



Looking back
Photo story - pages A6-7
Looking forward
Our views - page A10



Jeff Daniels vents
in his new play,
'Guest Artist'
FEELEER - INSERTED SECTION

World-class scrapbook
AT HOME - PAGE B7



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District pilots all-day kindergarten at 4 schools

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Tina Simpson was wondering how she was going to manage a full-time job and having her son Cameron in kindergarten.

Now she has an answer - a pilot full-day kindergarten program that will be available at four Wayne-Westland schools during the 2006-2007 school year.

"This is great," said the Westland resident. "As a single parent, I know how difficult it's going to be to juggle being there to pick him up and then what to do with him afterwards."

The Wayne-Westland school board Monday

evening voted to implement the pilot program at Wildwood Elementary - Simpson's neighborhood school - Walker-Winter in Canton, Roosevelt-McGrath in Wayne and Hicks in Inkster.

School officials are hoping the program will increase enrollment which has been on the decline since the 2002-2003 school year when there was 1,050 kindergarten students. This year, the number is below 950 students.

According to Sam Barresi, assistant superintendent for instruction, the declining numbers are due primarily to a maturing school community and the increased needs of working parents.

"Working parents need to know their children are safe and supported for a full day," he said. "School districts that have implemented this program have seen an increase in their enrollment due to the needs of parents being met."

Barresi told the board that the district's current kindergarten curriculum lends itself well to an expanded program. The schedule would include reading, writing, language arts, science, social studies and mathematics as well as time for play and social interaction.

"We would have the ability to spend the morning doing a lot of the literacy work along with writing," said Rebecca Finnegan, a

kindergarten teacher at Hicks Elementary who worked on the pilot program committee. "The children will have more time to explore."

Barresi stressed that the children would be in the school buildings all day, and parents who believe their child isn't ready, could opt for a half-day program.

"We will work with the families," Barresi said.

When questioned about students being able to handle an all-day program, board member Martha Pitsenbarger was assured by Wildwood Principal Amy Carpenter that

PLEASE SEE KINDERGARTEN, A5

Walking and talking

'Cross-country' trek keeps students on the move

BY SUE MASON
STAFF WRITER

Fifth-grader Chris Sabo has never been to New York state, let alone California, but the Kettering Elementary fifth-grader is hoping to make the trek between the East and West coasts.

As of the end of January, he was heading into central Ohio.

"I've never been to New York or New Jersey, but I've been to Ohio, I have relatives there," said Chris, doing a lap around the school gymnasium.

Sabo is among third-, fourth- and fifth-graders at Kettering Elementary School who do laps around the gym in hope of completing the almost 3,000-mile journey, started by Principal Paula Hotaling to encourage children to exercise.

"One of the teachers was at a school in another district that did this five-six years ago and I wanted to start it here," said Hotaling. "I kept putting it off, but with all the articles in the paper on how

unhealthy we are, I decided to do it this year.

"I mostly wanted to get the message across that exercise is good for your health."

The students began walking in late September and have slowly picked up the pace. A map on the wall outside the school office keeps track of their progress.

The walking takes place during lunch Monday through Thursday, with one class each day doing laps. According to Hotaling, it takes 31.8 laps to complete a mile and more than 90,000 laps to complete the East Coast-to-West Coast trek.

Michelle Martin says that her fourth-/fifth-grade class and Julie Mytych's fifth-grade class can do a considerable amount of walking.

"At the beginning of the year, we brought the fourth-grade down here to kick it off and they got excited," said Martin. "But it was amazing how many got tired at 10-15 laps, so

PLEASE SEE WALKING, A5



TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Ashley Cox (left) and Kayla Chandler are among Kettering Elementary students who are walking across the United State without leaving the school gymnasium.

School elections attract 4 candidates

The annual election won't be until May 2, but incumbent Wayne-Westland school board member Frederick Weaver already knows the results.

Weaver, the school board incumbent, was the only person to file a petition by Tuesday afternoon to be listed on the ballot. Only one four-year term will be filled in the election.

The senior pastor at Abundant Light Church in Canton and a Westland resident, Weaver is completing his first four-year term on the school board. He currently is the school board president.

Weaver received his doctoral degree in theology from Andersonville Baptist Seminary. He and his wife, Theresa, have two children - daughter Chelsea, a junior at John Glenn High School, and son Caleb, an eighth-grader at Stevenson Middle School.

In the Livonia Public Schools, which serves the north end of Westland, three candidates have tossed their hats into the ring to run for school board trustee.

Incumbent and current Vice President Joanne Morgan will compete with Steve King and Joe C. Joseph for the one four-year term. All are Livonia residents.

Morgan's term expires June 30. The new board term will run from July 1, 2006, to June 30, 2009.

The makeup of the current school board could change drastically should the Citizens for Livonia's Future succeed in their recall efforts of members Dan Lessard, Rob Freeman, Kevin Whitehead, Lynda Scheel and Cynthia Markarian.

Candidates who filed by the Tuesday deadline still have until 4 p.m. Feb. 10 to withdraw their names from the ballot.

By Sue Mason and Stephanie A. Casola

Services held for Duane Suess, Westland father who fought cancer

Duane Suess, a Westland father of two whose battle with cancer stirred emotions and drew support from many neighboring communities, died Saturday at the Karmanos Cancer Institute in Detroit.

He was 30.

Mr. Suess, a carpet installer, had fought a painful battle against a form of head and

neck cancer that is rare for someone his age. His story was detailed in the *Observer* in October to promote a fundraiser organized by his mother, Jeannie Mazur.

Mr. Suess' situation brought in prayers, cards and financial donations from many communities and prompted one company to adopt the family and buy gifts last Christmas.

Services were Tuesday at Griffin Funeral Home in Westland. The Rev. Drexel Morton of St. Michael Lutheran Church in Canton officiated.

Survivors include his wife, Stacy; daughter Kayla; son Kyle; two brothers, Jake Lawson and Adam Lawson; and two sisters, Amy Martin and Julie Lawson.



Mr. Suess

Tax man cometh, so city extends deadline

It's a bitterly cold fact: Winter taxes are due to the city of Westland.

Those who don't have their taxes put into an escrow account will have to dig deep in their pockets.

It might not be as threatening as the scenario depicted by The Beatles when they sang about taxes in *Tax Man*: "Don't ask me what I want it for, if you don't want to pay some more."

Actually, the city of Westland - much like the federal and state governments - needs your taxes to pay its bills. It's that simple.

But, city officials this year, as in past years, are showing some compassion by extending the deadline for paying city taxes until Feb. 28.

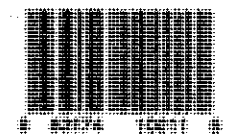
It's only a two-week extension, Mayor Sandra Cicirelli said, but it can help at a time when taxpayers are battling higher home-heating costs, increased gasoline prices and, for many, the tab for Christmas gifts bought with charge cards.

"The extension is for a couple of weeks," Cicirelli said. "But sometimes that helps."

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INDEX	
APARTMENTS	F8
BELIEFS & VALUES	C10
AUTOMOTIVE	G6
CLASSIFIED INDEX	F6
CROSSWORD	F10
JOBS	G2
MOVIES	D16
OBITUARIES	C10
REAL ESTATE	F1
SERVICE GUIDE	G6
SPORTS	C1
TASTE	B7

Coming Sunday
on the PINK Page



The
Red
Dress
Tour

Livonia mayor opposes Legacy plan, asks LPS to reconsider

BY DAN WEST
STAFF WRITER

Mayor Jack Engebretson has publicly joined critics of the Legacy Initiative plan to restructure Livonia Public Schools.

Engebretson said school district officials should reconsider "their far-reaching plans" because he believes the widespread public scrutiny of the Legacy Initiative could further divide the community and lower property values in Livonia.

"While I have absolutely no authority in these matters, the division in our community has caused me to make an effort to be of assistance to the concerned citizens and the LPS District," Engebretson said.

Livonia Board of Education President Dan Lessard said he was "disappointed" with the mayor's public approach.

"I don't think saying anything else would do any good," Lessard said.

Engebretson said he would like Livonia school leaders to respond as school leaders did in Taylor when they postponed plans to close schools and move sixth-graders from elementary to middle schools. School leaders in Taylor are taking an extra year to come up with an amicable plan.

The Livonia school board approved the Legacy Initiative, a plan that will close seven schools and reorganize the districts buildings this fall. As part of the plan, elementary schools will be separated into grades K-4 and 5-6 buildings

and additional busing will be needed. School officials said the plan will save the district at least \$1.5 million per year, maintain current class sizes and not require any teacher layoffs.

A grass roots group, Citizens for Livonia's Future, has formed to challenge the plan. The group indicated it intends to file suit against the district to stop the plan; it is also working to set up a recall election for five board members who voted for the plan.

Steve Futrell, the group's president, said he was grateful for the mayor's comments.

"Our group understands the district needs to make some changes," Futrell said. "Our issue is that when 1,000 people attend meetings to talk to the board and present problems, the board did not take any of them into account."

Engebretson talked with a number of citizens, school officials and real estate agents in recent months to analyze the district's restructuring plans. He said he concluded there are too many frustrated citizens, questions about the plan and potential property value problems to justify such substantial changes that net a 1 percent savings in the school district's budget.

