Direct mailers finding new ways to prosper

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"I think they (the Free Press and the News) had a lot more duplication than they originally believed," he faild.
Finally, Singer said local advertisers have little loyalty to the two major dailies. "It might have been been been been to be the said, the two dailies the retailiers never the said of the two dailies the retailiers never and a good feeling about them because there's no local connection."

ADVO Delieves the twice-weekly circulation will enable it to pick up more and different customers for its direct mail marketing, Singer said. There's nothing I can really point to yet — we're seeing fast food, home improvement stores, department stores, furniture stores — but we won't really know for several months."

months."
Singer said he doubts the Detroit
Newspaper Agency (DNA), the body
which now runs the two dailies, will
sit quietly by and watch the direct
mallers gobble up advertising doi-

lars.
DNA officials wouldn't respond to

"WE'VE ALREADY seen they (the DNA) are realigning their advertising zones and aggressively pricing (discounting) again." Singer said.
Twice weekly, direct mail advertising isn't the only option available to the direct mallers, however.
Bill Buczak and Don Duncan, cowners of Val Pak direct mail, are launching a new venture this month called "Reach," a silck, four-color, 8
1% by 11 inches magazine advertising upplement.

14% by 11 inches magazine advertising supplement.
The first edition of Reach will be
16 pages with future editions orroughly four each year – approximately the same length.
The magazine is an attempt to appeal to a wider advertiser base, Buczak said. Val Pask appeals to middle
and small retailers who have a relatively small and localized customer
base, but Reach will appeal to mass
advertisers.
Reach will circulate to 900,000
homes in the metropolitan Detroit
area. Val Pak circulates to 1.4 million bomes.

ferent vehicle," he said.

REACH WILL be primarily a vehicle for coupon advertisements, but it will also have some display advertising, he said. The "magarine style" of Reach, he continued, will lend itself to people keeping the advertisements for a longer period of time."

Buczak also noted that people always read the mail, while they may une out newspaper, television and radio advertisements.

Buczak said market demand was the prime reason for starting the magazine — a concept that has been successful in other areas of the country.

iry.
"People are still looking for lowcost, saturation advertising," he

"People are still looking for low-cost, saturation advertising," he said.

The Detroit News-Detroit Free Press joint operating agreement, he added, eliminated the largest low-cost, saturation advertising avenue. "The JOA was a bonus more than anything we were counting on," he said.

Reach would have been started re-gardless of the JOA happening or

not.

THE JOA, however, does provide an ideal set of circumstances for the new publication's launching.

"We knew it was only a matter of time before the JOA, so we were prepared for it when it came," Buczak said.

Advertisers in the first edition will appear in all 900,000 magazines, Buczak said, but foutre editions will allow advertisers to appear in zones.

"We'll probably have an Oakland edition. a Wayne edition and a Maccomb edition, and we may even have a few more."

Burzak noted that while the prime

comb edition, and we may even have a few more."

Buczak noted that while the prime goal of Reach is to provide saturation advertising, the trend in marketing is towards targeting.

Targeting various markets with smaller press runs will allow the magazine more flexibility, he continued. North Oakland County, for example, may not need a magazine with Ann Arbor businesses so some pages can be devoted to local advertising and others can be reserved for advertisers who wish to reach a mass market.

Postal rate hikes worry mailers

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rate rates for letters and flats; new drop ship rates to differentiate rates by distance; a discount for saturation mail presented in walk sequence; and discounts for basic and three-digit mail.

The postal rate changes are necessary to ensure the postal service continues to break even, not to generate a profit; Gillespie said. Postal rate increases have exceeded inflation, she said, but postal service expenses — which are approximately 83 percent labor — also have exceeded inflation.

The U.S. Postal Service had a \$1.6 billion defet in 1989.

The real issue is not the impact, but the rate increase itself, said DelPolito. "Are they doing all they can with the money they're getting?"

