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The junior high gym was hot, like it's been on six or seven other June nights in the last few years. The tables there were crowded, as in other years on pop concert night, the young waitresses a bit flustered and the decorations taped to the gym walls a bit unstable.

But this year there was hardly a complaint, not even about the heat. This pop concert was different from those that had preceded it. It was the very last one in the junior high school that's located a block from our house and has been home-away-from-home for each of our four girls for three years of her life.

Many families will feel more lonely than we do the closing of the school. Our youngest is ready for high school now, so it would have been her last concert there anyway.

BUT THAT DIDN'T slow down her tears, or, for that matter, change much the ones that were not too far from the surface for her mother.

Working on a newspaper that covers several communities, I've watched a number of other school closings. I've written and read of parent protests, and felt they had to be an exercise in futility.

Neighborhood change, even in our suburbs, and populations shift, so that the operation of an old school becomes uneconomical.

All this I accept because it's the practical view. But I've also learned this spring, you don't feel like being practical when it's the school down the street that is closing.

THE YOUNG MUSICIANS and their leaders outlined themselves to produce a memorable final program.

The band, which for years has played like at least a high school aggregation, earned a standing ovation even before the end of the program, and the orchestra and choir were the best I've heard at the school.

The conductor referred to a last harbinger.

for the lack of population explosion in our parts, and got a muted laugh when he suggested ruefully that the school wouldn't be closing "if you parents had kept up your job."

And when a couple hundred musicians joined in the school song to end the program, everyone agreed it was a fitting finish.

OUR DAUGHTER will be glad to get to high school. Her friends and the younger children in our neighborhood will have a much newer junior high to attend.

The staff will scatter, but many will still be around, and there will be other fine bands and pop concerts.

Somewhere along the line, we heard there was a possibility that the elementary school our girls attended also might close.

"My heritage—all going!" one of them wailed.

Not at all. The heritage remains, and we're lucky it's been such a good one.

MARGARET MILLER

## YM sprints into summer

The Farmington YMCA will have summer instruction in swimming, tennis, horseback riding, golf, trampolines, health yoga and ballet during the next month.

All levels of swimming will be taught in five two-week sessions starting June 14. Classes, coordinated by Ray Silvers, will be held at 16 community pools. Participants in the 16 classes will be guaranteed a minimum of eight lessons per session.

Tennis lessons will be given at three locations: Harrison High School (6-8 p.m.), Oakland Community College (5-7 p.m.) and a 15-day tennis camp at the Court House Racquet Club.

Four three-week tennis sessions are offered starting June 14 and the times available are 9 a.m. to noon or 1-4 p.m. Under the direction of Bill Thomas, head professional, the coed students (age 8-16) will have a written analysis of basic strokes and emphasis will be placed on those weak areas.

The YM will offer horseback riding instruction for six weeks beginning June 22. Mrs. Thelma Williams, professional instructor at Crystal Valley Farms, will teach a beginning and advance beginning class.

Crystal Valley is in the Brighton area and is equipped with an outdoor arena. It is about 20 minutes driving time from Farmington. English riding lessons will be limited to five students of all ages.

Don O'Keefe of Ferris State College will give golf lessons at the Top of the Tee golf range. They will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays for three weeks starting June 21.

Coed trampolines classes for ages 4-12 will meet Monday through Friday, one hour, for two weeks.

Health yoga and ballet lessons will be given at the YM's air conditioned building, 2810 Farmington Road. Three four-week sessions will be offered starting June 14. Ballet lessons also are being offered for two sessions with a special evening class.

The YM limits class size to insure quality. Register information is available by calling the YMCA, 674-3222.

## Woman given scholarship

Susan Stando, 3418 Northwick, Farmington Hill, was one of four University of Michigan architecture students to receive an American Institute of Architects (AIA) scholarship.

She is working for the professional master of architecture degree.

The AIA scholarships are given annually on the basis of academic achievement and financial need. The U-M College of Architecture and Urban Planning was one of only seven schools whose nominees all were chosen to receive scholarships.

the chair that breaks its back to make you comfortable (and swivels, too!)

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