"And if they lose 175 students to other schools next year, that will wipe out all the money they projected to save," Engebretson said.

The mayor said he met with Livonia Supt. Randy Liepa four times to discuss the Legacy Initiative. On at least

one occasion, the mayor said he asked Liepa to stop the plan.

"I have described my concerns to him in some detail with the hope that implementation of the initiative may be delayed so that the many concerns raised . . . could be investigated," Engebretson said.

Liepa said he understands Engebretson's concerns, but added the mayor also expressed confidence that the district would continue to provide an outstanding education for students.

"There's a lot of difference of opinion on the Legacy Initiative, but there is a lot of support for the district as a whole," Liepa said.

For several weeks, as Engebretson considered taking a public stance on the school district plan, he heard from some people who advised he stay out of the fray as a courtesy to his elected counterparts on the Livonia Board of Education. Others suggested a public stance by the mayor wouldn't change anything.

Noting the magnitude of the community dispute on this issue, Engebretson said he felt it would be a dereliction of his duty as the chief elected city officer if he remained silent.

"I'm not here to pick a fight with anyone, but if this program ends up harming our community down the line, and I never took a stand, I would deeply regret it," Engebretson said.

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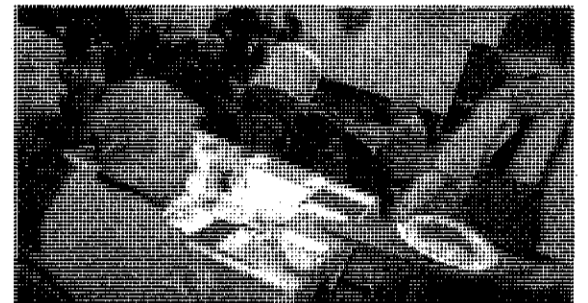
PHOTOS BY TOM HAWLEY | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

At your service

Each month the Dyer Senior Center hosts a fund-raising spaghetti dinner and each month member of the John Glenn High School JROTC program are there to help serve guests. Lorraine Kus of Westland watches as senior Stephen Bozman fills her plate with pasta.



Sophomore Chelsey Young serves puts sauce on the pasta of a dinner guest.



John Glenn ninth-grader and JROTC member Michael McNally brings spaghetti dinners to the table of Mary Bozik (left) and Dolores Sova.



Ninth-grader Carly Pitrago sets up the dessert table at the spaghetti dinner.

Group looks for recall support

Citizens for Livonia's Future are starting to seek signatures of those in support of a recall of five current Livonia Public School trustees.

On Tuesday, Wayne County officials approved the petition language submitted last month by the grassroots community group.

"We are starting the recall process," said Steve Futrell, on behalf of the Citizens for Livonia's Future. "We are continuing down that path. We are doing everything we have said all along that we would do - although we don't want to."

The recall, Futrell said, is in response to the board's failure to listen to parental concerns regarding the Legacy Initiative.

The group has asked the district to halt its plans for the coming year to take another look at ways to save money, to establish a new demographics committee with more community representation, and to come up with a new plan for the future of the district.

The board has stood by its decision to install the Legacy Initiative this fall.

Citizens for Livonia's Future will now have 90 days to collect 10,000 to 13,000 signatures supporting the recall of each of the five trustees. Futrell said the group will begin seeking those signatures this week.

Named in the recall effort are trustees Dan Lessard, Lynda Scheel, Rob Freeman,

Kevin Whitehead and Cynthia Markarian.

Joanne Morgan is seeking re-election this May and Tom Bailey voted against the Legacy Initiative. They are not considered part of the recall.

By Stephanie A. Casola

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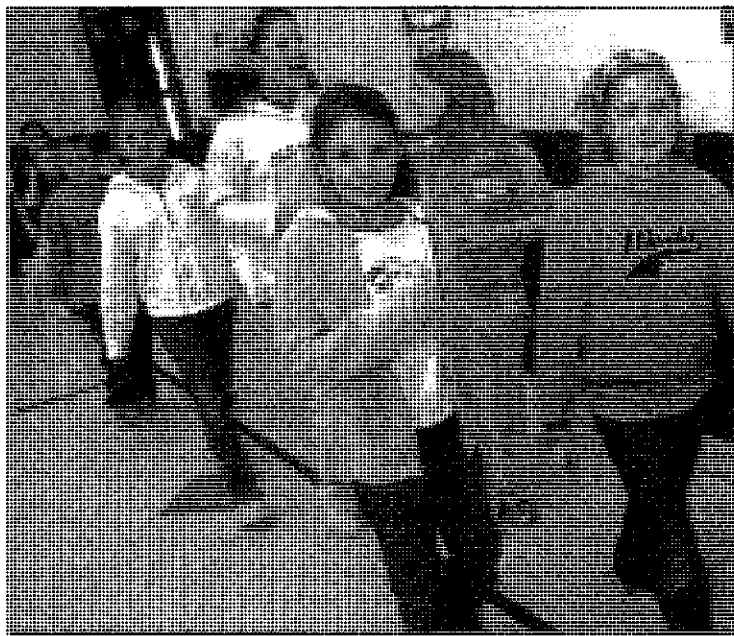
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Talking is part of walking for Kennedy Shea (front row, from left), Danielle Karns, Jordan Collins (second row, from left), Ashley Cox and Samantha Kingston. Following them is Jared Hendershot.

WALKING

FROM PAGE A1

we had a long talk about building up endurance."

Martin keeps count, clicking her counter as each one of her students crosses the start/finish line.

"Sometimes it helps to get them up and moving, it gets the wiggles out," Martin. "They don't mind doing it, it's an opportunity to chat with their friends. It's also a warm-up

before the kids play dodgeball. Sometimes Martin walks with her students or with the other teacher and tacks on the laps. It's also a chance for her to "get healthy and socialize."

Chris likes the walking for several reasons. He plays soccer on a U-11 team and the walking keeps him in shape. It also gives him something else to do during lunch "than eat and talk."

Joining him for laps was classmate Ken McKay who decided to walk backwards for



Fourth-fifth-grade teacher Michelle Martin clicks her counter as students complete their laps around the gym.

a spell. "It's cool," Ken said. "It's exercise and I need a lot of exercise. I play football, soccer and hockey."

Ashley Carey agrees that it's kind of cool. It gives her time to relax and get out of her desk.

"My mom and dad like because I'm not all hyper when I get home," she said. "I'm all

mellow and cool because I get to work out."

Like Chris and Ken, she, too, plays soccer and sees the lap walking as conditioning for the spring season.

"I never do get winded," she said.

With the school year half over, Hotaling is looking at ways to pick up the pace. She's contemplating plotting a

course around the playground that students can walk once the weather breaks and they're outside.

Whether they make it to Los Angeles before the end of the year or not, Hotaling knows one thing about her walkers: "They enjoy it."

msason@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2112

'Sometimes it helps to get them up and moving, it gets the wiggles out. They don't mind doing it, it's an opportunity to chat with their friends.'
teacher Michelle Martin

Poet holds book signing at Book Cellar & Cafe

Local poet Cheryl A. Vatcher-Martin will have a book-signing 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Book Cellar & Cafe in downtown Plymouth.

Vatcher-Martin, who is a Westland Chamber of Commerce member and owner of Pero Inc., said her book has more than 50 Haiku, or Japanese-style poetry. She said she will have other poetry gifts for sale, too.

The Book Cellar & Cafe is located across from Starbucks on Ann Arbor Trail.

Vatcher-Martin is profiled on a literary section of a Web site, thedetroit.com, for January 2006. She noted that her award-winning poem Women Reclining received the Award of Distinction in Literary Arts through Artists Among Us in November 2005. It is featured on the Web site.

Vatcher-Martin will be selling framed copies of this poem in addition to her Haiku chapbook.

"I write Haiku because I enjoy the 5-7-5 syllables it takes to write one Haiku," she said. "It's neat to express the beauty of nature in a few short words."

Vatcher-Martin has a master of arts degree from the University of Michigan. She owns Pero Inc., where she edits manuscripts and works with her clients to help them become published authors.

As an adjunct instructor at Schoolcraft College, she has taught composition, French, journalism, business English and technical writing. She currently is offering two creative writing classes at Schoolcraft College.

She can be reached at (734) 397-1626 or by e-mail at Peroinc5@comcast.net.

KINDERGARTEN

FROM PAGE A1

while the first week of class is difficult for younger students, they do adjust.

"Usually, within a week and a half, they don't want to leave their friends, they want to stay," she said.

The four schools are geographically located - north, south, east and west - within the district and within its four primary communities of Westland, Wayne, Canton and Inkster.

Parents who live outside those four attendance areas would be able to enroll their children in the all-day program through the district's schools of choice program.

School officials are hoping to attract enough students to offset the increased costs. But what the district does receive from the state for kindergarten students could be shrinking. State officials are talking about paring down payments for kindergartners.

"Would decreased funding allow for an all-day kindergarten, I don't know," said Superintendent Greg Baracy. "I don't know where that's

going, but we're working with legislators to prevent it (the decrease)."

