stress-free housewarming party.

THINK THEMATICALLY

Guests are always a party priority, and a theme can relieve them of the guesswork of gift giving. If you're decorating your space in a certain hue, why not pick a color scheme for your bash? Plan a "blue" party and guests can bring candles, pillows, vases and other gifts in your signature indigo. Another idea is to have each guest bring a wine glass as a gift and then have a wine-tasting party as you tour the house. And don't forget the possibility of a musical motif, with a potluck CD party to set the mood. Ask each friend to bring a CD he no longer listens to, and everyone can swap



Raise a toast to your new home with a housewarming bash.

(with the host getting first dibs, of course). Don't forget to play some of your guests' old favorites as they tour your new home.

AN 'INVITING' HOME

Soon after moving day, you'll want to send out the party invites. Most housewarming celebrations take place two to four weeks after move in, but don't stress about having your house set up perfectly - feel free to keep the day

casual. It's up to you whether you want to throw a raucous night bash or a laid-back afternoon soiree, but remember not to invite more people than can fit in your new space. You can even describe the party as an "open house" so that people can drop by throughout the afternoon. Remember to include specific directions on your party invites - people will be coming to your new location for the first time.

E-mail invites are a quick and easy way to go, plus you can often link invitations to map programs.

DECORATING

Your new home is the decoration, so don't detract from it by putting up lights and streamers. A couple of tasteful floral arrangements are all you need to highlight your new rooms. To add a personal touch, display some photos of families and

friends throughout your home. At night, well-placed candles give a flattering glow to any room.

FOCUS ON FOOD

Housewarming parties are perfect occasions for finger foods. Since guests will be walking around to see all the details of your new home, placing different appetizers in each room is a fun way to keep the party moving. If the event is themed, carry out

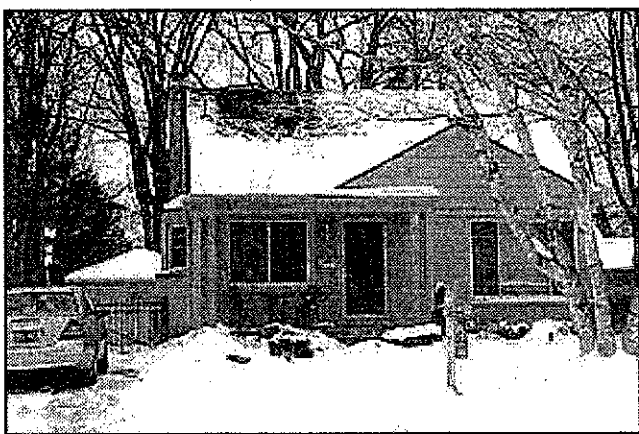
the motif in the food as well (a "red" party might include strawberries, apples and red pepper appetizers). Well-placed plates of crudites are best in formal rooms to minimize mess and hot prepared foods - or seven-layer dips - should be served around the kitchen and dining areas, along with the beverages.

A THREE-HOUR TOUR

Remember, your home is the main attraction, so there's no need for elaborate party games. Tours of your space are more than enough to keep people talking and having fun. If you'd like to be the guide, make sure you have someone greeting new arrivals at the door and making them comfortable while you're showing off the new back yard or upstairs loft. Or if they're a casual bunch, leave a sign on the front door that says "Come in!" and they can fend for themselves.

If you'd rather act as host, allow guests to take self-guided tours. You can lead them around in a do-it-yourself way by photocopying floor plans labeled with any features you'd like to highlight in each room. If you live in a renovated space, you can post "before" pictures outside the rooms that you've remodeled. In this age of "Trading Spaces," people will love seeing the transformation.

OPEN HOUSES OF THE WEEK



1968 STANLEY A Renovated Bungalow \$329,900

Looking for something that just requires you to move into? How about a renovated kitchen with stainless steel appliances and the walls removed so it overlooks the Living Room and Dining Room? Both the Living Room and Dining Room have finished hardwood floors, plantation shutters, picture windows, and custom painted walls. Would you like a new bathroom with cherry cabinets and upgraded plumbing fixtures? The Master Bedroom is 30' and easily accommodates a king size set with room to spare. The children's bedrooms on the entry level have finished hardwood floors while one has access to the hot tub and deck plus a fenced yard. The lower level has a large finished Family Room where a big screen TV and multiple sofas exist. The list goes on and on.

