

Westland Observer

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Thursday
February 18, 1999HomeTown
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IN THE PAPER
TODAY**Heroes honored:** Cousins Scott Smith and William Marquardt didn't feel like heroes Jan. 19 when they pulled a helpless Westland woman from her burning apartment. /A3**OPINION****Pay hikes:** The recent county pay raises merit another look at officials' compensation. /A12**COMMUNITY LIFE****On the job:** Larry Chontos has cerebral palsy, but it hasn't kept him from working at the Canton's Builders Square II, where, thanks to Business Ventures, he's become the model of good work ethics. /B1**AT HOME****Dining elegance:** The Cranbrook Museum is displaying the schools' dinnerware, designed by some of the famous architects, artists and craftsmen who've taught at the school. /D6**ENTERTAINMENT****Circus:** Avant-garde Cirque Ingenieux raises spectacle to art. /E1**Music:** Black Crowes hold up release for "great songs." /E1**REAL ESTATE****Showing 'em off:** Real estate professionals each have their own style when showing homes. /F1**INDEX**

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Wayne-Ford corner worst again

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Many drivers tighten their grip on the steering wheel and hope for the best as they approach the Wayne-Ford intersection.

Others, like Cheryl Sarnecky, try to avoid it altogether — and for good reason.

Year after year, Wayne and Ford ranks as Westland's worst intersection, and 1998 was no exception.

Westland police recorded 97 crashes at the beleaguered intersection in 1998 — an increase of seven accidents from the previous year.

"It just carries a lot of traffic," said Sgt. Peter Brokas, who heads the Westland Police Department's traffic bureau. "And there are a lot of driveways at that intersection."

That means more drivers darting in and out of traffic, and Wayne also curves slightly at Ford.

Combine all that with driver Ann Taylor's observation that "people are always blowing the light," and it becomes clear why the intersection gets no respect.

But Wayne-Ford isn't the only trouble spot for Westland motorists.

"Ford and Newburgh is not a good one, either," Brokas said.

Ford-Newburgh ranked No. 2 in 1998 for the most traffic crashes, passing two other intersections — Wayne/Cherry Hill and Warren/Newburgh — that were worse during the previous year.

Ford and Newburgh saw 80 accidents in 1998 — up from 69 in 1997.

More crashes

The intersection actually had an increase in crashes despite left-turn arrows that were meant to make it safer. Newburgh got the new signals in mid-1998, a year after Ford received them.

Brokas said left-turn arrows typically reduce serious injury accidents but can result in more fender-benders — at least temporarily.

The more time that traffic is backed up at an intersection, the more likely it is that some drivers will become involved in minor accidents, Brokas said.

Map, A2; Community Voice, A12

can result in more fender-benders — at least temporarily.

The more time that traffic is backed up at an intersection, the more likely it is that some drivers will become involved in minor accidents, Brokas said.

However, time tends to ease fender-bender problems as drivers get used to new traffic patterns, like those at Ford and Newburgh.

"The drivers will become accustomed to this, and eventually the numbers

Please see WORST, A2



WORST
 Danielle Prince (center) receives a surprise hug from her friend, Shelly Sepanski, at Detroit Metro Airport Monday after arriving home from Salt Lake City, Utah. Danielle and Shelly were Skating National Champions. At left, the two arrived home with 14 bags of luggage, leaving Metro Airport, above Tom Prince with several bags. Danielle (center left), son of Sharon Prince (behind) and Steve (center right) with their Uncle John Hartsell (not pictured) head to the cars. For more, see A4.

Mobile home park draws complaints

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Residents of Westland Meadows, a mobile home park on the city's southeast side, are protesting a \$15 increase on the monthly rent they pay to use privately owned lots.

Residents face a March 1 increase even though they say their complaints about living conditions are ignored by management.

"The folks are quite upset," Marsha

Kelly said Tuesday as a group of Westland Meadows residents took their complaints to the Westland City Council.

"We would like to have some services for that proposed increase," Kelly said.

Richard Duhl, manager of operations, defended the way Westland Meadows is run and said residents simply don't want to pay higher rent.

"Every time we have an increase I run into this," he said. "Nobody likes increases. I don't like them myself. But

you can't buy a car this year for what you paid for it last year."

Jimmy Hayes said his lot rent has increased from \$215 a month to just under \$400 during the nine years he has lived at Westland Meadows, a mobile home park northeast of Van Buren and Merriman.

"I'm charged \$10 a month to have a cat that doesn't even go out of my house," he said.

Duhl said lot rent ranges from \$355

Please see COMPLAINTS, A3

Please see THIEF, A3

Car buffs steer toward Autorama

BY BETH SUNDRA JACHMAN
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Daniel Greene of Westland has been a fan of cars since he was a kid and his dad would buy and sell Mustangs.

This weekend, Greene is exhibiting his 1988 Ford Mustang, Super Pro race car at the Big Kmart 47th annual Detroit Autorama at Cobo Center.

"I love to go fast," Greene said of his love of cars and racing. His car will make its second appearance at Detroit Autorama, which Greene calls "the elite" car show. "It's kind of a goal for most people interested in cars," he said.

Autorama participants send in an application and pictures of their vehicles including cars, trucks, vans

and motorcycles.

Last year was Greene's first exhibiting his race car and he won a trophy in the gas coupe sedan category.

Keith Dahlka of Westland is also hoping to win an award this year. He is showing his 1981 Harley Davidson motorcycle at Detroit Autorama for the first time this year, but he won an award at a Mount Clemens auto show.

He has developed an elaborate display with a cemetery theme. It includes tombstones, grave beds and a monster that looks like it is coming out of the ground, he said.

His motorcycle is a model FLT, a big touring bike,



RACY CAR: Daniel Greene of Westland will be displaying his 1988 Ford Mustang Super Pro at the Detroit Autorama.

Please see AUTORAMA, A3

Thief takes money out of Sears safe

BY DARRELL CLEM
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A brazen thief Monday stole more than \$20,000 from a Sears safe at Westland Shopping Center, police officials said.

"Right now nobody knows who it is," police Lt. Marc Stobbe said.

The thief knew the combination of numbers needed to unlock the safe — and therefore didn't have to rely on force or threats against anyone else to commit the crime, police said.

But little else was clear Tuesday as Westland police began investigating the incident.

Authorities aren't sure whether the money was taken directly by an

Please see THIEF, A3

OBITUARIES

SHAWN R. SCHLUND

Funeral services for Shawn Schlund, 25, of Wayne were Feb. 15 in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

Mrs. Schlund, who died Feb. 12 in Wayne, was born July 21, 1973, in Southfield. She was a driver for the railroad.

Surviving are her son, Bryan Stone; daughter, Monica Stone; father, Robert Schlund; mother, Katherine (Brian) Kocsis of Westland; sister, Danielle; grandfather, Ralph Dunlap; grandparents, Edwin and Iris Schlund; great-grandmother, Rosa Dunlap; companion, Ken.

DORA J. BATES

Funeral services for Dora Bates, 83, of Westland were Feb. 15 in John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home with burial at Grand Lawn Cemetery in Detroit. Officiating was the Rev. Charles Bugbee from Warrendale Brethren in Christ Church.

Mrs. Bates, who died Feb. 12 in Westland, was born June 25, 1915, in Michigan City, Ind. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her sons, Edward (Evelyn) Deis and James (Nancy); sisters, Martha and Grace; 11 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Bates was preceded in death by her husband, James; son, Harold (Leslie); and daughter, Patricia.

HELEN MAE MIZNER

Funeral services for Helen Mizner,

er, 83, of Westland were Feb. 15 in Newburg United Methodist Church with burial at Roseland Park Cemetery. Officiating was the Rev. Thomas Badley. Arrangements were made by L.J. Griffin Funeral Home.

Mrs. Mizner, who died Feb. 11 in Wayne, was born Dec. 31, 1915, in Highland Park. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her son, Harold (Bunny); daughters, Connie (Jack) Vincent and Barbara Robb; brother, Bob and James; eight grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

HARRIETTE L. JENSEN

Funeral arrangements for Harrnette Jensen, 81, of Westland were handled by R.G. & G.R. Harris Funeral Home.

Mrs. Jensen, who died Feb. 12 in Angels Hospice, was born May 28, 1917, in Detroit. She was a waitress.

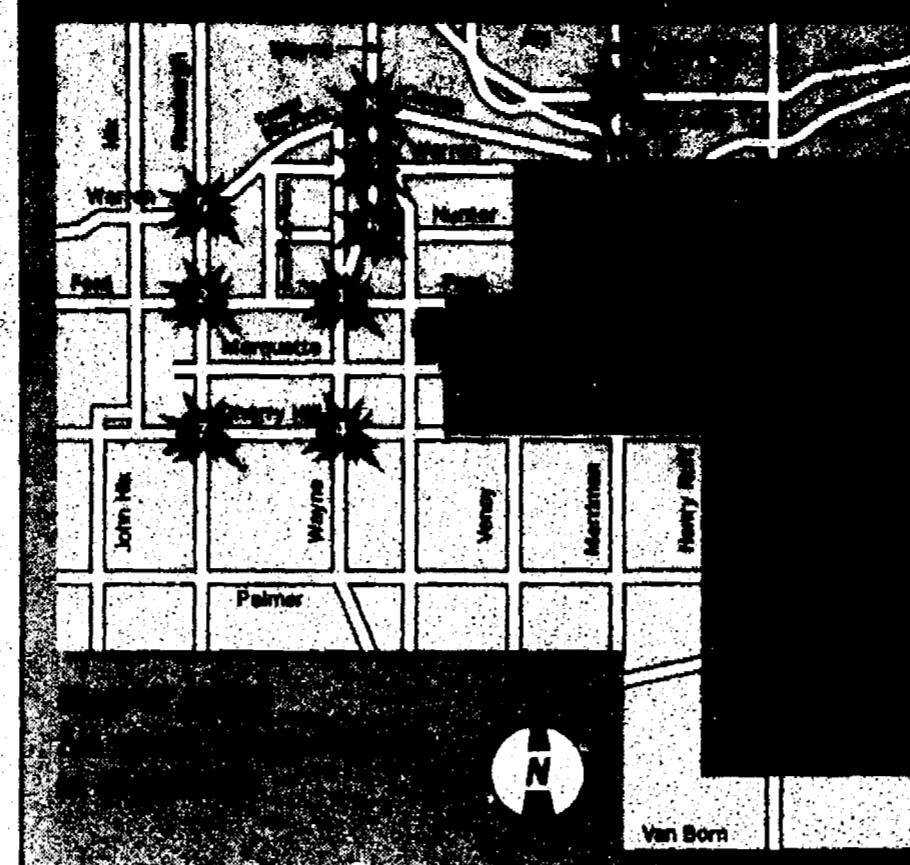
Surviving are her daughter, Joyce Hamble; stepsons, Everett Jr. and Bruce; stepdaughter, Barbara Drange; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren. Mrs. Jensen was preceded in death by her husband, Everett Sr. and daughter, Gloria Rhoads.

Memorials may be made to Angela Hospice.

PATRICIA M. KAHOUSE

Funeral services for Patricia Kanouse, 65, of Westland were today, Feb. 18, in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Cadillac

Please see OBITUARIES, A6



Top Ten Intersections

Intersection	1996 Accidents	1997 Accidents	1996 Fatalities	1997 Fatalities
Warren/Taylor	52	50	4	3
Van Buren/Warren	50	50	2	4
Warren/Cherry Hill	50	67	5	6
Warren/Merriman	50	72	5	3
Wayne/Taylor	48	62	6	6
Warren/Cherry Hill	42	44	7	-
Wayne/Central City Hwy. (Greville)	42	47	8	7
Merriman/Ann Arbor Tr.	42	43	9	10
Warren/Merriman	40	41	10	-

Source: Westland Police Department

Worst from page A1

should show some kind of decrease," Brokas said.

Overall, Westland police recorded a one-year decrease in roadway crashes from 1997 to 1998, with the number of accidents dropping from 2,247 to 2,047, a new report shows.

But Brokas cautioned that fluctuations of about 10 percent can be expected from year to year, giving little reason to celebrate.

However, Westland police recorded a significant decrease in injury accidents, which fell from 1,108 to 715 during the same period. Brokas termed that drop "very substantial."

What happened?

More left-turn arrows have been added at intersections, reducing serious injury accidents, Brokas said.

More Westland drivers buckled up in 1998 as seat belt

usage statewide rose to 71 percent of motorists — an upward trend that Brokas partly attributed to more police enforcement.

Brokas attributed fewer injury accidents to "better engineering and more enforcement."

Meanwhile, two intersections fell off the city's Top 10 list for accidents: Warren/Central City Parkway and Merriman/Cherry Hill.

Improvement seen

In particular, the number of

injury accidents has declined at Merriman and Cherry Hill since left-turn arrows and right-turn lanes were added, Brokas said.

"That intersection was apparently begging for it," he said. "We used to have a lot of injury accidents there."

Among other statistics:

■ Westland had seven traffic fatalities in 1998, up from six during the previous year. One involved a pedestrian, Brokas said.

■ The number of hit-and-run crashes fell from 1,311 to 1,103.

■ Crashes involving drinking dipped from 141 to 120 during the same period.

■ Overall, drunken driving arrests rose from 262 to 369.

"In 1999 we expect it go over the 400 mark," Brokas said of drunken driving arrests.

It's not that more people are driving drunk, he said. They're just getting caught more often due to tougher enforcement.



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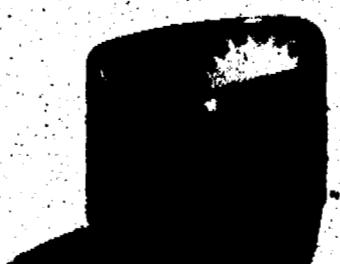
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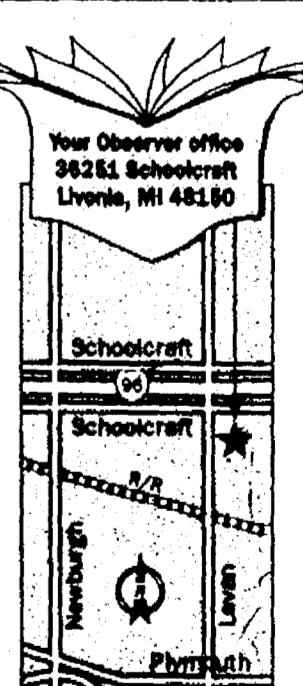
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THE
Observer
NEWSPAPERS





Car care: D.J. Davis of Westland will be showing his 1970 black Plymouth Cuda at the Detroit Autorama this weekend.

Autorama from page A1

which is not common, he said. He completely rebuilt it from the ground up and changed the color to magenta candy.

Before he bought it three years ago, it had been stored outside by the ocean in Florida — so it was in rough shape, Dahlka said.

Dahlka also owns a 1998 Harley Davidson FLTR.

His interest in motorcycles dates back to his youth. When he was 9 years old, a neighbor around the corner had a motorcycle.

From then on he told his parents he wanted a motorcycle. He got his first one at age 19. It was in pieces and he put the whole thing together. He has owned about 12 motorcycles over the years.

And his love for motorcycles hasn't faded. "If I was retired now that would probably be all I would do," he said of his motorcycle hobby.

Dahlka, who works for MSX International, a prototype shop, looks at the vehicles at Autorama with a trained eye and sees details the average person might not notice.

He likes to see what other people have done with their vehicles.

D.J. Davis of Westland also has a keen interest in Autorama because of the chance to talk to people who are interested in cars and also for information on where to get parts.

Davis owns a rare vehicle — a 1970 Plymouth Cuda — that is restored. He bought it three or four years ago in Arizona.

It took eight months to restore his car. Now

Davis drives it to several auto shows a year such as the Woodward Dream Cruise and the Westland Summer Festival auto show. But he only takes it out in nice weather.

"It's great to cruise around in," he said.

Meanwhile, Greene's car is strictly a race car, which he bought about three years ago.

The car carries the name of Greene's business on it — American Power Wash in Westland. When it isn't being exhibited at shows, the car is at the track, Greene said.

He takes his car out every weekend and spends evenings and weekends working on it.

He likes Autorama because it brings out the elite of muscle cars and race cars.

"All the other cars you see are different. You see a lot of unique cars there," Greene said.

Some of the cars are absolutely perfect, he said.

But his car is what he calls a "hands-on" car.

"I let people sit in it all the time," he said.

Detroit Autorama is 4-11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19; 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20; 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21. Tickets at the gate are \$12 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 and free for children under 3. Discount advance tickets are available at Kmart, Big Kmart and Super Kmart stores. All senior citizens and handicapped people are admitted at no charge from 9-11 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, before the show opens to the public for the day.

For more information call (248) 650-5560.

Autorama offers variety of events

Hot Rod heaven comes to Cobo Center in Detroit when the 47th annual Big Kmart Detroit Autorama is held Friday, Feb. 19 through Sunday, Feb. 21.

Autorama is one of the oldest and biggest custom car shows in the country with 800 exhibits of hot rods, custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles of the past and present.

The headlining custom car at Autorama this year is Terry Cook's Zephyr '39, a purple hot rod car dubbed "Scrape."

This year, Autorama presents a Drag Racing All-Star Review headlined by John

Force and racing stars Tony Pedregon, Warren Johnson, Don Prudhomme, Ron Capps and Al Hoffman.

World Wrestling Federation women's wrestler "Sable" and tag team champion Owen Hart will also attend Autorama. "Tool Time girl" of TV's Home Improvement, Debbie Dunning and the Red Wings' Karen Newman will be available to sign autographs.

Sports stars Detroit Lions' Charlie Batch and Jason Hanson, Michigan State Spartan Sedrick Irvin and University of Michigan Wolverines Rick Leech and John Jansen will

visit Autorama.

Other features will include Winston Drag Racing champion Shirley Muldowney and CART driver Christian Fittipaldi; the Ride N Grind BMX Extreme Show and Lowrider Hydraulics Showdowns; the All American Motorcycle Show of 100 custom Harleys and other motorcycles; the Cavalcade of Kustoms featuring 16 custom cars of the 1950s; and the Lowrider Magazine Car and Truck of the year, the Ford Mustang "Reborn to Run" exhibit; the 11th annual Collector Car Corral and eighth annual Toy-a-Rama.

Complaints from page A1

to \$370.

Kelly said 300 people are so upset that they have signed petitions in an effort to draw attention to their problems.

Residents said they want 24-hour security, but Duhl said a pilot program several years ago was found to be unnecessary.

Residents also voiced frustrations over what they consider poor maintenance of park grounds, but Duhl defended Westland Meadows as being well-maintained. He said efforts to resurrect a residents' association have failed because not enough people are willing to become involved.

Duhl also blamed unkempt areas on residents themselves, saying some people don't seem to want to care for their lawns and flower beds.

"They are their own worst enemies," he said.

Some residents said little seems to be done about what they believe are "drug houses" and gang problems, but Duhl also denied those problems.

"I don't have gangs or a drug problem in the community," he said.

Some residents also said Westland police could do more to monitor alleged problems with drugs and gangs.

Thief from page A1

employee or, perhaps, by someone who was given the safe combination by a Sears worker.

The thief apparently entered the safe and took the money without being noticed, Stobbe said.

A police investigation is focusing partly on which employees knew the safe combination and whether they may have given it to someone else, Stobbe said.

The incident is believed to have occurred between 6 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday.

Anyone who has information is encouraged to call the Westland Police Department at (734) 722-

9600.

Or, anyone wanting to provide an anonymous tip in return for a possible cash reward should call Crime Stoppers of Michigan at (800) 831-3111.

Sears conducted an internal investigation before notifying Westland police on Tuesday, but the company wasn't able to learn the identity of the culprit.

Company officials also apparently wanted to make sure that the money hadn't simply been misplaced before they asked Westland police for help, Stobbe said.

Men honored for woman's rescue

BY DARRELL CLEM
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Cousins Scott Smith and William Marquardt didn't feel like heroes Jan. 19 when they pulled a helpless Westland woman from her burning apartment.

"It just seemed like the right thing to do," Smith, 28, said.

"It didn't seem like a big deal," Marquardt, 27, said.

Marquardt climbed through the window and began lifting the woman out as Smith stood outside and helped her escape the blaze.

The woman suffered from muscular dystrophy and couldn't escape a first-floor fire at Hawthorne Club Apartments on Merriman south of Ann Arbor Trail, police Sgt. Michael Terry said.

"It was an inferno, for lack of a better word," he said.

Police said a 16-year-old West-

land boy intentionally started the 9:13 a.m. fire in an attempt to kill the woman, described as his girlfriend's mother. Police said the boy and the mother had screamed.

Now their efforts have earned them some heroic praise, city plaques and, well, a little free press for a company run by other family members.

The woman they saved couldn't be at Tuesday's council meeting, but Terry said she is extremely grateful to Smith and Marquardt.

Meanwhile, the teenager accused of starting the fire was turned over to juvenile authorities for possible prosecution.

Police have said it's possible the boy could face trial as an adult. He could face charges as serious as arson and assault with intent to murder.

Police said the building where the woman lived sustained about \$20,000 to \$25,000 in damages.

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Taking it in: Danielle Hartsell (above) watches the short and long programs with family and friends after arriving home Monday from the Nationals. Below, Danielle, (left to right) cousin Shannon Prince, her husband Tom and neighbor Lynne Dobney discuss and look at the gold medal Danielle had won.

Top: Danielle and Steve Hartsell show their medals.



BY TOM HAWLEY
STAFF WRITER

Holding back tears, Georgia Hartsell had an ABC television camera's focus on her, while her children, Danielle and Steve, performed their long program at the U.S. Pairs Championships in Salt Lake City, Utah.

It was not until the scores were shown that Mrs. Hartsell broke down into tears, "I couldn't believe they won," she said, "I felt finally they got what they deserved."

Danielle and Steve Hartsell of West-

land are the first brother-sister pair to win the U.S. Pairs Championships since 1984 when Peter and Kitty Carruthers won the event. The Carruthers, who were being inducted into the Hall of Fame, were among the spectators to witness the brother-sister act from Westland.

The Hartsells won the event without a doubt, by taking all nine first-place votes from the judges for their long program and six firsts and three seconds for their short program.

"I was surprised we won," Danielle said after she finished her performance. Danielle, a senior at John Glenn High School, did not know how the second-place team and favorites to win Kyoko

Ina and John Zimmerman performed. "It was exciting after we won," said Danielle. "The media and spectators were all around us."

The next stop for the duo will be Halifax, Nova Scotia, in Canada for the Four Continents competition. After that they will represent the United States at the 1999 World Championships in Helsinki, Finland.

Photographer Tom Hawley will be documenting the life of Danielle Hartsell through her senior year of high school as she tries to balance her skating career, school, family and friends. The series will be published periodically through her senior year.

Winning ways

Brother, sister return home as champs

*Danielle:
A DAY
IN THE
LIFE*

Shipwreck festival set for this Saturday

A film by Westland resident Rudy Whitworth will be among the features at the 22nd annual Great Lakes Shipwreck Festival Saturday, Feb. 20.

This year's featured speakers include underwater explorer Gary Gentile and diving educator Lee Somers. The day begins

at 9 a.m. at Holiday Inn Fairlane with a two-hour demonstration given by the U.S. Navy SEALS, followed by a technical diving workshop at 11:30 a.m. A Great Lakes Shipwreck Film Show will be presented twice, at noon to 2:30 p.m. and 7-9:30 p.m. at the Ford World Headquarters. A

saltwater film show begins at 3 p.m. at Ford World Headquarters featuring "Shipwrecks of Newfoundland and Nova Scotia," Whitworth's "Curacao, An Overlooked Caribbean Wonder," and Tony Gramer with "Bahamas Fever." For more information, call (734) 769-2548.

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Engler wants to end college tuition tax credit

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

Gov. John Engler wants to eliminate the Michigan college tuition tax credit for families, instead using that money to increase funds to universities and community colleges through tuition restraint incentive grants.

Engler proposed the repeal in his \$9 billion general fund budget, which was discussed Thursday during a meeting of the House and Senate Appropriations subcommittee. The credit's elimination would add \$34 million revenue to the state's coffers.

Engler proposed \$293 million for community colleges, a 4 percent increase. An additional \$4.2

million is provided in the budget for "tuition restraint" incentive grants to community colleges which limit tuition increases to 3 percent or less this year, but that money is contingent upon the tuition credit repeal by state lawmakers.

Schoolcraft College President Richard McDowell believes the incentive grants will help keep tuition increases down.

McDowell called the tuition tax credit "minimal" to Schoolcraft students, because many students are part time and Schoolcraft usually only increases tuition \$1 per credit hour a year.

Community colleges are funded with property taxes from their district, state money and student tuition. With increased

■ State Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, who introduced and championed the tax credit only two years ago, said he was disappointed with the proposal and wondered whether it would lead to 6- or 8-percent tuition increases again.

funding from the state, that should keep, in theory, college tuition hikes down, McDowell said.

"If he has incentives to keep tuition increases down, the students will get the same increase," McDowell said. "They just won't go through the state to get it."

Bennett disappointed

State Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, who introduced and

championed the tax credit only two years ago, said he was disappointed with the proposal and wondered whether it would lead to 6 or 8 percent tuition increases again. "To me, it's tantamount to a tax increase," Bennett said.

"We had an opportunity to look at it in-depth, and you can see a linkage between the credit and (the colleges and universities) keeping increases down."

Bennett said he wanted to examine the budget and the

incentive grants Engler had proposed, but planned to fight for the tax credit if no other proposals or incentives were enacted to curb tuition increases.

Engler's budget overview indicated the timing is "optimal" to repeal the credit.

"First, it is unlikely that any university would be able to qualify for the upcoming school year because of the remarkably low inflation rate," Engler stated in the overview. "Secondly, the establishment of the Michigan Merit Award (a scholarship program for students who pass the Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests) will contribute greatly towards making college more affordable for everyone."

"Finally, the tuition tax credit

has had only limited success in restraining tuition increases."

Community colleges will receive a 2.5 percent increase in funds for operations. Half of that increase will be distributed across the board, with the remaining distributed using a formula that accounts for enrollment changes and tax bases.

McDowell expects to tell a House subcommittee on community colleges this week that he is pleased with that increase. State lawmakers still need to discuss the budget, including capital outlay funds. Schoolcraft officials hope lawmakers earmark money for a proposed technical center during budget hearings.

Please see TUITION, A7

Dems want tobacco money for health programs

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

Gov. John Engler wants to use \$9 billion reached in a settlement with tobacco companies to establish a scholarship program for students who pass tests administered under the Michigan Educational Assessment Program.

But some Democrats said some of that money should go to health programs, such as those aimed at curbing smoking among young people. The scholarships were discussed Thursday during a meeting of a subcommittee of House and Senate Appropriations members.

Under Engler's Michigan Merit Award, high school students who pass the reading, writing, math and science components of the MEAP high school tests would receive a \$2,500 scholarship that can be dedicated to college or technical training at a Michigan school of their choice. Beginning with the 1999-2000 school year, a \$500 allocation will be set aside for middle school students who pass

STATE LEGISLATURE

the MEAP tests.

Students in the class of 2004 could conceivably be eligible for a \$3,000 scholarship.

The award would be supported by proceeds from the settlement of a lawsuit between the states and the tobacco industry. The state is expected to receive a

payment of \$289 million in 2000, and annual payments ranging from \$320 to \$400 million, with the balance paid over 26 years.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services wants to collect a portion of the settlement as repayment for their share of Medicaid costs,

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which could reduce Michigan's portion of the total settlement up to 55 percent. Engler called that "unjustifiable" since 40 states litigated suits against the tobacco industry without federal assistance.

Please see MONEY, A7

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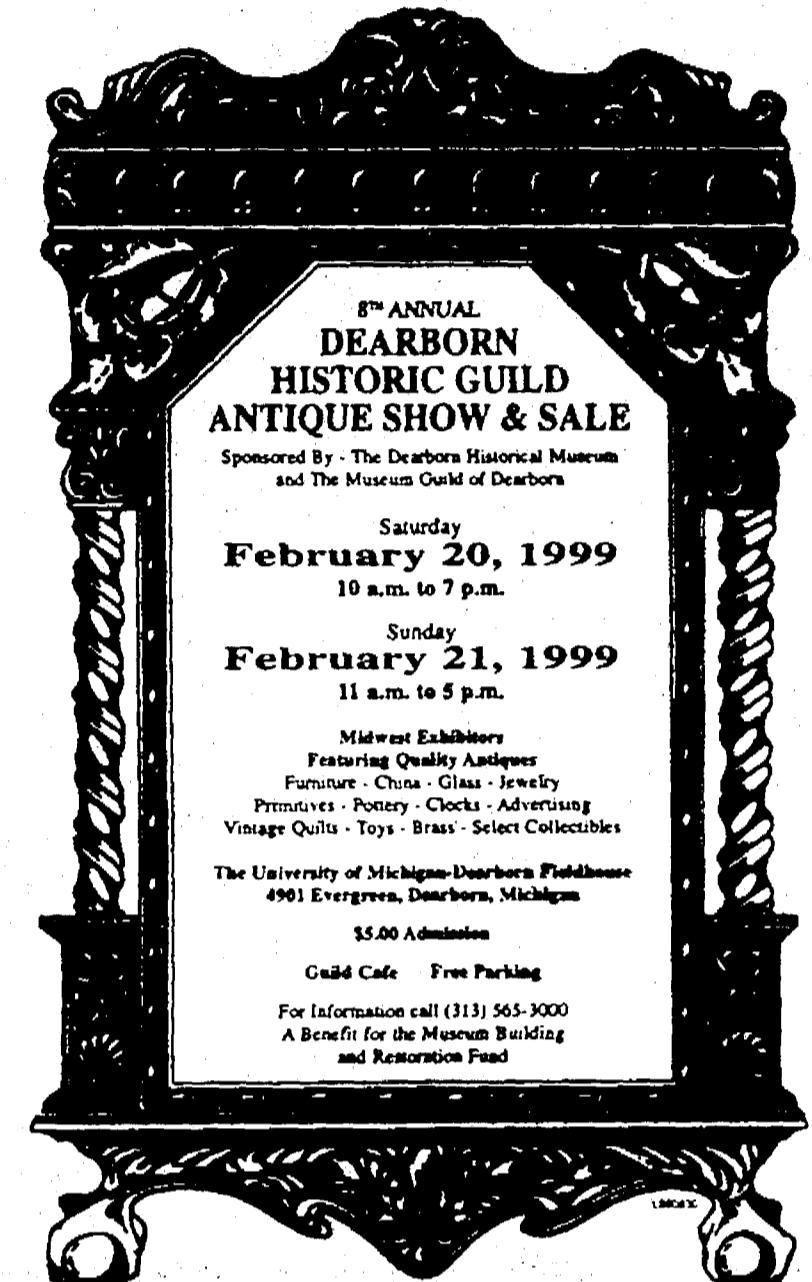
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New award honors paramedic of year

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER
dclm@homecomm.net

Westland fire officials Tuesday unveiled a new Paramedic of the Year award and named it after former Chief Michael Reddy.