Barresi told the board that an enrollment assessment will be done at the end of the pilot year. There also will be a parent survey done and a literacy assessment to see how well the all-day students do.

The program drew praise from board members.

"This is wonderful," said Pitsenbarger. "I'm glad to see we're starting this pilot program. When both mom and dad work, this will be a plus."

"It's a wonderful idea, it brings the kids up to speed quickly," said Trustee Skip Monit.

Simpson also thinks it's a wonderful idea. Her sister watches her son plus she spends "tons of money" for different kinds of sports program so Cameron can socialize with other children.

"I know there will be a definite adjustment for him for the first month, but it'll be nice," she said. "I feel guilty about putting him in daycare, I'd rather he be where he's learning. He hears about the two recesses and gym and all the things his brother Tyler does at school and he wants to do it, too."

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LOOKING



Programs fill the air to mark the start of Super Bowl XL at Ford Field in downtown Detroit.

SBXL was super for suburbs

Super Bowl XL is history. And although most of the activities surrounding the big game took place in Detroit, suburban communities joined in the fun and reaped the economic benefits, according to early reports.

Hotels in Livonia and elsewhere along I-275 were booked solid with more than 2,000 media representatives from around the world.

"The hotels had a great week because in many cases they had guests all week since we had media based hotels. The hotel bars and restaurants had a considerable spike in business. By the weekend, the bars in the Marriott and Holiday Inn were packed," said Wes Graff, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce and a media super captain.

In Troy, Usher, the actor/singer, was one of several high-profile shoppers who saw Somerset as a point of interest, according to Jim Westcott, the mall's general manager.

"Usher — he was here late Saturday afternoon," he said. "And he had quite a large following."

But the crowd of admirers who followed the singer around the mall kept their distance. Usher, meanwhile, loaded up with essentials at Neiman Marcus and Gucci, among others.

"He was a good shopper," Westcott said.

Canton Township's Super Bowl hosted the Super Bowl NFL Charities Bowling Classic. NFL celebrities bowling for charity included Pro Football Hall of Famers Bobby Mitchell, Jan Stenerud, Bill Dudley, Tom Mack, Charley Taylor and Carl Eller, and three former players known as much for their nicknames as for their talents on the gridiron: Ed "Too Tall" Jones, Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson and Billy "White Shoes" Johnson.

Marquis Foodservice of Westland catered the Playboy party for 2,000 people last Saturday at the Coleman A. Young International Airport.

"Everything just went great," Marquis owner Scott Winfrey said. "The clients were super happy."

Marquis had 120 workers at the party, and one of the most popular items served was lobster lollipops with dipping sauces. "We made over 1,000 portions, and within three hours those were gone," Winfrey said.

Compiled from O&E staff reports.

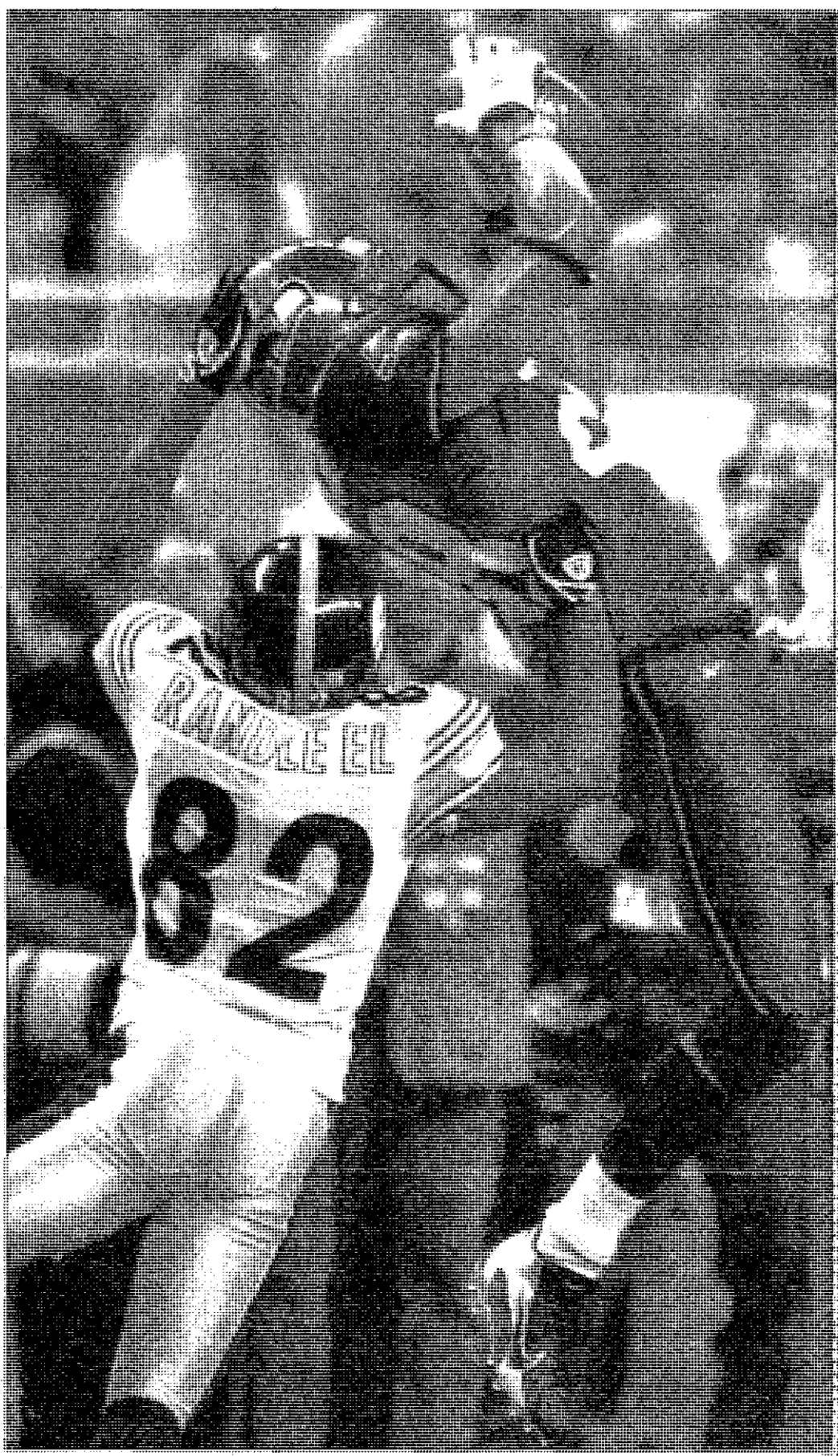
STAFF PHOTOS
BY TOM HOFFMEYER



Pittsburgh Steelers fan Howard Whitmore of Huntington Beach, Calif., erupts with excitement as the Steelers score their third touchdown on their way to winning Super Bowl XL.



John Nigro of Pittsburgh, Pa., shows his excitement as the final minutes tick off the clock to give the Steelers the victory.

