B'ham hosts in-line skating benefit

"The 2nd Annual Fresh Start
The Line Skating event will run on
"Ang, 8 in downtown Birmingham.
The Fresh Start event features
"lice hours of in-line skating and
related activities, with a focus on
families and newer skaters. Profeeds from the event will go to
EMEAC'S environmental educatibul program in area high schools.
It will take place on closed
streets in downtown Birmingham,
including Maple, Pierce, Merrill
and Henrietta. Skating begins at
8 n.m., with the start of the Earthshate Marathon. The Marathon
is a "pledge" event, designed for
skaters of all abilities, with the
simple course allowing participunist to skate as long and as fest
as they want.

"We want local residents,

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tively, to significantly support local groups like EMEAC," explained Harris.

A 10 kilometer race follows the Marathon at high noon, split into different categories by age and ability. "This year people skating the 10k will find themselves with more people of similar speed, it should make for exciting racing and some close finishes," Martin pointed out.

The Fresh Start winds up with 100 and 400 meter sprints to crown the Fastest Skaters in Michigan. After the sprints, the event center switches to Shain Park, where the Awards Ceromony will crown the 10k and sprints winners.

Designed to be an environment.

Designed to be an environmen-tally friendly athletic event, the

Fresh Start will focus on giving the maximum number of people possible a positive impression of the joys and value of in-line skating. Free demonstration equipment and certified instructors will give people who have never skated before a chance to get a good start.

"In fact, someone could show up on the day of the event and skate all day, without owning or buying any equipment or even the start of the st

wheels."

In addition, merchants will offer healthful food, skate accessories and athletic clothing throughout the day. Emphasis will be placed on keeping garbage to a minimum throughout, with composting and recycling of the event's waste a priority.

New laws regulate real estate sales

To the delight of real estate agents, Gov. John Engler signed two new laws regulating sales.

signed two new laws regulating sales.
Realtor-initiated HB 4375, the property seller's disclosure act, and HB 4269, amendments to the real estate agency representation and license law, were signed Monday at the Michigan Association of Realtors summer meetings at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island.
"With the signing of this legislation into law, Michigan citizens will gain additional assurance that the American dream of home ownership and private property rights does not turn into a nightmare," said Bowen Broock, president of the Michigan Association of Realtors.



Pen pals: Bowen Broock (left), president of the state Realtors group, witnesses the governor's signature.

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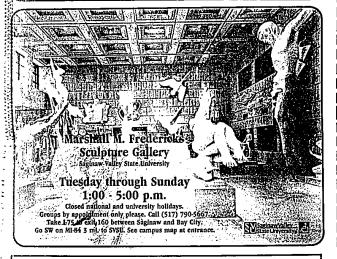
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