Reddy in 1997 achieved an 18-year goal of bringing Advanced Life Support services to Westland. Firefighters, once trained only in Basic Life Support, are now highly trained paramedics.

"We call him the father of ALS," Fire Chief Mark Neal said of Reddy as he unveiled the new award Tuesday during a Westland City Council meeting.

Neal gave Reddy a special medal similar to medallions that each Paramedic of the Year will receive. Reddy also got a standing ovation from the audience.

Reddy's son — also named Michael and also a career Westland firefighter — bestowed the first paramedic award on Sgt. Mark Wilhite.

The younger Reddy read a long list of Wilhite's accomplishments, saying he is a medical

emergency services instructor who is involved with organizations such as the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross.

Mayor Robert Thomas commended Wilhite for a career that the mayor said has "skyrocketed."

The award is described in writing as being designed to honor a paramedic "who achieves the highest level of success in establishing, promoting or furthering improved emergency medical services."

The award will coincide each year with the city's anniversary of Advanced Life Support, launched on Feb. 5, 1997.

ALS raised Westland firefighters' expertise from the level of Basic Life Support to full-fledged paramedic status.

Neal credited the program with saving countless lives, including 19 people who didn't even have pulses when paramedics arrived to administer treatment.

held beginning at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the Wayne-Ford Civic League, 1661 N. Wayne Road, in Westland.

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EMS from page A1

companies and Medicare, although residents without coverage will be billed the full, higher rates, Neal said.

The tab for Advanced Life Support services provided by city paramedics will climb from \$400 to \$500 under the new rate plan.

The bill for less-complicated Basic Life Support services will increase from \$100 to \$168 — the amount that officials say Medicare will cover.

The new rates won approval in a unanimous vote of the seven-member Westland City Council.

The new fees for paramedic services will be about average for what is charged in area communities, Neal said. Rates for basic medical services will remain lower than those of most cities, he said.

"We're not going to gouge the citizens," Councilman Charles "Trav" Griffin said.

In a much more controversial decision Tuesday, council members split 6-1 in approving a contract that gives the Westland Fire Department's billing duties to an outside company, Medaphis.

However, the contract will become official only after City Attorney Angelo Plakas negotiates some language changes with Medaphis and signs the document.

Some council members had many questions about the three-year contract, and they had little time to review it after receiving it in recent days.

"We need to see it in final form before we vote on the contract," Councilman Glenn Anderson said.

He cast the lone dissenting vote against the contract after a majority of his colleagues refused to postpone the issue until March 1.

Some other council members voted for the contract only after they spent an hour discussing it.

Still, Anderson had warned, "I think we're making a mistake without seeing it in the final form."

Councilman Richard LeBlanc supported the contract after getting his questions answered, but he said he was surprised that city union employees didn't protest it.

He said the pact amounts to the privatization of fire department billing services.

In collecting medical bills, Medaphis is expected to boost the percentage of paid bills from the current 68 percent to 85 percent, raking in money that fire officials say their department simply doesn't have time to collect.

Medaphis will receive 8 percent of the fees it collects, but the city still expects to see revenues increase by \$100,000 a year.

The new fee structure for medical rescue runs is expected to bring in another \$150,000 to \$200,000.

page by page, ensuring that Plakas knew what clauses they wanted changed.

"I would not approve a contract ... that did not reflect the thinking of this council," Plakas said.

Councilman Charles Pickering agreed with Anderson that council members should've been given more time to study the contract.

However, the fire chief deemed the contract an emergency measure that needed council approval Tuesday. He said his department has been falling further and further behind in its billing, partly due to computer problems and staffing shortages.

"We're falling behind as we speak," he said, adding later, "We're bleeding, and I need to put a Band-Aid on it, and I can't do it myself."

Troy McCormick, Medaphis' director of client development, confirmed Tuesday that he and Plakas already have reached an agreement on several disputed areas of the contract. McCormick said he is willing to address all council concerns.

Councilwoman Justine Barns didn't see the need for a big fuss about the contract approval.

"What we're looking for here is a quicker, faster product (for collecting bills)," she said.

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Obituaries from page A2

Memorial Gardens West, Westland. Mrs. Kanouse, who died Feb. 14 in Westland, was born Aug. 23, 1933, in Washington, Pa. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, James Sr.; sons, James Jr., Donald, Terry and Sean; three brothers; four sisters; and five grandchildren.

RUBY E. PREVOST

Funeral services for Ruby Prevost, 86, of Westland were Feb. 14 in Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland with burial at Cadillac Memorial Gardens, West.

Officiating was the Rev. William Lichy. Mrs. Prevost, who died Feb. 11 in Westland, was born Nov. 4, 1912, in Rome, Ga. She was a dietitian. Surviving are her son, Ronald (Lorraine) of West Bloomfield; brother, Al Broome of Inkster; and two grandchildren.

OTHA C. PHILLIPS

Funeral services for Otha Phillips, 89, of Westland were today, Feb. 18, in Uht Funeral Home with burial at Glenwood Cemetery in Wayne.

Mrs. Phillips, who died Feb. 14 in Superior Township, was born July 3, 1909, in White Plains, Ky. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her son, Dennis (Sandra) Putman Jr.; daughters, Dortha (Floyd) LeSuer and Wanda (Edgar) Boice; 11 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

BERNADINE A. NEFF

Funeral services for Bernadine Neff, 77, of Westland were in Vermeulen Funeral Home in Westland.

Mrs. Neff, who died Feb. 12 in Wayne, was born April 23, 1921, in Detroit. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, Sylvan; son, John Neff of Garden City; daughter, Nadine Wells of Westland; brothers, Leon Pokryfke of Troy and Melvin Pokryfke of Myrtle Beach, S.C.; and five grandchildren.

JAMES C. PATTERSON

Funeral services for James Patterson, 65, of Westland were Feb. 16 in Sts. Simon & Jude Catholic Church in Westland with burial at Mt. Hope Memorial Gardens in Livonia. Officiating was the Rev. Gerard V. Bechard. Arrangements were made by John N. Santeiu & Son Funeral Home.

Mr. Patterson, who died Feb. 13 in Wayne, was born July 22, 1913 in Garden City, was born Sept. 1, 1926, in Detroit. She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her sons, George of Indianapolis, Ind., and Richard of Jackson, Mich.; daughters, Patricia (Kenneth) Gibbs of Westland, Frances McLemore of Lawton, Mich., and Betty Randell of Jackson; brother, William Klotz of Garden City; sister, Elizabeth Hartson of Lenox Township, Mich.; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.



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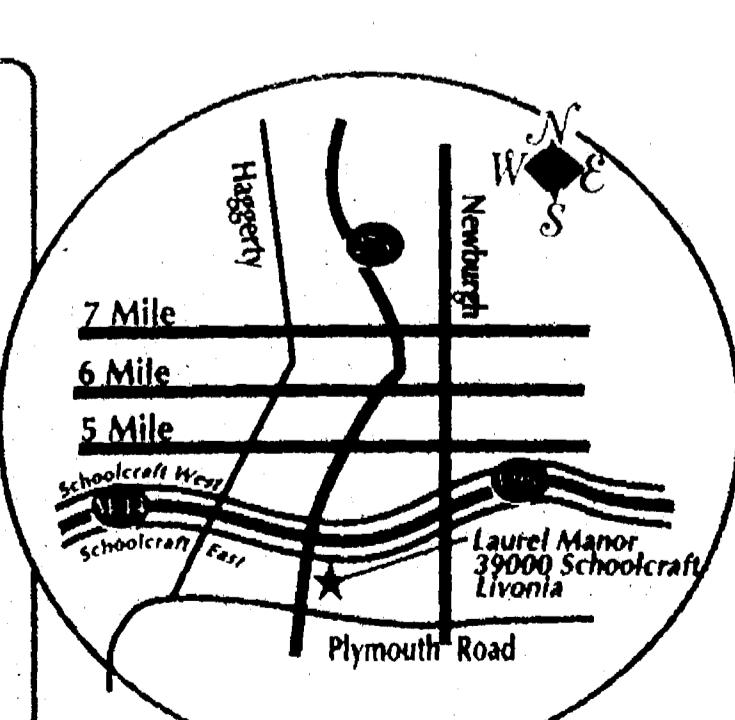
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

RE: #2006A, Special Land Use Approval for Proposed Westland Fire Department Station #5, Parcel #063-99-0027-001, South Side of Annapolis, East of Irene, SW-36, Scott Sherman (Mayor Robert J. Thomas).

A Public Hearing will be held by the City of Westland Planning Commission at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall at 38601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, on Tuesday, March 2, 1999.

You are invited to attend this meeting or write and express any views you may have pertaining to the above request for rezoning.

Additional information, if desired, may be obtained from the Planning Department at 467-3268.

ROBERT C. BOWERS, Chairman
WESTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION

Publish: February 18, 1999

Most area reps support bill to drug test welfare recipients

By TIM RICHARD
Staff Writer
trichard@ee.homecomm.net

Welfare recipients would have to be tested for drugs under two controversial state House-passed bills now before the Senate.

Final roll call was 69-36 with Republicans and some crossover Democrats supporting the measure Feb. 9.

"House Republicans demand that public assistance be used to feed children and not an adult's drug habit," said Speaker Chuck Perricone, R-Kalamazoo.

Money

from page A5

State Sen. Robert Emerson, D-Flint, said the state was doing little in terms of smoking prevention.

"I'm appalled that we're now taking 100 percent of the tobacco money and putting it into scholarships, when we sued because they were destroying the health of the citizens of our state," Emerson said.

Budget Director Mary Lannoye responded that Engler supported the cigarette tax, which now placed Michigan among the leaders in that tax. "One of the advantages (of the tax) is it deters smoking in children," Lannoye said.

State Rep. Paul Tesanovich, D-L'Anse, who believed it should go to educating children about the dangers of smoking, said Engler's proposal was "disturbing" and "unacceptable." Lannoye said Engler was open to discussions on prevention programs.

Tuition

from page A5

University changes

Engler also wants to revise the funding system for universities, proposing \$68 million for universities, a 4 percent increase. The first \$21.6 million will be distributed across the board, while an additional \$14.5 million will be given to universities whose current state funding is below other universities offering similar degrees and programs.

The remaining \$22 million is contingent on the state House and Senate's repeal of the existing tax credit, and will be distributed to each university that restrains undergraduate resident tuition growth at or below 3 percent for the 1999-2000 school year.

Engler also proposed \$1.7 billion for universities, a 4.2 percent increase. For corrections, he proposed \$1.6 billion, an 8.65 percent increase.

That fact was not lost on some state lawmakers.

State Sen. John Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, said the 15 university presidents walk into meetings with pie charts and bar graphs, saying that their university "was the most poorest funded of all the universities."

"One of the most significant points of difference is how can you justify an 8 percent increase for corrections and only half that for some schools?" Schwarz asked.

With 265,000 students on campus, Michigan is known for its university system, he added. "I don't want Michigan to be known to have the highest population of inmates. I would rather be known as the state with the highest number of college graduates."



"Unconstitutional," replied Rep. Tom Kelly, D-Wayne. "The Fourth Amendment declares the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures. To require testing without just cause violates this right."

"All parents would be tested, not just those exhibiting signs of a substance abuse problem. It's a shame," Kelly said during a five-hour debate.

House Bills 4090 and 4091 give the state Family Independence Agency authority to run

three pilot sites to test welfare recipients for drug use. One test area would be urban, another rural, the third in Wayne County.

"If the assessment shows an addiction, then the recipient will be offered state-paid treatment," said the sponsor, Rep. Lauren Hager, R-Port Huron. "However, if the recipient refuses treatment or refuses to take the initial test, sanctions could be imposed to take away welfare benefits."

"It's tough love, and it's compassion in its purest form," said Hager, a former teacher serving

his first House term.

Rep. Ruth Ann Jamnick, D-Ypsilanti, criticized the majority for rejecting an amendment that would have required legislators and state officials to be tested, too. She said the test picks on the poor "and may only serve to push them down further."

The House Fiscal Agency said 175,000 tests a year would be given, and FIA estimated 15 percent of clients would require treatment. At an average cost of \$3,000, treatment would total \$78.7 million. FIA said it's unclear whether Medicaid would

reimburse the state.

In an unrecorded vote, the House gave two-thirds approval (74 votes) to immediate effect, meaning the bills would become law as soon as they are signed by the governor.

Here's how Observer area representatives voted:

Yes - Bob Brown, D-Dearborn Heights, Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, Bruce Patterson, R-Canton, Andrew Raczkowski, R-Farmington Hills, Laura Toy, R-Livonia.

No - Tom Kelly, D-Wayne.
Absent - Eileen DeHart, D-Westland.

Gov. John Engler called for passage of the bills a year ago, and the Republican-controlled Senate replied, but the House balked. This year the bills are likely to be enacted.

Opposing the bills were the Center for Civil Justice, the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, the American Civil Liberties Union and the Michigan County Social Services Association.

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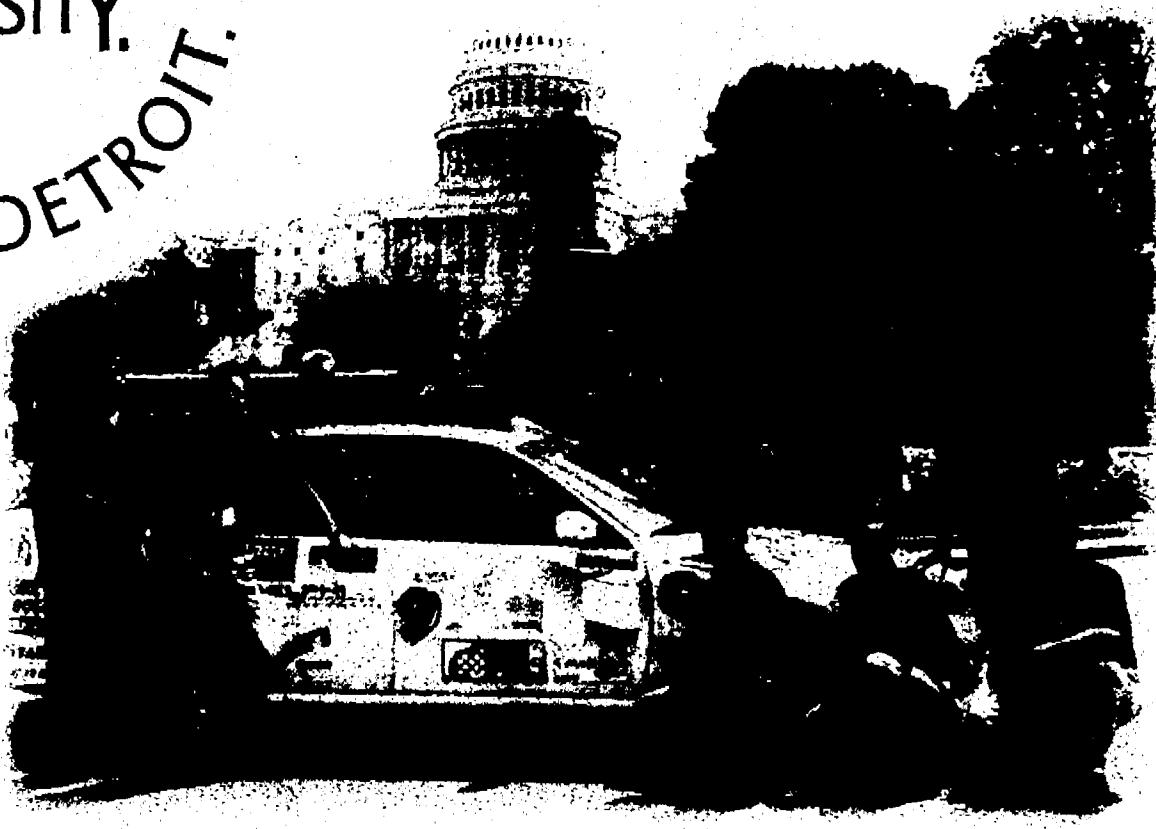
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I drive around with my cats on the freeway. I make them wear little hats so I can use the carpool lane. Too much time on your hands too? SWF, 28, brown/blue. **#2814**TRUST ME,
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Impossible to describe on paper, but trust me I'm wonderful. Bright, bubbly, SWP, 34, with great smile, sexy, intelligent man, 24-42, to fall in love with. **#2816**BEAUTIFUL WILDFLOWER
Dazzling, blue-eyed blonde, 34, 5'4", 108lbs, with perky personality, professional career. Seeking rugged, tumblered guy with great looks, successful career, strong character, irresistible charm. **#2779**A HEAD TURNER
Used to model to get through college, now I'm 21. Attractive, outgoing, romantic female, 29, in shape, seeks pleasant, cultured, attractive man. **#2819**BLOOMFIELD HILLS...
professional woman, 5'7", blonde/blue, shape size 14, seeks gentleman with leadership, achievement and goal-oriented qualities. **#2779**FIRE, RADIANCE, LIFE
Visionary dreamer, optimist, music is sweetest shared, slim, blue-eyed blonde, with distinctive qualities. 5'7", educated, 40-50, financially secure. Seeking active gentleman who is sweet and warm. **#2069**NORTH OAKLAND AREA
Caring, dependable, widowed WF, 55, 5'8", blonde, with sense of humor, nice smile, seeks SM. For looks, trust your instincts. Call me. First time ad. **#2565**LOOKING FOR
COMPANIONSHIPVery kind-hearted, honest, outgoing, attractive, SBF, 5'6", brown/blue, with sense of humor. Likes the simple things in life. Seeking S/DWM, 47-55, for friendship. **#2811**Respond to Personals instantly
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Seniors

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A CHANCEFrench, teach at home 3 days a week, seeks kind, widowed or DWM, with good moral character, who likes to dine out, go dancing, for friendship, possibly relationship. **#2000**LONELY SENIOR
DWM, 68, seeks widowed or divorced WF for companion ship. Enjoy dining out, movies, plays, concerts. **#2542**

ENJOYS LIFE

SWF, 64, 5'2", blonde, semi-retired, loves to dance, travel, movie, dining, theater, cards. Seeking SWM, 60-70. Must dance, have variety of interests, be N.S. **#2505**

GOOD LOOKING...

SF, 67, 5'4", 115lbs, social drinker, would like to meet SF for dining out, movies, some gambling, and quiet times at home. **#2356**

Seniors

Madonna to offer new MBA program starting fall term

A master of business administration (MBA) degree, which awards certificates in functional, customer-driven areas, will be offered by Madonna University beginning the fall 1999 term.

The new degree was approved at a recent meeting of the University's board of trustees.

"This new MBA degree will enable students to develop a philosophy and vision within the context of a global economy, so they may take leadership roles in their organizations," said

John Sennett, chairman of Sennett Steel Corp. in Madison Heights, who serves as Madonna's board chairman.

"The program combines sound business theory with practical skills, giving students a broad understanding of business and how it relates to the social, political and economic forces facing today's managers," stated Tarik Daoud, president of Al Long Ford in Warren, and Madonna trustee.

Designed for both working pro-

fessionals and those who have recently earned a bachelor's degree, the 40-semester hour program covers all the functional areas of business.

Classes will be offered in the evenings and on weekends, with some courses delivered on-line. Included in the MBA program are certificates of completion in general business, nonprofit administration and two in quality management.

"While the MBA is a general business administration pro-

gram, we have incorporated the certificates of completion to allow students the opportunity to specialize in an area pertinent to their careers," explained Dr. Stuart Arends, dean of Madonna's School of Business.

Unique in its connection to an MBA degree is the nonprofit leadership certificate.

nonprofit courses focus on areas such as developing and deploying volunteers, establishing partnerships with board members, as well as managing,

funding and evaluating programs.

One of the two quality certificates awarded in the MBA program is offered jointly with the Association for Quality and Participation (AQP). Along with the MBA degree, students will earn an AQP certificate. The foundations and implementation of the quality improvement process is covered in second quality certificate.

The general business certificate allows students to develop a

specialization by taking courses in a specific business area such as international business, human resource administration, accounting and finance, and marketing.

For information about the master of business administration program, contact the School of Business at (734) 432-5356. For an application, contact the Office of Graduate Studies at (734) 432-5667 or e-mail muin@msmt.psu.edu

CAPITOL CAPSULES

Health actions

The state Department of Consumer & Industry Services' disciplinary office reported these actions affecting professional licenses for the first half of January:

Nemer E. Hanna, 51, M.D., of Bloomfield Hills - license summarily suspended due to inability to practice.

Michael D. Ward, 48, M.D., of Novi - license summarily suspended due to inability to practice.

Marlene Chester, 47, R.N., of Rochester Hills - license summarily suspended due to technical violation of the Public Health Code.

Rosalind C. Johnson, 46, R.N., C.R.N.A., of Farmington Hills - CRNA certification suspended for 30 days and fine of \$500 for failure to meet continuing education requirements.

Joanne M. Nichols, 38, R.N., of Orion - license suspended for six months due to "negligence/incompetence."

Jacqueline E. Roggin, 57, R.Ph., West Bloomfield - reprimand for violation of general duty.

Michael S. Kahan, 33, D.V.M., of Farmington Hills - reprimand and fine of \$500 for technical violation of the Public Health Code.

Arab advice

Gov. Engler has appointed 25 persons to a new "Arab-American Advisory Board" which will "enhance the relationship between the Arab-American community and the Executive Office."

Area appointees include:
Abe Munfakh, Plymouth, president of an architecture firm.

SC

from page A9

Overcome your fears of computers in a relaxed, nonthreatening environment while slowly getting to know what computers are about. The four-week class, which uses Windows 95 applications, meets at 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 3. The fee is \$108.

■ Floral Design I - This eight-week class will prepare you to make beautiful floral arrangements with spring and summer blooms. It is designed for the beginner who wants to learn the mechanics of wiring, flower arranging, design, corsages, dish gardens and specialty arrangements. The eight-week class meets 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, with a repeated session at 6:30 p.m. The fee is \$128.

■ Exploring the Art of Cooking II - Learn techniques to prepare more advanced soups, appetizers, entrees and international cuisine.

Beginners and experienced cooks welcome, but should possess a basic knowledge of cooking. Certified Master Chef Jeff Gabriel will share his recipes. The three-week class meets at 6 p.m. and begins Thursday, March 4. Fee is \$132.

■ For information on these or other CES classes, call 734-462-4448. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, just west of I-275.

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Westland Observer

OPINION

A12(W)

36251 SCHOOLCRAFT, LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1999

Accomplishments Young folks make difference

Youth is wasted on the young – some older, maybe jealous types, like to say. But some young people in Westland have not only been enjoying their youth but making valuable contributions at the same time.

Some of the achievements are of a world-class variety. Others are acts of honesty or charity and others helped to preserve the safety of others. Here are some recent examples:

On Friday night, Westland ice skating duo Steve and Danielle Hartsell skated to their biggest triumph yet by winning the senior pairs title at the U.S. Figure Skating Championships held last week in Utah.

Now headed for the World Championships in Helsinki, Finland, next month, the Hartsells have steadily improved over their years of training.

And they've accomplished their skating feats while still in school. Steve is an Oakland University student, while Danielle is a Westland John Glenn senior.

Meanwhile, closer to home many young people have made contributions to Westland.

One young man, T.J. Gosselin, 9, found \$50 outside Westland City Hall in December. He

turned it in at city hall.

After no one claimed the money, Gosselin was rewarded for his honesty – he got the \$50 plus another \$50 donated by city officials.

Meanwhile, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church and School in Westland, the students worked together to not only reach their fundraising goal of \$1,000, but to double it to \$2,000 in an effort to help out with a planned church and school expansion.

And back in January, during the height of the challenging winter weather of the first two weeks of the year, two young boys voluntarily adopted a fire hydrant to keep it clear of snow and ice.

Seven-year-olds Dillon Bell and Shane Bright of Westland used shovels and gloved hands to keep snow cleared from a hydrant in their neighborhood. They did it, they said, in case someone in the neighborhood had a fire.

These are only a few examples of the accomplishments of young people in Westland. There are many more.

While many people hold a negative view of young people today, they need only take a closer look to find some outstanding young citizens right in their local community.

Rethink county pay raises

It's time to take another look at how Wayne County elected officials are given pay raises.

Currently, Wayne County elected officials receive pay increases based on the governor's salary and actions by state lawmakers on recommendations that come from the State Officers Compensation Commission. It's a convenient way to sidestep the accountability that ought to rest at the county level.

According to the county charter, the county executive receives 97 percent of the governor's salary. The prosecutor, sheriff, clerk, register of deeds and county commissioners, in turn, receive percentages based on the county executive's pay.

Those salaries are adjusted on Jan. 1 of each year that the governor is granted a salary adjustment, unless it is rejected by a two-thirds vote of the commission.

County Executive Edward McNamara will earn \$134,594 this year and \$146,707 in 2000, up from his 1998 salary of \$123,481. County Prosecutor John O'Hair's salary will receive the same percentage increases to \$132,036 in 2000, as the prosecutor's salary is 90 percent of the county executive. Wayne County Clerk Teola Hunter, Register of Deeds Forest Youngblood, Sheriff Robert Ficano and Treasurer Raymond Wojtowicz will receive 75 percent of McNamara's salary, bringing those salaries to \$110,030 in 2000.

These salaries are slightly higher but overall comparable to what elected officials in Oakland County receive.

Wayne County commissioners will be paid \$53,838 this year, and \$58,682 in 2000. Last year, they were paid a \$49,392 salary, adjusted to 40 percent of the county executive's salary.

The board chairman receives an additional \$12,000 more per year as the chairman, while two others are paid \$6,000 more annually in their leadership positions.

Six commission committee chairs receive an additional \$4,000 a year.

We do not object to pay increases for county officials, but they should be tied to the rate of inflation and not what happens to salaries at the state level.

One local commissioner summed up her support of the pay increases by noting that the percentages were recommended by the state. How convenient. But don't expect the county board to listen if the state recommends how Wayne County should spend money in other areas.

One newly elected commissioner called the increases outrageous and this time we agree.

Elected officials will receive 18 percent over two years after the Wayne County Commission failed to reject the increases.

The motion to reject the raises failed by one vote on Feb. 4.

The motion was supported, 9-6. But it failed because the county charter requires a two-thirds vote or 10 commissioners to deny the raises.

One local commissioner summed up her support of the pay increases by noting that the percentages were recommended by the state. How convenient. But don't expect the county board to listen if the state recommends how Wayne County should spend money in other areas.

Commissioners who supported the motion to reject the raises were Lyn Banks, R-Livonia, Kathleen Husk, R-Redford, and John Sullivan, D-Wayne, who also represents Canton, along with Edna Bell, D-Detroit, Edward Boike, D-Taylor, Susan Hubbard, D-Dearborn, Joe Palamara, D-Wyandotte, Bernard Parker, D-Detroit, and Jewel Ware, D-Detroit.

Commissioners who opposed the motion – and supported the raises – were Chairman Ricardo Solomon, D-Detroit, Vice Chair Kay Beard, D-Westland, Robert Blackwell, D-Detroit, Chris Cavanagh, D-Detroit, George Cushingberry, D-Detroit, and Ilona Varga, D-Detroit.

Two years ago, a few commissioners sought to tie the commission's raise to the rate of inflation. The idea didn't get off the ground. It's time to try again.

COMMUNITY VOICE

QUESTION:
What do you consider the worst intersection in Westland?

We asked this question at the Westland public library.



"I try to avoid Wayne and Ford Road. That has to be about the worst one."

Cheryl Semecky



"Ford and Wayne. It takes forever to get through it."

Wayne Taylor



"Ford and Wayne because of the volume (of traffic), and people are always blowing the light."

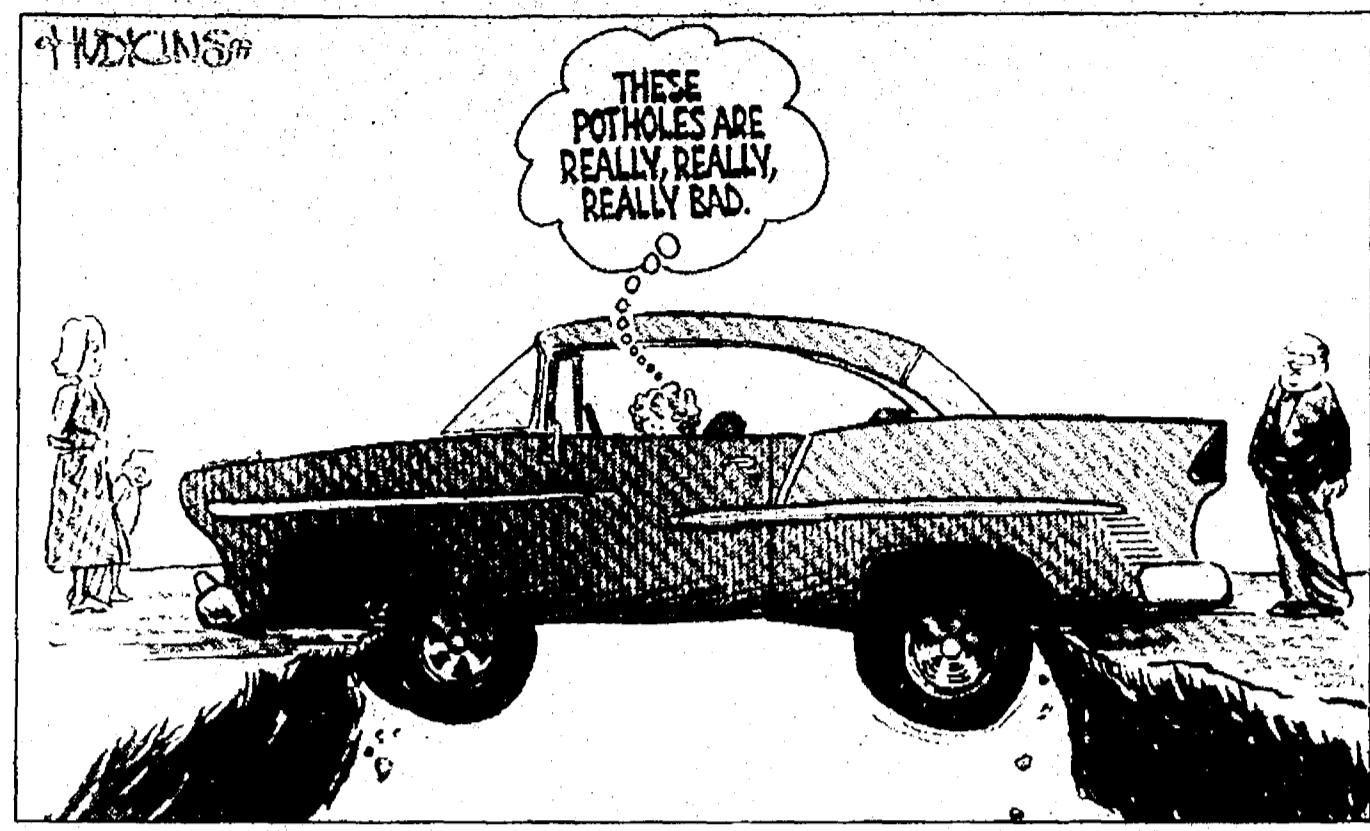
Ann Taylor



"Venoy and Palmer. I've seen a lot of bad accidents there."

