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Westland Observer

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SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

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IN THE PAPER TODAY

To our readers: An error in the Thursday, Nov. 28, edition resulted in incomplete versions of some stories being printed. Those stories are reprinted in today's paper. The Observer regrets the error. /A6

TASTE

Holiday entertaining: It's time to "Deck the Halls," and invite friends over to celebrate this joyous season. Local hostesses share tips, recipes. /B1

Focus on Wine: Morton's of Chicago Steakhouse is paying attention to consumer expectations for both wine and food. /B1

SPORTS

Foes meet: Catholic Central and Stevenson played in a nonleague hockey game Wednesday night at Eddie Edgar Arena. /C1

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Teacher puts soul into stroll

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

John Glenn High School teacher Vic Koos walked 32 miles Friday to raise money for charity and to show support for his school's football team. Sporting a bright red Rockets jacket, the 52-year-old business department teacher fulfilled a promise to his students by walking a distance equal to the trek from the Pontiac Silverdome to Glenn High.

Starting from the school at 7 a.m., he walked along Marquette and four major roads - Wayne, Ford, Newburgh and Cherry Hill - to achieve his goal.

Joined by several students, Koos had reached the halfway mark by noon Friday - five hours into his trek. The walkers occasionally changed their route to avoid boredom.

"It's going by really fast," Koos said, crunching snow as he walked near Westland City Hall on Ford Road.

Koos wanted to show support for Glenn's football team, which beat Dearborn Fordson for the Class AA-Region III championship before losing a Nov. 23 semifinal game to Sterling Heights Stevenson.

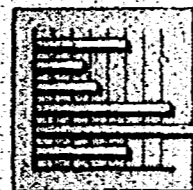
His students decided they should help out by raising pledges for Koos' walk - money that will buy Christmas gifts for Children's Hospital patients.

"We wanted to raise money for the kids," 17-year-old senior Tonya Canfield said as she walked with Koos. "We talked to the hospital and were told that they needed help with the wish list, especially for teenagers."

Koos, a Wayne resident, had pledged to walk

See STROLL, A2

Security at mall beefed up



Shoppers are pleased that Westland Center and the municipal police department are repeating their beefed-up patrols at the mall area for the Christmas shopping season.

BY DARRELL CLEM
STAFF WRITER

Westland Center shoppers say they will feel safer this holiday season because of added police protection in the city's bustling retail district.

"I think it's a good idea, especially with so many little kids running around," parent Lisa Sorrels of Westland said Wednesday as she shopped with her 4-month-old

daughter, Cecilia.

"Some parents just don't supervise their kids like they should," she said.

Mall shopper Theresa Batayah noted that many women shop alone during the holiday season - a time that police officials say can make money-toting gift-buyers more attractive to criminals.

"I don't think we can ever have enough police," Batayah said. Shoppers' comments came

Wednesday after city and mall officials announced during a press conference that Westland police officers will increase their presence around Westland Center.

Working out of a mini-police station in the mall's lower level, two officers will patrol around Westland Center to watch for potential criminal activity and to give shoppers a greater sense of security.

Several plainclothes officers also will be assigned to the mall area, Police Chief Emery Price said during a press conference in the mall's east court.

Price stressed that officers also will branch out from the mall to provide added patrols in an area

roughly bounded by Newburgh Road to the west, Wayne Road to the east, Hunter to the south and Nankin Boulevard to the north.

"Mostly we want to be here to make sure this is a safe, joyous, happy time" for shoppers, Price said.

The mini-police station officially opened the day after Thanksgiving, and the increased protection will continue through Christmas Eve, the police chief said.

Wednesday's ceremony at Westland Center included Christmas carols performed by the Adams Middle School choir and a visit from Santa Claus, whose name

See SECURITY, A3



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Big hug: Santa gets a chuckle out of Caleb Clenney, 4, of Westland as the youngster gives him a hug while other kids wait their turn to sit on Santa's lap at the Westland Center. Many local youngsters will visit Santa between now and Dec. 24.

Stores the place to visit

BY LEONARD POGER
EDITOR

Thanks in part to sunny weather Friday, local shoppers turned out in droves for the opening of the Christmas gift-buying season.

A barometer of the volume of shoppers was the nearly full parking lots at Westland Center between noon and 2 p.m. Friday.

The only vacancies were in the western corner of the mall, near J.C. Penney. Helping somewhat was the mall employees parking on a grassy section on the far west side of the property.

Adding to the parking problem is the ongoing construction of a new Sears Store, northwest of the Penney store.

But the mall is offering free valet parking for those who can't find a parking spot or who don't want to walk a long distance to the nearest entrance.

Shoppers were up early and in a good mood for one of the busiest shopping days of the season.

The mall was packed with shoppers, many of whom were carrying bags.

Mack Wright of Belleville waited patiently for his wife, Barbara, who was having an \$8,000 diamond ring purchased the week before serviced as well as taking part of a makeup appointment.

"I came here to exercise," he said, of the walking through the busy mall.

Theme calendars are very popular at Waldenbooks booth in the center court.

There were several people lined up at the booth when it opened at

See STORES, A3

Educators not surprised by high court's action

BY TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Reversing its decision of two months ago, the Michigan Supreme Court has said it will hear Gov. John Engler's appeal of the so-called Durant case, a Court of Appeals ruling that could cost the state billions.

Affected are the Wayne-Westland Community Schools and the Livonia Public Schools district, which serves the northern section of Westland.

Two months ago, school officials statewide predicted they would not see the money any time soon, and it appears they were right.

"I'm not surprised," Wayne-Westland Superintendent Duane Moore said.

"This means another delay, and it's a disappointment," said Livonia Superintendent Ken Watson of the 16-year-old lawsuit. "The court initially refused to hear it; now it has

changed its mind."

Oral arguments aren't likely before April, a high court spokesman said. Each side has lengthy periods to prepare briefs and rebuttals.

The case involves a lawsuit by 84 mostly suburban districts.

The districts complained that the state under three governors had failed to pay for special education, bilingual education, driver training and school lunches, as required by

the 1978 Headlee Amendment to the Michigan Constitution.

The news of the hearing before the Supreme Court was cheering to the Engler administration and Republicans, who had been zapped with rumors they were intending to kill off special education in order to pay the judgment.

Cost of the decision had been variously estimated at \$500 million to

See EDUCATORS, A2

It's Mill time

The Friends of the Mill and the Wayne County parks department will hold their annual Nankin Mill Christmas lighting ceremony at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the building on Ann Arbor Trail, east of Farmington Road.

There will be scouts singing holiday carols and a visit by Santa Claus. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

The Friends of the Mill group was organized nearly 10 years ago to raise money for improvements to the 130-year-old building.

Santa Paws

The Michigan Humane Society will sponsor a "Santa Paws" program from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

PLACES & FACES

Sunday, Dec. 8, to enable pets having Polaroid photos taken with Santa Claus. The fund-raiser will be held at the society's animal shelter on Marquette, just east of Newburgh.

Photos will be \$5 each. Proceeds will benefit animals at all three of the MHS shelters.

Open house

Nicole's Revival Designer Resale Clothier, on Newburgh near Marquette, will celebrate its third anniversary with two days of activities

Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 7-8.

Owner Nicole Christ said she plans an open house from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 1-5 p.m. Sunday, featuring informal modeling and representatives from Mary Kay Cosmetics, Party Lite Candles and First Fitness. There will be refreshments, music and raffles.

Christ added that there will be a "countdown sale" with 10 percent taken off the first item; 20 percent of the second; 30 percent off the third; 40 percent off the fourth; and half off the fifth.

A Mary Kay representative will provide free facials and makeovers.

This humor isn't canned



Two St. Matthew Lutheran School educators won't forget the 1996 student canned food campaign quickly.

Because the students in kindergarten through eighth grades surpassed their goal of collecting canned goods for local needy families, principal Jeff Burkee and teacher Richard Schumacher agreed to do something special.

The principal, in his first year at the school on Venoy north of



Ford, spent nearly three hours on the building's canopy roof.

Using a blanket to keep himself warm, Burkee sat in a lawn chair reading a John Grisham book.

Schumacher, who teaches seventh and eighth graders, dressed in a women's outfit (with heavy outdoor shoes) for the day.

Schumacher, who is 6 feet tall and weighs 300 pounds, commented to a group of St. Matthew mothers in a hallway that it took him only 30 seconds to do his nails that morning.

"It usually takes 20 minutes," one mother said.

The principal agreed earlier last month to spend the half-day on the roof if students collected at least 1,000 cans of food.

Schumacher agreed to the special outfit if the school collected at least 1,200 cans.

The school of 140 students has pupils from mostly Westland and Garden City.

■ The principal, in his first year at the school on Venoy north of Ford, spent nearly three hours on the building's canopy roof. Using a blanket to keep himself warm, Burkee sat in a lawn chair reading a John Grisham book.

Educators from page A1

\$3.5 billion. The entire state general fund budget is \$8 billion.

"There is no bill in the legislature that would abolish the special education requirement in public schools," said state Sen. Robert Geake, R-Northville, in a statement. Other GOP lawmakers issued similar denials.

Watson said the state has "more than ample funds in its rainy day fund" to pay the judgment. "But the state doesn't want to touch it, so they want to take the money from some place else. They don't want to touch it to pay a debt."

Moore said the new development will give Wayne-Westland officials more time to file a claim with the Local Government Claims Review Board in Lansing, seeking money that the district may be owed for 1996-97. The school board is expected to consider such a resolution at a Dec. 9 meeting.

However, Moore predicted that a final resolution to the case could be a year or two away. Moore also fears that, even if the plaintiffs prevail, the state will slash school funding in other areas to be able to afford to pay the damages.

In the 6-1 vote, Supreme Court Justice Michael Cavanagh dissented, saying the court should order mediation to settle the damages rather than rehear the case.

"The court has written two full opinions in the tortured 16-year path of this litigation," Cavanagh said. "I had urged my colleagues to grant leave to appeal (on Sept. 27), not because of the issues urged upon us by these defendants (governor and Legislature), but because I thought it appropriate for this court to promptly resolve the questions of the state's obligations to the school districts..."

Cavanagh said he couldn't take seriously the majority's suggestion that "there are unanticipated consequences" to a ruling against the state.

"This administration (Engler's), no less than its predecessor (Gov. James Blanchard's, 1983 to 1990) was well aware of the severe consequences of the Headlee Amendment," which requires that state government pay for services it mandates local units to perform.

Cavanagh concluded that "the state presents nothing beyond which this court already considered when we denied leave (Sept. 27) ... Rather than adding a 17th year to this litigation and

■ Moore said the new development will give Wayne-Westland officials more time to file a claim with the Local Government Claims Review Board in Lansing.

even further delaying the state's school districts their due, I would deny reconsideration."

Over the last few years, Watson said Livonia taxpayers have seen programs cut, partly because of this loss of mandated money.

"They then raised their taxes three years ago to restore some programs. They did this at the same time the state illegally withheld millions owed to districts.

"After years of legal opinions and judicial review, they still continued not to pay. Our position is that we expect to be paid the money owed us.

"Don't we all wish we could say we won't pay a bill we've owed for years because we don't have the money? People are expected to pay their debts, not stiff people."

Wayne-Westland officials have long complained that the state mandates programs without providing any money for them. Local dollar shortfalls in past years have forced budget cuts such as slashing transportation and eliminating elementary music and art.

The case takes its name from Donald Durant of Warren Fitzgerald School District, where the protest against the shortage of state aid originated.

Essentially, the 84 districts said they should be reimbursed for what they spent on the programs since 1979, when Headlee went into effect.

The case eventually made its way to the state Court of Appeals, which remanded it to Macomb County Circuit Court. In 1989, Circuit Judge George Deneweth ruled that the state Department of Education cut categorical aid for such programs as driver education, special education transportation, school lunches and bilingual education, to out-of-formula school districts in order to help fund poorer, in-formula districts.

Staff writers Marie Chestney and Darrell Clem contributed to this report.

Consequences: St. Matthew School principal Jeff Burkee spent nearly three hours on the canopy roof last week while teacher Richard Schumacher spent his day in a dress - all part of the payoff for having students collect 1,547 cans of food for needy families.

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'Nutcracker' staged

The Plymouth Symphony and the Plymouth-Canton Ballet company celebrate their sixth anniversary together performing the Christmas tradition, The Nutcracker Ballet, 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 13, 3 p.m. on Saturday, and Sunday, Dec. 14, and 15, at the Plymouth-Salem High School Auditorium at 46181 Joy Road, Canton.

The husband-and-wife team of Dawnell Dryja and Mark Nash will perform the parts of the Sugar Plum Fairy and the Cavalier, respectively, courtesy of the Cincinnati Ballet. "Dawnell and Mark have been married for about a year," said Dawn Greene, Dawnell's mother and director of The Plymouth Canton Ballet Company. "They met while performing 'Dracula,' with the Dayton Ballet, where Dawnell played one of Dracula's three wives. Mark was Dracula," Greene added.

The part of Clara will be performed by Lauren Christiansen of Canton. In addition, 45 other dancers from communities such as Detroit, Canton, Westland, Livonia, Clarkston, Northville, Novi, Plymouth, Dearborn, Ann Arbor, and South Lyon. The Madrigal Choir from the high school will also perform.

The performances of The Nutcracker are being sponsored by Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, Panasonic, Industrial Company of Plymouth. The Sunday, Dec. 15, performance is being sponsored by NBD, Private Banking and Investments, a new corporate sponsor for this season with the Plymouth Symphony. Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults and senior citizens and \$8 for children K-12. For tickets or more information, call the Plymouth Symphony office at (313) 451-2112.

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THE Observer NEWSPAPERS

1995 General Excellence Award

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 CITY OF GARDEN CITY
 December 10, 1996-Board of Review

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to all property owners of the City of Garden City that the Board of Review will meet in session on Tuesday, December 10, 1996 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to correct mutual mistakes of fact or clerical errors. PA 74 of 1995 authorizes the December Board of Review to hear appeals for poverty exemptions, but not for poverty exemptions denied by the March Board of Review. This applies to current year only.

RONALD D. SHOWALTER
 City Clerk-Treasurer

Publish: December 2, 5 and 9, 1996

CITY OF GARDEN CITY
 RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM
 INVITATION TO BID

Proposals will be received in the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 6000 Middlebelt Road, Garden City, Michigan 48135 on or before 2:00 p.m., December 13, 1996, in individually sealed envelopes marked "SEALED BID FOR RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM - CASE #...". Proposals and prices will be publicly open bid and read. All successful bidders must be registered with the City of Garden City prior to the start of work.
 100% Labor and Material, Performance, and Maintenance Bonds will be required for an eighteen month period by successful bidders. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part.
 For bid packages and further information contact Geoffrey D. Thompson at 313-525-6830.

Publish: December 2 and 5, 1996

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Stroll from page A1

from the Silverdome to Glenn High if the Rockets advanced to this year's championship game. Even though the team lost on Nov. 23, he made his 32-mile trek in honor of Glenn's earlier Class AA-Region III win over Dearborn Fordson.

The victory over Fordson was particularly sweet because the Dearborn team in 1993 defeated Glenn for the Class AA championship.

That year, Koos shaved half of his head to show support for the football team.

Canfield, dressed in six layers of clothing, started the trek with Koos at 7 a.m. Friday, and she planned to walk the entire 32 miles. She had to peel off some of her clothing, however, as afternoon temperatures rose.

Other students, such as 11th-

grader A.C. Grant and seniors Dave Heaney and Rebecca Harden, also walked mile after mile to support their teacher.

"I figured if Mr. Koos was going to do this, I would walk with him," Heaney, a Glenn defensive back, said.

"I thought this was a great idea," Grant said. "I'm the kind of person that likes to do things for charity, anyway."

Koos was appreciative of the company, saying that conversation with his students made the walk seem shorter.

Harden said she joined the walk because "it's for a good cause."

But she had another reason, too.

"I didn't want Mr. Koos to walk alone."

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Musical treat: The John Glenn High School marching band, playing holiday music, led the way for Santa's arrival at Westland Center.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Annual visitor: Santa paid a visit to Westland Center as children of all ages came out to greet St. Nick. People anxiously awaited for St. Nick's arrival.

Stores from page A1

8 a.m. Friday, a clerk said. Sales are about 200 percent above a normal day, the clerk said.

"The most popular themes are sports, (comic strips) 'Dilbert' and 'The Far Side' as well as all types of pets," the clerk said.

Claudia Frederick, the mall's marketing director, said early afternoon that she was pleased with the high volume of shoppers Friday. She wouldn't know of any parking problems until she receives a report the next day from the mall's security staff.

Frederick admitted that the free valet service requests have been slow, but the mall will educate the public more.

One person who wasn't busy at the moment was Santa Claus, portrayed by Alan Rondeau, 40, of Daytona Beach, Fla., who said he has driven north to Westland for the third straight year because the "Santa pay" is better than in the South.

During the rest of the year, he works in a motorcycle shop.

The mall wasn't the only busy retail center on Friday. Nearby strip malls were also full or nearly full.

Shoppers got up even earlier

At the Garden City Kmart store, operations manager Bill Riddle said some 200-300 people were at the door when the store opened.

at Kmart stores which opened their doors at 6 a.m. Friday. The big attraction was discounted jewelry products.

At the Garden City Kmart store, operations manager Bill Riddle said some 200-300 people were at the door when the store opened.

"I had to maneuver my way through the crowd to open the door," Riddle said.

In his 10 years at the location, Friday was the busiest opening he has experienced.

Kmart greeter Casey St. John, who was worked at the store for 17 years, said another attraction for Friday's opening was that the giving away of free "101 Dalmatians" gift bags to the first 500 customers.



In the aisles, one shopper, Jackie Cronon, said she came out early because she had come up from Kentucky to visit her sister and the sister's family took her to the Kmart store.

Shopper Jackie Hilden commented that while she came to the store for the 6 a.m. opening and jewelry sale, she will probably continue her Christmas shopping "right up to Christmas Eve."

In a nearby aisle, Marcy Jones said starting her shopping the day after Thanksgiving represents a different routine from past holiday seasons.

Security from page A1

was screamed by some children in the mall.

Westland Mayor Robert Thomas said he recently saw reports that Westland's retail district is the third most popular shopping area in the state.

"This is a safe place to shop - if not the safest, certainly one of the safest," Thomas said.

City police officers will complement Westland Center's own security forces, in a joint venture that mall manager Ed McHale called "another successful partnership" between the city and

the mall.

Meanwhile, Sgt. Scott Hall provided some holiday-shopping tips:

- Women shoppers should consider carrying money in their clothing rather than toting purses that can be snatched by would-be criminals.

- Women who carry purses should try to conceal them under their coats.

- Shoppers shouldn't put all of their money in one place.

- Westland Center shoppers should consider using a free

valet parking service provided this year by the mall. At the very least, they should try to park in well-lighted areas, Hall said.

- Gifts and other packages should be hidden in a vehicle trunk rather than being placed in view of possible criminals.

"Don't tempt a would-be thief," Hall said.

- Children should never be left alone in a car while a parent is shopping. Not only isn't it safe to leave children alone, Hall said; it's also against the law.



Young visitor: Samantha Eversole, 17 months old, was all smiles as she was handed to Santa after his arrival at Westland Center.



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Doing their part



Holiday tradition: Adams Middle School student council officers and sponsor take a last look at nearly 4,500 canned goods, collected in November to give to the Salvation Army for distribution to local needy families. Heading the school's third annual community service project are council president Crystal Echols, vice president Greg Sarkozi, liaison Erin Davis and faculty sponsor Michael Paladino.

Edison assists the needy

Westland and Garden City-area residents can prevent electric service shutoffs this winter through Detroit Edison-sponsored programs and other types of assistance that keep out the cold.

"We urge customers with bill-payment problems to call us immediately at (800) 477-4747 so we can help them avoid shutoffs," said Ronald Klinect, manager of customer service at

Detroit Edison.

Detroit Edison's programs range from energy education and conservation measures to information on financial assistance.

The utility also pledges to offer up to \$1 million to help customers through matching donations to THAW — The Heat and Warmth Fund — and bill credits to qualified homeless shelters.

DIAL FOR DATES

For updated events in the area, call 953-2005.

WEEKEND

CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
Garden City Presbyterian Church women will hold their annual Christmas festival in the church, 1847 Middlebelt, two blocks south of Ford, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7. There will be a turkey dinner from 4-7 p.m., arts and crafts, white elephant sale, silent auction, specialty rooms, make it/take it, bake sale, cookie walk and tea room. It is open to the public.

SANTA PAWS
Photos of Santa Claus holding family pets will be taken at the Michigan Humane Society animal shelter, on Marquette east of Newburgh, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 8. Charge is \$5. Proceeds from the Polaroid photos will be used to benefit animals at all three MHS shelters. 721-7300.

CRAFTERS WANTED
The Lathers School PTA, Garden City, will hold its 25th annual Christmas boutique Saturday, Dec. 7, in the school, on Marquette at Harrison. For \$20 table rentals, call 427-2363.

CRAFT SHOW
St. Kevin and St. Norbert Churches wants crafters for its craft show, to be held 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 7, at 30053 Parkwood off of Inkster Road. Table rentals are \$15 each. Call 728-2470 or 563-0993.

UPCOMING

WYAA MEETING
The Westland Youth Athletic Association will hold its annual membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, in the Bailey Recreation Center, on Ford between Wayne Road and Newburgh. Purpose of the meeting is to elect members to the association's board of directors.

BLIZZARD BUCKS
The annual Blizzard of Bucks fund-raising program will be held for the American Cancer Society through the Travel Desk, 271 N. Inkster Road, Garden City. Persons who donate \$1 will have it matched by the Travel

Desk in its Blizzard Bucks campaign. The benefit will be held Dec. 2-20.

FOR WALKERS
The Maplewood Senior Center, Garden City, has formed a new walking club. It will be held from 10-11 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays in room 5 of the community center, with a fee of \$2. The club will have a 20 minute and a 30-minute walk. 525-8851.

OPEN SKATING
The Westland Sports Arena, on Wildwood near Hunter, will continue its open skating program through March 31. Hours are 1-2:45 p.m., Saturday and Sunday; and noon-1:45 p.m. weekdays. The Thursday session will be for adults only. 729-4560.

GC DEMS
Garden City Democratic Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in room 5, Maplewood Community Center, on Maplewood west of Merriman. Call Carol Larkin, 421-2638, or Billy Pate, 427-2344.

WESTLAND DEMS
The Westland Democrats meet at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Rowe Meeting House, on Marquette just east of Newburgh. For information, call John Franklin, 595-7638, or Paul Krarup, 729-6248.

MILITARY GROUP
The 82nd Airborne Division Association/Wolverine Chapter meets at 6 p.m. the second Sunday of each month at VFW Post 3323 Hall, on Wayne Road at Avondale. It is open to veteran qualified parachutists and veterans of any military branch. 728-5859 or 728-7214.

VETS TO MEET
The Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 387, meet the second Wednesday of each month at the Bova VFW Post, on Hix between Ford and Warren Road, Westland. The chapter is open to all Vietnam-era veterans. Associate memberships are available. 728-3231.

BENEFITS

HOSPICE SALE
Community Hospice Services, on Warren Road at Venoy, will hold a fund-raising holiday nut sale now through Dec. 20 for each container, priced at \$10 each. The group may be contacted at 522-4244.

