

Farmington Observer

Volume 90 Number 17

Thursday, December 14, 1978

Farmington, Michigan

8 Pages

Twenty-Five Cents

Finalists vie for Hills city manager seat

By STEVE BARNABY

Farmington editor

Farmington Hills residents got their first glimpse at the two finalists for the city manager position, vacated last August by George Majors.

Interviewed at Monday night's council session were Lawrence Savage, 54, of Traverse City and Charles Hetrick, 46, of Volusia County, Fla.

Savage has been Traverse City city manager for the past 14 years. Hetrick is assistant county manager in Volusia County.

The two candidates were selected from among 64 applicants from 23 states, according to Don Oakes, governmental affairs consultant, who was hired by the city council to seek out candidates.

Savage, a graduate of Northwestern University, attended the University of

Michigan law school for one year before transferring to that university's institute of public administration. He also has been a city manager in Cheyongton and Grosse Pointe.

Other credentials held by Savage include the past presidency of the Michigan Chapter of the International City Manager Association, a trustee of the Michigan Municipal League as well as a member of that group's legislative committee.

Hetrick, also a graduate of the University of Michigan, holds a masters degree in public administration. He served as an assistant city manager in Park Ridge Ill. for 12 years, has worked in private industry and was the head of the Ft. Worth Chamber of Commerce. He spent one year as a management consultant in San Francisco.

Both candidates were interviewed by council members. Written ques-

tions were fielded from the audience.

Hetrick stressed that he believed in working through and with others and labeled himself as a team manager.

"I'm a systems oriented manager. I want to serve as a general manager. I'm not oriented toward any one thing," he said.

Savage, on the other hand, said his main interests lay in the fields of public works and finance and says that he hasn't formulated any specific management style.

"I like to stay very close to my

department heads. It's important that we know one another's problems," he told the council.

"I believe the success of the city manager-council form of government depends on the relationship between the manager and council," he said.

Savage vowed to maintain close communication with the council if he is chosen for the position.

Although Hetrick has served the majority of his public service outside Michigan, he says that the important ingredient he can bring to Farmington

Hills is a "management system" which will bring the best results.

He acknowledged that because his experience is outside of Michigan, it would take some time to learn state governmental regulations.

Savage said that coming from Michigan would be an advantage for him if he was selected for the job.

"I would find it difficult moving to another state," he said.

Both candidates treated the issue of potential disagreement with a city council as an important problem.

"It's not a good practice for a city manager to recommend public policy," said Hetrick. "I would rather present a series of alternatives as well as the cost factors involved to the council."

Savage would take a slightly different tack.

"If he (a city manager) knows a council is opposed to a program, he should step lightly," said Savage.

The city council will make the final selection at next week's council session.

Study proves boys dominate school sports

(This is the second in a two-part series examining benefits for male and female athletes and the progression of female sports in the Farmington Public Schools.)

Though federal regulations have forced public schools to grant equal opportunity to female athletes, studies indicate that high school sports in Farmington are still dominated by males.

A study released by Athletic Director Jack Cotton last January shows that nearly 300 more boys participated in high school sports than girls last year.

The ratio, 823 boys to 529 girls, excludes 37 students on cross country running teams. Cross country is the only coed sport offered at Farmington, North Farmington and Harrison high schools.

FOR THE 26 all-male teams, \$15,256 was spent by the district for salary, equipment, officials and other expenses. For the same fall, winter and spring athletic program, \$68,580 was spent to equip the 24 all-female teams while \$6,129 was spent on cross country.

"You can't measure expenses by looking at figures for just one year," Cotton said. "To get a more accurate reading, you'd have to look at figures for about three years. Some teams might have new uniforms one year, but not the next."

The comprehensive study Cotton compiled in January was the first of its kind. It shows that boys can choose from a field of 10 sports, girls from eight. Football, wrestling and golf (at a combined cost of \$65,621) are offered just to boys. Volleyball (\$10,848) is offered exclusively to girls.

At all three high schools, boys and girls can choose from basketball,

swimming, tennis, baseball or softball, and track. In each case, more money was spent equipping boys teams than girls.

A \$5,000 difference in girls and boys track and boys baseball—girls softball teams existed.

Lynn Nutter, assistant superintendent of finance, could not explain the cost variance.

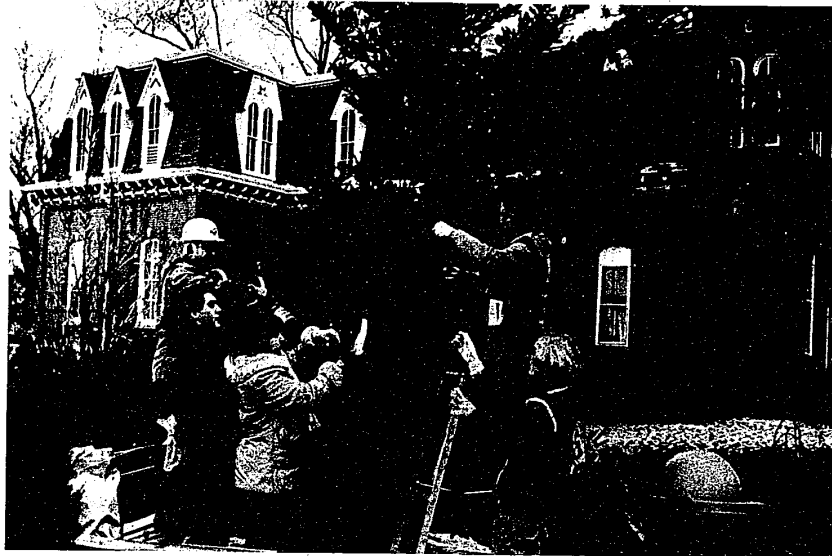
NORTH FARMINGTON OFFERS boys' gymnastics (\$2,980) and Farmington offers boys' soccer (\$1,500). These two sports are offered to girls at all three schools for \$13,847.

