

Leading singing group

Continued from Page 2A

to talk about "the special rapport" between him and these 70 women.

THE WEEKEND after they won their silver medals, the rapport was evident.

Jim and his wife, returning from a short vacation in Florida, were delayed 2 1/2 hours in landing. At 2:30 a.m. the weary couple stepped off the plane and found 30 members of the Sweet Adelines singing and holding banners which read, "We love you. From your No. 1 chorus."

"It's a kind of magnetism we have for each other," Jim tried to explain.

Whatever it is, it works. Jim added that as their new director, his "number one goal was to have a fun and winning chorus."

This group works hard, Jim explained, and they know how to separate work from play.

"He sends them all home with work. Tells them to practice their breathing exercises every day and learn the notes. Wants them to have it perfect by the next week," Craig teased.

Women between the ages of 16-100 interested in joining the group, can call Barb Jerolamian at 425-5475.

For booking information, call business manager Julie Thompson at 420-0855.

"Craig practically lives at Riverside (a skating rink in Livonia)," his father joked.

Not only is Craig a winner at singing and skating, but he finds time to work at Pritchard Heating and Air Conditioning in Livonia.

But when someone is booked on "barbershopping," he needs to work. Aside from plane fare, room, and food expenses when they perform out of town, there are costume expenses. The Pollards estimate that they spend at least \$1,000 a year for their hobby.

The Sweet Adelines have to raise \$35,000 to go to the international competition next year. Already, they've been booked for Farmington's Founder's Day Festival and the Henry Ford Auditorium. But they need more bookings to make their goal.

And it's worth every penny and all the hard work, say the Pollards.

"You meet such wonderful people in 'barbershopping,'" his mother said.

His father enjoys it because it's "a complete escape. We rarely talk about our jobs because we're too busy singing." It's an activity, he added that "appeals to everybody."

Jim is proud of the chorus and loves

obituaries

JOHN SCHOENFELDT

Mr. Schoenfeldt, 68, of Livonia died April 16 in St Mary Hospital, Livonia.

Survivors include his wife, Helen; two daughters, Judith Rivers and Susan Stanley; sister; Dorothy Kyle; three grandchildren.

Services were April 20 at Sawyer-Fuller Funeral Home, Berkley. Burial was in Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens, Novi.

LEO SAARELA

Mr. Saarela, 84, of Farmington died April 18 in Dorvin Nursing Center, Livonia.

He was retired from the Ford Motor Co. He served with the Coast Guard during World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Hilda; daughters, Mary Elizabeth Kariniemi, Ann Louise Haalaja and Eva Jean Saarela; sons, Leo, Earl, Wayne, Donald and Marvin; 39 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.

Services April 21 were at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home and First Apostolic Lutheran Church, Farmington, with the Rev. Raymond Tulkki officiating. Burial was in White Chapel Cemetery, Troy.

Memorials may be sent to First Apostolic Lutheran Church, 26325 Halstead Road, Farmington Hills 48018.

JOHN GEISLER

Mr. Geisler, 42, of Farmington Hills died April 19 in University Hospital, Ann Arbor.

He was a development engineer at Ford Motor Co.

Survivors include his wife, Freida; mother, Beatrice Beat; daughter, Mary; son, Daniel; sister, Joanne Santa.

Services were April 22 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home and the First United Methodist Church, Farmington, with the Rev. Charles Beynon officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Memorial Cemetery, Livonia.

Memorials may be sent to the Michigan Cancer Society.

Road builders endorse tax relief proposal

The Michigan Road Builders Association has endorsed the property tax relief plan that will be on the May 19 statewide ballot.

"The MRBA recognizes the need for property tax relief in Michigan and, after carefully analyzing the proposal, we are convinced that it will give

meaningful property tax relief to all home and farm property owners," says Lawrence Martin, executive director of the MRBA.

Martin says that, if passed by Michigan voters, the tax relief proposal will not directly benefit the roadbuilding industry because it does not provide needed tax relief for small businesses. "We are confident, though, that the

state Legislature recognizes the tax burden carried by small businesses and hopefully will provide tax relief in the future," says Martin.

The property tax relief plan will provide \$1.2 billion in property tax relief (maximum is \$1,400 per household) and limit increases in property assessments to 6 percent.

Doctor grows orchids

Continued from Page 3A

"Some people buy a seedling and throw it out when it doesn't bloom. They don't realize that a seedling takes about four or five years to bloom," he said.

Even Wagner's vast collection of orchids of various shapes and colors is only a sampling. There are 50,000 different types of orchids.

He expands his collection by splitting mature plants with other members of the orchid society.

Though most orchids grow in the equatorial belt, some grow as far north as Alaska.

Wagner's tips to novice orchid growers: Start out with big plants, since small ones may not bloom for

five years. And read all you can about orchids.

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