Robert Battista

ARKIE HUDKINS



LETTERS

Road to nowhere

Fifty years ago, I purchased a new home in Nankin Township, with hopes that the area would develop into a nice area to live.

After living in the township for 10 years, I had decided to move, because the area was going nowhere.

After moving back to this area, I'm starting to see a go nowhere situation again, with the recent decision not to put up a new city hall and recreation center.

People of Westland: Your city will be what you the people put into it.

Let's face facts – this city needs a new city hall no matter how you cut it.

As for the recreation center, you will also need this for future use.

It was said that the library was a bad idea, but believe me it's being used by a lot of people which I see go in and out every day.

I suggest that some people take a ride around other cities and see how they are improving.

Are we going to be called a going nowhere city?

N.A. Wayne
Westland

Made in USA

Recently, while browsing at a local junk shop, someone handed me an object and asked if I thought it was an antique. I examined it carefully and responded: "Yes, definitely an antique."

How did I know? Because it was engraved as follows: "Made in USA." A phrase seldom seen these days.

I have concluded that the presence of "Made in USA" on an object means that it was made prior to 1970. The appearance of "Made in Japan" indicates manufacture between 1970 and 1990. And, "Made in China" means it was produced after 1990.

Are there political and economic consequences to these junk shop rules of thumb for dating objects? Wall Street doesn't think so.

But, I think there is. You can feel it at ground level in the economy – in the junk shops.

Walter Warren
Westland

Coverage earns merit badge

I would like to commend the Observer on your Jan. 24 coverage of the events at Nankin Mills Interpretive Center. There are many great programs available due to the passing of the parks millage. It is truly wonderful to have available these park programs. They will enrich our children with the wonders of

nature within our own community.

My Junior Girl Scout troop has earned two badges through workshops at Nankin Mills, and we are on the calendar for two more in the very near future. Due to these workshops and the Observer coverage, our troop is not

only able to earn badges that are difficult to complete in a short period of time, but their families and friends now have knowledge of interesting trails to hike near home. Many of our girls have gotten on the mailing list and participate in other activities at the center on their own. Thank you for your continued coverage.

Roxanne Hundsrucker
Livonia

What about the perpetrators?

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

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

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The week prior to an election, this newspaper will not publish letters that discuss new issues, since last-minute attacks don't allow a chance for rebuttal. Responses to already published issues will be accepted.

Letters should be mailed to: Editor, The Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150; faxed to (734) 591-7279; or e-mailed with your name, city of residence and phone number to: bjachman@oe.homecomm.net

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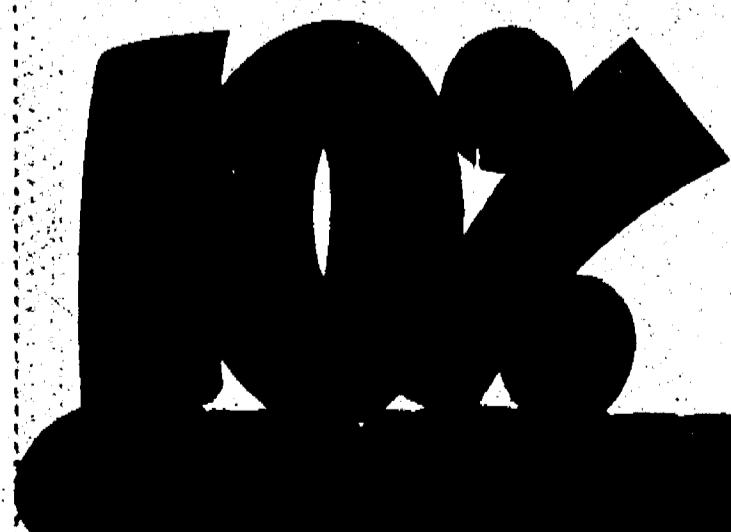
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Community Life

The Observer

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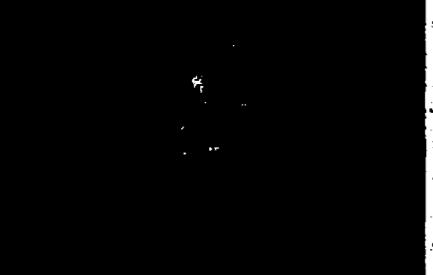
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Editor 734-953-2131

www.eweb.com

Thursday, February 18, 1999

HOOKED ON HISTORY



VIRGINIA BAILEY PARKER

America's favorite game with a twist

Remember the movie, "A League of Their Own"? It featured the Rockford Peaches, a team in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL), which operated from 1943-54. Philip Wrigley, the chewing gum magnate and owner of the Chicago Cubs, formed the Midwestern league to temporarily fill the gap in men's baseball during World War II.

When a part of history like this is taken to the silver screen, events become larger than life; it seems the stories belong to people far removed from us.

Not so. Recently, I had the pleasure of meeting Betty Yahr. She played in the league in 1946. I found out about her while standing in the kitchen of fellow Historic District Commissioner Terry Bennett. Something nestled among family snapshots on her refrigerator caught my attention.

"What's this?" I asked.

"Oh, that's my Aunt Betty's baseball card from when she played for the Rockford Peaches," Bennett replied nonchalantly.

The next thing I knew, Bennett placed a phone call, and I had an interview arranged.

Yahr got into baseball as a kid, growing up in Ann Arbor. There wasn't a school sports program for girls then, so she played sandlot baseball with the boys.

Later, she played in a recreation league (her mother lied about Yahr's age to get her on the team at age 12) and then on major, state-champ, amateur softball teams. It was while playing for a Flint team that her talent was noticed and a tryout was arranged for the AAGPBL.

Accuracy and movies

I was interested in finding out what movieland had portrayed accurately, like sliding into home plate in skirts.

"There was some padding in the shorts underneath, but not much, believe me," Yahr said. "We got a lot of leg burns."

Did the players mind having to wear standard baseball pants?

"No," she said. "You just wanted to play ball; you didn't care what you were wearing."

The women's league began with a fast version of softball that, over the years, developed into a hybrid of soft- and hardball. They started with a standard softball and gradually converted to a hardball slightly bigger than the official men's size. The diamonds were somewhat smaller, and, in time, they added sidearm and overhand pitches to underhand.

Their mitts were much smaller, "not like the big leagues today," Yahr said, adding, "If they can't catch them in those, they're not ballplayers, in my opinion!"

Like any major leaguer, Yahr played double-headers and night games. She also threw right but batted left. "You're closer to first base, and you can beat out a bunt."

At 75, the mischievous glint of a competitor still flashes in her eye. And yes, they really did attend etiquette classes. They were taught how to walk, they couldn't wear slacks, and makeup lessons were part of the program.

Helena Rubenstein came in person for that.

They were also told to wipe off their silverware, "which I still do today. It's a good lesson, in case you want to look well someday," Yahr said.

The teams traveled with chaperones. "We had to be ladies at all times, even when you were going back from the ballpark to where you stayed."

Breaking the rules

Even though managers kept tabs on the players, girls sometimes broke the rules. Yahr recalled how teammates occasionally slipped away to a country bar outside Rockford. Those who were caught got the ultimatum: Abide by



STAFF PHOTO BY PAUL HUESCHMANN

BY DIANE GALE ANDREASSI
SPECIAL WRITER

Developmentally disabled, frail and suffering from cerebral palsy, Larry Chontos appeared to most people unable to work.

He continues to prove everyone wrong nearly 10 years after he became involved with Business Ventures Corp., a nonprofit job training and placement organization for the mentally disabled. In fact, he remains one of the company's best success stories.

The 41-year-old Garden City resident has worked at Builders Square II store in Canton for more than six years. Store managers not only depend on him to show up everyday and work hard, but they also use him

as an example of good work ethics for other employees, said Leanne Booth, the assistant manager.

As maintenance supervisor, overseeing only himself, Chontos cleans the restrooms and break rooms among a variety of other odd jobs at the Ford and Lilley store.

"He will come looking for us to see what needs to be done," Booth said. "We don't have to tell him anything. I often kid with the other adults and say, 'Take Larry's lead. He comes in every day and he knows what to do without being told.'"

There's an easy rapport between Chontos and his co-workers and listening to banter among them emphasizes a mutual affection. In fact, Chontos said, the best part of his

Monday-through-Friday job is the people.

"I like the people I work with," he said.

Success at work

Chontos' story is one of many that come from Business Ventures, a private company that rents space in Bryant Center in Livonia. Every client comes with different needs and experience. Some have already gone through a special education program and others have led sheltered lives,

protected by their parents, said program director George Lyons. Many have Down syndrome, mental retardation, cerebral palsy or a combination of problems.

Job coaches work on their social

skills, help them understand what's expected from an employee, and in some cases, teach appropriate public behavior. The crew is trained while cleaning churches and rooms at the Comfort Inn in Livonia. Training often takes years.

At the Comfort Inn, coaches like Carol Budzinski not only guide them as they fold bed sheets, but more importantly, show them how to act with other employees and what not to do or say.

"The biggest challenge is behavior problems," Budzinski said. "It takes a lot of patience, but it's great to see their accomplishments, even the smallest things means a lot. And that's your reward."

Please see WORKERS, B5

Venturing into the workforce

Business Ventures Corp. got its start in 1986, and its first job training program was delivering the Livonia Observer. Since then, the number of mentally handicapped people who have been helped and the number of companies that have gotten involved has grown.

People hear about the program through word-of-mouth or through agency referrals.

The federal- and state-funded

Wayne Community Living Services, a county agency that provides for mentally handicapped people, contracts with Business Ventures for services.

Business Ventures pays the mentally handicapped people at least a minimum wage while they're being trained, while the companies where they work pay Business Ventures for the work completed during the training program.

After the client completes training, they are placed in a job. Once they know their responsibilities, their affiliation with Business Ventures is phased out. However, if the client needs assistance in any way, they are encouraged to call Business Ventures for help.

Business Ventures Corp. is based at the Bryant Center, 18000 Merriman, Livonia. For more information, call (734) 422-8130.

On the Job: Job coach Carol Budzinski watches as Danielle Gentry of Redford cleans a bathroom at the Comfort Inn.



STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JAGGWOLD

In key: Mike Koontz uses an electronic tuning device to do a final tuning of a Gibson Les Paul Standard Gold Top guitar in his Ferndale shop.

He's strumming for success

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@homecomm.net

Shy and modest, guitar repairman Mike Koontz doesn't like to brag about his work. Bespectacled and sporting a mustache, Koontz stands in his Ferndale shop and shrugs off any sort of compliments.

Sure, he's worked for a few, you know, sort of well-known musicians — Kiss bassist Gene Simmons and Sponge guitarist Mike Cross — but nobody that big, he says in his "gee whiz" tone. Amongst a smattering of black and white autographed band photos lies a glistening gold record awarded to Koontz from Detroit rockers Sponge.

"I've been having him work on my guitars pretty much since I started working in the music business 10 years ago," said Cross, an Oakland County resident. "We make it a point to bring all our work to him."

Chris Flanagan, a Bishop Foley High School graduate who grew up in Troy, calls Koontz "a magician."

"He's a consummate perfectionist; there's

nobody better. All he's ever done for me is a fret job and he does it perfectly every single time," said Flanagan, who co-owns Street Corner Music in Beverly Hills, and plays with the local surf band The Volcanos.

But to Koontz, owner of Koontz Guitar Repair in Ferndale, all those comments are unnecessary.

"They all lie," Koontz said with a shy smile. "I just try and bend over backward and try and give them what they want. I try and do the best that I can."

His best has pushed Koontz to the forefront of the trade.

Koontz spent the first 12 years of his life in what was then the "rural area" of Seven Mile and Middlebelt roads in Livonia. His family moved to Redford where he graduated from Thurston High School in 1968. He honed his guitar chops playing in garage bands during his years at Thurston.

"It was not very good; the rest of the guys were better than me," said Koontz, who lives in Warren with his wife and family. "The more I

Please see GUITARS, B2

Guitars from page B1

play, the worse I get. I lean more toward the technical aspects of guitar. That's what I do to try to make up for a lack of talent."

"He couldn't afford the expensive guitars so he made due with what he had and worked on them himself."

"I was always trying to get something to play right," he said. "All I could afford was junk, so I tried to make it work. Even if there was somebody around to fix things, you couldn't have afforded them anyhow — especially back then as difficult as it was just to get money for regular stuff."

His DIY (do-it-yourself) ethic lead to a 20-year career. Koontz's resume includes Savannah Guitars and Pyramid Guitars, the Guitar and Drum Center and Gus Zoppi Music Center at 17 Mile and Dequindre roads in Warren.

It was at the Guitar and Drum Center that he forged a relationship that would last a career. "When I met him, I was teach-

ing guitar there; I was 18. I found him to be the most thorough person," said Sponge's Cross. "He's the best in the business. I trust him altogether."

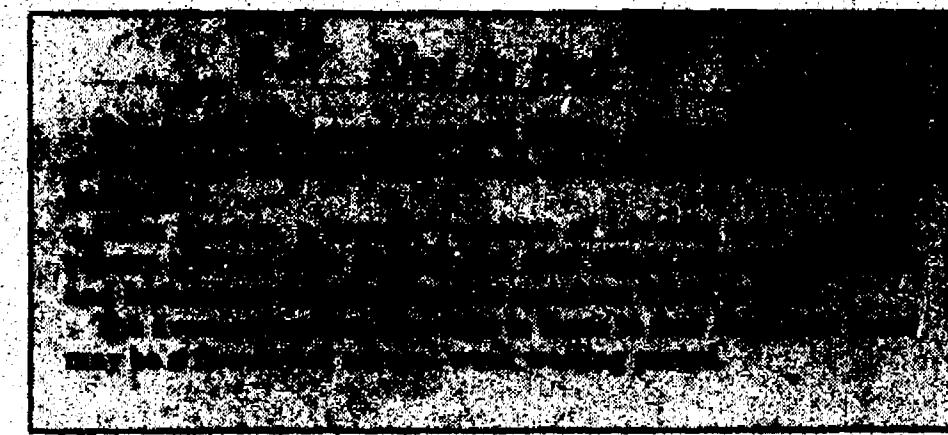
Six years ago, he opened Koontz Guitar Repair, where he repairs guitars and bass guitars.

Koontz is modest when talking about his clients. Over his shoulder is the gold record that Sponge gave him. Nearby are autographed pictures of Country Joe McDonald and Jack Scott.

"I've done work for a lot of people, but most of the time the roadies end up bringing stuff in so I never hardly meet people," he said.

To pique his memory of his clients, Koontz reaches into an old gray file cabinet. He pulls out a receipt signed by '60s folk star Donovan and autographs of Larry McCray and Fleetwood Mac member John McVie.

"I run into a lot of people, some of the people are kind of noteworthy. It's all by word-of-mouth; everything that I do is by



word-of-mouth. Just recently I worked on some of Gene Simmons' stuff — a couple of his basses," said Koontz as he showed photos of Simmons' bass. "Usually, it's an emergency situation."

"Generally, you set the other customers' stuff aside and put up with the screaming and everything else that goes along with that. It's one big great juggling act."

The most challenging jobs, Koontz explained, are paint jobs and structural repairs on acoustic guitars.

A gratifying job

Perhaps the most gratifying, however, was repairing a guitar for the family of a musician who had died in a car accident.

"The guitar was in the car with him and the guitar — the accident must have been really bad — the guitar was completely shattered, I mean it was in pieces," he said. "His parents and his sister bought it for him. His family members came in

with this guitar, I was able to put it together and get it all back playable and everything, just like it never happened."

"When they saw that, they cried. I mean they literally cried when they picked it up. That was probably the most rewarding repair I've ever done."

Koontz still finds the most challenging aspect of owning Koontz Guitars is making money.

"There's times that it's like any other service job; it depends on when everybody come in and pick up repairs," he said. "The nature of the business is strictly on what type of work comes in and whether it's picked up quickly."

"If you get a big job in here that somebody doesn't pick up and you're expecting that kind of money to come in, then you have to hurry and scramble and do all these other little things and make less money in order to try and make up for what wasn't picked up."

It doesn't matter if the client is

a professional player or a hobbyist, Koontz said he makes sure the job is top-notch. He has one employee, Ramo James, who also works as a repairman at Wonderland Music in Dearborn. He comes in a couple times a week.

"I'm here sometimes very early into the morning," he said. "Sometimes I'll go home and come back and be here until 9:30, 4:30 in the morning; whatever it takes to get the job done. I've never put in a 40-hour week, never."

Some of those late nights have been spent on the "troublesome" five-string fretless bass owned by Steve Vilnius of the local pop band Brilliant.

"I didn't spend my early musical career in Michigan, but I quickly found out that if there was one guy to fix it, one guy to turn a sow's ear into a silk purse, it is Mike Koontz," said Vilnius. "He is otherwise known as God and he is truly the Lord when it comes to stringed instruments."

CRAFTS CALENDAR

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

SACRED HEART

Sacred Heart Church will have a craft show 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 6 at the church, 29125 W. Six Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. There also will be a bake sale and light lunch. For more information, or table rental, call Jennifer at (248) 426-5227.

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE

Schoolcraft College will have its spring craft show 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 6 in the Physical Education Building on campus, 18600 Haggerty, between Six Mile and Seven Mile, Livonia. There will be 150 crafters, refreshments and hourly raffles. Admission will be \$1.50 for adults and children 12 years and older, and 50 cents for children ages up to age 12 and free for children under age 5. For more information, call the department of marketing and development at (734) 422-4417.

LIVONIA CHURCHILL

The Livonia Churchill High School PTSA's 11th annual spring arts and craft show will be 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 13 at the school, 8900 Newburgh, Livonia. There will be door prizes, food and beverages. Admission will be \$1. Applications are still being accepted and are available by calling Diane at (734) 422-4507 or (734) 464-7425.

MADONNA UNIVERSITY

Madonna University will hold its 14th annual spring arts and crafts showcase 10 a.m. to 4:30

p.m. March 20 in the Activities Center on campus, Schoolcraft and Levan, Livonia. The show will feature a variety of hand-made arts and crafts. A raffle with a grand prize of \$1,000 and five additional \$100 prizes will be held at 4:30 p.m. Tickets will be available at \$1 each at the door. Admission will be \$2. For more information, call (734) 432-5603.

LIVONIA STEVENSON

The Livonia Stevenson High School Booster Club is accepting applications for its annual spring craft show 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. March 27 at the high school, 33500 Six Mile, Livonia. More than 100 crafters are expected to display their work. A single booth space costs \$50. A limited number of spaces with electricity are available at no extra charge. For an application form, call (248) 478-2395 or (734) 464-1041.

CLARENCEVILLE

The Clarenceville High School Athletic Booster Club will have "A Touch of Spring" craft boutique 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 27 at the high school, 20155 Middlebelt, Livonia. There will be more than 150 juried crafters, raffle and snack bar. Baby-sitting will be available. Admission will be \$2; no strollers permitted.

GARDEN CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PUBLIC NOTICE ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Garden City Public Schools is soliciting proposals from qualified contractors for Parking Lot Replacements. For additional information contact Mr. Gary Marchel at 734-762-8300.

Publish: February 18, 21 and 25, 1999

Lacobee

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at 11:00 a.m. (no exceptions) for the following:

Top Soil and Sand

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

JILL B. THOMAS
Purchasing Agent

Bid Item No: 592-030999-1

Publish: February 18, 1999

L680365

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan 48185, on or before Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at 11:15 a.m. (no exceptions) for the following:

SOD

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

JILL B. THOMAS
Purchasing Agent

Bid Item No: 592-030999-1

Publish: February 18, 1999

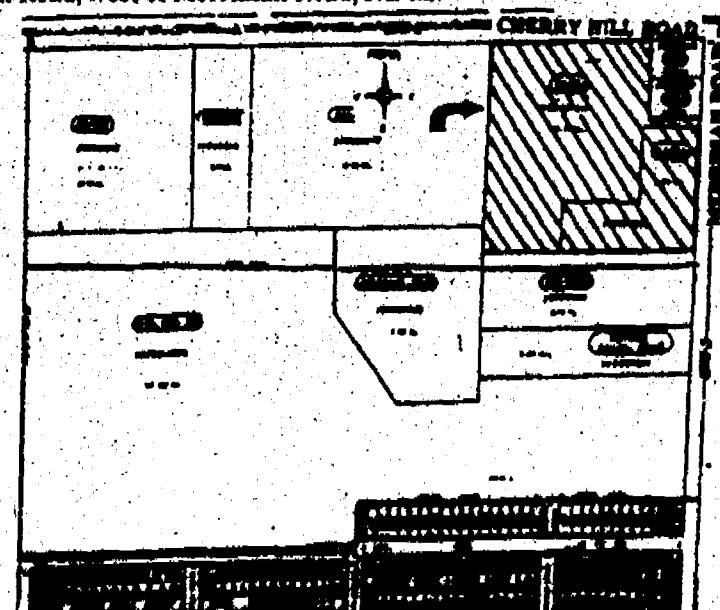
L680367

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, in accordance with the provisions of Section 16.2, Chapter XVI of the Charter of the City of Westland, a petition has been filed with this Body to absolutely abandon and discontinue the following:

The sanitary and water easement located on Parcel No. 065-09-0001-012 and 065-09-0001-013 of Birch Hill Shopping Center, south side of Cherry Hill Road, west of Merriman Road, NE-22.

CHERRY HILL ROAD



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing be held on Monday, March 1, 1999 at 7:00 P.M., EST in the Council Chambers of Westland City Hall, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, to hear any objections thereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that true copies of this notice be served, posted and published in accordance with the provisions of the City Charter.

PATRICIA A. GIBBONS
Westland City Clerk

Publish: February 18 and 25, 1999

CITY OF WESTLAND INVITATION TO BID

Sealed proposals will be received by the City of Westland Purchasing Division, 36601 Ford Road, Westland, Michigan, 48185-2298, on Tuesday, March 9, 1999 at 11:00 a.m. (no exceptions) for the following:

ASPHALT PATCHING MIX

Complete specifications and pertinent information may be obtained from the Purchasing Office. The City of Westland reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

JILL B. THOMAS
Purchasing Agent
City of Westland

Bid Item: 463-090399
Publish: February 18, 1999

L680368

CITY OF GARDEN CITY MICHIGAN NOTICE TO BIDDERS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received at the Office of the City Clerk, in the Civic Center, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 (Telephone: 734-525-8814) on or before March 3, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. for the following items:

SOFTBALLS COUNTER TOP DOT MATRIX LINE PRINTER CITY WIDE CARPET CLEANING

Bid must be submitted on forms furnished by the City Clerk, in a sealed envelope endorsed with the name(s) of item(s).

The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids in whole or in part and to waive any informalities when deemed in the best interest of the City.

ALLYSON M. BETTIS
City Clerk Treasurer

Publish: February 18, 1999

L680369

CITY OF GARDEN CITY 1999 BOARD OF REVIEW DATES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on the following date and time to examine the assessment roll for the current year:

Tuesday March 2, 1999 9:00 a.m.

The Board of Review will meet in session on the following days and times to hear appeals on the 1999 Assessment Roll:

Monday	March 8, 1999	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Tuesday	March 9, 1999	1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Wednesday	March 10, 1999	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Thursday	March 11, 1999	1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday	March 12, 1999	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

APPEALS BY APPOINTMENT OR WRITE-IN. Write-ins must be received by Monday, March 8, 1999.

Tentative ratios and factors for the 1999 tax year are:

Commercial Ratio	48.5%	1.0305
Industrial Ratio	48.7%	1.0000
Residential Ratio	45.6%	1.0043
Personal Property	50.0%	1.0000

Taxes are paid on taxable value, which is the lower of assessed value or capped value, unless there is a property transfer. The capped value is based on the CPI (Consumer Price Index) which will increase 1.6% for 1999. As a result, residential taxed values will increase only 1.6% unless there has been a transfer of ownership or an addition to the property.

The 1999 Assessment Roll will be open for public inspection from March 3, 1999 through March 5, 1999 in the assessment office from 8:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

ALLYSON BETTIS,
City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: February 18 and 25, 1999

CITY OF WESTLAND 1999 ANIMAL LICENSES

Licenses must be obtained by Monday, March 1, 1999 for all animals age four (4) months or older. A statement of rabies vaccinations must be presented upon applying for an animal license. After March 1, 1999, a \$1 penalty will be assessed. Licenses may be purchased at:

Westland City Clerk's Office, 36601 Ford Road
Michigan Humane Society, 37255 Marquette
PATRICIA A. GIBBONS
Westland City Clerk

WEDDINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS

Griggs-Sintay

Bill and Julie Griggs of Napa, Calif., announce the engagement of their daughter, Gina, to Brian Sintay, the son of Larry and Ellen Sintay of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is attending the University of Nevada-Las Vegas School of Nursing.

Her fiance is a graduate of Michigan State University. He is employed as a writer by the Walt Disney Co. in Burbank, Calif.

A May 2000 wedding is planned in Los Angeles, Calif.

**Long-Minard**

Dan and Nancy Long of Redford announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Grace, to Matthew James Minard, the son of Don and Annette Minard of Northville.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Redford Thurston High School and is pursuing a degree through the honors nursing program at the University of Michigan.

Her fiance is a 1996 graduate of Northville High School. He expects to graduate from University of Michigan in the spring with a dual degree in mathematics and English prior to enrollment in the U-M Master's Program.

**Lawler-Peters**

Phil and Debbie Lawler of Plymouth announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily Suzanne, to Bradley John Peters, the son of Lee and Sharon Peters of Newark, N.Y.

The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of Ann Arbor Greenhills School and is pursuing a bachelor's degree in marketing at the Madonna University College of Business. She is employed by the City of Plymouth as the election clerk.

Her fiance is a 1994 graduate of Newark High School and is a culinary arts student at Schoolcraft College. He is employed by Too Chez Restaurant in Novi.

A May wedding is planned at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville.



Ward Presbyterian Church in Northville.

Schwendemann-Cothran

Dr. and Mrs. Gary Schwendemann of Hohenwald, Tenn., announce the engagement of their daughter, Heidi Jolee, to Russell Scott Cothran, the son of Connie Mack and Linda Cothran of Livonia.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of David Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tenn. She is employed in the business office at Baptist Hospital.

Her fiance is a graduate of Livonia Bentley High School and the Specs Howard School of Broadcasting. He is employed at Music City Record in Nashville as a promotional director.

A March wedding is planned at Wightman Chapel in Nashville.



A May wedding is planned at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Northville.

**Daniels-Robbins**

Pete and Jerri Lynn Daniels of Brighton announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Lynn, to Jason Allen Sobieski, the son of David and Pamela Sobieski of Milford.

The bride-to-be is a 1991 graduate of Garden City High School and a 1996 graduate of the University of Michigan with a bachelor of arts degree in English. She is currently employed by Charlick and Springstead Dental Associates in Brighton.

Her fiance is a 1992 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School and is attending Eastern Michigan University. He is employed by United Parcel Service in Livonia.

An April wedding in Livonia is being planned.



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CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

ROTARY TOY SHOW
The Westland Rotary's toy show is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at Joy Manor, 28999 Joy in Westland. Admission is \$3, with kids under 12 free. Items are expected to include new toys, collectibles, obsoletes, antiques, Beanie Babies and Furby.

BUEROADIANA
Buy and swap toys and coins noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 7, at Sts. Simon and Jude Church at 32500 Palmer in Westland. To register for tables, call Norm at (734) 595-8327 5-11 p.m. Preregistered tables are \$12, tables at the door, if available, are \$20. Admission is \$2 a person or \$4 a family.

MARATHON BINGO
Fourth District Ladies Auxiliary is having a marathon bingo at VFW Post 3323, 1055 S. Wayne Road, noon to 6 p.m. March 13. Snack bar will be open. Call Bessie Bell at (734) 826-3323.

BOOK SIGNING
A book signing of "And ... Howe" by Gordie and Colleen Howe is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 28, at Henry Ford OptimEyes, 35184 Central City Parkway, Westland. All proceeds go to the American Diabetes Association.

RECOGNITION BANQUET
VFW Post 3323 and ladies auxiliary will hold their annual policeman and firefighter recognition banquet and dance at the post home, 1055 S. Wayne Road, Westland, on April 17. Tickets are \$12.50. Public is welcome. Call (734) 728-7405.

COUNTRY WESTERN JAMBOREE
The Metro Wayne Democratic Club is planning a country western jamboree with entertainment by Sherman Arnold and Interstate Band with tribute to Elvis and C.J. performing Neil Diamond on Saturday, April 17, at Local 735 UAW Hall, 48055 Michigan Ave. in Canton. Cocktails at 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. and dancing 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Tickets are \$20 a person, \$35 a couple, \$15 a retiree or senior citizen. For tickets call (734) 729-8681.

AT THE LIBRARY

FRIENDS OF LIBRARY
The Friends of the William P. Faust Public Library meet 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at the library, 6123 Central City Parkway. Call (734) 326-6123. Meetings last about one hour and are open to the public. The Friends also hold a book sale during regular library hours at the library.

WESTLAND CENTER

WALKERS CLUB
The Westland Walkers meets the second Wednesday of each month, except during the summer. Westland Center opens its doors to walkers beginning at 7 a.m. at Arcade 2 by Olga's Kitchen. Mall walking ends at 10 a.m.

AT THE CHAMBER

JOB AND CAREERS FAIR
The third annual job and careers fair is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, at Westland Shopping Center. An advance sign-up list for

tables and sponsorships is being compiled by the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222.

RECREATION

RECREATION AND FUN
A recreational get-together for teens and adults who are disabled is the second Friday of each month at the Westland Bailey Center. Call (734) 722-1466 or (248) 569-7787.

FIGURE SKATING

The Westland Figure Skating Club has formed an adult introductory precision team. The team is for those who want to have fun with other skating adults and get exercise. Practices are 6-6:50 a.m. Saturdays. All levels are welcome. Call (734) 722-1091.

VOLUNTEERS

ASSISTED LIVING

Marquette House assisted living facility, 36000 Campus Drive, Westland, seeks volunteers to spend time with residents to provide an activity or a one-on-one visit. Call Peggy in the activities department, (734) 326-6537.