Boys' sports comprise the five most expensive teams in the district. They are the football teams at all three schools, basketball and wrestling at North Farmington. Of the 20 most expensive teams, only six are girls.

Nutter said that girls athletics began to blossom in the district during the late 1960's. Farmington was a part of the Northwest Suburban League and had girls' teams in track, volleyball, gymnastics and tennis.

Soccer, swimming and softball came later, with basketball the most recent addition two years ago. Nutter said there is not a girls' golf team "because there is not a driving interest. Also it's a matter of finances."

State-mandated requirements for equal opportunity in athletic and physical education were implemented through Title IX in 1972. Cotton said the act helped turn around the girls' sports department in the district. While Title IX states "School districts must not discriminate on the basis of sex in the provision of necessary equipment, supplies, and facilities," it also says that equal expenditures for male and female teams are not required.



Oh, Tannenbaum

Some Farmington residents got together recently to decorate the Christmas Tree in front of the Masonic Temple at Grand River and Farmington. They are (from left) Norm Goers, Tom Duke,

Jackie Steurer, Bob Rock and Joanne McShane. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Mercy Polish class delighted

Pope answers students' letter

By MARY GUNIEWEK

When Karol Cardinal Wojtyla, Archbishop of Krakow, was invested as Pope John Paul II last October, he had a half dozen fans at Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington cheering him on.

The group was Mrs. Raya Czerkasski's Polish language class. When the official ceremony was over, the girls decided to let the new Pope know how they felt about his elevation to the highest seat in the Roman Catholic Church.

THEY WROTE HIM a congratulatory letter in his native tongue. Mrs. Czerkasski corrected the grammar, circled the finished product for signatures and mailed it to Rome.

Last week, much to the teacher's surprise and delight, she received a letter of response from the Pope.

It was written in Polish on official Vatican stationery and signed in his own hand. A picture with a personal note written in Latin was included.

The response was more than the teacher expected. Other staffers in the Language Department say that Mrs. Czerkasski literally jumped for joy when she received the letter.

"I WAS SO thrilled. To think the Pope took time to answer our letter when he must receive thousands of letters," said Mrs. Czerkasski.

The letter, in part, said, "Thank you for your kind letter in which you expressed joy at my elevation to the Throne of Peter. The Pope loves you, they are the hope of the Church."

The pontiff asked the class to "spread justice and peace in a contemporary world. To give brave testimony to Christian belief in your whole lives."

The pope also extended an apostolic blessing.

The Latin phrase on the back of his color picture said "All Yours." Mrs. Czerkasski reasoned that it must have been penned in Latin, the official language of the Church,



Discussing the letter they received from Pope John Paul II are members of the Mercy High School Polish class. (From left) Judi Sheridan, Ann MacIntyre,

Christine Savage, Colleen Kaminski, Janet Kietlowicz, Michelle Fisher and teacher Raya Czerkasski.

because there is no comparable phrase in Polish.

"THE GIRLS WANTED to write the letter because they were proud that a Polish Pope was elected. Of course, I was excited, too. I know the city of Krakow."

THE POLISH CLASS, which meets in the school library, is a non-credit elective because of its small size.

"My students are enthusiastic. They're a great class. Every day, they would ask me if I got a letter of response from the Pope. They were so confident he would answer."

The girls explained what they wrote in their letter.

"It was a letter of congratulations, mainly," said Judi Sheridan.

They also told him they were studying Polish, that Mercy was a progressive school, and that they hoped he would be a Pope for all people.

Airplane lands on area freeway

A pilot of a four-passenger Cessna airplane chose I-75 in Troy for his landing strip last Sunday morning, forcing motorists to clear the road.

Pilot George Nanney, 39, of Farmington Hills, rented the plane from Big Beaver Airport about 10:30 a.m. He had planned to fly his wife, his wife's brother and sister-in-law to breakfast at the St. Clair Inn, a restaurant in St. Clair.

Shortly after he took off, he decided to return to the airport because of poor visibility. According to Sgt. Ronald Ricker of the Michigan State Police, Nanney started descending for a landing approach when his engine quit. Ricker said Nanney was losing altitude too fast to get into the airport, so he landed on the freeway. He touched down on the northbound lane east of Rochester Road.

None of the passengers or motorists were injured. Airport owner Anna Main said a motorist saw the plane landing, pulled over to the side of the road and directed traffic away from the aircraft.

Accompanied by a police escort, Mr.

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FURNITURE MART

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