

Community leaders honored at Schoolcraft graduation



Edward McNally, right, retired vice president for student affairs, receives an honorary degree from Schoolcraft President Richard McDowell.

"It doesn't matter how long it takes — it's whether you finish," President Richard McDowell told the 375 Schoolcraft College graduates who attended Saturday's commencement ceremonies.

Some graduates were 19 years old, completing the community college's requirements for an associate degree in two years. Others studied off and on for as long as 11 years. The oldest was in the upper 70s.

"You're not the same person you were when you came to the college," Schoolcraft's third president told the 18th annual commencement. "Some lacked confidence, some lacked a definite career goal when you came here."

ONE-THIRD of the 826 persons who earned a degree during the academic year rented traditional caps and gowns, braving a rainstorm for the ceremony. The number of degrees was up from the 754 last year.

McDowell said 547 earned applied sciences degrees, 289 arts and sciences, and 35 earned two degrees.

Two earned three degrees, McDowell said, quipping, "They like it and like it and like it."

Personifying the new kind of subur-

ban community college graduate was Margo Worley, who confessed to being 40 when she enrolled to earn a marketing and management degree.

"My goal at age 20 was marriage, a family and living happily ever after," the student commencement speaker from Northville said. "For some, age 40 means continuation. For some, retirement. For me, it meant change."

Her most unerving experience on her first day at Schoolcraft, she recalled, was to hear a teen-age student say, "My classes are OK, my instructors are OK, but there's a mom in each one of my classes."

Her audience, containing as many persons with bifocals as 20-year-olds, roared with laughter.

THREE HONORARY degrees were awarded by the board of trustees to people associated with the college's birth and growth:

• Robert K. Barbour, retired vice president of National Bank of Detroit and its predecessor First National Bank of Plymouth, honorary associate in applied science. "From the beginning (he) has actively supported Schoolcraft College as a founder of the col-

lege.

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Margaret Miller, right, a former Observer Suburban Life editor, receives her honorary degree and congratulatory kiss from Schoolcraft College trustee Rosina Raymond. In the background are board Chairman Harry Greenleaf and President Richard McDowell.



retirement memos

Margaret Miller

I was glad no speech was involved.

I'm not entirely tongue-tied, but I really was at a loss for words over Schoolcraft College's decision to add me this month to its list of recipients of honorary associate degrees. That was still true three weeks after I had been bowled over by news of the honor and had decided to fly back from Florida to accept it in person.

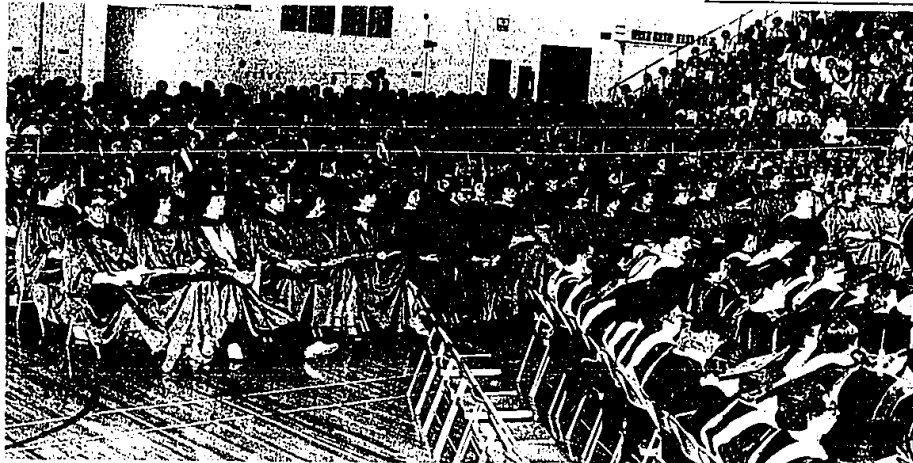
A former colleague who was similarly honored three years ago gave me the

welcome news that "thank-you" was all I had to say while receiving a certificate and stole and joining Schoolcraft's honorary degree list in the company of college booster Robert Barbour and longtime dean Edward McNally.

That I could do with fervor.

BUT WITH THE ceremony now history, I can turn to my more accustomed medium and make a small

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Schoolcraft commencement ceremonies, the first ever held on Saturday evening, drew about one-third of the 826 persons who earned degrees over the academic year.