SCHOOLS

MCKINLEY COOPERATIVE

McKinley Cooperative Preschool, housed in Good Shepherd Reformed Church, Wayne Road at Hunter, is holding registration. Morning and afternoon classes are available. Call (734) 729-7222.

SUBURBAN CHILDREN'S

Suburban Children's Co-op Nursery has openings in all classes 18 months through 5 years old. Located in Livonia bordering Westland. Call Michelle at (734) 421-6196.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

The Wayne-Westland Community School District has ongoing registration for the preschool programs at Stottlemeyer Early Childhood and Family Development Center, on Marquette between Wayne and Wildwood. Programs include an early intervention program, Head Start, Kids/Plus Preschool, a primary impaired program and Sparky Preschool. Registration is 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (734) 595-2660.

CHURCH PRESCHOOL

The Westland Free Methodist Preschool has openings for 3- and 4-year-olds in the morning and afternoon sessions. The younger pupils attend Tuesdays and Thursdays, other pupils on Mondays and Wednesdays. A Friday enrichment class is also available. The preschool is at 1421 S. Venoy, Westland. Call (734) 728-3559.

GARDEN CITY CO-OP

The Garden City Co-op nursery has openings for preschool classes for ages 18 months through 4 years. Tots class meets on Wednesday mornings, and 3- and 4-year-olds meet Mondays and Thursdays. Parental involvement is required. Call Kelli at (734) 513-7708.

ST. MEL PRESCHOOL

St. Mel Preschool, 7506 Inkster Road, north of Warren Avenue in Dearborn Heights, has morning and afternoon classes for both 3- and 4-year-olds. Registration has begun. Call (313) 274-6270.

YWCA READINESS

The YWCA of Western Wayne County Early Childhood School Readiness Program is available to 4- and 5-year-old children. The YWCA is at 26279 Michigan in Inkster. Call (313) 561-4110.

CHARTER SCHOOL

The Academy of Detroit-Westland, an entrepreneurial and business charter school, serves kindergarten through seventh grade. The school emphasizes a basic education with business and entrepreneurial skills. The school offers a foreign language class, music and art, a dress code and a computer lab with access to the Internet. Call (734) 722-1466 or (248) 569-7787.

LITTLE LAMBS

Little Lambs Preschool, on Farmington Road south of West Chicago in Livonia, is accepting registration for the 1998-99 school year. Classes meet Monday-Wednesday-Friday afternoons and Tuesday-Thursday mornings for 3- to 5-year-olds. Little Lambs is a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory preschool. Call (248) 471-2077.

FRANKLIN PTSA

The Franklin High PTSA is seeking members. Membership is open to those who care about the schools and community, and members aren't required to have a student in the school. Price is \$3 for students, \$5 for adults. Checks should be made payable to Franklin PTSA and sent to 31000 Joy in Livonia 48150.

TUTORIAL PROGRAM

A free tutoring program for students is offered at the Salvation Army Wayne-Westland Corps Community Center, 2300 Venoy in Westland. The program, 4:50 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, is for students ages 9 and older in Wayne, Westland and Romulus. For information on participating or volunteering, call Leau-Rette Douglas, (734) 722-3660.

MOM'S MORNING OUT

Children, ages newborn to 6, and their mothers are invited to a "Mom's Morning Out" 9:11-3 a.m. every Thursday at Newburg United Methodist Church, on Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburgh, Livonia. Children are grouped together by ages in rooms with two caregivers per room. This program is an optional co-op, with parents working once each month. Call (734) 422-0149.

LIVONIA COOPERATIVE

Livonia Cooperative Nursery, a preschool at 9601 W. Chicago, is planning its annual spring open house, 2-4 p.m. Sunday, March 14. Call Donna at (734) 266-8185.

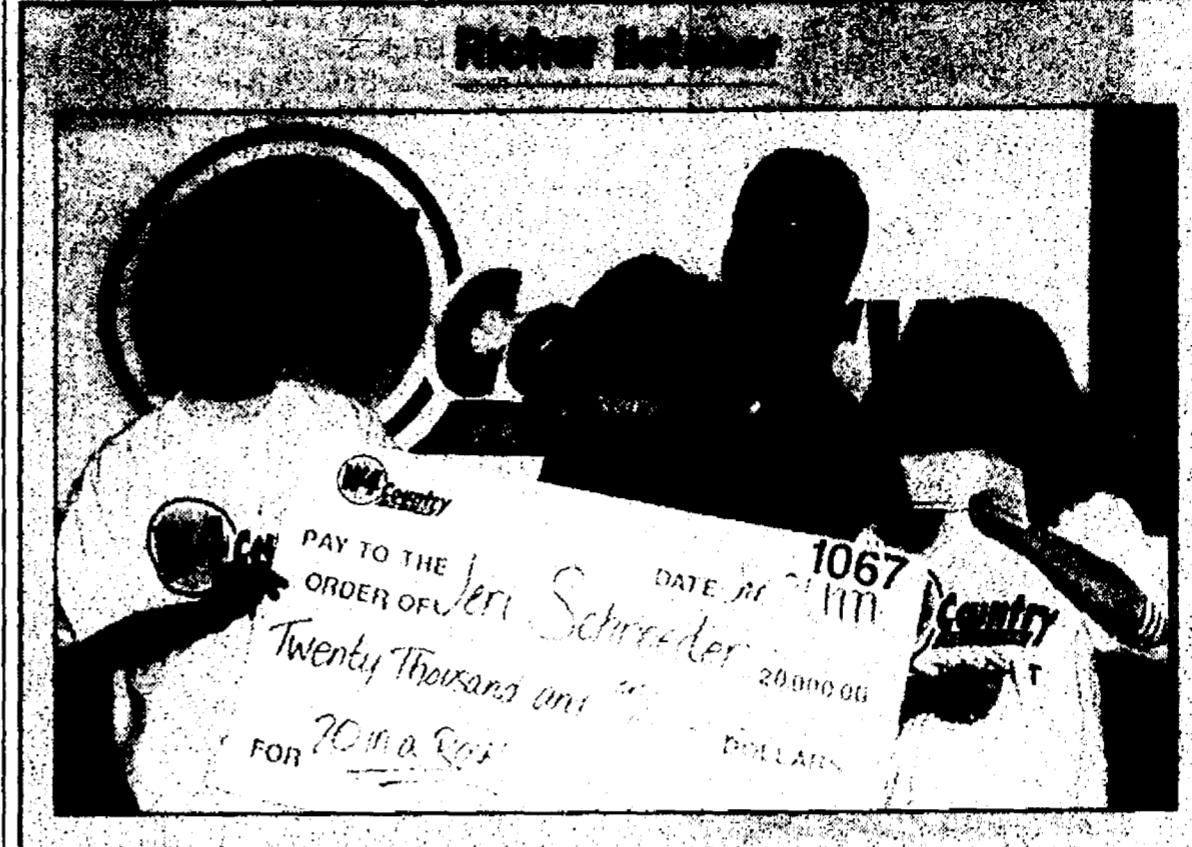
HISTORY ON VIEW

WESTLAND MUSEUM

The Westland Historical Museum is open 1-4 p.m. Saturdays at 857 N. Wayne Road between Marquette and Cherry Hill. Call (734) 826-1110.

FRIENDS MEET

Friends of the Westland Historical Museum meet 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November at the Westland



Checking in: W4 Country's Michael J. Fox (center) presents Westland's Jeri Schroeder and her husband, Cliff, a check for \$20,000. Schroeder, a W4 Country listener, was the first caller on Thursday, Jan. 21, when afternoon host Paul failed to play the guaranteed 20 songs in a row. W4 Country promises to play 20 songs in a row or give \$20,000 to the first caller who catches the mistake.

MEETING HOUSE

Meeting House, 37091 Marquette between Newburgh and Wayne roads. Call President Jim Franklin at (734) 721-0136. Everyone is welcome.

FOR SENIORS

HEARING CHECKS

Every third Tuesday of each month a representative from Personalized Hearing Care of Westland will be checking and cleaning hearing aids free from 2-3 p.m. by appointment only. Call (734) 722-7632 for more information.

GOLF CLASS

The Westland senior citizen Friendship Center will offer a new golf class taught by United States Golf Teachers Federation-certified member David Jeffery. Orientation for this class is 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 3, at the Friendship Center. Light refreshments will be served. Regular classes will be 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, March 10 through April 28. The class will include lectures, hands-on instruction and student participation. Call (734) 722-7632. Class is limited to the first 10 members who sign up.

TIGER GAMES

The Senior Resources Department Friendship Center is offering three trips to Tiger games this year: Tigers vs. St. Louis Friday, June 4; Tigers vs. Yankees, Thursday, July 8; Tigers vs. Angels, Friday, Aug. 13. Cost is \$25 a person a game. Leave from the Friendship Center at 5 p.m. Games begin at 7:05 p.m. Return to the center between 11 and 11:30 p.m. Sign up at the front desk. First 23 seniors to register.

SENIOR CHOIR

A Friendship senior choir, under the direction of Robert Cassidy, has been started at the Westland Senior Resources Department Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, West-

land. Those who enjoy singing may join. The choir meets 9 a.m. Thursdays.

EXERCISE

Musical Chairs is a new program from Jazzercise designed for exercisers older than 40. The program provides a low to moderate workout geared for the older adult. The exercise improves strength, flexibility, balance, posture, coordination and cardiovascular endurance. It incorporates resistance exercises using rubber tubing and light weights with walking and jogging patterns. Wear loose-fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Light weights and an exercise mat are suggested. Robert Cassidy is the certified Jazzercise instructor. Sign up at the front desk at the Westland Friendship Center or call (734) 722-7632.

TRAVEL GROUP

The Travel Group meets 12:45 p.m. every Friday in the Westland Friendship Center, 1119 N. Newburgh, unless a trip or program is planned. Programs include speakers, films, celebration of birthdays and weekly door prizes. There is a \$3 membership fee for residents, \$12.50 for nonresidents. Call (734) 722-7632.

CARD GROUP

The Friday Variety Card Group at the Westland Friendship Center meets 2 p.m. People play euchre, pinocchio, bridge, Uno, rummy and poker. Light refreshments are served. Call (734) 722-7632 for information or just show up to play cards. The Friendship Center is at 1119 N. Newburgh.

MONTHLY MEAL/DANCE

The Wayne Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal for people 50 and older 11:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the first Sunday of each month at the league hall, on Wayne Road two blocks south of Ford. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. The meal

includes beer, beverages, dancing to Big Band music and door prizes. Call (734) 728-5010.

WORK REFERRAL

Information Center Inc. refers workers to seniors who need help. The program is for people interested in providing transportation, yardwork, housework, etc. Workers can specify the type of work they are willing to do and the communities in which they want to serve. Call (734) 422-1052.

DYER CENTER

The Wayne-Westland School District's Dyer Senior Adult Center has activities Monday through Thursday at the center, on Marquette between Wayne and Newburgh roads. Mondays, Senior Chorus at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, arts, crafts and needlework at 9:30 a.m.; Wednesdays, Kitchen Band, 10 a.m., bingo at 1 p.m.; Thursdays, ceramics, arts, crafts at 9:30 a.m.; a Hawaiian dance exercise class will be 1 p.m. every Wednesday in the Senior Resources Department (Friendship Center), 1119 Newburgh, Hall A. Instructor is Kammo Oris. Sign up at the front desk or call (734) 722-7632.

SCREENINGS

Free breast and Pap screenings are available at Oakwood Hospital/Annapolis Center, on Annapolis west of Venoy in Wayne. Appointments are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 467-5555 for early registration.

AIM

Anxiety or panic attacks? AIM (Agoraphobics In Motion) meets 7:30 p.m. Thursdays at Faith Lutheran Church, 30000 Five Mile, between Middlebelt and Merriman in Livonia. Call (248) 547-0400.

RATIONAL RECOVERY

Rational Recovery is a non-profit, self-help organization for people experiencing problems caused by alcohol and/or substance abuse or other self-defeating behaviors. The group meets 12:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Garden City Hospital Community Health Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood in Garden City. Call (248) 476-2657.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are 8:30-9:30 p.m. Sundays and Wednesdays at Garden City Hospital (north entrance), 5254 Inkster Road in Garden City. Call Woody, (734) 776-3415.

CHILDBIRTH CLASSES

Garden City Hospital, on Inkster Road at Maplewood, is sponsoring classes for parents of newborns, weekend childbirth instruction, a "refresher" childbirth education course and a new support group for expectant teenage women. For information on programs, call 468-4330.

CHILDBIRTH ASSOCIATION

Classes for childbirth preparation are offered at several Wayne County locations. Morning and evening classes available. Registering now classes every month. Newborn care classes and Caesarean preparation also offered. Call 459-7477.

The Observer Newspapers welcome Calendar items. Items should be from non-profit community groups or individuals announcing a community program or event. Please type or print the information below and mail your item to The Calendar, Westland Observer, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or by fax to 734-891-7279. Deadline for Calendar items is noon Friday for the following Thursday's paper. Call 953-2104 if you have any questions.

Event:

Date and Time:

Location:

Telephone:

Additional Info.:

Use additional sheet if necessary

Workers from page B1

Standing at a cart filled with shampoos and soaps, Theresa Butcher carefully chooses before she stocks each room on the second floor. The worst part about the job, Butcher said, is getting up in the morning. The best part is that it gives her a chance to get away from home for awhile.

Clients like Butcher will stay at this paid training program on a daily basis until their coaches believe they are ready for a job, often at grocery stores, fast food restaurants and at car dealerships where they wash cars. They're paid the going rate.

Lyons commends Kroger in

Livonia and McDonald's stores for placing the most graduates.

"Basically, we're giving them a life," Lyons said. "We try to tap into the potential of the person. We try to see where their interests lie."

Another Business Ventures graduate, a Plymouth resident with Down syndrome, was in her 20s and lived with her parents when she became involved.

"When she came to us, she was very, very shy and bashful," Lyons said. "She had minimal experience away from mom and dad."

After 18 months training, the woman landed a job at McDonald's and has been there for six

years. "She's being integrated into the community," Lyons said. "Before her life was at home and now she is with other people. This was the next step to get out into the world and start to experience life, like the rest of us."

"Twenty years ago many of these people would have been in institutions and taken care of and that was their lives."

Big transformation

Karen Ajlouny has undergone an equally big transformation. Talking with her in the halls to the Comfort Inn, it's hard to imagine that this outgoing, congenial woman was extremely

fearful and had low self-esteem when she began with Business Ventures.

Taking a break from washing a shower stall, Ajlouny grinned widely as Lyons said, "Now she does very well. She's come a long way, especially with confidence."

The trend for the last two decades has been to bring mentally disabled people, like Chontos, Butcher and Ajlouny, out of the hospital setting and into communities by placing them in group homes and finding them jobs. Suddenly, their tremendous potential was unveiled.

"Little by little, you expose them to more and more," Lyons said.

However, not everyone placed by Business Ventures is successful. Some are fired and "maybe there'll be another job for them," Lyons said. And sometimes the likelihood of keeping a job is slim, because the client lacks skills or motivation. Other times,

there are chronic behavioral problems that are unacceptable in a work setting, like inappropriate staring or temper tantrums.

While strides have been made in understanding what mentally handicapped people are capable of, recent public funding cuts have put a crimp in the program, Lyons said. Another big problem for the agency has been finding transportation for their clients to and from work. Buses often aren't practical, taxis can be too expensive, and public service transportation, like dial-a-ride, won't go outside their specific communities.

"A couple of people recently lost their jobs because of transportation problems," Lyons said. "They simply can't get to work."

Every client is different — some develop quickly and others take a long time to train. But, the point, Lyons said, is to give them a chance.



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Finishing touches: Julie Jure of Garden City finishes putting cases on pillows as part of her job at the Comfort Inn in Livonia.

Happy Anniversary
Waltonwood Senior Community

Help us celebrate our one year anniversary
at Waltonwood Assisted Living Residence

Enjoy our complimentary hors d'oeuvres,
drinks & entertainment provided by the
Silver Bell Banjo Society.

OPEN HOUSE
February 28, 1999
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
2000 Canton Center Rd. Canton, MI 48187
(734) 844-3060

Methodist Home Society is looking for volunteers

Methodist Children's Home Society in Redford is looking for people to help serve families in foster care and adoption services.

Volunteers are needed 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday to transport children and families to appointments, assist

with clerical work, man the switchboard, and help with holiday preparations.

People interested in volunteering can call Elizabeth McCann at (313) 531-9465. Methodist Children's Home Society is at 26645 W. Six Mile, west of Beech Daly, Redford.

Heslop's
China & Gifts
FEBRUARY HOME SALE

Thursday, February 18-Sunday, February 28

TAKE AN ADDITIONAL
10% - 20% OFF

Heslop's everyday low prices on select dinnerware, flatware, stemware, and giftware!

Now is the time to make your home a castle. Heslop's is offering significant savings on your favorite brand names:
Atlantic, Black, Cristal J.G., Durand, Dansk, Fitz & Floyd, Gorham, Lenox, Mikasa, Nikko, Noritake, Oneida, Pickard, Reed & Barton, Rosenthal, Royal Doulton, Royal Worcester, Spode, Towle, and Villery & Boch.

Sale does not include previously marked down merchandise. Normal exclusions apply. Please ask a salesperson for details.

More Details:
Brooklyn Heights, The Heights • (313) 274-8200
(F Blvd Rd between Inkster and Beech Daly)
Livonia, Merri-Five Plaza • (734) 522-1850
(On corner of Five Mile and Merriman)
Novi, Novi Town Center • (248) 349-8990
Rochester, Meadowbrook Village Mall
(248) 649-0000
St. Clair Shores • (810) 778-6142
21429 Mack Ave. (North of Eight Mile Rd.)

Outstate:
Ann Arbor, Cobbside • (734) 761-7002
Ann Arbor, Four-Ply, Westgate, Pinckney Mall
Grand Rapids, Brighton Village, Mall • (616) 557-2145
(Brighton Rd. and Burton Rd.)
Okemos, Meridian Mall • (517) 349-4418

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Simply e-mail your name and daytime phone number to:
contest@sf-ad.com**

**50 winners will be drawn at random from all entries received
by 10am Monday 2/22. Screenings will be held 2/23 at the
AMC Livonia 20 and 2/25 at the Star Southfield.**

No purchase necessary. Limit one entry per household. Employees of O.E. SPA and SFAD are not eligible.

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Don't Go It Alone.

Feeling a bit lost? Call us. We can answer your questions, talk with you about your options, listen to your concerns or help you choose a path. Don't make the journey alone.

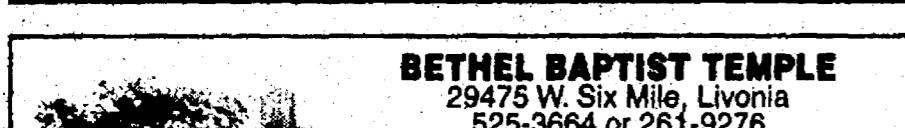
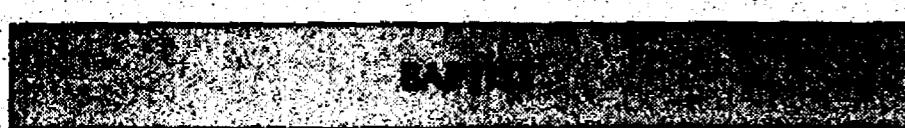
Cancer AnswerLine: 1-800-865-1125
<http://www.cancer.med.umich.edu>

Comprehensive Cancer Center
University of Michigan
Health System

Your Invitation to Worship

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

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



BETHEL BAPTIST TEMPLE

29475 W. Six Mile, Livonia

525-3664 or 261-9276

Sunday School 10:00 A.M.
Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wed. Family Hour 7:15 P.M.

February 21st

11:00 a.m. Dr. Richard Freeman
6:00 p.m. Dr. Richard Freeman

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INDEPENDENT BAPTIST BIBLE FELLOWSHIP

YOUTH AWANA CLUBS

Dr. Richard Freeman

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CHRIST OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Luther A. Werth, Sr. Pastor

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WORSHIP WITH US
Sunday Morning Worship 8:30 & 11:00
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Christian School: Kindergarten-8th Grade
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Sunday School
9:15 & 11:00 A.M.
Nursery Provided
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Rev. Timothy Habich, Assoc. Pastor

ST. MATTHEW LUTHERAN

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Bible Class & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.
Monday Evening Service 7:00 P.M.
Gary D. Headcock, Administrative Pastor
Kurt E. Lambert, Assistant Pastor
Jeff Burke, Principal/D.C.E.

Timothy Lutheran Church

6820 Wayne Rd. (Between Ann Arbor Trail & Joy Road)
Livonia • 427-2290

Rev. Carla Thompson Powell, Pastor
9:00 a.m. Adult & Children's
Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Family Worship

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Sunday Worship - 10:00 a.m. (with children's message/nursery)

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Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

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Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

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Farmington, MI 48336

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Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

Agapé Family Worship Center

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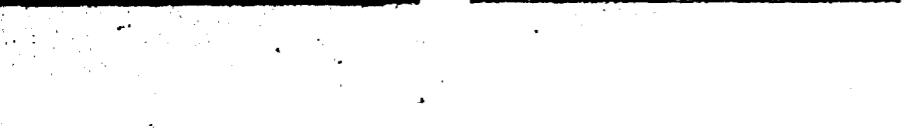
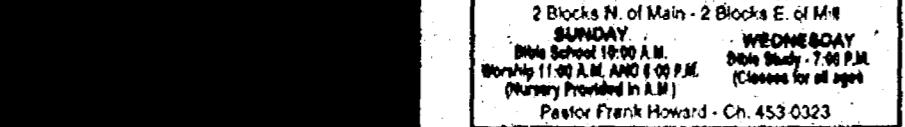
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New Service Times

Sunday Worship Services - 8:00 and 10:00 a.m.

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Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

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Sunday: 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

1:00 & 5:30 p.m.

WEEKEND LITURGY S

RELIGIOUS NEWS

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

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The congregation of Merriman Road Baptist Church is being charged to pray to grow by The Rev. Wayne Parker, pastor. Established in 1953, the church has kicked off its Stewardship Campaign aimed at the expansion of its facilities at 2055 Merriman Road, Garden City. The campaign, which started at worship services on Feb. 7, includes an eight-week emphasis on prayer, vision, faith, hope, miracles, giving and commitment.

FISH FRY

St. Edith Parish will have Lenten fish fries 4:30-7 p.m. Fridays, Feb. 19, March 5, 12, 19 and 26 and April 2, at the church, 15089 Newburgh, Livonia. The menu will include baked and fried fish, shrimp, pierogi, french fries, macaroni and cheese, salad bar, desserts, coffee, tea and pop. For more information, call the church at (734) 464-1222.

TLC STORYTIME

For children and their parents, there will be a TLC Storytime on Saturday, Feb. 20, at Timothy Lutheran Church, 8820 Wayne Road, south of Joy, Livonia. There will be crafts, Christian stories, snacks and prizes. The books chosen are for children age 3-10. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-2290.

BETHANY SUBURBAN WEST

Bethany Suburban West, a Catholic organization which provides spiritual, social and support assistance for divorced and separated Christians, will have a dance 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at St. Kenneth Catholic Church, Haggerty Road south of Plymouth Road, Plymouth Township. The charge will be \$8 and will include refreshments. It also will offer a divorce recovery class 7-9 p.m. Sundays, Feb. 21-April 18 (except Easter), at St. Kenneth's. The facilitator will be Marie Petrica from Catholic Social Services. The charge is \$40 for the eight ses-

sions. Preregistration and payment are required. For more information, call Rose at (734) 464-3325 or Nita at (734) 261-9123.

LENTEN RETREAT

Madonna University will hold a Lenten retreat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the campus Residence Hall and Chapel, Levan north of Schoolcraft Road, Livonia. The Rev. Frank Grispino will be the facilitator.

The retreat will focus on the theme of "The Millennium Theme: To the Father, Through the Son, in the Holy Spirit." Activities will include prayer, conferences, small group sharing/quiet reflection, reconciliation and a liturgy.

The retreat costs \$12 and includes lunch and refreshments. For reservations or more information, call Deacon Gene Desjarlais in the campus ministry office at (734) 432-5419.

Grispino is a member of the university's religious studies and campus ministries departments' faculty. He holds a master of arts degree from the University of Detroit and received his master of divinity degree from Marist Seminary.

He has taught at the Marist Seminary, served as an advocate for those seeking annulments, worked as the administrator at a retreat house in Massachusetts, and was a presenter at marriage encounter weekends. He also served as a chaplain at the Newman Center at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire.

CHURCH MISSION

The Catholic Parish of the Divine Savior, 39375 Joy, Westland, will have a mission Saturday-Wednesday, Feb. 20-24. The Rev. Daniel Havron, coordinator of Evangelization for the Archdiocese of Detroit, will conduct the mission.

Havron will speak at the weekend liturgies and at a Vespers service at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21. The theme will be "God First Loved Us." At 7:30 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 22, the topic will be "Our Response to God's Love," while the topic will be "Repentance and Changing Our Lives"

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23. At 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, there will be Eucharistic liturgy and a message of "Go and

Missionary to speak at Christ Our Savior

Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church will have Dr. Roy Kaiser speak on "God's Transforming Power" at worship services Sunday, Feb. 21, at its Livonia and Canton campuses.

Kaiser will speak 8:30 and 11 a.m. at Christ Our Savior-Livonia, 14175 Farmington Road, and 9:30 a.m. at Christ Our Savior-Canton, 46001 Warren Road.

Kaiser and his wife, Eileen, served as English teaching missionaries at the Concordia Gospel Ministry Center in Thailand. He is a nationally recognized school principal who has been involved in education in the Detroit area since 1965.

The Kaisers will set up display in the church lobbies to familiarize the congregations with their work in Thailand.

A nursery will be available for young children during the service at the Canton church. Sunday School and adult Bible class will be at 10:45

Make Disciples." Baby-sitting will be available and coffee and tea will be served after the services. For more information, call the church, at (734) 455-3620.

LENTEN PROGRAM

Newburgh United Methodist Church will have a Lenten dinner and program Sunday, Feb. 21, at the church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. The potluck turkey dinner (there is a small cost for meat, coffee and milk) will be 6 p.m., followed by a performance by the University of Michigan Choral Ensemble at 7:15 p.m. For more information, call the church at (734) 422-0149.

LENTEN SERVICES

Lola Park Lutheran Church will have midweek Lenten services 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the church,



Dr. Roy Kaiser

a.m. A staffed nursery will be available for both services and the 9:45 a.m. education hour at the Livonia church.

For more information, call the church office at (734) 522-6830 or the Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church Web site at www.ccaa.edu/lcmcos.

14750 Kinloch, Redford. The Rev. Gregory Gibbons will preach on the general theme of "Only Jesus." Each service will be followed by a fellowship time, featuring light refreshments. For more information, call the church at (313) 532-8655.

REDFORD CLERGY

The Redford Clergy Association will have its quarterly meeting Thursday, Feb. 25, in the R.C.D. Center of the Presbyterian Village Redford, 17383 Garfield, off Six Mile, Redford. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m., followed by the meeting. Reservations can be made by calling Alexandra at (313) 541-6487.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Bergen has been in concert and church ministry for more than 20 years. He blends contemporary worship song with great hymns of faith to draw participants closer to the Lord. A free will offering will be accepted. For more information, call the church at (734) 455-0022.

Good Hope Lutheran Church will have a spaghetti dinner and silent auction 5:30-7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, at the church, 28680 Cherry Hill Road, Garden City. Cost is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children 3-10 years of age. Proceeds will fund repair of the church carillon. Lutheran Brotherhood of Western Wayne County Branch 8197 will match up to \$450. For more information, call the church at (734) 427-3660.

Y2K AND JOSEPH PROJECT

A daylong conference that discusses the facts and implications of the Year 2000 problem and offer solutions for the Christian community will be held Saturday, Feb. 27, at the First Baptist Church of Northville, 217 N. Wing St., Northville.

The conference will begin with registration at 8 a.m. It will include workshops and discussions - "Biblical and Moral Perspectives of Preparedness" with Wade Waterman and "The Joseph Project: Beyond Personal Preparedness" with Michael Balon.

The Joseph Project is aimed at helping prepare the community for potential difficulties the Y2K problem poses. Seating is limited and preregistration is recommended. The cost is \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Pizza and drinks will be available for a charge. For more information, call (248) 348-1020.

PRAYER AND WORSHIP

Dan Bergen and his son and daughter, Nicholas and Alicia, will minister in a program of praise and worship, featuring vocal, piano, saxophone, violin and drama, 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at Calvary Baptist Church, 43065 Joy, Canton.

Bergen has been in concert and church ministry for more than 20 years. He blends contemporary worship song with great hymns of faith to draw participants closer to the Lord. A free will offering will be accepted. For more information, call the church at (734) 455-0022.

NEW BEGINNINGS

Warren Gilbert will discuss "Managing Memories" when New Beginnings, a grief support

group, meets 7 p.m. Thursday, March 4, at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, 30900 W. Six Mile, east of Merriman, Livonia. The program is for people suffering as the result of the death of a loved one. There are no fees. Anyone may attend any or all sessions. For more information, call the church office at (734) 422-6038, Marilyn Wilkinson at (248) 380-7803, or Rosemary Kline at (734) 462-3770.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED

Church Women United Suburban Detroit-West will have their World Day of Prayer 12:45 p.m. Friday, March 5, at the Rosedale Gardens Presbyterian Church, 9601 Hubbard, at West Chicago, Livonia. Participants are asked to bring donations of hygiene products. Reservations for child care can be made by calling Norma Roberta at (734) 591-2127.

MOM TO MOM SALE

Table space is available for the Mom to Mom sale 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 6, at Newburg United Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail, Livonia. Donations of toys and clothes are welcome. Proceeds will be donated to the Mom-Tot group. For more information, call Vicki at (734) 513-0167 or Kayla at (734) 595-6712.