AIDS PROGRAM
The Garden City Fantastic Sam's family styling center is accepting donations through Dec. 21 for a charity benefiting

mothers and children with AIDS. The business on Ford east of Middlebelt is accepting toiletries, toothpaste, soap, diapers, toilet paper, baby formula and other items. 525-3342.

LOTTO DRAWING
The Garden City Knights of Columbus Council 4513 has a daily three-digit lottery drawing based on the Michigan Lottery daily numbers. Proceeds are used to finance the K. of C. Hall's building improvements. Tickets are \$10 for the month with a guaranteed winner every day except Sunday. Tickets are available at the hall, on Ford east of Merriman. 425-6380.

FOR SENIORS

MONTHLY MEAL
The Wayne Ford Civic League schedules its senior meal 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, for people 50 and older. Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. The meal includes beer, beverages and dancing to Big Band music, and door prizes. 728-5010.

FOR YOUR HEALTH

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 at 12:30 p.m. every Thursday at the Garden City Hospital Community Health Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood, Garden City. (810) 476-2657.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS
Emotions Anonymous, which holds a 12-step program for a new way of life, meets at 7:30 p.m., Wednesdays in Room 5 of Garden City Hospital's Community Education Center, on Harrison north of Maplewood, Garden City. 421-1776.

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 teen-age mothers. For information on all programs, call 458-4330.

WEIGHT LOSS
Garden City Hospital will host a weight loss peer support group at 11 a.m. Saturdays in Classroom 3 of the hospital's Medical

Office Building, on Inkster Road near Maplewood. Members will focus on self-esteem issues and follow their own nutritional and exercise program. 261-4048.

BLOOD PRESSURE
Free blood pressure screening is available 9 a.m. to noon the third Wednesday of each month at Oakwood Hospital Annapolis Center, Wayne. A registered-nurse will be available in the emergency room. Cholesterol and glucose screening are also available for a nominal fee. Appointments aren't required.

FOR YOUTH

OPEN GYM
The Mayor's Task Force on Drugs and the City of Westland Parks and Recreation Department present "After School Open Gym and Activities" 3:15-5:15 p.m. Mondays at Stevenson Middle School, Wednesdays at Marshall Middle School, and Thursdays at Adams Middle School. The winter program begins the third week in January and the spring program begins the first week in April. Programs last eight weeks. 722-7620.

EDUCATION

ADULT ED
Wayne-Westland Schools Adult Education has free classes in adult basic education, GED preparation, high school completion, and vocational training. Register at Tinkham Adult Center, 450 S. Venoy, Westland. 595-2429.

BINGO

K OF C BINGO
The Notre Dame Knights of Columbus hold bingo games starting at 6:45 p.m. Thursdays in its hall on Van Born, east of Wayne Road. 728-3020.

MONDAY BINGO
The Notre Dame Assembly Knights of Columbus holds bingos at 6:30 p.m. Mondays in its hall on Van Born east of Wayne Road. There are specials held on the last Monday of each month. 728-3020.

WFCL BINGO
The Finesse Girls Travel Softball Boosters hold a bingo from 6:30-9:45 p.m. every Monday to raise money for the girls softball program. The bingo games are held at the Wayne Ford Civic League hall, on Wayne Road, two blocks south of Ford.

DEMS BINGO

See CALENDAR, A6

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- Wayne Lawn & Garden Center 2103 S. Wayne Rd., Westland 721-5220
- Wayne Parks & Recreation Racquet and Exercise Club 4635 Howe Rd. 728-2900
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State wants to audit county road funds

BY KEN ABRAMCZYK
STAFF WRITER

The state auditor general wants to audit the Wayne County Road Commission and examine the county's use of state and federal transportation funds for roads.

The audit came at the request of state Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton. Bennett and Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack wonder how much in state road funds are earmarked for Wayne County, and how much Canton should receive each year.

Wayne County has spent \$368 million in roads between 1994-96 and has budgeted \$119 million for 1997, much of which is funded by the state. State officials estimate that about \$50 million goes to the county for roads annually.

County officials told the state auditor general's office on Monday that they will allow auditors access to information wanted by Auditor General Thomas McTavish in a Freedom of Information Act request.

But the audit request was criticized by one county official who called it "political maneuvering"

and a "waste" of tax dollars.

FOIA requests filed

Canton Township first filed an FOIA with Wayne County in August requesting information on county revenue received from federal, state and local sources from 1992-95 based on Canton's road mileage, and expenditures for road maintenance, new road construction, street sweeping and marking for those same years.

The township also requested the number of miles of primary and secondary roads used in the use of transportation funds earmarked for Canton. Canton also requested the same information from the county for the cities of Westland and Livonia.

Yack said he and other township officials wanted information on how much the county spent in Canton Township from the revenue collected from the gas and weight tax and how much money collected for primary and local roads.

"The perception was that money is collected here, but not a lot is spent here," Yack said. Yack said Canton needs work



■ 'With the extreme passion that is out there with discussions of a gas tax, and that it is needed for the roads, we should check the numbers (of state road money) to be sure before we really start talking about that.'

Sen. Loren Bennett
-R-Canton

on its north-south county roads, namely Lilley and Sheldon roads. And while Canton Center and Morton Taylor have been promised improvements, those have yet to be completed, Yack said.

"For a community our size — 67,000 people — we have no five-lane roads in Canton except for Ford Road," Yack said.

Bennett, who also is the Senate's vice chairman of financial services committee and member

of local, urban and state affairs committee, asked Canton not to file a lawsuit when he heard from Yack that Canton did not receive any information. Instead he asked McTavish to audit the Wayne County Road Commission for the years of 1993-96.

"With the extreme passion that is out there with discussions of a gas tax, and that it is needed for the roads, we should check the numbers (of state road money) to be sure before we really start talking about that," Ben-

nett said.

State law permits the office of the Auditor General to audit the disposition of revenue received by county road commissions or county boards of commissioners, cities and villages for transportation purposes to determine compliance with terms and conditions.

But county officials believe that state law is unconstitutional.

Attorney general opinion

Jennifer Granholm, Wayne County's corporation counsel, cited a 1984 opinion by state Attorney General Frank Kelley in which Kelley stated that the auditor general had no power to audit the city of Detroit and its distribution of funds for the Detroit Institute of Arts. Kelley also stated the auditor general's duties are limited to audits of "financial transactions and accounts of the state and of all branches, departments, offices, boards, commissions, agencies, authorities and institutions of the state" established by the Michigan constitution.

Granholm called the audit a

"waste" because the state Department of Transportation already audits the road funds, along with the county's auditor general's office.

"That's a political maneuver done by the Legislature, trying to attack a Democratic county executive," Granholm said. "It's an incredible waste to duplicate and triplicate audits already completed."

"I'm sure the people who pay tax money for public roads and services would find it wasteful and political."

But those audits only provide the state with summary reports with only general information, Bennett said, adding that the county should not have "a problem" opening up the books.

In the FOIA request, McTavish sent a letter to County Executive Edward McNamara requesting access to detailed files and payroll records.

McTavish wants access to 38 separate categories, including work order cost reports, labor and material cost reports, overhead costs from maintenance,

See ROAD, A8

Conference to address mentoring

When hiring new teachers in Michigan, administrators of K-12 public schools must develop mentoring programs which are meaningful and work.

"Mentoring New Teachers," a half-day conference targeted to assist these administrators, will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 4 at Madonna University in Livonia.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the program concludes at 12:30 p.m. The conference presenter will be Carolyn Logan of the Michigan Department of Education and the event will also feature Henry Cade, of Wayne County Regional Education Service Agency, who will discuss mentoring in the United States.

On the agenda will be a review of the requirements for the legislated mentoring programs, available support for and the role of administrators, and a presentation of future concerns regarding the mandates.

The cost for this conference is \$45 per person; \$40 per person for two individuals registering from the same institution at the same time; or \$35 for three or more individuals registering from the same institution at the same time.

For more information, call the College of Continuing and Professional Studies at (313) 432-5731.

The University is committed to working with teachers from pre-service teaching through the entire career life of a professional teacher. In future semesters, graduate credit courses will be offered in relation to the mentoring process.

Madonna remembers accident victims

Madonna University will be holding its annual Remembrance Tree Dedication from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Take 6 Lounge near Kresge Hall on campus.


The Remembrance Tree is dedicated to all the victims of alcohol- and substance abuse-related traffic accidents. There is no charge and the public is invited to attend.

Madonna University's Legal Assistant Club is sponsoring the event and will be distributing ribbons provided by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) at the event.


Guest speaker will be Jacque Martin-Downs, director of Hegira Prevention, and author of "The Best 10 Values Every Child Needs."

The ceremony will include the sharing of stories, passages from scripture, poems and singing.


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



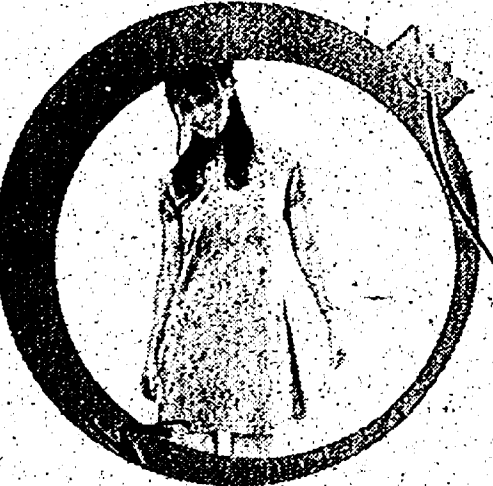
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Bennett gets party line vote on 'judicial taxation'

Sen. Loren Bennett, R-Canton, had to settle for a largely partisan victory when the state Senate approved his resolution seeking to curb "judicial taxation." Senate Concurrent Resolution 278 asks the U.S. Congress to submit to the states a constitutional amendment prohibiting federal courts from ordering local governments to increase

taxes to settle cases. The vote was 23-9 with six not voting. Voting yes were 20 Republicans, including all area Republicans, plus three Democrats, including Gary Peters of Bloomfield Township. Bennett said the Supreme Court in a 1990 Missouri case upheld the right of a federal court to impose state and local

taxes, and 246 similar cases have been brought to the courts. "The Supreme Court, with one sweeping decision, doffed the robe of judge and donned the role of legislator." In that case, the court ordered Kansas City property tax rates raised from \$20.50 to \$40 per \$1,000 of valuation - a total of \$1.6 billion. All nine opposing votes were

cast by Democrats, including George Z. Hart of Dearborn and Alma Wheeler Smith of Salem. Four Democratic senators - including Hart and Smith - issued formal protests in the Senate Journal, saying Bennett's resolution would "limit the ability of the federal courts to address historical discrimination. . . . The only thing state government has to say is, 'We're not going to pay.'"

remain on an offender's record forever under a bill sponsored by Sen. Mike Rogers, R-Brighton. The Senate Judiciary Committee reported out Rogers' bill to add first-, second- and third-degree criminal sexual assault; assault with intent to commit sexual penetration; and assault with intent to commit second-degree conduct. Currently, only crimes involving life sentences and traffic offenses remain on an offender's record for life. "A sexual offender cannot hide behind a record from which serious crimes have been expunged," said Rogers.

Clinton County Prosecutor Chuck Sherman, in testimony, said, "Sex offenders are more likely to re-offend than any other class of criminals. This bill will help assure that anyone convicted of a sex offense can never again work their way into a position of trust or authority over potential victims." "Long over due," added Livingston Prosecutor David Morse of the bill. "Parents have a right to know if sex offenders are living or working in their community." The Senate will return to

See VOTE, A9

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No expungement
Five criminal sexual offenses will be added to the list that will

Road from page A8

permit and various county yards, bid packages and contracts documentation for state transportation funds.

Granholt expects the county will allow the state access to the records in the FOIA sometime in early or mid-December.

Granholt said the county did not have the attached list with the FOIA request in the original letter and finally received the list on Nov. 25.

"We have requested a 10-day extension," Granholt said.

State legislation
Bennett believes part of the

problem is the complexity of the road funding formula in the state transportation act. Bennett said there is "no easy way" to figure out the number of dollars going to the township.

Bennett introduced an amendment to a legislative package that would distribute funds directly to townships - and bypassing county governments - to allow townships to award their own road repair contracts or continue to contract with the county. The bill passed in the Senate on Oct. 2.

As of Wednesday the bills remain in a House Transportation committee as part of the transportation reform package. Bennett was not confident that bill would be acted on this year as only a few legislative sessions remain.

Little progress has been reported in the House Transportation committee, Bennett said.

Bennett was asked what made him think a township would administrate a project better than the county. "I don't know, but the townships would know what's going on."

Wayne County hired former Gov. Jim Blanchard in some kind of consulting or lobbying role, Bennett said. Bennett wanted to know what is the cost, and length, of that contract.

"These are important questions," Bennett said.

"I'm not here to criticize, but to support it. But to support it, I need to know what's going on."

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Metroparks director to retire

William P. Sherman on Jan. 10 will end a 40-year career with Huron-Clinton Metroparks, where he started work as a Metro Beach summer beach patrol officer and rose to direct the 13-park operation.

For \$1.12 an hour, Sherman's 1957 duties "consisted of directing the parking of cars in the lot, and showing people where to walk, swim and sit. During slow periods, I picked up paper and cigarette butts," Sherman recalled.

"During my very early years, the direction of the Metroparks was land acquisition and development of basic facilities. The pattern was to purchase the land, develop a few picnic areas, a water facility and a nature interpretive center along with some trails.

"Since those early years... we have added more facilities: modern tot lots, dance and concert programs, court game areas, boat launches, winter sports and

great golf courses," said Sherman in a farewell column in the agency's newsletter.

The seven-member board of directors is seeking a replacement. Since the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority (its formal name) was formed 55 years ago, it has promoted from within, although in 1988 it interviewed more than a dozen candidates from inside and outside the system before promoting Sherman.

"During his eight years as director," said Dave Moilanen, public information officer, "the authority opened a new park, Wolcott Mills, and added many new facilities - the Marshlands Museum and Nature Center, and an 18-hole golf course at Lake Erie; a paved hike-bike trail and Washago Pond activities complex at Willow; and the activities building at Metro Beach."

The five-county HCMA now has 13 parks and an operating

budget of more than \$42 million. It is financed by a property tax of 25 cents per \$1,000 of valuation plus vehicle entry permits, which will remain unchanged next year: \$15 for an annual pass, \$18 for an annual boat launch pass, free entry and boat launching on Wednesdays.

During the 1980s, HCMA moved its central office from rented quarters in a Detroit office building on the Livingston-Oakland counties border on the west end of Kensington Metropark, the largest and most popular unit in the system.

A native of St. Joseph, Mo., Sherman earned a bachelor of science degree from Northwest Missouri State, where he lettered in football, and a master of education degree from the University of Arkansas.

He came to Michigan in 1953 to teach and coach in Roseville schools.

Vote from page A8

action Dec. 3 after a two-week recess for deer season and Thanksgiving. Rogers' bill also must make it through a crowded House agenda by year's end to become law. If not, it will have to be re-introduced in 1997.

Safety zone

Rep. Deborah Whyman's bill to allow expanded school traffic safety zones passed the House of Representatives 88-0, and drew support of 37 members who asked to be named co-sponsors. Whyman, R-Canton, drafted House Bill 5847 in response to a problem at her local Hulsing Elementary School, where 315 children have to cross Morton Taylor Road with a 40 mph speed limit. She thinks it will

apply to many other schools as Michigan drivers increase their love affair with fast driving.

Under the current vehicle code, a "school zone" can't exist more than 1,000 feet from the property line. HB 5847 would allow the superintendent of schools to ask road officials for a "school crossing" designation on roads with speed limits of 35 mph or more, even if they're more than 1,000 feet from the school. School officials will have to submit traffic pattern studies to the road agency.

It will be up to the road agency to determine whether a 25 speed limit, flashing light or red-green traffic signal is the appropriate response, Whyman said.

The bill goes to the Senate,

which has until the end of the year to act

Mack appointed

Wayne County Probate Judge Milton Mack is part of a 21-member task force appointed by the state Supreme Court to find better ways to protect the interests of persons under the care of a guardian or conservator.

Beginning work in January, the panel of judges, lawyers and other officials will explore ways to improve court rules, management policies, and statutes while maximizing the independence of protected persons. Calhoun Probate Judge Phillip Harter will chair the panel.

Madonna University dean to serve on national nursing home board

Karen Ross of Madonna University in Livonia has been named a member of the National Association of Boards of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators (NAB) and will serve on its Education Committee.

Ross is dean of Madonna University's College of Social Sciences and is a Farmington Hills resident.

The mission of the NAB, based in Washington D.C., is to enhance the effectiveness of state boards of nursing home

administrators in meeting their statutory and regulatory duties and responsibilities to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Ross joined Madonna University in 1985 as an instructor in the gerontology department and was appointed dean of the College of Social Sciences in 1991. She earned her bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University and a doctorate from Wayne State University.

Ross also has a specialist in aging certificate from the Uni-

versity of Michigan.

Madonna University, celebrating its 50th anniversary in 1997, is an independent liberal arts university. It offers men and women associate's and bachelor's degrees in more than 50 professional areas of study, including long-term care administration.

Madonna also awards master's degrees in the diverse areas of business, education, hospice, health services administration and nursing.



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SCHOSTAK

MOVIES



Christmas wish: Howard Langston, (Arnold Schwarzenegger) promises his son, Jamie (Jake Lloyd) that he will buy him the most sought-after toy of the season — Turbo Man in "Jingle All the Way."

'Jingle All the Way' lacks cheer

BY BOB THOMAS ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The trouble with a one-joke movie is that the joke had better be very funny. The one in "Jingle All the Way" isn't.

What was intended to spread Christmas cheer through the holiday season emerges as a downer that a slam-bang special effects finale can't rescue.

The joke: busy executive spends Christmas Eve searching all over town for the only toy his young son wants.

Arnold Schwarzenegger is a hard-driving mattress factory boss who neglects his wife (Rita Wilson) and son (Jake Lloyd). After the father fails to appear at his son's karate demonstration, he vows to make amends.

But Turbo Man is the hit of the buying season, and it can't be found in any store. Schwarzenegger tries a number of ploys, growing desperate as each one fails.

His quest puts him in competition with another frustrated father, a mailman (Sinbad), who also needs a Turbo Man to square himself at home. Wherever Schwarzenegger goes, Sinbad follows, and their mutual quest starts getting physical.

Schwarzenegger is duped by a shameless con man posing as Santa (a well-disguised James Belushi), who leads him to a warehouse where a motley crowd of Santas assemble counterfeit toys. This raises the propriety of having children watch Santas portrayed as a bunch of crooks.

It will come as no surprise that the beleaguered father redeems himself at the end, posing as the real Turbo Man.

What is surprising is that the son and wife believe he is a real Turbo Man despite his Austrian accent.

Randy Kornfield's script is inventive in devising one scrape after another for Schwarzenegger to endure.

However, the direction of Brian Levant ("The Flintstones") fails to find any real comedy in the adventures. But then, it's hard to laugh at car crashes, explosions, beatings, house break-ins and the forced takeover of a radio station.

Comedy of frustration requires a deft touch, and Schwarzenegger obviously doesn't have it. Nor does Sinbad fare well with a blustery character that wavers between good guy and bad guy.

Phil Hartman is stuck with the role of the smarmy next-door neighbor considered by the neighborhood women as "the perfect husband" (though he's divorced). And Robert Conrad has a few funny moments as the cop who bedevils Schwarzenegger at every turn.

The best performance is delivered by young Jake Lloyd, perfect as the disappointed son.

The Twentieth Century Fox release was produced by Chris Columbus, Mark Radcliffe and Michael Barnathan.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

AMC Theatres listings for various locations including Albany, Southfield City, Americana West, Maple 3, Wonderland 6, and West River. Includes showtimes and movie titles like Jingle All the Way, The First Wives Club, and The English Patient.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Opens Friday, Dec. 6 'DAYLIGHT' Modern-day disaster movie about the aftermath of an explosion that seals both ends of a tunnel connecting Manhattan with New Jersey. Stars Sylvester Stallone.

Opens Friday, Dec. 13 'THE PREACHER'S WIFE' Remake of the 1947 movie "The Bishop's Wife," a fable about an angel who comes to Earth to help a preacher's struggle to maintain a congregation. Stars Denzel Washington, Whitney Houston, Courtney B. Vance and Gregory Hines.

President sits powerless. "Mars Attacks" casts a comedic eye at the hysterical pandemonium wrought as Americans battle an invasion by little green men from Mars. Led by Jack Nicholson, the cast includes Annette Bening, Pierce Brosnan, Glenn Close, Danny DeVito, and Jessica Parker. Opens Friday, Dec. 20

'THE CRUCIBLE' Suspenseful drama of evil and personal conscience based on one of the greatest plays of the 20th century. Stars Daniel Day-Lewis, Winona Ryder, Paul Scofield and Joan Allen.

'MY FELLOW AMERICANS' Comedy about two unscrupulous ex-U.S. Presidents who have nothing in common but their dislike of one another who find themselves compelled to travel cross country together as they investigate a potential White House scandal involving the current president. Stars Jack Lemmon, James Garner and Dan Aykroyd.

'ONE FINE DAY' An old-fashioned love story for the cellular age. Two career-minded people, one male, the other female, determined never to have love disappoint them again, are thrown together for one chaotic day...

'RIDICULE' A Jewish and colorful drama set in the age of Louis XVI. The tale of a modest country engineer who travels to court, a place where even the slightest misstep can be fatal.

'SCREAM' A thriller about a small town that comes under siege by a murderer who takes all of his cues from the movies. Stars Neve Campbell, Skeet Ulrich, Courtney Cox, Drew Barrymore and David Arquette.

Holiday House open until Dec. 8

A headline in Thursday's At Home incorrectly implied that the The Detroit Symphony 1996 Holiday House and Boutique would be opening Dec. 8. As the story correctly noted, the Holiday House is now open and closes Dec. 8.

A picture of the Symphony's Holiday House at 780 Vaughan Road in Bloomfield Hills, and more information on the house will run in Thursday's At Home.

The 1996 Holiday House hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. Thursday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets may be bought for \$6 per person in advance from The Village Barn gift shop, 32760 Franklin Road in Franklin (call (810) 861-7877), through the DSO Music Box Boutique or by calling (810) 648-9186. Tickets also may be bought for \$8 per person at the door.

'A JAMMIN' HIT!' advertisement for Bugs Bunny and Michael Jordan. Includes promotional text, movie titles, and a 'NOW SHOWING AT THESE THEATRES' list.



Park aglow with holiday lights

The fourth annual Wayne County LightFest continues through Jan. 1 in Hines Park. Motorists can enjoy lighted holiday displays set up throughout Hines Park and scheduled to light up evening hours 7-10 p.m. through Jan. 1. Lightfest will be closed Christmas Day. County Executive Edward McNamara, LightFest sponsors and county commissioners pulled the switch Nov. 21 to kick off the light show at the LightFest entrance. People who want to view the display will enter Hines Drive at Merriman Road in Westland 2 1/2 miles south of I-96 and proceed eastbound, one way, exiting at Warren Road east of Telegraph in Dearborn Heights. Motorists will be asked for a \$5 per vehicle donation. Westbound Hines will be

closed during the display hours. Parks officials boast that the LightFest is the Midwest's longest drive-through holiday light show. More than 35 displays with 750,000 lights will be powered by more than 400,000 watts of electricity. And as it does every year, the display has added some variety with new exhibits and twists for the 70,000 cars expected to drive through the display area. A poinsettia ribbon arch display will be shown near the Merriman Road bridge, lit by 20,000 watts of electricity. Motorists will be able to drive right through the lights of the poinsettia and under the deer leaping over the road. Another display features a toy land at the North Pole. It is a combination of a couple of different displays.

