

## Carriages and limos add wedding pizzazz

BY JENNIFER PLACINTO  
STAFF WRITER

The more wheels the better for elegance in wedding transportation.

And J.R. Limousine in Novi has plenty of options for wedding couples. Owner Jeff Rose takes pride in the company's prompt service.

Some of the unique automobiles available for rental include the 1957 Rolls Royce Princess and a Model A with a rumble seat.

Motor coaches and mini coaches are hot rentals for large wedding parties. School buses are also available and have been used for wedding transportation, Rose said.

J.R. Limousine also features standard and super stretch limousines. Prices start at \$50 per hour and top out at \$125 per hour for rentals. Inquiries can be made at (810) 477-1630.

Transportation elegance extends to a hot set of hooves and wooden wheels.

For those looking for something a little different, Crown Coach, Inc. of West Bloomfield offers a horse-drawn carriage service available in areas ranging from Ann Arbor to Grosse Pointe.

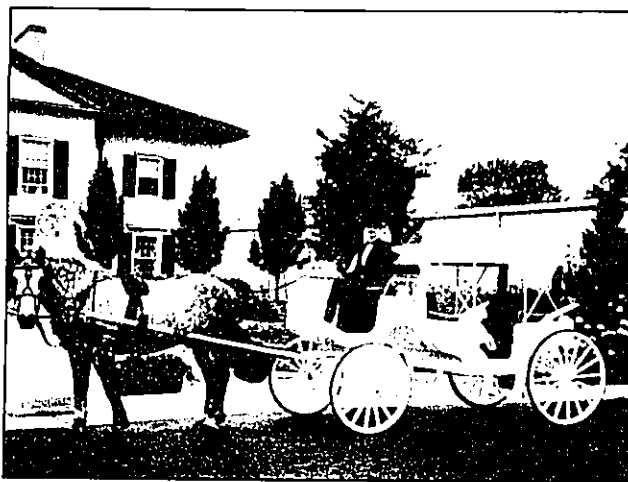
"I just think it's something special," Crown Coach owner Nancy Eastin said. "It's not something a lot of people have ever ridden in and it's a step back in time."

Eastin also noted that horse and carriage rides make a great setting for photographs.

Some carriages hold up to six passengers and the cost for a typical one-hour wedding package is \$360. Inquiries can be made at (810) 363-9277.

No matter what mode of transportation you select, there are some steps you should take to ensure a carefree cruise:

- Reserve transportation at least six months in advance.
- Inquire who your driver will be and ask to meet them. Find out about your chauffeur's driving record and what he or she will be wearing.
- Question what extras will be included, such as champagne, snacks, red-carpet service, etc.
- Ask about discounts.
- Find out what the cancellation policy is and how overtime charges are handled.
- Make sure the company has per-



**Your carriage awaits:** At Crown Coach in West Bloomfield horse-drawn carriages are the specialty.

sonal injury insurance and a backup driver if anything unforeseen happens.

• Be sure to get a written contract listing all terms of your agreement including the hourly rate, length of service, overtime charges, payment policy and the pickup and drop-off times.

• Give the driver a copy of the itinerary and written directions to the ceremony and reception.

• Visit the company in person and inspect the vehicles. Select the car of your choice (including color) and get a written guarantee that what you see is what you'll get.

• Appoint someone in their wedding party to be the driver's contact person throughout the day and to pay the driver.

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