

around Oakland

Area students win U-M writing awards

Three area residents were among 22 University of Michigan students who won the most recent Avery and Julie Hopwood Awards in Creative Writing for Underclassmen and other literary contests sponsored by the U-M Department of English.

They are:
MICHAEL WARREN, LSA Junior from Farmington Hills, the Michael B. Guterman Award in Poetry, \$100 for "Nunance to Know."
JASON BALUYUT, Residential College sophomore from Southfield, \$300 in the Hopwood fiction category for "The Rise and Fall of Joaquin Gonzaga de Dios."

JEREMY GREEN, Residential College freshman from West Bloomfield, \$200 in the Hopwood fiction category for "The Imperial."

The awards ceremony Tuesday featured a reading by poet Charles Simic, Pulitzer Prize winner and author of "Unending Blues," "The World Doesn't End," and other works. The awards were presented by professor Nicholas Delbanco, director of the Hopwood Program.

The Hopwood Awards, funded by a bequest from U-M alumnus and Broadway playwright Avery Hopwood, are presented three times annually, with the major competition in April.

College aid workshop slated for Wednesday

A college financial aid workshop will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Sheffield Plaza, 3310 Building, Suite 105 at Big Beaver and Coolidge in Troy.

The workshop will cover how to fill out financial aid forms, the "Do's and Don'ts" and the most current federal and state regulations that determine availability of need-based aid for fall, '92. A ques-

tion and answer period will follow. This workshop is free of charge and open to all college-bound high school seniors and their parents planning to attend public and private colleges and universities.

Seating is limited, reservations can be made by calling 1-800-457-7878. This workshop is sponsored by Northwood Institute in Midland.

Primary setup 'an absolute mess'

By Tim Richard
staff writer

If you want to vote in the Republican presidential primary March 17, you'd best declare your party affiliation by Feb. 18.

To vote in the Democratic primary, you can declare yourself a Democrat March 17.

"It's an absolute mess," said Republican state Rep. Jan Dolan of Farmington Hills. But it's the best advice the Grand Old Party can give its followers at this point.

Meanwhile, Michigan voters, accustomed to open primaries, continue to gripe about the party declaration rule.

Why the difference between parties?

DEMOCRATIC Party national rules say delegates to the national convention must come from a caucus or a closed primary.

The party says its rules take precedence over state law, and the U.S. Supreme Court says the Democrats are right. "The National Democratic Party and its adherents enjoy a constitutionally protected right of political association," said the highest court.

Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley ruled, "Where a political party rule of general application contradicts a state statute, the rule prevails."

After the Michigan Legislature passed a 30-day party declaration law to accommodate the Democrats, the state Democratic Party adopted a same-day declaration rule. Said Kelley: "The rule also prohibits indi-

viduals who have previously filed a different party preference from declaring their Democratic party preference."

As usual, peopl must be registered to vote 30 days before the primary, but Democrats can declare their affiliation at polls.

REPUBLICAN national rules say state law takes precedence. Michigan law says the state declare party preference by Feb. 18.

Dolan said his Republicans last week tried to force bill out of committee to allow open primary.

The discharge effort failed on party lines.

"A number of Democrats chose not to vote so they're not on record as voting for an open primary," she said.

It's possible that the Republican State Committee could adopt a rule allowing same-day declaration, she said. But that would put the state party rule in conflict with the national rule.

So for now the official Republican advice is: "If you plan on voting, you'd better declare."

THE DEMOCRATIC ballot will have the names of Sen. Tim Wirth of Iowa, Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas, former Gov. Jerry Brown of California, former Sen. Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts and Sen. Bob Kerrey of Nebraska.

The Republican ballot will have the names of President George Bush, columnist Patrick Buchanan and state Rep. David Duke of Louisiana.

A Republican strategy may be to stick with the 30-day declaration rule, however unpopular, because it might hold down the turnout for former Ku Klux Klanman Duke.

Tri-county chambers eye unification

Leaders from more than 30 local chambers of commerce from Wayne, Macomb and Oakland counties met recently to discuss plans to form a Tri-County Chamber Coalition to unify the metropolitan Detroit business community.

"The response the concept was very positive," J. Phil Meagher, president of the tri-county Chamber of Commerce, he majority of those in attendance at the meeting held in Royal Oak supported the idea for a stronger metropolitan linkage

and will seek support of the concept from their respective chamber boards of directors.

John White, president of the Livonia Chamber of Commerce, said the new voluntary network would provide an important business link, not an overlapping organization.

"The need and role of local chambers of commerce has never been greater," White said. "But if southeast Michigan is to prosper, we must work together in areas that will im-

prove businesses in all communities.

"Those areas could include tri-county legislative and political affairs, increased communications between chambers and communities, meaningful tri-county programing and business development, and much-needed leadership development," said White.

The group will meet again March 19, said Steve Morris of the Warren, Center Line, Sterling Heights Chamber of Commerce.

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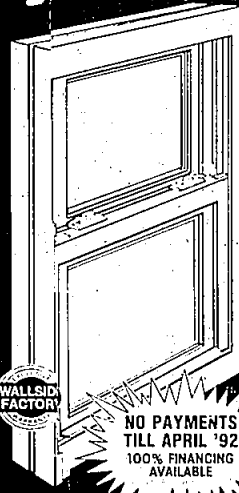
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