

# carrier of the month Farmington



Craig Sturgis

Craig, 13, of Farmington Hills, is an 8th grade student at East Middle School.

He is a "B" student whose favorite subjects are history and science. He plans to go to college.

Craig delivers papers along Tredwell, Malden and Letye.

His hobbies are beer can collecting, skating, rocketry, camping, coin and stamp collecting. He's a member of the Farmington Youth Band and Boy Scouts.

Craig has one brother, Shawn. His parents are Gerald and Sharon Sturgis.

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## MSU was unique

Michigan State University, when it was founded in 1855, brought a new concept to higher education when it combined education with research and public service.

By Alice Collins  
staff writer

"Talk about perpetual motion, this is David!"

That's the way Barbara Rexford Fanger described her energetic 19-year-old son David Rexford last week.

His friend Nicholas Talmer's says of him:

"I've never met anyone like Dave before. His mind is always on the move, shall we say."

"And somehow whenever we do things together, no matter what, they always work out."

Talmers, who's 18, and Rexford are friends who seek adventure and "have the wanderlust," they say of themselves. But their travels are far from spur-of-the-moment or casual.

The Birmingham duo has spent uncounted hours researching and organizing this summer's adventure — "an exploration" of all the major cities in Canada, Mexico and the United States. They'll be traveling in an old ambulance.

The primary purpose of the trip is to interview people in all of those cities for a book David Rexford plans to write about the variety of religions and religious beliefs.

IN ORDER to finance their travels, they'll be hustling lines of energy savings devices, an all-purpose soap, sports clothing, children's books, records, greeting cards and other items.

"Since learning about religions isn't financially profitable," said Rexford, "we'll be selling to pay our way."

They'll be on their way after Talmers graduates from Seaholm High School June 18 and as soon as they're able to sell enough products in this area to get started.

"We have to make a ton (\$1,000) before we cruise," said Talmers.

Rexford was graduated from Seaholm last year and has completed his freshman year at the University of

Michigan. He is studying in a self-designed inter-disciplinary program called "futurism."

"Basically, I don't want to limit myself to one career," said Rexford. Among his aspirations are being an author, having something to do with city planning on an international scale and diplomacy.

TALMERS HAS PUT his first year at Kalamazoo College on hold so that he can go to Portugal for a year in an American Field Service exchange program. He plans on "definitely going into some sort of economics" as a career.

Both Rexford and Talmers are considered good students although Talmers said, "My parents started to worry about my studies this year because I was spending so much time getting organized for this trip."

The two met when they attended Quarten Elementary School.

"We were friends then, then didn't really see each other again until last year when he was a senior and I was a junior at Seaholm," Talmers said.

Last summer Talmers, Rexford and another friend rented "an old beat-up van and took off for New York" and traveled throughout several Eastern cities.

Rexford has prepared a large notebook of plans for this summer's research travels. It starts with a basic statement of purpose, includes a full itinerary listing population counts, where they plan to conduct the interviews and even lists of interview questions.

Rexford's basic statement for the trip and research says: "Exploring our continent with open eyes, ears and minds. Listening to people from all walks of life and all ages express the transcendent meaning of their lives."

The book he'll write about it, he said, will be titled "Hello God, This is America." His inspiration for the books comes from Studs Terkel's "Working."

WHY IS Talmers going along?

"I tell my parents I'm doing it for money," said Talmers. "I tell myself it's for one big learning experience."

"I plan to help David with the interviews, but this is his creation."

The two are equal partners in the money-making aspects of the venture.

Rexford bought the ambulance from a relative who's a mechanic in Ohio. He went to Ohio, assisted while the mechanic put the ambulance in good working order and learned how to work on it himself if something goes wrong on the trip.

"I've got lists of things to do to keep it running," said Rexford, "It's so old there's no owner's manual and no parts. If we'd need an essential part, we'd just have to take it to a junkyard," he said.

"WE'LL BE roughing it," said Talmers. "We know a lot of people around the country and will stay with them whenever possible."

Said Rexford, "We'll eat out of grocery stores, live out of the ambulance and freeloard whenever possible."

As soon as they arrive in a city, they plan to call the major newspaper to get in touch with fashion and religion editors for advice on selling their sportswear and on locations to do their interviews.

"Then we'll go to the public library, look in the yellow pages and pick out the stores we can sell to," said Rexford.

## Country Day School students graduate

Farmington area residents who will receive diplomas at Detroit Country Day School's 55th commencement exercises on June 18 at 8 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church of Birmingham are: Stephen Lane DeVore, Roger Scott Falk, Richard Steven Lederman, Frieda Miriam Mandelbaum, Christo-

pher Paul Neme, Richard Michael Shafer and Robert Joseph Sinar.

They already have publishing and publicity consultants where they hope to get free advice.

When Rexford was 4, he went door-to-door selling flower petals in water for perfume for 10 cents. At 14, he mapped out a bus route and traveled alone around New England. At 15 he camped alone in northern Michigan.

He always went "against parental advice and precautions. Nothing could stop me."

When he was 18, he sold his car and used the money to fly to Japan for two months on a Youth For Understanding program.

"I just gave up my local transportation to travel internationally," he said. Talmers has visited and traveled in Greece.

GM vice president and Pontiac division general manager William Hoglund, a DODS trustee, will deliver the commencement address to the 79 members of the class of 1981.

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