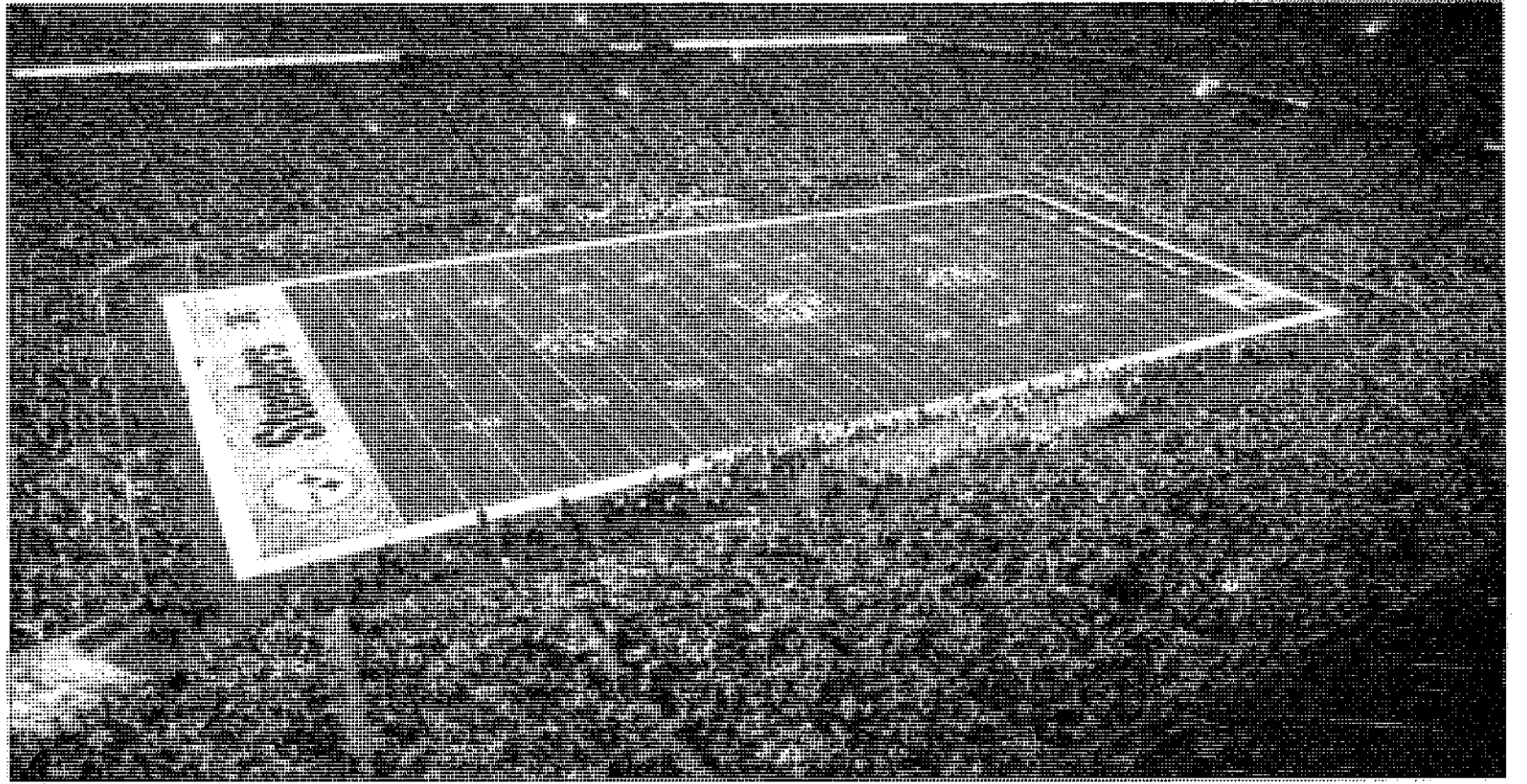


Pittsburgh receiver Antwan Randle El hits Seattle strong safety Michael Oduwale as he intercepts a Pittsburgh pass during the second quarter of Super Bowl XL.



Mike and Dana Mintline of Farmington Hills sell official NFL souvenir programs before the start of Super Bowl XL.

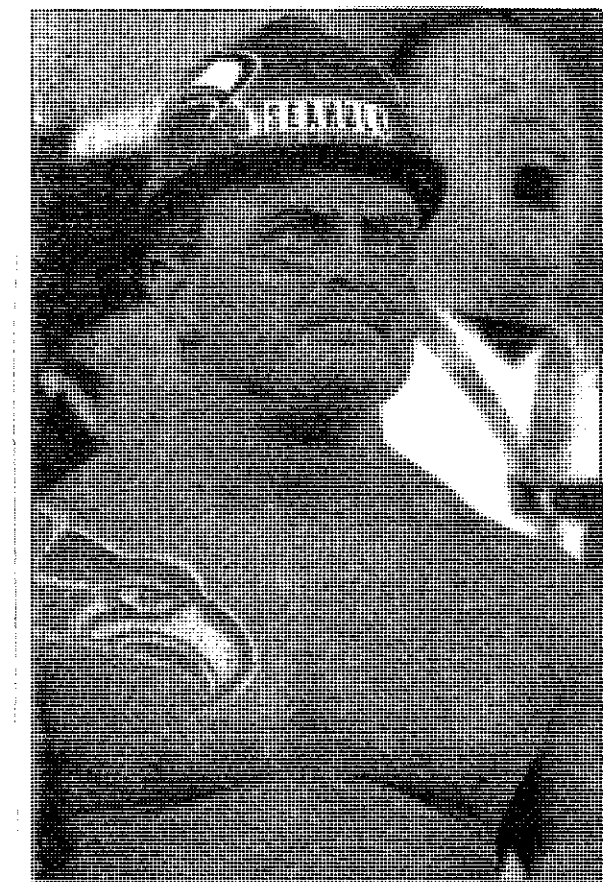
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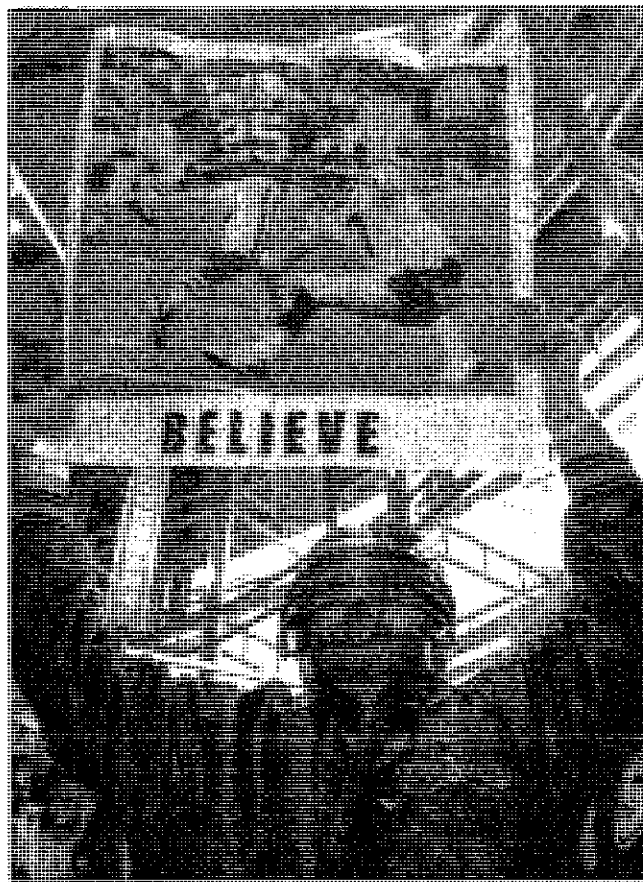
Ford Field in downtown Detroit filled to capacity for the kickoff of Super Bowl XL.



Fans make their way along the concourse of Ford Field trying to find their seats hours before the start of the game.



Surrounded by screaming Steelers fans, Tim Froemke, aka 'The SeaHulk' shows a little concern about Seattle's performance.



Eric Winecoff of New Jersey comes into Ford Field gathering support from fellow Steelers fans before the start of Super Bowl XL.



Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones struts his stuff on stage during the group's Super Bowl XL halftime performance.



Stephanie Meyer of Pittsburgh dances in the aisles while the Rolling Stones play their halftime performance.



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Mrs. Smith remembered

The late Dorothy Smith, a longtime Westland City Council watchdog who died in January, was remembered fondly by elected officials Monday during a council meeting.

Councilwoman Cheryl Graunstadt brought a single rose and placed it in the front-row seat where Mrs. Smith always sat when she attended council meetings. No one sat in the seat Monday.

Graunstadt's action was a nod to a newsletter, the Westland Citizens Chronicle, that Mrs. Smith published, in which she awarded roses and thorns to those who, in her opinion, did good or bad in her community.

Mayor Sandra Cicirelli said she had received both roses and thorns over the years. She said that even those people who differed politically with Mrs. Smith had to respect her for making them consider other viewpoints.

Valentine's Dance

The Stilettoe's, a '50s nostalgia club, will hold its 25th annual '50s Valentine's Dance

Workshop helps people preserve family history

People interested in build a living legacy of the past for their family can get help at a workshop being offered by Vermeulen Funeral Home Sunday, Feb. 12.

The family-oriented work-

AROUND WESTLAND

6:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road, Westland.

The evening will feature a full mostaccioli dinner, beer (liquor will be available), door prizes, the Fantastics and DJ Doowop Danny Wilson. The cost is \$30 per person and are available by calling (734) 697-7270, (734) 564-2645, (734) 425-2363, (248) 542-4614, (248) 541-6922, (548) 412-0742 and (313) 414-9681.

Toastmasters

The Westland Easy Talkers Toastmasters Club can help people overcome their fear of speaking in front of people by teaching public speaking in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursday evenings at Denny's Restaurant, 7725 Wayne Road at Cowan.

For more information, call John Elbe at (734) 414-3401 or Curt Gottlieb at (734) 525-8445.

Chili cook-off

The Westland Democratic Club will hold a chili cook-off fund-raiser 6-9 p.m. tomorrow (Feb. 10) at the Harris-Kehrer VFW Post 3323 in Westland.

There's a \$10 fee to enter the contest and cooks are asked to bring a crockpot of their chili for judging. There's also a \$10 charge to taste the chilis and vote for the best one. Beverages and dessert are included in the charge.

People who attend are asked to please bring a donation of a personal care item for our local veterans hospital patients. Suggested items included men's white socks, liquid soap (alcohol free), disposable razors or toothbrushes and toothpaste.

Call Nan Melke at (734) 674-7327. The hall is at 1055 S. Wayne Road, between Cherry Hill and Palmer.

Cropping fund-raiser

A scrapbook fund-raiser, Croppin' for the Edison Eagles, will be held 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, in the gymnasium of St. Matthew Lutheran School and Church, 5885 Venoy, Westland. The cost is \$35 and includes a light breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and beverages, scrapbooking and stamping vendors, raffles and much more.

Call Kelly Salter at (734) 891-0219 or e-mail kelly@bellcreek.org.

shop, entitled "Remember When," will be 1-3 p.m. at Kirk of Our Savior Church, 3660 Cherry Hill, west of Wayne Road in Westland.



The two-hour interactive workshop will help jog participants' memories and remember family and life events long forgotten. They also receive a free booklet, "Just a Few

Memories to Share," so they can record memories for future generations.