INSIDE ANGLES

FRIDAY THROUGH Saturday, May 27-30, are the days set for Greek Ethnic Festival in Detroit's Hart Plaza. Members of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church are signing up in numbers this week in the Farmington Hills Church to start preparing souvlaki, saganaki, and the loukarnades they will be serving on the weekend.

THE MIGHTY OAKS, the Cerebral Palsy Olympics team sponsored by the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission, will compete in the Michigan Regional Cerebral Palsy Games at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, May 19-22. The Michigan Regional Cerebral Palsy Games are designed for all individuals with cerebral palsy and related disabilities. Events at the games include table tennis, weightlifting, swimming, bicycling, bocci, bowling, wheelchair and ambulatory soccer, track and field events and riflery. Although the Mighty Oaks have been in existence only three years, they have made quite a name for themselves. Two years ago, nine members qualified for the national games. For more information about the Mighty Oaks or the Regional Cerebral Palsy Games, call 858-4945.

A GOOD PART of the proceeds that came from Browne Troop 463's Girl Scout Cookie sales were spent to buy food for the needy. The 8-year-olds bought mostly staples on their shopping spree and turned the grocery bags over to the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department for distribution last week. The 13 members of the troop are students at Forest Elementary School, Hillside Day School and Farmington Montessori School. Their co-leaders are Roberta Breilberg and Susan Kaplan.

COME SHOP with us at the Great Scott Supermarket located on Orchard Lake and 13 Mile. Great Scott Day starts at 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Wednesday and is sponsored by the Booster Club of North Farmington High School. There will be prizes, raffles, special drawings, entertainment and surprises. Five percent of the total sales will be donated to support all sports, music and drama programs at North Farmington High School. Free grocery carry-out by North Farmington students. If you want to avoid the crowds, shop early. There will be Early Bird specials for those shopping before 11 a.m. While shopping enjoy a hot dog and cola for 75 cents. Proceeds donated to the Booster Club.

SWING INTO SPRING, aerobic-exercise fitness program sponsored by Our Lady of Sorrows Athletic Club held in the gym of Our Lady of Sorrows, 23615 Powers Road, 7-8 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday May 16 through June 9. Fee is \$25 for 11 classes and students (12-18) \$1 per session at the door.

CONGRATULATIONS to Mark Majors, a 1981 graduate of North Farmington High School and honor student at the University of Michigan, who has been accepted to the United States Marine Corps Officer Training Program, Platoon Leader Class. He will leave for training July 18. Acceptance to the program is based on physical, mental and academic accomplishment, requiring two six-week summer training sessions, between the junior and senior year of college, allowing the candidate to pursue his studies until graduation.

KUDOS to Sally Ebel and Toni Lichvar of Farmington Hills for being accepted to Olivet College for the fall semester. Both are seniors at Farmington High School.

WILDFLOWER WANDERINGS, a nature interpretive program, will emphasize Michigan's woodlands, which are captured with wildflowers this time of year. Participants can take a trek with Oakland County Parks naturalist Kathleen Dougherty at Independence Oaks County Park, 9:10-10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 21. Meet at the Twin Chimneys Shelter. Program cost is the park entry fee of \$2.50 per vehicle for county residents and \$4 for non-residents. Independence Oaks is on Sasabaw Road, 2 1/4 miles north of I-75 in Clarkston. Pre-registration is required by calling 858-0903.

PAUL FEITEN was one of 63 members of Ferris State College's Concert Choir which recently conducted its annual spring tour with concerts at Cadillac, Frankfort, Manistee and Newaygo high schools. The choir, under the direction of William Donahue, FSC associate professor of music, performed a variety of choral music ranging from Mozart to contemporary pop.

MARIA RUNK AND Gloria Moreau, both residents of Farmington Hills, have been elected to serve as trustees for the newly organized Oakland Parks Foundation. The private foundation will actively seek donations of land and money to develop parks and recreation facilities in the county. While remaining a separate unit, it will work cooperatively with the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission in fulfilling its master plan.

HURRAHS FOR Midori Harris, who placed in the top seven, on a regional level, in the national French contest, Le Grand Cochers. She was top scorer among French students who entered the contest from Our Lady of Mercy High School. Others from Mary who made the top-10 level in the local competition were Anne Bogdan, Mary Beth Manion and Dawn Gadzak.



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