

# Rocks and Brooms

## Old-time pastime relived on Orchard Lake



Curling, a winter sport using brooms and rocks, was first played on Orchard Lake in the 1830s and was a favorite pastime of Scotch settlers of the area. In 1831, the first curling club in the United States was organized by those Scotchmen and played regularly on the lake.

The origin of the game is a bit vague, but historians know that evidence of it appeared in Scotland in the early 16th century as a curling stone bearing the date of 1511 was unearthed near Stirling.

In the United States, curling came across from Canada, and the first association, the Grand National Curling Club of America, is still in operation along with scores of other groups in Troy, Birmingham and Detroit, to name a few.

Old-time stones were made from hickory wood and the game was more or less a social time activity for those participating in the "manly Scottish exercise," as Sir Walter Scott referred to it.

The Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society relived that little-known game recently on Orchard Lake and members of the society demonstrated how the game is played. The stones used were made of solid granite as Rose Nallas (right) gets some expert advice on how to throw her stone from Frances Gadd of the society.

BELOW: Bob Gray is shown how to use the broom to create a smooth surface and suck the stone to the highest score possible.

LEFT: Gerry Bonneville, Dick Latam and Paul Hesse enjoy the wonders of their new-found outdoor sport.



### THE INSIDE \* ANGLE

**ALL CROSS COUNTRY** ski buffs, your big chance is here. The Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation department, in conjunction with the Benchmark, is sponsoring the Farmington Hills Nordic Classic, an open competitive cross country ski race at Glen Oaks Golf Course Sunday, Feb. 4.

The races will be divided into six divisions: Veterans 1 (40 years old and over); Veterans 2 (32 and over); Seniors (19-31); Juniors 1 (16-18); Juniors 2 (14-15); and Juniors 3 (12 & 13). Each division will have male and female and novice and experienced classifications. The registration fee is \$3 per contestant.

Prizes will be awarded for the top three finishers in each category. The length of the race will vary with the classification.

Glen Oaks Golf Course is located on 13 Mile between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake. Experienced races will begin at 11 a.m., with the novice races starting at 2 p.m. For more information, call the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department at 474-6115.

**THREE FARMINGTON YOUTHS** were among the 15 residents of the 17th District nominated by Congressman William Brodhead to the Army, Navy, and Air Force academies for the Class of 1983.

Michael W. Thompson, of North Farmington High School, received Brodhead's recommendation to attend the U.S. Military Academy, while Cheryn R. Brown of Farmington Harrison High School and Charles B. Milliken of Farmington High School both received recommendations to attend either the Air Force or Naval academies.

Their names will now be submitted to the various academies, which will review their qualifications before making a final determination.

#### HAVE SOMETHING TO DISPLAY?

The Farmington Area Arts Commission invites Farmington residents to submit such items as collections, handiworks, historic mementoes, and other objects of general interest for display in a showcase located in the lobby of the Farmington Hills city offices.

The material in the showcase will be changed every month. The Farmington Area Arts Commission reserves the right of final approval regarding appropriateness of display.

Inquiries should be directed to John Glick at 476-4875, or Joyce O'Brien at 478-4851. If mailed, please send to: FAAC, 31555 Eleven Mile, Farmington Hills 48018.

#### EASTERN EUROPEAN FOLK

DANCES will be the main attraction when the Slavic Folk Ensemble performs at Madonna College in Livonia on Feb. 4.

The group has traveled to Poland and Yugoslavia performing and gathering new dances. Their

program will include two hours of folk dances from Slavic countries such as Macedonia, Bulgaria, Russia, Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia, Ukraine, and the Eastern European countries of Moldova and Romania.

Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children, senior citizens, and students. Madonna College is located on the corner of Schoolcraft and Leyan Rds.

**PROSPECTIVE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS** who are interested in attending the Academy of the Sacred Heart are invited to attend, with their parents, the school's fifth annual High School Admissions Night on Tuesday, Feb. 6.

Members of the faculty will explain the school philosophy, curriculum, activities, and answer all questions. Tours will also be conducted.

The Academy, located in Bloomfield Hills, educates 440 students of all faiths and socio-economic backgrounds from the entire metropolitan Detroit area, and is operated by the Religious Order of the Sacred Heart.

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. The Academy is located at 1250 Kensington Rd. Further information may be obtained by calling Mrs. Carol Kerr, director of admissions, at 645-8900.

**PROBLEMS SUCH AS** budgeting time or writing term papers or even studying for exams can be helped by attending the Study Skills Workshop at Madonna College on Wednesday, Jan. 31. There will be no charge for the workshop, which will be divided into three sections.

Students may register by calling 591-6331.

**THE FUTURE WILL BE** the topic when Mercy College of Detroit presents "Visions of Tomorrow," a multi-media program on future alternatives in energy, economics, and ecology, Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Sam Love, who helped found the National Center for Appropriate Technology and one of the national coordinators for Earth Day in 1970, will give the lecture.

The program will be held at Mercy College's Student Conference Center, 3200 W. Outer Drive at Southfield. For further information, call Pam Horne, director of Student Activities, at 531-7820, ext. 209.

#### DEADLINE

Material submitted for the Inside Angles, 22170 Nine Mile Rd., Southfield, 48034, should include the name and phone number of the sender and should be typewritten if possible. Items should be received at least one week before publication. All materials become the property of the Farmington Observer but any laughs will be open to the community.

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