The 32-page book helps to organize memories and translate family history into print. Seating is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis. Call Bonnie D. Hilberer at (734) 459-2250 or (734) 646-2237.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to state law a sale will be held at: Secured Self Storage, 6855 Yale, Westland, MI, February 25, 2006 @ 1:00 PM.

#124 John Johnson; #507 Gregory Wohlers; #914 Heather Tank; #1007 Cheryl Williams; #1325 Lynn Miller; #416 Amy Schinski; #716 Robert Parker; #345 John Stevens; #919 John Ascencio; #203 Cedrick Vanhook; #236 Marita Eckford; #103 Lola Pitts; #515 Margaret Rose Dowling. Units contain: misc. household items & restaurant equipment.

Publish: February 9 & 12, 2006

Notice of Public Sale of Personal Property

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self Service Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, the undersigned will sell at public auction by competitive bidding, the undersigned will sell at public auction by competitive bidding. Sales are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours. For sale and storage units in which rent and fees are past due.

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 3650 Enterprise Dr., Allen Park, MI 48101, (313) 441-3117 on 2-22-06 at 10:30 am. Personal property described below in the matter of:

B037 - Stacie Tarolli - floor lamp
B777 - Edward Garner - couch, dresser, totes
E050 - Scott Stevens - bags, boxes, power tools
E014 - Justin Jones - 1976 Cadillac vin#6D49S6Q285322
C043 - Tina Haneline - dryer, stove, washer
D041 - Nathan Williams - bike, boxes, lawnmower
B265 - Steven Weaver - bags, boxes, stereo
B047 - Aundra Lipscomb-Baker - desk, couch, boxes
B065 - Krystal Pinson - bags, boxes, power tools
B072 - Michael Kowalski - power tools, coffee tables, totes
B093 - Shawon O'Conner - couch, stove, refrigerator
B193 - Carl Ball - boxes, bikes
B206 - David Grauman - bikes, boxes, stereo
B238 - Clayton Smith - couch, boxes, dresser
B309 - Thoanchelle Bergen - rug, totes, vacuum
B319 - Antoine Brand - fan, misc. items
C002 - Melissa Offord - AC unit, couch, bookcase
C010 - Vanessa McCleskey - dryer, couch, mattress
C011 - Debryl Ector - totes, couch, stove
C022 - Renee Esteen Ware - boxes, totes, AC unit
D009 - Charles Corby - couch, power tools, ladder
D029 - Amanda Thomsberry - bags, headboard, mattress
D033 - Debryl Ector - bags, boxes, rug
D044 - Steve Swinney - bags, Big Screen TV
E003 - Ronald McFadden - couch, boxes, misc. items
E007 - Shirley Smith - boxes, refrigerator, TV
F018 - Bradley Moscarello - owner tools, dresser, boxes
E010 - Robert Benjamin - misc. items
E016 - Minnie Monson - boxes, milk crates

Publish: February 9 & 16, 2006

New Schoolcraft building puts emphasis on math, science

BY HUGH GALLAGHER
STAFF WRITER

Responding to a renewed emphasis on math and science education, Schoolcraft College will break ground in early fall on a \$12.5 million biomedical technology building.

On Jan. 26, the state approved funding for construction.

The building will be financed with \$5 million in state funding, leaving the college obligated for \$7.5 million.

The new facility is scheduled to open in fall of 2008.

"We've been saving, mostly from our two developments, College Park development and the Seven Mile Crossing development," said Jill O'Sullivan, Schoolcraft vice president and chief financial officer.

She said the developments adjacent to the college's campus on Haggerty Road in Livonia have been successful in providing revenue.

"It's providing money for the college when state appropriations are going down," she said. "It's really good timing. As state funding started declining, that money came to fill the gap. It didn't totally fill the gap, but at least it helped so our hit wasn't as drastic."

The biomedical technology building is in response to a new emphasis on science and health education programs at the college. It will be on the campus' Fox Drive and situated to link the Forum, which now houses many science classes, and applied science, which houses the recently renovated nursing lab.

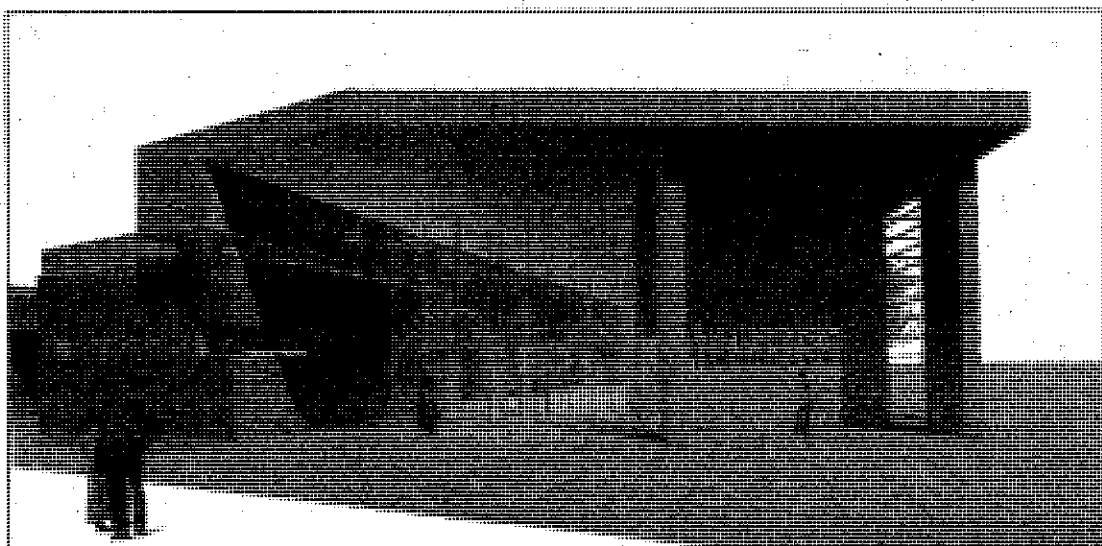
"We hope to have a synergy with these three buildings," O'Sullivan said.

In addition, math classes will be moved from the liberal arts' building.

The new building is also a response to a swelling enrollment.

The college announced a record credit enrollment for this winter term of 10,609 students. The college also provides continuing education for another 20,000 students.

"We have a good problem — we have a lack of space," O'Sullivan said. "This winter



The Biomedical Technology building, designed by DSA Architects, will provide classroom space for math, science and health classes. The college will break ground on the new facility in the fall.

semester we had a 7-percent increase in enrollment, so that's wonderful."

She said the new building will not only provide more needed classroom space, but also provide for "a means to deliver different instructional programming."

"Math, technology, science, that's what we're stressing. It's important. That's what our society is going to need," O'Sullivan said.

TEAM LEARNING

The biomedical technology building is being designed by DSA Architects of Berkley.

The building will contain a biomedical lab, 16 classrooms and four science labs. A committee from the college is working with DSA partner and project manager Janice Suchan.

The committee includes Bob Wielechowski, executive director of facilities; Denise Sigworth, dean of instruction; Bruce Sweet, associate dean of business and technology; and Monica Sullivan, associate dean for sciences.

"Our design process is inclusive and collaborative, including involvement from the college administration, facilities, faculty and staff groups," Suchan said in an e-mail response. "We work as a team with our clients to develop cost-effective, functional and innovative solutions. From a project's inception through to

completion, all disciplines are integrated to provide well-coordinated, professional service."

Suchan said the new building is being designed to promote "team and project-based learning."

"It is often referred to as 'inquiry based learning,' which means using multidisciplinary, hands-on, minds-on discovery methods for teaching science," she said. "This creates a design challenge of providing learning spaces that inspire collaborative work, and are flexible enough to allow for the growth and change of future technologies."

O'Sullivan said a V-shaped layout will allow for many windows and scenic views of the retention pond near the school's day care center.

Suchan said the windows also have a positive effect on learning.

"Many studies have shown that natural light has a positive impact on learning environments, and daylighting is also a key component in sustainable design," she said. "Our design will achieve both with direct light from windows in the classrooms as well as indirect light from clerestory windows above the corridors and teaming spaces."

DSA Architects specializes in educational facility design and has done projects for more than 60 percent of public colleges and universities in Michigan, Suchan said.

Current projects include the Central Michigan University College of Education and Human Services Building, the Lansing Community College University Center building and the Jackson Community College Information and Technology Center building.

hgallagher@oe.hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2149

Volunteers needed to listen for frogs and toads

The Friends of the Rouge is seeking volunteers for its ninth annual survey of frogs and toads in the wetlands within the Rouge River Watershed.

The survey is to provide up-to-date knowledge of the frog and toad species that inhabit the Rouge River watershed and to educate residents of the watershed about the importance of wetlands.

Locations must be in wetlands within the Rouge River Watershed which includes 48 communities in west Detroit and its north and west suburbs.

Volunteers need no prior experience but must attend one two hour training workshop and learn eight breeding calls from a CD that is provided. All materials are provided. Surveys are conducted independently on damp warm evenings, several times a month beginning in March and ending in July.

The survey is an opportunity to spend time with family and friends outdoors learning about local wildlife. Families, students, seniors

and others are encouraged to sign up. Pre-registration for workshops is required by calling (313)792-9621 or e-mailing picoordinator@therouge.org. Please provide your full name, address, phone and e-mail and which workshop you would like to attend.

Workshops are scheduled for:

■ 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 2, Ypsilanti Civic Center, 7200 S. Huron River Drive, Ypsilanti

■ 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 4, Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, Livonia

■ 7-9 p.m. Tuesday, March 7, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Environmental Interpretive Center, 4901 Evergreen Road, Dearborn

■ 7-9 p.m. Thursday, March 9, Southfield Parks & Recreation, 26000 Evergreen Road, Southfield

■ 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, March 11, Plymouth Board of Trustees, 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170

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OUR VIEWS

Good fiscal sense helps bottom line

In a state awash with bad news, it's like a breath of fresh air to hear about something good.

In the case of the city of Westland, the good news came by way of the annual audit, which shows the city finishing the 2004-05 fiscal year with a surplus of \$2.3 million.

It's not a lot of money to have on hand for unexpected expenses, but it's a lot more than the \$397,403 the city had in reserve just two years ago.

It's a credit to Mayor Sandra Cicirelli's administration, which worked hard to keep city services on an even keel at a time when state-shared revenue has been declining and costs have been increasing.

The administration cinched in the city's budget belt a few notches. It left positions unfilled, reduced expenses and joined with other communities on some purchases.

But the average citizen didn't notice. The garbage has been picked up, the streets cleaned. And when residents dialed 9-1-1, police and fire personnel were there to respond.

When the mayor came into office more than four years ago, the city was wobbly, at best, financially. She has devoted a lot of time and energy to turning the city's finances around, and her success is to be commended.

She's done so well, we think she should share the secret to her success with Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who has yet to find the magic cure for the state's financial predicament.

We like hearing such good news. It compliments similar news out of the Wayne-Westland school district, where officials have been able to trim costs and hang on to an almost \$13 million surplus at a time when other districts are facing a sea of red ink.

Both entities know the worst isn't over yet, but with shrewd fiscal management, they've managed to position the city and its school district to stay healthy in a sickly time.

They're proof positive for the saying about a penny saved is a penny earned.

It's a credit to Mayor Sandra Cicirelli's administration, which worked hard to keep city services on an even keel at a time when state-shared revenue has been declining and costs have been increasing.

Super Bowl success can lead to new spirit of cooperation

Now what?

That's what power brokers in southeast Michigan and Lansing should be asking themselves as the final remnants of Super Bowl XL are crated up and hauled away.

There is no disputing the weeklong event was an unqualified success for the city of Detroit, the entire metropolitan region, the state of Michigan and the National Football League. Roger Penske — who worked tirelessly as chairman of the Michigan Host Committee, promoting not only the Super Bowl, but the Detroit region — deserves high praise and thanks.

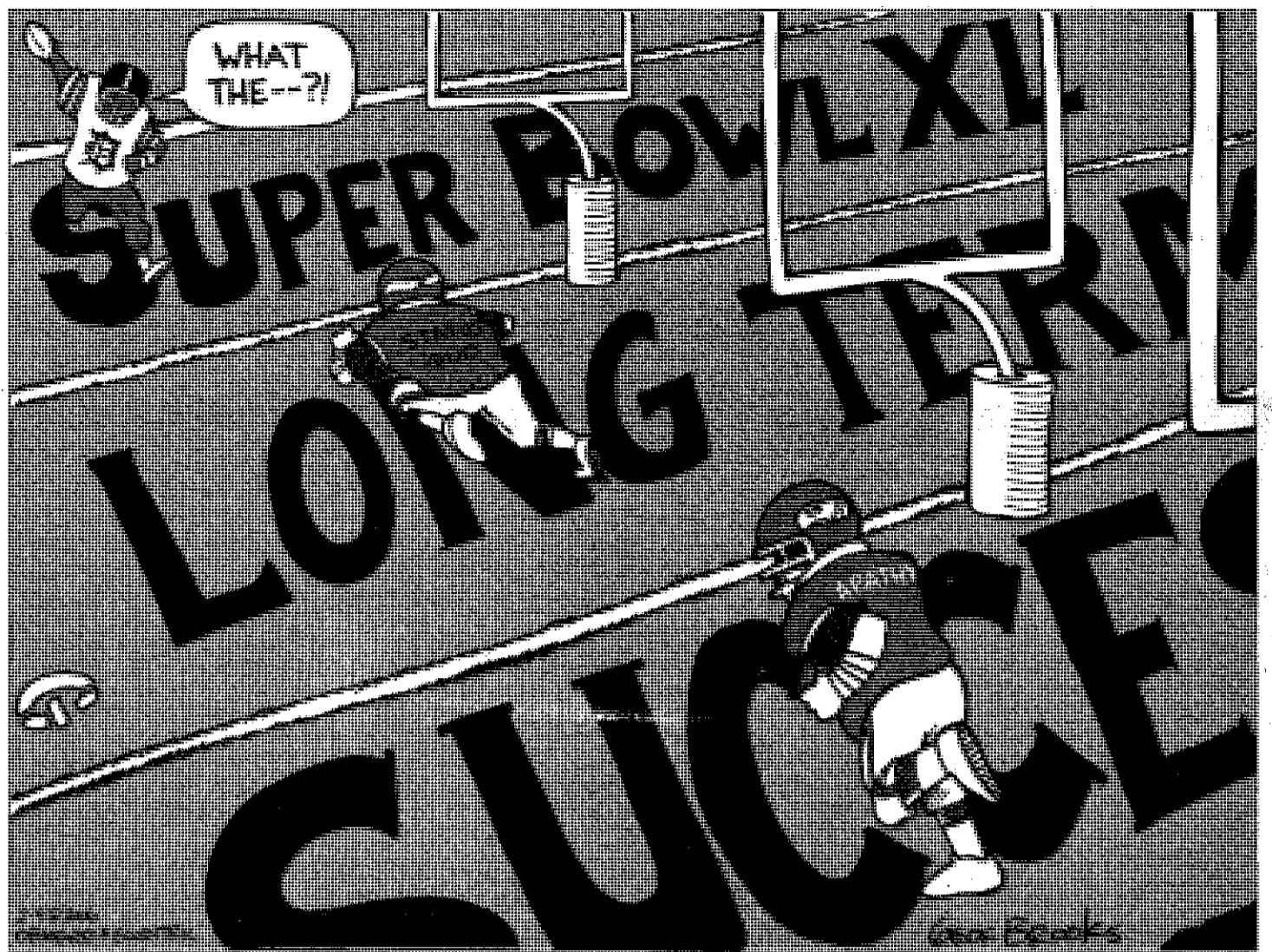
The same is true of the 8,000 volunteers, the majority from the suburbs, who set aside past feelings and embraced the city of Detroit. Without their efforts, Super Bowl week would not have been so memorable.

Now, the challenge facing the region is how do we build on this momentum? How do we keep suburbanites and outside investment streaming into downtown Detroit?

It will take a lot of hard work and regional cooperation. News Monday that the very successful Motown Winter Blast will be turned into an annual event is a good start. It will keep remnants of the Super Bowl Host Committee engaged, and hopefully the group will evolve into a regional force to deal with other important issues like developing an effective regional transportation system, and dealing with the water and sewer system.

For his part, Mr. Penske indicated he would be willing to play some role in continuing the momentum. Given the success of Super Bowl XL, we should take him up on his offer — and fast.

Now, the challenge facing the region is how do we build on this momentum? How do we keep suburbanites and outside investment streaming into downtown Detroit?



LETTERS

Ruling based on old science

As a professional earth scientist with bachelor and master of science degrees from the University of Michigan, I felt compelled to thank Mr. Gallagher for his interest in our field as evidenced by his recent editorial "Judge's ruling takes a stand for science and constitution" (Sunday, Dec. 25, 2005). Mr. Gallagher's work was thoughtful and well-written.

He is accurate in his assessment that Judge Jones has, in effect, ruled that Darwinian macro-evolution, with its core premise that undirected, purposeless evolutionary processes account for the origin and complexity of living organisms, is the only scientific explanation for the natural phenomenon we observe around us.

My experience indicates a small but growing number of research scientists are becoming increasingly skeptical that purely naturalistic (a.k.a., materialistic) mechanisms are capable of explaining the recent discoveries in cosmology and molecular biology, etc.

Consider the backlash from the scientific community itself following the airing of the PBS television series *Evolution* in 2001. Journalist Lee Strobel reported that over 100 leading researchers in biology, chemistry, zoology, physics, anthropology, molecular and cell biology, bio-engineering, organic chemistry, geology and astrophysics gathered to protest the assertion made in the series that "all known scientific evidence supports [Darwinian] evolution" as does "virtually every reputable scientist in the world." The opposing scientists published a two-page rebuttal.

I also strongly agree with Mr. Gallagher that the Bible should not be taught in the science classes of our public schools. Nor should the Torah or Koran. However, as law professor Phillip E. Johnson asserts in his book *Darwin on Trial*, a naturalistic religion called evolutionary humanism is being taught in our classrooms.

