



Artsy: Above, young actors prepare for their play "The Three Little Pigs Learn a Lesson." Left, Stacey Wallis paints her snake sculpture. Right, Saxophonists Michael Burkmyre and Brad Griffin practice in band class.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL DREZNER

Kids share love of fine arts at Dunckel camp

BY CARA PLOWMAN
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Anyone who walked through O.E. Dunckel Middle School during the past few weeks was both entertained and impressed.

The school hosted a summer fine arts camp for kids, which wrapped up Friday. Children attended five classes a day. Although mathematics and English weren't being taught, they did learn about acting, music and art.

The classes varied from theater to sculpting to dance. The camp ran July 9-20, five days a week.

Instructional music teacher Randy Barber taught a dozen kids how to play *Festival March* during one hot after-

noon last week. At the same time, art teacher Lorrie Love was watching kids finish their sculpted snakes, dragons and other creatures.

For the past few weeks, the kids have been constructing papier maché critters during the hour-long session.

Love used to participate in the Ann Arbor Arts Fair but chose to go to camp instead. "I gave it up to teach this sculpture class and I'm really enjoying it... They've been very creative with the colors they're using."

Towards the back of the school is the stage area. There, a troupe of youngsters work on a play during Laurie Smalls' class. The play, which Smalls wrote, is called "Three Little Pigs Learn a Lesson." The comedy is a mix of dif-

ferent fairy tales and is loosely based on familiar story lines like Snow White, Cinderella and Little Red Riding Hood.

Mariasa Baranowski, who acted as "Grandma" in the play, cartwheeled onto the stage, a feat many real grandmas would have a hard time doing. Baranowski, 11, said she was enjoying her part because of the gymnastics.

Soneka Anderson, 10, had a leading role as one of the three pigs in the play. The role had a twist, though; she also played "Grumpy," a role from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

Smalls shouted out reminders as she watched the kids do a run through of the play. "This is the hammiest class," she joked.

The kids performed the play for their

parents Friday.

One of the camp directors, Larry Detter, floats around to each classroom with a small video camera, trying to capture as much excitement as he can.

Detter played two roles during the camp. In addition to being a camp supervisor, he also teaches the band classes with Barber.

One of Detter's students, Stephen Wakefield, 13, who plays trombone and cornet said he appreciates his teacher. "He's very helpful. If you're having trouble, he'll help you out."

There were other classes available at the camp, such as ceramics, choir, computers, drawing and painting and music/video production.

Laptop burglary suspect arraigned

BY KEVIN BROWN
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A laptop bandit suspected in 26 commercial break-ins in Farmington Hills was in the Oakland County Jail on Friday. Following the arrest of Jesse Seaton, 41, on Wednesday in Detroit, a not-guilty plea was entered on his behalf Thursday by 47th District Judge Frederick Harris. Seaton has been charged with two counts of breaking and entering in connection with two July 13 thefts.

Seaton was arrested after police learned his identity from surveillance cameras installed in businesses located on Orchard Lake Road between 12 and 14 Mile roads.

Seaton faces a maximum 20-year sentence on the charges. He was lodged in jail on a \$1 million bond, and faces a preliminary exam on the charges at 8:30 a.m. Friday before Judge Harris.

This latest case involving a serial laptop computer thief sparked an open letter from Hills Police Chief William Dwyer to business owners.

"Forewarned is forearmed," Dwyer wrote in the July 19 letter. He urged business people to secure laptop computers out of sight, and to secure desktop equipment to desks with a proper locking device.

He also urged business people to ensure that businesses are lighted inside and outside, including hallways. Dwyer said blinds should be open "so activity inside would be visible to the police."

He also urged business people to report suspicious persons and activities to police and to contact a reputable alarm company and have an alarm system installed.

Businesses are invited to contact the Farmington Hills Police Crime Prevention Section during business hours at (248) 473-9640 to schedule a free security survey.

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