

# School honors young inventor

Abigail Newth was honored recently at an all-school assembly at Longacre Elementary for her invention which earned her both local and state-level awards through last year's Invent America competition.

Called "Mommy's Helper," her invention was a placemat with the proper placement of plate, cup and utensils outlined so even young children could, indeed, be a helper at mealtime. Now a first grader at Hillside Elementary, Abigail created her invention while a kindergartener at Longacre last year.

With her mother, Gail, she returned to Longacre to accept a \$200 U.S. Savings bond for her state prize. Longacre teacher Becky McKee and the school also received awards of educational materials and an assortment of books and tapes for the school's media center, plus an Invent America flag and banner.

"We're very proud of Abigail's accomplishment of winning at the

state competition," said principal Bill Smith. "We hope the award she receives and recognition she brings to our school will inspire other young inventors at Longacre to participate in this year's competition."

AS HAVE a number of schools in the Farmington district in recent weeks, Longacre kicked off its 1991 Invent America program March 5 at the all-school assembly.

Smith did his part inspiring students by showing them his own invention. Dubbed the "Eyeback," Smith mounted a video camera facing backwards on a bicycle helmet, and while hooked up to a TV screen, proved to Longacre students that he, indeed, have "eyes in the back of his head."

Longacre's competition will end April 12, with an "Invention Convention" where students will be on hand to explain their inventions and answer questions.



photos by SHARON LAMUE/Staff photographer

## Big-deal bingo

Bingo is always a big deal for the senior citizens at the Mercy Center in Farmington Hills. Shirley Singer of Southfield (above) calls the letters and numbers twice a week at the senior center. Not only does Gay Moroz (right) of Detroit play bingo twice a week, she also swims five days at the Mercy Center's pool. She and her husband, George, have been coming to the center for 10 years. They also help out by working as the center's librarians.



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