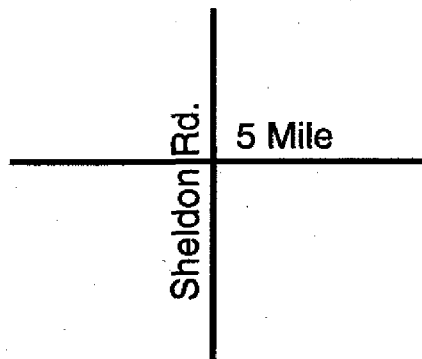


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Construction on Channel 7's Doppler radar tower at Mettetal airport is nearing completion. (Crier photo, R. Alwood, Jr.)

Mettetal new Doppler spot

BY SCOTT SPIELMAN

Weather permitting, Channel 7's new Doppler Radar Weather Tower will be up and running at Mettetal Airport within the next few weeks.

"We're trying to get it operational around mid-April," said Mike Doback, a technician at Channel 7. "We want it up before tornado season."

The tower will be the largest privately owned weather tower in the midwest, according to Doback, and will offer many advanced weather watching capabilities.

"It can see wind shears and tornadic activity," Doback said. "Coupled with its software, it can show the path of a storm, evaluate what cities it will hit, and the time it will take to get there from its present location. It can tell the exact time it will enter a community."

The software can take the original path of the storm and plot out on a map anything direction it will likely travel in, Doback said.

Channel 7 picked Mettetal airport for the site of its tower for a variety of reasons, according to Doback.

"It's further west than the station, and we can get a quicker look at weather," he said. "It can see 250 miles. We get a real good look at the horizon."

The airport also met all of the state site requirements, according to Doback. And the local angle didn't hurt, either.

"We have a good relationship with the folks at Mettetal," Doback said.

While the weather tower will be primarily used for gathering a wealth of weather information for the station's use, Doback said, Channel 7 won't have a problem sharing that wealth.

"We'll provide data to the airport to brief pilots on weather," Doback said, "as well as help government agencies too."

Information from the tower will be available to qualified government agencies, such as community police and fire departments, free of charge, he said.

"It can help them prepare for severe weather, and maybe save some lives," he said.

The final stage of the tower's construction will be started sometime within the next week, Doback says, with the installation of the domed antennae as soon as the weather clears.

"It will look like a 24 foot golf ball on top of the tower," Doback said. "The antennae goes inside it."

Doback said he and the Channel 7 crew are looking forward to having the tower completed.

"I'll be glad when we get it up and running," he said, "We'll take a gigantic leap in front of other Detroit media as far as capabilities."

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The Plymouth Canton High School Experience: How could it be better?

Here they are — the experts. Plymouth-Canton students know more about day-to-day high school experience than anybody else. This year, the Plymouth-Canton Civitan Club's annual Citizenship Essay Contest was an opportunity for 9th - 12th graders to present their own solutions to the high-school problems they live with 180 days each year.

With this in mind, judges weighed quality of ideas and thought, and originality of expression over the composition's mechanics. First through third place prizes are to be awarded at \$300, \$200 and \$100, respectively. But whether a prize winner or not, each give an expert's view of conditions at Plymouth-Canton high schools.

The attention they deserve

I REMEMBER THIRD GRADE. I remember playing during recess, learning cursive. I remember by best friend (Jessie), and my first crush (Ryan Ottie). But most of all I remember multiplication. I remember coming home and crying every single day, confident that I was stupid because I just couldn't remember like the other kids in my class did. My parents did the best they could, helping me every night for hours at end. They bought me flash cards and a huge poster with all the multiplication from the ones to the twelves and tested me over and over. It took me a couple years but I gradually caught on, thanks to my parents patience. However, I have always felt embarrassment when thinking back to third grade, thinking that I was slow. Now I know I am not slow, actually I am what a teacher might say is average, if I had gotten the chance.

Looking back I get mad at my third grade teacher. Why did she neglect me? Why did I not learn anything about the multiplication from her? The truth is not that she was a lousy teacher but that she had to juggle her time between me and 30 other students. Therefore I got left behind and lost in the system. I am not the only victim. I see it every day. A single student sitting in the back row doesn't understand the lesson, doesn't feel comfortable

enough with the classmates to ask questions, feels left out or stupid and gives up. This is something that I think happens way too often in the Plymouth-Canton school system.

A student drowning in the system, I believe is largely due to lack of a relationship with his/her teacher and classmates. This relationship can only be created if we reduce the class sizes in our community. It is true, common sense tells us that smaller classes increase student-teacher interaction. Smaller classes also reduce the stress put on the teacher in elementary grades all the way to high school because it allows more time for class preparation instead of paper and test grading. Finally the teacher has his/her eye on less students so he/she has less discipline problems. Result: happier teacher and happier students.

Actually there has been little research, until recently, involving the class size philosophy. From 1978-1980 three analysis were published by Glass and Smith on the issue of class size. Glass and Smith used statistical methods to find over 80 studies with over 700 comparisons of small and large classes with positive results. The study showed student achievement, classroom processes and teacher and student attitudes had all improved in smaller classes. However, Glass and Smith were immediately attacked by the Education Research Services. The ERS objected stating that positive results do not become drastic unless the class is reduced to 20 or even 17 students. Such a goal may seem **Please see pg. 22**

What to do when there's nothing to do: The PCEP High School experience

March 17, 1997

To: PCEP High School Improvement Team Teachers, Mrs. Koppin and Mrs. Downs
From: Jerry Carson, Custodian
Reason: We found this in Mr. Barnes' classroom, thought you might like to take a look
Subject: Read and see

(P.S. Sorry that the note is ripped — that's how I found it on the floor)

Hey Justin, what's up?
→ Are you busy after school today -
I thought you might want to do something
* Dan

→ Dan - you're crazy to be passing this note
in Mr. Barnes' class! The test is tomorrow too!
Yeah, let's get together today. What do you
want to do? - Justin

→ I can't think of anything - I thought you'd come
up with something this time. Every time I choose,
we always end up bowling. @ Dan

→ I can't think of much either. There's nothing
to do around here... I can't wait until college.
- Justin

In 1996 a flier was passed out along with the monthly school newspaper, "The PCEP Perspective." The title of this hand-out read, "TOP 10 ACTIVITIES OF PLYMOUTH AND CANTON STUDENTS." Some of the activities were meant to be humorous for students because they are simply unpopular — an afternoon in Meijers, spending time in the school library after school, a trip to Kids' Kingdom, and so on. But each told the honest truth: there are few places that attract us... and nothing more entertaining than bowling. Superbowl was number one on the list! And most students have been there so many times they don't want to ever get near a bowling ball again. The lack of activity in the cities of Plymouth and Canton is not my focus, but is the first "domino" that is toppling the chain of problems at PCEP. These problems include a lack of alternative programs to school sports, and absence of school pride, inadequate solutions to students' needs, and hostile interaction with other students. Since PCEP is afflicted by

these problems, the school has the obligation and opportunity to provide additional activities to students at our high school.

Four beneficial activities I suggest that PCEP introduce are an intramural sports program, a climbing wall, a skate park, and a ropes course. They will meet the need for "something to do," which will help solve the corresponding problems. I understand that my ideas aren't aimed directly at the academic side of improving our school, but I believe that they will have multiple positive side effects in making PCEP a better experience for all students.

Salem and Canton have produced many successful sports teams. But for students who don't have quite enough skill or time to play on one of these teams, there is no other option offered to them, so they are forced to quit. Many of the 5,000 students at PCEP are unable to participate because of this problem. Many students are choked from their freedom to participate because of fierce competition for positions on the school teams. Timothy Berkey, who is principal and assistant **Please see pg. 11**

Three Ways to make CEP a better school

At any school, improvement is always needed.

At Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth-Salem many improvements are greatly needed such as: change in starting times of schools, transportation to and from school, and changes to help accommodate the increase in the schools population.

The starting times of school directly influences the academic performance given by the student body. When schools starts so early in the morning, the students tend not to be quite as alert as if we start later. There have been studies done that show that students concentrate better when they start later in the day. Most students if asked would probably prefer to get our later in the day rather than start school so early in the morning. A solution to this problem would be to allow us to arrive at school at eight o'clock and leave at three o'clock.

The rapid increase in students at PCEP has also recently become a problem. If a student is from Salem and has all their classes at Canton they cannot possibly go back and forth every hour so they carry all their books around with them all day, which is an incredible weight. Also because of overpopulation there is a lack of classrooms, so we use the portables. The portables are falling apart. They leak and they have little or no heat for those winter days. The changing between classes is also a problem. The schools are so far apart it is very hard to get from school to school in only 10 minutes. It's especially hard on the days when it is raining or snowing. The solution to the overpopulation at the schools is to build a third building of classrooms. This then could eliminate the overpopulation and it would possibly help the tardiness level to decrease.

Transportation to and from school is a problem at Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. Other schools get more snow days mostly because their buses are unable to handle all the snow and ice on the roads. Our buses are more capable of that than theirs are. On cold, wintry days the buses have no or very little heat. When the roads are snowy and icy they have a hard time gripping the roads. Many of the buses are overcrowded and dangerous. The students' safety is in danger when

"Many improvements are greatly needed: change starting times of schools, transportation to and from school, and help accommodate the increase in the schools population"

conditions such as these occur on an everyday basis. The solution to this problem could be to judge whether to call school off or not more by how bad the roads are and whether coming to school could endanger the kids rather than on other determining factors.

Every school can stand to improve itself even a little bit, whether it is on population, transportation or time. If the Board of Education is open minded to all the new ideas and suggestions sent in by the students. We can make Plymouth-Canton Educational Park a better place for everyone.

Not all who wander are lost.

THERE'S A QUIET AND GROWING GROUP OF YOUNG MINDS IN OUR SCHOOLS that have fallen through the educational system's vast cracks. This group might not be very loud or noticeable until one night, the TV news awakens a community about the harsh reality of what is going on in the system that's most important for the success of our nation. There it is again, another reminder for the forgetful: "Those kids today... Tests have shown that 4 percent can't even read by the fifth grade. What's the problem these days." There is a problem, no doubt, but what are we going to do about it? Criticize blindly at the television in our well-to-do dining rooms, complacently living our effort at the American dream, while we keep our system the way it's been, even while it's clear that it's failing so many futures? That's not the solution. But what is?

George draws through history class. Innumerable pictures of intricate detail pass over the desk where the quiet loner sits, blocking out the silly rants and raves the teacher is making about those World Wars, or whatever they call them, up at the front of the room. He isn't passing history right now, and the teacher looks at him with such agony and frustration because all she can think from the shaded view over the podium is, "Why isn't he trying? Doesn't he care?" So the anguished teacher starts to call on him more frequently; hoping that being involved in class will motivate the boy who keeps his head closely crouched to the desk, scribbling away at *something* all hour, to care about history. But what the teacher doesn't see is the fact that George has problems, and his emotional and developmental problems have prevented him from wanting to be in her class, wanting to learn the information, and being able to understand the information. George can't get involved in the day-to-day lectures about ideas that, since kindergarten, have flown over his head like the swift little paper airplanes taunting school children use to make fun of those "strange" kids. The fact that George needs extra help keeps this lost boy from working and buried in the only way he can express himself: with a sharpened pencil and a worn sketchpad.

What do we as a high school system do about the "Georges" in our schools: The first step is to recognize the problem. Only then can we make actions to help the student. Once the problem is recognized, a diagnosis by school's psychologists or school support staff can accurately start the student on the path of success with possible medication or therapy. The success of a child is certainly a team effort in every sense. From the student's realization that they need help, to a sharp educator who is trained to spot and professionally get involved in potential special needs of their students, the key to the proficiency of our children is easy as A-B-C: Acceptance, Brain work (information and training about the needs), and Cooperation. With steps like these to move George in a new direction, there's a new form of artwork that the teacher would love coming off George's desk. Political cartoons! And that's a George masterpiece that the teacher would proudly put on the bulletin board.

