



Academic pacesetters

Senior highs turn spotlight on highest-achieving graduates

ONCE AGAIN, another class of graduating seniors leaves Farmington-area high schools, preparing for life in the adult world.

Graduation ceremonies have already occurred, or will this week, for students from the Class of '87 at Harrison, Farmington, and North Farmington high schools.

Graduates number 318 at Farmington, 250 at Harrison and 370 at North Farmington. Following is more information about each school, and some academic achievers:

● **HARRISON HIGH**
Graduation was held June 9 at Ford Auditorium, Detroit.

The senior class colors are pink and silver and the class flower is the white rose. Class officers include president Dawn Culbertson, vice-president Laura Barry, secretary Sue Miller and treasurer John Bonasso.

Mark Phillips was this year's class adviser.

Five Harrison seniors shared top academic honors this year carrying 4.0 grade point averages. They include Scott Bissell, Michael Happold, Lori King, Kurt Lindberg and Brian Murphy.

The son of Mary Beth and Phil Bissell of West Bloomfield Township, Scott Bissell plans to attend Albion College this fall to major in the school's professional management program. He hopes it will lead to a management position in the business world when he graduates.

He has received a scholarship from Albion and a West Bloomfield Optimist Scholarship for his future education.

An award-winning athlete in football and basketball, Bissell also ran track during his freshman and sophomore years, was on the class board



Scott Bissell
Harrison High



Michael Happold
Harrison High



Lori King
Harrison High



Kurt Lindberg
Harrison High



Brian Murphy
Harrison High

for four years, is a two-year member of the National Honor Society, and participated in Boys State his junior year.

Active in varsity soccer for four years, Michael Happold is looking towards a degree in zoology with a future in field research. The son of Manfred and Ursula Happold of Farmington Hills, he is a member of the National Honor Society, served as a Homecoming attendant his freshman year and has tutored during his senior year.

His community activities include involvement in the March of Dimes Walkathon. He also works as a library page, and enjoys running and writing.

Happold was a National Merit finalist, is an academic All-American, was listed in Who's Who Among

Please turn to Page 4



Jennifer Fleck
Farmington High



William Koning
Farmington High



Amy Smith
Farmington High



William Neuschaefer
North Farmington



inkwell

Inkwell provides primary and secondary school news and information about Farmington-area students. The column appears monthly throughout the year as part of the Observer's "School Page." Send news items to: The School Page, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. Include a telephone number where a contact person can be reached during the day.

● **MERIT FINALIST**
Farmington Hills resident Michelle Sosa was named a finalist in the 1987 National Merit Scholarship Competition.

She is one of three students at Walled Lake Western High School reaching the finalist stage.

They are among 13,500 finalists nationwide being considered for 6,000 scholarships to be awarded to seniors.

Sosa is a member of the National Honor Society.

● **2 HONORED**
Three Farmington Hills residents who are Detroit Country Day School students were installed into the Cum Laude Society, an honors organization for secondary schools.
Junior Fazlur Zahurullah and seniors Jeffrey Michaelson and Norman Villamin were three of 21 from the Beverly Hills school named to the society for scholastic achievement.

● **AWARD WINNERS**
Two Farmington-area residents received corporate-sponsored awards through the National Merit Scholarship Corp.

Marc Haefner, a student at the University of Detroit and a Farmington resident, received a scholarship through Den Chemical Co.

His career field is international relations. He has been a member of the National Honor Society for two years and the Quiz Bowl team captain for three years.
Alexis Willihganz, a Farmington High School student and a Farmington resident, received the McKesson Merit Scholarship.

Her career field is in languages and English. She has been active in forensics for three years. She also has been active in the school play, the academic club, the French club, the Latin club and the debate club.

● **SPECIAL DAYS**
Students at Kenbrook Elementary in Farmington Hills celebrated Grandparents Day May 7 by inviting several hundred special visitors to their school.

Principal Carolyn Plsek said they were expecting 400 visitors.

On May 29, the school celebrated Michigan Week with a sesquicentennial fair.

● **STUDENTS EXCEL**
Thirty-four fourth and fifth grade Beechview Elementary students were honored for their participation in a "Book Parade" contest.
The contest required students to read 11 books at fourth and seventh grade level in a 10-week period.