That display is located at Per-rin Field, just west of Inkster Road. The event makes about \$50,000 annually for the county parks, but that's not the purpose of the display. The event isn't done as a money-maker, but as a benefit for the public. The \$5 donation helps support parks maintenance. That support includes picnic tables, playscapes, picnic areas and baseball diamonds. Large crowds are expected again. Food concessions, gift items and Photos with Santa are available at "Santa's Shelter" at the Warrendale picnic area at the exit. Photos with Santa will be \$5. As a special treat for AAA members this year, Michigan Living will feature a \$1 off

coupon. AAA Michigan's Antique Auto Parade display features a waving Santa reminding drivers to play it safe. Other displays and sponsors include: poinsettia ribbon arch, NBD Bank; poinsettia wreath, Blue Cafe Network of Southeast Michigan; American flag, Ameritech; nativity scene, Melody Foods and Ring Screw Works; leaping reindeer, Friends of Wayne County Parks; Park-way express train, NTH Consultants Ltd.; elves' village, Torre & Bruglio; menorah scene, Arbor Drugs and The Farman Group; gingerbread village, Detroit Edison; Santa's Golf Cart, Friends of Wayne County Parks; and Kwanzaa scene, Lewis, White & Clay, Avis Ford, Lewis & Thompson Agency, First Independence Bank, and Coopers & Lybrand.

Free burial space offered to veterans, families

United Memorial Gardens in Plymouth has set aside a limited number of burial spaces for veterans, ex-service personnel and their families. Proof of honorable discharge is required. A limited number of spaces are available to veterans and their families. Therefore, immediate pre-registration is advisable. To receive an eligibility certificate, and other valuable veterans information, call United Memorial Gardens at (313) 662-8902. Applicants must fill out and mail United Memorial Gardens information including name, address, city, state and zip code, a telephone number, branch of service and discharge date. Mail information to United Memorial Gardens, 4800 Curtis Rd., Plymouth, Mich. 48170.

North Pole postmark offered this season

The Fairbanks, Alaska Post Office, which includes the North Pole Station, is once again offering its special North Pole postmark this holiday season. Persons wishing to receive the postmark should do the following: Completely address and apply postage stamps to the envelope or envelopes on which

you would like to have the North Pole postmark. Insert the envelope or envelopes into a larger envelope or container. Include a note requesting the North Pole postmark. Mail to: North Pole Cancellations, US Postal Service, 5400 Mail Trail, Fairbanks, AK 99709-9998

For large orders of addressed and stamped envelopes, the Postal Service recommends sending via Priority or Express Mail. Postmarked cards will enter the mail stream at Fairbanks. North Pole cancellation requests should be received in Fairbanks by Dec. 7. "This special holiday cancellation is a way to make the holi-

days a little more special for children," said Carl January, Jr., Detroit district manager, customer service and sales. "The Postal Service endeavors to make the holiday season memorable, festive and bright." Visit the Postal Service, a non-tax funded agency, on-line at www.usps.gov/.

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S'craft winter registration set

Students wishing to register for winter semester classes at Schoolcraft College may simply visit the McDowell Center, Room 200. For the first time, the school will have special hours Dec. 26, 27 and 30 during the holiday break. Hours are 9 a.m. through 4 p.m.

Regular walk-in registration takes place on Dec. 9-13, 16-20 and Jan. 2; between 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays; 9 a.m. through 4 p.m. on Fridays; and 9 a.m. through 3 p.m. on Saturdays. For information, call (313) 462-4426.

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PIRGIM report lists dangerous toys

BY JENNIFER PLACINTO
STAFF WRITER

Preventing children from being injured or killed while playing with "dangerous" toys is the purpose of the 1996 Trouble in Toyland report, which lists 18 examples of dangerous toys discovered on store shelves.

"Children are still needlessly choking to death on toys and dangerous toys can still be found on toy shelves, despite stronger labeling requirements that went into effect two years ago," said Caroline Schwarz, consumer advocate for Public Interest Research Group in Michigan (PIRGIM) which recently released their annual report on dangerous toys.

PIRGIM members are concerned with the adequate labeling of toys in accordance with the Child Protection Safety Act (CPSA) passed in 1994.

"What we see right now is a phasing out (of old labels)," Schwarz said. However, she added, CPSC did not set a deadline to remove the older labeled products from the shelves.

These older labels may be age specific, but fail to warn of choking hazards. Toys that are 1.25 inches in diameter or less pose a choking hazard for children under 3 and toys that are 1.75 inches in diameter or less are a choking hazard for older youngsters.

The problem with age-specific labeling, Schwarz said, is that consumers think it only designates the developmental stage of the child and thus, consumers may purchase these items for younger children.

Increasing the size of toys and toy parts is the most avoidable solution to choking hazards for children. However, for reasons of cost savings and expansion of marketing, some toys are being made with these smaller parts, Schwarz said.

Disney's 101 Dalmations Puppy Pal is one of the toys listed as a choking hazard.

Although the product has a choke warning label, Schwarz said, it is in violation of child safety laws since it has small parts and appeals to children under the age of 3. The "play value" standards apply in this case, Schwarz said.

Toys have play value if they are bright, primary colors, round and chunky and can be operated with a simple push-pull motion.

While choking on toys most frequently occurs in toddlers ages 2 and under, Schwarz was quick point out examples of older children who choked to death on toys, such as a 4-year old who

choked on a play guitar string and children as old as 8 and 9 who have choked to death on deflated balloons.

"There are certain types of balloons that are marketed specifically to very young kids," Schwarz said of animal and cartoon character balloons. "We certainly wouldn't mind seeing these gotten rid of."

Schwarz added that she knew of no deaths related to helium

balloons made of cellophane.

PIRGIM members also would like to see a limit put on toy pull strings to eliminate strangulation hazards. One toy Schwarz cited as a hazard is Pull Along Pluto, made by Mattel, which has a cord 30 inches in length.

"We think it should be a maximum of 8 inches," Schwarz said.

In the non-profit's group 11 years of operation, PIRGIM reports have resulted in 48 toy

recalls and other actions by the CPSC. However, Schwarz noted, consumers have the most influence in the regulation of toys.

One way consumers can make sure toys are choke proof is to bring a toilet paper roll with them when they go shopping. If a toy fits inside the roll, it is a choke hazard, Schwarz said.

To obtain safety tips and the full 1996 'Trouble in Toyland' report, make checks payable for

Children are still needlessly choking to death on toys and dangerous toys can still be found on toy shelves, despite stronger labeling requirements that went into effect two years ago.'

Caroline Schwarz
-consumer advocate, PIRGIM

\$10 to PIRGIM, 122 S. Main Street, Suite 370, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. To access the report by computer, e-mail with the subject line 'toy' to watchdog@pirg.org.

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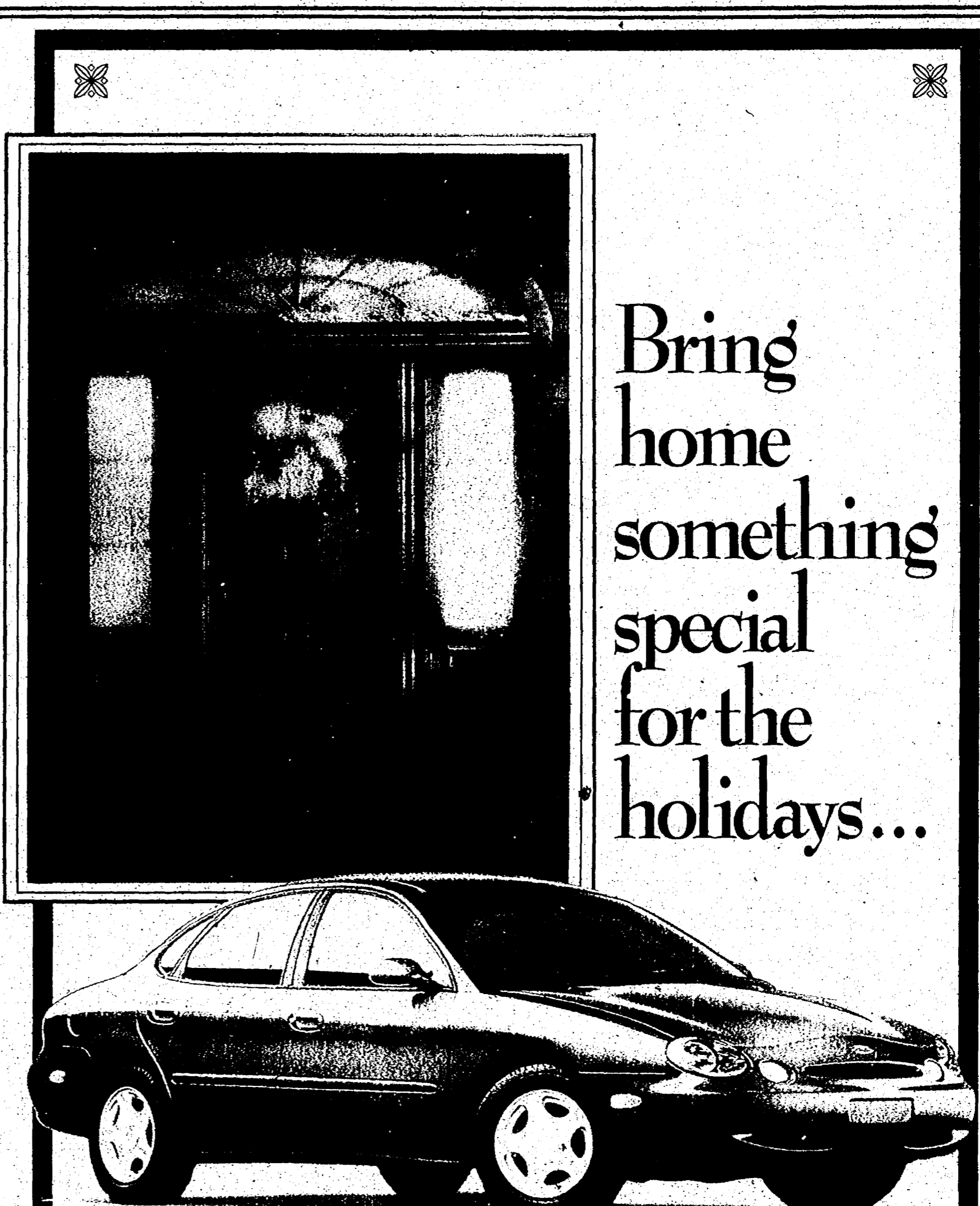
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Madonna sets winter semester signup

Madonna University's winter semester in-person registration for new and returning students continues through Friday, Jan. 3.

Office hours will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays; and until 7 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays, with the exception of Dec. 16, 19 and 23 when the office will close at 5 p.m.

All offices will be closed Dec. 24 through Jan. 1. Classes begin the week of Jan. 6.

Students may enroll in day, evening and weekend classes, and non-admitted students must obtain a permit to register from the Admissions office. Transfer students are welcome.

Madonna University offers to men and women associates and bachelors degrees in more than 50 career oriented majors and masters degrees in diverse areas of business, education, health services administration, hospice and nursing.

For more information call the Admissions office at 432-5339.

TASTE

B

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1996

TASTE BUDS



CHEF LARRY JANES

Forget the house, make gingerbread

When my daughter was two years old I began making gingerbread on an almost weekly basis. Little children seemed to love it — the spicier the better. For special occasions, I would ice this gingerbread with chocolate or lemon frosting. Some days, I split it into layers and would slather raspberry jam all over it. The recipe I used was a nice, traditional one from "Charleston Recipes," the classic cookbook created by the Junior League of Charleston, which I picked up at a book store just down the street from Mother's Restaurant, with a fried oyster po'boy dripping from my lips.

If you ever visit Charleston, pick one up as all good cookbook collections should have a copy.

Seeking perfection

A few years later, I decided to branch out, and after a while, I realized that I was on a quest for the perfect gingerbread. Like most heroic quests, this search has not turned up any ultimates, but I have discovered a few worthy efforts that would definitely fill the void this holiday season.

It is amazing how many people are hooked on gingerbread. People who like it love it and crave it. These people are extremely easy to please, and they are more than willing to help taste the results of your experiments. I generally try out recipes on my kids (confirmed gingerbread fiends, especially when covered with a citrus glaze high in sugar content). I've also made and shipped gingerbread to another victim, Norman Weinstein, a professional food demonstrator and culinary arts teacher who lives in Brooklyn, New York! His idea of heaven is a good science fiction book, and a warm piece of gingerbread.

The sad fact is that gingerbread is on the decline, although it is alive and well in children's books of the 1950s where cheerful housewives ala June Cleaver wait at home for the arrival of their children (i.e. The Beav) at 3 p.m., ready with a great big pan of gingerbread and some ice cold milk. I must have been deprived because I grew up in the 1950s, but my mamma never wore pearls and never made gingerbread.

You do not have to be a housebound mother (or father) to make gingerbread. All you need is to put aside an hour or so to mix up the batter and bake it, and then, provided you do not have a huge mob waiting to devour it, it will pay you back for a few days because gingerbread gets better as it ages. I myself never have any around long enough to age, but my English cookbooks assure me that a few days make all the difference in the world.

Sweet conclusions

After years of hands-on experience, I have come to three conclusions about gingerbread: First, the ground ginger must be absolutely fresh. If you, like me, have a quarter-consumed small can of ground ginger covered in dust or other spices from the rack, throw it out. Ginger loses its power after it has been sitting around for nine months or so. If you have access to an ethnic market that sells spices, buy your ginger there or better yet, contact the folks at Rafal Spice in Detroit's famed Eastern Market. (If you plan on doing any holiday cooking this season, refresh your spice cabinet with new spices from Rafal, it's well worth it.) Rafal's is at 2521 Russell in the heart of the bustling Eastern Market area, and is open Monday through Saturday (the best time to shop is during the week when the crowds aren't there). Of course, you can purchase a fresh jar of ginger at the supermarket and it will work just fine.

Second, most recipes are very timid about the quantities of ginger. You can start out mild and end up doubling or tripling the amount. I prefer a heaping tablespoon, which may be too much for the timid, but not enough for others. This is a matter of taste. I suggest you taste the batter before baking. It is still fun to lick the spoon!

Third, never use ordinary molasses. It is simply too bitter, and you don't want bitter gingerbread. Pure cane syrup is the name of the game.

I wholeheartedly endorse pure cane syrup made by C.S. Steen Syrup Mills of Abbeville, Louisiana. Four of their twelve ounce cans can be purchased for \$10 plus \$4.61 shipping (call them at (318)-893-1654). I'm not talking Karo syrup here folks. This is the best. You can also use black or light treacle, a British ingredient available at local fancy food shops or at The Irish Baker, 5472 Schaefer in Dearborn (313) 584-2444.

Chef Larry Janes is a free-lance writer. He welcomes your calls and comments. To leave a message for him, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1886. See recipes inside.

LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Taste next week:

- Make many cookies with just one dough.
- Laura's Fat-Free kitchen.

H O S T E S S E S

Deck the Halls'

BY RUTH MOSSOK JOHNSTON
SPECIAL WRITER

Holiday parties mean different things to different people — gatherings can be from the most elaborate to just coffee and cake with a few friends. A wonderful party, whether small or large, elegant or simple, is where you enter the home of your host, and feel welcome.

The month of December does lend itself to going all out — a time of celebration, excess, and indulgence, especially in the area of food. It seems a time when effort is effortless... or can be made so, by orchestrating properly planned parties and menus.

We would all like to think we have the ability and confidence to serve a surfeit of courses to 50 with ease and elegance. The reality is, not all of us do, or do we care to. Entertaining is as personal as our style of dress. Parties, dinners, and get-togethers should feel comfortable for the host and guests. Everyone has their own traditions and talents — feel a freedom to do what is comfortable.

Three area women share their holiday party plans:

Paula Dore-Duffy, Ph.D. — research scientist, professor of neurology, chief of the Division of Neuro-Immunology at Wayne State University's School of Medicine, and a resident of Bloomfield Hills, is also a mother of three, and married to Dr. Michael Duffy.

In her spare time, she is a gourmet cook, takes her kids to a variety of activities, sews skating costumes for her daughter, works on many committees, plans elaborate holiday decorations for her home (we are talking a Christmas Tree in every room — trees that all have themes; a Nautical Tree, a Nut Cracker Tree, a Santa Tree, a Pink Tree, Children's Trees — one in each of the kid's rooms, to name a few), and organizes the Duffy's annual Christmas Day Buffet for 50.

This holiday fête on the 25th of



Tropical twist: Polynesian Holiday Shrimp Kebabs are a festive appetizer sure to please guests. They are also easy to eat, since shrimp and kebab-sized vegetable and fruit pieces need little or no cutting, and can be prepared ahead of time.

December (begins mid-afternoon, and goes through the dinner hour) is not only a sit down event, but formal. Hosts and attendees are properly dressed in festive-dressy-holiday attire.

Rented tables for 6-8 (per table) are delivered days ahead — then elaborately decorated throughout several rooms. Set upon each plate, is a gift, especially chosen for the individual who will be seated in that spot. These beautifully wrapped gifts are hand-picked throughout the

year so the "right choices" can be made.

After cocktails and champagne — Christmas carols are sung and accompanied by piano — the children present little piano recitals and then, the elaborate buffet is set.

"Dinner is done with traditional recipes," says Paula. "Spiced meat pate, duck or goose, a rack of lamb or a filet mignon roast (depending on which year), cran-

See DECK THE HALLS, B2

Great finds for the holidays — right to your door

Want to have your tables set professionally — THE TALENTED TABLE — an entertainment design team of Dorie Miller, Janet Stein, Amy Miller Weinstein and Arleen Miller (One mom, two daughters and a daughter-in-law — respectively) have established a new service, based in Bloomfield Hills, to create impeccable and unique table-top arrangements for any special occasion. These four have talent, taste, and great stuff. What started out as Mom's compulsion in buying art, cookery items, linens, antiques, decorative items, and dishes — is a unique business concept. I loved Janet's comment regarding her mother — "she doesn't buy one, she buys 3 dozen!" To contact this talented foursome call: (810) 932-1863.

Bûche de Noël (Yule log) delivered right to your door — Let Le Bistro du Lac bake a delicious traditional Yule Log cake for you. This authentic French restaurant will have their Pastry Chef make your festive sweet ending. This yellow cake is decorated with chocolate frosting to look like bark — meringue mushrooms and candy holly leaves growing out of it. Each log serves 8-10. \$26, plus \$10 for shipping and handling. To order, call (207) 655-4100, Fax: (207) 655-2472, or E-mail your order: Bistrolac@aol.com.

Greenberg's Smoked Turkeys straight from Texas to your front door in a matter of days. The Greenberg's have been smoking only one thing for the past 58 years — turkeys.

These wonderful smoked birds are hand rubbed inside and out with a secret seasoning mix of spices and salt, completely cooked to perfection over hickory wood in the Greenberg's brick smoke houses, and frozen to maintain their freshness — there are no preservatives! Your beautifully completely cooked bird arrives triple bagged and ready for the trimmings. Place it in your refrigerator until ready for use, if not using six to eight days after its arrival, you can keep it frozen in your freezer for six months.

The smoked turkey skin is not usually eaten, but makes a great addition to your bones for soup. You can serve this moist delicious turkey: hot-room temperature, or cold.

Greenberg's smoked turkeys are available year round — they weigh between 6 to 15 pounds — you get the entire bird — not sold as breasts only. The cost is \$3.10 per pound plus UPS shipping charges and a \$ 25 handling charge (can you believe it in the '90s). Call (903) 595-0725 or FAX: (903) 593-8129

ENTERTAINING TIPS

In planning your party — determine; what type of party you plan to have — will it be a small intimate affair, a large buffet, a sit down formal dinner for 12, or grazing for 25? Organization is essential! What is your budget? Do you want a caterer or waitstaff?

If hiring a caterer, book your party far enough in advance to have the party carefully planned.

Interview your potential caterer — ask lots of questions — discuss menus and the possibility of a tasting? Generally, the food for food prices will be competitive — the extras (wait-staff, bartenders, valet parking, linens, dishes/glassware, and tents) are all priced separately. Most caterers will even bring their top-hatted doorman and the red mats if so requested). In the case of the small independent caterer, you may have to make the arrangements for servers, bartenders, rental equipment and all extras on your own.

Set a catering price and stick to it — don't try to negotiate after you've exceeded your budget. If you add extras, expect to pay for them. Remember to add tax and gratuity to get an accurate figure.

If one caterer quotes you a price far below the others, it usually does not

indicate that you are getting a bargain, but a questionable result. (Reflect back to the contractor that gave you that low bid!)

Carefully look over rental equipment, make sure it is what you want, and in good condition. Note any problems with equipment — so you won't have to pay for breakage you or your guests didn't cause.

Make sure you have enough staff present if you want help — general rule of thumb: one waiter for eight guests, two waiters for 10-12. If you are having a bar, one competent bartender should be able to handle up to 50 guests. If hiring for a major holiday — plan on paying double time. There is nothing written that you must have help if you are entertaining a large crowd — it all depends on your level of comfort.

Run through the evenings events with the caterer and/or waitstaff — time of arrival, departure, dress, duties and pay. Usually if the caterer has supplied the servers, they will have had training — check to make sure. If hiring outside servers, run through the evening with them prior to the arrival of the guests and be specific as to what you expect.

It's always polite to introduce the wait-staff to your family members and to the guest of honor (if there is one) this way

the server will know who is to be served first.

Always treat your employees with respect — never speak to them in a discourteous or peremptory tone — poor behavior of that sort is a clear indication that you are the amateur.

It is appropriate to give an additional gratuity to waitstaff if you are well pleased.

Regardless if you are having help or not, you need to be well organized. Determine how many guests will be invited — do you want to send invitations or extend invitations by phone.

Plan your menu — develop a grocery list for food and spirits.

Before cooking, set out dishes you will use for serving — get linens, dishes and silverware ready. Determine what accessory pieces or decorative items you will need.

Have your beverage set-up planned — make sure you leave adequate space for beverages and/or a bar. Be sure to have ample storage space for ice cubes — if freezer space is tight — use a portable thermal container and place in your bathroom tub — keep the shower curtain closed — no one needs to be aware of your lack of space! Always stock your beverage bar with lots of

alternatives. Be considerate of those on special diets and those that don't drink alcohol.

In planning your menu, keep dietary considerations a factor. If serving a multitude of food items, it's not necessary to check with your guest to see if there are any dietary restrictions or allergies. Keep in mind — there are a lot of vegetarians out there. I always ask my guests if they have any dietary restrictions, allergies or absolute dislikes when I invite them!

Be careful when incorporating nuts into your menu or foodstuffs — allergy reactions to nuts can be deadly — make sure if serving something that includes nuts (which often happens around holiday time), they are not hidden — to be safe, always ask your guests first.

Looking for musicians for your holiday party? Especially ones you can afford?