In another classroom across the hall, Carrie has moved away from her community-minded values like civic pride, compassion, kinship, concern, devotion and onto the path of violence, drugs, suicidal tendencies and gangs. She shows up to school when she has the willpower to drag her weary, ragged 16-year-old lost body out of bed. Carrie is fighting an uphill battle, working 35 hours a week to support herself and her family where her mom, in failing health, no longer has the willpower to leave the house. School, an education, a future with possibilities is no longer a dream of Carrie's because all she can see is the path of getting sucked deeper and deeper in to despair as each day passes without an education. How do we fulfill her social, academic and emotional needs? And how can we as individuals unite to empower her to get an education and strengthen her life?

Carrie needs help to get out of the situation. As a school, we need to recognize her problem first; she can't keep living a life where she has to be the adult for her entire family. Our school is huge and often, the kids who need help most are the ones who inadvertently slip through the "cracks" that prevent them from dealing with day-to-day life. But for Carrie and people like her, there's still a chance for the school to take preventive action. If informed about the struggle Carrie goes through every day, a



"The race of life is really just that. There are millions of people ahead of you and just as many behind you. Different people are at different places on this track, it depends on what life has thrown you."

counselor may be able to step in. Although it sounds trite, therapy helps so many people and for her, this may be an effective way to get her thinking about her situation. She has to understand what she is doing in order to see what the alternative path can do for her. Learning for many people can be uncomfortable at many times and it doesn't always feel good. Luckily, in the end the benefits outweigh the temporary feeling.

How does the school empower the student with the ability to get an education and strengthen his life? A program we have at the schools, MAGIC (Mentorship and Aftercare Giving In to the Community), is effectively working to pair students who have had a disadvantaged life yet have risen above their situations with kids like Carrie that are still

struggling. The students support each other as they work through the continual difficulties of keeping their lives on the right path. With this program, we have made positive steps to critically look at what the problem is and how to solve it best. MAGIC provides positive role models for troubled students.

Another suggestion that we might also look at is the value of merging students with the community. For both the student and the community, lessons are learned. The community learns, by watching the involvement that teenagers have invested in their area, that the stereotype of irresponsible, destructive teens is not always true. When you get our teens into planting flowers in Kellogg Park and reading stories to kids at the library, they get so much out of seeing the good they can do for an entire area. And sometimes, the look of wonder on a small child's face at the enchantment of a book could singlehandedly have an impact on even the toughest teen.

Now you say, "What stories these poor should have. There are so many out there." But what you might not have grasped yet is the fact that Carrie and George are not based on fictional accounts of the disadvantaged in the meanest areas of Detroit. Carrie and George are here in our school, our neighborhood struggling and busting their behinds to make it out in our community, not some slum or ghetto. This is a struggle that takes them from day to day, desperately trying to catch up with the luckier kids with more opportunities. I know Carrie and George; they are my classmates this year and they're our students, our responsibility, the future. Are we going to let them combat this

daily battle alone? Of course we're not. Thanks to the effort that has started with the ideas from this paper, a little spark in an approaching fireworks show has lit a ray of hope while we realize a problem and make community actions come together.

Someone once explained to me the "race" of life like this. The race of life is really just that — we are all on a racetrack where some lucky players have started a little ahead of the rest, with extra knowledge, extra money, a better environment, or just more opportunities for growth. On this track there are millions of people ahead of you and just as many behind you. Different people are at different places on this track, it depends on what life has thrown you. As you start and begin the race as an innocent baby, you have to be clever enough to look at where you are and ask yourself,

what do I have to do to get caught up? How can

I make myself an informed and active participant in this educational journey? There's a world of opportunity out there, especially in our high school. To achieve as much as possible from our educational system, one has to have a game plan. Our children's high school experience will not ruin or single handedly pull a child out of destruction. An education and our schools might never be able to be the great equalizer that we all wish is could be. The race may never be fair. However, to be able to do the best we can where we are is the great possibility to reach for.

Student remembers: big classes meant less attention

Continued from pg. 10

expensive and unrealistic. However, I believe that reducing class size should be seriously taken into consideration in order to improve our school system.

Right now you may be thinking that we will never see class sizes as low as 20 or 17 students. But it is happening right now. No not just in some other school system or state. It is actually happening right here in Plymouth and Canton, in my sixth hour Advanced Composition (writing) class. This classroom has more desks than students. With only 11 students it is practically impossible to get lost in the lessons. I walked into the class only a couple of months ago without knowing anyone in the room. Now I know everyone's full names. This is something usually unheard of in our enormous high school campus. Every single student participates in class discussion every day. I can't say that for my five other larger classes in which we don't have the time for everyone's opinion. In this class we trade papers and we are able to get feedback from the students and the teacher. Even the students who consider class nap time and who hate school are forced into paying attention and participating in this sort of environment.

Ok, so what about the cost? the entire school boards' blood pressure rises dangerously high when they even begin to imagine all the new teachers that they will have to hire in order to make classes smaller. Yet there are numerous less expensive alternatives to smaller classrooms. These include teacher aides, parent and community volunteers, staggered schedules, special labs, and centers (which we are successfully doing), team teaching cooperative learning and computers or other individualized instructional aids. However, I still stick strongly to the idea that smaller classes is the best answer despite the cost.


No child, elementary level or high school level should go ignored. Personally I have felt the rejection and embarrassment that comes along with being left behind in class. Why teach 30 or so students when they aren't all understanding or paying attention? Some of our community's students are practically begging for attention in the classroom, not getting it, they often give up. In order to have a school system that we are proud of we must solve the class size problem. Why shouldn't the students get the attention they deserve?

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Volunteer...

RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is looking for volunteers in the Canton area to help children needing tutoring with basic math and reading skills. Training is free. For more information, call Joy Graves at 883-2100 ext. 368.

FISH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FISH of Plymouth/Canton is always looking for volunteers to assist in its purpose of aiding neighbors who cannot help themselves. If you would like information on being a driver, a "caller", or just running errands, call 261-1011 and leave a message.

GUEST SPEAKERS NEEDED AT P-C SCHOOLS

The Plymouth-Canton Business Education Partnership is looking for individuals to share information about their occupation to students in classroom settings. To volunteer, call 416-4903.

DONATE PERIODICAL SUBSCRIPTION

The Plymouth District Library is seeking individuals, businesses, and community groups to donate the cost of a subscription to one of the more than 300 periodicals to which the library subscribes. Sponsor's name will appear on the front cover of the periodical. Donation is federal, state tax deductible. For more information, please call the library at 453-0750.

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce is always in need of volunteers, especially preparing information handout packages. For more information, call 453-1540.

CARRIAGE PARK SENIOR COMMUNITY

Those looking for a rewarding experience can contact Heather at Carriage Park: caring, energetic individuals willing to share their time and talents with residents are needed. Phone 397-8300.

HOSPICE OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

The hospice is seeking patient care, patient companion and team support volunteers in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. For more information, call 291-9700.

PLYMOUTH COURT NURSING CENTER

Plymouth Court Nursing Center in Plymouth is looking for volunteers to help with activity programs for residents. For more information, call Michelle Holmes at 455-0510.

MICHIGAN CANCER FOUNDATION

The Michigan Cancer Foundation-West Region is looking for volunteers to provide transportation for cancer patients in The Plymouth-Canton-Northville Community. For more information, call 561-8880 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.



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Schools...

WSDP, 88.1-FM REUNION

WSDP, the student-operated station of the Plymouth-Canton Community Schools is planning its 25th anniversary reunion for 1997. Former staff members are asked to send their current addresses to the station at 46181, Joy Rd. Canton, MI 48187 or call 416-7732.

FREE PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

State-funded program offered to families who meet income guidelines or "at-risk" factors. Children must be four years old on or before Dec. 1. Classes begin in January and run for 20 weeks Monday through Thursday at Hoben and Truesdell schools. For more information, call 416-6190.

EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Computers, tutoring, games, etc. The program runs Monday through Friday and begins after school ends and concludes at 6 p.m. \$5 per student per session with a minimum of two sessions per week. For more information, call 420-7040.

TUTOR TRAINING

The Community Literacy Council, Inc., will be conducting tutor training seminars for its reading program. Two four-hours sessions must be completed in order to become a reading tutor. Call Jean Calabrese at 416-4906.

KIDDIE KAMPUS REUNION

25th anniversary of the P-C Schools' preschool program, June 4 at the Canton High School cafeteria from 7-9 p.m. All former staff and students are invited. To make a reservation, call 416-4927.

P-C SCHOOLS NEED GUEST SPEAKERS

The P-C Business Education Partnership is looking for individuals willing to share their expertise with local students. To volunteer, call 416-4903.

Meetings...

MEN'S GOOD FRIDAY BREAKFAST

St. Michael Lutheran Church invites all men to their annual breakfast, **March 28** at 8 a.m. Jeff Totten, Baseball Chapel Coordinator for the Detroit Tigers will be guest speaker. Tickets, \$4 for adults, \$2 boys 10 and under. Call 459-3333.

CANTON REPUBLICAN CLUB

The Canton Republican Club, which meets on the third Thursday of each month, will be meeting at Cherry Hill School at 7 p.m. For more information, call Melissa McLaughlin at 495-0304.

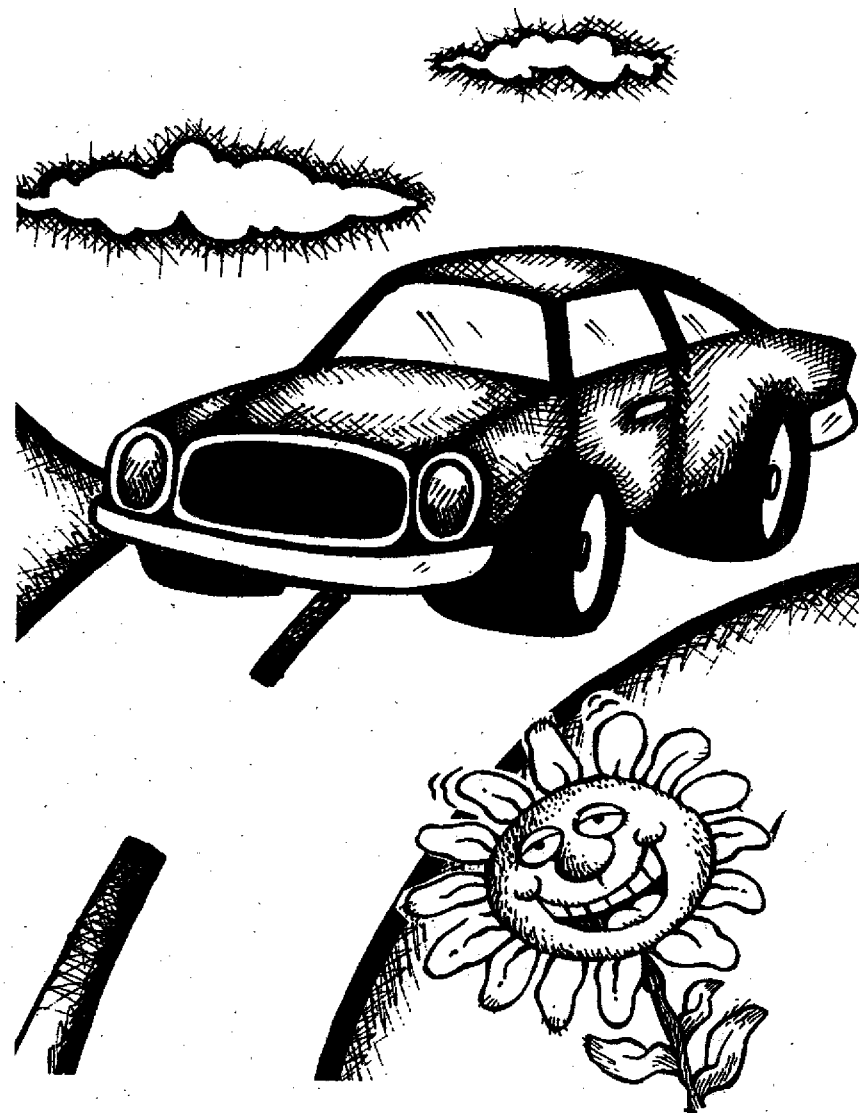
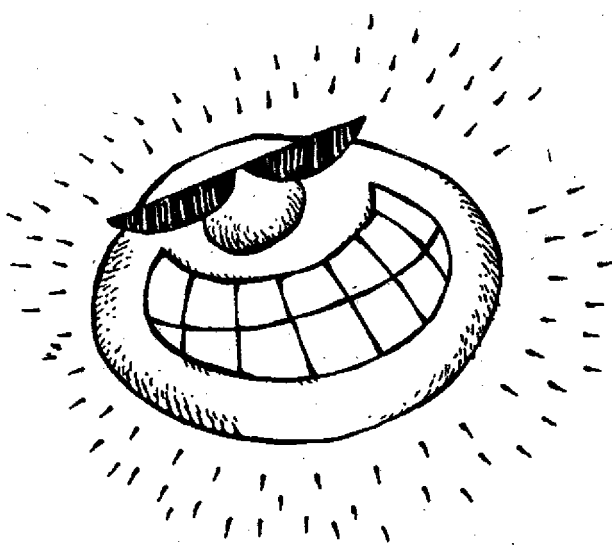
PLYMOUTH-CANTON CIVITAN MEETING

The Plymouth-Canton Civitan club will hold their monthly dinner meeting on the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Water Club Bar & Grill. For more information, call Margaret at 455-6989.