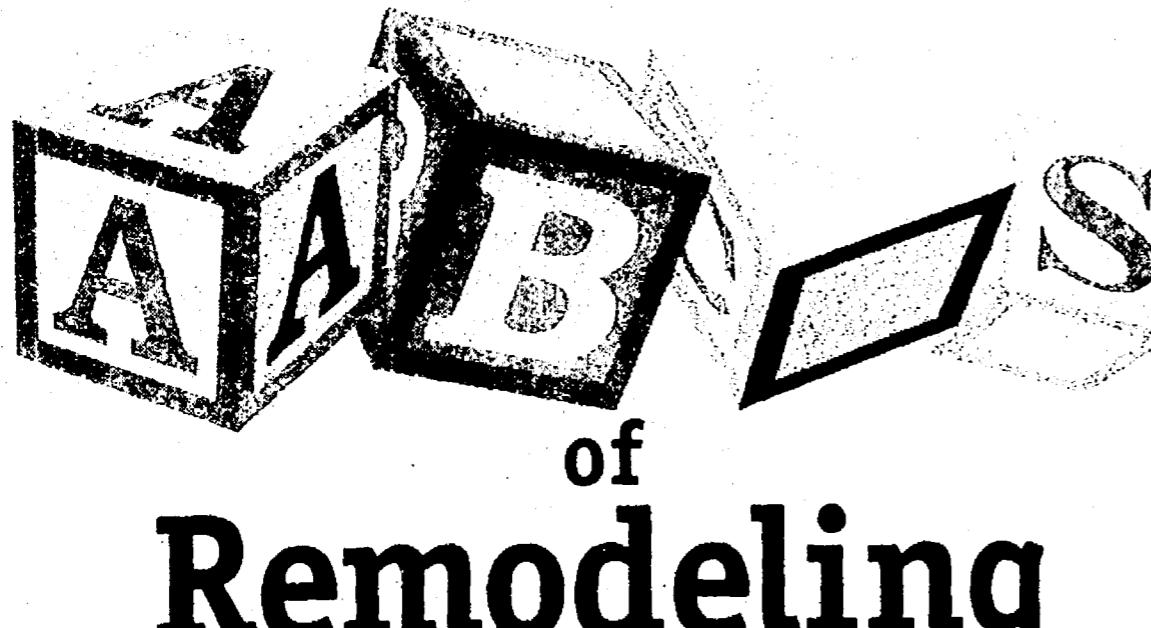
Sacred Heart Church will have a Mom to Mom sale 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, March 20, at the church, 29125 W. Six Mile, east of Middlebelt, Livonia. Second-hand children's clothes (newborn and up), baby furniture and maternity items will be sold. Admission will be \$1. For more information and table rental, call Jennifer at (248) 426-6227.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Worldwide Marriage Encounter offers a weekend experience for married couples to improve their communication skills and renew their love for each other March 19-21 at the St. John's Family Life Center, 44011 Five Mile, Plymouth Township. The registration fee is \$50. Call Bill and Carol at (248) 528-2512 or Dan and Debbie at (810) 286-5524.

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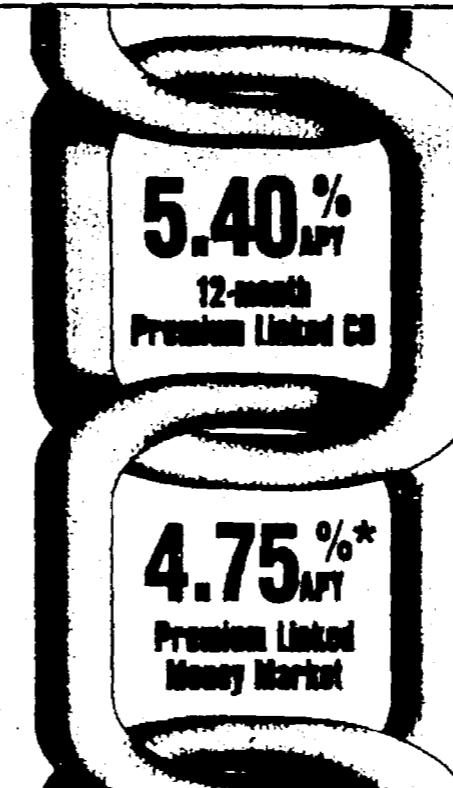
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The Observer

INSIDE:

Prep wrestling, C4

Boys swimming, C6

L/W Page 1, Section C

Tuesday, February 18, 1999

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Collegiate notes

Kalamazoo College freshman Steve Domin (Livonia Stevenson) helped the Hornets capture their fourth consecutive Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association men's swim championship Saturday at Hope College.

Domin won the 50-yard freestyle and finished second in both the 100 butterfly and 100 freestyle. He was also the leadoff man in the Hornets' victorious 800 freestyle relay team which earned an NCAA Division III qualifying time.

Michigan State sophomore goaltender Joe Blackburn (Livonia Churchill) posted his second career shutout with 21 saves Friday as the third-ranked Spartans knocked off host Notre Dame, 1-0.

Blackburn leads the NCAA with a 1.39 goals-against average and is second in the nation with .931 save percentage. Both figures lead the CCHA and represent the best single-season totals in MSU history.

MSU, now 22-3-6 overall and leading the CCHA at 16-2-6, return to action Friday at Munn Arena in East Lansing against Notre Dame. They will face No. 8 Michigan Saturday at Detroit's Joe Louis Arena.

Knights earn state berth

The Bantam A Livonia Knights earned a berth in the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association tournament with a 2-1 triple overtime victory over the Lakeland Hawks in the District IV championship game played Sunday at the Southfield Civic Arena.

Livonia's Chris Ryan forced the first OT with eight seconds left on a pass from Bret Veasey.

J.T. Katikos then scored the game-winner in the third OT from Pat Colgren.

The Knights, coached by Jim Boloven, reached the finals with wins over Redford (14-0), Novi (6-2) and the Hawks (4-3).

Other members of the Knights include Adam Bierley, Tommy Boloven, Ryan McDonnell, Chris Tima, Roger Moody, Brandon Getchen, Keith Hay, Tony Peraino, Chris Ryan, Scott Sparks, Kyle Susewitz, Ryan Vandette and Thomas Zagata.

Assistant coaches include Dave Susewitz, Curt Downs, Ted Katikos and Frank Tima.

LJAL baseball signup

Baseball registration for the Livonia Junior Athletic Association will be from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Bentley Center, located at the corner of Five Mile and Hubbard roads.

Registration is for ages 8-14 (you must be 8 and no older than 14 on Aug. 1, 1998).

The registration fee is \$60. For more information, call (734) 427-2883.

Wayne baseball signup

Registration for the Wayne Baseball Association will be from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23; March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, at the WBA Headquarters, located on Annapolis and Second Street.

Programs available include: Shetland, ages 4 (by Nov. 1, 1998) to 6; Pinto, 7-8; Mustang, 8-10; Bronco, 11-12; Pony, 13-14; Colt, 15-16; Palomino, 17-18.

Registration fees are \$15 (Shetland and Pinto); \$25 (Mustang and Bronco); \$35 (Pony and Colt); \$45 (Palomino). To supplement the fee, you can choose to sell a case of Nestle's candy or pay the \$45 for the case.

Players must provide a birth certificate (non-residents welcome).

Paid positions are available for umpires (15 years or older) and field supervisors. Volunteer coaches are also wanted.

For more information, call (734) 722-6400.

Junior cage shootout

The Milford Police Athletic League is sponsoring its 10th annual 3-on-3 junior shootout for boys and girls in grades 4-12, Friday through Sunday, March 19-21.

There will be a special three-point shootout in each division to win a pair of \$100 converse basketball shoes. Entry fee is \$60 per team (four players).

For more information, call Rick Sharpe at (248) 684-1322.

Pats clinch division title

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Two-peat was sweet Monday for the Livonia Franklin's volleyball team, which wrapped up the Western Division title in the Western Lakes Activities Association with a 15-12, 15-1 win Monday at Plymouth Canton.

Franklin is now 28-10-1 overall and 8-1 in the WLAA.

"It's a nice feeling," said Franklin's Mary Helen Diegel, in her first varsity season as coach since replacing Ann Hutchins. "We played our entire lineup and finished the match strong."

Franklin used a balanced attack to upset the Chiefs.

Sophomore Kerstin Marshall was six of seven hitting with five kills. Nicole Boyd went 10-for-10 with four kills. Tera Morrill added five kills and two aces (13-for-13 serving). Rachel Bramlett added two kills.

Alexis Bowman led with six digs, while setter Lyndsay Sopko went 23-for-23 with 11 assists.

On Feb. 10, Franklin defeated host Farmington Hills Harrison, 15-1, 15-5, as Morrill went six-for-six with six kills. Marshall had four solo blocks, while Sopko contributed nine assists in 22 attempts.

Bramlett contributed three aces, while Lindsay Duprey went eight-for-eight serving.

Ladywood advances to final

Jenny Young had seven kills and four aces Saturday, leading Livonia Ladywood (25-15-1 overall) to a Catholic League playoff victory over Birmingham Marian in a semifinal match at Madison Heights Bishop Foley.

The Blazers will be gunning for their eighth straight Catholic League crown beginning at 7 tonight at Madonna University.

The opponent will be Farmington Hills Mercy, which split with Ladywood in the Central Division this season.

Other standouts for the Blazers against Marian included Jessica Tillson, two kills and five aces; Patty Horal, four kills; Tracey DeWitt, four kills with a 90 percent serve percentage; and Erin Bartee, 17 assists and two blocks.

Beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Ladywood will host a 12-team invitational tournament which will include Mercy, Marian, Battle Creek Central, Temperance Bedford (defending state Class A champion) and Walled Lake Central (Schoolcraft Invitational runner-up).

Dulz killer for Stevenson

Stephanie Dulz racked up 15 kills Monday, leading Livonia Stevenson (28-12-2, 6-3) to an 8-15, 15-7, 15-13 WLAA victory over visiting Northville.

Kate LeBlanc added seven kills and three aces, while Carly Wadsworth contributed five kills and was 14-for-14 with one ace.

Other standouts for the Spartans



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Netminder: Westland Huron Valley Lutheran's Stacie Graves tries to block the ball from going over the net during Tuesday's match with Southfield Franklin Road Christian. See story below.

included setter Kelley Hutchins, who had 29 assists and was 10-for-10 serving, and Kristi Copi, who was 18-for-18 on serves with one ace and two kills.

Churchill grounds Falcons

Meagan Sheehan, who had four kills and five digs, played a strong all-around game Monday to lead Livonia Churchill (24-10-2, 5-4) to a WLAA victory Monday over visiting Farmington.

Mars Phillip added four kills and served four points for the Chargers. Becky Weber was 100 percent passing with four service points. Setter Jessica MacKay also stood out.

On Saturday, Churchill won five of seven matches at the Bedford Invitational.

The host Kicking Mules eliminated the Chargers in the quarterfinals, 15-8, 15-1.

In pool play, Churchill lost to Walled Lake Central (8-15, 12-15), while defeating Ann Arbor Huron (17-15, 15-13), Carleton Airport (15-9, 11-15, 15-8), Monroe-Jefferson (15-11, 15-10) and Adrian (15-6, 15-6). The Chargers also downed Adrian again in power-pool play, 15-3, 14-16, 15-9.

Shannon Munn recorded six kills and 11 digs in the second game against Huron. MacKay also came through

with some clutch serving.

Against Airport, Phillips turned in one of her top performances of the year with nine kills. Munn added eight kills in the match.

Senior Lauren Ruprecht had 24 blocks on the day to lead the Chargers.

Hawks lose heartbreaker

Southfield Franklin Road Christian pulled out a 15-12, 11-15, 15-11 Michigan Independent Athletic Conference victory Tuesday over Westland Huron Valley Lutheran in a match at Livonia St. Paul's.

Franklin Road is now 11-3 overall and 9-1 in the MIAC. Huron Valley drops to 8-9 and 6-3.

"It was a tough match, it kind of sawed back-and-forth," Huron Valley coach Tom Schwartz said.

The Hawks' sophomore outside hitter, Rachel Zahn, who had four kills and six aces, went down in the third game with an ankle injury and did not return.

Other standouts for Huron Valley included senior middle hitter Stephanie Graves, two kills and one block; junior outside hitter Jessica Whitaker, five aces; and junior middle blocker Gretchen Grosinske, two blocks.

Churchill upsets No. 7 Clarkston, 3-1

PREP HOCKEY

period — Aaron Jakubowski from Adam Rourke at 3:06; Cook from Rossetto and Nathan Jakubowski at 11:15; and Tom Sherman from Jason Turri and Andy Mitchell at 11:30.

Birmingham's Alfie Navaare scored at 1:10 of the third on a power-play, and with 41 seconds to play Eric Schwab got a shot past McBroom when it deflected off a Churchill defenseman.

Churchill took just three penalties.

Dan Cook scored unassisted for the Chargers at 3:17, but Clarkston's Derek Hool tied it at 4:47.

Cook then scored the game-winner with 2:22 remaining from Ed Rossetto. Adam Krug added an empty netter from Cook with 1:18 to play.

Galtender Ryan McBroom, who made 22 saves, also stood out for Churchill.

"We didn't want to put them on the power play and we only got caught short-handed once," Hatley said. "We knew we'd have our hands full shutting them down five-on-five."

"Right now we're thinking team defense. That's our one and only ticket. We're trying to reduce the number of chances we give up. We're focused on systems all over the ice and even our forecheck is geared to shut down the opponent."

In the second period, Stevenson built a 3-0 lead on goals by Keyan Tait (from Willie Wilson and Jon Kaluski) and Sinks (from John May and Nebus).

Each team scored twice in the first period.

— Chris Gellach and Charlie Braun for South; David Bonello (from May and Nebus) and May

(from Nebus and Bryan Dery).

*DEARBORN 5, FRANKLIN 2: Derek Lips scored a hat trick Saturday as host Dearborn Unified (11-5-3, 9-4-2) defeated Livonia Franklin (6-13-2, 3-11-1) in a Suburban High School Hockey League game played at Adray Arena.

Abe Hughes and Joe Virga also scored for Dearborn, which led 4-0 after two periods. Three of Dearborn's first four goals came on the power play.

Both Franklin goals came in the final period — Tony Saia from Josh Garbutt at 14:10; and Andy Garbutt on a power-play from John Nichol and Josh Garbutt.

"We played them fairly well in the first period — they had four shots and we had five," Franklin coach Terry Jobbitt said. "Then we had a big breakdown in the second period."

"We also had a parade to the penalty box, thanks to the worst officiated game I've seen in years. They had little or no knowledge of high school rules."

"Between the second and third period we made some adjustments and set a goal to outplay and outscore Dearborn in the third. We did both. The team played a great third period."

*REDFORD CC 6, BROTHER RICE 1: Todd Bentley scored three goals Saturday to lead Redford Catholic Central (19-1-1), the state's top-ranked team in Class A, to a Michigan Metro High School Hockey League win over Birmingham Brother Rice at Redford Arena.

Derek Genrich, David Moss and Pat O'Dea also added goals for the Shamrocks, who led 1-0 after one period and 2-1 after 30 minutes.

Genrich, Jim Spiewak and Matt Van Heest contributed two assists apiece, while Keith Rowe, Ryan Yost, Sean McGowan and Joe Moreau.

Pat Morris tallied the lone goal for the Warriors, now .

"Rice ran out of steam, they had one their guys hurt, we just kicked it into gear," St. John said. "We played a good third period. The first two weren't that great."

CC earns

19th title in breeze Shamrocks roll in meet

Redford Catholic Central usually dominates the Catholic League wrestling meet, but never as much as it did Saturday at Birmingham Brother Rice.

The Shamrocks won their 19th league meet under coach Mike Rodriguez with 257 points, bettering their previous best total by 19.

The 1988 CC team won the championship with 238 points and that happens to be the last year the Shamrocks won a state championship.

Brother Rice was second (189), followed by Madison Heights Bishop Foley (105.5), Dearborn Divine Child (100), Orchard Lake St. Mary's (81.5), Harper Woods Notre Dame (52) and Pontiac Notre Dame Prep (43).

"I hope that's a good omen," Rodriguez said. "I thought we wrestled great. Everybody placed. We went in with the idea of trying to win it."

Senior heavyweight Casey Rogowski, the defending state Division I champion, moved his record to 40-0, winning his division with a 6-6 decision over Brother Rice's Carl Hammaker in the finals. Senior heavyweight Casey Rogowski, the defending state Division I champion, moved his record to 40-0, winning his division with a 6-6 decision over Brother Rice's Carl Hammaker in the finals.

"The referee was watching him like a hawk," Rodriguez said. "It's the first time he's been called for that in two years. But Casey said he locked his hands."

It took Rogowski, one of six CC champions, only 13 seconds to pin both his first and second-round opponents: St. Mary's Brian Johnson and Foley's Jason Sabagh.

Junior Mitch Hancock won the 160-pound division and earned Most Valuable Wrestler for the upper weights. He won in a technical fall against St. Mary's Matt Ulrey, 20-5, in the finals.

He pinned Foley's John DeLong in 2:14 and Rice's Pat Samona in 0:24 to earn a berth in the finals.

Senior John Ahehiré continued his late season rush, winning the 189 division with a pin in 1:58 over Rice's Sean Williamson in the finals.

Senior Brocc Naysmith is now 29-3 after recording a pair of pins en route to the 215 division title. He pinned Foley's Aaron Wallace in 5:17 to win the final following a pin in 0:34 over Rice's Derek Cricciuto.

Ryan Zajdel won the 145 pound class with a pin in 1:59 over Jon LoCascio of St. Mary's. Zajdel pinned Rice's Brent Shammani in 2:43 and DC's Bill Sovinski in 1:00 to reach the finals.

Sophomore Chris O'Hara, now 27-3, won the 103 division with a 16-0 decision over Notre Dame's Tom Orozco in the finals. He pinned Netto Meilwreth in 57 seconds to get to the finals.

Lady Crusaders roll; SC now 22-3

Turnaround time — and just in time.

Madonna University's women's basketball team appeared to be a legitimate challenger for the Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference championship just before the start of league play. Even the loss of star forward Mary Murray to a severe knee injury early in the season, while a definite problem, was something they could overcome. They entered the WHAC campaign with an 11-4 record.

Four weeks later, they were at the bottom of the conference standings with a 12-12 overall record and a 1-8 league mark.

They were down, but apparently not out. Led by Kathy Paganis, Madonna has now won its last three WHAC games, the latest a 79-57 dismantling of Indiana Tech Saturday in Fort Wayne.

The sophomore forward turned in yet another superb all-around performance, converting 8-of-13 floor shots (and 2-of-3 three-pointers) to score a game-high 21 points. She also had 12 rebounds (four of them offensive), six assists and two steals.

Paganis, named WHAC player of the week for her

WOMEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

efforts, leads the conference in scoring with a 19.6 average.

Chris Dietrich added 17 points, five rebounds and five assists; Lori Enfield scored 10 points and grabbed five boards; Katie Cushman had nine points and six assists; and Kristi Fiorenzi (from Plymouth-Canton) finished with seven points and seven rebounds.

The Lady Warriors got 10 points apiece from Rhonda Mehrley, Nichole Meyers and Kelly Hayes. Hayes also had 11 rebounds and three steals.

Madonna led 40-33 at the half.

The win improved the Crusaders' record to 15-12 overall, 4-8 in the WHAC. Tech is 7-19 overall, 2-10 in the conference. More importantly, going into last night's home game against league-leader Spring Arbor, Madonna was in a three-way tie for fifth in the conference (with Aquinas and Concordia), one game out of fourth.

SCHOOLCRAFT 53, OAKLAND CC 41: Whatever it takes.

That philosophy carried Schoolcraft College to its 14th-straight win in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference, clinching first place for the Lady Ocelots. They have won 18 consecutive games and have a 22-3 overall record to go with their 14-0 conference mark.

SC trailed OCC (14-10 overall, 7-8 in the conference) 27-18 at the half, but limited the Lady Raiders to 6-of-34 shooting from the floor in the second half (17.6 percent).

SC shot horridly from the field, making just 19-of-59 shots (32.2 percent) in the game. But the Raiders were worse, making 17-of-65 shots (26.2 percent). And while SC was only 5-of-21 from three-point range (23.8 percent), OCC was 0-for-18.

Antone' Watson led the Ocelots with 15 points, six rebounds, five assists and two steals. Jackie Kocis added 11 points, Samantha Theisen had nine points, eight boards and five steals, and Stacy Cavin grabbed 10 rebounds to go with her four points.

Paula Wesa was the only Raider to reach double figures in scoring with 18 points; she also had 16 rebounds and five steals. Alison Richards contributed nine points.

The loss was OCC's sixth-in-a-row in conference play.

Madonna upsets Indiana Tech; Ocelots fall

MEN'S COLLEGE HOOPS

Too little, too late.

Madonna University's men's basketball team has suffered through all sorts of indignities this season of frustration, but it has never surrendered.

On Saturday against visiting Indiana Tech, the Fighting Crusaders continued to follow that simple precept — all the way to a 92-88 triumph.

It was the second Wolverine-Hoosier Athletic Conference win in three games for Madonna, raising its record to 8-20 overall and 4-8 in the conference. Tech fell to 16-8 overall, 6-5 in the WHAC.

Behind the efforts of Mike Massey (31 points, eight rebounds and two steals) and Mike Maryanski (27 points, seven boards, four assists and two blocked shots), the Crusaders scored the game's first six points and never trailed.

Their lead by halftime was 43-26.

But it did get interesting down the stretch.

With 2:45 left in the game, a Massey free throw had made it 80-65 — a safe cushion, right?

Not by Warrior standards. They nailed seven three-pointers in that last 2:38, five of them by Gordon Stubblefield, in outscoring Madonna 23-12.

But with Trevor Hinshaw converting 7-of-8 free throws in the final 1:26, Tech never got closer than four points as the Crusaders held off the charge.

Hinshaw, one of five Crusaders to reach double figures in scoring, finished with 10 points, five rebounds and four assists.

Jason Skoczylas added 13 points and three steals, and Mark Mitchell had 10 points.

Madonna enjoyed one of its finest shooting days, hitting 28-of-52 floor shots (53.8 percent), 5-of-13 three-pointers (38.5 percent) and 31-of-44 free throws (70.5 percent).

Maryanski was named WHAC player of the week, averaging 18.3 points and eight rebounds in the seven-day stretch.

Stubblefield's 23 points topped Tech. Khalil Hairston and Franklyn Bush added 15 points apiece, and Andre Miles scored 13. Hairston also had nine assists.

OAKLAND CC 111, SCHOOLCRAFT 92: Schoolcraft College has handled every opponent in the Michigan Community College Athletic Association's Eastern Conference, except for conference leader Flint Mott CC and — Oakland CC?

The Raiders have hovered at the .500 level all season, but for the second time in a week they looked like champions in completely mastering SC. On Feb. 8, they beat the Ocelots 117-97 at SC.

SC fell to 20-4 overall, 10-4 in the conference. OCC is 12-13 overall, 7-8 in the conference.

Once again, OCC took command early and kept it, leading 59-35 at the half.

The Raiders were 34-of-64 from the floor (53.1 percent) and 11-of-21 from three-point range (52.4 percent), and they shot a whopping 41 free throws, making 32 of them (78 percent).

SC was 39-of-83 from the floor (47 percent),

but hit just 3-of-21 triples (14.3 percent) and were just 11-of-20 from the line (55 percent).

Five Raiders reached double-figures in scoring, led by Montez Briggs with 21 points, nine assists and six rebounds.

Albert Jones (from Westland John Glenn) had 19 points, seven boards, six assists and three steals; Brad Burlingame scored 18 points; Randy Kelly totaled 17 points, five rebounds and two steals; and Aaron Kemp collected 12 points, seven rebounds, three assists and three steals.

SC had seven players in double figures in scoring: Dashawn Williams with 16 (and 14 rebounds); Mike Murray with 13 (and five boards); Lamar Bigby with 12; Chris Colley with 11; and David McGlown, Derek McKelvey and David Jarrett (Westland John Glenn) with 10 apiece.

McGlowen added four assists and three steals, and Jarrett had six assists and two steals.

SCHOOLCRAFT 77, DELTA 64: The offense wasn't quite as productive, but the defense made up for it as Schoolcraft College won its 20th game of the season Saturday, beating visiting Delta CC.

The loss dropped Delta to 8-16 overall, 4-10 in the Eastern Conference.

The Ocelots, who have struggled at the free-throw line at times this season, didn't in this game.

They nailed 14-of-18 from the stripe (77.8 percent); the Pioneers were 9-of-11 (81 percent). SC led 32-23 at the half.

Dashawn Williams' 17 point topped the Ocelots. David Jarrett (from Westland John Glenn) added 14 and Derek McKelvey scored 12.

DeAndre Bell led Delta with 22 points. Bruce Simmons contributed 14.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

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ARCHITECTURE

BOYS BASKETBALL ROUNDUP**Stevenson hangs on to win; Foder's 30 propels Rockets**

Livonia Stevenson, thanks to a game-high 25 points Tuesday from junior guard Keshay McChrystal, slid by host Livonia Churchill in Western Lakes Activities Association boys basketball game, 64-63.

Stevenson is now 5-11 overall and 2-8 in the WLAA, while Churchill falls to 4-12 and 1-9.

Churchill's 25-18 fourth-quarter run fell short.

Marty Kennedy's two free throws with seven seconds remaining gave Stevenson a 64-60 lead and sealed the victory.

Mike Lenardon added 10 points for the victorious Spartans.

McChrystal, who had a pair of three-pointers, was on target for three quarters, but fouled out with two minutes to play in regulation.

"Keshay played a terrific game," Churchill coach Rick Austin said. "We had a hard time containing him."

John Bennett, who scored 16 points to lead Churchill, hit a three-pointer with 3 seconds left to pull his team to within one, but the Chargers couldn't get the ball back.

Randall Boboige and Devin White added 14 and 13, respectively, for Churchill. Mike Kennedy added nine.

Stevenson was 14 of 28 from the free throw line, while Churchill was 14 of 19.

"We fought really hard to rally," Austin said. "And I thought both Randall Boboige and Mike Kennedy played a whale of a game."

JOHN GLENN 78, NORTHVILLE 68: Senior guard Bill Foder pumped in a career-high 30 points Tuesday as Westland John Glenn (9-6, 7-3) downed the host Mustangs (5-10, 4-6) in a WLAA encounter.

Foder scored 13 of his 30 in the third quarter. He hit five 3-pointers, five field goals and was five-for-six from the free throw line.

Junior center Ben Harris added 17 points and eight rebounds. Junior guard Eric Jones chipped in with 13 points and five assists, while senior center Ty Haygood had 12 points and 11 rebounds. Senior guard Reggie Spearmon also dished out five assists.

Northville, unable to overcome a 19-11 first-quarter deficit, had three players score in double figures led by Brett Allen's 15 points.

Marshall Knapp and Ryan Eller chipped in with 14 and 13, respectively.

W.L. CENTRAL 59, FRANKLIN 33: Mark Bortz, a 6-foot-6 sophomore center, scored a game-high 22 points Tuesday to spark Walled Lake Central (8-7, 4-6) to a WLAA victory over host Livonia Franklin (0-15, 0-10).

Senior guard Cory Heitsch added 14 points for the winners.

Franklin led 11-10 after one quarter as junior forward Jason Micallef scored nine of their team-high 11 points.

But the Patriots got outscored 18-7 in the second period and 21-8 in the third quarter.

A.A. HURON 68, WAYNE 61: In a non-leaguer Tuesday, Ann Arbor Huron (7-7 overall) used a 22-7 third-quarter run to beat the host Zebras (5-11 overall).

Wayne led 29-28, but couldn't solve Huron's 2-2-1 half-court trap in the third quarter.

Ian Wilson and Andre Walton scored 13 and 11, respectively, for the victorious River Rats.

Senior center Robert Price led Wayne with 14 points, while senior guard Jamar Davis added 11.

Huron was 14 of 24 from the free throw line. Wayne finished 11 of 18.

LUTHERAN WESTLAND 55, CRANBROOK 47: Senior forward Ryan Ollinger scored a game-high 22 points, powering Lutheran High Westland (10-9, 9-3) to the Metro Conference victory over host Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook (5-10, 4-7).

"They (Cranbrook) have a couple of big guys inside and we don't have the bulk, but our zone defense did a nice job," Lutheran Westland coach Dan Ramthun said.

Junior guard Charlie Hoeft added 17 points for the Warriors, who led by 16 after three quarters, 44-28. Senior forward Tom Habitzy chipped in with eight.

Senior forward Tyrell Smith tallied 18 to lead the Cranes, who pulled to within six in the final period. Vince Fulton added 10.

HARPERWOODS 63, CLARENCEVILLE 49: Senior center Albert Strickland scored a game-high 24 points Tuesday, leading the host Pioneers (12-4, 7-4) to the Metro Conference victory over Livonia Clarenceville (6-9, 5-6).

Sophomore center Scott Wion led the Trojans with 18.

FRANKLIN ROAD 67, HURON VALLEY 29: Aaron Schroeder scored 13 points to lead a balanced attack Tuesday as host Southfield Franklin Road Christian (9-7, 6-3) to the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference victory over Westland Huron Valley Lutheran (4-11, 0-8).

Junior guard Rene Arnal and freshman guard Stephen Davidson each scored eight in a losing cause.

WEEK AHEAD

BOYS BASKETBALL
Thursday, Feb. 26
Churchill vs. Franklin, 7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 27
Clarenceville at Luth. North, 7 p.m.
Stevenson at N. Farmington, 7 p.m.
John Glenn at Saline, 7 p.m.
Canton at Northville, 7 p.m.
Westland at W.L. Central, 7 p.m.
W.L. Central at Farmington, 7 p.m.
Wyandotte at Thurston, 7 p.m.
Redford Union at Garden City, 7 p.m.
Cardinal Mooney at St. Agatha, 7 p.m.
Agepe at Greater Life, 7:30 p.m.
PCA at Oakland Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Huron Dame vs. Mount Carmel, 8 p.m.
Meridian Middle School, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 28
(Central AA Playoffs at Saline)
DePorres vs. Brother Rice, noon.
O.L. St. Mary vs. U-D Jesuit, 1:45 p.m.
Redford CC vs. Aquinas, 3:30 p.m.
Notre Dame vs. Divine Child, 5 p.m.
Men's College Basketball
Saturday, Feb. 28
Madonna at Siena Heights, TBA.
Schoolcraft vs. Wayne Co. CC
at River Rouge H.S., 1 p.m.
Rochester at OCC-High, Lakes, 2 p.m.
Ontario Hockey League
Thursday, Feb. 26
Whalers at Toronto Majors, 7:35 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 28
Ply. Whalers vs. Erie Otters
at Compuware Arena, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Feb. 29
Ply. Whalers vs. London Knights
at Compuware Arena, 6:30 p.m.
PROF HOCKEY
Thursday, Feb. 26
Redford CC vs. A.A. Huron
at Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 8 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 27
Franklin vs. Stevenson
at Edgar Arena, 8 p.m.
Farm. Unified vs. Novi
at Farm. Hills Ice Arena, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 28
Churchill at Troy United, 7:30 p.m.
Redford CC vs. Cranbrook
at Redford Ice Arena, 8 p.m.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
Thursday, Feb. 26
PCA at Oakland Christian, 7 p.m.
Huron Valley at Baptist Park, 7 p.m.
Clarenceville at Luth. North, 7 p.m.
Canton vs. Churchill, 7 p.m.
(CHSL Finals at Madonna Univ.)
Shrine vs. St. Clement, 5 p.m.
Ladywood vs. Mercy, 7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 27
Agepe at Greater Life, 5 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 28
Ladywood Invitational, TBA.
TBA — time to be announced.