Try calling your local high school — students do music gigs, and even some of the teachers will be happy to work after hours. Check with members of the symphony, as well as musicians from your local church or synagogue.

Make sure you have enough tables and chairs — always have more than you need; just in case you have a few extra friends drop by.

Morton's pays attention to wine details

BY ELEANOR & RAY HEALD
SPECIAL WRITERS

As consumers elevate expectations for both wine and food in restaurants, Morton's of Chicago Steakhouse is paying attention.

"Five months ago, the Morton's corporation formed a four-member wine team with the mission of improving wine quality, its service and becoming more innovative in merchandising wine," said Jake Hickton, member of the wine team and Maitre d'/General Manager of the Southfield Morton's.

"Morton's values partnerships. Because the company buys \$10 million in wine annually and wine prices are escalating, we're looking at long-term agreements with producers, negotiators and shippers, not only to give our 34 nationwide restaurants well-priced wines, but

also to guarantee sufficient supply. Essentially, we're locking vendors into year-long pricing."

Morton's is becoming a shrewd wine buyer and perception of value is important. They've always claimed that each of their properties is a model of consistency. Now, they're reaching out further to be consumer friendly, particularly with well-priced wines by the glass. The focus is varietal wines, following an American and American steaks theme, and an informed waitstaff to serve them.

Since Hickton came to the Southfield Morton's at the end of January, he created a 170-page wine training manual and each staff person goes through a four-week training period. "On regular tests, the average score of wait-

See DETAILS, B2

NEW WINES: For readers who called our Voice mail inquiring about availability of some good 1993 Burgundies and were told "the best ones are gone," we've found some more. They are imported by J et R Selections Ltd. from the Burgundy estate Domaine Jean Ravaut: Morry-St. Denis \$27.50, Gevery-Chambertin, Premier Cru Cavaux St. Jacques \$34.50, Clos de la Roche, Grand Cru \$56, Charnes-Chambertin, Grand Cru \$58, Clos de Vougeot, Grand Cru \$56 and Chambertin Clos de Beze, Grand Cru \$83. Red Burgundies are expensive, but they are in demand world wide, especially from the 1993 vintage.

Exceptionally elegant whites:
1995 King Estate Pinot Gris (Oregon) \$12
1995 King Estate Reserve Pinot Gris \$15
1995 Vinea Chardonnay \$16
1995 Fortant de France Sauvignon Blanc \$8
1995 Murphy-Goods Fume Blanc \$10.50
1995 Murphy-Goods Reserve Fume \$18
1995 Bernardus Sauvignon Blanc \$12
1995 La Vieille Ferme Blanc \$8

Round, full, rich robust reds:
1994 La Vieille Ferme, Cotes du Ventoux \$12
1995 Fortant de France Merlot \$8
1994 Ch. de Calissanne (Provence, France) \$17

For your cellar or special holiday gift:
1993 Beringer Merlot, Bancroft Vineyard \$40

SELECT

Entertain guests with festive holiday fare

See related story on Taste front

POLYNESIAN HOLIDAY SHRIMP KEBABS

- Yield: 4 main course/8-12 appetizer servings
- 1/2 cup bottled Italian dressing
 - 1 teaspoon curry powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon cardamom (optional)
 - 1/4 teaspoon dried hot pepper flakes
 - 1 teaspoon pitted and deveined large shrimp
 - 1 large red bell pepper, seeded and cut into 8 slices
 - 8 thick scallions, trimmed to leave 2-inches of green tops
 - 1/2 small pineapple, cut into 1-inch chunks (about 1 1/2 cups)
 - 1/2 small cantaloupe or small honeydew melon, cut into 1-inch chunks or scooped into balls (about

1 1/2 cups)

Directions:

In a shallow dish, combine the Italian dressing, curry powder, cardamom, and hot pepper flakes. Add the shrimp, turning to coat completely. Cover and refrigerate for 15-30 minutes. Add the bell pepper, scallions, pineapple and melon to the shrimp, tossing to coat the vegetables with the marinade.

Thread the shrimp, fruit, and vegetables onto 4 large (about 12") metal skewers (placing some of each onto each skewer, beginning, and ending with fruit), or thread onto small bamboo skewers that have been soaked 30 minutes in water (placing one each of the shrimp, vegetables, and fruit on each skewer).

Grill over medium coals, turning the skewers once, until the shrimp are opaque and the vegetables and fruits are softened, 4-6 minutes.

Note: if you don't want to use the melon, just add more pineapple. The fruit should be on the ends of the skewers because the heat of the grill will be less there.

For a main course, the kebabs should be served over rice, which can be part of the recipe if you wish. For appetizers, the bamboo skewers should be arranged on a platter and served.

Recipe: Compliments of Wish-Bone Dressing:

■ Informational note — Tourtière means pie dish in which to make tourtes

PAULA DORE-DUFFY'S FAMILY LE TOURTIÈRE MEAT PIE

- Yield: one pie
- 1/2 pound ground beef (lean)
 - 1 1/2 pounds ground pork
 - 2 cups water
 - 1 medium-large onion — chopped or minced
 - Salt and pepper to taste
 - 1 medium potato, cooked, then mashed dry
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons ground cloves
 - 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon allspice
- Favorite pie crust recipe
- OPTIONS:

Increase all spices. For parties, make this dish for hors d'oeuvres by making it in a rectangular pan — cut in squares. Add Chinese or Italian hot or mild seasonings for a different taste.

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. In a sauce pan mix pork, beef, water, onion, salt and pepper. Cover and cook for 40 minutes — don't let the meat catch on the bottom of the pan. Add additional water if necessary. Cook until meat is tender. Bottom of pan should be moist, but meat should not be floating in water. Remove fat as meat cools and rises to top of water.

Add cloves, garlic powder, allspice and potato to defatted meat. Mix well.

Pour into pastry into shell and cover with pastry dough. (I usually put a little pastry decoration on top).

Bake in preheated oven until brown (approximately 40-50 minutes) until

golden brown. Serve hot or cold — with or without ketchup or a favorite sauce.

Pies can be precooked and frozen—if doing it that way — bake at 350 degrees F. for 30 minutes — then reheated to finish.

■ Informational note: this recipe is close in design to the recipe for Rillettes.

PAULA DORE-DUFFY'S FAMILY GRATON RECIPE

- Yield: big batch
- 6 pounds of lean ground pork (shoulder is best, but you can also use butt)
 - 4 large onions, peeled and chopped
 - 5-6 teaspoons allspice

- 2 teaspoons nutmeg
- 1 rounded teaspoon ginger
- 1 rounded teaspoon cloves
- Salt and pepper
- Dill (optional) (My mother never added this but I like the flavor)

Directions:

Mix the meat and onions into a large French Oven or kettle with enough water to cover the meat by one inch.

Cook over medium-high heat until the mixture comes to a boil — reduce the heat to simmer (approximately 40 minutes) — stirring frequently until the meat begins to stick to the bottom of the pan. At this point, the mixture will appear thick as if the meat will set. Watch constantly! Add the seasonings and cook for another 5 minutes. Remove the pot from your cook top. Pour or scoop into decorative molds, crocks, or storage containers. Let the meat mixture cool — remove any fat from the surface and serve with crackers, water biscuits, toasts, baguettes, etc.

Note: "We eat this for breakfast on toast!" You can also make a patty out of this and fry.

SHARON REINER'S MEXICAN HOT CHOCOLATE

- Yield: 2 generous cupfuls
- 1/8 cup plus 1 teaspoon cocoa powder
 - 2 tablespoons honey
 - 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon
 - 2 tablespoons warm water
 - 2 1/2 cups milk

1/2 teaspoon vanilla (optional)

Directions:

In a sauce pan mix together the cocoa powder, honey, cinnamon, and warm water. Mix into a smooth creamy paste. Add the milk and vanilla (optional). Warm thoroughly but do not boil. Serve.

CLASSIC SHORTBREAD COOKIES

- 1/2 cup butter at room temperature
- 1/3 cup powdered sugar-unsifted
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup flour-unsifted

Directions:

Cream the butter until it is light. Cream in the powdered sugar, then the vanilla. Work in the flour. Knead the dough on an unfloured board until nice and smooth. Spray the shortbread pan very lightly with a non-stick vegetable oil spray. Firmly press the dough into the shortbread pan. Prick the entire surface with a fork, and bake the shortbread right in the mold at 325 Degrees F. for about 30-35 minutes, or until very lightly browned. Let the shortbread cool in its pan for about 10 minutes before you loosen the edges with a knife and flip the pan over onto a wooden cutting board.

If the shortbread does not come right out, tap one edge of the pan. Cut the shortbread into serving pieces while it is still warm.

Let the mold cool before washing in sink or dishwasher.

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Deck the Halls from page B1

berry things, and of course, traditional plum pudding — although we always do a Bûche de Noël (Yule log) for Michael's

December 25th birthday, as well as a sweet table."

■ Sharon Reiner knew she wanted to be a farmer since first grade. Seven years ago, Sharon bought a 10 acre farm (Victorian farm house and all) when she was single. Now married to André, and mother to Gunnar (age 5), what started out as a hobby of raising chickens, Black Sheep Poultry and Woolen Co. Inc. was born, or in this case, hatched.

Located in Grass Lake, (outside of Ann Arbor) Sharon's dream has almost been fulfilled. Chicken farming is not new, although by talking to Sharon you would think it is. Her enthusiasm is brimming as she talks about her "first in, first out rotational system." She's not just cleaning out coops, and feeding her flock, she mixes grain (they mill all of their own grain), does all of the sales, marketing, and distribution.

How does Sharon Reiner, organic chicken farmer extraordinaire, see herself entertaining for the holidays? The yearly tradition of chopping down the family Christmas tree with family and friends, is an event they all look forward to every year.

"Going out into the fields and looking for the perfect Christmas tree is hard work. Nothing is better than bringing the tree into the house and smelling fresh pine" says Sharon, her face all aglow.

Their festivity includes lighting a fire in the hearth and having everyone gather around the newly cut tree for trimming. Fragrant cups of hot cocoa and shortbread cookies — made in the brown bag cookie sheep mold, but of course — is the reward for all the hard work. Sharon's cookies and hot chocolate are all made from organic ingredients — after all, it's a way of life!

■ Constantina, owner of Constantina Public Relations, in Southfield, does media representation here in the Detroit Metropolitan area. Formerly, a fashion model, this dramatically striking, single woman, does not appear to be a gourmet cook — she willingly admits to her lack of finesse in the kitchen — but she does entertain, and with the flair and style one would expect.

In her beautiful high-rise apartment, Constantina has a yearly Christmas Eve gathering, with her closest friends. This

party has always been a traditional small, intimate buffet — fat-free of course. Constantina may not cook, but she knows where to order her favorite holiday gourmet items. "I do research" says Constantina candidly, "I know who prepares the very best food."

Victorian invitations sent, cocktail attire required to fit the ornate ambiance — decorations will include: a big tree decorated with antique and elaborate ornaments, crystal, scented bay berry candles burning, and a beautifully decorated table to accompany her catered buffet meal.

To start, a pitcher of Champagne and Crème de Cassis (Kir Royal) — followed by a spit-roasted turkey, asparagus, sweet potato puree and, for dessert, a chocolate concoction Constantina swears by — Entenmann's Chocolate no-fat loaf cake with cream cheese and fat free chocolate sauce, garnished with raspberries.

As guests leave that evening, each is presented with a Christmas gift — one that has been specifically chosen and beautifully wrapped.

See recipes inside.

Details from page B1

staff is 95 percent," Hickton said. "This has enhanced the professional feeling of staff and made them wine credible. Last month our wine sales exceeded projection by 100 percent. Our waitpersons know the wines and can recommend the best choices for the menu item chosen."

And you won't find waitstaff without floor support during peak dinner hours. Hickton (the only person in full tuxedo) is working hand-in-hand with them to maximize the wine and food experience.

This new attention to wine augments a successful spirits program at Morton's which "sells an experience." Whether its Ports, cognacs, the 25 single malts available or small-batch bourbons, the Southfield-Morton's excels at brand and matching them with cigars (\$10,000 sales per month) in its smoke-friendly environment. Both Hickton and public relations/catering manager Andrea Aretakis are cigar buffs. We took two newly-released cognacs to them for matching.

The name Davidoff is synonymous with the world's finest cigars. They recently extended their expertise beyond tobacco

and introduced two cognacs — Davidoff Classic \$63.25 and Davidoff Extra \$206.48, made by Hennessy especially for Davidoff. Both cognacs were crafted to complement Davidoff cigars. Unfortunately, an August Davidoff plant fire sent 800,000 cigars up in smoke and Davidoff cigars are now hard to find. But experts Hickton and Aretakis came to the rescue suggesting cigar alternatives.

With cognac Davidoff Classic, the preferred cigars had spicy elements such as a darker maduro wrapper that stood up to the full oak character of the cognac. "Basically, any robusto will fill the bill," Aretakis said. And the Zino Robusto did just that. It was a perfect complement to the more robust nature of Davidoff Classic. La Tradition, a double corona and rich, full-bodied smoke with spicy maduro wrapper also harmonized well. Felipe Gregorio Nino is a spicy, peppery cigar with medium body. It displayed the same medium intensity of the cognac and proved a good match.

The finesse of Davidoff Classic cognac called for a medium-light cigar with a Connecticut shade wrapper and lighter tobacco

blend. Two Zino cigars (made by Davidoff) did exceptionally well. Zino Veritas with its nutmeg and chocolate-vanilla characters matched the elegance of the Davidoff Extra cognac. Indicating the importance of matching a cognac (or any spirit) with a cigar was the experience of smoking Zino Veritas with the Davidoff Classic. The cigar came off weedy and neither cigar nor cognac were complemented. Zino #4 Tradition with its mild yet full rich character paired with the smooth, rich, caramel nature of the cognac. "It's long draw makes you want to savor the cognac," Hickton said. "Its mildness was overpowered by the bigger, oakier Davidoff Classic."

While some may say, "Big deal," to all the matching, wine and food or cigars with after-dinner pours, when done correctly they not only enhance a dining experience, but allow one to savor the moment. In our hurried lives, we don't get enough of this.

Look for Focus on Wine on the first and third Monday of the month in Taste. To leave a voice mail message for the Healds, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, mailbox 1864.

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- Michigan State University, Cooperative Extension Service: (313) 494-3013 (Wayne County).
- Butterball Turkey Talk Line: 1-(800)-323-4848
- Reynolds Metals Company Turkey Tips Line: 1-(800)-745-4000
- USDA Meat and Poultry Hot-line: 1-(800)-535-4555 (10 a.m. to 4 p.m.)

Old-fashioned gingerbread brings back memories

See related Taste Buds column on front.

OLD-FASHIONED GINGERBREAD

- 1/2 cup cane syrup or black treacle
- 6 tablespoons butter
- 1 egg
- 4 tablespoons buttermilk
- 2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 heaping teaspoons fresh

- ground ginger
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- pinch salt
- 3/4 cup dried currants or raisins (optional)

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees F. and line the bottom of a buttered 8-inch round cake pan (2 inches deep) with parchment paper. Melt cane syrup with but-

ter. Beat in egg and buttermilk. Set aside.
In a large bowl, sift together the flour, soda, ginger, cinnamon, brown sugar and salt. Stir in currants or raisins, if desired. Add the egg mixture to the flour mixture and mix well. Bake for 10 minutes in a preheated 375 degree F. oven, then turn the oven down to 325 degrees F. and bake for 35 to 40 more minutes or until a tester inserted in the center comes out

clean.
Here's a recipe that makes a more moist gingerbread. The name describes it perfectly.

DAMP GINGERBREAD

- 9 tablespoons butter
- 1 1/2 cups (12 ounces) pure cane syrup
- 2 cups plus 2 tablespoons flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

- 1 3/4 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 tablespoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup whole milk

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Butter a nine inch round cake pan (2 inches deep) and line the bottom with parchment paper. Melt butter with syrup. Mix well. Set aside. In a separate

large bowl, sift together the dry ingredients. Pour the syrup mixture onto the dry ingredients and mix well. Mix in beaten egg and milk. The batter will be very liquid.
Pour into prepared tin and bake at 350 degrees F. for 50-55 minutes. The middle will be set and the edges should have begun pulling away from the sides. Cool the cake in the tin for 10 minutes before turning out on a wired rack.

Pair ham with savory side dishes for noteworthy dinner

AP — This year, team your holiday ham with side dishes that add new flavor notes.
Some suggestions: Sausage, Fruit and Nut Dressing, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans with Glazed Onions, and Cranberry, Corn and Pepper Relish.

Purchase a boneless or an already-sliced ham. Ham is fully cooked and requires only a simple reheating before serving.

If desired, glaze the ham with a mixture of 1/2 cup honey and a 6-ounce can of thawed orange juice concentrate during the last 15 minutes of reheating.

A fully cooked boneless ham will feed a gathering of eight to 10 people.

Leftover cooked ham may be refrigerated tightly wrapped, for up to seven days.

Ham does not retain its high quality for long in the freezer because changes in flavor and texture occur. If you must freeze leftover ham, wrap it tightly in plastic and foil and freeze for no longer than two months.

SAUSAGE, FRUIT AND NUT DRESSING

- 1 cup dried apples
- 12 ounces pork breakfast sausage
- 1 1/2 cups chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 8 cups crumbled Herbed Corn Bread (recipe fol-

- lows)
- 1 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup dried apricots, chopped
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1 tablespoon dried sage
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon dried rosemary, crumbled
- Salt and black pepper, to taste
- 2/3 cup chicken broth

Cover dried apples with warm water; let soak for 30 minutes. Drain well and chop.

In a large skillet, crumble sausage. Sauté with onion and celery until sausage is cooked through and vegetables are soft, about 8 to 10 minutes.

Place dried corn bread in a very large mixing bowl. Add the apples, sausage and sautéed vegetables, the pecans, apricots, the 1/2 cup chicken broth, herbs and salt and pepper to taste.

Mix well and place dressing in a large shallow casserole. Bake for 15 minutes in a 350- to 400-degree F oven; spoon additional 2-3rds cup chicken broth over top and bake for 10 minutes more.

If making dressing ahead, proceed with recipe through mixing of all ingredients, place in casserole, cover and refrigerate overnight. Increase initial baking time to 30 minutes. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Herbed Corn Bread: In medium bowl, stir together 1 cup cornmeal, 1 cup flour, 4 teaspoons baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 4 tablespoons sugar. In small bowl, beat 2 eggs and stir in 4 tablespoons vegetable oil, 1 cup milk, 1-3rd cup finely chopped parsley and 1 tablespoon crumbled dried sage.

Stir wet ingredients into dry; stir just to mix and turn batter into a greased 8- by 8-inch baking pan. Bake in a 400-degree F oven for 20 to 25 minutes, until lightly browned. Let cool, crumble and let stand overnight, covered loosely, to dry. Makes 8 cups.

GARLIC MASHED POTATOES

- 4 pounds small potatoes, cleaned and unpeeled
- Two 5-ounce packages garlic-flavored spreadable cheese
- 3/4 cup canned chicken broth
- Salt and pepper, to taste

In a large saucepan, boil potatoes gently until tender enough to be mashed, about 30 to 40 minutes. Drain and transfer potatoes to a large bowl; mash with cheese, adding broth gradually until potatoes are of desired consistency; season to taste.

If serving potatoes immediately, heat broth before adding. If making ahead, cover well and chill up to one day.

To reheat, place potatoes in an

ovenproof dish and heat in oven (350 degrees F to 400 degrees F) for 30 minutes. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

GREEN BEANS WITH GLAZED ONIONS

- Two 16-ounce bags frozen pearl onions, thawed
- 1/2 cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 pounds fresh green beans, cleaned and trimmed
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 tablespoon stone-ground mustard
- 1 1/2 teaspoons sugar

In a medium saucepan, combine onions, 4 tablespoons of the vinegar, the butter, vegetable oil, thyme, pepper and 1/2 teaspoon of the salt. Heat over low heat until butter is melted; stirring to coat onions.

Place mixture on a baking sheet; roast in a 400-degree F oven for 35 to 40 minutes, stirring occasionally until onions are browned nicely. Remove from oven and set aside.

Blanch green beans in a large saucepan of boiling water just until tender, about 5 minutes. Drain and rinse with cold water; set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, mustard, sugar, the remaining 4 tablespoons vinegar and the remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt.

In a large bowl, toss the dressing together with the onions and green beans. Place the mixture in a large casserole dish and cover. (Recipe can be made ahead at this point and refrigerated for a day. Bring to room temperature before proceeding.) Bake for 20 minutes at 350 degrees F. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

CRANBERRY, CORN, AND PEPPER RELISH


- 1 teaspoon vegetable oil
- 1 green bell pepper, finely

- chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, finely chopped
- 16-ounce can corn, drained
- 1/2 red onion, finely chopped
- 12 ounces fresh cranberries
- 1/2 cup white-wine vinegar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 tablespoon grated fresh gingerroot

Heat oil in large skillet over medium-high heat. Add peppers, corn and onion. Cook, stirring constantly, for 3 to 4 minutes, until vegetables are tender. Add cranberries; cook and stir for 5 minutes more.

Add remaining ingredients; cook and stir until sugar is dissolved. Cool, cover and refrigerate; allow to come to room temperature before serving. Makes about 2 1/2 cups.

Recipes from: National Pork Producers Council



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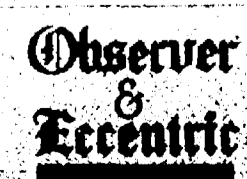


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Make winter meals sunny with citrus

Citrus fruit has traditionally provided a ray of sunshine in bleak and dreary winter menus. Its brilliant colors and fresh, crisp flavors can turn a ho-hum

tion for their cancer-fighting potential.

Lemons may not be one of the first fruits you reach for when preparing meals, but that may

parsley and garlic to mushrooms sauteed in a bit of olive oil to intensify flavor. Mince and mix together lemon rind, parsley and garlic to create a spicy seasoning

cubed mango, minced jalapeno and chopped cilantro.

Give pork a zesty Latin flavor by marinating it in lime juice with olive oil, black pepper, fresh cilantro, bay leaf and garlic.

Citrus rind (or zest) contains oils that add extra flavor to food. To get zest, grate the fruit peel on the smallest holes on a metal grater.

You can also use a small-holed zester, which is available in most kitchenware departments. Be sure to remove only the colored part of the peel and avoid the bitter white pith underneath it.

Grapefruit juice is great for sparkling flavor in beverages such as chilled bottle water, hot or iced tea. Sprinkle the juice over a tossed salad to add brisk flavor without fat. Give your barbecue sauce a taste of the Islands that's perfect with chicken by mixing a half cup of sauce with 3 tablespoons of grapefruit juice.

From sauces to quick breads, oranges and orange juice can refresh your usual recipes. Orange-glazed carrots are made by combing 2 tablespoons of margarine, 3 tablespoons of orange juice, 1 1/2 tablespoons of sugar, 6 whole cloves and 1/4 teaspoon of salt in a saucepan and cooking until the sauce is hot. Remove the cloves and pour the liquid over 10 medium sliced or steamed, tender-crisp carrots.

Here's a tasty recipe that will add a blast of summer to your winter menus.

