

# Duns Scotus sold, but its fans will keep fighting

By Tim Smith  
staff writer

Longtime supporters of Duns Scotus plan to keep fighting so its friars can remain, despite Monday's announcement that the Southfield landmark was sold for about \$10 million to local developer LoPatin & Co.

As part of a \$50 million development plan, the 61-year-old chapel and campus would be converted into a business conference center and nine-hole golf course. An additional 18 golf holes on the site also is being discussed.

"All the Franciscan mothers are saddened by it, that's for sure," said Rachel Hund, president of the Franciscan Mother's Club. "But we're going to keep praying. Maybe a miracle can happen."

Meanwhile, the sale of Duns

Scotus won't hamper the club's 40th anniversary party this spring.

"Our club was going to have a card party in April. We've decided to have it anyway. We deserve it," Hund said.

The new complex would probably open in 1992, said Norman LoPatin, marketing and public relations vice president for the builder.

THE FRIARS will remain at the site for at least a year and then move their pastoral ministry to nearby St. Michael's Parish, said the Rev. John Bok of the Franciscan's Cincinnati headquarters.

Other Duns Scotus operations such as the chapel ministry, poverty program and Franciscan School of Evangelization will be moved to unspecified locations within the Detroit area, Bok said.

However, Hund said there's still

hope of derailing the project by blocking the necessary rezoning of the property.

"We're going to get busy and talk to the Southfield City Council and see if they can help," Hund said. "We want to see if we can get it so they don't rezone it."

Hund said the club is also expected to submit petitions in support of keeping both Duns Scotus intact and the friars on the site.

The petitions bear more than 8,000 signatures collected since news of an imminent sale broke in late November.

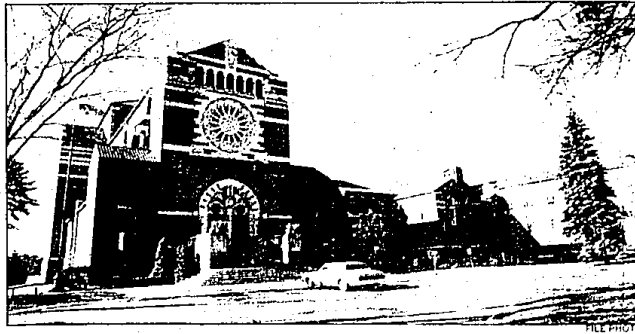
WORD OF the sale's culmination also saddened the Rev. Frank Jasper, a resident friar at Duns Scotus.

"It's very sad to think of leaving such a beautiful spot after so many years and because we've invested ourselves so heavily with people here," Jasper said.

Another friar, the Rev. Chris Cahill, said it would be a disappointment to leave Duns Scotus after spending only six months there. But he hadn't been at the complex long enough to comment further about the sale.

The planned move of Duns Scotus' pastoral ministries into St. Michael's 10 Mile Road facility, while generally welcomed, might cause some disruption.

"We wouldn't mind them being here, but it all depends on when they need the space," said St. Michael's Sister Mary Ursula. "I don't know if space would be available during the (school) day, but it would be no problem during evenings or weekends."



The Duns Scotus chapel and campus on Evergreen Road near Nine Mile, a Southfield landmark for more than 60 years, has been sold by

the Franciscan friars to a development company that plans to turn the buildings and grounds into a conference center and golf course.

The only serious opposition to the LoPatin bid that has surfaced was an offer spearheaded by D'Etre University, which since January 1990 has operated its America-Japanese International College out of leased quarters at Duns Scotus.

D'Etre president William Poffenberger could not be reached for comment about the college's future.

Meanwhile, the 110-acre campus must be rezoned from its current residential classification to accommodate the proposed conference center and golf course, according to

Southfield city attorney John Boras. Council president Suzanne Goldstein said the council would "work diligently" with the developers to make sure the physical structure of Duns Scotus is maintained.

"I DON'T want to lose it," Goldstein said Monday. "So we have to work with them to preserve what we've got. That's a real jewel. I have that place."

According to LoPatin, the Duns Scotus building, including its chapel, "would look the same" as it now

does after the project is finished.

The main goal of the center is to provide a first-class conference facility unmatched in the Midwest. LoPatin said. "It is our goal to maintain the architectural integrity of the existing structures, which will provide an environment where ideas can be exchanged with maximum ease and comfort."

Other LoPatin developments in Southfield include the Embassy Suites Hotel, the adjacent Northwest office Plaza and the two Southfield Tri-Centers, he said.

## Monthly Allergy Tip

If you never stop fighting the cold war, it's time to question if it's really a cold you are fighting!

Coughs and chest congestion are often caused by respiratory infections. If symptoms appear too frequently or are difficult to control, it may be that allergies or asthma are involved.

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## FARMINGTON SCHOOLS

### NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, A CONSTITUENT SCHOOL DISTRICT OF OAKLAND SCHOOLS, AN INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a Special Election will be held in the Farmington Public School District, County of Oakland, and State of Michigan, on Tuesday, the 5th day of February, 1991, for the purpose of submitting the following proposition:

**PROPOSITION 1**  
SHALL THE LIMITATION ON THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TAXES WHICH MAY BE IMPOSED ON ALL PROPERTY IN THE FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BE INCREASED FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS, BEGINNING JULY 1, 1991, BY TWO AND SEVEN TENTHS (2 7/10) MILLS ON EACH DOLLAR (\$2.70 PER \$1,000) OF STATE EQUALIZED VALUATION TO BE USED FOR DEFRAYING A PORTION OF THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?