Call Sandy Norman
\$20,000,000 Man



248-647-8888 Office
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woods. Enjoy 3 full baths plus two large half baths, central vac, security system, wet bar and the entry level master bedroom suite of your dreams. There is much more.

A plus on this one is the 15 minute commute to Novi, Northville, or Plymouth.



41860 Six Mile, Northville

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CHARLIE JACKSON
(313) 820-3702



HISTORIC VICTORIAN HOME

— In the Heart of Plymouth —
IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY

Open By Appointment
Offered at
\$295,000

This 3,065 sq. ft. Victorian jewel is within walking distance of downtown Plymouth. It is truly a rare find! This outstanding property, with its old world architecture and charm, has a spacious living room with bay window and a natural fireplace with marble surround. There is a formal dining room for entertaining on those special occasions and a lovely family room with built-ins and a huge vintage brick fireplace...a

perfect spot for gathering on those cold winter days. The home has a stately library, three bedrooms, large kitchen with breakfast room, first floor laundry area, Florida room and a basement. In addition, the home has central air for your comfort and an elevator for your convenience. Asking \$295,000.

For additional information or to arrange for a private showing, contact Felicia Scappaticci, (248) 310-2873.



28544 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills

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Fax your ad: 734-953-2232



Too Late To Classifieds...

If you missed our regular Tuesday deadline for Thursday's publication, you can now call us 'til Wednesday at 11am and place your ad in our "Too Late To Classified" Section.
Look for this to appear in Section C of the paper!
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Luxury Rowhomes from the mid \$300's
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Homes 3000

COLDWELL BANKER
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248-685-1588

Milford Village Bungalow, 1.8 Acres
Over 2400 sq.ft. 2 car garage, bsmt. New vinyl siding & gutters. Newer kitchen & roof shingles. \$227,754. (8-501)

Hidden Away in Milford
Over 4200 finished sq.ft. Ready to occupy. Many upgrades: ceramic, marble, hardwood, walk-out basement, central air & vac. \$369,900. (M-830)

Highland Setting & More
Impeccable inside & out. 3 bed, 1.5 bath, Colonial, bsmt, 2 car garage & landscaped. \$274,900. (0-1610)

Milford Investors
Gorgeous lakefront, potential galore!
\$129,900 (P-913)

Milford Village Victorian
3 bed, 2 bath, Cape Cod w/ 1561 sq.ft. overlooking the river. \$199,000 (R-233)

Executive Milford Chateau
Tucked away in the woods, 4 bed, 3.5 bath, total 5600 sq.ft., walk-out, views from every level.
\$649,900 (D-2838)

Open Houses 3030

BERKLEY - OPEN SUN 12-4
1500 sq.ft., 3 bed, 1 bath, updated kitchen w/island & appliances. New roof, siding, windows, & 2 car garage. 3845 Cummings, \$219,900. Eves/weekends 248-582-0481

CANTON - 1615 Thistle Ct.
Links of Pheasant Run Golfview, cul-de-sac location w/ Summit Rec, library, parks, medical a short stroll. 3 Bed., 2 bath, full & deep bsmt, 2 car attached garage, 1st floor laundry. Upgraded w/ hardwood floors, jetted tub, big deck too! Open 1-4. \$270,000
DENISE MCGUIGAN
734-564-4310; 734-357-2012
RE/MAX HOMETOWN III

Call to place your ad at 1-800-579-SELL (7355)

3000-3890
Real Estate For Sale

Open Houses 3030

Canton OPEN SUN. 1:30-4:30
7089 Foxcreek, S/Warren, W/Haggerty, 4 bed, open floor plan, freshly painted, new carpet. Only asking for \$279,900.
LING CHEN
RE/MAX Classic
734-459-1010

