

To strengthen weak spots

District plans to use state tests to improve courses

By MARY GNEWIEK

School administrators will use the results of 10th-grade state assessment tests to determine weak academic areas in the junior high program and needed remedial courses for high school sophomores.

Results of the 1979 Michigan Assessment Testing Program were presented to the Farmington Board of Education Tuesday.

For the first time, the test which has been administered to fourth- and seventh-grade students statewide since 1973 included 10th-graders in an assessment of math and reading skills. "Senior high principals need to get with junior highs to look at areas where attainment is not as it should be for 10th-graders," said James Nuttall, coordinator of testing for the Farmington Public Schools.

One math objective which caused sophomores problems last September was changing fractions to decimals. But overall, the sophomores scored

nearly 20 percent higher in math (68.7) than the state average of 49.8.

Tenth-grade reading skills in Farmington were 15 percent above the state average of 61 percent.

"We did test 10th-graders experimentally four years ago, but the test has changed so much that it's impossible to compare the results," said Norman Dickson, an assistant principal at North Farmington High.

"WE'RE USING the results in two areas at North," he continued. "We're

going back to the feeder school to find out what preventative measures can be taken in the junior highs.

"And we're talking to 10th-grade math teachers to find out what we can do about the problem areas."

The exam tests several math and reading objectives.

Nuttall said he will begin to study the results of individual students who were tested at the elementary, junior high, then senior high level to record their progress.

Parents will receive a copy of their

child's test results.

More than 200 bilingual students were included in the 1979 testing program, as were students with learning disabilities who spend at least half of their time in a regular classroom.

Nuttall pointed out that only seven fourth-graders out of 899 scored below 25 percent in math. Twenty-two of 951 seventh-graders were in the lowest range.

Farmington ranked sixth out of 28 school districts in Oakland County in 10th-grade math results.

"I applaud the district for bringing testing out of the closet," said Trustee Richard Wallace. "It's good to see testing used as a constructive guide to teaching."

AN ORAL SUMMARY of college admission exam results for Farmington high school students tested from 1976 through 1979 was also reported to the board Tuesday.

The report was prepared by a committee of high school counselors and presented by James Whitledge as a fol-

lowup to a five-year study which showed Farmington students at their lowest ebb in 1975-1976.

The study looked at the results of the American College Test and the Scholastic Aptitude Test, two standard tests for college admission.

Results of the ACT showed an increase each year since 1976, with mean scores above the state and national averages. SAT math scores decreased in 1976, then increased the following years. SAT verbal scores stabilized in 1976 and 1977, then increased slightly.

Flood ordinance adjusted to include Tarabusi Creek

Farmington will be required to amend its River Valley Ordinance to comply with a Federal Flood Insurance program, City Manager Robert Deadman reported this week.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has completed a flood insurance study for Farmington. Copies of the study and a flood insurance rate map were presented to the City Council Tuesday.

Areas designated as having the potential to flood along the upper branch of the Rouge River were nearly identical to areas identified by the city in 1963, when the River Valley Ordinance was passed.

Federal engineers included some property along the Tarabusi Creek in the Chatham Hills Subdivision. The majority of that property is located in a park system, as is the area along the Rouge. No buildings are planned for construction in areas identified as hav-

ing flood potential.

The study and map will be used to determine which parcels of property must acquire flood insurance prior to the granting of a federally insured mortgage.

"If Farmington continues to qualify for federal flood insurance, the city must adopt controls over flood-prone areas," Deadman explained.

"There are very few single family dwellings or commercial buildings that will be required to have flood insurance."

"THE REST of the city, even though not flood prone, may acquire flood insurance at an extremely reduced rate

because the rest of the city is designated as an area of minimal flooding."

The flood insurance doesn't insure against backup of sewer systems unless it's caused by a general flood.

All residents can purchase federal flood insurance.

"The need is questionable, but it's the occupant's choice," Deadman said.