In his book *The Demon-Haunted World*, the late astronomer and atheist Carl Sagan laments that only 9 percent of Americans accept the notion that human beings have evolved by natural processes with no divine intervention needed along the way. If Carl Sagan is correct, then maybe its time a small minority of evolutionary humanists should stop imposing their religion on the majority.

A critical examination of whether or not the person you see in the mirror every morning is nothing more than the end result of unguided, purposeless processes is worth the effort. Weigh all the evidence, both supporting and contradicting Darwinian evolution, and make your own decision. But you'll have to do it on your own. Censorship prevents it from being done in the classroom.

Jeff Anagnostou
Livonia

Senate's version of budget?

We might search our moral values and then write to our representatives, who "work" for us. We might remind them that cutting taxes for the rich and cutting services to the poor are ultimately a moral contradiction.

■ Increasing Medicaid co-pays and

premiums and a reduction of benefits will affect senior citizens, many who already live below the poverty line, will affect health care for 28 million children and working families living below the poverty line.

■ Reauthorization of TANF does not allow for the obvious increase in those needing this help, including child care funding for single working mothers trying to work themselves out of poverty.

Who will benefit and who will be hurt by this moral contradiction in budget planning? The poor and most vulnerable will be most critically hurt unless we remember what our moral principles teach us and urge our representatives to do the same.

For the sake of the increasing portion of humanity hurt by economic injustices, we must try to influence our decision makers to vote for a moral budget, one that will speak to our values — those of economic justice and peacemaking. A brief letter or postcard is all that is necessary from you to make your voice heard.

Last month, we remembered Martin Luther King Jr. I remind you of his Nobel Peace Prize statement, which is still true today:

"This problem of spiritual and moral lag, which constitutes modern humanity's chief dilemma, expresses itself in three larger problems which grow out of humanity's ethical infantilism. Each of these problems, while appearing to be separate and isolated, is inextricably bound to the other. I refer to racial injustice, poverty and war." — Martin Luther King Jr., in his Nobel Peace Prize address, Dec. 11, 1964.

Clara Lawrence
Redford

More room needed

The Michigan Board of Education has just approved the new high school graduation requirements, and to me they are a bit unnerving. Even though I am in the 12th grade, these requirements still concern me, as they will affect Michigan students for years to come.

The new requirements, 18 in all, include four years of math and English, three in science and social studies, two in foreign language, one year of physical education and one year of fine arts.

The requirements leave little room for one to be creative. As a student of French, German and Spanish, I have a passion for languages. Had this been in effect when I started high school, I would have been able to take only one language, thus being unable to pursue my own interests.

Students are limited when it comes to pursuing their own interests. Many a student enjoys taking an extra academic class. These new requirements will really limit students who already know what they want to pursue.

Some of the upcoming students will find the required courses too demanding. Not every student can handle four years of math, three years of science, two years of a foreign language and so on.

Each and every student is different, thus, each and every schedule should be different.

Molly Rowland
Bloomfield Township

Answer valid questions

I have been doing some comparison shopping and have found that Plymouth-Canton school district is surpassing Livonia Public Schools in quite a few areas. I chose these two districts because they are ranked the fifth and sixth largest districts in our state, more of an accurate comparison. I have always had faith in LPS and was certain that LPS would provide my children a quality education. I am questioning my beliefs and I am losing faith in LPS.

The Return Indicators are disturbing. P-C operates on less funding, fewer employees, transports more students by bus, this year its enrollment is higher and it appears that its return on spending and performance costs are better. P/C has higher scores in Student Proficiency State Tests in 2005 and its ACT and AP scores are slightly higher than LPS. SATs and PSAT scores are slightly higher in Livonia. What I find more interesting is the participant rates; P-C has a larger percentage of participants taking these exams. Why is that? Statistical information came from the state of Michigan Education Web site. Questions:

■ Why does LPS have close to 600 more employees than Plymouth-Canton? (Per *Crain's Detroit Business* December 2005). Does LPS offer additional instructional courses that Plymouth-Canton does not?

■ Is LPS considering any team teaching and teacher collaboration time for the 2006-07 school year? I think this would be extremely beneficial for the upper elementary schools, as well as the rest of the district. P-C also has implemented this program into its district.

I truly want to believe that LPS has our children's interest and education as a top priority; however, I am having great difficulty understanding how the new configuration is going to benefit them now or in the future. I believe that large schools and additional transitioning is going to be a setback for many students. I understand the need for savings; every company and every person has experienced the financial crisis in Michigan.

I am simply amazed and quite discouraged by the unanswered questions. Not addressing valid questions leads the public to draw upon their own conclusions. This does not help the implementation and support of the Legacy Initiative.

Cindi Armbruster
Livonia

SHARE YOUR OPINIONS

We welcome your letters to the editor. Please include your name, address and phone number for verification. We ask that your letters be 400 words or less. We may edit for clarity, space and content.

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QUOTABLE

"This is about what we do in the NFL. This is about giving back to the kids, encouraging them to keep focused and stay in school so they can be able to do what we do someday."

— Luther Elliss of the Denver Broncos, about his participation in an NFL Experience for students from Detroit and Westland prior to Sunday's Super Bowl

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Our fundamental purposes are to enhance the lives of our readers, nurture the hometowns we serve and contribute to the business success of our customers.

Airport City development is one that could fly high

Dreaming of good jobs and new big-time economic development in Michigan?

Here's a vision for you: Imagine it is 2016 and an entirely new community, Airport City, has turned into Michigan's most rapidly growing town.

The town was established by state law as a special multi-transportation port authority, framed by air passenger service at Detroit Metropolitan Airport on the east and freight facilities at Willow Run Airport on the west. Now, in less than a decade, it has mushroomed from largely undeveloped land into a thriving

area with 20,000 residents and more than 100,000 jobs.

Quick and economical transportation has long been a necessary part of any economic development strategy. Airport City offers a remarkable combination of air (two first-class airports), road (it's adjacent to the intersection of I-94 and I-275) and rail (a line connecting Chicago with Detroit runs along the northern boundary). Finally, water is nearby as well. The Port of Detroit offers easy shipping access to the entire Great Lakes basin and, through the St. Lawrence Seaway, to the Atlantic Ocean.

And there's more. Offering more than 7 million square feet of first-class office space, together with warehouses and advanced laboratory and assembly facilities depending on its transportation assets, Airport City has become a diversified economic powerhouse.

In a breathtakingly short time, it has turned around Michigan's manufacturing job losses of the early 21st century and become the keystone of the state's emerging economic renaissance.

I could go on, but you get the general idea.

The Aerotropolis/Airport City idea came one step closer to reality late last month, when a design workshop pulled together 75 architects, urban planners, economic development and local government officials and academics and students from the University of Michigan's Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Together, they worked all weekend to study the site's potential. The event (called a "charrette," from the French word for "wagon," but meaning "an intensive workshop and brainstorming session") is intended to jump-start public and private development in the area.

Eventually, three design teams submitted the results of their work at a public hearing. All envisaged Ecorse Road becoming a wide boulevard running the length of Airport City like a spine. And all saw the existing railroad tracks to the north as providing the potential for a

core public transit resource.

Airport City would bring workers from throughout southeast Michigan to the area and link them via light rail, bus and expanded People Mover connections to various parts of the city.

One group even imagined "jetominiums," apartments and meeting spaces easily accessible to families and executives by air.

John Kasarda, head of the Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise at the University of North Carolina, is a world expert on how airports spark economic development. His verdict: the potential of the area between Detroit Metro and Willow Run "is the greatest in the world."

Kasarda pointed to similar developments that have driven job growth and economic development at Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam, in Dallas-Fort Worth and on Lantau Island next to the new Hong Kong International Airport.

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano, who joined officials from Washtenaw County, Belleville, Romulus, Taylor, Ypsilanti and Huron and Van Buren Township, called the Airport City idea "the largest economic development project in the history of Michigan."

Others pointed to the unprecedented cooperation among local authorities, who joined together to foot the bill for the charrette.

Ficano also noted that up to now, "Everybody has been wringing their hands, saying that Airport City is a great idea, but not doing very much. This charrette is a way to get some momentum going, to show a concrete vision of what this area could become in the relatively near future."

Wayne County's top man is exactly right. I came away from the event enthused at the enormous potential — and irritated at the slow pace of progress. I don't understand, for example, why Gov. Jennifer Granholm, facing a tough election campaign that will focus on Michigan's lagging economy, has soft-pedaled her support for the potentially single largest economic development project in our history.

There are a lot of naysayers, of course. One Lansing insider sniffed, "Too many moving parts," while another commented, "It takes forever to get anything done in Wayne County."

That has been true in the past. But now, with local government officials coming together and exciting development concepts on the drawing board, the ingredients seem in place.

What Airport City needs now is a push from the top to fulfill its enormous potential. Gov. Granholm, your move.

Phil Power is a longtime observer of politics, economics and education issues in Michigan. He would be pleased to hear from readers at ppower@hcnnet.com.

Is it possible for area to keep the Super Bowl ball rolling?