Farmington Hills
Open Sun. 1-4 30112 Briarton N of 13 Mile, W of Farmington Family quad, 4 bdrms, 3 baths. Reduced \$257,500. Upgrades. Call Sally Stemmer, Max Brook, (248) 626-4000 or (586) 201-7059

LIVONIA - Open Sun. 1-4
By owner. Lovely colonial located at 35977 Curtis St. This home w/4 bed, 2.5 baths, hardwood floors & updated kitchen is Stevenson, Holmes, Taylor neighborhood. For details call (734) 464-8389

Livonia OPEN 1-4 SUNDAY
31121 Bobrich, N/Six, E/Merriman. Must see 4 bed Colonial on 1/2 acre lot, family room, fireplace, bsmt, attached 2 car garage. \$269,900.
Call Dean Castelli
CENTURY 21 PREMIER
1812 Middlebelt
(734)458-6118

Livonia OPEN HOUSE 1-4pm
28044 W. Chicago S. Plymouth/ E. Middlebelt Well maintained 3 bed, 2 bath ranch, many updates, bsmt, garage. \$164,900
CENTURY 21 PREMIER (734) 453-4300
44958 Ford Rd. - Canton

A word to the wise, when looking for a great deal check the Observer & Eccentric Classifieds!

Open Houses 3030

Livonia - OPEN SUN 12:30-3:30
Next Super Bowl Sunday envision yourself in this large 3 bedroom home w/ a huge lower family game room to invite all your friends to 28766 Buckingham, N/Schoollcraft, E. on Meadowlark, S. on Alexander. RE/MAX 100 248-348-3000 THE FIRESTONE TEAM

PLYMOUTH - SUN. 1-4
DEER CREEK SUB. 11644 Deer Creek Circle. Powell Rd between Beck & Ridge. 4 bedroom colonial. (734) 453-5592

TROY BY OWNER Open Sun 1-5. 1686 Devonshire Dr. N. off Wattles between Crooks & Coolidge. Great home in a great neighborhood. 3200 sq. ft. open floor plan, some hardwood, updated kitchen, 1st floor master. Must See! \$464,900. (248) 287-0347

WESTLAND - 36030 Glen N. of Palmer, W. of Wayne
Updated for you - roof, windows, siding, furnace, remodeled kitchen w/ oak cabinets and ceramic tile floor. New Pergo floor in living room, hall & bedroom. Backs to Madison Elementary too! Open 1-4:00 \$105,000
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Bloomfield 3055

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3045.....Birmingham-Bloomfield	3423.....Waterford
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3055.....Brighton	3430.....Webbville
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3130.....Chelsea	3450.....White Lake
3135.....Dexter	3460.....Whitmore Lake
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3145.....Farmington Hills	3490.....Wixom-Commerce
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3170.....Garden City	3515.....Lapeer County
3180.....Grosse Pointe	3520.....Livingston County
3190.....Hamburg	3530.....Macomb County
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LOCATION - Almost 1 1/2 acres of prime land in Bloomfield Hills. Sloped lot, private, mature trees, 4 bed, 2 1/2 bath country cottage on property. Great neighbors, easy access to all amenities. \$599,900. 248-647-2313

Brighton 3060

BRIGHTON/HOWELL 1800 sq. ft. homes on 1/2 acre lots. Great location, paved streets, sidewalks, sewers, golf & boating. Builders closeout, hurry only 6 lots left. \$180,000 - \$220,000 Liberty Homes 810-225-8944

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Tips for finding a new home in tight economy

(NAPSI) - Every year, 43 million Americans pick up and move to a new address. Whether it's down the street or across the country, the process of relocating is time consuming, stressful, and costly. But there is hope for those who are getting ready to move.

While the number of people on the move increases each year, some property companies are beginning to provide services that make relocating easier.

In the apartment industry, management companies offer residents programs, incentives and research tools that help reduce the time and effort invested in relocating. Aimco (Apartment Investment & Management Company), the largest owner/operator of apartment communities in the U.S., is one company taking the lead in offering relocation services designed to take the pain out of moving and saving for a home.