Seven of the youngsters read 20 books: Katherine Miko, Arvind Surendran, Eric Szymanski, Kimberly Rodak, Linda Lelina, Jennifer Cannon and Jennifer Domino.

● **ON THE ROAD**
Eighth graders from Thomas Beahm Junior High School in Farmington participated in a six-state, 1,000-mile trip to see the Antietam National Civil War Battlefield, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Gettysburg, Penn. The three-day trip, via chartered bus, was the sixth such trip sponsored by the school's history department.

This year, 79 students participated.

● **EMU BOUND**
Norene Bylski, a Farmington Hills Harrison High School senior, received the Recognition of Excellence Scholarship and has been admitted to the Eastern Michigan University honors program.

● **THEY GRADUATE**
A total of 940 students are graduating from Farmington Public Schools this month.

They include: 318 from Farmington High, 250 from Harrison and 372 from North Farmington, according to district information.

● **ON BOARD**
Three new employee appointments were approved by the Farmington school board in May.

They include: Kind Halabu, Arabic bilingual aide, East Middle School; Jessie Hawkins, special education aide, Shawasssee Center; and Karen Mattia, Albanian bilingual aide, East Middle School.

● **7 RETIRE**
Seven Farmington school employees will retire at the end of this school year, as approved in May by the school board.

They include:
● Francis Copp, kindergarten teacher, Forest Elementary;
● Bonilla Felton, English teacher, Harrison High School.

● Ethelyn Grinnell, reading consultant, O'Connell School.

● Lois Nielson, fourth grade teacher, Beechview Elementary.

● Reinold Lampi, social studies teacher, Farmington High School.

● Mary Lawson, secretary, Wood Creek Elementary.

● Helen Weingarden, fourth grade teacher, Wooddale Elementary.

Sabbatical leaves were approved for two other employees for the 1987-88 school year. Thomas Call, speech pathologist at Cloverdale Center, and Laura Barker, occupational therapist at Eagle Elementary, will be on leave.

● **ESSAY CHOSEN**
Stephanie Speranza's essay was chosen as one of the top 10 in Michigan in the Farm Bureau Insurance Group's America and Me Essay Contest.

Speranza, a Farmington resident and Power Middle School student, was honored May 26 at a program in Lansing. She toured the State Capitol and received a savings bond at an awards banquet.

Thousands of eighth graders from 500 schools participated in the contest.

● **GAINS SCHOLARSHIP**
Angie Chen of North Farmington High School is the winner of a \$100 scholarship from the Little Professor Book Center of Farmington for her 1,000-word review of the novel "Song of Solomon" by Toni Morrison.

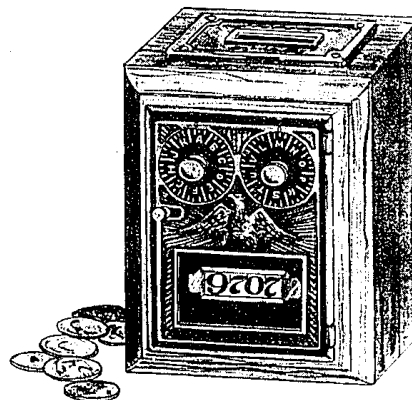
Her essay will now be considered with 60 others in regional and national competition.

● **TEACHER AWARDED**
A local teacher was awarded a fellowship by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to participate in the 1987 program of Summer Seminars for Secondary School Teachers.

Helena Skuratowicz-Baginski of Farmington Hills will be a NEH Summer Fellow in a seminar called "The Hero's Journey to Self-Discovery" during the six-week program at Stanford University in California.

● **LANGUAGE COMPETITION**
Anthony Phillips of Farmington Hills tied for fourth place in local language competition in the Spanish category.

He is a student at Bloomfield Hills Cranbrook Kingswood Upper School. Winnings were based on the highest number of correct answers the students achieved on an 80-question exam.



GIVE DAD THIS UNIQUE BANK

Created from an original brass U.S. Post Office lockbox door. Encased in oak and topped with a commemorative plaque. Combination lock, individually numbered. A conversation piece Dad will treasure. Jolly Good Industries, \$35.

Jacobson's

Shop until 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday
Until 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday