

Test your knowledge of Michigan history

David Litvin teaches elementary school history in the Farmington Public Schools. He is a member of the Farmington Historical Society.

By David Litvin
special writer

Now that the school year is coming to a close, it is time for the final exam. This is the sequential year and everyone should know something about Michigan history, right?

These 10 questions will test your general knowledge of the subject. Nine to 10 right is a terrific score. Less than five right means that you should continue reading this column each month to better yourself.

1. Who was the first European to see Michigan?

- a. LaSalle
- b. Marquette
- c. Brule
- d. Champlain

2. How many Indian tribes lived in Michigan when the first Europeans arrived in the 1600s?

- a. three
- b. four
- c. five
- d. six

3. Who was the first governor of the territory of Michigan?

- a. Judge Woodward
- b. William Hull
- c. Lewis Cass
- d. Stevens Mason

4. Where was the oldest permanent settlement built in Michigan?

- a. St. Ignace
- b. Mackinac Island
- c. Sault Ste. Marie
- d. Detroit

5. The first fort at Detroit was called Fort —

- a. Pontchartrain
- b. Detroit
- c. Wayne
- d. Cadillac

6. Which city was not seriously considered to be site for the new state capital in 1847?

- a. Marshall
- b. Ann Arbor
- c. Grand Rapids
- d. Jackson

7. Which newspaper is the oldest?

- a. Detroit Free Press
- b. Detroit News
- c. Flint Journal

8. The reason why ore boats in the Great Lakes are long and narrow is because:

- a. they hold more
- b. they are easier to load
- c. they fit through the Soo locks easier
- d. they are cheaper to build.

9. The first Michigan person to successfully manufacture cars was:

- a. Ransom E. Olds
- b. Henry Ford
- c. Charles King
- d. Louis Chevrolet

10. In which of the following was Michigan not first?

- a. first full mile of concrete highway
- b. first commercial radio station
- c. first passenger airline service
- d. first phone numbers

ANSWERS:

- 1. C. Frenchman Etienne Brule

footprints in history

first explored the Lake Superior region in 1622. He lived with the Huron Indians until they boiled and ate him in the fall of 1622.

2. D. They were the Chippewa, Ottawa, Potawatomi, Miami, Menominee, and Wyandot.

3. B. Michigan became a territory in 1805 and William Hull became territorial governor. In the War of 1812, he surrendered Detroit to the British without a fight (fearing an

Indian massacre) and as a result was found guilty of neglect of duty and cowardice and sentenced to be shot. President James Madison prevented his execution.

4. C. Founded in 1688 by Father Marquette, it is the third oldest remaining settlement in the U.S.

5. A. Named after the French colonial minister who helped Cadillac

convince the French king to build a fort at these strategic straits.

6. C. The others had to agree on a "neutral" site — a place at first called Michigan and later Lansing.

7. A. Founded in 1831, it was first known as the Democratic Free Press and Michigan Intelligencer and became Michigan's first daily newspaper.

8. C. The Soo locks opened in 1855 and boats have been built like that ever since.

9. A. Olds drove his first car in 1896 and established a factory in Lansing in 1901, two years before

Henry Ford formed his company. Technically, the Olds Motor Works was incorporated in Detroit.

10. E. The first auto company was the Duryea Motor Wagon Company in Springfield, Massachusetts in 1895, six years before Olds. The first mile of concrete was completed on Woodward Avenue between Six and Seven Mile Road in 1909. The first commercial radio station with regular programming was Detroit's WWJ in 1920. The first passenger airline service was provided by Stout Air Services in 1926. Detroit phone customers of 1879 were the first in the nation to be assigned numbers.

Sources: Pioneers of Forest and City, Michigan Department of State Michillanaceous by Gary W. Barfknecht.

Power student a top essayist

THE WINNERS also met Supreme Court Justice Michael Cavanaugh and toured the Supreme Court chambers. They toured the state capitol building and received a personal letter of congratulations from Gov. James Blanchard.

Ranking of the top 10 was determined by judges Blanchard, Lt. Gov. Martha Griffiths, U.S. Rep. Bob Carr and Lansing television and radio commentator Howard Lancour.

The American & Me essay contest was developed in 1958 to encourage Michigan youths to explore their roles in America's future. Other

school districts represented among the winners were Saline, Eaton Rapids, Harbor Beach, East Lansing, Redford, Madison Heights, Pontiac, Bay City and Rochester.

Speranza is the daughter of Len and Barbara Speranza of Farmington.

Scholarship presented



Elissa Litvin
North graduate

Elissa Litvin of Farmington Hills was among eight high school seniors nationally to receive a 1987 Newell Merit Scholarship Award. The award provides up to \$3,000 per year toward tuition expenses during four years of study at any accredited college or university.

A spring graduate of North Farmington High School, Litvin received the highest score of 500 students competing at the Southeast Michigan Regional History Competition.

During her senior years, she was a member of the National Honor Society and is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students. Her Civil War lecture notes are on file in the school's learning resource room.

Litvin's extracurricular activities included membership in both her school's symphony band and orchestra. She was the squad leader and business manager of her school's marching band. In 1986, she received the band's Outstanding Leadership Award. In addition, she is active in community service programs and has helped the elderly and needy.

The Newell Co. is based in Freeport, Ill., and is a major consumer products manufacturer and marketer listed on the New York Stock Exchange. The scholarship program was started in 1983 to financially assist children of Newell employees.

Litvin is the daughter of Joseph and Laura Litvin.

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