Plymouth Whalers suffer through rare slump, fall to London, Oshawa**OHL REPORT**

The Whalers travel to Toronto for a 7:35 p.m. game tonight against the St. Michael's Majors.

Compuware drops 2

The Compuware Ambassadors registered a 6-1 victory over the Cleveland Barons Friday at Compuware Arena in Plymouth, but on Saturday and Sunday in Sault Ste. Marie the Soo Kewadin Casino Indians collected back-to-back victories, beating the Ambassadors 3-2 in an overtime shootout Saturday and 2-0 Sunday.

The 1-2 weekend left Compuware with a 28-10-5 record; the Indians are 28-13 and Cleveland is 18-23-3 in the North American Hockey League.

In the win over the Barons Friday, J.J. Swistak scored twice and Nick Schrader and John Shouneyia added a goal and an assist for the Ambassadors. Craig Kowalski was in goal for the win.

On Saturday, Compuware rallied to force overtime with two third-period goals scored with their goalie pulled for an extra attacker. Mark Mink and Shouneyia netted the goals for the Ambassadors.

Compuware still has a five-point lead atop the nine-team NAHL.

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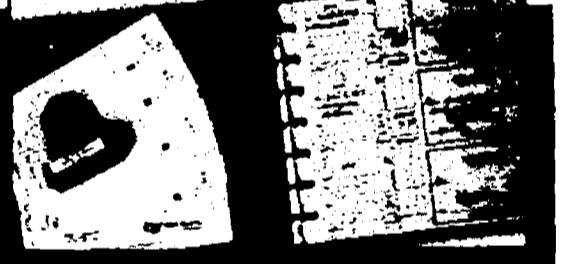


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MAT RESULTS**METRO CONFERENCE****WRESTLING TOURNAMENT**

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Harper Woods, 32; 2. Livonia Clarenceville, 185.5; 3. Macomb Lutheran North, 161; 4. Harper Woods Lutheran East, 139; 5. Lutheran High Westland, 115.5; 6. Rochester Hills Lutheran Northwest, 31; 7. Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook, 19; 8. Hanover Park, 16.

FINAL INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:
103 pounds: Danny Tondreau (C'ville) pinned Matt Tarnina (HW), 0:19; consolation final: Kyle Jason (LN) decisioned Radwan Zindani (H), 3-2.

112: Bob Bennett (HW) p. Matt Shurnard (LW), 1:28; consolation: Kevin Grabowski (LE) p. Bryan Hartway (LN), 1:53.

120: Will Jurczak (LE) p. Adam Haller (LW), 1:42; consolation: Jason Vojadzick (H) dec. Mike Williams (LN), 9-3.

128: Frank Barretta (LN) dec. James Starnes (HW), 10-3; consolation: Jacob Allen (LNW) p. Tim Murphy (LW), 0:34.

130: Dave Lemmon (C'ville) dec. Tatsuya Sakai (BHC), 7-4; consolation: Mike Baubenne (LN) p. Dave Tomlinson (HW), 4-0.

138: Andrew Deramo (P) p. Dan LeClerc (C'ville), 1:42; consolation: Tony Lawchowicz (LN) dec. John Lawrence (LN), 11-2.

140: David Johnson (LN) dec. Matt Wehl (C'ville), 5-1; consolation: Scott Villar (HW) p. John Pate (LE), 4-3.

148: Ryan Deramo (HW) won by major dec. over John Jones (LE), 12-3; consolation: Brian Sosik (LW) p. George Costas (C'ville), 3-50.

152: Darren Steeh (LN) dec. Justin Dattilio (HW), 12-5; consolation: Robbie Simpson (C'ville) dec. Jon Kissinger, 8-1.

160: James Behring (LN) won by major dec. over Bill Jones (LE), 13-4; consolation: Tony Rechoza (C'ville) p. James Molnar (LW), 0:43.

174: Rich Eriksson (HW) won by major dec. over Adam Marcum (C'ville), 14-1; consolation: Scott Archer (LW) p. Ryan Whitford (LW), 1:56.

189: Walter Ragland (C'ville) won by tech. fall over Eric Erbischko (HW), 17-2; consolation: Rob McKenna (LN) p. Matt Franklin (LE), 3:57.

216: Kalen McPherson (C'ville) p. Kevin Packard (LN), 3:21; consolation: Jason Rhodes (HW) p. Matt Justice (LE), 1:25.

Heavyweight: Drew Jablonski (LE) p. Matt Barranca (HW), 0:47; consolation: Justin Green (C'ville) p. Dax Clarke (LN), 2:51.

WESTERN LAKER ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

TEAM STANDINGS: 1. Northville, 254.5; 2. Plymouth Salem, 181.5; 3. Livonia Stevenson, 164.5; 4. Walled Lake Western, 136; 5. Walled Lake Central, 133.5; 6. Plymouth Canton, 121.5; 7. Livonia Churchill, 115.5; 8. Farmington, 111.5; 9. Westland John Glenn, 101; 10. Livonia Franklin, 66; 11. Farmington Hills Harrison, 38; 12. North Farmington, 36.

FINAL INDIVIDUAL RESULTS:

Heavyweight: Ted Bowersox (N) dec. Charlie Hamblin (PS), 6-0; consolation final: Tony Henry (WLW) p. Paul Lindsey (WLC), 0:28; 5th-6th: Brian Brinsden (P) p. Derek McWatt (PC), 0:21; 7th-8th: Mike Graffie (LC) won by injury default over Josh Skora (NF).

103: Joe Moreau (LS) p. Jeremy Carter (N), 4:41; consolation: Kyle Pitt (PC) dec. Steve Lenhardt (LC), 10-1.

112: Larry Leipzig (NF) dec. Matt Fendeway (WLC), 7-3; 7th-8th: Jeff Bennett (PS) p. Robert Easterday (F), 2:28.

112: John Mervin (PS) dec. Matt Tarrow (N), 21-4; consolation: Josh Gunterman (LS) dec. Ryan Beech (WLW), 5-2; 5th-6th: Dale Czernick (WLW) dec. Dan Demack (PC), 7-2; 7th-8th: Jess Purdon (WJG) p. Ramis Bajrami (NF), 1:12.

118: Ron Thompson (PS) dec. Kevin Arbuckle (N), 5-3; consolation: Steve Vasiliotoff (LC) dec. Zack Yaffai (LS), 8-7; 5th-6th: John Simmons (F) dec. Lee Warren (LF), 13-2; 7th-8th: Steve Saragol (FHH) p. Chris Smith (WJG), 3:25.

126: Jacob Pattenpaule (WLW) p. Rob Ash (PS), 2:38; consolation: Craig Mussar (PC) dec. Ben Ashby (N), 5-3; 5th-6th: Caleb Smith (FHH) p. Arik Wicketts (LF), 2:51; 7th-8th: Aaron Turk (F) p. Eric Latvin (WLC), 2:13.

130: Reggie Torrence (N) dec. Jeff Albrecht (WJG), 13-2; consolation: Tony Lema (F) p. Justin Shafer (FHH), 0:30; 5th-6th: C.J. Rasch (WLW) p. Steve Dendros (PS), 1:53; 7th-8th: Chris Coopridge (LS) p. Scott Elstone (LC), 1:20.

138: Scott Aubrey (WLW) p. Anant Saran (N), 3:35; consolation: Josh Henderson (PS), 10-4; consolation: Kevin Stone (PC) dec. John Bagley (WLW), 5-1; 5th-6th: Alan Duff (LF) dec. Chris Wolfgang (WJG), 7-5; 7th-8th: Joe Jamison (LS) dec. Ian Huff (WLC), 3-2.

182: Brandon LaPointe (LC) dec. Mark Ostach (F), 9-3; consolation: Greg Elizans (PS) p. Joe Westerly (WLW), 10-8; 5th-6th: Jeff Bellaire (PC) p. Justin Womble (WLW), 3:50; 7th-8th: Brian Walker (LF) dec. Devin Hall (WJG), 12-1.

190: Pete Langer (WJG) dec. Brian Barker (LS), 10-8; consolation: Rob Demack (PC) dec. Eric Toska (LF), 8-4; 5th-6th: John Rekumaki (N) dec. J.D. Zierkowski (WLC), 7-0; 7th-8th: Mike Murtland (F) p. Tracy Jones (PS), 1:13.

198: Ryan McCracken (N) won by injury default over Norm Wroblewski (WLW); consolation: Mike Radley (LS) dec. Daryl Hiryard (WLC), 2:1; 5th-6th: Steve Brown (LC) dec. Jason Bedouin (PS), 2-1; 7th-8th: Shehnil Rajesh (PC) won by injury default over Dominic Carducci (PC).

220: Steve Mylinski (LF) dec. Ryan Gies (N), 7-2; consolation: Andy Wood (F) dec. Geoff Bennett (PS), 5-5; 5th-6th: Jeannine Perkins (WJG) dec. John Macfarland (LS), 8-6; 7th-8th: Mike Stein (WF) p. Joe Harley (WLC), 1:12.

228: Joe Huggins (WLC) p. Joe Rumley (N), 1:24; consolation: Eric Puniske (LS) p. Neil Rutherford (WLC), 1:46; 5th-6th: Jeff Sining (LC) won by injury default over A.J. Matori (PC); 7th-8th: Blake Belsky (F) p. Pat O'Connor (PS), 0:30.

Trojans settle for co-share

■ PREP WRESTLING

McPherson took the 189 pound class.

Livonia Clarenceville captured the dual season, but rival Harper Woods came back Saturday on the Trojans' home mats to claim the Metro Conference meet championship.

The Pioneers scored a team-high 209 points in the eight-school, while Clarenceville, winning four individual titles, was second with 185.5. Lutheran Westland was a distant fifth with 115.5.

The split means Clarenceville and Harper Woods share the conference title. See final results.

"We really wanted to win this outright, but in order for this to happen we needed some upsets and they didn't happen," Clarenceville coach Todd Skinner said. "The beautiful thing is that we set some goals and are achieving them as the season goes on. We've been in the league since 1984 and have never won it. We made it happen this year."

Clarenceville's Dan Tondreau breezed to the 103-pound title, his second in as many years, while teammate Dave Lemmon captured his second straight title at 130 notched his 100th career victory in the process.

Walter Ragland captured his third straight Metro Conference title at 189 and was named the meet's most outstanding wrestler.

Indiana transfer Kalan

is 27-6, each finished second. The Spartans' Josh Gunterman (112), now 25-10; Mike Radley (171), 17-11; and Eric Puniske (215), 16-9, each finished third.

One of the toughest weight classes was 135 where Central's Scott Aubry handed Northville's Anant Saran his first defeat of the year, a pin in 3:35. Stevenson's Imad Kharbush, the Observerland champ, took fourth. He is 32-11.

Stevenson's Zack Yaffai (119), who is 17-9, added a fourth.

Livonia Churchill, seventh in the team standings, took two titles.

Junior Mike Carter (145) won 31st straight match without a loss when he decisioned Dan Scappaticci of Northville, 10-4.

"Mike really manhandled people in this meet, he's done it all year," Churchill coach Marty Altounian said. "He's been dominant in the area. Every time there is a big match, he comes up big."

Senior Brandon LaPointe (152) beat Mark Ostach of Farmington to run his season mark to 32-5.

Steve Vasiloff (119) added a third to go 25-11 on the year. Steve Lenhardt (103) finished fourth to even his mark at 20-20.

Glenn, ninth in the team standings, was led by 160-pounder Pete Langer, who took first. Teammate Jeff Albrecht

is 22-6, each finished second. The Spartans' Josh Gunterman (112), now 25-10; Mike Radley (171), 17-11; and Eric Puniske (215), 16-9, each finished third.

One of the toughest weight classes was 135 where Central's Scott Aubry handed Northville's Anant Saran his first defeat of the year, a pin in 3:35. Stevenson's Imad Kharbush, the Observerland champ, took fourth. He is 32-11.

Wayne 5th in Mega-White

Dearborn Edsel Ford scored 171 points Saturday to win the Mega Conference-White Division meet at Wayne Memorial.

Rounding out the field was Ypsilanti (141), Dearborn Fordson (118), Dearborn (108), Wayne (105), Allen Park, Garden City and Melvindale.

Wayne junior Jon Gregg raised his record to 27-4 by winning the 119-pound class.

The Zebras also had a pair of runner-ups.

Senior Nate Wensko, who lost in overtime 8-6, finished second at 135. He is 29-6. Senior Mike Kassabri (112) lost by injury default in the finals after severely turning his ankle. Kassabri, 24-3, is doubtful for this weekend's individual district.

Junior heavyweight Mike Shaw added a third, while senior Kurt Spann (160) and freshman Bryan Marsh (125) each finished fourth.

co. next from C1

Japan, Sunday after next
Grand finale at 1:30 p.m.
Omnium-DCC from Arden
Way to the consolidation
fund.

Tom Buddenberg of CC
added a fourth place.

Now, the districts

CC will likely battle
Livonia Stevenson in a
Division I team district
today, which makes sense,
but the site doesn't. The
two Observerland powers
will meet at Temperance-
Bedford, which isn't even
in the same district.

Stevenson will be favored
against Southfield in the
first match and the Shamrocks,
who received a bye, will battle
the winner.

"I already detest having
to drive an hour,"
Rodriguez said, not understanding
how the state picks district sites. "But
we're going down to wrestle. It'll be a knock-down,
drag-out affair."

Rodriguez said the lower
weights are key against
Stevenson, starting with
O'Hara, who will battle
Stevenson standout Joe
Moreau.

"We've got to stop them
at the lightweights, somewhere," Rodriguez said.

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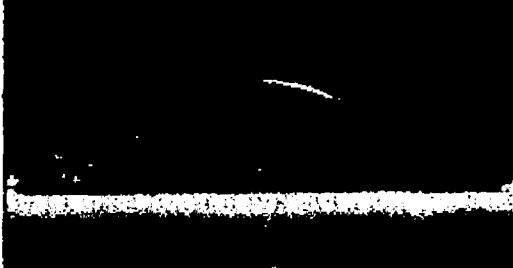
Observer & Eccentric

FRIDAY



Soloist Elizabeth Beeler joins the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, and the Madrigal Chorale of Southfield, for a pops concert featuring music from Broadway, 8:30 p.m. at Orchestra Hall, (313) 576-5111.

SATURDAY



See some of the hottest hot rods and wildest custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles of the past and present 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. at Autorama at Cobo Center. Tickets \$12 at the gate, children under 12, \$5.

SUNDAY



The Longhorn World Championship Rodeo comes to The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 p.m. Tickets \$18, \$14 and \$12, call (248) 645-6666.

HOT



Dance Theatre of Harlem company members worked with students at Plymouth Salem High School as part of its outreach program. Dance Theatre of Harlem performs at Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts through Sunday, Feb. 21. Tickets are \$41.50, \$36.50 and \$31.50. Call (313) 963-2366 for information.

CIRQUE INGENIEUX raises spectacle to art

Avant-garde circus at Music Hall bound for Broadway

BY FRANK PROVENZANO
STAFF WRITER
fprovenzano@oe.homecomm.net

Years after he left Broadway as a young scenic designer because the competition was too cutthroat, Neil Goldberg will make his return to Gotham City this fall.

In between leaving and returning to Broadway, Goldberg established himself as one of the industry's most sought-after big-event producers with a couple of Super Bowls and Miss America Pageants to his credit, not to mention a few thousand corporate shows.

But in the early 1990s, fed up with what he called "Band-Aid productions" and "safe" corporate shows, Goldberg ran off and joined the circus.

Actually, he created a circus, "Cirque Ingenieux," to be performed Tuesday-Sunday at the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts.

The avant-garde circus is partly an old-fashioned P.T. Barnum extravaganza, and partly European existential dream. A mix of outrageousness and a bizarre, voyeuristic intimacy.

For those who've watched "Cirque Ingenieux" on PBS, there's really only one word that sums up the troupe of contortionists, acrobats, aerialists and illusionists — spectacle.

Story of the circus

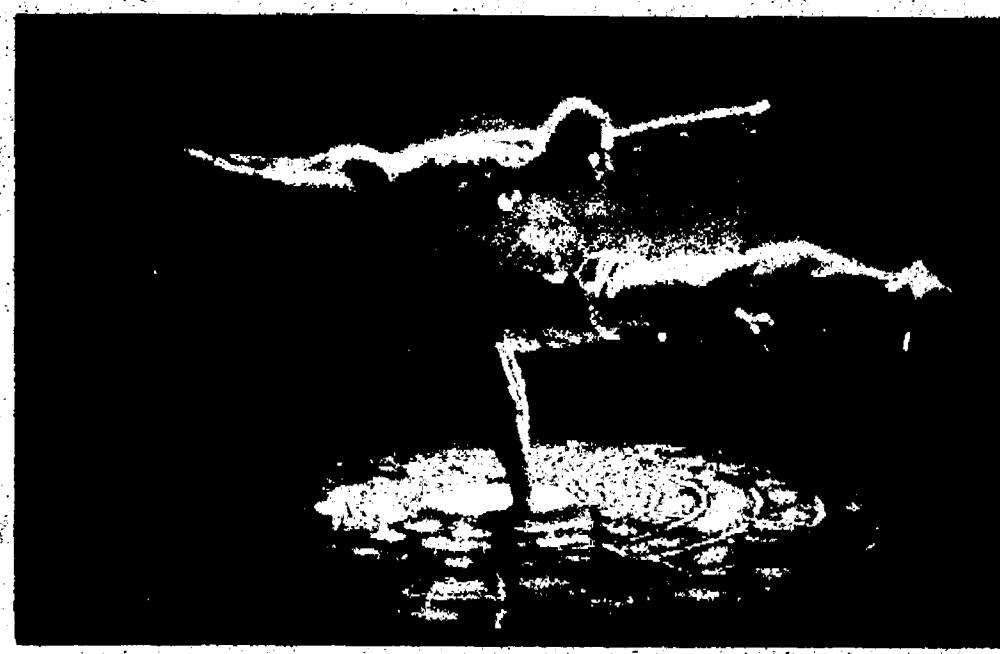
In the European tradition, Cirque Ingenieux relies on a single-ring circus in an intimate setting, not a three-ring circus set amid a canyon.

Unlike the mawkishness of a Disney production, Cirque rushes headlong into a wildly imaginative, and, at times, frightening universe.

The peculiar spectacle follows the story of Sarah, a young girl who becomes enthralled by the circus performers.

Please see CIRCUS, E2

WHAT: Cirque Ingenieux
WHERE: Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Avenue, Detroit
WHEN: Tuesday, Feb. 23-Sunday, Feb. 28
PERFORMANCE TIMES: 7:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday; 8 p.m. Friday; 1 p.m., 4:30 p.m. & 8 p.m. Saturday, 1 p.m. Sunday
TICKETS: \$25-\$38.50, call (248) 645-6666 to charge tickets, or (313) 983-6611 for more information.



Held up: (Top photo) Circus-like athleticism offers a blend of gymnastics and body sculpture. (Photo above) Cirque Ingenieux offers a contorted view of aesthetic defiance.

POPULAR MUSIC

Black Crowes hold up release

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
[cnuoco@oe.homecomm.net](mailto:cfuoco@oe.homecomm.net)

Steve Gorman, drummer for The Black Crowes, knew that as soon as he and his bandmates wrapped up work on their fifth album, "By Your Side," they would regrettably write a great song.

"In the past when you make a record

WHO: The Black Crowes, and special guest Moke
WHEN: 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19
WHERE: State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit
TICKETS: \$24.50, are available at all Ticketmaster outlets for the all-ages show. For more information, call (313) 961-5451 or visit <http://www.961melt.com>.

and you finish it and you turn it in, the next song is always great. But it's too late and by the time you're ready to make a new record, you've written a bunch more," he said.

And it happened again. But this time, The Black Crowes had the clout to put the brakes on the September release of "Stand By Me" (American/Columbia).

After turning in the album to the record company, The Black Crowes headed out on a summertime club tour which inspired the rollicking "Go Tell the Congregation," and the lazy, New Orleans-inspired "Diamond Ring."

When the two songs surfaced, the band decided to return to the studio and revamp the album.

"We were in no hurry to put the

Please see RELEASE, E2



Shake your moneymaker: Black Crowes — from left, keyboardist Eddie Harsch of Detroit, drummer Steve Gorman, singer Chris Robinson, guitarist Audley Freed, guitarist/vocalist Rich Robinson, and bassist Sven Pipien.

★ Page 1, Section E

Thursday, February 18, 1999



Wartime drama: Sergeant Horvath (Tom Sizemore), Corporal Upham (Jeremy Davies), Private Jackson (Barry Pepper) and Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks, right) are pinned down by an enemy sniper as they try to help a terrified little girl in a scene from "Saving Private Ryan."

W.W. II, 1500s vie for Oscar

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgalagher@oe.homecomm.net

World War II and Elizabethan England dominate this year's Oscar competition.

Three Best Picture nominated films — "Saving Private Ryan," "Life is Beautiful" and "The Thin Red Line" — examine the devastating effect of the war on soldiers and ordinary people. "Shakespeare In Love" and "Elizabeth" are, respectively, a costume comedy and a costume drama featuring the old and young Queen Bess.

It's hard to read any deep meaning into this other than coincidence. The biggest surprise and disappointment is that "The Truman Show" failed to win a Best Picture nomination, though director Peter Weir was nominated. The nominating process — in which everyone nominates in the Best Picture category while other nominations are made by those in the particular craft — makes these contradictions inevitable. "The Truman Show" might have offended the Hollywood crowd with its critique of media manipulation, or they might just be tired of the movie's star, perennial adolescent Jim Carrey, who didn't receive a Best Actor Nomination.

I would have easily eliminated "Elizabeth," an entertaining but not spectacular political drama, in favor of "The Truman Show."

Carrey also deserved a nomination for reaching beyond his usual clown persona. The nominated actors — Tom Hanks for "Saving Private Ryan," Ian McKellen for "Gods and Monsters," Roberto Benigni for "Life is Beautiful," Edward Norton for "American History X" and Nick Nolte for "Affliction" — are an outstanding group. Benigni's warm, Chaplinesque performance shows that he also can occasionally rein in a wild comic spirit.

Tom Hanks proves again his versatility and his talent for creating believable characters with small telling gestures. McKellen's performance as director James Whale has been sharing critics' honors with my personal choice for best actor, Nick Nolte. Nolte's performance in "Affliction" is raw, honest and complex and a cap to many years of fine performances.

Best actress

In the best actress category, the critics have chosen Fernanda Montenegro for her performance in the Brazilian film "Central Station." She is also my choice for playing a part that could have plunged into sentimentality at any moment. She keeps it totally honest as a retired teacher who helps a little boy find his family. Cate Blanchett is also excellent as a headstrong and incisive young Queen Elizabeth and

Please see OSCAR, E2

Circus from page E1

Returning to the empty tent after the performance, Sarah's world is transformed magically as a ride on the trapeze takes her into an Kafkaesque "Alice in Wonderland" meets "Wizard of Oz" with odd characters straight from the "Jerry Springer Show."

It's an extravagantly strange place of an Enchantress and

whacky tailors that has struck a chord with American audiences.

Often, Cirque performances are sell-outs. The attention and ticket sales during their second season of a national tour apparently persuaded investors that the ultimate prize might be under the Broadway big-top.

"In eastern Europe, especially Russia, the circus is like football to New Yorkers," said Goldberg.

"When Americans are confronted with what we don't know, we become more captivated."

Contrary to Broadway

For a fraction of the \$11-million budget of "Phantom of the Opera," Cirque has the logistical-puzzle appearance of a Broadway show, said Goldberg.

But any avant-garde production, let alone a circus, isn't considered typical fare these days on Broadway, where revivals and big-budget shows are the

norm.

Contrary to the ways of Broadway, there's nothing conventional or "safe" with Goldberg's latest production.

"They couldn't pay me enough to do 'Grease' again," said Goldberg from his Los Angeles office.

"My dream has always been to

work on Broadway in original productions," he said. "The aura of live theater is so appealing to me."

Years after running off with the circus, Goldberg and investors are betting that Broadway might be finally ready for the ultimate contortionist act.

Oscar from page E1

Gwyneth Paltrow again deftly handles a comic part in "Shakespeare in Love." The other nominees are Meryl Streep in "One True Thing" and Emily Watson "Hilary and Jackie."

Queen Elizabeth is also represented in the best supporting actress category with Judi Dench, who plays the queen as an amusing old lady in "Shakespeare in Love." My choice here is Kathy Bates' abrasive, emotional, riveting performance as a

political operative in "Primary Colors" (a movie that has been sadly undervalued because of its tie to real events). The other nominees are Rachel Griffiths for "Hilary and Jackie," Lynn Redgrave for "Gods and Monsters" and Brenda Blethyn for "Little Voice."

Bill Murray got robbed of a best supporting actor nomination for "Rushmore." The critics have been more perceptive than Hollywood. But my personal

choice for the award did get nominated — Robert Duvall once again proves that he is one of the finest and most subtle of actors in his work as an old shoe lawyer in "A Civil Action." It is also nice to see veteran James Coburn finally get recognition for his tough, nasty performance in "Affliction." The other nominees are Ed Harris in "The Truman Show," Geoffrey Rush in "Shakespeare in Love" and Billy Bob Thornton in "A Simple

Plan."

Oscars rarely get passed out simply for artistic merit. Industry politics, national politics, sentimentality, Hollywood's inferiority complex and many other elements go into who gets these highly coveted but totally quirky awards.

When the nominations were announced, most observers were surprised by the absence of "The Truman Show" and the number of nominations for "Shakespeare

in Love."

My choice for best picture is the movie that the Eastern critics are enjoying having seconds thoughts about and sneering at as "too conventional." There is a lot that is conventional about "Saving Private Ryan," but there is also a brutality, a sweep and an emotional power that is not at all conventional. Needless to say I also think Steven Spielberg should get his second Oscar.

"Shakespeare In Love" and "Life Is Beautiful" are also favorites for best film. The first has a wonderfully witty script, fine ensemble acting and high production values. Benigni's "Life Is Beautiful" does the seemingly impossible by showing how humor triumphs over evil.

On Sunday, March 21, we'll find out how Hollywood voted.

See our Oscar contest ballot on page E6 to cast your vote.

Release from page E1

record out. We were with a new label and we were like, 'Let's just hang on a second.' If these are as good as we think they are, we owe it to the record to go record them and see what we think."

On "Diamond Ring," Robinson's vocals are striking. He growls through "You're the reason I want to sing/You make me feel like a king/I love the sun-shine that you bring/I want to buy you a diamond ring."

"Stand By Me" was then moved to November, but to avoid getting lost in the avalanche of Christmas releases, the band opted to move it to January.

Stripped down

The Black Crowes wanted "By Your Side" to sound warm, not like a slick and shiny overproduced album.

duced album. So, according to Gorman, the band headed in the studio with "a bunch of guitars, a bunch of drums, a bunch of vocals" and just threw down.

The studio work was the easy part. The Black Crowes worked out all the kinks in pre-production, picking apart the 20 songs "like crazy," Gorman explained.

"We were very, very focused. We'd take each song, play it 50 times and pay attention to what every single person's playing so that when you come out of there, you go into the studio and just roll tape. The song is already very, very familiar. It was really easy to do."

Many of the songs that made it on the album, were first, second or third take.

The Black Crowes went through a lineup change before heading into the studio. The

core members of guitarist Rich Robinson, singer Chris Robinson, drummer Gorman, and keyboardist Eddie Harsh remained. Guitarist Marc Ford and bassist Johnny Colt were out; bassist Sven Pipien, a long-time friend of the band, was in.

"We've known Sven forever. The first band I was ever in, Sven was my bass player. We'd always say we should play together and so when it finally happened, I didn't think it would be in The Black Crowes."

Straight-rocking guitars aside, the key to The Black

Crowes' sound is Harsh, a 12-year Detroit resident, who joined the band in January 1991.

"He's very much a Detroiter," he said. The band met Harsh through musician Chuck Leavell, who played with the Black Crowes for one show in December 1990.

"Chuck drove up to play with us live to make it special and different. It was just great to have organ and piano live. Chuck said he knew Ed and said he'd be perfect. He had worked with a bunch of blues

guys out of Chicago. Two weeks later when we were going back out in 1991, we took him with us."

"We rehearsed two songs and said just figure the rest out. It was great at first. Ed was a lot more experienced than we were. We were still in our first year of touring and he had played with James Cotton and Albert Collins. He had all these different experiences. He raised the bar. He's a phenomenal musician. We said we've got to keep up with this guy now," Gorman added.

Harsh, Gorman said, is full of stories.

"He's a little older than us. He's the weird uncle. He played with everybody. He's one of those people where his life story is going to be phenomenal."

If not the life story, maybe the

VH1 "Behind the Music" special about The Black Crowes which airs this spring.

"It'll be good. There's so much stuff that we've done. There's a lot of unreleased stuff. For about three years we didn't really talk about anything. We really weren't trying to maintain a profile. There'll be some live footage. That'll be good for die-hard fans."

As for the fans, it's up to them to decide how "Stand By Me" compares to previous works by The Black Crowes.

"All of our albums are very honest records. It's consistent in that regard. Ten years from now, it won't be the new album, it'll just be the fifth one. We don't compete with our old albums, ever. We're always looking ahead. That's for fans to figure out."

Song for Rosa Parks gains Grammy attention

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO
STAFF WRITER
cfuoco@eo.homecomm.net

Eschewing the rap trend of recording new lyrics over old songs, Outkast's Big Boi and Dre knew they had something special while creating their latest album "Aquemini" (LaFace).

So much so that they penned a song about it, "Rosa Parks," likening their quest for revamping hip-hop to the civil rights heroine's life-changing bus ride.

"The lyrics, it's like, we back in the saddle again. There was a lot of things going on in music, the uncreativity and people just doing the same thing over and over again," Big Boi said.

"The whole thing was like Rosa Parks. She refused to go to the back of the bus and made a change for everything, the whole civil rights movement. We refuse to do what everybody else was doing. For 1998-1999, we Rosa Parks. We go against the grain like we always do."

Apparently Outkast's peers thought it stood out as well. The track "Rosa Parks" earned Outkast its first Grammy nomination. The Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group category pits "Rosa Parks" against "Intergalactic" by the Beastie Boys, "Money Ain't A Thang" by Jermaine Dupri and Jay-Z, "Deja Vu" by Lord Tariq and Peter Gunz, and "Ghetto Supastar" by Pras Michel, Ol' Dirty Bastard and Mya.

"That's good. For one thing it's our first time being nominated. Second, there's a broader audience who (watches) the Grammys. It's a good feeling," said Big Boi.