PLYMOUTH YMCA "Y" KIDS

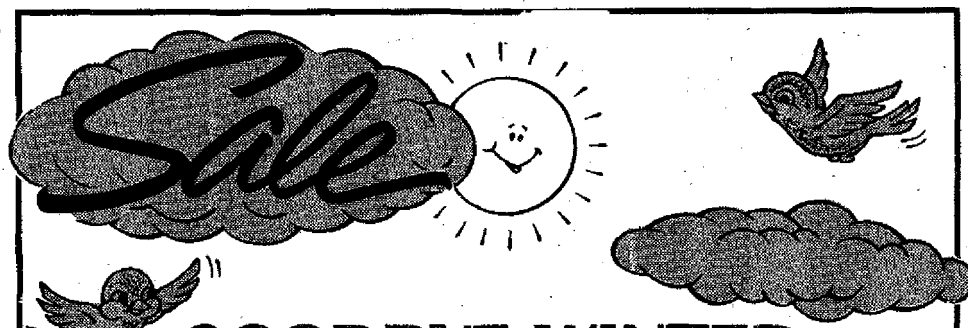
For children ages 3-5. Openings for afternoon sessions of Y Kids. Age 3 meets on Tuesday and Thursday, and ages 4-5 meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For more information, call the Plymouth YMCA at 453-2904.

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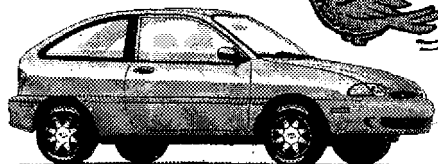
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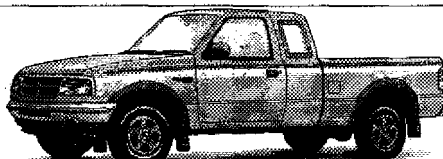
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trans, P225 steel owl A/S Stock #69255

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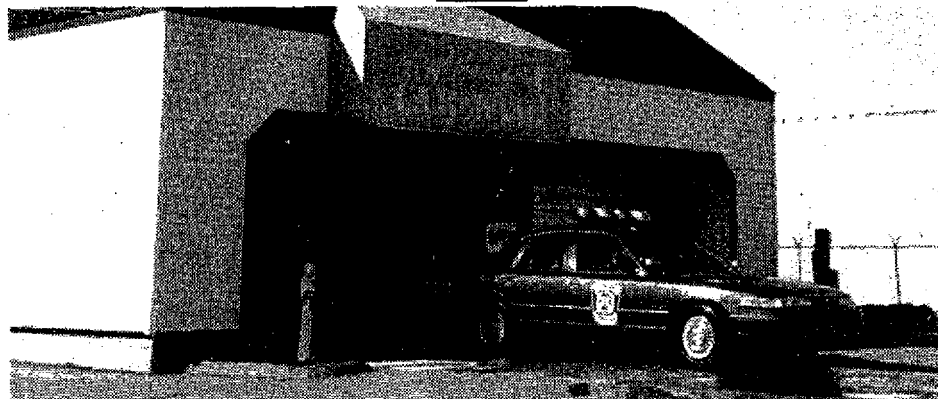
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plus



It's a crime to neglect car cleaning while the weather holds
(Crier photo by Linda Kochanek).

Warm weather springs car enthusiasts from indoors

BY LINDA KOCHANEK

Dish those sunglasses from underneath your seat and put that ice scraper away. Sunroofs are open and convertible tops are down. Residents are washing, waxing, buffing and shining. The car washes have been busy during this early spring thaw. People with showroom-new rides and lemons alike were cleaning their automobiles.

Hints of spring and summer bring up our spirits. Local car washes had many people who were happy to be outside, which is a big switch from being confined indoors all winter.

Mike Neubauer, owner of the Lighthouse car wash in Canton since 1979, said there are many reasons to keep your car clean.

"Many cars have the new aluminum wheels and salt will corrode them," Neubauer said. "It's important to keep your paint surface clean and to use the correct amount of water so that you do not scratch the exterior."

Neubauer also said, "Car washes use less water and a sanitary waste drain which help to save the environment. When people wash their car in their driveway they waste a lot of water. — approximately ten gallons per minute from a household hose. That soapy water ends up in a storm drain that leads to a local pond or stream."

Canton resident Patty Ochala and her four-year-old son Dylan were at the Classy Chassis car wash in Canton, out enjoying the sunshine. Patty said, "As helpful as Dylan may be, he still has more water on himself than on the car."

Michigan weather is always in a state of fluctuation, but to those who live here these glimpses of summer are welcome. So head outdoors, enjoy the weather, and wash your car.

Don't forget your roll of quarters.

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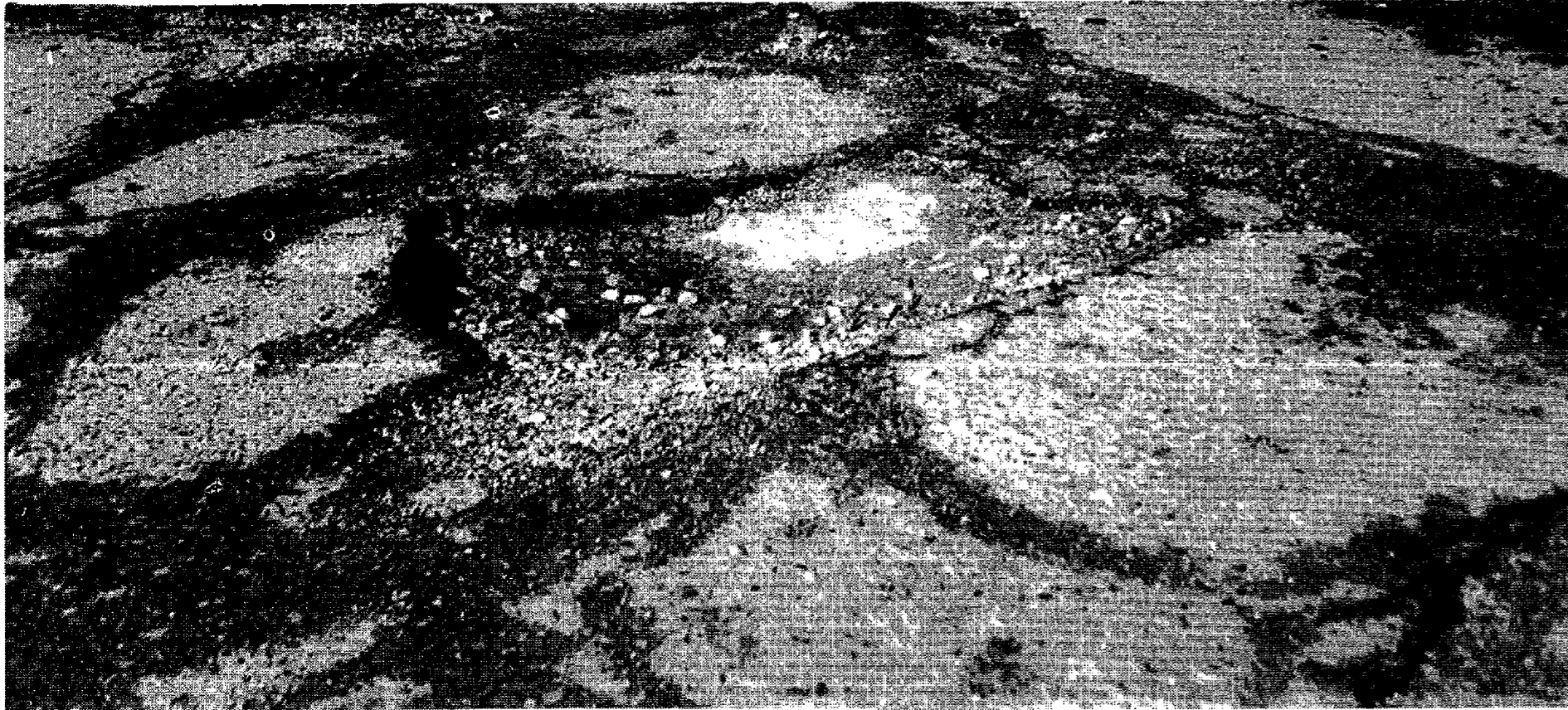
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Hale-Bopp impacts area road?



Actually, it's just a pothole. The annual spring break-up has left area highways, streets and roads pocked with comet-sized craters. (Crier photo by Linda Kochanek).

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Stylish, sturdy designs fuel pick-up in truck sales

BY LINDA KOCHANEK

It's 1997 and things are changing. Traditionally trucks were a vehicle for the working man, but now they have become the unisex auto of choice. More women are buying these trucks, and with good reason. Not only do they give an elevated view of the road and offer the option of four-wheel drive, but with new features, they look great too.

Record sales are being reported at all the major dealers in the area. People are buying and leasing these sporty trucks. Those buying them find they have good resale value. And those who lease find down payments are low and the monthly payments don't make a large dent in their wallets.

Women are finding trucks to be a great new option. Gaylord Thomas, of McDonald Ford in Northville, said, "The smaller trucks like the Ford Ranger are popular among young buyers. They are not only chic, but they get great gas mileage."

Thomas also said, "Women today are in more demanding jobs. It's important that they make it to work even in bad weather."

Larger utility vehicles have become more popular with women of all ages, too. They can go places where other vehicles can't.

David Galdes, general sales manager at Fox Hills Chrysler-Plymouth-Jeep-Eagle in Plymouth said, "It's a trend. Utility vehicles like the Cherokee are just more versatile." Galdes said that half of his customers are women.

This spring, city road conditions have worsened, and a truck provides a wider wheel base for a smoother ride. Also, many people find they need the extra space to carry larger loads like mountain bikes and camping equipment. Those looking for a great all-around vehicle might be wise to consider following the trend, changing with the times and choosing a truck.