The company's Coast-to-Coast and HomePlanner programs are two services that aid residents, whether they need to relocate or are looking to purchase a home. The Coast-to-Coast program enables residents to seamlessly relocate to another property in a desired city.

This program allows a resident to avoid the stress of breaking a lease or losing deposit money.

Additionally, the Coast-to-Coast program helps residents research a new city and find an apartment community with amenities and services that meet their unique needs.

With over 1,700 properties nationwide residents can find a home that meets their needs while weighing important factors, such as which neighborhoods have the best schools or the nearest recreational facilities.

"Aimco recognizes that in order to fully meet the needs of its residents, especially within the current state of the economy, we must offer flexible services that simplify their lives," said Victoria Blanton, the company's vice president for sales and marketing.

Featured HOMES OF THE WEEK

Presented By **REMERICA** INTEGRITY REALTORS



Canton - Custom designed 4-bed colonial w/many upgrades. 2.5 baths, 3 car garage, F/P, home warranty. Bsm't w/central vac, framed & plumbed for a wet bar & full bath. \$368,000 Call Susan Crider (734) 377-3773 (SC89RIV)



Livonia - 3-bed brick ranch. 1.5 baths, 2 car garage, bsmt, home warranty. Remodeled kitchen, newer windows, roof, furnace, HWH and siding on garage. \$149,900 Call Cindy O'Halloran (313) 670-2353 (CO75REN)



Detroit - Lovely 3-bed brick bungalow. Bsm't, garage, fenced yard, new roof, furnace, HWH, entry doors, newer electrical, fresh paint, close to schools. \$105,000 Call Ed Otlewski (248) 431-2804 (EC68BRI)



Northville - Prestigious Stone-water offers this 4-bed home w/a professionally finished walkout on Teal lake w/boat dock. 3 F/P's, sunroom off nook w/doorwall leading to deck, crown moldings & much more. \$1,025,000 (54PAR)



Farmdale - Completely updated 3-bed bungalow. Newer furnace, roof, windows, carpeting. Oak kitchen, new ceramic floor, new bathroom. Bsm't, fenced yard. \$139,777 Call Jim Mariani (734) 709-7777 (JM33SPE)



Genoa - Sandy beach lakefront! Absolutely beautiful 3-bed, 2 bath lakefront ranch. Marble floors, sprinklers, jetted tub, 20 ft. bow window, brick paver decks, vaulted cathedral ceilings, walk to golf course. \$339,900 (60BLA)



Northville - Luxurious 5-bed home w/a 2 story foyer & great room. Deck overlooking inground pool & Teal Lake. 2 dishwashers, 4.5 baths, 3 car garage. 3,900+ sq. ft. central vac, sprinklers, sound system. \$950,000 (72CLA)



Garden City - 3-bed corner brick ranch. 2 baths, C/A, hwdw floors, new doors, oak kitchen, 4 fans. Bsm't has office, rec room, bath w/shower. F/P. Wrap deck, 2 car garage. \$175,900 Call Charlie Frias (734) 673-2415 (CF30FAI)




Highland - 100 ft. White Lake canal frontage in private seven harbors sub. 4-bed, 2 bath home. 2 car garage, F/P, home warranty, appliances stay, newer roof. \$294,500 Call Susan Crider (734) 377-3773 (SC31WOO)



Plymouth - Spectacular 4-bed, 2.5 bath colonial. New carpeting, hot tub on deck. F/P, butlers pantry, bsmt. 3 car garage, sprinklers, security alarm, 3,200 sq. ft. \$489,777 Call Jim Mariani (734) 709-7777 (JM87HIL)

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- kitchen appliances and laundry
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1205 Ann Arbor Rd. just west of Main St.
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Features:

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Model Hours are Saturday & Sunday 12:00-5:00 pm. Weekdays 1:00-5:00 pm (Closed Thursday).
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- Volume ceilings
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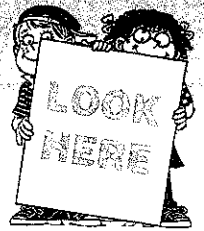