The Valley View Condominiums are built in a flood plain, but that complex was built on stilts.

The area that abuts the Rouge in Farmington is called a 100 year flood plain, meaning it could flood once a century. Most of the plain is in the Farmington park system.



EARL SMITH

Bendix names new president

Earl Smith of Farmington Hills has joined the Bendix Corp. as president and general manager of Bendix Automotive of Canada Ltd.

Smith replaces L. Alan Winslow who has been named president and general manager of Toledo Stamping and Manufacturing Co.

Smith first joined Bendix in 1979 after serving as Windsor Division general manager of Kelsey-Hayes from 1977 to 1979. He had served as their plant manager at Romulus and vice president of quality assurance for their auto truck group 1967 to 1977.

He attended Lawrence Institute of Technology and pursued a master's degree in business administration at Michigan State University.

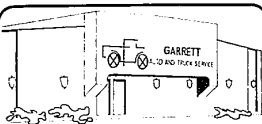
Farmington Observer

(USPS 187-840)

Published every Monday and Thursday by the Observer & Economic Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48150. Second-class Postage paid at Livonia, Michigan 48151. Address all mail (subscriptions, change of address, Form 3579) to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, Michigan 48151. Telephone 591-0500.

HOME DELIVERY SERVICE

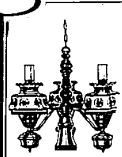
Newstand.....per copy, 25¢
Carrier.....monthly, \$1.50



Tune-up Complete Brake Service (Car and Truck) Complete Steering and Suspension Service (Car and Truck) Rebuild Engines Valve Jobs Rear Axle's Overhaul Standard Transmission Overhaul Complete Heating and Cooling Service Complete Modern Shop

Trained Mechanics Under Supervision

GARRETT AUTO AND TRUCK SERVICE 474-6026 24175 INDUSTRIAL PARK FARMINGTON HILLS State License #F 103388



LAMP SALE
Antique Brass finish, dark pine hardwood turnings

Reg. \$225
\$165



LAMPS SHOWN ARE ONLY A FEW OF THE QUOTED LAMPS ON SALE

Reg. \$179
\$135

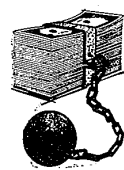


Ebenezer Furniture
31580 Grand River
Plaza of Farmington
Daily 10-5-30 477-4776
Mon.-Thurs.-Fri. 10-8-30

SENTENCE YOUR EARNINGS TO PLENTY OF HARD LABOR...

NEW 2 1/2 YEAR MONEY MARKET SAVINGS CERTIFICATE*

MINIMUM \$100 BALANCE Interest Continuously Compounded



This certificate pays interest on the average 2 1/2 year yield for United States Treasury Securities as determined by the United States Department of the Treasury. The interest rate on 2 1/2 Year Money Market Certificates is determined monthly by the Treasury Department. The rate in effect on the day the certificate is opened will remain in effect for the full 2 1/2 year term. Interest is continuously compounded on the most favorable basis possible, giving you the highest rate available on these certificates - 1 1/4% higher than banks can pay in February, the rate is 10.65% per annum, and with continuous compounding the effective annual yield is 11.402%.

26-WEEK MONEY MARKET CERTIFICATES*

The certificate's interest rate determined by the average auction rate (on a discount basis) for 26-week Treasury Bills. Federal regulations prohibit all financial institutions from compounding interest during the term of a 26-Week Money Market Certificate. If interest is compounded at the time of renewal. The interest rate on 26-Week Money Market Certificates is determined weekly. The rate in effect on the day the certificate is opened is the rate in effect for the full 26-week term. Call 474-7250 to obtain the current rate.