YES  
NO

**PROPOSITION 2**  
IN THE EVENT PROPOSITION 1, ABOVE ON THIS BALLOT, IS APPROVED AT THIS ELECTION BY A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST ON VOTED INCREASES IN THE TOTAL TAX RATE, SHALL THE LIMITATION ON THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF TAXES WHICH MAY BE IMPOSED ON ALL PROPERTY IN THE FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT BE INCREASED FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS, BEGINNING JULY 1, 1991, BY 1 0/10 MILL ON EACH DOLLAR (\$1.00 PER \$1,000) OF STATE EQUALIZED VALUATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RENOVATING, EXPANDING AND REPAIRING EXISTING BUILDINGS IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT?

YES  
NO

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that the polls for said election will be open from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 6:00 o'clock P.M., Eastern Standard Time, and that the voting places will be as follows:

Precinct No. 1 Farmington Training Center  
33000 Thomas Street  
Luncheon Middle School  
Precinct No. 2 32800 Twelve Mile  
Warner Middle School  
Precinct No. 3 30303 West Fourteen Mile  
East Middle School  
Precinct No. 4 25000 Middlebelt Road

The following statement has been received from the County Treasurer as to previously voted increases in the total tax rate limitation affecting taxable property in the school district, to-wit:

COUNTY TREASURER'S STATEMENT AS REQUIRED BY ACT NO. 62 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1933 AS AMENDED

I, C. Hugh Doherty, County Treasurer of the County of Oakland, State of Michigan, do hereby certify that according to the records in my office, as of November 1, 1990, the total of all voted increases in the tax rate limitation above the 1% mills established by Section 6 of Article IX of the Michigan Constitution of 1963 affecting taxable property in Farmington Public School District in said County, is as follows:

LOCAL UNIT	VOTED INCREASE	YEARS INCREASE
Farmington Public School District	5.00	1983 to 1992 Incl
	5.00	1984 to 1993 Incl
	4.00	1985 to 1994 Incl
	4.00	1986 to 1995 Incl
	4.00	1987 to 1997 Incl
	5.75	1988 to 1998 Incl
Township of West Bloomfield	1.00	Unlimited
	2.00	1988 to 1992 Incl
	5.00	1988 to 1997 Incl
	25	1990 to 2003 Incl
County School District of Oakland County	2.25	Unlimited
Oakland Community College	1.00	Unlimited
County of Oakland	25	1987 to 1991 Incl

C. HUGH DOHERTY, County Treasurer, Oakland County  
DATED November 1, 1990

This notice is given by order of the Board of Education of said school district.

CATHLEEN WEBB, Secretary, Board of Education

Published January 21, 24, 28 and 31, 1991

## FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST will be taken by the Farmington Public School District for the February 5, 1991, Special Election. This test is to demonstrate the accuracy of the computer tabulation procedures used on election night. The test will be taken on Wednesday, the 30th day of January, 1991, at 1:30 P.M., at the City Clerk's office, City of Farmington Hills, 31555 W. Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan.

Public Accuracy Test

## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

31555 ELEVEN MILE ROAD  
FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN 48336  
(313) 474-6115

### ADVERTISEMENT

Sold bids will be received by the City Clerk, City of Farmington Hills, at the City Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48336, until 10:00 a.m. local time, FEBRUARY 14, 1991. Bids will then be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time.

### BID NO. 90-91-221 DESKTOP PUBLISHING SYSTEM

Specifications may be obtained from the Purchasing Department on or after THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1991. All offers submitted are to be clearly marked for the specific item. The City of Farmington Hills reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in part or in whole, to waive any formalities, and to accept the bid which it deems to be in the best interest of the City.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN  
City Clerk

## CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS REGULAR PUBLIC HEARING MEETING JANUARY 21, 1991

Mayor Vagnozzi called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members Present: Mayor Vagnozzi, Mayor Pro Tem Grant Bates, Fox, Luchman, Marks and Sever. Others Present: City Manager Patrick Dornan, Clerk Dornan, Assistant City Manager Call, Assistant to the City Manager Brock, Director of Public Services Russell, Director of Planning and Community Development Courtney, City Attorney, Development and Planning Consultant Coates.

### COUNCIL

Adopted Resolution supporting our troops in the Persian Gulf. Proclaimed January 21, 1991, as JANUARY WEEK in support to the past and continuing service of the troops. Proclaimed January 21, 1991, as the day to remember the struggles, goals and visions of Martin Luther King. Took no action on Introduction of Zoning Text Amendment 17, 1990 relating to the Zoning for Industrial, Business and Office.

### APPROVED

Introduction of Zoning Text Amendment 18, 1990 relating to Tree Protection Replacement Standards. Consent judgment for multiple development at the southeast corner of Thirteen Mile and Halsted Roads. Bid for DWP ditching machine to AIS Continental for \$124,880. City Council minutes of January 7, 1991. Entering into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

### DENIED

Introduction of Zoning Text Amendment 17, 1990 relating to the definition of elderly housing. Introduction of Zoning Text Amendment 18, 1990 to revise RCE Elderly Housing Residential District to RCE Multiple Elderly Housing District.

The regular public hearing meeting was adjourned at 11:50 p.m.

ALDO VAGNOZZI, Mayor  
KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

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