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Dance events continue on Sunday at the Field House on the University-Michigan Dearborn campus. A pre-championship competition in the morning is open to all dancers who have never won a championship. The North American Highland Championship will follow. The premiere pipers will accompany the dancers. Alexandra Bennett is only 7, Alexandra Bennett is only 7,

the dancers.
Alexandra Bennett is only 7, but she has been dancing since she was 4, and has won lote of meddas. "It's fun," she says. Her mom, Geralyn, teaches Highland Dance and has fond memories of going to the games and competing.

"My man was from Scotland," she said. "We still have family there. Dancing made me feel connected to them. It's something I did that was different from the other girls in school who were taking ballet and tap. It was neat. I still hang out with people I danced with when I was 8. Harold Higgins of Livonia is piper. The pipurs set the pace for the dancers, he said. Higgins has been playing the pipes for six years. His grandmother's from Scotland, and playing the pipes was something he always

from Scotland, and pinying the pipes was something he always wanted to do. His family is pleased with his decision. "I've been taking lessons and

learning. It's difficult, you have to be disciplined, and prioritize," said Higgins who works for the Livonia Police Department. "I practice a half hour to an hour a dow."

practice a half hour to an hour a day.

'He'll be competing in the solo pipe competition at the games, and with the St. Androws Society Pipe and Drum Band.

Frank Staas III enjoys competing in the athletic events. He's one of those big guys who does all those crary things like throwing a cabre, the thing that looks like a telephone pole, and a hammer. These tests of strength are a Scottish tradition.

Lust year Staan took third

overall in the heavy athletic competition. "We do five events," he said. "Its like the Strongman Competition, not as demanding, but you need more skill. Every-thing pivots, you're spinning on one float. Notice, I'm wearing a different shoe on each foot. You have to practice. It's hard work, but I enjoy it."

He's got some Scottish blood, is Hos got some Section bood, is also of Czech and French ances-try. "When you come to this event you can be Scottish for a whole day," he said. "You get the flavor of Scotland. They overcook their peas, but they're good somehow. I like the meat pies.

It's a nice layout. It's going to be crowded, but there's enough room to walk around."

The games are a good place to dig for your Scottish roots. Over 30 clans will be represented. We're hosting the Clan Hunter General Membership Meeting, said former chalrman Bill Kinkaid, a past president of the St. Andrew's Society of Detroit. The Chief of the Clan, Pauline Mullen Hunter, is coming from Scotland. The clan traces its liague to the 1200s. We haven't had a Clan Chief in recent memory. This is a big thing.

Last year's event drew 12,600 people. They're talking about

making the games a two-day event next year. It will be the

making the games a trouble went next year. It will be the 160th annual.

"The whole Scottish tradition of clans is family, and this is a family event," and Kinkaid. There will be vendors selling Scottish goods, Scottish food for sale, and activities for children.

"They're bringing in Longhaired Highland Gattle, and there will be sheep berding and duck herding demonstrations by Highland Border Collies and Sheep Dogs throughout the day. Be sure to visit the 18th Centry Scottish military camp. You can watch military drills and hear the firing of muskets.



Conducting: Keith Lockhart leads the Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra at Symphony Hall in Boston, They will perform in Detroit Aug. 1 at the Fox Theatre.

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after losing her baby on Christ-mas 1996. after losing ner only in onneama 1996.

"It really is about igniting this rhythm, an ancient primal rhythm that really got me through after losing the baby. I couldn't become the woman was before. As a woman, I really didn't know what I could draw on to even wake up in the morning and want to be a part of the living room with the spirits of the dead," Amos explained.
"I was trying to make contact

the dead," Amos explained.
"I was trying to make contact
with the being I wasn't able to
save or even bargain her life for.
It was completely out of my It was completely out of my hands so I spent a lot of time by ■ 'It's not a backing

Tori Amos at The Palace

band. As you know that's not the intention. It's very much about the musicianship. You work as a team.

the water, by this river where I was. I just started to see how the water had this rhythm in its structure. Sometimes it was real-

ly turbulent, semetimes it was quite fluid. I wanted to feel that inside of my being." While sitting by the river, she explained, it "dawned on her" to go back to the piane.

