



Flavio Varani



Fedora Horowitz

## Piano festival to feature 9 artists

Lyric Chamber Ensemble will host Michigan's first piano festival at Orchestra Hall at 8 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 28; 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 5; and 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12.

The piano festival is intended to be a celebration of the piano and pianism. In addition to solo and duo performances by artists representing four generations, there will be discussions about the development of the piano, differences in style and stories about great piano artists. Time will be allowed for a Q&A period and listeners will have an opportunity to meet the artists following the programs.

At the Saturday, Jan. 28, concert performers Flavio Varani, Louis Nagel, Joseph Gurt, Fedora Horowitz and Karen Walwyn will perform works by Remsieu, Granados, Schubert, Liszt, Chopin, Debussy, Gótschalski and Paganini. Musicians for the Sunday, Feb. 5, concert will be Horowitz and Michael Gurt, Varani, Mischa Kottler, and Joseph Gurt. They will play works by Mozart, Schumann, Dohnányi, Czerny, Ravel and Weber.

### preview

Those who will be performing on Feb. 12 are Cynthia Raim, Kottler, Michael Gurt, Varani, Nagel, Joseph Gurt, Horowitz, Walwyn and Richmond Browne. The program will include

works by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Liszt, Reichert, Rachmaninoff, Granados, Kurbi, Debussy, Balakirev and Prokofiev. To order tickets, call 357-1111

### Historical scent for potpourris

AP — One of nature's most bountiful gifts is the aura of aroma.

According to Traditional Home magazine, from the beginning of recorded history, and probably before, people have treasured natural perfumes. In Roman times, roses and their scents were highly prized. Nero's banquet hall was reputed to be carpeted with rose petals for his guests to lie upon. More of the velvety leaves were customarily dropped from the ceiling during the evening's festivities.

In the 1500s and 1600s, newly gathered branches of lavender, rosemary and sage were commonly strewn across stone floors to rid the air of their freshening scents and mask unpleasant odors. Bundles of dried herbs were burned indoors to fumigate rooms against plague.

In the 1700s, dried flowers and herbs were combined into potpourris to perfume the air of Elizabethan homes. It also became fashionable for ladies to carry tussle-mussies, small bouquets of fresh flowers and herbs, to sniff daintily as they traveled through foul-smelling streets.

Although both fashion and living conditions have changed, the allure of these fragrant delicacies hasn't. Interest in potpourris, tussle-mussies and everlasting wreaths is once again blossoming. Readily available through mail-order sources, these gifts from nature add both a subtle bouquet and beauty to today's homes.

**POTPOURRI.** A mixture of flowers, herbs and spices, was a gentlewoman's pride and joy in the late 1500s and after.

The tedious task of drying, storing and blending herbs and flowers was performed in a stillroom. Named for the still that was kept there to draw out essential oils, it was here that the lady of the house supervised her maids in the preparation of potpourris, cosmetics, soaps and medicines for her family.

"Traditionally, potpourris are based on the fragrance of roses but nowadays other scented flowers are commonly used as well. Author Emeline Tolley gives a general makeup for the potpourri in her book 'Herbs'... flower petals are mixed with dried aromatic leaves from herbs such as lavender and scented geraniums, then powdered spices like cinnamon and cloves or the fragrant seeds of herbs like anise can be added in small amounts."

Although tussle-mussies had practical purposes, to fend off disagreeable odors and guard against disease, they no doubt were more loved for their irresistible beauty and sweet aroma.

Traditionally, a tussle-mussie was built around a central flower, usually a rose. Other flowers and herbs, such as rosemary and thyme, thought to be disinfectants, encircled the main blossom.

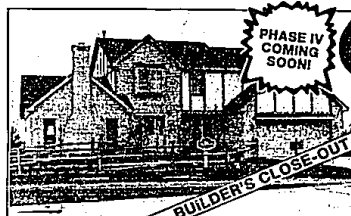
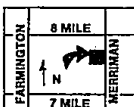
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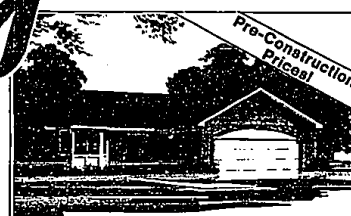
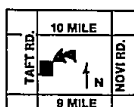
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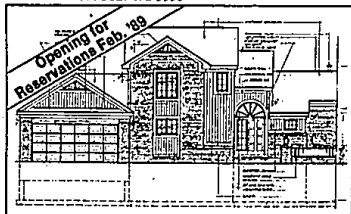
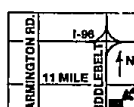
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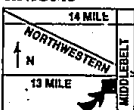
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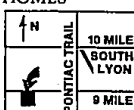
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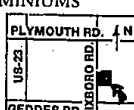
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