

Gone fishin': Robert Shaw of Tech Agriculture of Port Huron catches goldfish in the muddy water.



Staff Photo by SHAWN LAMON

## Park pond pumped

### Hills mines gold(fish)

BY BILL COULTANT  
STAFF WRITER

Hey, something's fishy at the goldfish pond in Heritage Park. Where did all the goldfish go?

Ah, they've gone to a better body of water, and the controversy spawned by goldfish in Heritage Park has been resolved.

Last week, the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department worked with a fish farmer from Port Huron to re-

■ 'We don't know how exactly they were put there.'

Dan Potter  
director, Special  
Services Department

move about 5,000 goldfish as well as some other species, said Dan Potter, director of the city's Special Services Department.

The presence of goldfish in the park's otherwise natural pond had upset some people who use Heritage.

Although the city had nothing to do with the goldfish finding a home in the pond, they were becoming a problem, Potter said.

"We don't know how exactly they were put there," Potter said. "But I've talked to the DNR, and they say we're not alone. A lot of people buy goldfish, and they don't want them for a pet but don't want to flush them down the toilet or kill them."

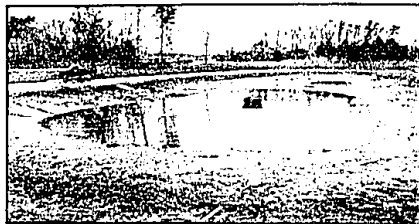
Once in the pond, the fish thrived and multiplied. Most were probably born in the pond, Potter said.

"A female can lay up to 300,000 eggs at a time," he said.

The pond was drained, and the fish were caught and taken away by Tech Agriculture. Depending on how many goldfish the compa-



Get to pumping: Parks and recreation employee Joe Guibord (left) helps Tech Agriculture's Randy Walker with a generator that provides pumping power.



Going, going: Water levels drop as the last of the water in the Heritage Park pond is pumped out.

ny can sell, the city will have to pay some money for their removal.

Some of the other fish, such as

bass and blue gill, will be returned to the pond and other native fish will be added, Potter said.

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