Reflections on Super Bowl week ...
I attended two Super Bowl-related events downtown this last week, wanting to get a feel for how the rest of the world was embracing our city. The response I received from out-of-towners was near-unanimous in its praise for how Detroit was handling the big event.

Most of my conversations were with media types. The majority admitted to having at least a wee bit of skepticism about hosting the second largest sporting event on earth in a blue-collar, northern city.

One of the people I chatted with at length was Ross MacIntosh, a camera operator from a news service based in Scarborough, Ontario. MacIntosh said he had no worries about the weather given his own hometown, but was curious to see what the atmosphere would be in Detroit, so close to so much bad news and job losses in the auto industry.

Instead of encountering glum faces and hard feelings, MacIntosh said he was "blown away" by the reception he received from the army of Super Bowl ambassadors in their blue and red jacket jostling for position to help him.

"Actually, it seems like the city is almost trying too hard to put on a good face," he said at last Tuesday's media party at the Fox Theatre. "It's a little over the top."

The comments by MacIntosh were echoed by several others I talked with Tuesday night, and again at a reception hosted by Cadillac the next evening at the terrific Seldom Blues restaurant in the Ren Cen.

The point was driven home by Peter King, senior writer for *Sports Illustrated*, who moderated a panel discussion between five former Super Bowl MVPs.

Welcoming the guests, King assured us the worldwide media was "deliriously happy to spend a week in Detroit in the middle of the winter," adding, "Don't worry. It's all good."

It got me thinking about whether it was possible for a city and region to try too hard to be welcoming, and for its ambassadors and everyday people to be too nice in greeting our guests.

Even if it is, I don't think it's such a bad thing to be known for.

A subplot that is emerging from Super Bowl week is how metro Detroiters are reacting to the city's efforts. People can't say enough about how good downtown looks, how clean downtown looks, how inviting downtown looks. Count me among them.

And while many politicians seem obsessed with making a good showing for strangers, I

think the real potential here is making a lasting, positive impact on the city's suburban neighbors.

Which begs the next, and most important, question: If the city center can look so good for Super Bowl week, why can't it look like that all the time? Why can't the streets be clean and the buildings free of graffiti? Why can't the street lights be on and the storefronts filled?

Hopefully, this experience will cause Detroit residents themselves to demand more from their city government, and it will draw desperately needed investment capital from the suburbs to keep the momentum going. It takes a lot of dough to keep streets clean, lights on, trash picked up and storefronts filled.

If that's what the region really wants for its central city, it's time to seize the moment, roll up sleeves, open wallets and get down to business.

Of course, in order to be successful, city and suburban leaders will have to work together to solve challenges like developing a regional transportation system, improving, expanding or replacing Cobo Hall and solving other infrastructure challenges.

Unfortunately, the deep-seeded mistrust and animosity between city and suburban leaders was readily apparent when, over a two-day period, a group of this newspaper's editors met separately with Oakland County Drain Commissioner John McCulloch and Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Director Victor Mercado to discuss the ongoing battle over water rates and other issues related to the water/sewer system.

McCulloch, a Republican politician and elected county official, and Mercado, a city employee and political appointee of Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick, have vast differences of opinions on how the city-owned water and sewer system is being run, and should be run.

McCulloch has been trying to wrest control of the system away from the city of Detroit almost from the day he took over as Oakland's drain commissioner. The latest attempt to have "governance" of the system turned over to a new, regional board was rejected by U.S. District Court Judge John Feikens last month.

Mercado suggests McCulloch should put more of his time and energy running his own department and system, instead of trying to run someone else's.

So much for a renewed call for cooperation between the city and suburbs.

Joe Bauman is managing editor for the *Eccentric Newspapers*. He welcomes feedback at (248) 901-2563 or email him at jbauman@hometownlife.com.



Phil Power



Joe Bauman

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Count on Us

0208402411

U-M Friars celebrate 50 years of singing, comedy

BY LINDA ANN CHOMIN
STAFF WRITER

John Birchler wants everyone to share in the fun-filled reunion concert which celebrates the 50th anniversary of The Friars 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Hill Auditorium in Ann Arbor. The Plymouth resident promises an enjoyable evening with the University of Michigan Men's Glee Club octet performing lots of "choreography and shenanigans" along with music from five decades. About 140 of 195 living alumni will sing in smaller groups by era.

Birchler was a member of The Friars from 1981 to 1983 while a student in the U-M music school. He had only sung with the Glee Club one term when he enjoyed for The Friars.

"We're different than many a cappella groups," said Birchler, an investment representative with Edward Jones in Plymouth. "Friars don't just stand there and sing. There's lots of interaction with the audience, a lot of spoof stuff going on, a lot of serious singing going on as well."

Andy Rosenzweig enjoyed his years with The Friars so much the Livonia resident volunteered to update a database of members and oversee the production of The Gold Album which follows the group's musical history through 31 songs. Rosenzweig drew on 15 previous albums for the greatest hits CD. A booklet that comes with the CD features images of all of the album covers and lists the more than 200 members who've sung with the groups which were named after a 1900s U-M drinking society.

"Going back to 1959 we were listening to them all, what were the best, funniest, most representative of 50 years so a listener can sit down and listen to that whole history," said Rosenzweig, who had made it his long term goal to follow in the footsteps of two older brothers who sang with the Glee Club at U-M.

After two years of singing his dream, Rosenzweig became a proud member of The Friars from 1984 to 1986.

"I had seen this anniversary coming for a long time. When I was in it was the 30th anniversary and we did a similar concert on a smaller scale. We wanted to bring back as many guys as possible," said Rosenzweig, a manager for Merit Network in Ann Arbor. The nonprofit company provides Internet service for most of the colleges, universities, K-12 schools, and libraries in Michigan.

"There will be members on stage from California, Texas, New York, England, The Netherlands. At a banquet on Friday night before the concert, guys will come up and give their reminiscences. We had a close bonding experience during those years. On Saturday groups of four to 18 will sing with the guys from their era, then we'll have a full group singing Friars classics."

Dick Ramsdell of Bloomfield Hills is one of the members still living in local communities that include Farmington Hills,

Rochester, Beverly Hills, and West Bloomfield. Ramsdell originally sang at Berkley High School and today sings with the choir at Covenant Alliance Church in Beverly Hills. He was a member of The Friars from 1965 to 1967 and was fortunate enough to be in the Glee Club when they went on a world tour celebrating the university's 150th anniversary.

"I'm excited about the 50th anniversary," said Ramsdell.

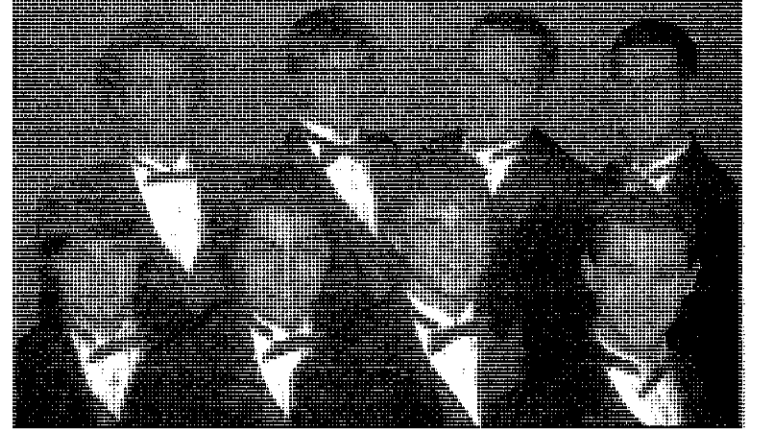
"It's an opportunity to see an awful lot of people I knew but didn't have any contact with for a long time. We'll be performing *Draft Dodger Rag* sung by the Chad Mitchell Trio and an arrangement of *Tea for Two* that has four- and eight-part harmonies. We like to show what the music was like back then. We were together during the Vietnam era.

"Anyone who enjoys ensemble music would have a great

time at this concert. The music represents the entire 50 years."

Tickets for the Feb. 11 concert are \$12 and \$10 for reserved seating, \$8 general admission, \$5 students and under age 18, and available at Ticketmaster locations or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

For more information, send e-mail to um.friars@umich.edu. lchomin@hometownlife.com | (734) 953-2145



Current Friars Greg Jaffe (top row left), Michael Cromwell, Brent Carr, John Keeton, Stephen Gilson (bottom row), Joshua Sanchez, Matthew Travis, and Jon Zande perform as part of a concert to celebrate the group's 50th anniversary.

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Hiller's CEO will give Madonna lecture

Jim Hiller, president and CEO of Hiller's grocery store chain, is the guest speaker at Madonna University's McManus Distinguished Business Lecture Series 7 p.m. Wednesday, March 29, at Kresge Hall on the Livonia campus. "Integrating Your Ethics with Your Business" will be the subject of the Spring lecture. This event is free and open to the public.

Hiller is a Detroit native and graduated from the University of Detroit Law School in 1973. He has received numerous awards including the Tree of Life Award from the Jewish National Fund and the Outstanding Young CEO Award from the National Retail Association.

Other accomplishments include serving on the board of trustees of the Beaumont Hospital and being a member of the Scientific Review Board Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

For more information, call the School of Business at (734) 432-5356.

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