

Bridge pair place first

Beverly Onisko of Springbrook Drive, Farmington Hills, and Bob Hoehner of Royal Oak won first in their section of the Central States Championship Open Pairs, a two-session bridge-playing event in which 516 players competed.

The event was among seven North American Championships and 12 lesser ranked championships which drew 5,000 players to 10 days of competition in Detroit. Players of all levels took part. This was one of three major tournaments held in North America each year by the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL).

The ACBL is a non-profit organization of 200,000 bridge players in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Bermuda. It conducts nearly 900 tournaments a year, and weekly competitions are found at 4,500 affiliated bridge clubs in North America. The ACBL headquarters is in Memphis, Tenn. Most tournaments are open to all entrants and is not limited to ACBL members.

Couple celebrates golden anniversary

Adolfo and Iris Ratti Vecellio repeated their wedding vows in St. Scholastica Church 50 years after their wedding in Detroit on April 4, 1931.

The ceremony for the Farmington Hills couple was followed by a golden anniversary party in Farmington Country Club for family and friends. The couple remained in the Detroit area throughout their married life where they raised their three children: Raymond Vecellio of Detroit; Roger Vecellio of Livonia; and Mrs. Salvatore Testa, the former Marilyn Vecellio of Grosse Pointe Woods.

Vecellio is retired from the Vecellio Electric Co. The couple have six grandchildren.

Lawn-Man graduates first class of students

Graduation ceremonies were held this week for the first class of 10 by Gerald Curwin who began "Lawn-Man Proprietorship School" with classes in Farmington Holiday Inn to provide an alternative to unemployment.

"It's a complete business training school for students who want to go into business for themselves," said Curwin who developed the school after giving landscaping classes for several years in Oakland Community College on the Orchard Ridge campus.

"The most unique feature of the program is that after five weeks, or about 200 hours of training, in most cases the graduate is already working with paying customers he acquired for himself in the on-the-job sequence of the course," Curwin said.

"My graduates qualify for proprietorship in their own lawn service business, they can train employees in lawn service, hold a position such as supervisor of a large nursery, or just participate in the beautification of America."

"The class focuses on the techniques to maintain and restore grounds to a desirable condition in a variety of climates. But it also includes all the necessary business, management and communication skills to open a business. Field training is provided to utilize learned classroom techniques."

CURWIN points to Gary McCreedy, a former auto worker and now owner and operator of McCreedy's Lawn Maintenance, as a successful graduate.

McCreedy's business, at 9389 Bassett, in Livonia, was under way before graduation day, specializing in 14 different areas of lawn care for clients in Livonia, Farmington, Farmington Hills and Northville.

"The enthusiastic graduate said, 'Most home owners don't realize that lawns won't accept fertilizer if the PH factor is out of balance. That is just one of the important things I learned at school.'"

"There are some technical things to learn, but most of the program deals with the things you will actually be doing for pay," he said. "As part of the class, we went out and did on actual jobs. If the bid was successful, I got the contract for myself."

McCreedy admits he wasn't going to learn everything he needed to know in 200 hours, but counts on the school's two-year consulting service, included in the cost of the course, to back him up if he needs it.

Curwin will take calls of inquiry about his next class by calling him at 685-3332.



Gary McCreedy, one of the first graduates of Lawn-Man Proprietorship School, is now the owner and operator of McCreedy's Lawn Maintenance in Livonia.

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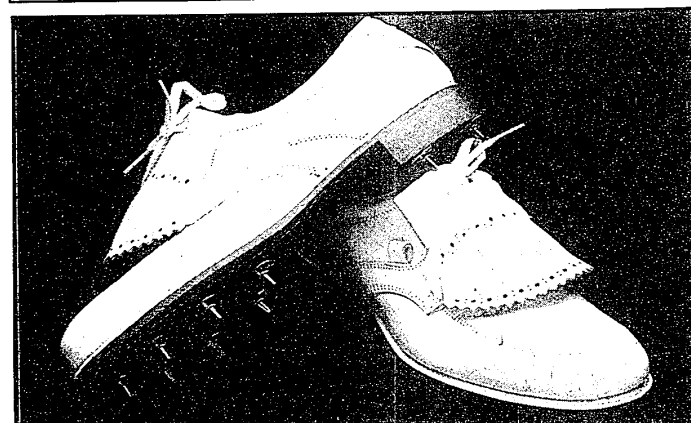
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