GULF COAST SCALLOPS

- 1 pound fresh or frozen scallops
 - 1 9-ounce package fresh spinach fettucine or 1 pound dried spinach fettucine
 - 3 cups sliced mushrooms
 - 2 cups carrots, thinly sliced
 - 3/4 cup frozen orange juice concentrate, thawed
 - 3/4 cup cold water
 - 2 tablespoons cornstarch
 - 1 teaspoon instant chicken bouillon granules
 - 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
 - Fresh ground black pepper
 - Fresh parsley
 - Grapefruit sections, optional
- Thaw scallops, if frozen. Cut any large scallops in half. Cook pasta

according to package directions. Drain and keep warm.

In medium saucepan, stir together thawed concentrate, water, cornstarch, bouillon granules, garlic powder and pepper. Add mushrooms and carrots and saute for 5 minutes. Add scallops and cook and stir until mixture is thickened and bubbly. Cook and stir about 2 minutes more or until scallops turn opaque.

Serve the scallop mixture over pasta. Sprinkle with snipped fresh parsley and garnish with parsley sprigs. If desired, garnish with grapefruit sections.

Each of the 6 servings contains 251 calories and 1 gram of fat. Information supplied by the American Institute for Cancer Research.



AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR CANCER RESEARCH

Celebrate citrus: Gulf Coast Scallops is a marvelous marriage of citrus and seafood. These succulent scallops with a light orange sauce inject a blast of summer into your winter menus.

dish into a sensory sensation. Citrus also comes packed with nutrition including its well-known supply of vitamin C, beta carotene (in oranges and red or pink grapefruit) and a host of phytochemicals that are attracting more and more atten-

change once you consider the facts.

Lemons provide a burst of flavor that's virtually free of fat, calories and sodium. Lemon juice makes a great no-calorie dressing for greens, asparagus, green beans or broccoli. Add it with

perfect for sprinkling over soups, stews, poached chicken or fish.

The taste of limes, although quite distinct from lemons, is also sensation — especially with Mexican foods. Serve it sprinkled over melon slices for dessert or in a fresh fruit salsa made of

Everyone knows, 'Christmas is Cookies'

(NAPS)—Christmas cookies are the heart and soul of the holidays.

With the right cookbook, baking and giving wonderful cookies can be surprisingly easy.

This year why not leave St. Nick a plate of homemade Ginger snaps, Hazelnut Macaroons, Oatmeal Scotchies or something decadent like Chocolate-Toffee Bars?

Or surprise him with luscious Linzer Tarts, airy Almond Meringues and Pecan Pralines.

"Christmas is Cookies" (and Gingerbread and Spice Cake and Fudge and More...) (Time-Life Books, \$9.95) offers more than 100 easy-to-follow recipes for classic Christmas cookies and other holiday favorites.

PECAN PRALINES

- Makes 2 Dozen
- 1/4 cup light cream or evaporated milk
 - 2 cups granulated sugar
 - 1/2 cup water
 - 1/3 cup light brown sugar
 - 1/8 teaspoon salt
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
 - 2 cups coarsely chopped pecans
- Generously grease 2 large baking sheets.

In a small saucepan, warm the light cream over low heat. When bubbles begin to form around the edges of the pan, remove the pan from the heat and cover it tightly to keep warm.

Combine the granulated sugar and water in a medium skillet and bring to a boil over high heat, stirring until the sugar dissolves.

Reduce the heat to medium and, gripping a pot holder in each hand, tip the pan back and forth gently until the syrup turns a rich, golden brown. This may take 10 minutes or more.

Remove the skillet from the heat and, with a wooden spoon, stir in the brown sugar and salt. Stirring constantly, pour in the warm cream in a slow, thin stream. Stir in the vanilla and the pecans.

To form each praline, ladle about 4 teaspoons of the pecan mixture onto the prepared baking sheet. As you proceed, space the pralines about 3 inches apart to

allow room for them to spread into 2 1/2-inch rounds. When the pralines have cooled to room temperature, transfer them to a serving plate.

The book is available at local book and cookware stores or by calling 1-800-277-8844.

Cinnamon rolls have flavor secret

(AP) Pear baby food is the secret ingredient that gives Low-Fat Cinnamon Rolls sumptuous texture and moistness without added fat. The recipe is from "Rise Up to Good Nutrition with Homemade Bread," published by the American Dietetic Association. Each serving contains 1 gram of fat.

LOW-FAT CINNAMON ROLLS

- 2 1/2 to 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 package rapid-rise yeast
- 2 tablespoons nonfat dry milk
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 cup very warm water (120 degrees F to 130 degrees F)
- 6-ounce jar pear baby food
- 3 egg whites
- 1 1/2 cups whole-wheat flour
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 1-3/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 3/4 cup raisins
- 1 recipe Powdered Sugar Icing (recipe below)

In large bowl, combine 1 cup all-purpose flour, the granulated sugar, undissolved yeast, dry milk and salt. Stir in water and baby food. Stir in egg whites, whole-wheat flour and enough remaining all-purpose flour to make soft dough. On lightly floured surface, knead dough until smooth and elastic, about 4 to 6 minutes. Cover; let rest on floured surface 10 minutes.

Roll dough to 18- by 12-inch rectangle. Brush honey on dough; sprinkle evenly with brown sugar, cinnamon and raisins. Beginning at long end, roll up tightly; pinch seam to seal. Cut into 12 equal pieces. Place, cut sides up, in

greased 13- by 9-inch baking pan. Cover; let rise in warm, draft-free place until doubled in size, about 30 to 45 minutes. Bake at 375 degrees F for 25 to 30 minutes or until done. Remove from pan; cool on wire rack. Drizzle with pow-

dered sugar icing. Makes 12 rolls.

Powdered Sugar Icing: In a small bowl, combine 1 cup sifted powdered sugar, 3 to 4 teaspoons nonfat milk and 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract; mix until smooth.

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*Complete contest rules available at Casino Windsor and the Northern Belle Casino. Entrants selected in random draw must correctly answer a mathematical skill-testing question to win. Must be resident of U.S. or Canada over 19 years of age to enter.

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Monday, Dec. 2, 1996

SHOPPING CENTERED



Linda Ann Chomin

Pick a 'theme' for your tree

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Each Christmas when I was a child, our family decorated one real 10-foot tree with a host of ornaments. Today, families like Leanne LaMarre's, have smaller theme trees in every room of the house including the kitchen and bathroom.

A professional design consultant in Bloomfield Hills, LaMarre is currently working on a commission of 12 decorator trees for a Grosse Ile business owner who plans to give them as gifts to employees.

"When we lived in northern Canada, each of us had a tree to decorate. My brother's was rocking horses and mine, Raggedy Ann and Andy," said LaMarre who credits her 11-year old son John for creating the red-and-white cookie cutter tree displayed on her kitchen counter.

"You could do Santas or teddy bears. You could use color themes like silver and gold. But try to coordinate the color with your home."

Red, black and white ribbons stream from the top of a 101 Dalmations tree in the dining room. This is a very special tree. LaMarre plans to donate it to the pediatric ward at Beaumont Hospital.

Two 6-packs of miniature Dalmations (available at Target for \$14.99 each) sit in the two-foot-high tree, lit by a strand of 35 white lights. Underneath, a fire hydrant and Dalmatian family from The Disney store await Christmas on a swatch of Dalmation-pattern fabric from JoAnn's Fabrics to complete the scene.

"We're hoping to get donations so we can provide each child in the pediatric ward with a stuffed Dalmatian," said LaMarre.

At Michael's Angel Attic in Livonia, ornaments of every description hang from trees, including dog and cat angels with movable legs (\$12-\$14.95). Another tree is filled entirely with brown bear angels made from terry cloth (\$8.95) and yet another with crystal and gold angels, all lit by a string of 10 angels. Spanish-looking papier mache angels by Lilia Estrada (\$42) resemble folk art. Local artists Tami Gardner of Plymouth and Kay Hoehn of Livonia also have handmade angels here.

"They're coming in not only for their trees but to do their whole homes in angels," said owner Lisa Reed as she displayed a primitive-looking wood cow with tin wings by Bobbo (\$12.50). "Angels are really popular now and many people are doing trees with an ethnic theme."

While a kachina doll tree (\$7.50-\$9.50) is the center of attraction at Native West in Plymouth, it's easy to imagine a southwest or cowboy theme tree decorated with the ornaments found on a wood cactus in the middle of the gallery. Everything from birch bark canoes (\$6.50) to wood carved horses, deer and Thunderbirds (\$7.50); hand blown glass chili peppers (\$7.95); tin animals like howling coyotes \$7.50, and a totem topped by an eagle (\$14.50) will add a little spice to your holidays.

"A lot of people will have a fiesta theme tree using the red, yellow and green chili pepper lights to give it a festive look," said gallery owner Annette Horn.

Storybook characters by New York designer Christopher Radko fill a Nordstrom tree with magic Humpty-Dumpty (\$50), a cat playing a fiddle, and Snow White and the seven dwarfs (\$86) bring fairy tales to life. A smaller tree for Baby's First Christmas is color coordinated with pink and blue bears, baby shoes and building blocks (\$4-\$9).

"What's nice about Christopher Radko's annual ornaments, is all the proceeds go toward finding cures for AIDS or pediatric cancer," said Kathie Daas, of the Nordstrom gallery.

Plymouth Nursery (Plymouth Ann Arbor Rd.) is a major source of tree inspirations with gardeners, sportsman and bird trees on display.

On a whimsical note, a Beanie Baby tree is filled with ladybugs and others (\$4.99).



Disney delight: Leanne LaMarre poses with her 101 Dalmations Tree.

PHOTO BY JERRY ZOLYNSKY

Survey shows holidays cost you - a grand



Here's a report from American Express that puts a price tag on Christmas.

According to the American Express Retail Index of 800 consumers, more than one-third of holiday shoppers expect to spend \$1,000 or more on gifts in 1996 and overall, about \$95 per person.

These estimates are level with what consumers expected to spend last year when asked to project their holiday budgets before the start of that shopping season.

"Shoppers expect to spend a total of \$1,160 this season, with an average of \$900 being spent on gifts, and the balance going toward holiday entertaining, decorations and travel," said Liz Barrett, a spokeswoman for American Express.

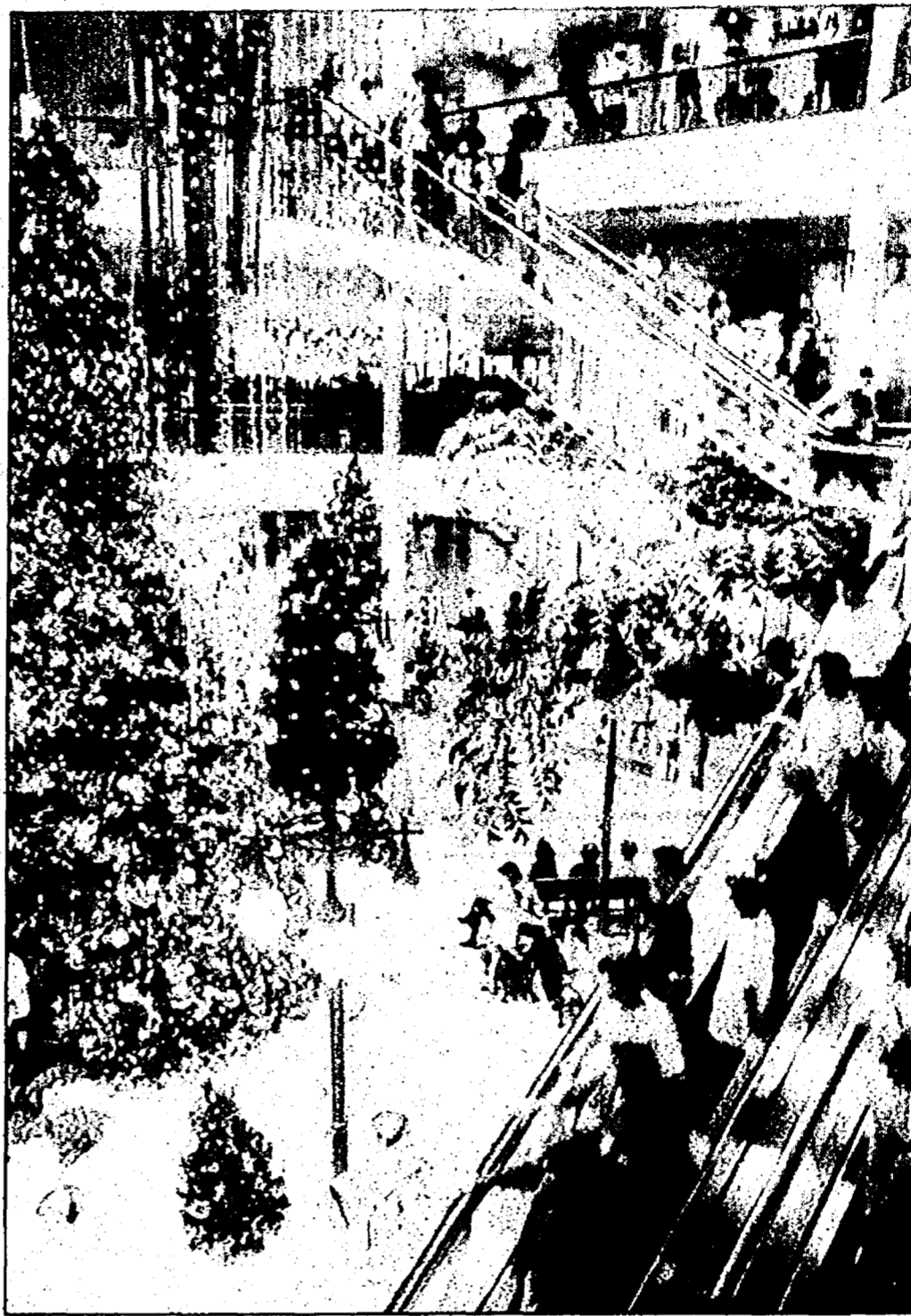
Other details of the survey:

- While department stores remain the number one choice to shop for gifts, there was a 10 percent increase in the number of shoppers who say they will shop at discount stores this year, overtaking clothing stores as the second most-popular place to shop.

- Five-percent more people this year said they would price-shop for their gifts.

- Of those buying gifts for children, 85-percent said they would seek out educational toys.

- Clothing topped the gift choice category, with music/movies a close second. Toys came in third.



'Tis the season: Shopping malls draw people by the thousands at this time of year, but all eyes aren't necessarily on the merchandise. To protect yourself from pickpockets and purse snatchers, be aware of your surroundings and travel light.

Shop safe Be alert says security pro

When it comes to shopping safety, Don Beasley, director of security for the Taubman Co., said there's no substitute for common sense. In addition, he reminds holiday shoppers to:

- **Protect your money.** Don't carry large sums or pat your pocket to check for your wallet - a clue to pickpockets. Men keep wallets in inside jacket pockets; women in zippered waist fanny packs.

- **Plan ahead.** Set a meeting place to regroup should family members become separated. Teach children to seek out uniformed security in case of emergencies.

- **Count your packages.** Do it each time you stop in a store, restroom or restaurant. Do a quick recount before you leave.

- **Store packages out of sight.** Lock parcels and coats in your trunk - out of sight and temptation.

- **Ask for help.** Never hesitate to ask for a mall security escort if you feel the least bit uncomfortable about walking to your car alone.

- **Park where you're comfortable.** Look for well-lit areas with lots of foot traffic. Use the valet service whenever possible.

- **Be aware of surroundings.** Pay attention to where you park and the stores that flank your entrance. If you tend to forget, jot the information down. Observe those around you.

- **Travel light.** When shopping, the less stuff to worry about, the better.

HOLIDAY RETAIL DETAILS

Dressed for the Holidays

Now through Dec. 8, you can put yourself in the holiday mood by taking the annual walk through the elegantly historic Dodge Mansion, Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills.

Designers from the Somerset Collection shopping center in Troy have incorporated seasonal treasures from a select group of stores into the vignettes of each room which is decorated for the holidays with trees and floral arrangements.



Stage, a fantasy playhouse that mirrors the Hall in miniature.

As an added attraction, fashions of the 1920s-40s from the museum's historic collection have recently been "restored" and will also be on display. According to Lisa Balis Ashby, the hall's executive director, the treatment of this year's holiday walk is a departure from past walks to renew interest and enthusiasm in the very special event.

"What visitors will see is truly unique," she said. "One of the nation's largest, most significant historic houses dressed up for the holidays in genuine 1920s-40s detail, with a late twentieth century flair."

Adult admission is \$10; Children 12 and under \$5; Knole Cottage \$1. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 2 and 3 until 9 p.m. For more information call (810) 370-3140.

Berkley welcomes new shop

Local entrepreneurs Michael Tonda and Michael Snell have restored the old convent that once housed the nuns of Our Lady of La Salette parish, on Coolidge just

north of 11 Mile in Berkley.

The 1920's English manor now houses gifts to delight home and garden enthusiast under the name "Raphael's Magnificent Possessions." Says Snell, "the setting is filled with an eclectic array of treasures collected from all over the world. You'll be greeted by a warm fire, tranquil music, pleasant aromas and friendly faces."

The pair claim to have the "largest selection of European holiday ornaments in Michigan." The shop debuts on Dec. 2. Hours are: Monday-Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday until 8 p.m. For more details call (810) 546-0194.

Parlisan's parent company grows

Proffitt's, Inc. of Knoxville, Tennessee (which recently acquired the department store divisions Younkens, Parisian and McRae's) now adds Herberger's with 40 stores in mostly western states. Herberger's headquarters are in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

The business combinations now make Proffitt's one of the largest regional department store chains in the country with 181 stores in 24 states and annual revenues in excess of \$2.3 billion.

Major brands carried in these stores include Liz Claiborne, Marisa Christina, Susan Bristol, Tommy Hilfinger, Nautica, Polo/Ralph Lauren, Guess, Haggard, Levi's, Estee Lauder, Clinique, Lancome, Varity Fair and Nine West.

Media Play opens in Livonia

Entertainment superstore Media Play opened another metro Detroit location at 30000 Plymouth Rd. in Livonia. The store sells music, books, movies and computer software with thousands of titles and discount prices.

Park Permits for holiday gifts

Nature lovers rejoice! The 1997 Michigan State Park annual motor vehicle permits are now available. Permits can be purchased for \$20 each (\$5 each for seniors 65 years or

older) at all state parks, plus the sporting goods departments of most Meijer Thifty Acres stores. The permits allow unlimited access to 96 different Michigan parks and recreational areas for one year. Call 517-373-9900 for more details.

Wonders of Wonderland Mall

Holiday retailers at Wonderland Mall in Livonia include Wall of Fame Sports, Hickory Farms, Stockings to Stuff, Detroit Science Center Store, Polar Hood Hats, Venice Mens Wear plus many more.

Shoppers can share their happy holidays by buying an ornament for the Community Hospice Tree of Life, or dropping off non-perishable food items, kids clothes and new toys at the Information Booth. Mall marketing director Robbie Sherman said the donations will be distributed to the needy on Dec. 24.

Massages to go

The Birmingham Neuromuscular Clinic (specializing in stress management, pain reduction and shiatsu massages) offers on-site massages to offices and businesses, plus gift certificates for the holidays.

"That's fully-clothed, on-site 15-minute massages," according to staffers Sarah, Michael, Nancy and Deena. The clinic is on 14 Mile, a block east of Woodward. Appointments by calling (810) 642-6789.

Free watch appraisals

Back In Time International, 112 Peabody St. in Birmingham, offers free, verbal appraisals on vintage pocket watches and wrist watches through Dec. 31. For more details call (810) 540-4646.

Free valet parking

Just pull up your car to the Olga's Kitchen entrance off Wayne Rd., and the Westland Shopping Center's valet staff will park it for free as a gift to holiday shoppers.

The mall continues to grow with the expansion of Kohl's, an addition to Sears, and a new Wicks-N-Sticks.

Skaters Take Note!

Skaters and dancers will find Skatedesign's new store at 612 W. University in downtown Rochester an emporium of stretch spandex. Owner Sue Lyons, herself a competitive ice skater, said the shop carries more than 5,000 yards of fabric, plus beads, sequins and genuine Austrian crystal rhinestones, perfect for creating costumes. Open limited hours at (810) 608-8919.

Hotel offers shop package

The Hotel Baronette, located on a perimeter of Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi, offers its annual holiday package for gift seekers. For \$79, book an overnight stay (before or after your shopping expedition) which also includes a power breakfast 7:30-9:30 a.m. and cocktails from 5-7 p.m. while hotel staff wrap all the gifts you bought during the day while you enjoy a swim in the pool, or workout in the fitness center. Call (810) 349-7800 for reservations.

Custom dolls look like daughters

A Colorado-based company is taking the doll world by storm, and you're probably thinking, "Why didn't I think of that!" My Twinn will make a doll replica of your child

- or yourself from age 3 to 12, for \$149.95. You must send a recent snapshot, plus complete a personalized form, asking you to select specifics like hair, eye and skin color, plus eyebrow and face shape, hairstyle and glasses, freckles, moles or birthmarks!

Call 1-800-469-8946 to order or for more information. The ship date is 4-6 weeks, depending on demand. Boy dolls will be available in 1997.

TUESDAY, DEC. 3

Special Shopping

Area Target stores host 23rd annual event for senior citizens and those with disabilities, personal shopping, gift wrapping, refreshments, entertainment, 8-10 a.m. (810) 853-1590.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 4

Tree Festival

Third annual Celebration of Trees, co-sponsored by Livonia Chamber of Commerce through Dec. 12 near the Marriott Hotel entrance. Trees were created and donated by area businesses for auction at annual Christmas event featuring a Jacobson's fashion show. Laurel Park Place, Six Mile/Newburgh. Livonia.

ADDED ATTRACTIONS

(313) 427-2122.

THURSDAY, DEC. 5

Kids-only shop

Birmingham Community House and Jacobson's co-host a "store" where little ones can buy inexpensive gifts for family members assisted by teen volunteers daily from 3-6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Dec. 14. Community House, Bates/Merrill, Downtown Birmingham. (810) 644-5832.

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

Radio Broadcast

Join Kevin O'Neill from WKQI radio for "Christmas Follies '96" 11:30 a.m. Center Court.

Wonderland, Plymouth/Middlebelt. Livonia. (313) 622-4100.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

Kids program

Hot cocoa and cookies at a holiday sing-along in center court 1 p.m. Tel-Twelve, 12 Mile/Telegraph. Southfield. (810) 353-4111.

Photographer visits

Monte Nagler, whose work "Winter Path" was chosen for the cover of the Birmingham/Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra's premiere CD "Sounds of the Season," visits the mini mall from noon to 3 p.m. where an exhibit of his photographs runs through Dec. 28. Bloomfield Plaza, Maple/Telegraph. Bloomfield Hills.

Where can I find?

Thanks to the readers who have called in locations for hard to find items! Thanks too, to those willing to sell or give away the items that they happen to have in their attics and basements; we've been putting people together!

- We found the Perez Prado recording of "Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White" at Jukebox Junction in downtown Wayne (313) 722-0643. Plus, reader Robert Hisson offered to make a cassette recording off an old LP he found in his collection.

Hisson is also looking for an April 1945 edition of *Ford Times* magazine. Anyone got any idea where he can find one?

- Here are some phone numbers for a Tricam Liquid Embroidery Distributor: (517) 685-2332 or (313) 483-3332.

- Several readers offered Guardian ware.

