



Getting together for the grand finale were community bands from Farmington, Plymouth, Northville and Birmingham.

Bands strike musical chord with variety

The bands struck up the sounds Feb. 4 for Sunday afternoon shoppers at the Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi.

"A Festival of Community Bands" featured groups from Farmington, Plymouth, Northville and Birmingham under the direction of Paul Barber, Carl Batteloff, Robert Williams and Grant Hoemke, respectively.

Each group had an hour-long solo performance.

The grand finale had everyone participating under the direction of Harold Arnold, professor of music and director of bands at Wayne State University. Arnold was instructor for Farmington

band director Barber while Barber was a student at Redford High School. Barber is also director at Farmington High School.

The Farmington Community Band includes several different bands that perform concerts throughout the community.

The breakdown includes a 70-piece concert band, a six-man Dixieland band, a jazz band with 20 musicians and a small clarinet choir ensemble.

Membership in the Farmington Community Band is open to all adults. Students in junior or senior high can audition for membership.



Helping to keep the saxophone section in tune was Marge Connel of Farmington Hills. Behind her sits Laurie Reller, also of Farmington Hills.



Mary Orwig of Farmington Hills play in the clarinet section. Sharon Bernath of Farmington sits in the background.



Paul Barber, director of the Farmington Community Band, leads the group through another performance.



Consulting with his former teacher Harold Arnold (right) is Farmington Community Concert Band leader Paul Barber (center). Also participating in the Twelve-Oaks Concert was Grant Hoemke, director of the Birmingham Community Band.



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