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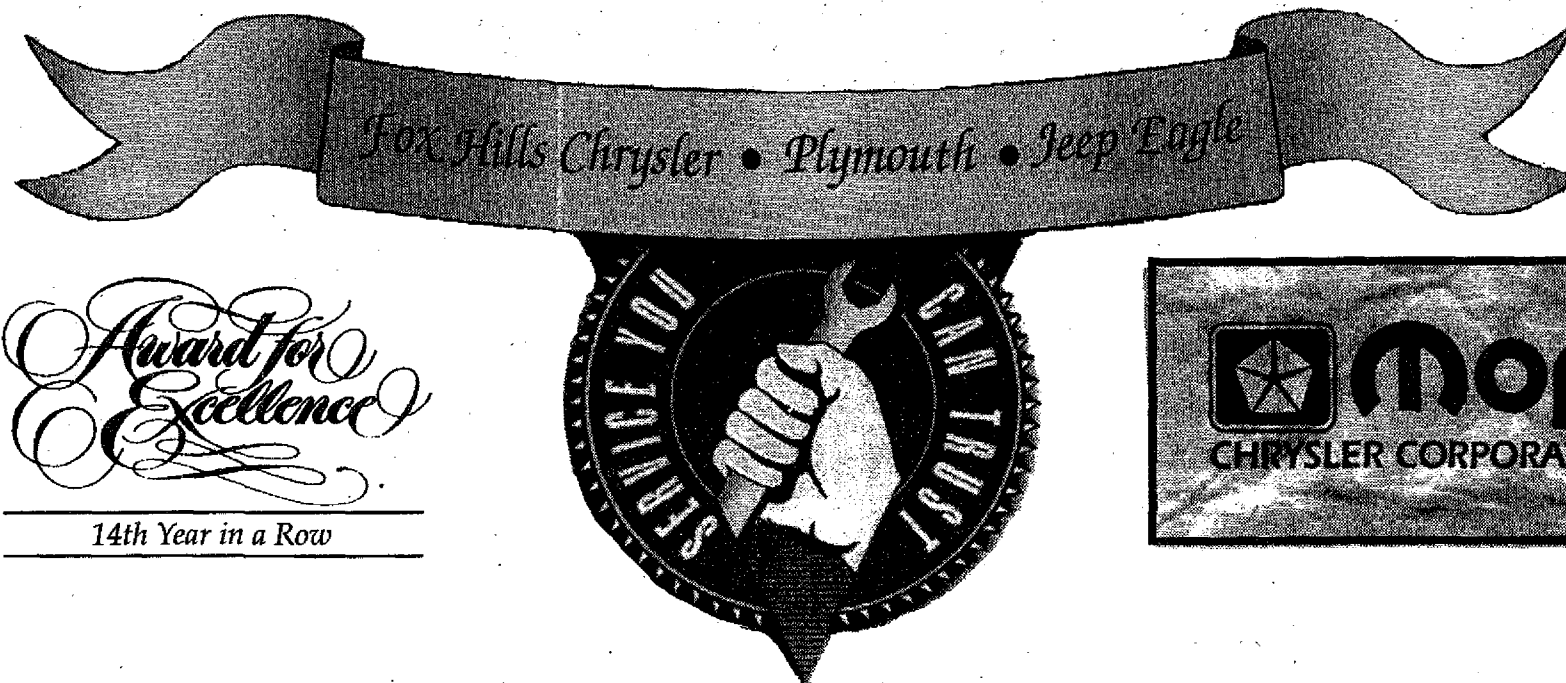
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Price includes:

- New oil (up to 5 qts. cars)
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\$46.95 4 CYL. \$57.95 6 CYL. \$69.95 8 CYL.

Price includes:

- Inspect emission components • Set timing • Adjust idle speed (Greater than 2-BBL carb and std ignition slightly higher)

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- Inspect front pads/rear linings

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What's Happening

To list your group's event in this calendar, send or deliver the notice **IN WRITING** to: The Crier, 821 Pennington Ave., Plymouth, MI 48170. Information received **BY NOON FRIDAY** will be used for Wednesday's calendar (space permitting).

Groups...

SPRING SOCCER REGISTRATION

The City of Plymouth is registering for Spring Soccer at the Plymouth Cultural Center from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Bring a birth certificate and registration fee: \$40 for City residents, \$60 for non-residents. For info, call 455-6620.

CITY WINTER CLASSES

The City of Plymouth Recreation Department is offering more than 20 classes for ages ranging from tots to seniors. For a brochure and other info., call 455-6620.

Upcoming...

PLYMOUTH CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP COFFEE

Thursday, **March 27** the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce will honor the Plymouth-Canton School Board at its membership coffee, from 8 - 9 a.m. at the Chamber office. Free, no RSVP needed.

EASTER MARSHMALLOW DROP

Canton Parks and Recreation is sponsoring its Annual Easter Marshmallow Drop **March 29**, for Canton kids 10 and under at Heritage Park. Children will be divided into age groups before they hunt down helicopter-dropped marshmallows they can exchange for goodies and treats.

FELLOW'S CREEK MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

Canton Parks and Recreation Mens Golf League will begin April 23, 5 p.m. at Fellow's Creek Golf Course. Registration has begun, cost is \$400. League is limited to 36 golfers and restricted to Canton residents unless league fails to fill by March 31.

55 ALIVE: MATURE DRIVING CLASS

AARP driving class, sponsored by V.F.W. Post 6695 Ladies Auxiliary, **April 2 and 3**, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., at V.F.W. 6695. Cost, \$8. For info and reservations, call Barbara at (313) 538-1859.

FABERGE TRIP TO CLEVELAND

City of Plymouth Parks and Rec will offer a trip to Cleveland, OH to view the Faberge Collection. A two-day, one-night trip **April 7 and 8**, the tour will cost \$199, and includes transportation, lodging, two exhibits and a lecture and some meals. \$50 deposit required. Call 455-6620.

FREE INVESTMENT SERIES

The Northville District Library is sponsoring a free investment series presented by Merrill Lynch financial consultants. The first, "College Planning," **April 9, 7 - 8:30 p.m.** Call (810) 349-3020 for reservations.

SENIOR TAX ASSISTANCE

Free income tax assistance for seniors is available in Plymouth, Canton and Northville through **April 15th**, courtesy of the AARP Tax-Aide program. Those seniors interested should call for an appointment: 397-5444 in Canton; 349-4140 in Northville; 455-6620 in Plymouth. Information on home visits are also available at each number.

PLYMOUTH-CANTON JAYCEES

The Plymouth-Canton Jaycees have several events upcoming, including open house/orientations, meetings and activities. Call the Jaycees Hotline for times and dates: 453-8407.

Health...

BLOODMOBILE SITES

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be open to the public at the following times and locations: Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, Tri City Christian Center, **March 26**, 3:30 - 9:30 p.m., call (313) 326-0330. St. Thomas A' Beckett Catholic Church, **March 28**, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., call (313) 844-2505.

HEALTH AT THE SUMMIT

In Feb. and March, St. Joseph Mercy Hospital is sponsoring a series of health programs at Canton's Summit on the Park. Topics include exercise, cardiac screening, stress management, nutrition for children and adults, parenting skills and cessation of smoking. A separate, Women's-health-oriented series is also planned. Registration required. For info, phone (313) 712-4106.

OAKWOOD CLASSES/SCREENINGS

Blood pressure checks, breast feeding support groups, childbirth preparation classes and infant CPR. For more information, call 454-8001.

PLYMOUTH BREATHERS CLUB

For those with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, emphysema and other respiratory disease. Meets the second Wednesday of every month from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Mercy Health Building, Plymouth. For information, call 313 712-5367.

SENIOR VAN

The Plymouth Community Seniors van is available for transport to any destination in the city or township five days a week, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The van will also assist Plymouth seniors in getting to medical, dental and other appointments, and makes planned trips to Westland, Livonia and Laurel Park Malls. Phone 459-8888 for info on this free service.

RESPIRATORY DISEASE ASSISTANCE

For those with respiratory diseases: Second Wednesday of each month at the Arbor Health building in Plymouth from 2-3 p.m. Free of charge. For more information, call 712-5367.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM FOR SENIORS

Available twice monthly by appointment at Plymouth Township Hall. For more information, call Frances Rudd at 455-7526 between 1-4 p.m. weekdays.

SMOKE STOPPERS

In combination with the "patch," or by itself, this program can help win the battle against smoking. Group and individual sessions available at St. Joseph Mercy Health Building, Plymouth and Ann Arbor. Call 313 712-4141.


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<p>Worship with us this week!</p>	<p></p>

Nothing to do: proposed activities ease other problems, too.

Continued from pg. 10

of Stevenson High School in Illinois, states in his article "Making BIG SCHOOLS Smaller," "The most frequent complaint you will hear from parents as a school grows is... students who get cut from an athletic team." This year, during the first week of March, my friend Elizabeth said, "I tried out for the soccer team yesterday. And even though I played for Canton last year, I didn't make the cut." Because of the competition at PCEP, she was forced to stop playing the game she's enjoyed since elementary school.

Another reason students stop playing sports is that they are unable to sacrifice the time and commitment demanded by the high standards of PCEP athletics. My older brother, Jeff, is presently enrolled at Wheaton College near Chicago. His freshman year, he decided to commit himself to playing hockey on the school team, but he had to make a difficult decision as the team demanded more time for practice than he could give up. He was forced to quit the team after one season to keep his grades from slipping. This problem occurs not only in colleges, but in any school with a large demand for commitment from their sports teams, like PCEP.

For these two reasons, many athletic students at our high school end up in the stands without a letter jacket, unable to participate. My proposal to solve this problem is what my brother Jeff chose to do after he quit the hockey team at his college. This year, in 1997, he participated in intramural soccer and floor hockey teams who play against other dorms for fun. He told me, "Intramurals are a great way to get some exercise and have fun with friends."

I suggest that PCEP "start a new organization within the school," as Berkey encourages, and provide intramural sports to interested students. Many colleges that offer intramural sports have fewer or equal numbers of students compared to PCEP, so size is not a problem. Another logical consideration that must be accounted for is the location where intramural sports could be held. Two places are possibilities at our high school.

One suggested strategy by Berkey is that schools "allow intramural activities to share in the use of athletic facilities." If there isn't any room available for intramurals on the current property, we can plan in advance to include space for intramurals on the corner of Joy Road and Beck, the site of "the third high school." It would be a prime location because it is close to the present high school, yet it wouldn't take space away from the school teams.

Regular intramural sports like soccer and basketball could be run in "multiple levels," as Berkey's school has done, and the program would also allow room for advancements such as boys volleyball, girls football, or "new" sports, like ultimate frisbee.

Last fall my friends and I formed a casual, unofficial group that met after school each Friday to play soccer, frisbee and other games. This group is the "model" for my vision of the larger scale program of intramurals at the high school. By wintertime our group grew in number to 25 kids. As a group, we learned teamwork, met new friends, kept active and provided a successful model that the high school needs. An intramural program at PCEP would give

inactive students the opportunity to play any sport they like, and it would put an end to students being forced to quit because of competition.

The next major problem that has been eating away at PCEP is a lack of community and school pride — for students who go to both Salem and Canton. Each Friday the principal and teachers from Salem High School wear their "SALEM PRIDE" t-shirts, attempting to boost school spirit, but students know they fail miserably. Pep rallies are viewed as a chance to get out of class, games are poorly attended, and each day parking lots are jammed as students rush to leave the school. These actions are caused by the large population at PCEP and by the drought of attractive activities.

In his book "High Schools as Communities," published by Phi Delta Kappa Educational Foundation, Gerald Smith says, "Working models exist of public high schools that have successfully made the transition (to become a community). Emulating these existing schools represents the high school's best hope of once again becoming a viable social institution."

For the problem of disinterest in our high school, I offer the solution of building a climbing wall, similar to the wall at a successful school in Vermont, Union 32 High. Two years ago they added a climbing wall to the back of their school. Mark Miller, a Salem student who came from Union 32 High School, says, "students hung out at the wall every day after school." Smith also says, "self-esteem and peer acceptance lead to easier, more cordial relationships with others, which in turn lead to an improved sense of community." Instead of riding "the Big Cheese" home after a regular day at school and plopping down in front of the TV, students were challenged to build themselves mentally and physically, and to spend time developing relationships with classmates.

A wall like this could be added to any existing wall of the school. "Climbing towers" can also be built, using minimal space. Finances would be manageable as well. In Pontiac, a 70-foot wall called "Planet Rock" charges \$12 per day. If PCEP

"I suggest that PCEP 'start a new organization within the school,' and provide intramural sports to interested students... two places are possibilities at our high school"

chose to charge students even \$1 a visit (the price of a pop at one of the school pop machines), the \$3,000 wall would pay for itself in little time. Climbing holds, belay devices, ropes and the wall itself can be ordered by catalog. Liability is also a concern, but could be managed as most climbing gyms do.

"The Benchmark," in Farmington, and Planet Rock require climbers to accept legal responsibility for their own safety by signing a waiver form before they climb. At the same time these gyms train climbers in safety. If a climbing wall was built for students at PCEP, it would attract us to spend more time enjoying our school, which would strengthen school pride, challenge each student physically, boost self-esteem and encourage respect for other students. Please see pg. 23

Technology plays part

Computers, curriculum change with students, time.

