

Skywatch

September's harvest moon shines on

By KENNETH WILSON
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Observatory Reporter

September brings the end of vacation, beginning of school, longer nights for sky watching and specials: the autumnal equinox and the harvest moon.

The day the sun crosses the celestial equator from northern to southern hemisphere is called the autumnal equinox. On

this day—at 5:38 p.m., Sept. 22—day and night are of equal length and autumn officially begins for the northern hemisphere.

What makes the harvest moon so special is that the full moon near the autumnal equinox seem to rise about the same time several nights in a row. This is due to the fact that the orbit of the moon around the earth is slightly tilted to the earth's equator, causing the ap-

pearance of moons rising at the same

time. Just after sunset, Venus will be low in the western sky. On Sept. 25 the crescent moon will be very close to Venus.

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crown. And, east of Corona Borealis is Hercules, the famous strongman of old.

ALMOST OVERHEAD will be the bright, blue-white star Vega in the constellation Lyra, the harp. Northeast of Vega is the cross-shaped constellation called Cygnus, the swan, with as bright star Deneb.

Southeast of Cygnus lies Aquila, the eagle, which contains the bright star Altair. Languishing in the low southern sky is Sagittarius, the archer, whose principle star forms the point of the teardrop. Up in the east will be four prominent stars in a square or diamond shape that form the body of the flying horse Pegasus. North of the square of Pegasus lies a double row of stars that mark Andromeda, the princess.

Finally, the bright star Capella, the goat star, can be found low in the northeast along with four other stars in the shape of a pentagon that forms the constellation Auriga, the charioteer.

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BANK SALE IN OFFING?

The financially-troubled National Bank of Southfield (NBS) may be purchased by Manufacturers National Corp., holding company for Manufacturers National Bank of N.Y. NBS president William Henry said earlier this week: "We're negotiating that's all," and refused to comment further. Sources say that the deal is expected to be complete by early September and may be finalized at a stockholders' meeting. The Milwaukee office headquarters which houses the NBS Financial Corp. as well as outside tenants.

ROCHESTER SUPERINTENDENT

After three months of interviewing, the Rochester Board of Education has selected Edwin W. Crandell of Somerset, N.J. for the superintendent. The announcement of Crandell's appointment was made by board president John Silverson at a Monday meeting.

Crandell, a Detroit native and former Birmingham school principal, signed a three-year contract at a Monday luncheon. Final approval is expected Aug. 30 at the board's regular meeting.

Crandell, an experienced administrative ex-

perienced, serving most recently as super-

intendent of the Franklin Township Public

School District in New Jersey. He spent 10

previous years as assistant and deputy su-

perintendent in New Haven, Conn.

Crandell was chosen from an original field of 80 candidates from across the coun-

try. After reviewing qualifications and cre-

dentials, the board narrowed the field to 13. Four applicants were further screened,

and Crandell was the final unanimous choice.

ROCHESTER SUPERINTENDENT

Crandell, who received his bachelor's and master's and doctorate at Wayne State University, will take the \$30,000 a year post effective Nov. 1. He succeeds former superintendent Richard Escott, who resigned June 30 to become superintendent of the Jack O'Neil School District.

BIRMINGHAM OFFICIAL TO RETIRE

Asst. City Mgr. John F. Saeke announced his retirement Monday after nearly 15 years of Birmingham public service.

In a letter given to City Mgr. Robert Kenning, Saeke requested that his retirement take effect Dec. 7. Counting accrued vacation time, Saeke will be eligible for city retirement benefits at that time.

Saeke, 61, asked why he decided to retire. "I made up my mind to look for a job with less pressure," Saeke was in the military for 20 years before retiring in 1962.

TROY DISPUTE

Parents in the southeast section of Troy are debating whether a change in school district boundaries would mean better education for their children. Some parents want their section of Troy removed from the Warren Consolidated School District and placed in the Troy School District.

While they argue the community would benefit from closer ties to the City of Troy and better education, opponents say education in Warren is the way they want it.

Those who want the change say they don't want to leave the district they have supported financially and emotionally for many years. If the proponents are able to get 67 per cent support in a petition drive for the change, the matter will be decided by the Oakland Intermediate School District.

BONANZA

Some 4,700 Farmington Hills lot owners will be receiving a special assessment rebate from taxes paid between 1963-67. Because of lower than anticipated costs and a lower interest rate, the city has found itself with a surplus of \$1.2 million. Once a requested recount has been completed,

The petition for recount was filed Monday, minutes after dismissal of a suit which sought to have the August election declared void and a new election scheduled.

The suit was dismissed by Oakland Circuit Court Judge Frederick Ziem, who ruled the newly elected council could be sworn in "without prejudice."

NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUE

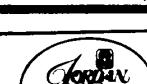
Progress on non-economic issues has been made during daily 12-hour bargaining talks between West Bloomfield school board and the teachers' West Bloomfield Education Association.

Progress came despite a call for mediation last week by teachers' union negotiators.

Neither side is optimistic that the entire contract can be settled before teachers report to work Monday. At the same time, there has been no apparent movement toward a teacher strike.

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