Musician, specifically a DJ, while staying true to who you are," he said.

Aquemini" is Outkast's third album, all of which hit platinum status. Big Boi and Dre produced nine of the 14 tracks on the album.

"It's all about growing," he said. "We started producing on the second album and felt like people appreciated what we were doing so we had to crank it up on this one."

Outkast brought a few friends into the studio with them — Erykah Badu, George Clinton, Raekwon from WuTang Clan, and Goodie Mob.

Big Boi is the instrumentalist of the group while Dre writes the lyrics. Their musical bond is so strong that for the title of the album, they blended their two zodiac signs, Aquarius and Gemini, into one word, "Aquemini."

"Balance is key — Balance in the music and balance with me and Dre. I'm more street, hardcore hip-hop and Dre's more extraterrestrial." But while they're in the studio, they work as a team.

"If we're in the studio — he has a pre-production studio in his home and I have one in my home — I'll call him and say, 'Yo, I got this beat,' and he'll say, 'Yo, yo I think this might be dope for it.'

The twosome took their phone conversations into the studio and peppered it with live musicians.

"It's way more creative than doing just the average thing, taking an old song and putting new lyrics on it. Our whole philosophy is you have to recreate yourself and turn into something else."

Musician, specifically a DJ, while staying true to who you are," he said.

Outkast opens for Lauryn Hill at 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at the Fox Theatre, 2111 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets are \$38.50 and \$46 for the all-ages show.

For more information, call (248) 433-1515. Outkast's Web site is <http://www.outkast.com>.

Olympic Entertainment is hosting a Lauryn Hill After Party from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, at The Second City, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Tickets are \$20, or \$15 at the door with a ticket stub. For more information, call Second City at (313) 966-2222 or WDTJ-FM at (313) 871-0590.

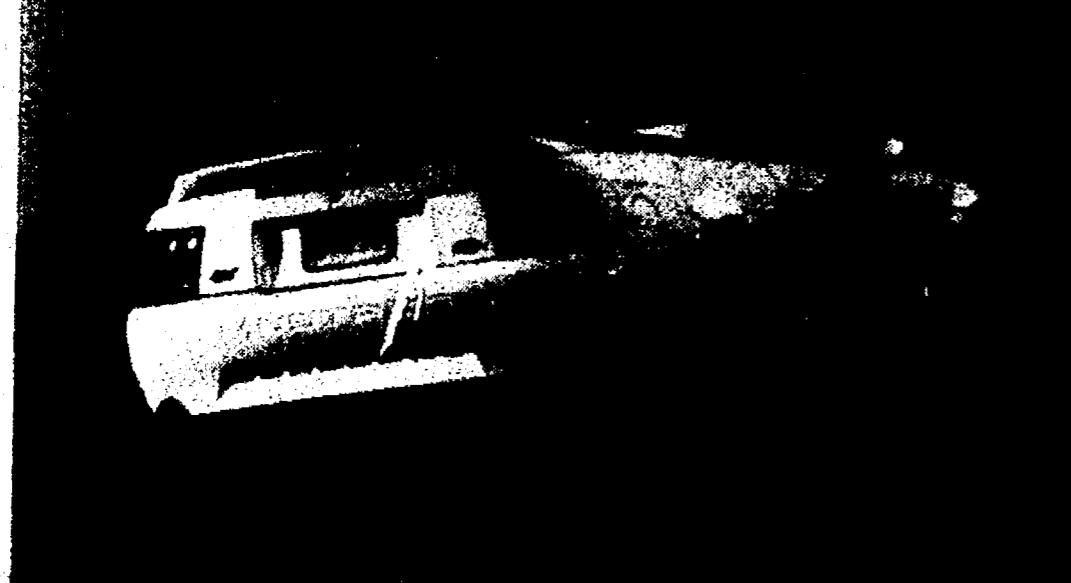
Silent film series features Chaplin comedy

Stagecrafters Silent Film and Organ Concert Series concludes Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 20-21 at the historic Baldwin Theatre in Royal Oak with Charlie Chaplin's classic comedy, "The Gold Rush."

Organist Lance Luce will accompany the film with an orig-

inal score. The theater is at 415 S. Lafayette. Tickets are \$8, reserved, call (248) 541-6430. Performances are 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20 and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21. The ticket office is open 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Fridays.

"The Gold Rush," being shown in honor of the 106th anniversary of Charlie Chaplin's birth, contains beautiful and pathetic moments of pantomime, satire, drama and tenderness. In 1925, "The Gold Rush" was on the New York Times "Top 10 Film List."



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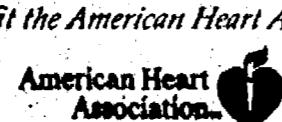
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Comic has opinions about everything

Lewis Black performs at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle, 269 E. Fourth St., Royal Oak, Thursday-Sunday, Feb. 18-21. Performances 8:30 p.m. Thursday, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets \$6. Thursday & Sunday, \$12. Friday-Saturday, call (248) 542-9900 for reservations. Steve Bills is also appearing.

BY KEELY WYGNONIC
STAFF WRITER
kwygonic@oe.homecomm.net

Sleet and snow, ice and rain, Lewis Black has weathered lots of storms along his route. He's not the postman, but a comedian who found his audience by tuning in the weather channel. "My breakthrough came when I started talking about the weather," said Black, now appearing at Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle in Royal Oak. "The weather is one of the things we can't control. We get bad infor-

mation all the time from the weather guy."

You know, they say it's going to be sunny, and you leave for work without your umbrella only to get caught in the rain.

"Every city has something people complain about.

In Detroit you had a major problem with snow removal. There's always something going on. It's not difficult to find out. I say what everyone thinks but is afraid to say."

He's been called "America's Foremost Commentator on Everything," and is a regular on the "Conan O'Brien Show," and commentator on "The Daily Show."



Lewis

When Black isn't making people laugh, he's busy writing plays, and spends his summers at the Williamston Theatre Festival in Williamston, Mass., acting and teaching.

A graduate of the Yale School of Drama, Black got involved in comedy because it allowed him to do all the things he wanted to do — write plays and act.

"Stand-up is a combination of play writing and acting," he said. "You get a play produced every 140 years. Comedy is a way to keep busy. It became the way I got in."

Getting in means appearing in such films as "Hannah and Her Sisters," "Jacob's Ladder," "The Hard Way," and "The Night We Never Met."

An author of over 40 plays, Black's works have been produced in theaters across the country.

You might have caught a glimpse of him on TV. He has guest starred on "Homicide" and

"Mad About You."

"Once you perform in Toledo to a group of drunks, going to auditions seemed easier," he said explaining how he went from drama to comedy.

Describing his stand-up comedy routine, Black said "it's edgy, the language is harsh, but I don't think it's offensive," he said. "I still love doing it. I'm still growing."

Although he's got a regular TV gig, Black believes it's important to hit the road and perform before a live audience. "I love Jay Leno," he said. "He's working 300 nights a year, but spends 65 days in front of a live audience. There's nothing that beats it, I love a live audience."

He's working on a TV pilot for a sitcom, and continues to write plays. "I'm very lucky to be on the Daily Show," he said. "If people haven't seen it it's well worth their time. I also did a special for Comedy Central. It will air sometime in February."

Colorful characters

Wayne State University's Hilberry Theatre presents the Moss Hart comedy, "Light Up The Sky," in rotating repertory through April 1. Performances 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday with selected 2 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday matinees. The theater is at Cass and Hancock on the WSU campus. Tickets \$10-\$17, call (313) 577-2972 for ticket information.

BY SUE SUCHYTA
SPECIAL WRITER

The Hilberry's production of Moss Hart's "Light Up The Sky" is overflowing with colorful characters who, unfortunately, don't have much of a storyline with which to work. While the Hilberry company did a marvelous job bringing the bigger-than-life characters to the stage, they didn't have much of a plot to entertain the audience with during

the long three-act play.

Set in the 1950s, "Light Up The Sky" gives a fly-on-the-wall glimpse of a production company before their show opens, immediately after the curtain falls, and at 3 a.m. when the reviews hit the newsstands. The stage is filled with neurotic and egotistical, but ultimately likable characters, in a pre-Prozac era who rely on martinis and wit to survive the verbal volleyball.

Gavin Lewis plays Carleton Fitzgerald, a self-absorbed, and laughably intense director whose whims are catered to by a coterie of underlings. His poses alone evoke guffaws as he postulates about his art and the fickleness of the world.

Sara Catheryn Wolf is deliciously cagey as the tough as nails stage mother, Stella Livingston, a Mamie Eisenhower look-alike with a mean streak.

'Light Up The Sky'

Her daughter Irene, the show's ingenue, is portrayed by blonde and leggy Heidi Olson. While Olson captured the vocal confidence of the character, her stage presence and body language did not project the same ease and self-esteem.

Orestes Arcuni is refreshingly exuberant as the naive young playwright Peter Sloan who wears his heart on his sleeve and whose self-worth rises and falls with the characters' carelessness critiques of his play.

The financial bakers, Frances and Sidney Black, portrayed by Tanisha Gonzalez and Lucas Caleb Rooney, a gregarious team, keep things lively with their noveau rich intimations about the lucky acquisition of their wealth.

Gonzalez and Wolf have some funny repartee with their ongoing gin games and clever obser-

vations and retorts. Perky and precise, they do what they can to shore up an otherwise slow storyline. The Shriners provided some bawdy relief, especially Mike Schraeder's charmingly brash cameo.

David Engelman as Owen Turner, an outside observer and veteran playwright, oversees the action with relaxed, practiced air and a smooth likability. His humorous explanations of theater madness to the newer members of the production company help the audience capture some of the humor of the situation's drama-directed jokes.

Mary Leyendecker's costumes were elegant and sublime, right down to the perfectly perched ladies hats, a tribute to a bygone fashion era. Larry Kaushansky's filmy drapes, soaring columns, and sparkling chandeliers, created a splendid setting.

While visiting the Detroit area, the quartet will hold a full-day residency at Wayne State University and Cranbrook Educational Community.

The ensemble's visit will conclude this weekend with two concerts at the Cranbrook Art Museum.

Both concerts will have the same program: Beethoven's Quartet in G Major, Opus 18, Number 2; Ives' String Quartet Number 2; Brahms' Quartet in A Minor, Opus 51, Number 2.

'Rushmore' gets to the heart of being young

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

Max Fischer is an unusual kid — he loves his school.

He's the president of the French Club, the Beekeepers Club, the Chorale, the Debate team, the fencing team, etc. He's even an alternate on the wrestling team. He's the only kid at the private Rushmore Academy who wears his blazer.

He's also flunking out and about to lose his scholarship.

The movie "Rushmore" is a bold, outlandish, endearing bit of American magic realism that offers some rich insights into growing up and growing old.

Director Wes Anderson and co-screenwriter Owen Wilson continue their unique view of American life that began with the

wonderful "Bottle Rocket." Once again their story is bigger than life, hilariously inventive and incisive.

Jason Schwartzman is Max Fischer, a junior-sized Groucho Marx, a budding entrepreneur, a geek with moxie. He wears horn-rimmed glasses. He gawks but he also talks. Does he talk? He spins a line for everyone he meets. He lives large. He writes plays, and stages them with Spielbergian dimensions.

Schwartzman makes an auspicious acting debut as the self-deluding Max, at once admirable and repulsive. Max's problems begin when he falls in love with beautiful and sensitive Miss Cross (Olivia Williams) and gets expelled for launching a project to build her an aquarium on the baseball field.

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Family affair: The Ying Quartet performs Sunday at Cranbrook Art Museum. The quartet is made up of Cellist David Ying, left, violinist Timothy Ying, violinist Janet Ying, and violist Phillip Ying.

Concerts at Cranbrook feature Ying Quartet

The Chamber Music Society of Detroit presents the Ying Quartet 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20 and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21 at the Albert and Peggy DeSalle Auditorium, Cranbrook Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills. Call (248) 737-9980 for ticket information. The program includes Beethoven's Quartet in G Major, Opus 18, Number 2; Ives' String Quartet Number 2; Brahms' Quartet in A Minor, Opus 51, Number 2.

BY JILL HOCKMAN
STAFF WRITER

The string musicians who make up the Ying Quartet share more than a membership in what's been dubbed one of the best young ensembles on the American music scene.

The group's sibling members — Timothy, Janet, Philip and David Ying — are also part of the faculty at the University of Rochester's Eastman School of Music in New York. They will perform this weekend at the Cranbrook Art Museum in Bloomfield Hills.

The Yings formed the quartet in 1988 while studying at the Eastman School. The group went

on to win the International Cleveland Quartet Competition the following year, and made its New York debut at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall in 1991.

The quartet started touring professionally in 1992, and won the Naumburg Chamber Music Award in 1993.

The quartet has performed throughout the world. In addition to North American appearances, their touring schedule has included Europe, Asia and Australia. For two years, they participated in the Rural Residency Initiative, serving as resident ensemble in Jesup, Iowa, a farming community of 2,000.

While visiting the Detroit area, the quartet will hold a full-day residency at Wayne State University and Cranbrook Educational Community.

The ensemble's visit will conclude this weekend with two concerts at the Cranbrook Art Museum. Both concerts will have the same program: Beethoven's Quartet in G Major, Opus 18, Number 2; Ives' String Quartet Number 2; and Brahms' Quartet in A Minor, Opus 51, Number 2.

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Upcoming Event: "A Gift of Glory" March 10 - April 4

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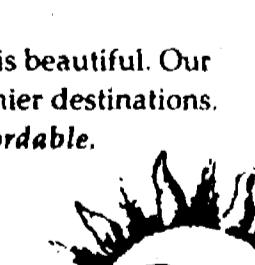
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THEATER

DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE
"Camp Logan," Celeste Bedford Walker's play about the Houston riot and court martial of 1917, through Sunday, March 21, 8:30 p.m.

Thursdays-Saturdays, 3 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 13103 Woodrow Wilson, Detroit. \$15. (313) 868-1347

FISHER THEATRE

"Rob Becker's Defending the Caveman," through Sunday, Feb. 21, at the theater, in the Fisher Building, Detroit. 8 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Sundays. \$34.50, \$38.50 and \$44.50. (248) 645-6666/(313) 872-1000

JEWISH ENSEMBLE THEATRE

"Never the Sinner," John Logan's dramatization of the Leopold and Loeb story of the 1924 thrill killing of 14-year-old Bobby Franks, through March 7, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday-Thursday and Sunday, 8 p.m. Saturday, and 2 p.m. Sunday, at the Aaron DeRoy Theatre, lower level of the Jewish Community Center, 6600 W. Maple Road at Drake, West Bloomfield. Community forums follow Thursday evening and Sunday matinee performances. Featured speakers include Mort Crim, George Canton, and Clementine Barfield of So Sad. Call for details. \$13-\$23, discounts for seniors/students. (248) 788-2900

MEADOW BROOK THEATRE

"Scotland Road," Jeffrey Hatcher's thriller about a woman found floating in the Atlantic in 1998 claiming to be a Titanic survivor, through March 7, at the theater on the campus of Oakland University in Rochester. (248) 377-3300

PLANET ANT THEATRE

"Garage," a hilarious musical comedy written by and starring Detroit Second City mainstage alumni Joshua Funk and Nancy Hayden, chronicles three decades in the life of an ill-fated band formed in the 1970s in a Hamtramck garage, continues through February, 8 p.m. and midnight Thursdays, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturday, and 7 p.m. Sundays, at the theater, 2357 Caniff, Hamtramck. \$10. (313) 365-4948 or <http://www.planetant.com>

COLLEGE**EMU THEATRE**

The Greek tragedy "Oedipus the King," 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 18-20, and 2:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, in the Quirk Theatre on the Eastern Michigan University campus, Ypsilanti. \$12 evenings, \$7 Thursday, \$10 Sunday, \$2 discount for tickets purchased more than 30 minutes in advance. (734) 487-1221

WSU HILBERRY THEATRE

Charles Dickens' classic "A Tale of Two Cities," runs in rotating repertory to March 4, Moss Hart's riotous comedy "Light Up the Sky" continues in rotating repertory to April 1, at the theater, 4743 Cass Ave., Detroit. \$10-\$17. (313) 577-2972

WSU STUDIO THEATRE

Athol Fugard's "The Road to Mecca," a compelling tale of human individuality in a conformist society, set in a small village in Africa in 1974 and based on a real-life South African artist, opens Feb. 25, 8 p.m. Thursdays-Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays through March 7 at the theater downstairs from the Hilberry, 4743 Cass Avenue at Hancock, Detroit. \$6.8. (313) 577-2972

COMMUNITY THEATER**COMIC OPERA GUILD**

"Kismet," a musical Arabian Nights, 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 25-27, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Lydia Mendelsohn Theatre, Ann Arbor. \$16, \$13 seniors, \$7 students. (734) 973-3264

FARMINGTON PLAYERS

"The Fantasticks" by Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt, 8 p.m. Fridays-Saturdays, Feb. 19-20 and Feb. 26-27, In the Players Barn, 32332 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. \$14. (248) 553-2955

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD

"The Sound of Music," 8 p.m. Fridays-Sundays, Feb. 19-21, Feb. 26-28, and Friday-Saturday, March 5-6, and 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, Water Tower Theatre on the campus of Northville Psychiatric Hospital, 41001 W. Seven Mile Road, Northville. \$11 in advance at The Penniman Deli, 820 Penniman St., Plymouth, Galleriewoods, 202 W. Main St., Northville, and Evola Music, 7170 Haggerty Road North, Canton; \$12 at the door. Discounts for groups of 15 or more. (248) 349-7110

P.T.D. PRODUCTIONS

"The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," John Bishop's mystery/comedy, 8 p.m. Feb. 18-20, at the Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron St., Ypsilanti. \$12, \$9 seniors/students. (734) 483-7345

TINERBOX PRODUCTIONS

"Into the Woods," by Stephen Sondheim, an adult production suitable for families, 8 p.m. Saturdays, March 6 and 13 and Friday, March 12, and 2 p.m. Sunday, March 7, at the Cathedral Theatre in Masonic Temple, 500 Temple Avenue, Detroit. \$12 at the door, \$10 advance. (313) 636-8962

WAYNE STAGE IV ADULT COMMUNITY THEATRE

"The Curious Savage," a comedy by John Patrick, 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20, at the State Wayne Stage IV Theatre, on Michigan Avenue,



World-class company: Dance Theatre of Harlem performs through Sunday, Feb. 21 at Music Hall, 350 Madison Avenue, Detroit.
Program A — "Alle-gro Brillante" by George Balanchine, "Le Corsaire" by Marius Petipa, "The Joplin Dances" by Robert Garland, and "Firebird" by Jon Taras will be presented 8 p.m. Thursday and 3 p.m. Sunday. Program B — "Bugaku" by George Balanchine, "South African Suite" by Arthur Mitchell, and Levine Naidu, and "Sasanka" by Vincent Mantsoe will be presented 8 p.m. Friday, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Saturday. Tickets \$41.50, \$36.50 and \$31.50, call (313) 963-2366 or (248) 645-6666.

YOUTH PRODUCTION S**DETROIT PUPPET THEATER**

PuppetART presents "The Firebird" from an old Russian folk tale, noon and 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the theater, 26 E. Grand River, between Woodward Avenue and Farmer, Detroit. \$6.50, \$5 children, \$20 families of two adults/two children. Also workshops following 2 p.m. Saturday performance. (313) 961-7777/(248) 557-8599

WILD SWAN THEATRE

"The Firebird," 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, and 2 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 20-21, at Washtenaw Community College's Towle Theater. \$8, \$6 children. (734) 763-TKTS/(734) 995-0530

SPECIAL EVENTS**BIG KMART AUTORAMA**

Featuring 800 exhibits of hot rods and custom cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles, 4-11 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, Cobo Hall, Detroit. \$10 in advance, \$4 for children ages 12 and younger; \$12 at the door, \$5 at the door for children ages 12 and younger. (800) 866-0086 or <http://www.kmart.com>

BOAT, SPORT & FISHING SHOW

3:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20 and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, at the Silverdome, Pontiac. \$6.50, \$3 children ages 6-14. (616) 530-1919

CAMPER & RV SHOW

Through Feb. 21, 2-9 p.m. weekdays, noon to 9 p.m. Saturdays, and noon to 6 p.m. Sundays, at the Novi Expo Center, 43700 Expo Center Dr., Novi. \$6.50. (517) 349-8881

R.B. DEMPSTER & FRIENDS

Original, jazz and classical music, 7:10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, at the Coffee Beader, Birmingham. (248) 646-6022

"DIVAS EXOTICA"

Capitol Records' search for America's ultimate drag queen, hosted by Drag Queen Amanda Collins, the final round at 9 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, Menjo's, 928 W. McNichols, Detroit. Cover charge, \$21 and older. (313) 863-3934

DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY TAMBU

A concert by the musicians, dancers and vocalists portraying the cultures of Easter Europe, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at Lakeview High School Auditorium, 21100 Eleven Mile, St. Clair Shores. \$18, \$15. (248) 845-8866

E'S RECORD AND CD MUSIC

COLLECTIBLES EXPO

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, Elks Hall, I-75 and 11 Mile Road, Royal Oak. \$3. (248) 546-4527

"FUN & FINE DHMNG"

The Farmington Single Professionals meet 5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25 at Sweet Lorraine's, 29101 Greenfield Rd., north of 12 Mile, Southfield. (248) 851-9909 or visit the web site at <http://www.palaceonet.com>

THE MUSIC LADY

Presents a unique and exciting blend of music and songs combining charming arrangements of old favorites on her guitar, she brings her dog puppet Zamboni and all the rhythm instruments she can find, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Wayne. \$10, \$5 seniors/students. (734) 721-7400

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

"Northville's Connection on the Underground Railroad" presented by Julie Fountain and her guitar, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Northville District Library, 212 W. Cadiz Street, south of Main Street, west of Center (Sheldon) Street. Free. (248) 349-3020

"THE 1798 UPRISING"

Mike Kerwin, president of the Gaelic League and the Detroit organizer for the Irish American Labour Coalition, discusses the uprising, Detroit's upcoming tricentennial celebration and the role of Detroit's Irish community, 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Gaelic League/Irish-American Club, 2068 Michigan Ave., west of Tiger Stadium. Free. (248) 879-9352/(248) 478-8496

WORLD AFFAIRS SEMINAR

"Population in the 21st Century: How Can We Avoid the Potential Crisis?" explores the ramifications of the ever-growing problem of overpopulation as well as some possible solutions, 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 25, at Cranbrook Schools, Lerchen Hall (Performing Arts Center), 550 Lone Pine Road, between Lahser and Cranbrook road, Bloomfield Hills. Free. (248) 645-3064/(248) 645-3142

FAMILY EVENTS**CIRQUE INGENIEUX**

Tuesday-Sunday, Feb. 23-28, Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, 350 Madison Ave., Detroit. Tickets at

TICKETMASTER

All ages. (248) 645-6666

EVENING VOYAGES: TUNES AND TALES

Family program featuring traditional storytelling with story to celebrate African-American History Month by Dorothy Baker, geared for listeners age 6 to adult, younger listeners not admitted, 7:45 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22, in the multi-purpose room at the Ann Arbor Main Library, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. (734) 327-8301

KIDS KONCERT

Folklorist Safiya Tsekani performs music, songs, dances and stories from West African and African-American folklore, 1:30-2:15 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road, south of 10 Mile. \$3.25. (248) 424-9022

LONGHORN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RODEO

8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, The Palace of Auburn Hills, 2 Championship Dr., Auburn Hills. \$12, \$14, and \$18. Reserved seating \$10 on Feb. 19. Groups of 15 or more receive \$2 off \$14 and \$32 tickets on Feb. 20. Groups of 15 or more receive \$5 off reserved seating on Feb. 21. Children ages 12 and younger, and seniors ages 60 and older receive \$4 off reserved seating Feb. 21. (248) 377-0100 or <http://www.palaceonet.com>

THE MUSIC LADY

Presents a unique and exciting blend of music and songs combining charming arrangements of old favorites on her guitar, she brings her dog puppet Zamboni and all the rhythm instruments she can find, 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Livonia Civic Center Library.

Auditorium, 32777 Five Mile. \$4. (734) 466-2410

WINTER FUN DAYS

Children ages 3 to 6 can attend a variety of games and activities including face painting, Tennis-On-Wheels, skating, and snow sculpting, wildlife tracking, making coconut bird feeders, storytelling and a concert, through Friday, Feb. 19, at the West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation Center and Civic Center, Drake Sports Park and Marshbank Park. Free. (248) 738-2500

BRASS**MOTOR CITY BRASS BAND**

3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, at the Southfield Centre for the Arts, 24350 Southfield Road. \$15, \$10 students/seniors, \$25 families. (248) 424-9022/(248) 616-9725

CLASSICAL**DETROIT SYMPHONY CIVIC ORCHESTRA**

Performs Bernstein's Overture to "Candide," Copland's "Rodeo" and Dvorak's Symphony No. 7, 8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, "Civic Family Hour" highlights small ensembles made of orchestra siblings and musical parents beginning at 7 p.m., at Orchestra Hall, Detroit. \$6. (313) 576-5111

YUKI AND TOMOKO MACK

Pianists, presented by the Greater Orion Performing Arts Council, perform Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue," 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, Lake Orion High School Performing Arts Center, 495 E. Scripps Road, Lake Orion. \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door. (248) 693-5436

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY SYMPHONIC BAND

"Historical Perspectives," a concert of music selection from more than two centuries of repertoire for winds, brass and percussion, 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, in Varner Recital Hall, Oakland University campus, Rochester. \$10. \$8 seniors, \$5 students. (248) 382-0966/(313) 342-1000

PLYMOUTH THEATRE GUILD

Auditions for Frederic Knott's "Wait Until Dark" 7 p.m. Monday-Tuesday, March 8-9, readings will be done from the script, at the Water Tower Theatre, 41001 W. Seven Mile, between Haggerty and Northville roads. For performances May 7-9, 13-16. (248) 669-0436/(734) 525-1206/(248) 349-7110 or visit the web site at www.causeway.com/pltg/

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Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150 or by fax (734) 591-7279

Continued from previous page

Rochester Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 652-0558

KENNY RANKIN

8 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$15. In advance, 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicbag.com>

JOHN SCOFIELD QUARTET

7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$20 in advance. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.99music.com>

STRAIGHT AHEAD TRIO

8 p.m. to midnight Thursday, Feb. 25, Edison's, 220 Merrill St., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 645-2150 (piano/bass/drums)

URSULA WALKER AND BUDDY BUDSON

With Dan Kolton, 9:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Thursdays at Forte, 201 S. Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. 21 and older. (248) 594-7300

WORLD MUSIC

GREGORY ISAACS 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$20 in advance. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700 (reggae)

SALIF KEITA

8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Eastern Michigan University's Pease Auditorium, Ypsilanti. (734) 487-1221 (African jazz/funk/Europop/R&B)

KODO

8 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Feb. 23-25, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. \$26, \$30, \$32 and \$36. (734) 764-2538 or <http://www.ums.org>

LUCIANO

With Mikey General and Dean Fraser, all backed by The Firehouse Crew, 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, The Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$15 in advance. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700 (reggae)

TERRANCE SIMIEN

With Dave Alvin and The Guilty Men, and The Riptones, 8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, Magic Stick in the Majestic, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 in advance. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700 (cajun/Zydeco)

SOLAS

8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$16. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.org> (Irish)

ALISON YOUNG AND ANA CHAVES

Perform music of Argentina, 8-10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Borders Books and Music, 34300 Woodward Ave., Birmingham. Free. All ages. (248) 203-0005

FOLK/BLUEGRASS

JEFF HAAS TRIO 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$10. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.org> (Hebrew folk/jazz)

RFD BOYS

7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$10. \$9 members, students, seniors. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.org> (bluegrass)

POETRY/ SPO-KEN WORD

EUGENE McCARTHY

The 1968 anti-war candidate who ran against President Lyndon Johnson for the Democratic Presidential nomination speaks and reads his poetry following the annual dinner program of Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery, 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, at Central United Methodist Church, 23 E. Adams, Detroit. \$20. Tickets for a limited reception at 5:30 p.m. are \$75, \$125 couple. (313) 964-4849/(313) 393-4060/(313) 963-7575

STORYTELLING WEEKEND

With Roslyn Bresnick-Perry, Namu Lwanga, David Holt, Jerry Fearst and others, 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 26-27, and 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. \$12.50 evenings, \$6 afternoon. All ages. (734) 761-1800 or <http://www.a2ark.org>

THE WRITER'S VOICE

Featuring Dawn McDuffie and Mary Jo Frith Gillett with fiction writer Gay Rubin, read 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, room 3234 of the Wayne State University English Department Building, 51 W. Warren Avenue, Detroit. Free. (313) 577-7713/(313) 267-5300, ext. 338

DANCE

BALLET DAY Presented by the Cecchetti Council of America 9 a.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, in Varner Hall at Oakland University, Rochester. (734) 930-6948

COBBLESTONE FARM DANCERS

Peter Baker and Robin Warner call to live music by Joyous Noise, all dances taught, no partner needed, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at the Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor Saline Road, south of I-94, Ann Arbor. \$8. Open jam for string band musicians of all levels 4-6 p.m. (free). (734) 665-8863/(734) 426-0241

DETROIT DANCE COLLECTIVE

A modern dance performance with Alan Danielson, dance study director of the Jose Limon Institute in New York City, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, in the Adray Theater of the McKenzie Fine Arts

Building at Henry Ford Community College, 5101 Evergreen, Dearborn. \$15, \$12 seniors/students. (313) 965-3544

EISENHOWER DANCE ENSEMBLE

"Carmina Burana," Friday, Feb. 19, at the Macrone Center for the Performing Arts, Clinton Township. (810) 286-2222

ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE

Previous experience and partner not required, 7:15-9:45 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, at the Chapel Hill Condominium Clubhouse, 3356 Green Road, North of Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor. \$5. (734) 662-5158

MERYL TANKARD AUSTRALIAN DANCE THEATRE

"Furioso," 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20, Power Center for the Performing Arts, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. \$16, \$24, \$28, \$32. All ages. (734) 764-2538 or <http://www.ums.org>

SINGLE MINGLE DANCE

Metropolitan Single Professionals and Farmington Single Professionals host a dance 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Feb. 26, in the Main Ballroom of the Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel, Novi Road at I-96. \$7, \$4 members. (248) 851-9909 or <http://www.fsp.org>

COMEDY

ANDREW "DICE" CLAY 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 19, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$36 and \$27.50. All ages. (313) 961-5451

EL DORADO COUNTRY CLUB

Norm Stoltz, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20; Joe Dunkle, Friday-Saturday, Feb. 26-27, at the club, 2869 N. Pontiac Trail, Commerce Township. (248) 624-1050

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB

Vic Dibetto, John McDonnell and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 18-20 (12); Darwin Hines, Kevin Zeoli and Rich Higginbottom, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 25-27 (\$12), at the club above Kicker's All American Grill, 36071 Plymouth Road, Livonia. 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Thursdays, 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. Third Level Improv and new talent nights, 8 p.m. Sundays (\$5). (734) 261-0555

JOEY'S COMEDY CLUB AT PAISANO'S

Leo DuFour, 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 18 (\$6), 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday-Saturday, Feb. 19-20 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21 (\$8, \$20.95 dinner show package); Vic Dibetto, 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26 (\$12, \$24.95 dinner show package), and 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28 (\$12, \$22.95 dinner show package), at the club, 5070 Schaefer Road, Dearborn. Victoria Jackson's show Friday-Sunday, Feb. 26-28, has been cancelled due to a movie deal. (313) 584-8885

perious era, at the museum, 5401 Woodward Ave. (at Kirby), Detroit. Museum hours are 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday-Sunday. Free admission

Wednesdays: \$3 for adults, \$1.50 seniors and children aged 12-18, free for children ages 11 and younger Thursdays-Sundays. (313) 833-1805 or <http://www.detroithistorical.org>

HENRY FORD MUSEUM/GREENFIELD VILLAGE

Abraham Lincoln's assassination chair is back on view after a week of conservation efforts, also a life mask made 60 days before his assassination; "Rhythm Rising: Exploring America's Musical Roots" celebrates the contributions of African-American to world music week ends in February, Will Davidson (spirituals) noon and 2 p.m. Feb. 20, 21, 27-28. So Much Fun by Bob St. Thomas (jazz) 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 20-21 and Perfect Blend (freedom songs) 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Feb. 28-March 1, also cooking demonstrations, dramatic presentations of an African tale, historical photo exhibit, and hands-on activities to create traditional African kufi hats, paper beads, quilt squares, at the museum during regular hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn. \$12.50, \$11.50 seniors, \$7.50 kids 5-12, members and children under five free. (313) 271-1620

MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

In celebration of Black History Month, the museum presents story theater performances 10 a.m. to noon Monday, Feb. 22; historical films noon Saturdays, Feb. 20 and 27; and an African and African American Expo with workshops for grades K-12, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 20, "Hear Our Voice" lecture 1-3 p.m. Saturday Feb. 27 (The Hero with an African Face: Mythic Wisdom of Traditional Africa with Dr. Clyde W. Ford), at the Charles H.

