

# Seniors reflect on their high school days

Jackie Aho is a North Farmington High School senior.

By Jackie Aho  
special writer

Graduation approaches, and the long-awaited days of life on a college campus are almost reality for many seniors.

Although this conjures visions of pizza deliveries, excitement and independence, it can also be cause for apprehension.

Questions such as, "Will I be happy?", "Am I well-prepared?" and "Will I be successful?" are not uncommon in North's halls. Fortunately, the confidence of a good high school education can help make the transition into college smooth.

Statistics provide some reassurance. For example, according to Marilyn McKinney, assistant director of admissions at the University of Michigan, the average grade point for all freshmen at U-M over the past four years is 2.9. North graduates at U-M earned a collective 3.1.

If figures do not help, talking to North's alumni certainly will. College freshmen home for the holidays kindly offered their opinions and various words of wisdom.

WHEN ASKED if they were comparatively well-prepared for college, most found that they were keeping up with, or exceeding, the average student at their university. They all rated their high school education as above average, and North Farmington is "academically superior," according to Mike Kaniato (Hople College, Holland, Mich.).

Different areas of North's curriculum received individual praise. The science department was mentioned most often, followed by the English and mathematics departments. Many of the students received advanced placement credit in these areas by passing special tests administered in the spring.

"The A.P. tests made me challenge myself much more and saved me a whole mess of money," said Ray Voss (University of Michigan, Ann Arbor).

When asked to give advice for college-bound students, Scott Knoll (Princeton University, Princeton, N.J.) said simply, "Study."

Stephanie Hockema (Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.) agreed. "It

gets harder." But, she added, "You also have more fun at college."

"IT'S IMPORTANT to find a median between the social and the academic. If you're going to be happy," said Mark Aune (Michigan State University, East Lansing).

"College depends on the student," Ray Voss said. "Not as much is required, but it is to the student's advantage to keep up with the work."

College will probably give the student a "sense of accomplishment" (Michael Bindon, U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.) while it is simultaneously a "humbling experience" (Theresa Porter, Michigan State University).

Being independent gives a student the chance to shine, but other people may share his talents.

Most of these students agreed that college is an academic challenge, and that North seniors should "have a good time now" (Mike Aho, University of Michigan) although college worries still persist.

It should help to know, however, that a good education is available at North. As Mark Aune said, "It's a top-notch school. I didn't realize it until I left."

## Library marks 10th birthday

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Among those on hand were Farmington Hills architect Gordon Merrill, who designed the library branch, and Farmington Hills resident Roz Greenberg, president of the Farmington Friends of the Library, which sponsored the program.

Also attending were state Rep. Wil-

bur Brotherton of Farmington, Oakland County Commissioner John McDonald of Farmington Hills, Farmington City Manager Robert Beadman, Farmington Hills Councilwoman Jan Dolan, Farmington Councilmen Richard Tupper and Arnold Campbell, Farmington Hills Historical Commission member Jean Fox and Farmington Historical Commission member Nancy Leonard.

The dedication closed with an upbeat performance by the Boardhead Michigan Public Theatre, which is based at the Lansing Center for the Arts.

Smaller than the 14-year-old Farmington Hills Branch on 12 Mile Road, the Liberty Street Branch is "the type of traditional neighborhood public library that a lot of librarians dream of having," Papal said.

"People in this area are very supportive. They use it as we'd like them to. Since we have a smaller staff here, we know many of the people by name. We get to know their reading tastes as well as of their children."

large-print books and a learning disabilities collection.

Also offered are business and law collections, investment materials, foreign language books, interlibrary loans, book discussions, annual reports, movie showings, gift and memorial collections, paintings and prints for rent, study carrels, magazines and newspaper collections, college catalogues and bibliographies.

Also available are a community activities calendar, classroom visits by librarians, maps, puzzles, toys, home computers, auditorium facilities, display space for non-profit groups, and service to nursing homes, the homebound, the hearing impaired and area youth homes.

"We've tried to be leaders. And we think we've succeeded," said Ernest Sauter, president of the Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees.

THE TWO branches offer children's story hours and workshops, young adult programs, adult programs, computerized reference services, the Oakland County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, talking books,

## Student nominated to Air Force Academy

U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, D-Michigan, announced the nomination of Kristoffer Norman of Farmington Hills to the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

Norman, son of Robert and Linnea Norman, attends Farmington High School. He is an Eagle Scout, member of the National Honor Society, plays varsity baseball and football. His goal is to become a military pilot and go into the space program.

Levin, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, nominated 10 young people for the one vacancy allotted to Levin for the class, which will enter the academy in July 1986. The final decision on appointments will be made by the academy's Board of Admissions. The 10 are nominated on a competitive basis. It is possible, however, for the academy to appoint more

than one member of the group of 10 nominees.

Screening committees throughout the state were responsible for interviewing applicants and making recommendations to Levin on candidates seeking nominations to the Air Force Academy, Military Academy, Naval Academy and the Merchant Marine Academy.

The committees were made up of persons in various regions of the state and interviews were held in seven locations in Michigan.

The applicants were rated on a number of factors, including academic achievement, communication abilities, leadership potential, athletic involvement and motivation. Over 350 applicants statewide were considered for nominations.

## Forum coming

Downtown Farmington store owners, store managers and other interested persons will hold an organizational meeting at 2 p.m. Feb. 5 to consider joint advertising and promotion projects.

The meeting will be held in the Farmington City Hall, 23500 Liberty.

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