We will continue to offer these certificate savings also:

8%

ANNUAL RATE 26 MONTH CERTIFICATE SAVINGS \$100 MINIMUM YIELDS 8.24% ANNUALLY COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY

7 1/2%

ANNUAL RATE 48 MONTH CERTIFICATE SAVINGS \$100 MINIMUM YIELDS 7.72% ANNUALLY COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY

6 1/2%

ANNUAL RATE 12 MONTH CERTIFICATE SAVINGS \$100 MINIMUM YIELDS 6.6% ANNUALLY COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY

7 3/4%

ANNUAL RATE 24 MONTH CERTIFICATE SAVINGS \$100 MINIMUM YIELDS 7.36% ANNUALLY COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY

6 3/4%

ANNUAL RATE 36 MONTH CERTIFICATE SAVINGS \$100 MINIMUM YIELDS 6.8% ANNUALLY COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY

5 1/2%

ANNUAL RATE ONLY INTEREST ON PASSBOOK SAVINGS YIELDS 5.61% ANNUALLY COMPOUNDED QUARTERLY NO MINIMUM BALANCE ADD ANY AMOUNT AT ANY TIME

FIRST FARMINGTON SAVINGS & LOAN

22725 ORCHARD LAKE RD. Open Daily 9:30 to 5, Friday 9:30 to 7
Phone 474-7250 Saturday 9:30 to 12



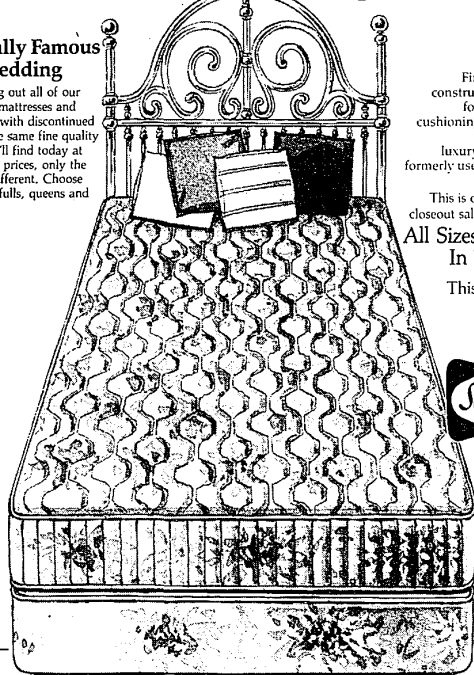
*Federal Regulations Require a Substantial Interest Penalty for Early Withdrawal from Certificate Savings Accounts.

Save during our Pre-Mid-Winter Sale!

1/2 OFF! 2 BEDDING SALE

Nationally Famous Sealy Bedding

We're closing out all of our fine quality mattresses and foundations with discontinued covers. . . the same fine quality bedding you'll find today at much higher prices, only the covers are different. Choose from twins, fulls, queens and kings. . .



Firm innerspring construction, layers of foam plus added cushioning, sag resistant borders and luxury-quilted cover formerly used on the Sealy Posturepedic.

This is our once-a-year closeout sale, don't miss it! All Sizes Included In This Sale!

This week only!



\$59.95

TWIN SIZE
Mattress or foundation regularly \$119.95 each piece

\$89.95

FULL SIZE
Mattress or foundation regularly \$179.95 each piece

\$219.95

QUEEN SIZE SET
Complete 2-piece set, regularly \$439.95 set

\$289.95

KING SIZE SET
Complete 3-piece set regularly \$579.95 set



The Towne and Country Treatment. You'll find no salespeople at Towne and Country Interiors-only IDS or ASID interior designers to help you. Our pay-no-more policy and 3 year construction warranty ensure your satisfaction.

Get the Towne and Country Treatment and save!

Towne and Country Interiors

Dearborn 565-3400 Bloomfield Hills 642-8822 Rochester 652-3500
23600 Michigan Ave. east of Telegraph 4107 Telegraph at Long Lake Rd. 1110 S. Rochester Rd. in Winchester Mall
Open daily 10-9 Wed. & Sat 10-6 Use our convenient charge, Visa or Master Charge