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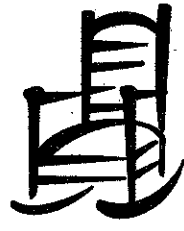
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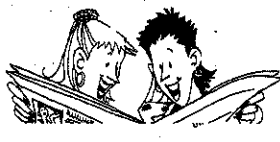
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Commercial Industrial
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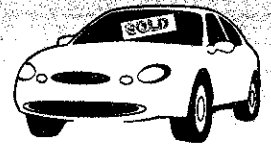
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THURSDAY PAPER.....5:30PM Tuesday



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If you missed our regular Tuesday deadline for Thursday's publication, you can now call us 'til Wednesday at 11am and place your ad in our "Too Late To Classified" Section.
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- 4010...Apartments/Furnished
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- 4030...Duplexes
- 4040...Flats
- 4050...Homes For Rent
- 4060...Lakeshore/Waterfront Homes Rental
- 4080...Mobile Homes Rentals
- 4090...Southern Rentals
- 4100...Time Share Rentals
- 4110...Vacation Resort/Rentals
- 4120...Living Quarters To Share
- 4140...Rooms For Rent
- 4200...Halls/Buildings
- 4210...Residence To Exchange
- 4230...Commercial/Industrial
- 4300...Garage/Mini Storage
- 4400...Wanted To Rent
- 4410...Wanted To Rent
- 4500...Furniture Rental
- 4500...Furniture Rental
- 4570...Property Management
- 4580...Lease/Option To Buy
- 4590...House Sitting Service
- 4620...Home Health Care
- 4640...Misc. To Rent

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conditions apply
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NORTHVILLE CONDO Rent-to-Own. Will help 1st Time Buyers.

Novi, Westland FOUNTAIN PARK APARTMENTS Luxury You Can Afford

Plymouth HILLCREST CLUB Apartments *1ST MONTH FREE, Plus FREE HEAT!!

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Southfield Wellington Place Large 1 bedroom apts.

Westland Open Sunday LIVONIA SCHOOLS 2 Bedrooms, super closets.

Westland - 1 bedroom, peaceful bldg., heat & water, cable ready.

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Plymouth Manor Plymouth House Close to downtown Plymouth!

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CONCORD TOWERS 32600 Concord Dr. (next to the Micro-Center Store)

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Plymouth BROUGHAM MANOR 1 & 2 Bedroom Apts

Plymouth PARK APTS. 40325 Plymouth Rd.

Westland \$485. \$189.00 Security No fine print in this ad!

Westland Good Grief! Did you see your heat bill?

Westland \$99 DEPOSIT Ask about our lower prices and FREE RENT!

Birmingham • Novi Royal Oak • Troy Furnished Apts.

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Franklin Palmer Apartment Homes One Month Free Rent plus...

Southfield's Knobs in the Woods 20800 Knob Woods Dr.

Plymouth - 2 bed, pool, carport, great location.

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WAYNEWOOD Apartments 1 & 2 BEDROOMS from \$610!

Brand New Luxury Apartments in Taylor One Month Free!

ROYAL OAK - Between 12 & 13 Mile, off Coolidge.

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Automotive

Observer & Eccentric | Sunday, February 2, 2004

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2004 Mercedes-Benz E320 Wagon roomy, handles well