"After staring at the water for many, many days "Pandora' the song "Pandora' Saquarium'), started coming. I knew there was a rhythm to build into the writing of the songs. I knew I had to record it live. Once I made that decision, I knew that then I would have to take a full instrumentation with me," Amos explained.

mentation with me," Amos explained.
The change brought about a domino effect, she added.
The other songs (from previous albums) got jealous. They said, "Why can't I have that too." So a lot of the old songs are being reworked.
The thick, rich sound in songs like "Spark" required that Amos bring along a band on tour, something she knew would be challenging.

something she knew would be challenging.
"It really is challenging because you have to work as a unit. It can't be all about you all the time," Amos said accompanied by a chuckle.
"It's not a backing band. As you know that's not the intention. It's very much about the musicianship. You work as a team."
Adding a band to have

team."
Adding a band to her live shows isn't the only major change that Amos has made in the last year. She married her boyfriend, Mark Hawley, the father of her baby.
"I think we bonded, he and I, we of the represence So when

father of her baby.

I think we bonded, he and I, out of that experience. So when after we'd gone through so much he saked me to marry him, I was one of those people where I was never going to get married but i just was like this feels right. Not because of the religious side of it, but the ancient kind of just promise you make to somebody.

With all this, Amos has emharked on her first arena lour which comes to The Palace of Auburn Hills Thursday, July 23.

Her fans, as always, have been receptive, she said.

"I'm really lucky to have people that will say, Look, we'll give it a go. We're open enough to give it a go. A lot of artists out there have people who are only with them because of one song, If you don't play that song like that every time they're out of there.

"With my fans, they're willing to give it a go. You can't ask for more than that."

Pops from page E1

institution.

Now in his fourth season conducting the Pops, Lockhart who succeeded Williams in the rold says a lot of people say he looks too young to be conductor. They remember a gray haired man in his 80s," said Lockhart. "They forget Arthur Fiedler was the same age as me, 35, when he got the job."

Although he's following in the footsteps of two superstars,

Although he's following in the footstops of two superstars, Lockhart is casting a shadow of his own without changing the things that audiences love about and expect from the Boston Pops. "It's a successful tradition. There's no reason to go and try and change everything," said Lockhart. Lockhart.

He says he has a different personality, set of strengths and interests than his successors, interests than his successors, and that more than anything else plays a role in the decisions he makes. Examples are his collaborations with guest artists such as Buckwheat Zydece and kd. Lang. He snuck a Van Morrison tune into "The Celtic Album," the second of three he recorded with the Boston Fops.
"The audience for pops is more diverse," he suid "There's n significant mount of younger people. It's becoming a date night for cellege kids, were seeing cou-

significant amount of great symphonic music. I cut my teeth in the classical music world, but I like being involved in a lot of genros—from Mezart piano concerts and Tchaikovsky to Buckwheat Zydeco to Motown.

Musically, Lockhart said Fieder was more contemporary than he is. "Whatever was on the popharts that month he played. We give a heavy dose of American composers and music we think will excite our audience. We don't do much of whatever it takes. I'd rather let U2 do U2."
Part of the problem is arranging the music. It's hard to imagine "I Heard It Through the Grapevine," performed by an orchestra without sounding like elevator music. "We have a new staff arranger, Pat Hollenbeck, who has an orchestra background, but hip enough to know how to make something sound soul Lockhart.

By playing music people want to bear, Lockhart lopes he teaches them something too. "Everything pops does is outreach and chucation," he said. "We want to bear, Lockhart lopes he teaches them something too. "Everything pops does is outreach and chucation," he said. "We want to bear, Lockhart lopes he teaches them something too." Everything pops does is outreach and enjoy what they're listening to. They'll say OK, I'll spend 6 or 7 minutes with Stravinsly, If I. tool, like it I know there will be something different next."

The Boston Pops Corchestra and The Boston Pops Corchestra Numbers of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, minus 12 of the principals who tour as the Boston Symphony Chamber Pops. They for make a transparent to be a for production of the principals who tour as the Boston Symphony Chamber Theyers in Symphony Chamber Theyers It's the orchestra you can of Evening at the Pops. They or advantage of the principal who to make something of the principal who to m two ensembles - The Beston Pops Orchestra and The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra.

The Boston Pops Orchestra.

The Boston Pops Orchestra includes members of the Beston Symphony Orchestra, minus 12 of the principals who tour as the Boston Symphony Chamber Players. It's the orchestra you hear on "Evening at the Pops, broadcast nationally on PBS. They perform in Symphony Hall in Boston from May through mid-June, and at Tanglewood during the rest of the summer. They also present a Christmas Pops series.

The Boston Pops Esplanade Orchestra, which consists of free lance musicians from Boston, organized by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, performs annually on the Fourth of July. It's the orchestra Michigan audiences will hear.

They perform in Symphony Hall from mid-June through mid-July; present free outdoor concerts at the Hatch Shell on





