Patty Jackson swings to the music. The Farmington High School senior has been taking tap dancing lessons for $11\,$ years.

Dancing's left the streets, for a return to the studios

By LOUISE ORRUTSKY
On the crowded floor of the darkened disco, dancers unwind and stretch toward the strobe lights with the lazy intensity of nightcrawlers needing, the glare of a fisherman's flashlight.

They're caught in the patterns of light and the net of the music's back beat as they follow through the motions of the latest dance steps.

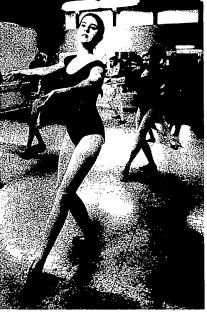
Across town in well-lift, quiet studios, dancers are perfecting their understanding of ballet's movements. Still others prefer to sound off their steps via the clickety-clack of larg shoes pounding out time on a dance board on the still others prefer to sound off their steps via the clickety-clack of larg shoes pounding out time on a dance board on. In clubs and paut funce pattern. In clubs and paut funce pattern. In clubs and paut funce pattern. Three years ago. Jack Barnes, a West Bloomfield dance instructor who has students from the Farmington area, was accustomed to sée the 30 and over crowd taking fox trot, chacha and rhumba lessons. After the movie "Saturday Night Fever"

hoofers.

INSTEAD of tripping through the light fantastic, the new wave of dance floor dreamers are trying to hustle their way to stardom. Fred Astaire and Ginger flogers have been replaced by the flip and fancy image of John Travolla taking over the dance floor. "This week we signed up 120 people in our Troy studio and 69-70 in our West Bloomfield studio." Barnes said.

"Saturday Night Fever" is one of several influences of the dance revival.
"The boom is here," he said. "There's dance not levelvision, in commercials, in titles. It's everywhere."
The revival has manifested itself through the discoss located throughout the suburbs. Disco regulars have a chance to size up the newest trends and try them out via dance lessons switch spots like Southfield's Trio sponsor on the weekends.

(Continued on page 12A)



Jean Jambis concentrates on her movements as she listens to Evelyn Kreason's directions during a ballet lesson. (Staff photos by Harry Mauthe)



Virginia Dickerman leads one of her adult tap dance classes in a rousing routine set to music from "Silent Movie."



Laura Peters takes a nap before resuming her ballet lessons at Evelyn Kreason's school in Farmington Hills.

High school moves change, Friday nights remain

There was a period a few years ago when high school dances were about as popular as skinny ties and full skirts.

A quick visit to a recent dance at Farmington High School showed that will be tenagers aren't returning to the narrow ties and ballooning skirts the fashion industry again is pushing, they are returning to high school at night for gymnasium dances in greater numbers.

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And dancing appears to be gaining some popularity with the under-18 set as well.

"The Return of Sly Dog", was the title the senior class bestowed on a recent Friday night dance, which celebrated the return of a popular band which played at the school's home-coming dance.

The sverage adult observing the dance scene would probably be surprized to discover that things really baven't changed all that much. Most of the teens arrived in gender-segregated packs, while a few devoted couples sidled in arm-in-arm and displayed that scornful intolerance of the unmatched around them.

Blue jeans, in various stages of dis-

Blue jeans, in various stages of dis-repair, were the standard uniform of the crowd, which swiftly passed by two Farmington patrolimen stationed outside the darkened gym. Someone requires that two officers be present, although no one was quite

sure who required their presence, says Martin Schwartz, class president. The senior class had to pay \$20 to each offi-cer, however, Schwartz says.

cer, however, Schwartz says.

A TYPICAL dance used to start with very few on the dance floor, while the majority energized by scanning the crowd for partners. This dance followed that format with one exception—the women were more overt about looking for a partner and bolder when it came to finding one. Most female teangers today have few compunctions about asking a male to dance. Schwartz says, a refreshing change from the wallflower wait females were forced to endure in the past.

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Square dance clubs are attracting both young and old converts to the their style of dancing.