We're still looking for:

- Someone who will alter old draperies to fit new windows
- A company that will "re-coat" old cooking pans with non-stick materials like Teflon.
- A source for typewriter ribbons.
- King-size flat sheets from Martex in the Trade Blanket pattern.
- The Ricketts family of Westland wants laundry bags that hang from the ceiling with zippers on the bottom to let out the dirty clothes.
- Bed pillows manufactured under the name "Blue Heaven."
- Norma Mayette is looking for the name of the catalog that has a Tiger Stadium tin inside that plays Take Me Out To the Ballgame. (It's not Wireless, she contends.)
- Carol Waite needs a Strollachair highchair tray, and Inkor stainless steel cookware.

If you've seen any of these items in your travels, let Malls & Mainstreets know and we'll print the answers. Please call (810) 901-2567.

Organize the holidays, then sit back and relax

The key to avoiding holiday stress?

Be organized!

"Getting organized removes the mental and physical burdens that distract you from accomplishing and enjoying the things that are important in your life," said Stephanie Denton, a professional organizer and adviser to Organized Chaos Inc.

Organized Chaos Inc. is a national club dedicated to simplifying home management by helping people organize their lives. Members, who pay \$2.50 to join, receive The Chaotic Times newsletter filled with tips and advice on getting organized and simplifying home management.

Contact Organized Chaos Inc., P.O. Box 4120, Grand Rapids, MN 55730-4120.

Time management

- Ask recipients what gift they'd like. Create a master "To Buy" list and never go shopping without it. Map it out by store location before you leave home to avoid wasting time.

- Use your home computer to centralize all holiday planning activities, including dates of holiday parties, travel itineraries, menus and shopping lists, cards sent out and more. Denton suggests home management software such as Microsoft Bob.

- Create a schedule for all the household jobs that need to be done to prepare for the holidays; assign each family member specific tasks.

- Accept that you may not be able to do everything yourself. Hire an ambitious high school student during winter break to help cater a party, wrap presents or perform other tasks you can't find time to do.

- Make a list of gifts and the gift-giver as you open each present to make thank-you notes easy.

Budget management

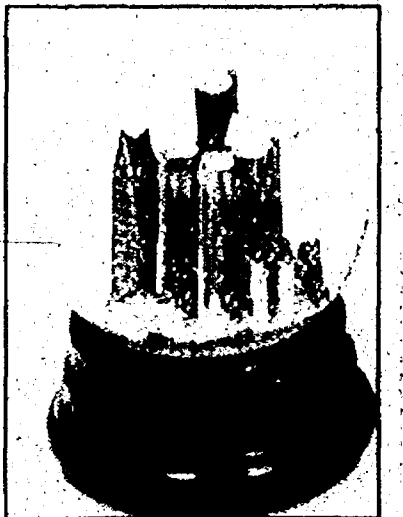
Beware the holiday spending spree that wreaks financial havoc on your new year!

The International Association for Financial Planning suggests you "leave your plastic at home and check your emotions at the door."

The best approach to control holiday spending, according to the firm is to budget your money



Saks' city globe



Prime real estate: Famous landmarks from 17 cities are captured in a series of musical snow globes, \$35 each, at Saks Fifth Avenue, Troy and Dearborn. Choose from Detroit, Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Denver, Washington D.C. and more. The Detroit globe plays the Motown hit "Locomotion."

credit card rates, according to CN.

- Beware of payment plans that sound too good to be true. Those deferred payment plans that invite you to wait until May or June to pay, or those that offer you to skip a payment or a lower minimum payment should be scrutinized closely.

- Copely News Service

New Tiffany book is a treat for holiday hosts

How's this for a children's Christmas dinner...

Picture four colorful place settings, each adorned with a plastic water pistol and sterling silver water cup to assist with refueling.

Fun? Yes!

In your dining room? No way!

But if you're looking for whimsy, warmth, or wonder to create special table settings for the holidays, thumb through "A Tiffany Christmas" just out from Doubleday.

John Loring, Tiffany & Co. director of design, has penned his sixth book for the jeweler. It's \$60, and available at bookstores

and Tiffany's in Somerset Collection South, Troy.

"A Tiffany Christmas" is a fire-side or coffee table delight, designed around the traditions, legends and festivities of the season in the American Spirit.

It is, according to Tiffany's, "a beautiful treasury of photographic images celebrating table settings and decorations in the true spirit of the holiday season, both past and present."

Loring explained the importance of taking extra care in setting the holiday table.

"Christmas is the season when more and everything can be brought to the table to join the celebration - the unexpected, the eclectic, the celebratory - all that glitters, all that's festive."

But whether or not Tiffany candlesticks, china patterns or silverware fit into your home decorating budget, Loring offers state-of-the-art arrangements, presenting "festive" like no other designer.

- Susan DeMaggio

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CRAFTS CALENDAR

Listings 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 Sue Mason at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or by fax at (313) 591-7279. For more information, call (313) 953-2131.

SENIOR HOUSE
Senior House of Livonia will have its fourth annual Christmas bazaar 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, at the retirement residence, 11525 Farmington Road, Livonia. There will be a bake sale, white elephant booth and raffle. For more information, call (313) 425-3050.

LIVONIA SENIOR CITIZENS

The Livonia Senior Citizens' annual arts and craft sale and show will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15128 Farmington Road, Livonia. For more information call, May Ann Naboychik at (313) 422-5010.

SS. KEVIN AND NORBERT
Ss. Kevin and Norbert will have its annual Christmas bazaar 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at St. Kevin's Social Hall, 30053 Parkwood, Inkster. There will be Santa's Living Room, bake sale, lunch and hourly raffles. For

more information, call (313) 728-2470 or (313) 595-1305.
Wayne-Westland YMCA
The Wayne-Westland Family YMCA will have its annual Christmas craft show 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the YMCA, 827 S. Wayne Road, Westland. Table space is still available. For more information, call (313) 721-7044.

FAITH LUTHERAN
Faith Lutheran Church will have a holiday craft show and cookie walk Saturday, Dec. 7, at the church, 30000 Five Mile

Road, Livonia. Craft show hours will be 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; cookies will be sold beginning at 9 a.m. A lunch counter will be available. For more information, call (313) 728-3430.

ST. THOMAS A'BECKET
The Women's Club of St. Thomas a'Becket Church will have its seventh annual craft show 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the church, 555 S. Lilley Road, Canton. There will be more than 75 crafters, a bake sale and hourly raffles. Lunches also will be available. The

church is wheelchair accessible and strollers are permitted.

FARMINGTON WOMEN
The Farmington Area Community Women will hold their 21st annual arts and crafts show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the Farmington Hills Activity Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, between Middlebelt and Inkster roads. There will be more than 100 crafters, a bake sale, candy store and concession stand. Admission will be \$1. For table information, call Judy at (810) 476-9074.

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL
St. John's Episcopal Church will have its Winter Bazaar 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7, at the church, 574 S. Sheldon Road, south of Ann Arbor Trail. There will be Self-Help Crafts of the World and Shop Around Home Sales Booths, featuring baskets, toys, kitchenware, jewelry, crystal, candles, cosmetics and other items. There also will be a bake sale, fresh greens and poinsettias and a cafe open for lunch. No admission charge.

United Way seeks to link volunteers, those in need

For the sixth consecutive year, United Way Community Services' Tel-Help service will offer the Holiday Connection program from Thanksgiving until Dec. 30.

Holiday Connection serves as a clearinghouse to meet the special needs of the tri-county area that emerge during the holiday season.

It refers families in need to human service agencies; links individuals, families or groups who wish to donate time with volunteer opportunities and matches financial or other resources with agencies serving families with similar needs.

"The demand for resources continues to increase each year," said Virgil H. Carr, president and CEO, United Way Community Services.

"Of the more than 800 calls that Holiday Connection received in 1995, less than 5 percent were from businesses and families wishing to donate goods or financial resources," he said. "Because the need for services has been greater than the resources available, agencies and groups often can't meet all the requests."

Holiday Connection will match the people with special holiday needs, with the human service agency that can provide them the necessary services.

This year a Holiday Connection Wish List was developed, with requests from human service groups during the holiday season as well as some of their year round needs. The wish list is a tool for companies, service and church groups, families and individuals interested in donating items or volunteering, to the agencies or group in need of resources.

In addition, individuals or groups who want to volunteer or give resources such as food, blankets, toys or gifts of money may do so by calling the Holiday Connection and be linked to the agencies that are in need of resources or volunteers for their holiday activities.

A group of employees can volunteer at a soup kitchen or put on a children's party as part of their way of celebrating the holidays. Working directly with Holiday Connection and United Way Community Services' Volunteer Center, the program identifies the soup kitchens and groups that may be in need of volunteers and matches the group of volunteers with the project.

Help ensure a brighter holiday for individuals and families in the tri-county area by volunteering time or donating money or other resources to the Holiday Connection.

If you or someone you know want to lend a hand, or needs a hand, call the Holiday Connection at (313) 226-9888 or 1-800-552-1183 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The wish list is a tool for companies, service and church groups, families and individuals interested in donating items or volunteering, to the agencies or group in need of resources.



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SPORTS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1996

OBSERVER SPORTS SCENE

Madonna's Toth coaching

(Editor's note: The following story did not run in its entirety in Thursday's Redford-Garden City editions.)

Not even Mother Nature could spoil Vicki Toth's first official day as Redford Union's varsity girls volleyball coach.



Vicki Toth:
New RU coach

Hours after holding the first tryouts last Monday, Toth and Marie Becker-Schluter headed north to Bath, Mi. for a Michigan High School Athletic Association rules meeting.

The ride up was fine, but the ride home was a little tedious through a snow storm that blanketed southeastern Michigan.

Up until now, Toth must have felt only baseball and softball coaches had to worry about inclement weather.

"It took us forever to get home, but we made it a fun trip and I learned a lot," said Toth, a 1994 RU graduate.

Becker-Schluter resigned last month as head coach after six years as head coach because of a conflict with her schedule. She will remain on probably one more year as an assistant to help the transition, according to athletic director Jim Gibbons.

Three major knee surgeries ended Toth's volleyball career at Madonna University and got her thinking seriously about coaching.

After giving up playing in the summer, Toth was hired as an assistant coach at RU, before receiving the recent promotion.

Toth was a freshman at RU when Becker-Schluter, another RU graduate who played collegiate basketball at Saginaw Valley, started coaching. She'd like to emulate Becker-Schluter's style.

"When she started out, she seemed a lot older than she really was," Toth said. "She was tough on us right away, laid down the law, was real mature about everything. As much as I'm happy I got the job it's sad to see her leaving the program. I'm lucky to have her there still with me."

Most of Toth's coaching experience has come in club level and at summer camps at Madonna. She takes over a team that returns a strong group of seniors.

"It kind of feels natural (to coach), actually," Toth said. "The first day of tryouts went real well. There is a tremendous amount of potential on this team."

Gibbons predicts a smooth transition.

"Vicki did a great job in the interview. She has a plan," Gibbons said. "She's going to have to fly by herself at some point, but she has a lot of volleyball playing experience, coached in clinics and camps, has the same philosophy as Marie and knows where the program is. We tried to make the coaching transition as smooth as possible and not disrupt the kids."

Two of Toth's knee surgeries came while in high school and the third came during her sophomore year at Madonna. The option was there to return, but it probably wouldn't have been in her best interest, she said.

Toth is carrying a 3.1 grade point average with a major in mental health and minor in criminal justice.

"My doctor strongly recommended I weigh my options before going back," Toth said. "It took me a good eight months before I decided what to do. I decided to put my grades and school ahead of sports."

Madonna strength and conditioning coach Tim DiBeliso is another one of Toth's influences in coaching.

"He's really big on conditioning, running and lifting," Toth said. "If you have a team that's not in very good shape it shows on the court."

Toth remains friends with her former Madonna teammates. She saw them win the NAIA Great Lakes Region championship at home.

"It was hard to go watch some matches early on because I wanted to be out there with them, but I just said 'I've got to forget about the feelings and just go and watch,'" Toth said. "I knew they were going to win and wanted to support them. It felt good to see them win and I know they're going to go a lot farther this year."

College hoops

Four players scored in double figures Tuesday as Oakland University scored an 86-71 men's basketball victory over host Madonna University.

Denny Amrhein led the winners with 19 points. He also grabbed seven rebounds and dished out six assists. Matt McClellan added 18 points and eight rebounds. Kevin Kovach also had 18 points, while Craig Frohock contributed 17.

Christian Emert, a senior guard from Walled Lake Central, led Madonna with 17 points. Junior Kristian Magro added 15 points and nine rebounds, while Paul Whiting (11), Mike Maryanski (10) and Plymouth Salem's Brandon Stone (10) also scored in double figures.

Oakland outrebounded Madonna, 41-32, and hit 10 three-pointers to the Fighting Crusaders' five.

Madonna falls to 0-7.

SCHOOLCRAFT 139, CUYAHOGA 112 (MEN): Schoolcraft College (1-4) won its first men's basketball game of the season Nov. 23 in the consolation game of the Pete Pavia Tournament in Rochester, N.Y.

Four players scored 20 points or more - Tykle Reeves and Duwan Warmack each had 24; Naron Burkes (23) and Garden City's Pete Males (21).

Kevin Melson added 12.

Males had eight assists, while Warmack contributed seven.

In the Pavia Tourney opener Nov. 22, Monroe (N.Y.) turned back the Ocelots, 100-80.

Males had a team-high 16 points, seven assists and three steals. Warmack added 17 points, 10 assists and four steals. Burkes and Rich Johnson contributed 12 and 10 points, respectively.

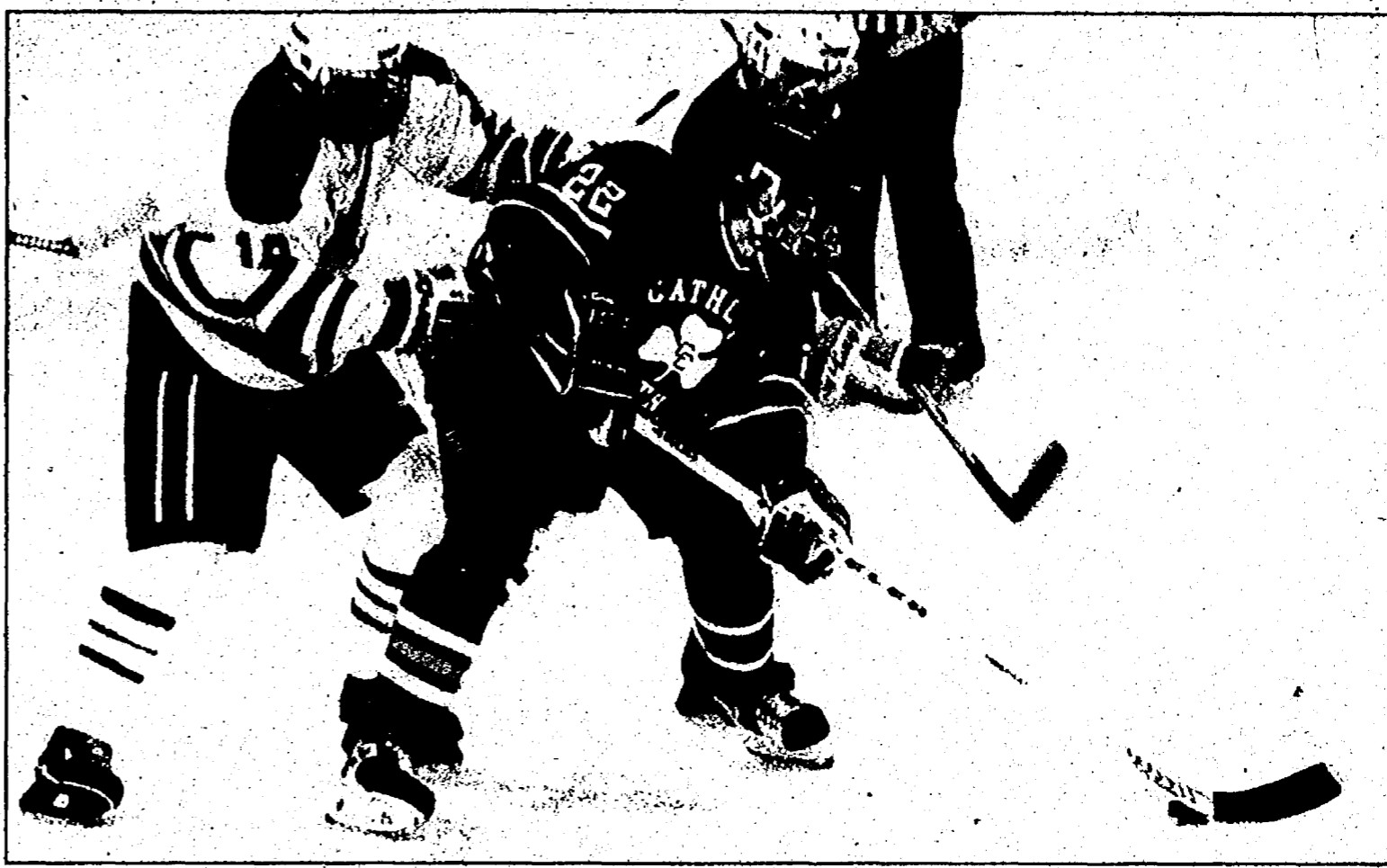
TIFFIN 77, MADONNA 74 (Women): Madonna University women's basketball team fell to 2-4 on the season with a loss Nov. 21 at Tiffin, Ohio.

Mary Murray scored 16 points and eight rebounds in a losing cause, while Angie Negri chipped in with 15 points and eight rebounds. Katie Cushman scored 14 points.

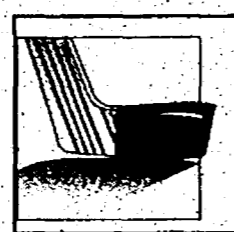
The Lady Crusaders shot only 22 of 81 from the floor (27 percent) and were outrebounded 62-49.

In pursuit: Livonia Stevenson senior forward Andy Domzalski (white jersey) is on the trail of Detroit Catholic Central junior forward Brad Karabelski in Wednesday's non-league game at Eddie Edgar Arena.

STAFF PHOTO BY JIM JACDFELD



CC edges Stevenson, 5-3 Bratcher scores hat trick in Shamrocks' victory



Detroit Catholic Central rallied from a second-period deficit to defeat Livonia Stevenson 5-3 in a non-league hockey game played Wednesday at Eddie Edgar Arena.

Eric Bratcher's hat trick carried Detroit Catholic Central to a 5-3 non-league hockey victory Wednesday over host Livonia Stevenson at Eddie Edgar Arena.

The win improved CC's overall record to 2-1, while Stevenson is 1-1. It was deadlocked 2-2 after one period.

Bratcher opened the scoring from Mike Sharpe and Scott Curtin at 7:59, but Stevenson came back on a breakaway goal at 8:46 by Mike Radakovich from Mike Schmidt.

CC's Nick Lewarne then scored at 11:03 from Dan McLellan and Mike Davis, but Darin Fawkes countered unassisted for Stevenson at 12:50.

At 12:20 of the second period, Stevenson took a 3-2 edge on Fawkes' goal from Johnny May and Mike McCowan, but Bratcher tied it

up 24 seconds later on an assist from Mike Porter.

With only eight seconds to go in the second period, Joe Beaudoin scored what proved to be the game-winner from Curtin.

Bratcher added an empty netter with a minute left in the game. Doug Peacock made 31 saves in goal for the Spartans, while Rickey Marnon turned away 21 for CC.

"It was a hard-fought battle between two very disciplined teams," Stevenson coach Mike Harris said. "It was a great game and our guys never quit. We look forward to seeing them again at their rink."

"Bratcher was outstanding," CC coach Gordon St. John said. "The second goal of his was a major-league shot. He smacked that puck and it was in the net. You don't see

them any better than that. He tends to be an offensive player, but he played better in the defensive zone tonight and that will make him an outstanding player if he continues to do that.

"Defensively, we were ineffective. We gave up three clear breakaways and you just can't do that. Marnon made some spectacular saves in the third period. Stevenson's well coached. It was a good game to watch, I'm sure."

The Shamrocks' only loss this year came to the Red Wings' Old-Timers, open the season. The Old-Timers, featuring former Wings Joey Kocur and Eddie Mio, won, 9-2.

Brad Karabelski and Dan McLellan will be able to tell their kids in the future they scored the goals.

"I have a problem with losing to anybody, but if we get through it all, and you got to lose to somebody, that's a team you wouldn't have too much of a problem with," St. John quipped. "No team's going to do what Trenton did last year (go undefeated and win the Class A title) That's the one you only dream of."

MILFORD 3, FRANKLIN 2: In the second game Wednesday at Edgar Arena, Jamie Pulk tallied the game-winner with 10 minutes left for the victorious Redskins.

The non-league loss drops Franklin to 1-1 overall.

Ryan Zewatsky and Mark Machnak also scored for Milford.

Franklin was tied 1-1 after one period on a goal by Jeremiah White from Dan Hofelich and Greg Job.

The Patriots then tied it 2-all at 1:27 in the third on a power-play goal by Dan Boyle from Hofelich and Eric Hillebrand.

Franklin outshot Milford, 29-16, as Tom Taylor was in the nets for the Patriots.

"We broke down a little bit in the third period, but it was our best effort so far, even from our rookies," Franklin coach Terry Job-bitt said.

FRANKLIN 4, LAKELAND 3: Phil Brady was sharp in the nets as the Patriots beat host Milford Lakeland in a non-leaguer Tuesday at Lakeland Ice Arena.

Franklin built 3-1 lead in the second period on goals by Josh Burt (from Chad Van-Hulle and Hillebrand), Rick Leirstein (unassisted) and Job (from Boyle).

Goals by Andy Schwing and Jim Devers

See HOCKEY, C2

Pioneer eliminates Wayne from tourney

BY BRAD EMONS
STAFF WRITER

Too athletic, too deep and too talented.

That's what Wayne Memorial ran into against Ann Arbor Pioneer in the Class A regional basketball final Wednesday at Southgate Anderson.

Pioneer, behind 5-foot-11 forward Ryan Johnson's 22 points, rolled to a convincing 73-54 victory over the Zebras.

Pioneer, now 20-4 overall, advances to the state quarterfinals Tuesday at Lansing Eastern, while Wayne finishes a satisfying season at 18-6.

Johnson, who is bound for Loyola of Chicago, also got plenty of help on the defensive end from 6-foot junior point-guard Julie Epton, who held Wayne's leading scorer Valanda Holt without a point for the first 12 minutes and 35 seconds.

Sophomore center Lisa Mattison came off the bench to score 14 points, while Sarah Kutschinski and Epton each added 11.

"They are not a one-person team," Wayne coach Chuck Henry said. "Their defense pushed us out farther than we wanted and we didn't get a look of good looks at the basket. Our girls were just not poised enough. And when we did get the ball where we wanted, we missed some easy shots."

Holt, a 5-11 point guard who has signed with Bowling Green, capped a stellar Wayne career up with a game-high 34 points (believed to be a school record).