Wright Museum of African American History, 315 East Warren, at Brush, Detroit. Activities free with museum admission \$5, \$3 ages 17 and under. (313) 494-5800

POPULAR MUSIC

AHADA

9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800 (blues)

THE ALLIGATORS

9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Free. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (blues)

AZURE

9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, C.K. Digg's, 2010 Auburn Road, Rochester. Free. 21 and older. (248) 853-6600 (rock)

THE BACK DOORS

8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. \$10 in advance, 18 and older. (248) 544-3030 or <http://www.themagicbag.com> (Doors tribute band)

THE BEACH BUNCH

Featuring members of the Wildbunch playing Beach Boys covers, 10 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 21, Garden Bowl inside the Majestic complex, 4140 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Free. 18 and older. (313) 833-9700 (Beach Boys covers)

BLACK BEAUTY

With Thorneeta Davis, 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, Fox and Hounds, 1560 Woodward Ave., Bloomfield Hills. Free. All ages. (248) 644-4800; 9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 25 (\$10), 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26 (\$12), and 5:45 p.m. 8:15 p.m. and 10:45 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 27 (\$12), at the club, 314 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. (734) 996-9080

SECOND CITY

"Daimlers are a Girl's Best Friend," a fifth anniversary celebration show retrospective, 8 p.m. Wednesdays-Sundays with additional shows at 10:30 p.m. on Fridays-Saturdays through Feb. 7, at the club, 2301 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$10 Wednesdays, Thursdays, Sundays. \$17.50 on Fridays, and \$19.50 on Saturdays. (313) 965-2990 or <http://www.comedycastle.com>

BLACK CROWES

With Moke, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$24.50. All ages. (313) 961-5451 or <http://www.961melt.com> (rock)

BLIND PIG SHOWCASE

With Bridgette McCarthy, Spedrock, Big Buffalo and Silly String, 9:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Free. 19 and older. (248) 996-8555 (variety)

BLUE ROSE

9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Cavern Club, 210 S. First St., Ann Arbor. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 332-9900 (blues)

BONNE TEMPS ROULLE

9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, Lower Town Grill, 195 W. Liberty St., Plymouth. Cover charge. 21 and older. (734) 451-1213 (R&B)

BUSTA RHYMES

With Next, 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, Fox Theatre, 2211 Woodward Ave., Detroit. \$35 and \$27.50. All ages. (248) 433-1515 (rap)

DEEP SPACE SIX

With Baked Potato, 9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26, Magic Bag,

Nick Nolte gives fierce performance in 'Affliction'

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER
hgallagher@oe.homecomm.net

Author Russell Banks never flinches. He deals with male rage, numbing sorrow, unfathomable despair without compromise. He delves deeply into the dark recesses of the mind.

It would seem that such personal and agonizing work would be nearly unfilmable and that only in Banks' novels could his words resonate as he intended. Yet, two of the finest films of the last two years are based on Banks' bleak but ultimately humane novels.

Atom Egoyan's "The Sweet Hereafter" was the best movie of 1997, a penetrating view of com-

munity sadness and the horrible consequences of immoral acts.

Paul Schrader's new film of "Affliction" deals with the same profundity and humanity with male rage, alcoholism, parental abuse and a life at its fraying point. At the center of this chilly, winter portrait is America's most underrated and uniquely gifted actor, Nick Nolte, raging like a wounded bull against a world he doesn't understand and that doesn't understand him.

Nolte plays Wade Whitehouse, a large, shambling bearish man for whom life is about to take a disastrous turn. He's the sheriff in a rural New Hampshire country where he also plows the roads and does whatever else his seem-

ingly easy-going French-Canadian boss tells him to do.

Wade's divorced and as the movie opens he's taking his daughter to a Halloween party when she'd rather be home with her mother, far away from her gruff, obtuse and irresponsible father.

Wade is at loose ends, estranged from his daughter, bitterly at odds with his ex-wife, stuck in a small town with no place to go and drowning in alcohol and anger.

Wade is afflicted with a family disease. He's inherited male rage from his domineering, vicious, usually drunken father. Wade has become his father, while his brother, who tells Wade's story,

has retreated into the academic world of Boston in revulsion.

But at heart Wade is not a bad man. It's this that makes Nick Nolte's performance so riveting. No one plays anger and violence with quite the fury that Nolte is able to summon (see his performance in "Thin Red Line" for instance), but here he also conveys warmth and a sickening sense that he is aware of his own affliction.

Nolte has been overlooked so often for great performances (he wasn't even nominated for an Oscar for "North Dallas Forty"), but he is finally getting notice for the depth and complexity that he brings to this character. His Oscar nomination is richly deserved.

A hunting accident in an early November snow sets off a chain of events that fuel Wade's paranoia and eventually leads to unspeakable tragedies. As the events pile up, Nolte's Wade seems to turn on himself as he slowly disintegrates.

Schrader is as familiar with dark corners as Banks, and it's easy to see why the Grand Rapids' native was attracted to this beautifully written book.

No one plays anger and violence with quite the fury that Nolte is able to summon (see his performance in "Thin Red Line" for instance), but here he also conveys warmth and a sickening sense that he is aware of his own affliction.

It uses the stark, cold white New Hampshire landscape as effectively as Shakespeare uses the stormy woods in "Lear." It also visually realizes the shabby small town that is so much more typical of New England than the usual postcard images. Paul Sarossy's camera work is somberly beautiful.

In addition to Nolte's performance, Schrader also elicits a spooky, raw performance from James Coburn as Wade's nasty father, Glen, seen as an overweight, bitter old man and in grainy home-movie-style flash-

backs as a raging ogre beating on his wife and children. Coburn has always been an appealing actor, but he's never been stretched this far or been used this effectively. His Oscar nomination is a recognition of just how deep he plunges.

Sissy Spacek again turns in a completely natural performance as Wade's confused and ultimately defeated girl friend.

Willem DaFoe provides a good narration but he seems miscast as the younger brother. This is the weakest part of Schrader's adaptation as well, because Banks makes a sharp contrast between the brother who rages and the brother who stifles his rage. Here he is less central to the story. And a younger sister, who has retreated into fundamentalist religion, is also misplayed as a minor figure.

But, "Affliction" is a raw, honest portrayal of a kind of male madness with which we are all too familiar.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Amusements Showcase Cinemas

Showcase
Anderson 1-14
2150 N. Grapely Rd.
Between University & Walton Blvd
810-373-2660
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.

NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP BLAST FROM THE PAST
(PG13)
NP MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE
(PG13)

MY FAVORITE MARTIAN (PG)
NP RUSHMORE (R)
NP PAYBACK (R)

NP SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
(R)

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG13)
NP PRINCE OF EGYPT (PG)

O A SIMPLE PLAN (R)

VARIETY BLUES (R)

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)

GLOOM (R)

NP PATCH ADAMS (PG13)

STEPHOM (PG13)

CIVIL ACTION (PG13)

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG)

ELIZABETH (R)

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SHOWCASE DEARBORN 1-8
Michigan & Telegraph
313-561-3449
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. Sat. & Sun.

NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP BLAST FROM THE PAST
(PG13)

NP MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE
(PG13)

MY FAVORITE MARTIAN (PG)

NP PAYBACK (R)

NP SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
(R)

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG13)

SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)

CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

SHOWCASE PONTIAC 1-5
Telegraph & Lake Rd. W Side of
Telegraph
810-332-0241
Bargain Matinees Daily
All Shows until 6 pm
Continuous Shows Daily

NP DENOTES NO PASS

NP BLAST FROM THE PAST
(PG13)

NP MY FAVORITE MARTIAN (PG)

NP PAYBACK (R)

NP SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE (R)

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SHOWCASE Pontiac 6-12
2405 Telegraph Rd. East side of
Telegraph
810-334-6777
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Continuous Shows Daily
Late Shows Fri. & Sat.

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NP MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE
(PG13)

NP RUSHMORE (R)

NP SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
(R)

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG13)

O A SIMPLE PLAN (PG13)

NP PATCH ADAMS (PG13)

ELIZABETH (R)

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(PG)

NP SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
(R)

OBUG'S LIFE (G)

O CIVIL ACTION (PG13)

YOU'VE GOT MAIL (PG13)

NP PATCH ADAMS (PG13)

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(PG13)

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(PG)

NP GODS AND MONSTERS
(R)

NP PATRICK (R)

NP RUSHMORE (R)

NP LITTLE VOICE (R)

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (R)

A SIMPLE PLAN (R)

THE THIN RED LINE (R)

A CIVIL ACTION (PG13)

STAR TUESDAY INSURRECTION
(PG) NY

NP PAYBACK (R)

NP BLAME (R)

NP RUSHMORE (R)

NP PAYBACK (R)

NP SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
(R)

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG13)

O A SIMPLE PLAN (PG13)

NP PATCH ADAMS (PG13)

ELIZABETH (R)

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NP BLAST FROM THE PAST
(PG13)

NP RUSHMORE (R)

NP PATRICK (R)

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG13)

O A SIMPLE PLAN (PG13)

NP PAYBACK (R)

NP RUSHMORE (R)

NP PAYBACK (R)

NP SAVING PRIVATE RYAN
(R)

SHE'S ALL THAT (PG13)

O A SIMPLE PLAN (PG13)

NP PATCH ADAMS (PG13)

Ghetto Billies look on the funny side of rock



The Ghetto Billies' debut CD "Some Rezeev" includes songs about drag queens, truck drivers on drugs, and pornography. And in case you're wondering, yes, they do mean to offend listeners.

"That's why it's funny. They can't believe we said something rude," said guitarist/vocalist Robb Conaway of Ann Arbor.

"But we have certain rules about the songs that we write. They are kind of unsaid. We don't say anything blatantly. We don't make any usually straight-out sexual references. It's very rare that we swear in a song. If there is swearing, it's very poignant and there's a point to why we use it."

But the meanings of the 13 songs on "Some Rezeev" are hidden within a maze of double entendres and smart remarks.

"We never say anything directly. It's always in some twisty kind of way. That's where we find the humor. If we're sitting there saying, 'I'm a guy and I like to wear chick's underwear and I like to wear it.' It wouldn't be very funny."

The Ghetto Billies — which also includes bassist/vocalist Jason Church of Fenton and guitarist/vocalist Derek Kramer of Hartland — celebrate the release of "Some Rezeev" at 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit.

In a roundabout way, the Ghetto Billies has been a project in the works since high school. Out of sympathy, Conaway let Church join his high school band.

"Derek was terrible. He was awful at everything. First we had him on keyboards but he couldn't play the keyboards at all. Then we had him as a background singer but he couldn't sing at all. But he was one of our friends. Somehow we had to include him, we couldn't exclude him so we made him a tam-

bourine player."

The band broke up when the adventurous Conaway moved to Texas to live within an environmental commune in 1992. He realized that a cult wasn't exactly his thing, so he returned to Michigan and got in touch with Kramer. Before long, however, Conaway moved to San Miguel, Mexico, to study art at The Instituto De Allende. Upon completing his studies, he went back to Michigan where Kramer and his roommate Church had a surprise waiting for him.

"Not only could he (Kramer) play the guitar really well, he had a really good sense of rhythm. He can sing now. The songs were funny too. When my girlfriend and I broke up, they were my saving grace. I was over there all the time," Conaway said.

Still, Conaway moved to Dublin, Ireland, for three months but the band stayed on his mind.

"While I was there I decided that when I came back I was going to propose that all of us

make a serious go at getting a show. Before we were doing it for the fun of it, I told him about it and they said they were thinking the same thing."

Conaway, a comic book artist, is now studying art closer to his Ann Arbor home — Eastern Michigan University. Since that first show in January 1997, the Ghetto Billies have made a name for themselves around Ann Arbor and Detroit as the premiere jokester band. The Ghetto Billies describe themselves as a "bluegrass disco humor band."

"As soon as you do that, the look of people's faces is like, 'Oh, OK.' They think this can't sound good. It's a bunch of guys singing a bunch of stupid songs with acoustic guitars and no drummer."

Crosby, Stills and Nash they are not.

Many "serious" bands write-off bands like the Ghetto Billies, the Barenaked Ladies, or even Beck, as being lazy. Conaway called people like that "egotistical."

"There's so many bands out

there that are all so serious. They think they're so important in what they have to say. Like everybody really cares about what's going on in their life or what not. They're just a rock band. There's very few bands in the world that are more than just a rock band."

"I think one of the main reasons why we do songs that are funny is just to give the audience and people out there a break from all the monotony. When we start playing, you can see in their faces. At first they're just looking at us thinking, what's up with these guys with three acoustic guitars. Are they joking? See, we sing it so serious. A lot of times they don't even get it until the end of the second song."

Sometimes, he said, being dubbed a "novelty act" works against them.

"A lot of places won't take us seriously because we're a humor band. I think that's really annoying. I think that just because you're writing humorous songs doesn't mean there isn't any meaning to the songs."

"Like, 'Steve,' is about transvestites and crossdressers and the idea that at first the guy is totally fooled then he freaks out when he realizes it's a guy. Then he says, oh well. There's social commentary hidden in the songs."

The Ghetto Billies, with special guest Gravity Well, celebrate the release of "Some Rezeev" with a party and performance at 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, at Alvin's, 5756 Cass Ave., Detroit. Cover charge is \$5 for the 18 and older show. For more information, call (313) 832-2355 or visit <http://www.ghettobillies.com>

Christina Fuoco is the pop music reporter for The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. If you have a question or comment for her, you can leave her a message at (734) 953-2047, mailbox No. 2130, or write to her at The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Mich., 48150, or cfuoco@homecomm.net

'Martian' is lots of fun for Saturday morning set



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Intergalactic comedy: When TV reporter Tim O'Hara (Jeff Daniels, left) stumbles upon a real-life Martian (Christopher Lloyd) he thinks he has the most fantastic story of his career in journalism in "My Favorite Martian."

BY JON KATZ
SPECIAL WRITER

Except for its ending, Disney's "My Favorite Martian" doesn't attempt to invoke baby boomer nostalgia for the original TV series. A smart move, indeed, considering the disastrous attempts at bringing "McHale's Navy," "Car 54, Where Are You?" and, most notably, "The Avengers" to the big screen.

Instead, the special effects-driven comedy goes right for the Saturday morning set. A wise-cracking space suit called "Zoot," goofy sight gags and some harmless potty humor will keep the kids interested, while Elizabeth Hurley's wardrobe will do the same for the adults (for the men, what she's wearing; for the women, why she's wearing it in this movie).

"My Favorite Martian" ran for three seasons (1963-66) on TV, during the years when we were still giddy over the exploits of Mercury and Gemini astronauts. The possibility of life in our solar system was quite real, and Mars had held a particular appeal going back to Orson Welles' Halloween broadcast of "War of the Worlds" in 1938.

In a clever opening sequence, this version zings our zeal over the Martian Rover's video transmission of a few rocks and gives us reason to believe that citizen-

ry on the Red Planet is more than possible. What they don't give us is a reason why one of them crash lands on a beach near Santa Barbara.

The alien ship-shrunk down to toy-size by its inhabitant — is found by Tim O'Hara (our own Jeff Daniels), an ambitious TV news reporter ("I will go to the ends of the earth for a great story"). Tim's been passed over by the station owner (Michael Lerner) in favor of his airhead daughter Brace (Hurley). After he gets the ship home, the Martian appears in human form. Fortunately for us they must get "Taxi" up there, for whose form does he take but Christopher Lloyd's.

Tim senses the story of a lifetime, but instead commits to hiding the identity of "Uncle Martin" so the traveler can repair his ship and return home. Naturally the bad government guys, led by Ray Walston (TV's original Uncle Martin) and the underrated Wallace Shawn, are hot on the trail.

Superpowers abound here. Martin can make himself invisible, literally comes apart when he's depressed and his finger's more potent than Samantha's nose. He also has a particular disdain for us earthlings ("You people still think E=MC²"). His Zoot suit has a life of its own, which is somewhere between "The Mask" and Don Rickles,

and also has the best lines.

The cast has lots of fun cavorting in a Disney flick, but the two or three big gags are repeated over and over...and over. Lloyd does his bug-eyed thing that's worked for twenty years, and Daniels is fine at being flustered.

Darryl Hannah as a tomboyish camera person is surprisingly misused here; she looks and

sounds like she had the flu for the whole shoot. Hurley actually carves out the freshest territory of the bunch, doing an acceptable turn as the broadcasting bimbo.

This is one where you might want to drop the kids off and catch something else at the mall yourself. They'll fill you in on the good parts and it'll take a lot less time.

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Pompano's features a taste of Miami's South Beach

ELEANOR & RAY HEALD
SPECIAL WRITERS

Couldn't get away to warmer climes this month? Newly-opened Pompano's in Farmington Hills, with its seafood and Caribbean-style specialties, has the taste of Miami's South Beach and might substitute at least for a night!

If you're not fond of restaurants in hotels such as a Holiday Inn, reconsider. Ramzi Naber and his wife Connie have transformed the former Brady's and before that Matt Brady's, basically a burger and bar spot, into a comfortable dining atmosphere.

Clubby and cozy with large cigar-friendly central bar, Pompano's sings a seafood theme. Brightly-colored fish swimming out from the walls set a warm-climate atmosphere. Cordial, owner-on-premise hospitality speaks a friendly tone.

If you dined at Southfield's Golden Mushroom in the early 1990s, Ramzi Naber was the night manager. He went on to other corporate restaurant and hospitality arenas in the area and, like many before him, just had to become a restaurateur.

"I have fond memories of days spent in both Miami and San Francisco, so naturally I chose a seafood theme," Naber said. "The area at 10 Mile and Grand River needed a restaurant with seafood emphasis; the closest is Steve & Rocky's on Grand River in Novi."

A hotel eatery generally has built-in diners weeknights, but needs to attract locals on weekends. Pompano's is no exception and the deals abound. On Fridays, one pound of King Crab Legs, including salad, redskin garlic mashed potatoes and veg-

Pompano's Seafood Grill

Where: 38123 W. 10 Mile Road (at Grand River in the Holiday Inn) Farmington Hills, (248) 478-7780.
Hours: Monday-Thursday 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Until midnight Friday and Saturday.
Menu: Salads, savory sandwiches and wraps for lunch. Seafood is the specialty with pastas and grilled meats at dinner. Housemade pizza at lunch and dinner.
Cost: Lunch \$5-14; dinner \$13-20.
Entertainment: Friday and Saturday 8 p.m. to midnight.
Reservations: Recommended
Credit cards: All majors accepted.
Banquet facilities: 20-350 people

etable is \$19.95. For the same price on Saturdays, it's Surf and Turf (filet mignon and lobster tail).

From 8 p.m. until midnight both Friday and Saturday, you can listen to jazz artist George Colovos or in his absence, Charley Salaz playing Caribbean-inspired selections.

Yes, you can get pompano, a favorite from the sunfish family, at Pompano's. But only at dinner. An eight-ounce filet of pompano is sauteed with pistachio citrus butter sauce. Flown fresh to Royal Oak's Superior Fish Company, it is delivered to Pompano's five times weekly along with other fresh delicacies from the sea.

Other seafood specialties prepared by Chef de Cuisine Gary Bradt, a 1991 Oakland Community College culinary grad who honed his skills at Chuck Muir's River Crab and the Troy Marriott, are: Conch Salad; Scallops McKinnon, lightly floured and sauteed with Drambuie served with shiitake mushrooms and snow peas; Blackened Yellowfin Tuna with melon salsa; and very Caribbean Coconut Shrimp, but-

terflied, dipped in a beer batter and shredded coconut, served with guava/mango sauce.

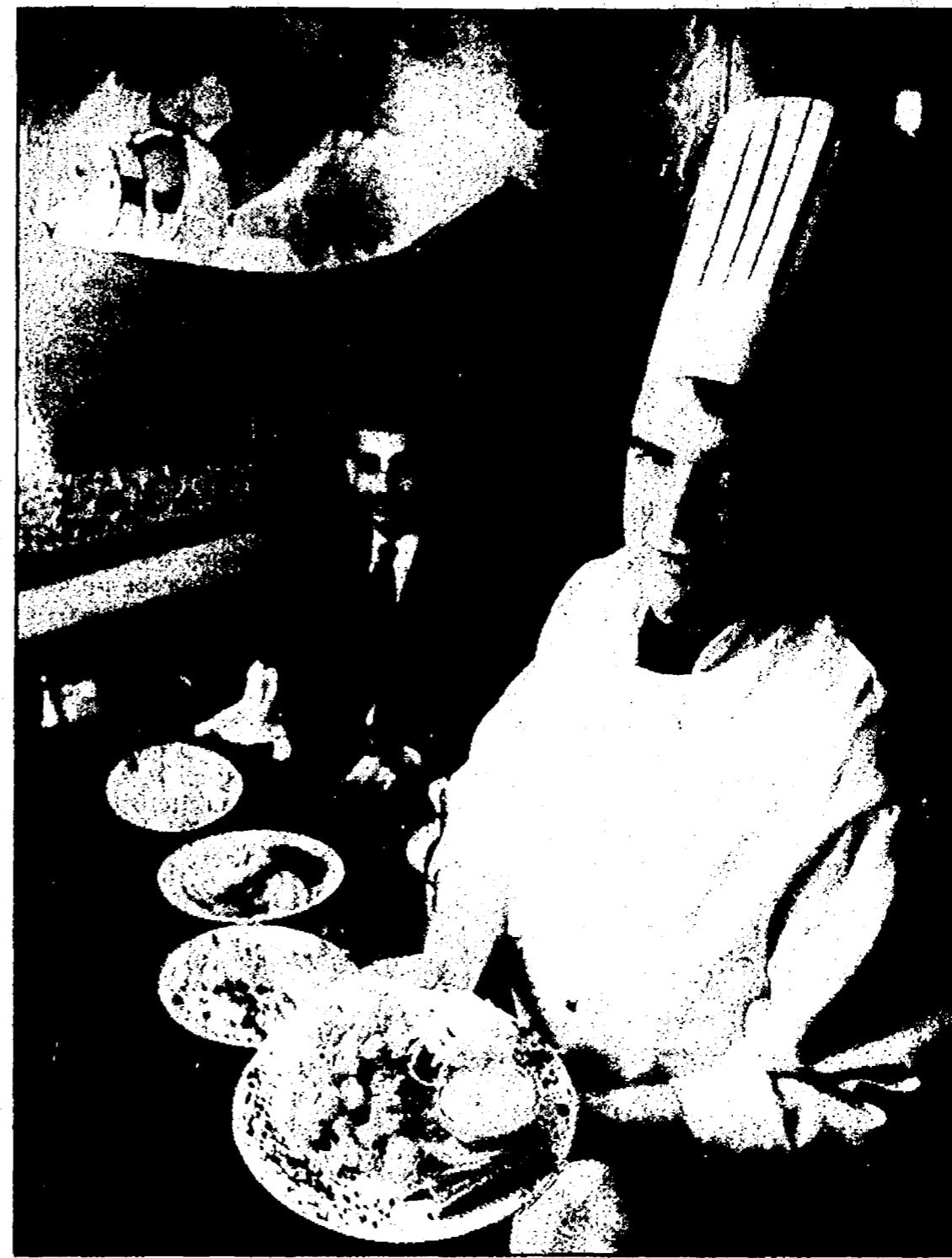
Pasta lovers can get full or half orders of Linguine Fruite de Mer (shrimp, clams and scallops); Smoked chicken with Penne Pasta or a Vegetarian Delight, tri-colored pasta tossed in tomato broth, fresh vegetables and topped with shaved Romano cheese.

Landlubbers may choose from chophouse features such as Filet Mignon, six or eight-ounce portion; Lamb Chops served with black currant sauce or Cinnamon Grilled Pork Chops.

Added to smaller portions of house seafood specialties at lunch, there's a four ounce Petit Filet Mignon Sandwich (beating most burgers by a mile), Mexican Club Wrap or a significantly-sized salad.

At lunch or dinner, Pompano's pizzas are made from scratch from fresh ingredients. Order the "Four Cheese" specialty or build your own from a wide array of toppings.

Full bar service includes a short, but well-priced wine list with by-the-glass pours \$3.75-



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

\$5.25 and bottles \$17-\$38. Specialty drinks and coffees \$5.75-\$6.75 can accompany a dessert selection including, of course, Key Lime Pie.

Something extra: Pompano's Hall of Fame is looking for diners' fishing pictures. If you have more than a fish tale, take it along when you dine and have

that big one that didn't get away, hung to be noticed by all!

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WHAT'S COOKING

Send items for consideration in What's Cooking to Keely Wygonik, Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, fax (248) 591-7279, or e-mail kwygonik@oe.homecomm.net

THE MOOSE PRESERVE BAR & GRILL
 3 Day Beach Bash, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 25-27, 2395 N. Woodward Ave., (just north of Square Lake Road) Bloomfield Hills. Caribbean food, live Reggae bands, sand dance floor, hair braiding, limbo contest, and other surprises. Call (248) 85-TROUT for details.

THE LARK
 California-French Dinner, 7 p.m. Monday or Tuesday, Feb. 22-23, 6430 Farmington Road (north of Maple Road) West Bloomfield. Cost \$87.50 per person not including other beverages, tax or gratuity. Call (248) 661-4466 for reservations/information.

GOODFELLAS
 A dueling piano bar on Haggerty Road (just south of 14 Mile Road) in Farmington Hills features a bar stocked with domes-

tic and imported beers on tap and more than 20 vodkas, as well as 14 wines and two champagnes. The light fare menu includes pizza, portabella mushroom sandwiches, appetizers and desserts. Four piano players take turns, two at a time, entertaining the crowd. Hours are 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesday-Thursday; 5:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Friday; 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. Saturday; and 5:30 p.m. to midnight Sunday. There is a \$5 cover on Friday-Saturday. Call (248) 788-4444 for more information.

LA SHISH
 Is celebrating its 10th anniversary. The Middle Eastern Restaurant chain operates restaurants in Dearborn, and locally in Farmington Hills, 37610 W. 12 Mile Road, and at the Orchard Mall, 6303 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield. Two La Shish restaurants are under construction in Livonia and Canton Township.

BUDDY'S
 Announces their newest "feature" pizza, the Fire-Roasted Veggie Pizza, topped with Wisconsin brick cheese, fire-roasted red and green peppers, white onions, corn, a layer of sweet

tomato basil sauce, and sprinkles of asiago cheese. Buddy's operates six restaurants, two take-outs, and one take-out/cafe location throughout metro Detroit. Call your local Buddy's for information about their newest pizza.

PANERA BREAD
 Has opened two new bakery-cafes in Livonia and Troy. The new bakery-cafes and meeting places offer more than a dozen varieties of fresh-baked bread, along with bagels, fruit-filled croissants, cinnamon rolls, muffins, desserts, plus hot and cold espresso beverages. The Livonia store is in the Newburgh Plaza, 37133 Six Mile road (at the intersection of Newburgh), (734) 542-0532, and in Troy at the Troy Commons, 823 E. Big Beaver Road (on the corner of Rochester Road), (248) 526-0822. Hours are 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, and 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday. Other metro-Detroit Panera Bread Bakery-Cafe locations include 27651 Southfield Road, Lathrup Village; and 6399 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

BOGIE'S AMERICAN GRILL
 Has a new menu and newly-renovated facilities. The restau-

rant located in the Evergreen Plaza at 19701 Twelve Mile Road in Southfield features lavash roll-ups, chicken picata, seafood jambalaya, barbecue beef, baby back ribs, appetizers, sandwiches and other entrees. The lower level banquet room has been remodeled and seats 130 people. The main level seats 250 people and offers a bar, games area and TVs. Bogie's American Grill is open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Saturday, closed Sunday. Call (248) 559-4400 for more information.

BACI ABBRACCI ITALIAN CHOPHOUSE
 "Tony n' Tina's Wedding," an interactive theatre show with patrons having an Italian dinner and dancing to a live band performing traditional Italian wedding songs, has an open-ended run, at the restaurant, 40 W. Pike St., Pontiac. 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays-Fridays, 2 p.m. and 7:30 Saturdays, and 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Sundays. \$50 Wednesdays-Thursdays and Sundays, \$55 Fridays and Saturdays, in advance at 8 W. Lawrence St., Pontiac. (248) 745-8668/(248) 645-6666

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Super seafood:
 Restaurant owner Ramzi Naber (left) in the dining room of Pompano's. Chef de Cuisine Gary Bradt presents Buffalo Rock Shrimp, one of his seafood specialties.