Singing star gets new look

make-up out on the street during the day. I try to let my pores breathe. I'm from that old hipple school. I try to be as natural as I cam."

breathe. I'm from that old hipple school. I try to be as natural as I can."

"Nichols said that as an actress and singer, she tends to be very dramatic in how she dresses and puts on her makeup. She thought the hair stylist and makeup experts were working to make her appear less sever.

Begins of the state of the st

theater," she said.

FOR BOTH her club and concert dates, she wears the same amount of makeup because "a lot of the concert sites are very infinate like the Caurus Club. National sites are very infinate like the Caurus Club. National sites are very infinate like the Caurus Club. National sites are very large and the same and the

Courmet magazine Wine Editor Gerald Asher made it easy on the guests at a recent champagne and sparkling wine-tasting party at Crantrook House in Bloomfield

By Ethel Simmons staff writer

One of Nichols' recent triumphs was portraying Edith Piaf, the French chantuses, in Piaf at the Attic Theatre. "We didn't really try to make me look like Piaf." she said. "We lined my eyes and plucked my brows but did little to my hair. I wore barely any make-

my hair. I were barely any makeup."
The Orchestra Hall concert will
consist of two 40-minute acts.
"There will be a live taping of
the audio, "she said," to be pressed
into an album at a later day." The
album will be called "Sherl Nichols
Live at Orchestra Hall."
"This is thrilling to me," she said.
The concert also will be videotaped
but in a cayaul way.

but in a casual way.

The concert also will be videotapee but in a casual way.

THE BENEFIT concert is "A Salute to Liberty," with Nichols singing the songs of great American composers such as Gershwin, Kernedgers and Hammerstein. Rodgers and Hammerstein. Rodgers and Hammerstein. Rodgers and Hammerstein. Rodgers and Hammerstein. Said. We also want to evoke a feeling of nostalgid, have people sit back and take a limite ride in the richment. America when it was back and take a limite ride in the richment. America when it was 50 meters of the said. We have a said will be her accompanist, Richard Serent, who did all the arrangements for the songs. He is quite gried," she said.

Along with Berent on keyboards, the hand-picked musical group includes Motown musician Beans Bowles on reeds and Mayne State University students Chris Collins or reeds and flute; Kent Rogers, bass, and Dan Maslanka on drums. Nichols said she first the Berent when she attended Wayne State University, where he was accompanist in the Dance Department and also was doing musicals. "He

Champagne — it's all in the style

table talk

has been with me almost exclusive-ly for the last four years," she said.

NICHOLS IS known for her hallads and torch songs but also does jozz tunes. "I'm learning to be as much a jazz singer as a torch singer these days." She agrees with the Detroit newspaper critic who called her a chanteuse. "A chanteuse to Americans a darsmatch of the control of

ASKED WHICH female singers she likes best. Nichols said, "One of my favorite vocalists is Sarah Vaughan." Regarding Barbra Streisand — who sang at the Caucus Club in the days before she

became a superstar, Nichols said, "I try not to copy her style." Anoth-er favorite: "I love Judy Garland."

"I listen to different singers for different reasons," she said. She lis-tens to Vaughan for the technique, Garland for the drama, and Streisand because she's an actress.

Originally from Kalamazoo, Ni-chols arrived in Detroit in 1979, "I came with my husband, who is now my ex. He was in law school." Ni-chols attended Wayne State 1980-85 and received her bachelor of line arts degree in the theater pro-gram.

She worked in the Hilberry Repertory Theatre Company's graduate program, as an under-graduate. But things got a little heetic, she sald, and she left in 1985.

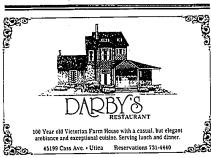
"I work like crazy. Since I left Wayne State, I have been able to do it without any problem at all," Ni-chols said. "I don't, like a lot of show people, have a day job."

A Detroit booster, she said, "I love Detroit. It's a good town for musicians to be in."



Kathy Dociitie Wudyka, style director at the Kazan salon, does Nichole' hair, which she has permed and colored, with

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Calif. and G.H. Mumm Cordon Rouge 1975 from Reims, France, and Domaine Mumm Cuvee Napa from Calitoga, Calif. Between the sippings, guests nibbled hors of oesuvers from the Palate Pleaser in Birmingham and strolled through several grand, yet cozy rooms of Cranbrook House. A string quarter played. In one room, a chef prepared mushroom ravioli filled with dried morels and served with maderia wine sauce and more mushrooms. In another room, a chef pan-fried fresh perch, served on tibb letuce with French remoulade sauce Havored with spinach. Ashter politoly answered questions about which wines he preferred that evening, while in place hands. From Californ, he favored the Piper Sonoma. 18 We that very lean style, he sald. Among the French champagnes, the '79 Mumm was his choice. "I liked the flavor. It's a

more interesting, complex flavor."
The California wines tasted ranged from \$10.512.50 a bottle, the tintage French wines, \$25.
Verne E. Westerberg, publisher, and Asher hasted the Gournett magazine party, which was primarily for the Detroit-area advertising community.

Guests also received copies of the October issue of Gourmet ("the magazine of good living"), an issue designated as the largst in the magazine's 45-year history, and the November issue containing a feature article "City Dining — Detroit."

Highlighted in the story are three of the metropolitan area's finest restaurants — the London Chop House in Detroit, owned by Max and Lanie Pincus of Bloomfield Hills, the Golden Mushroom of Southfield, cowned by Reid Ashton and master chef Milos Cihelka, and Elizabeth's of Northville, owned by Elizabeth and Douglas Campbell.





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