In this day and age all people have vast amounts of technology at their fingertips. Our schools today don't utilize what is available. At PCEP, the Dynacom Televisions that the Plymouth-Canton Community spent all the money on are used mainly just for the morning announcements. To succeed in the future we must constantly re-evaluate how we use technology. We should find ways to incorporate technology into the classroom, so that it provides a beneficial learning environment as possible.

The alarm screams out as I roll over and look at the clock. Time to go to school, the date is February 10, 2000. After a slow morning, the bell rings and class starts. The first class of the day is physics. We are having a lecture/experimentation day. The teacher lectures to us, and will illustrate his point by experiments on the computer. This is one improvement that I have seen over the years. Before there was a lot of time just spent on lecturing, and it was hard to connect the facts with a mental picture. Hands-on experiments are still done, and are still the best way to see what is happening. The problem is sometimes they just aren't feasible, because of time and money restraints. With computers, teachers can show the experiments quickly to a class and even change factors with the touch of a button. One example is when we are learning about velocity, acceleration, and distance. We used an experiment on the computer that was like a marble on a ramp. We drew the ramp to fit the velocity, acceleration, and distance graphs that were given to us. Of course this doesn't take the place of real experiments, but it can be really helpful when we are trying a new concept.

The bell rang and I was off to my second hour, biology. The kids scattered and found seats as the late bell rang. The teacher came to the front of the class and said, "Today we are going to learn about the parts of a plant cell. I have a few different slides to show you that should give you a real good picture of what makes up a plant cell." The teacher had his microscope set up at the front of the room, and the slides that he was going to show us. Using new equipment he was able to hook his microscope right up to the Dynacom Television at the front of the room. For every slide he would adjust it, and then point out features he wanted us to learn. The advantage of the microscope was that it was possible for him to zoom in on different parts so that the class could get a more in-depth picture. This was one of the ways we found to use the Dynacom system, that was already installed, to enhance our learning. The bell rang and we were off.

Third hour was my composition class. We were in the middle of working on persuasive essays. When we are working on a paper like this students are given a choice whether to do it by hand, or go down to the computer lab and work on the computers. In the past couple of years, they have installed a lot more computers to be more accessible to all classes during school. These computers are also open after school for kids to use. These extra computers provided equality in papers. Before computers, a lot more papers were hand written because students didn't have computers. The papers that were typed had an unfair advantage, they looked better and usually had better spelling. Allowing kids to type out all their papers allowed for an even playing field, where all that was looked at was the content. The bell rang, so I finished my last sentence and was off to lunch.

Lunch seemed way too quick as I was off to my fourth hour. It was calculus and today was the test day. I was nervous, even though I studied; it was a tricky concept to grasp. We were having a two-part test, a non-calculator and a calculator part. It sounds kind of weird, with all the technology we have, why not use it? The only problem was in math, too many students used the calculator to do the problems before they understood what they were doing. This method of punching buttons would work for that lesson, but math teachers found it very hard to build off previous knowledge when it wasn't there. We are taught the material without calculators, and a day later, after we have done some problems, we are taught how to use the calculator to save time. By testing us in two parts, teachers make sure you know what you are doing, and that you know how to use it. 30 minutes went by and I turned in my non-calculator section, and got the calculator section. This part went a little faster, it was a little harder to set up the problems, but once they were set up we could just use the calculators to finish. Finally I was done, and the bell rang. I was off to fifth hour.

My last two hours were pretty easy. It was power training and then I was a student assistant. I figured it was a nice way to end out my day since I had some hard classes my first four hours. After a long day I drove home, and went outside to enjoy some fresh air before I started on my homework.

This is just a little piece of what the future can bring to us. There is talk of a third school, and one way that we could equalize them is to connect the classroom, through the televisions and Internet. We don't have to stop at our classrooms. What's to say we couldn't connect with a school like the University of Michigan, in order to get the best information. This communication through computers doesn't stop in the classroom. In the work force more and more companies are using computers and technology to conduct business. Having a background working with the latest technology could be the edge to put Plymouth-Canton Community students ahead. Technology is constantly changing, and schools are not realizing its potential. The key to properly using technology, is to constantly re-evaluate how it should be incorporated into schools. Technology is always changing, so the way we use it should always be changing too.

PCEP: The best place to learn... NOT!!!

At the start of a new century and as a member of the class of 2000, there are many problems that Plymouth Centennial Education Park (PCEP) faces. I feel these problems should be solved before the next generation enters. Three problems that I think should be focused on are security, traveling between the buildings and overcrowding of the students.

Problems with security have not changed since my brother and sister were here. That was over 10 years ago. Instead of security being role models for the students they want to be our friends. So when the students are doing wrong, security is allowing the problem to continue, instead of taking action. During our 10-minute break between classes there are students who smoke illegally. During this time security should be walking back and forth also instead of sitting in the cars and just watching us walk by. Security is here for a reason, not just to collect a paycheck.

Over the past 10 years walking from school to school has not changed. An example is my older sibling were here 10 years ago and the same passing time is still in effect, you are expected to travel between schools during bad weather, and it always happens that you're at one school and your next class is in the other building. The constant fluctuation of the body temperature causes proportionally high cases of illness making absenteeism a problem. We do live in Michigan, and the weather is always changing. A few solutions to this would be a covered walk that is well maintained (plowed and salted in the winter), or even to have each student have three classes in one building and the other three in the other building.

Overcrowding is the biggest problem at PCEP. There are too many students per class, which makes it hard for the teachers to teach and the students to learn. Some students need the individual attention to understand what is going on. As of right now they are not receiving this attention. It would also make it easier on the teachers. The teachers could teach the students better and give us the attention that we need. It wouldn't be as stressful on the teachers either. I feel you should build another high school that is a little smaller than Canton is. At first it seems there wouldn't be enough students to fill the extra class rooms, but I have a feeling it would get filled up very quickly seeing that more houses, apartments, and condos are being built as you read this essay. Also with the two new recently built elementary schools, these children will need a place in high school. Just adding another chair in the class rooms will not work forever. Overcrowding is an ongoing problem and until this problem is solved the teachers and the students will pay the consequences.

PCEP faces many problems as a new century is about to start. While I was researching this essay, I have found that many of the problems that exist now have been problems, for years. They will always remain problems unless someone takes action and starts finding solutions. As a member of the class of 2000, I would be proud to say that these problems were solved and education can continue to be better than ever, thanks to a student of the year 2000.

Variety of activities, experiences hold key to school student pride, health

Continued from pg. 11

A third problem at PCEP does not originate from a school situation, but it has a negative impact on hundreds of students nonetheless. It wouldn't take the average person who visits our high school more than a day to notice that there are dozens of different "groups" of people, who have unique styles of personality and individual areas of interest. One of these groups is referred to as the "skaters," who live, breath and sleep skateboarding. The city of Plymouth deals with the continual problem of keeping "skaters" from skate boarding in downtown Plymouth, yet the city has made no contribution to funding an area for them to skate (not even with the cash they make by fining skaters).

Last winter, in 1996, my church even went to the extreme of opening the basement for skaters to use. Erin Donovan, Director of the National Teens, Crime, and Community Program Center states, "Teens must connect to the community and see the immediate relevance of...a local situation...based on local problems." The high school is capable of meeting this need that is obviously a problem, in a way similar to what two small business owners in the cities of Kalamazoo and Ferndale have accomplished when they built skate parks inside warehouses, easily accessible for skaters in their community.

My skater friends who go to PCEP, occasionally take the long trip to the "KZOO Skate Park" because there is nowhere to skate-board in Plymouth-Canton. Craig Wind, a Canton sophomore (and ardent skater) says, "The first day a park is built around here, hundreds of kids will be there to skate." If the PCEP constructed a park like this, it would solve the problem for the city of Plymouth, as well as meeting the needs of its students.

My final concern has grown from my experience at PCEP where my teachers have not facilitated any sort of interaction during class. In 1996 I took the Introduction to Art class at Salem, and not until we were two weeks into the semester did any of my classmates even speak to each other. One day Tracie, my art partner, asked, "Why doesn't anyone talk to anyone else in here?" This has been typical of most of my classes at PCEP where teachers include little teamwork and only shallow group discussion during class.

William Hammerman, co-author of "Teaching in the Outdoors," who has been an outdoor educator for 30 years, identifies this problem and encourages teaching outside the classroom. In relation to the values of getting out of the school to learn, he notes, "Among the list of intangible gains is the improved relationship that invariably develops between teachers and students. In the freer atmosphere...(they are) unrestricted by the usual classroom formalities."

During my 17 summers, my dad has directed Upper Peninsula Bible Camp. From my personal experience with a ropes course at UPBC I have seen the interactive benefits presented, and suggest it as a solution for PCEP.

Boy and girl campers rely on their teammates to overcome obstacles by trusting each other. They walk across rope bridges, pull team members over the wobbly "cargo net," ride rope swings, participate in the "trust fall," and experience numerous other team challenges that establish positive interaction.

Others seem to agree that building a ropes course is definitely a positive action. Hammerman states, "Over the years, adventure ropes courses have become popular with a variety of user groups: youth-at-risk, corporate managers...alternative high schools...outcomes have ranged from team building and cooperative learning to self-esteem and confidence building."

Ms. Sandmann, a Salem teacher, visited University of Michigan's "high ropes course"

in March of 1997. She encouraged that a ropes course should be built at PCEP and said "It would benefit any student who would be willing to challenge themselves and increase tolerance of diversity of others."

Mike Forrest, a full time worker at Camp Tamarack, Michigan, visited PCEP on March 13, 1997, and gave information from the experiences he's had with the ropes course at his camp. "Costs vary from \$2000 and up. The benefits are too many to list but two benefits are enhanced personal awareness and positive peer interaction. Any facilitator should go through our facilitator training program for accreditation to maintain effective standards of safety."

Mr. Forrest is also involved with the ACE (Adventure Challenge Experience) program. ACE's mission statement includes the pledge to "support the goals and objectives of school improvement plans...serving youth in Wayne County." With this in mind, the high schools could be closer than we think to setting up a ropes course. If a course was created for PCEP, teachers could take class time to use the course to build teamwork and trust between students. It is a possible way to end the lack of interaction at the Park.

In the cities of Plymouth and Canton, there are few attractive activities for PCEP students. Because the high school hasn't done its part, problems are caused such as a lack of alternative programs to school sports, an absence of school pride, inadequate solutions to student's needs and hostile interaction with other students.

In his "Plan for Education" speech in 1992, President Clinton states, "We know we have real gaps in American education...we need to give people incentives." Since PCEP is afflicted by these difficulties, the school has the obligation to "make things happen."

Four positive activities that PCEP should introduce are an intramural sports program, a climbing wall, a skate park, and a ropes course. Each student would be given the opportunity to get involved, which would boost school pride, initiate valuable interaction with other students, and provide an alternative to school sports. The "PCEP Perspective's" Top 10 list would most likely change, as the high school fills this gap in our education.

Although this solution isn't aimed directly at the academic side of improving our school, it will have multiple positive side effects in making PCEP a better experience for

Wait, I just thought of something - did you see those guys working on the new climbing wall on the back of Salem? I heard they finished building it today - and it only costs a buck! What do you think? - Justin

Of course I saw them working on it! Doesn't it look fun? They've been saying it would be ready to climb on during the morning announcements. I guess tons of people are going to be there. Meet ya at the Peace Pole!
Dan



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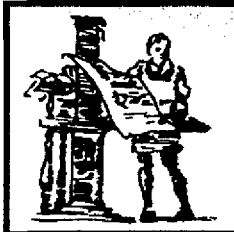


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--Beauregard

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Sports

Sports shorts

The Plymouth Canton and Plymouth Salem High School Ice Hockey Team Boosters are in the process of obtaining the necessary support to sponsor an interscholastic high school ice hockey team proposal to be presented before the Plymouth-Canton School Board.

Mail post cards or letters of support to Plymouth-Canton and Plymouth Salem High School Ice Hockey Program, P.O. Box 6091, Plymouth, MI 48170. Website address:

<http://www.rinknet.com/dwhalers/dwhalers.htm>. E-Mail notes of support to: carzno@e.imap.itd.umich.edu.

Compuware Sports Arena offers public skating Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:10-11 a.m. and 12:10-2 p.m., and Sunday from 12:40-2 p.m. in the Olympic Arena only. Admission is \$4, and skate rental is \$3.

