

## Heave-ho

Farmington Hills officials had long been watching the walls on the more than 100-year-old barn near the Eleanor Spicer Estate House in Heritage Park. A week ago, one of the foundation walls collapsed after heavy rainstorms. For quite some time, there's

been a lot of ground pressure on the cement block wall. About 15 feet of the wall col-lapsed and another 6 feet are ready to col-lapse, said Dan Potter, Farmington Hills spe-cial services director. Plans are under way to fix the wall and secure the barn.

## Local students, GM workers team up

Farmington Public Schools and General Motors are exploring a new with in the growing partnership be-tween industry and education. Odynsey of the Mind state champions from Harrison and North Farmington high schools recently demon-strated their problem-solving skills to a group of SOO engineers and managers from GMs Chevrolet-Ponilac-GM of Canada division. The students also competed with a group of GM em-ployees in a mock spontaneous brainstorning session, similar to one which might be used at an Odynsey com-petition.

Imiting to one which might be used at an Udyssey com-petition. "We're teaching our engineers creative techniques applicable to engineering processes," and Del Schreed-cection of employeesing institutes and we possible and the second second second second second second prosched the same problem differently. We knew each team would cars from the other." The get-logether was part of GM's monthly "Cross Talk" series on creativity, where non-GM speakers are invited to discuss key business issues. THE 1991 champs for Odyssey, an international cre-ative problem-solving competition commonly called OM, presented their award-winning "Omer's Buggy Lite" engineering project.

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For the brainstorming session, each group had to solve an engineering problem in six minutes. The ex-ercise demonstrated that the process of problem-solving is more important than the outcome, organisers said, such that the solution of the problem solving segment and brainstorming, in an effort project man-segment and brainstorming, in an effort project man-sequence of these sulfils required in the business world. Coach Dee Krause, a tro-year volunieer coach of Parmington's doylssey team, believes team members have learned their lessons well. "My team exemplifies the teamwork and creativity needed to succeed in today's world," she said. "Off goes twoynd what's taught in a regular classroom and teach-es kids to think on their feet."

FARMINGTON Public Schools sponsors Odyssey of the Mind as an extra-curricular enrichment activity. It is open to all students in grades kindergarten through 12. The district has been involved with the program for

12. The district has been involved with the program for nine years. "The students on Farmington's team should make ex-cellent future employees because of the skills they learned in OM," said Farmington superintendent Mi-chael Flanagen. "We can't attress enough the importance of a strong industry/education relationship for the suc-cess of both institutions."

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