Advertising Feature

CAReport



Anne Fracassa

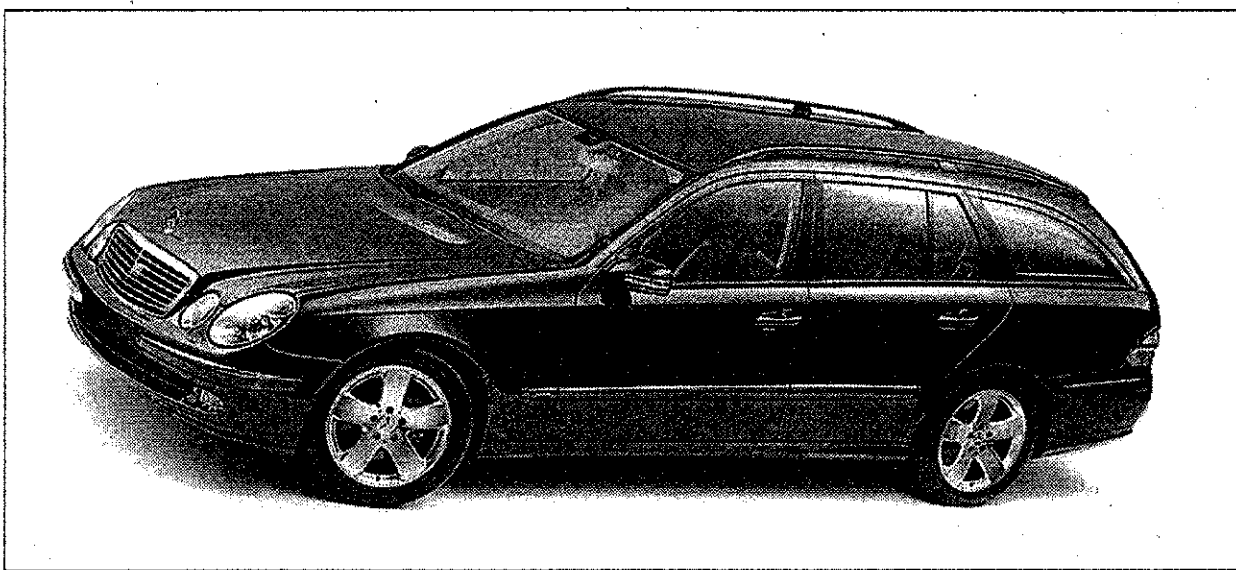
Avanti NewsFeatures Editor Ann Fracassa has the week off. This week's review is written by Dave Menard, a Florida-based auto critic for the news service.

ORLANDO - Despite the fact you can spend upward of \$40,000 to get one with all the latest bells & whistles, the minivan is still not looked upon as a vehicle that comes with any sort of "hipness" or status. But what to do if you're not the type of person who wants something the size of an SUV, but you still need something upscale with more room than a standard sedan? Mercedes-Benz wants to answer your question by steering you (no pun intended) to the 2004 E320 wagon.

The E320 wagon is all-new for 2004, & is one of three new E-Class wagons in Mercedes' line. Looking at it straight-on, you can certainly tell it's a Mercedes-Benz. The E320 comes with the dual teardrop-shaped headlamps & distinctive front fascia you know as Mercedes, plus, of course, the one-of-a-kind hood ornament. An optional package allows you to add headlamp washers, LED brake lights, sculpted side skirts, front & rear aprons & 17-inch sport wheels (instead of the standard 16-inch wheels). A sunroof & automatic rear liftgate are nice options.

You wouldn't consider a station as one of the quicker cars on the road, but the E320 wagon is right up there. It's powered by a 3.2-liter twin-spark, 18-valve aluminum V6 & rated at 221 hp & 232 lb.-ft. of torque at 3,000-4800 rpm. The engine is mated with a standard five-speed automatic transmission; it's a good package. It gets off the line quickly & shifts smoothly. The E320 wagon also comes with electronic braking - power assisted four-wheel vented discs with four-channel ABS. Stops are sure & quick.

Cornering is very good, even with the extra length of the wagon. Speed sensitive power rack-&-pinion steering is standard. The front suspension is



The 2004 Mercedes-Benz E320 Wagon Power: V-6 eng. Vehicle Class: Mid-size wagon. Mileage: 19 city/27 highway. Base price: \$49,950. As tested: \$54,870.

a four-link system with coil springs, gas-charged shocks & stabilizer bar. The rear system is the same, except it's a five-link system instead of four. The ride is excellent & h&tling is very nice. An air suspension system used in the C-Class is available as an option for the E320.