DelPolito said the rate changes will result in \$7.4 billion dollars in increased revenues with \$1.66 bill.

lion going to a "contingency reserve to cover for unforescen
events."
"If your reserve is almost 25
percent of a rate increase, there's
got to be some questions," DelPoilto said.
Gillesple said the agency doesn't
always get what it asks for. Rate
changes are proposed to the Postal
Rate Commission (PRC) which has
up to 10 months to review the
changes.
After review, the PRC makes a
recommendation to the U.S. Postal
Service Board of Governors which
can approve reject or modify the
rate changes. Giltesple said.
"We are in the unfortunate posttion of not setting our own rates
and we don't receive subsidies
from the federal government," she
said.
DelPolito noted the rate in-

DelPolito noted the rate in-crease is being requested for the postal service's budget that begins

in October 1991. "The rate increase, however, will go into effect in January 1991. We think there's room for some balance there—where's the econometric justification for that?"

tion for that?"

ZIP CODE change impacts are also difficult to gauge, Jolet said. Simply changing ZIP code numbers would hardly impact the direct mallers, but changing ZIP code boundaries could have a real impact. "It all depends on what they do," he said. Direct mailers have developed marketing strategles based on where people live in relation to ZIP codes, he said, and a change in the boundaries will require new marketing studies. Adapting to changing ZIP codes will not impact the industry as much as the cost increases, because and the cost increases.

It is possible the changes could even be helpful if identifying certain target audiences is easier with the changes, Jolet added. They were going to have to do something to adjust to the population anyway."

Gillespie said business mailers should experience little difficult and the same should experience little difficult affect mailers compile list approximately every three months. "Normally, we charge them for the service, but we'll provide them with the, new ZIP codes and addresses free of charge," she said. Direct mailers may have to do some new demographic studies to find the "higher profile" ZIP codes, she continued, but most changes will respect previous ZIP code boundaries. "A lot of the new ZIP code boundaries." A lot of the new ZIP code boundaries will be the result of spitting larger areas into smaller ones, she said.

business people

Gina Deticl Greer was promoted to account supervisor at Michael Flora & Associates, Troy. Greer joined Flora in 1987 as senior ac-count executive.

Michael L. Lencione of Farming-ton, S. Allen Early III of Bloomfield Hillis and Gregory V. DiCenso of Lathrup Village have become part-ners in the statewide law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone. Lencione joined Miller Canfield in 1992 as an associate; Early Joined in 1996 as senior attorney, and DiCenso Joined in 1984 as an associate.

Loan Amount: 125,000

GANIS HOME LOANS

INSTITUTION

The following people have been named to new positions at Metrobank in Farmington Hills. They are: Gerald G. Wasen to sendor vice president; Michael K. McMinn to vice president and cashier; and Joan L. Taylor to vice president.

Joseph M. Mankvitz was honored as one of the top-producing sales as-sociates in the Century 21 interna-tional system. Mankvitz is sales as-sociate at Century 21 Old Orchard in West Bloomfield.

Michael Gilburd was appointed

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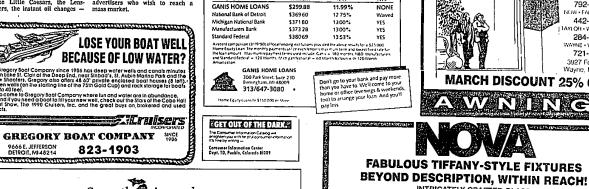
\$299.88

the Midwest regional director of cor-porate finance at BDO Seldman in Troy. Gibburd was previously chair-man and chief executive officer of Firm One Inc.

Ellen Murphy and Suzanne Parran were honored for productivity and customer service during the AAA an-nual Travel Ambassadors award

ceremony. Murphy and Parran are employees at the AAA Travel Agencies Blrimingham office.
Christopher E. Arkell of Birmingham was appointed account executive at Kane and Kane Inc. in Birmingham. Prior to Joining Kane and Kane, Arkell was with Wells, Rich, Greene/Detroit Inc. as an account executive.









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