Drop in hockey is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 7-8:50 p.m. and noon to 1:50 p.m.

Player admission is \$7; goalies are free.

Adult softball registrations are currently being held at the Canton Parks and Recreation Services. Men's team fee is \$280, women's \$360, and co-ed \$320. The women's and co-ed are jointly run with the City of Plymouth.

Registration ends April 4.

For more information, call 397-5110.

Fox Hills Country Club is hosting a ninth-annual Angela Hospice Golf Outing May 12. Lary Sorenson will be among the golfers participating. A golfer package is \$150 and includes free range balls before golf, 18 holes of golf with a cart, lunch on the turn, steak dinner, open bar and beverage tickets on the course.

There will also be prizes. Business partner and corporate packages are available too. Proceeds from the outing will benefit the Angela Hospice.

For more information, call 464-7810.

Chief wrestlers come on strong

BY BRIAN CORBETT

Canton wrestling coach Ernie Krumm got a present at Christmas time — an improved team.

A vacation often dreaded by wrestling coaches because athletes attempting to cut weight are tempted with big holiday meals and sweets, instead turned out to be exactly what the Chiefs needed.

"Christmas was a big plus for us," said Krumm.

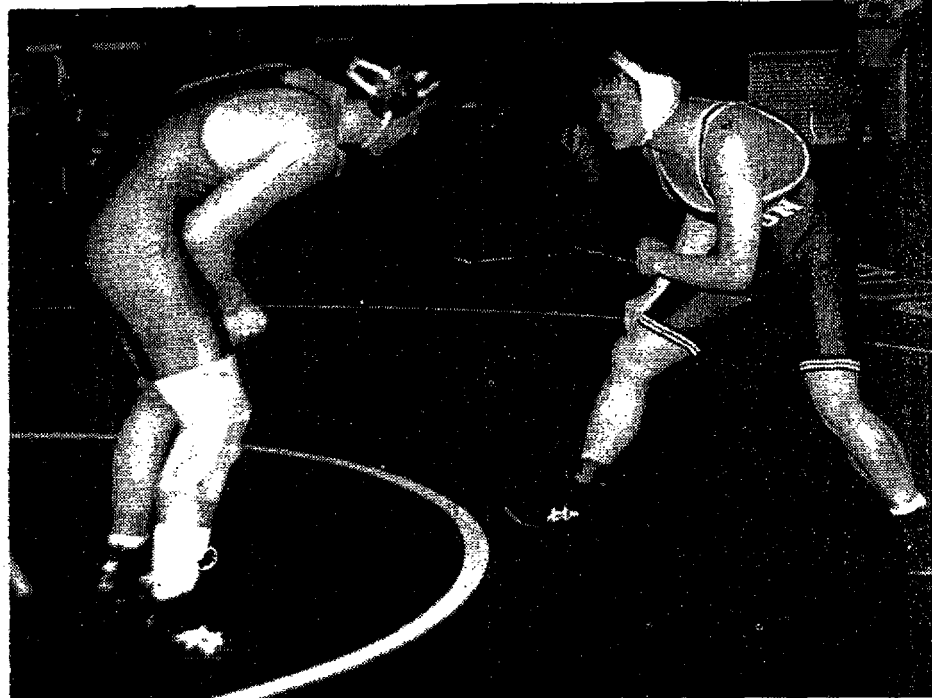
Canton went on to finish the 1996-97 season 2-4 in the Western Lakes Activities Association and 3-8-1 overall in dual meet competition. The record isn't outstanding, but the Chiefs' effort was.

Canton began the season like a bunch of turkeys. Their post-Thanksgiving meeting with cross-campus rival Salem was not a sign of things to come. The Rocks whipped the Chiefs, 68-12. That total includes a weight class voided by Salem. "Early in the year, we weren't performing up to the level I thought we could be. But as the season went on, I was pleased with our improvement," said Krumm.

"What it comes down to is I don't think a lot of guys were ready at the beginning of the season. The reality of sports, even at the high school level, is that your season is your off-season," he said.

The Chiefs were ready for the Canton 8 Invitational, the Dec. 21 event that likely contributed to the team's post-holiday success. "They haven't had a tournament in years... I think it's really important to have those things at home. It's important for your program. To a large extent, it was a big pick up," Krumm said.

The Chiefs were 2-2-1 when they entered the Salem Invitational Jan. 4.



Canton's John Pinion moves in on Fenton's Ron Kreidon. The Chiefs finished the season 3-8-1 overall. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

The new attitude in the new year didn't pay its dividends immediately, however. Amidst a 20-team field that included some of the best teams in the state — Portage Central, Rochester Adams and Holt — the Chiefs finished last, and didn't have a single wrestler place. Derek Rumrill (125 lbs.) was the Chiefs' best chance, but he was bumped from competition in a match that could've placed him seventh or eighth. The losses continued to mount, but the Chiefs' record was no indication of their effort and endurance.

"We didn't have anyone all year that outconditioned us. They may have beat us, but they didn't outcondition us;

you're not going to gas us," said Krumm.

The Chiefs were following the "Work Hard, Get Better" logo on their team shirts. "We like to preach that," said Krumm, "because if that's what you do, it's going to happen. It's no secret. I tell all the guys, 'you're either going to get better or worse. It's one of the two.'"

The Chiefs got better. At the season-ending Observerland Invitational Canton finished eighth out of 12 teams. Rumrill was seeded fifth, but took third. Kevin Stone (135 lbs.), Vince St. Louis (112 lbs.), Brian Musser and Jim Shelton (145 lbs.) also placed.

Please see pg. 29

Hockeytown?

Canton, Salem Ice Hockey Boosters push for sport at PCEP

BY BRIAN CORBETT

They have the players. They have a league to play in. They say ice time and a home arena awaits them. They are tremendously organized, and aren't looking for financial support.

Now, all the Canton and Salem high schools Ice Hockey Boosters need are teams.

That must come through Plymouth-Canton School Board approval. Sounds easy, right? "You know it's not," said promoter Ed Arszno.

But it's a faceoff the boosters must win in the coming weeks, or they will be forced to wait another year to begin a hockey program at the 4,700-student Plymouth-Canton Educational Park.

The debate is not new to The Plymouth-Canton Community. Past efforts by Michigan Amateur Hockey Association Director Gordon Bowman and others to begin hockey as a winter sport have melted under concerns of injuries and expenses.

But this year's effort is sincerely different. "This is really the first truly organized effort," said Arszno. "In the past, people have just walked into a school board meeting and said, 'We want a hockey team.'"

Arszno and the boosters have assembled a formal proposal that includes the support of hundreds of students, local businesses and

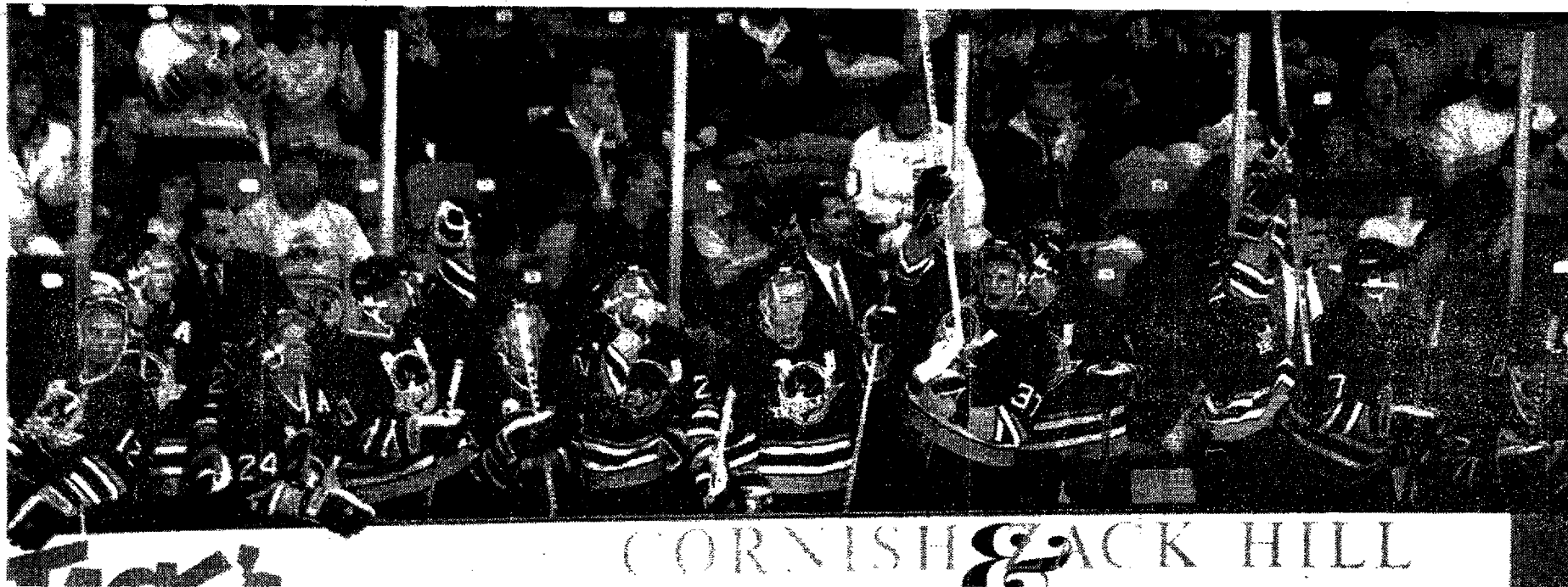
the Michigan Suburban High School Hockey League. "The other reason is right here, the availability of ice," said Arszno. "There's two sheets at the Whalers facility."

The arrival of the Detroit Whalers and the construction of Compuware Sports Arena gives The Plymouth-Canton Community an option unequalled by most school districts around the state.

It has sparked renewed enthusiasm among students, parents and hockey fans in general to add the sport to the list of extra curricular activities in the Plymouth-Canton School District. Coupled with the recent approval of the school improvement bond, and the boosters think their chances have never been better. "Hockey is hot right now," said Arszno. "Whether it's hot for the next 10 years, who cares? There are going to be kids playing, and the important thing that a high school hockey program does, is it takes them off the road. There's no long road trips or weekends in Sault Ste. Marie. Their studies would be controlled."

The boosters have undoubtedly done their homework. They have set up a web page on the Internet in conjunction with the Whalers seeking support and players, and have reserved ice time at Compuware Sports Arena for the 1997-98 season. (The rink was home ice for Birmingham Brother Rice for the 1996-97 season.)

Please see pg. 29



CORNISH & JACK HILL

Will Whalers Head Coach Peter DeBoer (center and behind the bench) return as coach next season? How many of the players in front of him will be on the team's roster for the 1997-98 season. Those are just some of the items making news in a busy post-season week for the Whalers. (Crier photo R. Alwood Jr.)

Whalers heading for busy off-season

The Detroit Whalers wrapped up their season last week by losing a best of seven series against Sault Ste. Marie in five games. But the hockey club hasn't stop making news.

Two players were quickly snatched up by the NHL's Hartford Whalers following the 4-1 loss in the Soo March 17, which was followed by owner Peter Karmanos'

decision to move the professional franchise out of New England.

Detroit laced up the skates one more time Friday against their river rivals, the Windsor Spitfires. And there are rumors surrounding coach Peter DeBoer's future.

All of this and we are a little more than a week into the off-season. What will the summer bring the Whalers?

Well, it may bring them a new coach for starters. There is a possibility DeBoer, who has compiled a 76-68-10 record and won a West Division title in two seasons as head coach and general manager, may step away from the bench to assume the latter position's responsibilities full time. His rumored replacement is Whalers Assistant Coach Steve Spott.

DeBoer, a University of Windsor law graduate, was asked to join the Whalers by friend and then-Whalers coach Paul Maurice. DeBoer was elevated to head coach after Maurice left for the NHL's Whalers in 1995, but it is believed DeBoer has little desire to do the same. An excellent players' coach with a tremendous amount of patience, DeBoer's work in the OHL is highly regarded. With 17 rookies this season, DeBoer guided the Whalers to a playoff appearance and was widely accepted as the toughest in the league. That success in drafting and rebuilding may be the reason for his move to management. It's difficult to tell what Spott would do differently, though his personality is not as laid back as DeBoer's.