As you would expect with a Mercedes-Benz, the E320 wagon is loaded with interior features. Dual-zone climate control with charcoal filters is standard, although the controls are a little confusing. Power windows, locks & doors are standard as are the ten-way adjustable power front seats (with leather inserts), power tilt steering wheel, integrated garage door opener, & nine-speaker audio system. The audio system comes with AM/FM/CD or you can upgrade to a Harmon-Kardon 420 watt, 12 speaker, multi-disc changer system which sounds great.

A navigation system is available as an option & it not only works in the center console display, but will tell you where you are on the console in the center of the dash. I used to only recommend navigation systems for frequent out-of-town travelers, but with my directionally-challenged daughter on the list of household drivers, I'm starting to rethink that position. It's certainly handy to have, if you have an extra \$1200 lying around.

The seats give great support (they should with 10 ways to adjust them), & driving position is excellent. There's plenty of leg, head & shoulder room.

The rear seats are split folding seats. The E320 comes with a third row seat, but you can delete it for a credit. With the third row seats gone & the rear seats folded down, there is plenty of cargo room in the E320 wagon.

If you're worried that some miscreant might try to make off with your new E320, Mercedes-Benz has given it an anti-theft alarm with engine immobilizer & anti-two away feature.

My complaints about the E320 are few. Even after reading the voluminous owners' manual I wasn't able to figure out how to reset the optional tire pressure monitoring system after I added air to the affected tire. The placement of the owners' manual & related paper in a small cargo net on the passenger side footrest is awkward; it easily comes apart & scatters paper work on the floor. Controls, particularly if you get the integrated navigation system, can be confusing. Some controls are labeled with pictures only - you really need to read the manual to figure it all out.

The 2004 Mercedes-Benz E320 wagon starts at about \$50,000. Add the sunroof, tire-pressure monitoring system, navigation system, automatic liftgate, & delete the third row seat & you come in at about \$55,000. For a station wagon. True, it's still a Mercedes-Benz, but at what price hipness? It's most definitely not your daddy's station wagon.

Write Dave Menard and Anne Fracassa at avanti1054@aol.com

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2004 BUICK REGAL LS Power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise, 3800 V-6, auto air and much more. Stock #044195. GMS \$17,993 Sale Price \$19,314 36 MONTH GMS LEASE \$209 MO. \$2188 DUE AT SIGNING 36 MONTH SALE LEASE \$249 MO. \$2188 DUE AT SIGNING	2004 BUICK CENTURY CUSTOM Auto, air, V-6, power windows, locks, tilt, keyless remotes, AM/FM CD and much more. Stock #044221. GMS \$15,707 Sale Price \$16,957 36 MONTH GMS LEASE \$193 MO. \$2188 DUE AT SIGNING 36 MONTH SALE LEASE \$233 MO. \$2283 DUE AT SIGNING	2004 BUICK RENDEZVOUS Auto, air, power windows, power locks, tilt, cruise, V-6, AM/FM CD, and much more. Stock #044282. GMS \$17,777 Sale Price \$19,123 ⁴⁰ 24 MONTH GMS LEASE \$249 MO. \$2249 DUE AT SIGNING 24 MONTH SALE LEASE \$203 MO. \$2278 DUE AT SIGNING	2004 BUICK RAINIER CXL 2WD Leather, 4200 I6 Cyl, power windows, locks, tilt, cruise, auto, air, and much more. Stock #044167. GMS \$26,808 Sale Price \$28,621 ⁴¹ 24 MONTH GMS LEASE \$249 MO. \$2359 DUE AT SIGNING 24 MONTH SALE LEASE \$324 MO. \$2449 DUE AT SIGNING	2004 BUICK LESABRE CUSTOM AM/FM CD, power windows, locks, tilt, cruise, auto air, 3800 V-6 and more. Stock #044124. GMS \$17,784 Sale Price \$19,034 36 MONTH GMS LEASE \$225 MO. \$2250 DUE AT SIGNING 36 MONTH SALE LEASE \$255 MO. \$2380 DUE AT SIGNING					
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