

HHS Peacekeepers: The United Nations has its sky-blue helmets. At Harrison High the peace-keepers are identified by lime green name tags. /7A

### OPINION

. . . ) ٧٤ ...

Kathy Nyberg

What, no hoots?: Well, it just goes to show what can happen when officials and builders work with (and not around) the people.

## SPORTS

3-peat attempt: Farmington wrestler Matt Michalski tires to win a third straight championship Saturday in the annual Observerland Tournament. /1C

### AT HOME

Great Ideas: Some of your favor-ite At Home columnists are among area experts offering tips for the home and garden at Home & Garden seminars at Somerset Collec-tion in Troy. /Section D

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## Alleged burglar draws FBI. **Secret Service** hot on trail

BY LARRY O'CONNOR

By LARRY O'CONNOR

NUT WRITE

If there was a Top 10 list of things not to do as a burglar, robbing a federal agent's home would probably finish somewhere above wearing a neon-lit suit with cow bell a chained on the panileys.

Federal agents have one person in custody and identified another suspect in a home linvasion on Lamar Street in Farmington on Jan. 15. The house belongs to a federal law enforcement agent.

That prompted the U.S. Secret Service and FBI as well as the Farmington police to get involved in the investigation. Some \$5,706 in valuables and a 9-millimetar platel were stolen in the burgfary, which occurred sometime between 5-8:15 p.m.

The pistol and some valuables have been recovered. A confidential informant and a tip from Farmington Hills police led to the arrest of one men, said Farmington Public Safety Deputy Director Mike Wiggins.

Hills police told federal agents of a place in Detroit where stolen items were being pawned.

"Sure enough it panned out," Wiggins said. "It was the same piace and they were able to form an identity of one of the suspects."

Thieves entered through a back door. A witness recalled seeing a white batchback whicle in front of the home at the time of the robbery.

Among items stolen were a \$1,120 gold bracelet, an \$800 gold ring and 500, and a VCR, worth \$300, were slate taken.

The house was not singled out because it belonged to a federal law onforcement officer, Wiggins said. "It was feel to the order of the problem." They loss was not singled out because it belonged to a federal law onforcement officer, Wiggins said. "It was feel to the problem." They loss was not singled out because it belonged to a federal law onforcement officer, Wiggins said. "It was control to the problem of the problem." They just went up the former of poportunity. They just went up the

gins said.
"It had nothing to do with it," he said. "It was
(a crime of) opportunity. They just went up the
block."

# **State test is 'write on**'



Attention, Farmington-area high school juniors:
Sharpen your pencils — and your minds. That
new proficiency test you'll be taking next month
requires a lot of writing.

\*\*NOR\*\*

for high schoolers.

Like the MEAP, students who pass
the school juniors will
termine if they have
in part by making
their first crack at
high School Profitheir first crack at
Nigh School Profitiency test is apocted to take 9-12

Unlike the MEAP, the new high
school proficiency test requires a comtiency test is apported to take 9-12

The district conducted an informational strength of the test is another matter, though. The high school proficiency test is apported to take 9-12

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Farmington high school juniors will take a test to determine if they have the right stuff, in part by making them write a whole tot of stuff.

Students have their first crack at the new Michigan High School Proficiency Test March 48. The proficiency exam replaces the Michigan Educational Assessment Program tests

for high schoolers.

Like the MEAP, students who pass tests in math, science and reading and writing receive a state endorsement on their diplomas.

Unlike the MEAP, the new high school proficiency test requires a considerable amount of writing. Students spend more than three hours alone on a three-part writing test, which includes composing compare and con-

tional meeting for parents Jan. 25 st. Harrison High. More than 80 parents

### Professor and poet reflects on distinguished career



Harold North: "We want to encourage the exercise of civil rights as if democracy was dependent on each of usulone

# Legal scholar's ideas, words inspire

BY BILL COUTANT
The group of the property warry
and Norria listens to the
quiestion politicity and
thoughtfully as he sits in his
west Bloomfield living room surrounded by law books, poetry, newspaper articles and magasines.
Then he delivers his considered
answer and the listener knows that
this is a man who does not merely
relish conversations about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights as
an scademic exercise, but as a de-

voted follower and teacher of their meaning.

After 35 years of teaching law at the Detroit College of Law, Norris-retired with the explanation that at age 77, "mother nature and father-time" have conspired against him. His casy humor is not frevious, and he takes on a sober aspect as he talks about the Constitution and the defense of civil ilberties, his life-

long passions.
"We want to encourage the ex-

srcise of civil rights as if democracy was dependent on each of us alone," he said.

Words back beliefs

When Professor Norris says it, the statement does not sound preachy or like a trite phrase from a high school civics book. He has backed hit belief in its words with a lifetime of defending its more controversial stricles involving freedoms of speech, religion, assembly and voices.

Back SCHOLAR, 4A

## Hills hires headhunter from Beantown

BY BILL COUTANT

Just two weeks after Parmington Hills City Manager Bill Costick shocked the city council by announc-ing that he'd leave the post in late February, a search for a successor has

begun.

At a special meeting Monday, council members interviewed three szecutive search firms with expertise in finding qualified city managers, deliberated for about 20 minutes and then voted to hire Bennett Issacson

"Clearly I'm here because life changes," said Richard Bennett, a principal with the company that completed the city's management audit last year. "Any good recruiter follows pretty much the same process: research and hard work."

search and nard work."

Bennett; Geraid R. Plock, vice president of The PAR Group of Chicago; and James L. Mercer, president of The Mercer Group of Atlants, made their pitch to the city council.

All three laid out a similar strategy for selecting Costick's auccessor. All would advertise in professional publications and network with people they know in the industry. And all three said claimed expertise in attracting women and minority candidates.

"I've placed a black city manager in Oklahoma City, a black police chief in East Lansing and a black chief in Norfolk." Morere said, adding that he has placed women city managers in Aspin, Colo. and Austin, Tezas. "It's still hard to do. The universe from

### Off to the Olympics!

hen Carole Rossi of Farmington Hills bought a multi-pack of her favorite Coca-Cola product, she probably only envi-aloned a cold soft drink. What she hadn't planned on was a free trip to the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta this summer.

Rosal was an Instant winner in a Coca-Cola/ llympic tickets promotion.

The prize includes a trip for two to the Centen-nial Olympic Games, tickets to four events, air fare, hotel accommodations and a spending allow-

Coca-Cole is sponsoring up to 100 trips that were available by way of a winning message printed inside can multi-packs of Coca-cole products.

## **FARMINGTON FOCUS**

### ice competition coming

he new Farmington Hills Ice Arena will be the alte of the Tri-State Precision Team ice skating competition Friday-Saturday, Feb.

0-10.
More than 50 teams from the United States and Canada will compete that weekend. Because of the event, all open skating will be canceled that Friday swaning and Saturday sternoon. There will be a special open skating session 3:30-5:30 p.m. Friday.

ray.

For more information, call the Parmington Hills

Department of Special Services at 473-9578.

#### Child ID program

child identification program will be offered 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the new Sears Hardware store, 2700 Middlebelt, south of 12 Mile Road. Children will be photographed and a set of fingerprints taken free of charge, and parents will be given a child identification booklet to keep in case of emergency.

be given a child identification because of emergency.

Besides a section for current head-and-shoulders photograph and fingerprints, the booklet includes pages for vital family, medical and dental information and tips for protecting children.

Local police officials will be on hand to answer questions about child safety. Additional informa-