Of course, this is assuming DeBoer isn't coaching somewhere else next season. He could be a candidate for the Spitfires' coaching position, if Paul Gillis is fired. It's pure speculation — probably because DeBoer is a former Spitfire — and will likely remain that way. Why would he leave the OHL's best franchise?

DeBoer was in Windsor Arena on Good Friday, though. But he was coaching the Whalers in a charity game against the Spitfires.

The proceeds from the game were to benefit a young Indiana boy who was hospitalized after being struck in the head by a puck during a Spitfires' playoff game versus Sarnia two weeks ago.

Chad Faulkner, 10, regained consciousness last Wednesday at the Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital after spending nearly a week in coma.

He was listed in serious condition in intensive care.

Also last week, the Whalers' Jan

Truth is Tough

By Brian Corbett



Vodrazka and captain Mike Morrone were signed by Hartford and sent to the East Coast Hockey League. Vodrazka should be an NHLer someday. He led the team in penalty minutes (238), and carried the heaviest slapshot on the team. A 6'1", 205 lbs, Vodrazka shattered the European stereotype by combining his offensive prowess (28 points) with defensive brawn. He's a hot prospect.

Morrone, on the other hand, can't rely on statistics or measurements.

He is neither a talented goal scorer nor a player who intimidates opponents by his mere presence.

He is, however, the ultimate role player. Morrone's timing on fights, checks, and even goals, changed the tide of several games this season. He will need to do just that to excel at the next level.

Fail or succeed, it's good to see someone gave Morrone a chance. A team leader who led in the most obvious way, by playing a team game, Morrone carried professionalism with him on and off the ice. Considering the Whalers exited the playoffs in the first round, the season couldn't have ended in a better way for anyone familiar with the team: watching Morrone score the game-winning goal in the second overtime of game four against the Soo.

If Morrone and Vodrazka make it to the NHL's Whalers, they won't be playing in Hartford. Karmanos and the State of Connecticut failed to come to agreement that would've kept the NHL's Whalers in Hartford.

Don't look for Karmanos to bring his team home, though. Columbus, OH, Oklahoma City, Nashville and Minneapolis are the leading candidates, but don't be surprised if Raleigh-Durham, NC, doesn't get heavy consideration before the move is completed.



Mike Morrone is still playing hockey these days even though the Whalers' season ended in the first round of the playoffs against Sault Ste. Marie. The Whalers captain, and teammate Jan Vodrazka are playing in the East Coast Hockey League after being signed by the NHL's Hartford Whalers. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Wrestling faces tough match

Ron Krueger and Ernie Krumm are hoping wrestling will escape the pin of the sport's surrounding stereotypes.

"I think they all have the impression that it's big time wrestling," said Krueger, the Salem High School wrestling coach.

Wrestling has been placed under increasing scrutiny across the state because of its intense physical contact and dietary demands.

In the 1992-93 season, the sport was offered on a pay-to-play basis at the

Plymouth-Canton Educational Park. The program has never fully recovered.

Salem has had some success on the mat, finishing third in the highly competitive Western Lakes Activities Association this year. In Krumm's two-year tenure — he replaced Ray Givens in 1995 — the Chiefs have not experienced Salem's success in the standings, but they appear on the path to contending.

But both coaches continue to struggle to increase their rosters and introduce

wrestling into the middle schools. "I think it's pathetic that four or five building principals in this community are not only opposed to wrestling but said it was 'hostile,'" said Krumm.

According to Krumm, building principals told a Canton wrestling supporter attempting to determine the sport's interest in the middle schools, that they "are trying to deter violence, not promote."

Said Krumm: "Well, I'll take a kid and channel that violence, that hostility, into something positive."

Neither Krumm nor Krueger understand the resistance or lack of interest.

It's an inexpensive sport, and it's suitable for just about anyone, they say.

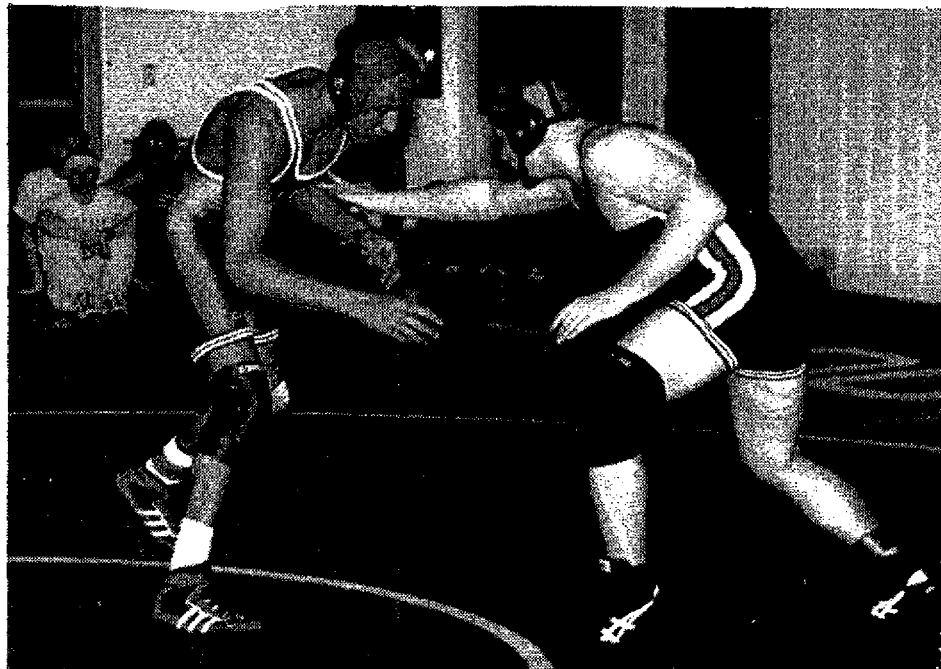
"Here's a sport that doesn't cut kids," said Krueger. "All of sudden, all of these little guys have an opportunity."

"That's one of the greatest things about wrestling. Give me someone 80 pounds to 280 pounds, and I have a spot for him," Krumm said.

Krumm, a teacher at Belleville High School, has hired an assistant coach to help him in recruiting.

In the 1996-97 season, the Chiefs had to void several higher weight matches, costing Canton important points.

It's an area of the lineup that could be filled by football players since wrestling teaches several attributes needed in football — strength, conditioning and balance. "We've got to find a way to get the bigger kids on the mat. We'll try to utilize all the options we can. We'll try to pound the halls for kids," said Krumm.



Salem's Teono Wilson takes on Belleville's Seth Caldwell in a match earlier this season. (Crier photo by R. Alwood Jr.)

Group wants high school hockey in P-C

Continued from pg. 27

The Michigan Suburban Hockey League is also ready to welcome Canton and Salem, with the stipulation that each school forms its own team. "When I talked to (Michigan Suburban Hockey League President) Norm Quinn, he said, 'You'd kill everybody (with one team.) You'd take it to the other teams. You'd have a hard time scheduling games, no one would want to play you.' Politically, it's a lot easier if we have two teams," said Arszno.

Fielding two teams wouldn't be problem considering the population of the PCEP, but it's a possible concern to detractors who say it would double expenses. But the Canton and Salem Ice Hockey Team

Boosters said they've received pledges of financial support from around the community, including Plymouth Physical Therapy who have offered to help the teams' trainers. PCEP Close Up teacher Darrin Sylvester, a Eastern Michigan University club player for the past three years, has offered to coach, and Arszno said additional funds could be accrued through gate receipts. "There's no factor of economics," said Arszno.

"It's not like we're planning on taking away the funding from other sports," said Nick Gismondi, the PCEP student hockey team proposal representative.

Speaking of other sports, Title 9 of the Michigan High School Athletic Association requires equal opportunities

for both genders. In other words, "If there's a boys team, there has to be a girls," said Arszno.

But this problem is easily solved because the Michigan Suburban Hockey League allows females to participate. And there's another alternative, according to Arszno and Gismondi: make cheerleading, currently a club sport, a varsity sport. "That's your Title 9 answer," said Gismondi.

Also, introducing water polo as a girls varsity sport has been mentioned as a possibility, Arszno said.

So just what are the Canton and Salem Ice Hockey Team Boosters seeking from the school board? A representative from each high school at every home function, Arszno said. "The other is, there's a lot of paperwork involved," he said.

Those are the two goals the boosters have left on their check list. And they hope, when they approach the school board with their proposal sometime this month, that they will then be able to answer the question so often posed to them as they gather signatures of support. "The question always came out: 'Why don't we have a hockey team already?'" said Arszno.

Gismondi has asked that question, and he hopes to be part of the answer. "Just the idea of being able to play for a high school hockey team, I mean, I've got other options," said Gismondi, a freshman at Salem, "but I'd love to play for my high school."

Chief wrestlers 'work hard'

Continued from pg. 27

"All of our meets were very similar," said Krumm. "We were very solid in the lower weights; but we needed the higher weights. We'd get blown out at the high weights."

That weakness again surfaced at the Western Lakes Activities Association conference meet. The Chiefs placed 10th out of 12 teams. St. Louis and Rumrill were the Chiefs top finishers, placing eighth.

Canton wrapped up the season on a high note in district competition. They lost to Salem in a first round battle, 48-24. "At the beginning of the season, they blew us out, 68-12, and they gave us two voids. In districts, we lost 48-24, and we gave them two weights and they had only one pin. It was kind of our coming of age," said Krumm.

The team effort in the districts rubbed off on individuals performances as three Canton wrestlers — St. Louis, Stone and Buttermore — qualified for regionals. They could've had another if Buttermore wasn't forced to miss districts because of an illness. The Chiefs' season ended in individual regionals, but it's a year Krumm won't soon forget. Not only does his team's future look good, but so does his families. Krumm's wife, Beth Ann, recently gave birth to the couple's first child, Alyce Elizabeth.

On deck

CANTON BASEBALL

Tuesday at home versus the University of Detroit (DH) at 2 p.m. Saturday at Walled Lake Central (DH) at noon.

CANTON BOYS TENNIS

At Riverview at 4 p.m., and Saturday at the Monroe Invitational. Monday at home versus Stevenson at 4 p.m.

CANTON BOYS TRACK

April 10 at John Glenn at 3:30 p.m.

CANTON GIRLS GOLF

April 9 at Ann Arbor Huron at 3 p.m.

CANTON GIRLS SOCCER

Monday at Walled Lake Central at 7 p.m.

CANTON SOFTBALL

April 9 at home versus John Glenn at 4 p.m.

CANTON GIRLS TRACK

April 10 at home versus John Glenn at 3:30 p.m.

SALEM BASEBALL

Tomorrow at Ypsilanti at noon.

SALEM BOYS TENNIS

April 10 at home versus Grosse Ile at 4 p.m.

SALEM BOYS TRACK

Saturday at the Spartan Relays.

SALEM GIRLS GOLF

April 9 at Ann Arbor Huron at 3 p.m.

SALEM GIRLS SOCCER

Monday at home versus Northville at 7 p.m.

SALEM SOFTBALL

April 9 at Franklin at 4 p.m.

SALEM GIRLS TRACK

Saturday at the Spartan Relays.



Community opinions

New vote needed

The March 22 bond issue is important for the Plymouth-Canton School District, but not important enough to jeopardize the schools' relationship with the community.

Some 720 votes were "lost" because of voter error during the school bond election. It is a significant enough percentage of "under-voting" for the schools to call a new election.

The bond is necessary for the growing district, but it should be done right, whether or not it was the voters' fault for not entering their information correctly at the new voting machines.

It is possible that the 720 votes would not have changed the outcome of the election — but the bond passed by just 96 votes.

A new election would clear up any doubt about what the public wants for the P-C Schools and strengthen the marketability of the bonds.

Certainly, there is a question about who should pay for the election if additional cost is incurred to hold it. (The voting machine manufacturer — Unilect — may be morally, if not legally responsible.)

The bond deserves community support. But the political process by which the bond is passed is as important as the bond issue itself.

It's time to do it right. Repass the bond at a new election.