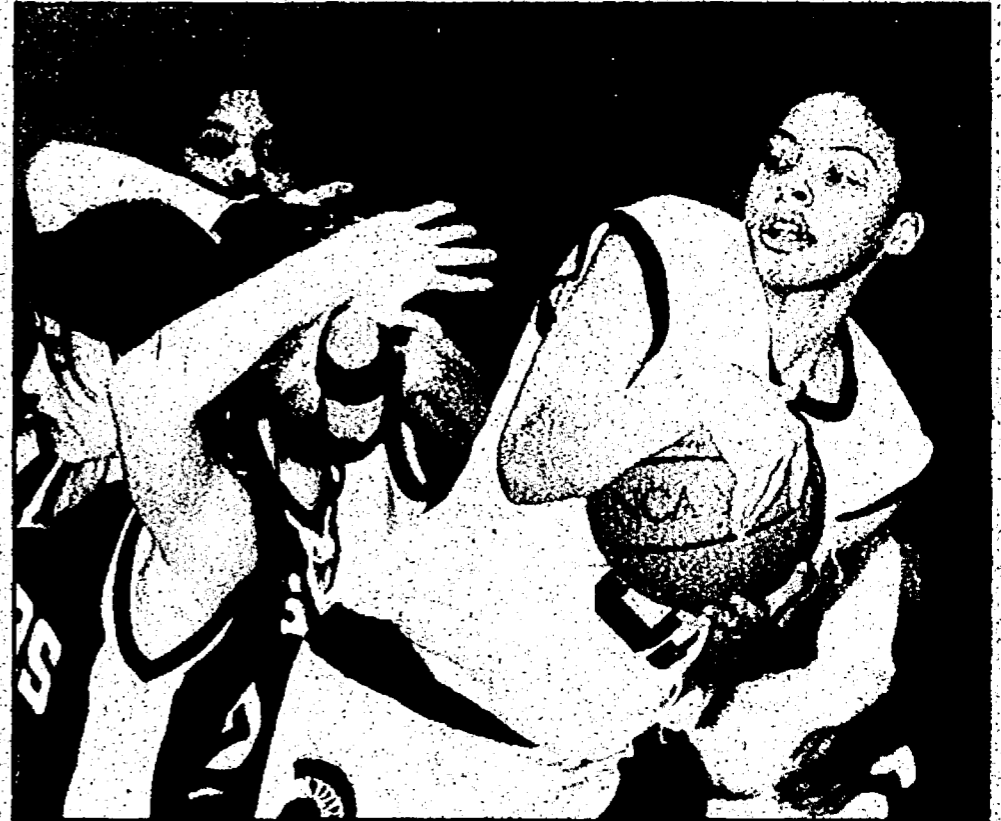
Rica Barge, a 5-8 senior forward and four-year starter, added 13, but no other Zebra had more than three.

"As long as we held down Holt and No. 34 (Barge) we had a good chance of winning," Pioneer coach Crystal Westfield said. "We had to take those two players out of the game. I thought Julie did a very good job on defense. She's probably our best defensive player."

While Epton provided the defense, Johnson spearheaded the offense.

See WAYNE, C3

Battling for position



STAFF PHOTO BY BRYAN MITCHELL

Inside action: Redford Bishop Borgess junior center Ayisha Smith wins control of the ball against Riverview Gabriel Richard's Kelly Abdo in Wednesday's Class C regional final. See story, C3.

Bulldogs deny Harrison Class A championship

BY DAN O'MEARA
STAFF WRITER

One of the basic tenets of football is the need for an effective running game.

Grandville had one; Farmington Harrison didn't.

That spelled the difference between the teams Friday as Grandville scored a 24-17 victory over Harrison in the Class A championship game at the Silverdome.

The Bulldogs stayed on the ground for 56 of their 59 offensive plays and 303 yards. Senior fullback Chris Key led the rushing attack with 140 yards and two touchdowns.

"The fullback kept giving them a second-and-three situation, and it was very difficult to stop him," Harrison coach John Herrington said. "We were playing nine men up front in the box at times, and we still didn't stop him."

Just as important to the outcome, Grandville's defense limited a Harrison rushing attack that had averaged 306 yards per game during the

playoffs to only 58.

The Hawks (11-2) countered with the passing of senior quarterback Kevin Bambenek, who threw for a state-finals record 282 yards and a touchdown. He also scored a touchdown on a 1-yard sneak.

After the Bulldogs (12-1) had scored to take a 24-17 lead, Harrison began its final possession from its own 24-yard line with 6:31 remaining.

Bambenek led a late drive, completing five of seven passes and moving Harrison to the Grandville 7 where the drive was stopped with 2:18 left on the clock.

On fourth-and-19 from the 22, Bambenek (15-of-24) threw a slant-in to sophomore Ricky Bryant, who was tackled just 4 yards short of the first down.

Grandville took over and ran out the clock. "We had trouble getting the ball back; when we got it, we had a shot at the end but couldn't quite come up with it," Herrington said. "We thought we would be able to score, but it didn't seem like

we had the ball a whole lot."

Bulldogs had the ball almost six minutes longer (26:51-21:09) and were more effective at controlling it in the second half.

Grandville went 71 yards in 11 plays to start the third quarter, using the first 4 1/2 minutes to take a 17-14 lead after Key's 6-yard touchdown run.

The Hawks tied it with Zack Cornwell's 29-yard field goal. A holding penalty wiped out a long pass to sophomore Mike Hoad, but Harrison ran the same play again for a 28-yard gain. Senior Sean Sarsfield got the first down and fourth-and-1 at the Grandville 17 to keep the drive going.

"If we had scored (a touchdown) there, we could have put a little more pressure on them," Herrington said. "I think the key was the kickoff return and our penalty. They were across midfield, and I knew it would be hard to keep them out after that."

Senior Eric VandenBerg, who rushed for 89

See HAWKS, C3

Harrison from page C1

yards on 16 carries, made a nice return on the kickoff, and the Hawks were called for a face-mask penalty. Harrison was penalized eight times for 85 yards overall.

Grandville started at the Harrison 42 and scored the winning TD in nine plays. Quarterback Dick Morton scrambled 16 yards on a busted play to the 10 and scored on a 1-yard keeper at 6:38 in the fourth quarter.

"Some think we're boring to watch, but we know how to block — bodies on bodies," Throop said. "Our backs ran hard, and we didn't turn ball over except for the interception (by Adam Smerecki at the end of the first half). It was a matter of doing what we do best, coming right at you with tough hard-nosed football."

Harrison scored on its first two possessions to take a quick lead. A penalty for pass interference moved the ball to the Grandville 20; Bambenek passed 19 yards to Sarsfield and carried the final yard.

On second down after a

Grandville punt, Bryant got a step on Kirby Jackson and hauled in a pass from Bambenek along the sideline for a 72-yard touchdown. Cornwell's PAT made it 14-0 midway in the first quarter.

The Bulldogs answered with a 75-yard, 10-play scoring drive that ended with Key's 1-yard run. Morton's only completion of the game was a 22-yarder Bryan Pinder to Harrison 25.

Harrison forced Grandville to settle for a 26-yard field by Zach Elbert. The Hawks had a 56-yard touchdown pass to Smerecki nullified by holding but still led 14-10 at halftime.

"We knew once they got the ball we were going to have trouble stopping them," Herrington said. "They got hold of the ball and kept pounding it at us. We have a lot of guys going both ways, and they wore us down."

Junior halfback Jimmy Le added 64 yards on seven carries for the Bulldogs.

Sarsfield led the Hawks with 54 yards on 11 attempts.

Borgess gets past Richard, 61-43

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Redford Bishop Borgess student manager Angie Montgomery proved to be the next best thing to having a back therapist on the bench.

Montgomery's treatment of senior center Candice Finley's back at half-time of Wednesday's Class C regional final did wonders for the Spartans' chances against Riverview Gabriel Richard.

Finley grabbed 10 of her game-high 13 rebounds in the second half when the Spartans pulled away from a determined Richard team en route to a 61-43 victory at Harper Woods Bishop Gallagher.

The Spartans enjoyed a 35-22 rebounding advantage, including a 23-11 edge in the second half.

Richard assistant coach Barb Gamber is a back therapist, but the Spartans couldn't expect an opponent to cure their ailments.

"Angie was working on Candice's back at halftime because it was so sore," Borgess coach Dave Mann said.

"Finley was the star of the game, she really rebounded when it didn't seem like everyone else was."

Junior center Ayisha Smith led the Spartans with 25 points and grabbed nine rebounds, while Finley added 16 points and junior guard Christina Anderson contributed 10.

"There might not be a more potent rebounding combination in the state than Borgess' frontline of Finley, Smith and junior forward Koren Merchant."

"I think we should get all the boards," said Finley, admitting that some words from Mann at halftime did as much good as Montgomery's hands. "My back was sore. Coach told us to come out, be aggressive and play our game — but don't rush our shots."

The win sends the Spartans to the quarterfinal for the fourth straight year. Borgess, which has won two of the last three state championships, will play Goodrich at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Oxford High School.

Goodrich is led by all-state guard Carrie Nance, who has signed with

Kent State, one of the top teams in the Mid-American Conference.

Richard bowed out of the state tournament with a 19-5 record.

The sister tandem of junior guard Carissa Gizecki and freshman guard Callie Gizecki led the Pioneers with 11 and 10 points, respectively.

"They made some big-time shots," Mann said.

Borgess led only 28-24 at halftime and 38-30 after three quarters before a 6-0 run to start the fourth quarter put Richard's chances in severe jeopardy.

"We tried. They are a great team," Richard coach Jim Duffy said. "I don't know what the board difference was, but it was quite a bit."

"I'm proud of the girls and it was a good season. We always like to play Borgess. We don't quit, give them a full run for their money. Their coach told us it's a shame our two teams have to meet this early. Two years ago we met in the same round and lost only by 12 and they went on to win in the championship game by 32."

The Pioneers will lose seniors

Heather Gulyas, Mary Sobczak, Michelle LaMothe, Cheryl Wolan, Carla Cucinella and Devon Brisky to graduation, but return a strong nucleus for next year.

"I think we'll meet again next year," Duffy said. "At least we won't have to battle 33 (Finley) under the boards."

Sophomore forward Shermaine Drake scored a season-high four points for the Spartans and was proudly holding the regional trophy afterwards. It looked a little heavy for the lean Drake. "I actually have something on my arms," Drake said. "You should have seen me a while ago."

Drake's fast break basket after a block by Merchant ended the 6-0 run to start the fourth quarter and gave the Spartans a 44-30 lead. Drake must be doing something instead of just watching in the weight room.

"We get her in there all the time — I don't know what she does — but she knows the location," Mann joked. "Shermaine played a great game, just tremendous. She gave us a nice lift, created turnovers."

Bambenek stars in defeat

By STEVE KOWALSKI
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Harrison quarterback Kevin Bambenek passed for a record 282 yards Friday in the Class A football final at the Silverdome, and if he had his druthers he would have finished with 286.

Not for selfish reasons, but for his team's sake.

Bambenek's last pass on fourth-and-19 from the Grandville 22-yard line was caught by sophomore wide receiver Ricky Bryant, who was tackled 4 yards short of a first down.

With only 2:10 remaining in the game and Harrison's chances exhausted, the Bulldogs needed just one first down to clinch their first state title with a 24-17 victory.

Bambenek was brilliant in his final high school game.

His 15 pass completions (24 attempts) and total offense of 265 yards (after a minus-17 rushing yards is subtracted from his passing) are Class A final-game records.

He easily surpassed the all-classes record for yards thrown in one game, held by John Hutchinson of Onsted, who passed for 267 in the 1993 Class CC final against Hartford.

Bambenek scored Harrison's first touchdown on a 1-yard sneak and threw a 72-yard touchdown pass to Bryant. He also had a 56-yard touchdown pass to Adam Smerecki in the

first half called back because of a holding penalty.

But Bambenek would gladly trade all of it for another state championship.

"I don't think it really matters how many yards you get," said Bambenek, the starting quarterback when the Hawks won the Class A title in 1994. "The fact is the loss is what matters. It wouldn't have mattered if I threw for zero yards and we won. Coach (Bob) Sutter and (John) Herrington always remind us of the tradition behind us. We have a lot of Hawk Pride, and we wanted it real bad."

Bambenek showed poise on his team's final possession, which started at the Hawks' 24-yard line. He completed four passes, including a one-handed, 15-yard grab by sophomore tight end Mike Hoad that gave the Hawks a first down at their own 47.

The drive eventually ended at the Grandville 7 after Bambenek's fourth-down pass to Bryant.

Herrington said the play was to be a hook-and-ladder, but Bambenek audibled at the line of scrimmage after seeing the defensive formation. It almost worked.

"I saw their safety way over (toward the sideline) and thought I could hit the slant to Ricky," Bambenek said. "You go with your instincts. This year we had no stars, and we needed someone to make the big play. I felt I could bring the team back, but we came up a little short."

Wayne from page C1

In a semifinal win Monday over Monroe, Johnson had 27 of Pioneer's 30 first-half points.

Against Wayne, Johnson had three field goals and a three-pointer for nine first-quarter points as Pioneer built a 16-5 lead.

Wayne turned the ball over 11 times in the first quarter and six more times in the second quarter as Pioneer enjoyed a 30-17 half-time advantage.

The Zebras, who shot only 31.4 percent from the floor (17 of 54), never got closer than 12 points the rest of the way.

"We can go really deep and we wanted to give people a break," Westfield said. "Everyone knows their role on this team and did what they were supposed to do."

"We moved the ball well and didn't make many turnovers (only 12). We have good team chemistry and I think we played a great game."

All four of Pioneer's losses have come against quality opponents — Detroit Cody, Plymouth Salem, No. 1-ranked Flint Northern and unbeaten Howell (their next opponent).

For Wayne, it was satisfying season.

"We were 18-6, co-champs in our league (Mega-Red) and got to the regional after winning the district," Henry said. "We were 34-12 over the last two years and there were some good positive things that occurred. But it ended with few tears, but that's tournament basketball."

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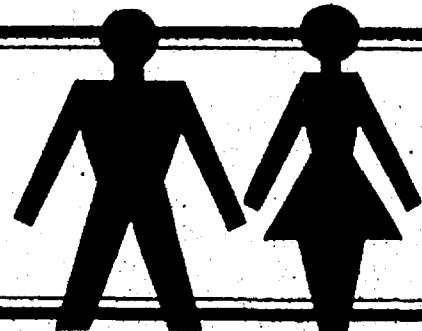
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COURIER/MAINTENANCE... COURIER/MAINTENANCE... COURIER/MAINTENANCE...

DAILY PAY IMMEDIATE OPENINGS... MAYDAY RESOURCES... (810) 827-1163

DATA ENTRY OPERATORS... DATA ENTRY OPERATORS... DATA ENTRY OPERATORS...

BELEVILLE... LIVONIA... GARDEN CITY... CANTON...

Want A Great Job? We've Got 'Em!... 1-800-879-4440 ext. 212 BELLE TIRE

HVAC TECHNICIANS... Refrigeration and Apprentices... The qualified candidates must be experienced to service commercial refrigeration HVAC and related retail store equipment...

INDEPENDENT Contractor Driver... Must have own transportation, preferably large van, station wagon or truck. Part-time, Monday & Thursday, mornings or afternoons.

PART-TIME Drivers... We are looking for an individual with a good driving record to deliver and pick up packages throughout Oakland and Wayne counties...

PRODUCTION ASSOCIATES Starting rate \$8.00/hour!... OFFICE DEPOT Taking Care of Business

CABLE READY... Cable TV... Cable TV... Cable TV... Cable TV...

ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR CLAIMS PROCESSING... Delta Dental Plan of Michigan has an immediate opening for the individual who possesses the following: 1 year experience in claims processing or data entry...

The world is at your fingertips... Northwest Airlines is hiring flight attendants. Priority will be given to bilingual persons who are fluent in English and Japanese, and other Asian and European languages.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS... Responsibilities include providing, repairing and maintaining cable TV service from the headend to the customer's homes. This includes performing systems sweeps, proof performance and CLI measurement as well as responding to trouble reports and maintenance job orders.

CUSTOMER SERVICE/INSTALLATION TECHNICIANS... You will install cable TV service inside and outside our customer's homes. You must be at least 18 years old with customer service experience.

NOW HIRING! Cashiers, Stock Clerks, Drug Clerks & Department Heads... Full/part-time positions now available. Flexible hours. Weekly paycheck.

MANPOWER

500 Help Wanted General
ANY IS AN AUTO RELATED COMPANY... and has three locations on the west side...

500 Help Wanted General
PORTER
Full time position needed to do ground... and has three locations on the west side...

500 Help Wanted General
QUALITY CONTROL ANALYST ASSISTANT
Source One Mortgage Services is seeking an entry level analyst...

500 Help Wanted General
NEED EXTRA \$\$\$ FOR THE HOLIDAYS?
Now hiring full and part time security...

500 Help Wanted General
TELEMARKETERS
Need to sell a new product and need weekly experience necessary...

500 Help Wanted General
TRAINING PROFESSIONALS
Triad Performance Technologies, Inc. a custom training and consulting firm...

500 Help Wanted General
WAREHOUSE
\$6.50 to \$8.50 per hr. Temp to Hire

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, full time. Some bookkeeping experience desirable...

502 Help Wanted-Office Clerical
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Non profit organization seeks organized, dependable individual...

OIL CHANGE TECHNICIAN
Panzoil 10 Minute Oil Change... Experienced with all major car and light trucks...

PRESBYTERIAN VILLAGE WESTLAND
A premier provider of quality care... we have full and part time positions...

Human Resources SOURCE ONE SERVICES CORPORATION
27555 Farmington Rd Farmington, MI 48334

SHIPPING & RECEIVING
Opportunity in fast-paced growing... automotive shipping...

TELEMARKETING
Full time position needed to sell... insurance products...

TELEPHONE INSTALLER/TECHNICIAN
Entrepreneurial and experienced career opportunity...

TRUCK DRIVER - CDL
Class B driver for heating and cooling... distributor loading/unloading duties...

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CLERK
The Holiday Inn in Farmington Hills... is seeking a full time Accounts Receivable Clerk...

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT JUNIOR SECRETARY
Outstanding opportunity to develop your career...

PACKAGING
Tier 1 quality automotive metal stamping plant seeks persons interested in full-time packaging...

PRESS OPERATOR/DIE SET-UP
Clean efficient stamping facility seeks associates... experienced in working with progressive dies...

QUALITY TECHNICIAN
Substantive stamping plant seeks to employ a self-motivated individual...

SHIPPING & RECEIVING
Busy Farmington Hills office has an immediate full time opening in the shipping/receiving department...

TELESEVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Looking for some extra Holiday money... for a part time position...

TRUCK DRIVER
CDL Class A necessary HAZMAT A plus. Send resume to P.O. Box 510073...

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CLERK
The Holiday Inn in Farmington Hills... is seeking a full time Accounts Receivable Clerk...

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Chemical company seeks computer oriented assistant with good communication skills...

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Farmington Hills manufacturer seeks articulate detail oriented support person...

PAINTER/DRYWALLER/WALLPAPERER
YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYMENT: Minimum of 5 years experience...

PROBATION OFFICER
35th District Court, Plymouth seeks Probation Officer...

TECHNICAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS
391 Airport Industrial Dr Ypsilanti, MI 48198

SHIPPING & RECEIVING INVENTORY CLERK DRIVERS
Needed for a fast paced automotive supplier...

TELLER
Bloomfield Hills bank is seeking motivated individual for a full time teller position...

TRUCK DRIVER
Plymouth based metal stamping facility seeks an associate to drive state and pickup trucks...

ACCOUNT ADMINISTRATOR
For Testes Dept Good communication skills and research skills...

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Immediate opening in small office of a national company located in Southfield...

ADP PAYROLL
Looking for an ADP experienced Payroll person...

PAINTERS
Come join our team! Minimum 5 years experience...

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
Needed for local college for new entrepreneurial training...

REPORTING/TAX ACCOUNTANT
Qualified candidate will have a BSBA in accounting...

SIDING CREW WANTED YEAR AROUND WORK
Good pay Crestwood Construction Company

TELLER
Michigan State commercial bank has immediate openings for Tellers in Southfield...

TRUCK DRIVERS
Local OTR 1 yr HAZMAT experience (313) 559-9717

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT
With Quickbook and computer experience... and a pleasant personality...

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Immediate opening in small office of a national company located in Southfield...

ADP PAYROLL
Looking for an ADP experienced Payroll person...

PALACE SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT
invites you to earn extra Holiday cash!

PROJECT MANAGER TRAINEE
To \$30K Salary, benefits, expense account...

REPORTING/TAX ACCOUNTANT
Qualified candidate will have a BSBA in accounting...

SIDING CREW WANTED YEAR AROUND WORK
Good pay Crestwood Construction Company

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With Quickbook and computer experience... and a pleasant personality...

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Immediate opening in small office of a national company located in Southfield...

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Looking for an ADP experienced Payroll person...

PROPERTY MANAGER
Dart Container Corporation is looking for a Property Manager to assist with our real estate activities...

RETAIL ASSISTANT MANAGER
Full time position available for busy specialty market located in Livonia...

REPORTING/TAX ACCOUNTANT
Qualified candidate will have a BSBA in accounting...

SIDING CREW WANTED YEAR AROUND WORK
Good pay Crestwood Construction Company

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Immediate opening in small office of a national company located in Southfield...

ADP PAYROLL
Looking for an ADP experienced Payroll person...

STAY WARM - SHOP INSIDE ON MONDAY & THURSDAY NIGHT. OUR GARAGE WILL BE PACKED WITH VANS

1350 CARS, TRUCKS & VANS AVAILABLE!

FINAL CLEARANCE

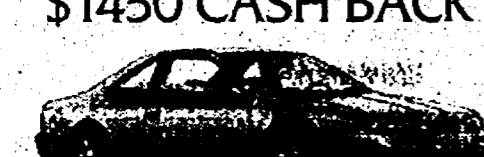
1997 RANGER XLT
 — Five at this Price —
 Air conditioning, sliding rear window, AM/FM cassette.
 Was \$15,185
YOU PAY \$11,497*
 24 Month Lease


10% Down \$149	Per Month \$126	College Grad \$106**
ZERO DOWN	\$183**	\$163**

1996 RANGER SUPER CAB
 — Three at this Price —
 4.0 liter V6, automatic transmission, air conditioning, splash suspension, chrome wheels, ABS brakes, speed control, tilt, dual air bags, sliding rear window, power windows, locks & seats.
 Was \$21,272
YOU PAY \$16,096*
 FREE EXTENDED WARRANTY

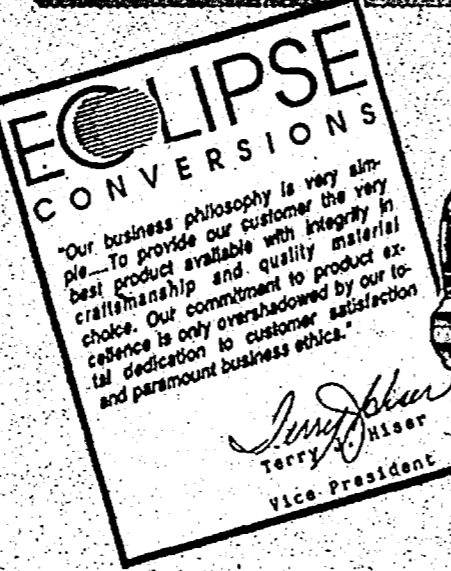
1996 MUSTANG GT
 \$2000 CASH BACK
MUSTANG GT
 249A Pkg. V8, air, automatic, anti-lock brakes, trac-loc, defrost, Mach Sound CD, speed, power windows, locks & seat. #62275.
 Was \$23,245
YOU PAY \$17,485*

1996 MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLES
 Automatic, leather, 17 aluminum wheels, Mach CD.
 #64140. Was \$28,975
YOU PAY \$22,396*
 White - Demo \$19,996*
 FREE EXTENDED WARRANTY

1996 T-BIRD 2 DR. LX
 \$1450 CASH BACK

 Air conditioning, trac-loc axle, chrome wheels, defrost, illuminated entry, power windows, power locks, power seat, stereo cassette. #64953.
 Was \$19,080
YOU PAY \$14,496*

1996 CONTOUR

 Auto. 236A Pkg., air, defroster, power windows/locks, speed control, cassette, aluminum wheels! #62842.
 Was \$17,775
YOU PAY \$13,596*

\$3050
 In Van Conversion Rebates!
ECLIPSE VOTED #1 VAN!



