

Forest students move up competitive notch

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hot Sun. And according to the Forest team, that's how the seasons came to be known.

Only five of the team's seven members participate in the actual performance at competition, Pugh said. Consequently two of the team's players rotate between the performances as actors and directors.

The team has been perfecting its presentation since last September. And after each competition the team returns to the Forest Elementary gym and starts practicing over again.

Despite months of practicing at least once, sometimes twice a week, the team is continuing its rehearsals in preparation for the world competition at the University of Maryland in early June.

"I've been really impressed," Jablonski said. "That's a lot of dedication. It impresses me to see that kind of involvement."

Although practice will continue until

the world competition, there's a portion of the competition that's spontaneous. And it can be tough.

The members are ushered into a room with a judge. The judge asks a question such as "name something that is red." Sounds simple. But the team is only given one minute to think and two minutes to provide as many responses as possible.

"They must answer sequentially," Pugh said.

For each common answer the team gets one point. But for a creative answer the team receives two points. A common answer to the name-something-red question would be an apple. A creative response would be Red Skelton.

Whether the Forest team captures first place at the world competition or not, the efforts have produced more than a creative project for the kids, according to Jablonski.

The whole business has brought a lot of team work and new friendships to

those involved with the OM competition, he said. While parents cannot actually be involved with the team's problem, they nonetheless can be seen on the sidelines watching rehearsals.

"It exemplifies team work," Jablonski said, including parents, school officials and Forest's night custodian Bob McCalley in the success of the program.

How other schools fared

While the Forest Elementary team is heading for the big time at the OM (formerly Olympics of the Mind) world competition soon, other teams in the Farmington School District scored well in the recent state competition.

Taking second place at the OM competition in early May at Michigan State University were the teams from Power Middle School, Larkshire Elementary, and East Middle School, according to Pat Girsch, OM coordinator for the Farmington district.

Larkshire also took third place followed by North Farmington High School taking fourth-place. Beechview Elementary took sixth place.

Teams which received second and third place standings received medals, Girsch said.

Participation in the OM program in the Farmington School District is strictly voluntary, Girsch said. Both the school district and the Farmington Association for Children with Exceptional Talents (FACET) pick up the tab, she said.

"In Farmington it's all done extra curricular," Girsch said, adding this is the district's fourth year in OM competition.

OM is open to all schools and students in the district that wish to participate, Girsch said.

Official speaks on Holocaust

Edward J. Derwinski, counselor to U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz, is the keynote speaker for the Jewish Community Council's year-end Delegate Assembly at 8 p.m. Thursday at Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt.

Southfield attorney David Lebeben, the Council's president, will preside.

Following a special presentation to Carol Rittner, honoring her efforts on behalf of Holocaust education, Derwinski will speak on behalf of the Reagan administration on its commitment to Holocaust remembrance and the teaching of the lessons of the Nazi genocide.

A former U.S. representative from Illinois, Derwinski was a member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He served as U.S. Congressional

Representative on the Council of the Interparliamentary Union, an international body comprised of legislators from over 100 countries.

Derwinski is a member of the American Legion, Amvets, Catholic War Veterans, Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus, Moose, Polish National Alliance, Polish Roman Catholic Union and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

A member of the Religious Sisters of

Mercy, Sister Carol is actively involved in Jewish-Christian dialogue, frequently leading interfaith study missions to Israel.

Sister Carol is adjunct associate professor of Interdisciplinary Studies at Mercy College of Detroit and often lectures on the Holocaust and the response of Christian churches to this event in history.

Taylor named vice president

Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. of America, based in Farmington Hills, has promoted Lawrence D. Taylor to vice-president/actuary.

Taylor, 31, who holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and a master's in actuarial science from the University of Michigan, is a fellow of the Society of Actuaries. He lives in Plymouth.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Brad Pugh played the part of Father Nature.

Memorial Day schedule set

The Farmington Post Office will operate on a holiday schedule during Memorial Day observance Monday, May 27.

Farmington Postmaster, Kenneth B. Harris said there will be no regular residential or business mail deliveries, and usual post office lobby services will not be available at either facility.

Delivery of certain expedited mail service will continue during the holiday weekend. Included are Special Delivery and Express Mail.

Mail pick up from collection boxes also will be on holiday schedule, as posted on individual boxes.

Normal mail service will resume Tuesday, May 28.

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