THE COMMUNITY CRIBER

School board got what they wanted — no revote

EDITOR:

I was struck with curiosity as I read the article on the 720 "lost" votes in the recent \$80 million bond election.

Our educational leaders here in Plymouth-Canton are claiming that they need this massive sum of money to build new schools in order to improve the education of our youth.

What kind of image is the school board portraying when they can't count themselves, but they can justify this incompetence in the brilliant statements by P-C Schools Superintendent Charles Little? "It's not unusual to have under voting." That statement was refuted by election officials.

Little: "In the precincts where there was a lot of under voting, it would have given 'our' voters more of a margin." If the vote had gone the other way, the self-serving school board would have certainly been screaming for a new vote.

The whole issue smells of covering up the fact that the school board does not want a new vote and why not; they got what they wanted. They are behaving like the fox guarding the chicken coop.

If the school board cannot account for 720 votes, how can they be trusted with \$80 million? How can they be trusted with the minds of our children?

MARTY GARGARO

School officials fail community, representation

EDITOR:

I wonder if there are others in the Plymouth-Canton School Community who have concerns and questions regarding the conduct of the vote procedure of March 22 and the explanation given us by our school officials?

I was angered after reading your March 26 edition. I was angered by the suggestion of these school officials, that the votes cast by 720 community voters are not important to this process.

My concern is not whether I favor or reject the ballot question. It is not an issue of the touch-screen voting machine. It is not an issue of my living in Plymouth or Canton. It is, in fact, a question of how these officials treat those who have the right to be heard by the vote they have a right to have registered and counted.

I think these officials are working very hard to divert attention from the right choice and that is to revoice the question.

It is my opinion that, if the school bond issue had gone down in defeat, these same officials would immediately be in the board room, searching and working with great fervor to compose a press release that would read: "In fairness to the electorate whose voices were not heard, we must do it again."

"Conditional representation" by our school officials — let's have a tea party!

JAMES R. MCDOWELL

Lost votes tarnish bond, shame board

EDITOR:

I've never had a complaint about the Plymouth-Canton School District and the way they are educating. Four years ago we moved to Canton, mainly for the school system, since we had a child who was about to enter kindergarten. We only looked at homes in areas with a well-balanced educational system and we chose Canton. I can only give praise to my son's school (Tonda Elementary) and its faculty. I've been very happy with the Plymouth-Canton School system — until now.

Regarding the school bond issue of March 22, 1997 special election, how can Charles Little, superintendent of our schools, say that 720 votes "would not have changed the outcome of the election?" I thought Little, and the position he holds, is there to teach our children that change can occur, with hard and honest effort.

Simple math tells us that 720 is greater than 96. The 6 percent spoiled votes are more than 1 percent of the deciding votes. The math that I was brought up on taught me that it could make a difference in the outcome.

Is this the type of math that our children are now receiving? Also, doesn't this send a negative message to students about our voting system when that large number of "under" (or don't count) votes "would not have changed the outcome of the election?" What's the sense of the students learning how our voting system works and what it represents let alone why would they ever want to vote? I'm very glad that our governmental elections are not run this callously.

Regardless of how you voted, nobody can claim victory here. The schools may become bright and shiny, but they will never get rid of the tarnish this election has brought to the reputation of our school board. The schools may be better supplied, there may be more of them, and improvements to all of our schools, but since we have a school board that allows 720 (6 percent) voices go unheard, how can they be better? Never!

One can only wonder: If the millage would have lost by less than 1 percent, could the 6 percent change the outcome then? One last thought: Since there were mechanical errors and the margin of victory was small, why wasn't there a recount on the votes that do matter?

Shame on those who think that one vote, let alone 720, "would not have changed the outcome of the election."

BILL BALLELLI

P-C's 25-student classes a "major breakthrough"

EDITOR:

I am responding to the letter by Glenn Kremer on Feb. 19, 1997. In expressing his views on the upcoming bond issue, he wrote, "I thought I already invested in educational success by... paying for quality teachers and paying for high-tech materials to overcome the minor inconvenience of possibly having an average 29/31 students per class rather than 27/25."

I have been teaching in The Plymouth-Canton Community for 18 years, the last six in first grade. The one thoroughly positive change I have witnessed and experienced has been the recent reduction in class size. We undergo changes in curriculum, administration and politics, but children always need personal attention. My students are five, six and seven years old. This year for the first time I have 25 students.

These are the advantages: more time for instruction; more direct and timely feedback during practice work; less time spent in conflict resolution — there are less conflicts; more time to develop skills and abilities; and more time to build the crucial student/teacher/parent relationship.

High-tech materials can't replace the human relationship that fosters motivation,

inspiration and perseverance. It isn't a minor advantage to have 25 first graders. It is a major breakthrough for Plymouth-Canton.

DEBRA MACGREGOR

EDITOR'S NOTE: Debra MacGregor's letter was misprinted in a previous issue of *The Community Crier*. The letter above appears in its entirety.

Little's "margin" comments confusing

EDITOR:

I am writing in response to the March 26 article on the recent school election. I don't understand P-C Schools Superintendent Charles Little's comments that most of the under voting would have "given our voters more of a margin."

My precinct-by-precinct analysis would indicate, on average, about 343 or 48 percent "no" votes from the 720 spoiled ballots. More importantly, however, is that no one really knows how those votes were cast. We will never know what was the real decision of the voters.

One final comment: If there is a schism between Plymouth and Canton on school issues, imagine how those of us in Northville, who have been gerrymandered into the P-C Schools, feel.

They might get our taxes, but not our heart.

THOMAS L. THOMPSON



Community opinions

Township trustees fail DeMattia, Businesses

The Plymouth Township Board of Trustees had a chance to show their support for one of the most aggressive and community-minded companies in southeast Michigan by establishing an industrial development district for approximately 40 acres of R.A. DeMattia Company property last Tuesday.

They failed.

The board voted against the measure, which would aide companies hoping to establish themselves in Plymouth Township by easing the tax abatement process.

The vote was a slap in the face to R.A. DeMattia — a company who established the highly successful Metro West Industrial Park between Sheldon and Beck roads.

Although it was a close vote, it sent a signal to businesses everywhere: Plymouth Township is not interested in making deals to attract companies.

Treasurer Ron Edwards, Clerk Marilyn Massengill and Trustees Charles Curmi and K.C. Mueller voted against establishing the district. Supervisor Kathleen Keen-McCarthy and Trustees Kay Arnold and Ron Griffith voted for the measure.

The group who voted against the plan say each individual tax abatement question should be brought before the board.

But that's not really what this is about. It's about showing respect and gratitude to businesses who choose Plymouth Township in this competitive business environment.

Tax abatements are a necessary evil for local governments everywhere. Tax abatements — along with roads, quality of life and

No curves

By Rob Kirkbride



public safety — are important factors companies look at when choosing a site to build.

Just ask the City of Pontiac how important it is to work with businesses to give them the best deal possible. In a few years, the once-mighty Pontiac Silverdome will be an empty tax burden because Detroit lured the Lions back downtown with economic incentives.

The Metro West Industrial Park and Plymouth Oaks Business Park have played an important role in attracting high-tech businesses to the community. These businesses have brought with them good, high-paying jobs for people in the community.

Tax abatements in Plymouth Township generally have been granted for a five-year period. There is no doubt — we lose tax revenue for that period. But it's a net gain for the community when the tax abatement expires. Not only are the jobs still there, the taxes start flowing (assuming an extension is not granted).

By refusing the industrial development district request, the members voting against the measure are sending the wrong signal to businesses: that their move to Plymouth Township won't be easy.

Plymouth art for heroes, couches

The wolves stood in the midst of a snow storm, gathering their bearings — trying to catch the scent of the next meal on the run, looking a bit forlorn and slightly surprised at your presence. You can feel the snow covering your head as the heat slowly leaves you alone with them.

In the next moment you are surrounded by waist high wildflowers in what feels like your own garden. The colors and textures are overwhelming in the brilliant sun — you are moved by the beauty, and yet you can't find the words to describe your feelings.

Standing a few steps from the edge, you feel as though you're the last person in the world — and yet you're not afraid. The wind is persistent as it blows up the cliff and about your head, and yet you are not cold. The salt has penetrated your person, the mist from the brewing waves below having coated you in a mood. How can you help feeling heroic in a place like this where the rocks press out from the earth, jagged and foreboding, yet quite comforting in a way that disturbs you?

The Plymouth Community Arts Council welcomes you to their Art Rental Gallery, where the images range from contemplative oil

The Abstract

By Stephanie Everitt-Kirkbride

paintings to the fanciful bronze sculpture that greets you at the door.

Visiting their new building for the first time, I was quite impressed. From the large windows the light makes every pore of the building feel inspiring. It was a peaceful place the day we visited. Classes were going on, students thoughtfully working at perfecting their skills. The auditorium tentative: expecting its next performance.

The gallery, however, is a terrific feature without the other components. There is a large wall that displays a wide variety of sizes, subjects of two-dimensional media, and a second wall that contains several wall-mounted racks you can turn to view the other selections. The lighting is soft in the room, allowing you space with the art — after all, when you are choosing a piece for your home with such a wide variety, and the importance of your choice at stake, you want to feel comfortable.

At \$6 per month for most works and \$2 for smaller pieces, it is hard to understand why any one would not rent the artwork. The pieces can be kept for two months at a time and then must be returned for a new selection. So, impress your friends with your taste and your support of a regional artist — you now have a new excuse for a dinner party! Proceeds from the rental and sale of the pictures go to support PCAC programs.

Mark in your planners, or make a mental note to go see what the Arts Council has been up to, and should your mood be right, let a work pull you in for a few moments. Bring a sofa cushion if you'd like. Yes, even if you're one of the sort that likes to have their art match their sofa, I won't tell.

The Art Rental Gallery is open every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. You can find it within the PCAC building at 774 N. Sheldon Road at Junction in Plymouth. For more information, call the Council at 416-4278.

Temple traffic: congested congregation

EDITOR:

I am writing this to you in regard to the traffic problem with the new Temple Baptist Church building at Ridge and North Territorial roads.

I, along with four neighbors, have driveways that face Ridge Road. Last Sunday I stood and watched for 24 minutes as the traffic leaving Temple Baptist blocked my driveway and those of my neighbors. A sign at the church's Ridge road exit would not allow right turns.

Who made this decision? Ridge Road is a county road; does the Township have the right to dictate which way to turn on a county road? Who made the decision, and who has the authority? Now, all of the traffic is congregating at Ridge and North Territorial.

The decision makes no sense. The church had to pay their share to have Ridge Road paved, and now they can't even use all of their property. There is no reason for the sign other than the people in the subdivisions south of the church don't want all the traffic driving by through their subdivisions. Ridge Road should be opened to everyone.

I have no problems with the church. It's a lot nicer for my house to have it there than a bunch of houses. Houses would mean traffic everyday. But with baseball fields and a concert hall going up on the corner, soon traffic will not just be a Sunday problem. If I want to leave my house and go to the corner store, I don't want to have to wait in line to get back into my driveway.

I think the traffic situation could be alleviated by taking down the "no right turn" sign and putting "no thru traffic" signs in front of the subdivisions. It may not be a perfect solution, but it will spread the traffic out and ease the congestion at the Ridge/North Territorial corner.

EDWARD KENYON

The Community Crier

THE NEWSPAPER WITH ITS HEART IN THE PLYMOUTH-CANTON COMMUNITY



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- Air Conditioning
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- Vehicle Assist Power Steering
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- Air Filtration System
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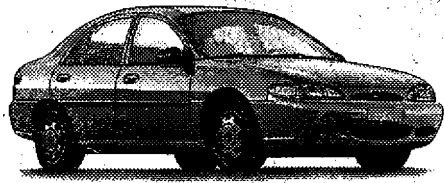


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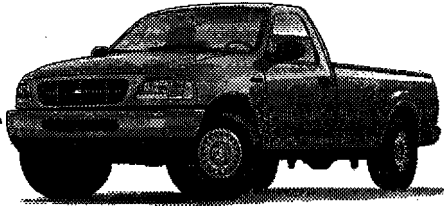


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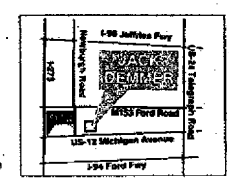
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