

## consumer mailbag

Q. Our Family loves to pick our own fruits. But strawberry season is so short. What other fruits are available? L.T., Farmington.

A. Many Michigan families like yours enjoy picking fresh produce both to eat now and store for the winter months. It's also a great way to save money and have fun at the same time.

Michigan ranks first in the country in the production of five food crops: Jonathan and Northern Spy apples, blueberries, tart red cherries, cucumbers, and navy beans, and is fifth or higher in a total of 26 crops.

The following Michigan crop calendar gives a partial list of approximate season opening dates. Crops generally are earlier in southern Michigan and somewhat later as you travel further north:

Aug. 1 Peaches  
Aug. 10 Pears  
Aug. 25 Grapes  
Sept. 15 Fall Apples

Picking your own fruits and vegetables guarantees the freshest possible. Roadside stands also offer the just-picked freshness — without the work. Whichever way you decide, you'll enjoy the good taste that's good for you.

To get a free copy of "Michigan Carousels" a guide to pick-your-own and roadside stands located throughout

Michigan and "Michigan Food and Fiber Facts" write to: Michigan Department of Agriculture, Communications Department, P.O. Box 30017, Lansing, Mich. 48909.

ECO-TIP: A great summer snack for kids (nutritious, too):

### FRUIT LEATHER

2 cups fruit, such as berries, peaches, apples, water, honey, cinnamon, or other spices to taste

Wash fruit, remove pits or seeds, do not peel. Cut into small pieces and puree in blender with enough water to make two cups. Season to taste with spices and honey. Line cookie sheet with wax paper that has been oiled on both sides. Spread puree evenly about ¼ inch thick and dry in low oven (150-180 degrees) overnight. While still warm, peel off paper and place on a cool dry place.

(If) The recipe is from "This Can't Be Healthy, I Like It" from Concern Detroit Inc. The Consumer Mailbag answers your questions. Address questions and comments to Consumer Mailbag, Concern Detroit, 1 Northfield Plaza, Troy, 48068.



## Roadblock for MD

Donna Keith, president of Michigan Jaycoos and Eric Philip, 1984's poster child for Muscular Dystrophy Association, launch the Jaycoos' "Statewide Road Block for MD." Farmington Area Jaycoos join in the roadblock with canners at all major intersections and on Grand River along the Founders Festival Parade route Saturday, July 21. Contributors will get MDA buttons showing their support of the association's free clinic services and worldwide research efforts. In Michigan, MD patients are offered summer camping through the association.

# Herbig stars in festive opening

By Arvidor Zarom  
special writer

Following a busy musical season, a little vacation can be most welcome. However, after a couple of leisurely weeks, one becomes ready to face the music again. Thus, the opening of the summer Meadow Brook Festival proved to be a timely and well scheduled event.

In previous seasons, the classical series on Thursdays and Sundays were almost identical. This season, however, the programs are different, although the guest conductor and soloist are the same on most occasions.

This means, among other things, that Detroit Symphony Orchestra (DSO) members have to work twice as hard to prepare two programs each week instead of one.

For the listeners, however, this means twice the pleasure. A music critic is in a position to enjoy the extra music without the extra work by combining both programs in one review (if he is fortunate to have an accommodating editor).

THE OPENING week featured the newly appointed (DSO) Music Director Maestro Gunther Herbig. Guest soloist was the celebrated French pianist, Philippe Entremont. In terms of content, the two programs can be classified as Russian and German (if we ignore the fine distinction between Germany and Austria).

The works featured on Thursday were "Fireworks," a fantasy for orchestra by Stravinsky, the Second Piano Concerto by Rachmaninoff and the Symphony No. 5 by Tchaikovsky. The unquestioned star of this program was Maestro Herbig.

His ability to inspire life into the major familiar selections has been reassured. In fact, Herbig is able to make even the National Anthem sound exciting, if not profound. The short Stravinsky piece, which is a little known early work (1908), nevertheless reaffirmed the composer's genius.

The Rachmaninoff concerto is an extremely demanding work, both technically and musically. This work has also proved to be the most problematic. There is no doubt that Entremont is an extremely capable and gifted pianist. This, however, was not one of his best nights. The major deficiency was not so much that he missed some notes — this happens to the best performers. A more persistent problem was his inability to rise above the technique and attend in more detail to the musical demands.

The stormy and rolling passages were fudged and not sufficiently robust. The slow movement, however, was much more convincing, as he did not get bogged down with the technique.

THE CROWNING work was Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony, which turned out to be the best live version in my recent memory. It underscored the fact that this symphony commands respect and not merely melancholy. It regained its deserved status with Tchaikovsky's Fourth and Sixth, which as a rule tend to receive a better treatment.

## Tot's school has openings

Mayfair Co-operative Nursery School in Farmington Hills has openings for 3- to 5-year-old children on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

The no-co-op pre-kindergarten enrichment program has openings on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The two may be combined for a five-day program.

The school is located at 30450 Farmington Road. Additional information may be obtained by calling Susan Tapp at 553-8054.

Observer & Eccentric  
sports  
...more than just the  
scores

Sunday's program opened with a lively rendition of Weber's Oberon Overture. This was followed by Mozart's Concerto No. 21 in C Major. Entremont was much more convincing with this work than with the Rachmaninoff.

The Beethoven piano, used on both occasions, produced a refined tone quality on this occasion, not spoiled by metallic harshness.

The brightness of the first and third movements was contrasted with the profound lyricism of the second movement, which is one of the most expressive in Mozart's writing.

The concluding work was Schumann's Fourth Symphony. Here, again, Maestro Herbig demonstrated that attention to details can work wonders. Schumann wasn't considered a great orchestrator and this work contains some of his most awkward orchestral passages.

## review

In this performance, however, the emphasis was on the musical stature of the composition, rather than its weaknesses.

The first theme of the opening movement, following the introduction, seemed to be flowing with natural ease, without sounding as if it had excess baggage. The coda of the concluding movement sounded stately and profound, rather than like an overblown windbag.

Maestro Herbig is providing more than familiar musical selections. He is providing music. This aspect is all too often taken for granted.

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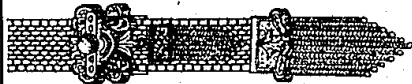
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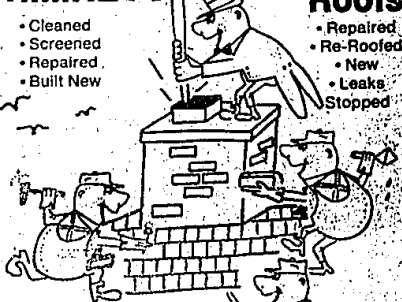
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