Eclipse Shadow

Air conditioning, 13" color TV, AM/FM cassette, power windows, power locks, cruise, tilt, quad design chairs with sofa bed, fiberglass boards.
24 MONTH LEASE \$193**
 Per Mo.
ZERO DOWN \$293** 10% DOWN PAYMENT \$2091
"A" PLAN \$50 a Month Lower!

1997 TAURUS GL
 — Equipped The Way You Want It! Ten At This Price —
 205A pkg., air, power windows/locks, power seat, speed, tilt, cass., LT group, aluminum wheels.
 Was \$20,985
YOU PAY \$17,597*

24 Month Lease	10% Down \$1759	Per Month \$223**	Renewal \$188**
	0 Down	\$304**	\$279**

1997 F150 XLT
 5-speed, air, power windows & locks, cassette, tilt, speed control, aluminum wheels.
FREE EXTENDED WARRANTY
YOU PAY \$16,197*

24 Month Lease	10% Down \$1619	Per Month \$169**
	0 Down	\$249**

1997 F150 XLT SUPERCAB
 5-speed, air, cassette, tilt, speed control, power windows, locks & mirrors.
 WAS \$22,935
FREE EXTENDED WARRANTY
YOU PAY \$18,164*

24 Month Lease	10% Down \$1816	Per Month \$172**
	0 Down	\$266**

THE BIG VAN SALE SAVE THOUSANDS!
 50 CONVERSIONS IN STOCK! NO HAGGLING—all vans have discount prices and lease payments on the windshields. Some priced less than a mini van. The owner of Eclipse Vans will be here to help you pick out the van that meets your family's needs, and to make great deals.

Thank You! #1 For Making Us METRO DETROIT'S CAR & TRUCK DEALER
 Largest Inventory! Highest Volume Used Car Lot! A PLANNERS...we want your trade and we'll pay more for it!

1996 WINDSTAR GL
 — Equipped The Way You Want It! 20 At This Price —
 472A pkg., aluminum wheels, privacy glass, floor mats, power windows, power locks, speed, tilt, cassette, 25 gal. tank.
 Was \$24,230
YOU PAY \$17,996*

24 Month Lease	10% Down \$1799	Per Month \$239**
	0 Down	\$319**

1996 PROBE SE #61369


 Five speed, air conditioning, cassette, aluminum wheels.
 Was \$16,310
YOU PAY \$11,675*

1996 AEROSTAR EXTENDED XLT #60549

 4.0 Eng., def., prem. cass., privacy glass, power windows/locks. Free Extended Warranty.
 Was \$23,222
YOU PAY \$16,948*

1996 EXPLORER LIMITED #60700

 Has it all: cellular phone, moonroof, CD, trailer tow, Black w/Sable leather.
 Was \$36,960
YOU PAY \$29,996*

1997 ESCORT 4 DR.

 317A pkg., five speed, remote entry, rear defrost, cassette. #71653.
 Was \$13,500
YOU PAY \$11,299*

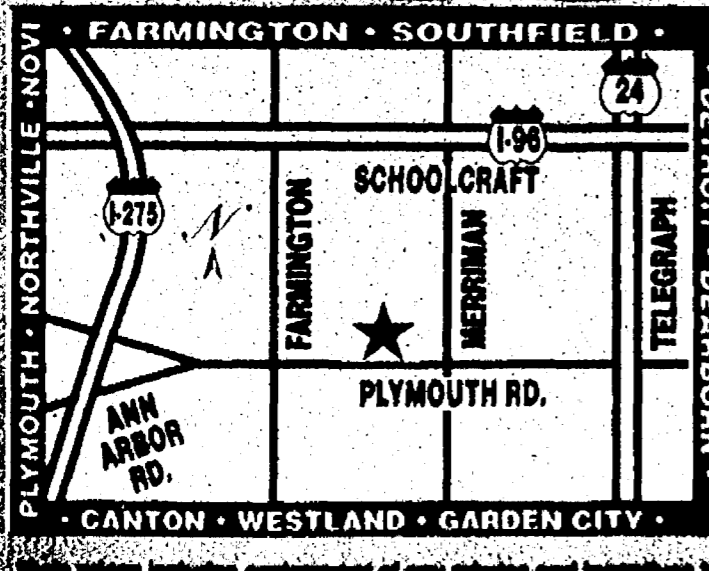
24 Month Lease	10% Down \$1129	Per Month \$188**	College Grad \$168**
	0 Down	\$239**	\$219**

BULL BROWN



421-7000

Out of Town Call Toll Free 1-800-878-2658
 32222 PLYMOUTH ROAD • LIVONIA
 — Your Quality Commitment Dealer —



OPEN MONDAY AND THURSDAY TIL 9 P.M.

MODEL	SECURITY	EXTRA
'97 F-150	10% Down \$200	\$2019
	0 Down \$275	\$550
'97 TAURUS	10% Down \$275	\$2349
	0 Down \$375	\$750
'96 WINDSTAR	10% Down \$250	\$2400
	0 Down \$350	\$700
'97 RANGER	10% Down \$150	\$1489
	0 Down \$225	\$500
'97 ESCORT	10% Down \$225	\$1574
	0 Down \$275	\$550
'97 F-150 S.C.	10% Down \$225	\$2318
	0 Down \$300	\$600
'96 ECLIPSE	10% Down \$225	\$2650
	0 Down \$325	\$750

*Leasing with down payment as shown. 15¢ per mile in excess of 25¢. Excludes tax, license, title, and destination charges. All prior sales and adv. excluded. Includes assignment of rebate. **Leasing with down payment as shown. 15¢ per mile in excess of 25¢. Excludes tax, license, title, and destination charges. All prior sales and adv. excluded. Includes assignment of rebate. ©1996 Ford Motor Company. All rights reserved. Ford is a registered trademark of Ford Motor Company. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

Suburban Observer & Eccentric Automotive Showcase

Monday, December 2, 1996

Published Every Monday

★ 1D

CAR Report



Cavalier coupe high on quality, convenience

By Anne Fracassa
Avanti NewsFeatures

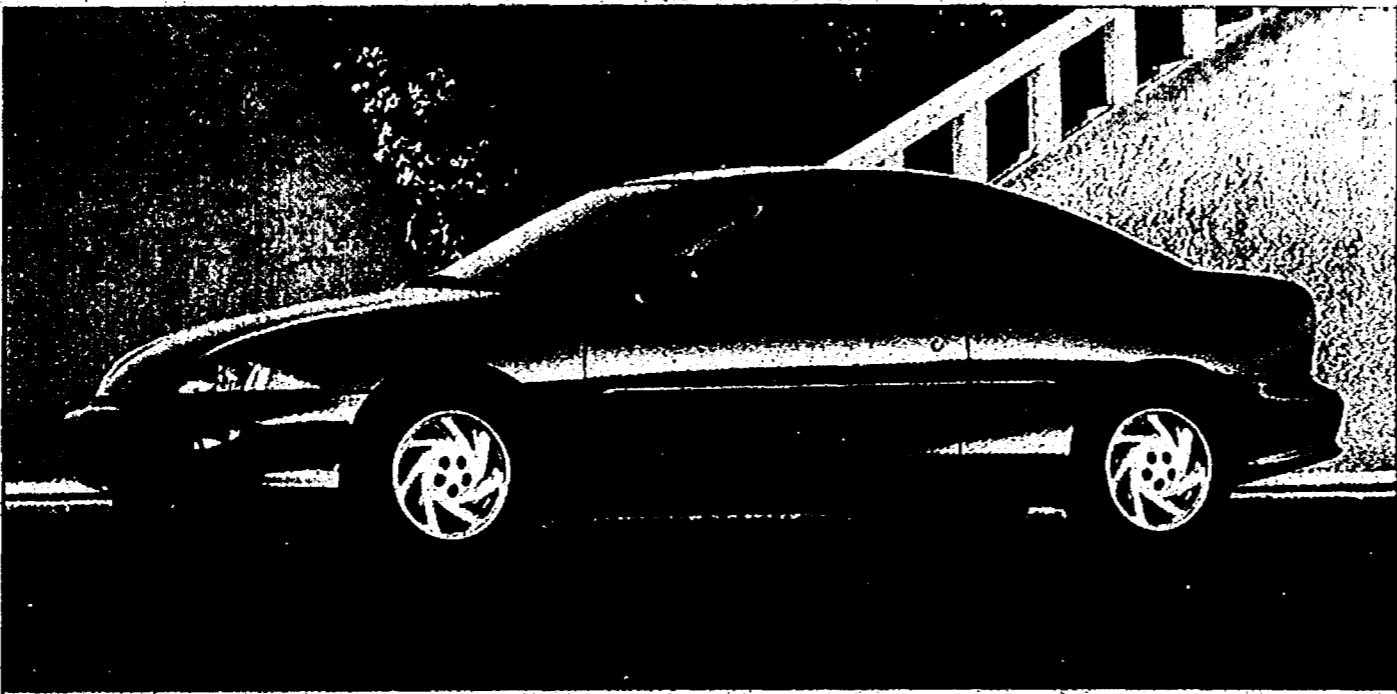
When the 1982 Chevrolet Cavalier was introduced in 1981, it was boxy, functional, economical, no-nonsense transportation. Because of its bare-bones price, teeny engine that got great mileage and compact size, it became the best-selling car in the U.S. within three years of its birth.

Last redesigned for the 1995 model year, the Cavalier has evolved into something entirely different.

No longer does it have a sluggish engine. Or its unappealing boxy exterior. Or its cramped interior.

What it still retains, however, is its low price — just \$12,225 — and its great mileage (depending on the engine and transmission mix it's between 22 mpg in the city and 37 on the highway).

What's changed the most is the Cavalier's appearance. It's still a compact, so you're not going to get four large adults in there without a bit of a struggle. You can seat four, of course, but make sure they're not tall



1997 Chevrolet Cavalier RS coupe



ROAD TEST
By
Anne Fracassa

or portly or it won't be easy. The best thing about this Cavalier is that it's deceptive. It acts more like a Camaro than anything else. Gaze out the front window and you even feel like you're in a sports car.

That's the beauty of the new Cavalier.

Tested was the RS (Rally Sport) coupe. Also available are the coupe, Z24 coupe, sedan and convertible models.

Standard is a 2.2-liter in-line 4-cylinder that provides 120

horses. That's enough to propel this little puppy through the streets and freeways easily. The optional engine on the LS sedan and convertible and standard on the Z24 is a 2.4-liter twin cam with 150 horses.

The 2.2-liter is far from sluggish. Granted, I drove the RS coupe in above 40-degree weather. But even on colder mornings, it really performed well coming out of the box. No problem merging onto the freeways, either.

On the exterior, the Rally Sport looks really neat. It's got flattering lines and curves all the way around and with its rear spoiler, bodyside moldings, body-color fascias and 15-inch aluminum wheels and touring tires, it's really a looker.

Other neat stuff on the Rally Sport include embroidered "Rally Sport" on the front-seat headrests, a cool 3-dimensional decal on the rear quarter panels, tachometer and AM/FM

stereo — all standard. It certainly sets it apart from the rest of the Cavalier family.

Standard is a 5-speed manual transmission. The 4-speed electronically controlled automatic transmission will cost you about \$800, but there's a traction control system on it, so it's well worth the money. You won't suffer in the performance category with the automatic, either.

I was impressed with the ride quality. Road noise was nearly non-existent.

Look at this list of standard safety features: Dual airbags, 4-wheel anti-lock brakes, child security rear-door locks, a PassLock theft-deterrent system, rear-seat safety belt comfort guides (for children and small adults) and body and side trim revisions that meet the side impact requirements.

Hate maintenance? This Cavalier's for you. Both engines feature extended-life coolant

good for five years or 100,000 miles, platinum-tipped spark plugs that don't need service until 100,000 miles and automatic transmission fluid that never needs replacement. All under normal operating conditions, of course.

The Cavalier RS has a rigid body structure and tuned suspension, so you'll get predictable, responsive handling.

The front hood slopes down sharply and disappears from your sight. It was unnerving, at first, because you'd think you wouldn't be able to judge front distance properly. Nothing is further from the truth. What you've got is wonderful visibility instead.

One thing really important to me, lately, is seat-belt comfort. The Cavalier has three-point energy-absorbing seat belts that are really easy to put on and wear in comfort. They don't cut across your neck and are very comfortable to wear.

Got kids? No problem. Standard equipment includes full Scotchgard protection throughout the vehicle. Value is enhanced with a stainless-steel exhaust system as well.

The remote keyless entry system uses a high-frequency radio signal that transmits a coded message to the car, locking or unlocking it. Turns out it wasn't so unique at our local Meijer grocery store.

I pressed the unlock button from about 25-30 feet away and unlocked two other GM products parked next to the Cavalier. The way I noticed was the loud "CLUNK" as all three vehicles unlocked. Pressed the "lock" button and it happened again. Funny.

Almost as funny as the day

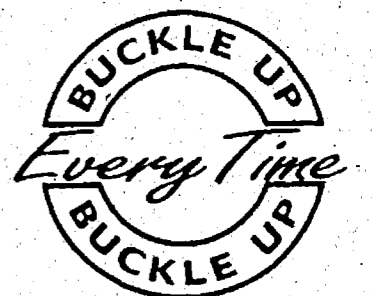
my mom hopped into her car at the grocery store, started the car, looked back to see if anyone was in the way, and noticed a big brown stuffed bear in the back seat. Her car was parked next to the car she was in! She was so afraid the real owner would discover her mistake she hurried to unload so she could load the groceries into her own car, dropping a bag in the process.

Anyway, the Cavalier is a real sound choice in the compact sedan and coupe market. The price, the size, the mileage, the ride and handling — even the engine and convenience features — make the Cavalier a real value in today's crowded market. Consider it.

Write Anne Fracassa online with your choice for best car on the road at AVANTH1054@aol.com.

1997 Chevrolet Cavalier RS coupe

Vehicle class: Compact.
Engine: 2.2-liter in-line 4-cylinder.
Mileage: 22 city / 37 highway.
Where built: Lansing, Mich.; Lordstown, Ohio; and Ramos, Mexico.
Price: \$12,225.



TAMAROFF

QUALITY USED CARS & TRUCKS

Your #1 Truck Store for Savings!

New 1997 DODGE 1500 SLT LARAMIE 4x4
5.2 liter V8, automatic transmission, airbag, cruise, tilt, power windows, power locks, sliding rear window, AM/FM stereo cassette, cast aluminum wheels, SLT Decor Group, rear step bumper, Heavy Duty Service Group. Stock #531607.

SPECIAL OF THE WEEK

ZERO DOWN \$329^{mo.}

BUICK GM EMPLOYEES SALES HEADQUARTERS

NEW 1996 BUICK REGAL SEDAN

SPECIAL GMAC
Financing Rates as low as 0.9%
OR \$1,500 REBATE

FREE Remote Control Color TV with every new car purchase or lease

Stock #505000
— WAS \$21,665 —
SALE PRICE \$18,488*

LEASE FOR 36 MONTHS \$298^{mo.} With Only \$1900 Customer Cash Down

GM EMPLOYEES SAVE AN ADDITIONAL \$1500

HONDA

NEW 1997 ACCORD SEDAN

\$12,595

1997 ACCORD SEDAN

\$13,480

\$279^{mo.} 30 Month Lease

DODGE YOUR #1 TRUCK STORE FOR SAVINGS

ZERO DOWN

New 1997 DAKOTA SLT CLUB CAB

Automatic transmission, V6, air conditioning, dual airbags, tilt, cruise, power windows, power locks, sliding rear window, aluminum wheels, AM/FM stereo cassette, SLT Plus Package, security group, and much more. Stock #145017.

LEASE SPECIAL \$239^{mo.}

ZERO DOWN

NEW 1997 BUICK LeSABRE CUSTOM

SPECIALLY PRICED FOR AARP MEMBERS. BUY OR LEASE!

FREE Remote Control Color TV with every new car purchase or lease

Stock #480012
— WAS \$24,538 —
SALE PRICE \$22,488*

LEASE FOR 30 MONTHS \$328^{mo.} With Only \$1900 Customer Cash Down

GM EMPLOYEES SAVE AN ADDITIONAL \$1196.65

NISSAN

THE TAMAROFF ADVANTAGE: "We will beat any COMPETITOR'S AD!"

NEW 1996 RODEO

\$299^{mo.} \$1000 Down

NEW 1996 TROOPER

\$329^{mo.} \$1995 Down

WAS \$26,785 SALE PRICE \$22,538 WAS \$30,885 SALE PRICE \$23,988

New 1997 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN

Automatic transmission, V6, air conditioning, anti-lock brakes, dual airbags, seven-passenger seating, AM/FM stereo, rear window defroster, and much more. Stock #115625.

LEASE SPECIAL \$287^{mo.}

ZERO DOWN

1997 BUICK RIVIERA

FREE Remote Control Color TV with every new car purchase or lease

Stock #700132
— WAS \$32,590 —
SALE PRICE \$27,998*

LEASE FOR 30 MONTHS \$389^{mo.} With Only \$1900 Customer Cash Down

New 1997 DODGE 1500 SLT CLUB CAB

5.2 liter V8, automatic transmission, airbag, cruise, tilt, power windows, power locks, sliding rear window, AM/FM stereo cassette, cast aluminum wheels, SLT Decor Group, rear step bumper, Heavy Duty Service Group. Stock #73994.

LEASE SPECIAL \$239^{mo.}

ZERO DOWN

28585 TELEGRAPH ROAD, Southfield **MON. & THURS. 8:30-9:15PM**
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*Sale prices are plus tax, title, destination and documentation fee. All rebates to dealer. †24 month lease on Dakota and Laramie. 36 months for Caravan. Leases have an Approved Credit from primary lender. \$0 down plus first payment. Security deposit (payment refunded to the last bill) of \$500 (returned) plus tax, title, and plate fees. At delivery. Caravan leases allow for 45,000 miles per year. Laramie and Dakota 12,000 miles. 15¢ per mile for excess. Leases have option to purchase at lease end at pre-determined price. Lessee is responsible for excess wear and tear. Expires 12/31/96.

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710 Estate Sales

ESTATE SALES BY DEBBIE IN HOUSE... Full Estates 20% Fee... Cash paid 48 hrs after sale...

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EVENING GOWNS All handmade... more different styles to choose from & unique... 810-525-9326

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SPEEDQUEEN washer/18 mod... \$300. GE Dryer, 5 yrs. old... \$150. Whirlpool fridge/range... \$200 ea...

719 Pools/Spas/Hot Tubs

HOT TUB - 4 person Blue Redwood cover... excellent condition \$1000... (313) 993-0471

724 Business & Office Equipment

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730 Comm./Industrial/Restaurant Equip.

BAR OWNERS! Antique bar... both front & back. Turn of century... Oak 10' mirrored... \$10,000 best... (313) 525-2323

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APPLES - Now shipping UPS anywhere in the US... for the holidays... Large selection of boxes or baskets... Phone orders welcome... Call (810) 632-7692

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750 Miscellaneous For Sale

SLOT MACHINES, good working order... from \$450... (810) 426-9699

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CONSOLE KEYBOARD with drum pads for Sound Sticks... (810) 474-8377

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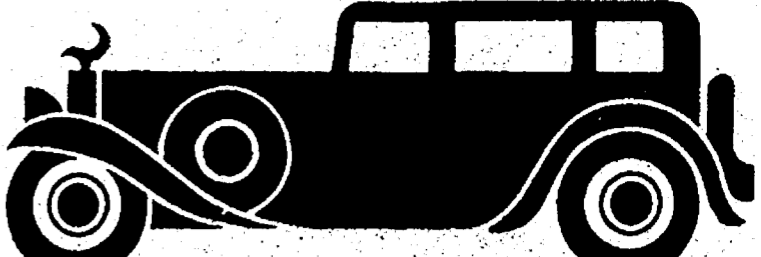
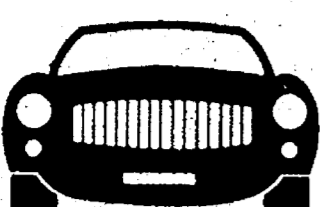
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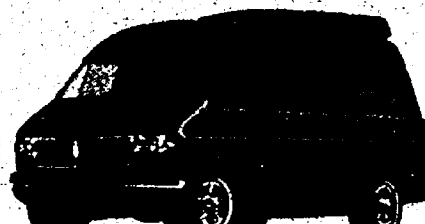
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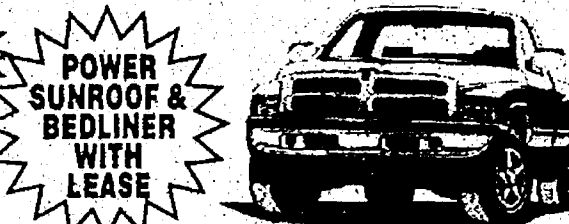
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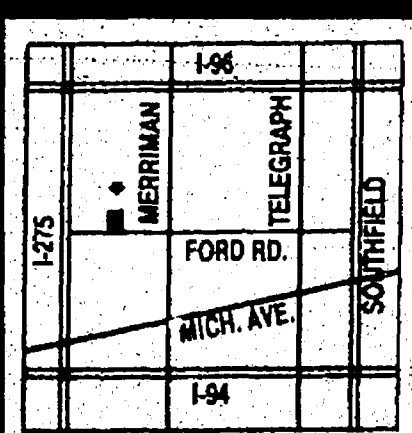
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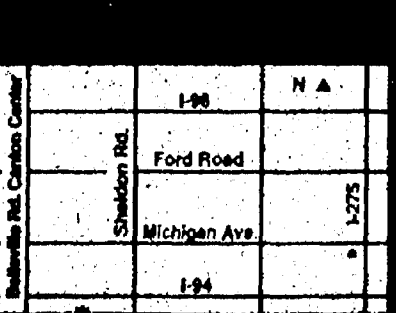
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Open Saturday 10-1

*Plus tax title, plates, destination charges. Rebates to dealer.
**24 month closed end lease with approved credit. 12,000 mi. per year allowed. 1¢ per mile penalty. Excess mi. fee to be paid with dealer at lease completion. Lessee has responsibility for excess wear & tear. Down payment of \$1000 is held in security deposit. Lessee must pay \$100 per month for 24 months. Lease ends at 24 months. Lessee has option to purchase at lease end at predetermined price. Customer has option to purchase at lease end at predetermined price. Lessee responsible for excess wear & tear. Applicable rebates to dealer.
*Plus tax title, doc. fee, dest. Rebate to dealer.

A-X-Z-B PLAN HEADQUARTERS