

Compotition: The girls who participated in the oratorical contest are (seated from left) Michelle Leffingwell, Bridgette Bearss and Emily Moses. Standing from left are Diana Platt, Jaleece Lavine and Erika Rich. Bearss will compete in regionals.



Contestants: The boys who participated in the oratorical competition are (from left) Sarmad Eiwaz, Julian Branch and Kevin George, who will advance to the regional competition. Branch placed second and Eiwaz third.

Two students head to regional oratorical competition

A Farmington area middle school boy and girl will head to a regional Optimist Club oratorial competition April 17.

The students, Bridgetto Bearss from Warner Middle School, and the School, were chosen to represent the Farmington (Farmington Charmington Char cat competition April 17.
The students, Bridgette Bearss from Warner Middle School, and Kevin George from Power Middle School, were chosen to represent the Farmington /Farming-

Bearss and George took top

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honors during the local competi-tice from among five girls and three boys.

This year's topic was "Opti-mism in My Life." They all have the same topic across the coun-try." Smith said.

try," Smith said.
Irw winners at the regional level at Abbott Middle School in West Bloomfield will go on to state competition. Contestants in the state competition will vie for \$1,500 scholarship.

"There could be as many as 30 clubs represented at the region-

MOPTIMIST CLUB

als with boy and girl winners,"
Smith said.
Runners up at the local level
were Michelle Leffingwell from
Power Middle School and Julian
Branch from Warner Middle
School.

Other students who participated were Jaleece Lavine, Diana Platt, Erika Rich and Emily Moses, and Sarmad Erwaz.

The topic gave students the

chance to talk about what opti-mism means to them. Their speeches included themes such as finding the bright side of things when dealing with mis-takes, boliving in yourself, giv-ing off positive energy and the right to be proud, enthusiastic and hopeful.

Students were indeed on origin

Students were judged on origi-nality, poise, content, delivery, presentation and overall effec-tiveness.

Judges for this year's contest were Priscilla Brouillette, vice

president of the Farmington Public Schools board of educa-tion, Joanne Maliszewski, Farm-ington Observer editor, and Jim Stark, Northwest Gazette pub-

lisher. The Farmington/Farmington Hills Breakfast Optimist Club's mote is "Friend of Youth." The orntorical contest is one of a number of programs sponsored by the club, Members meet 7:30-8:30 n.m. every Wednesday at San Marino Colf Course. If you are interested in the club, call Smith, 474-9690.

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Farmington area represented at wildlife art fest

The 1999 Michigan Wildlife
Art Festival is around the corner
March 26-28 at the Southfield
Pavilion in Southfield. For the
first time, the Michigan Wildlife
Art Festival will highlight
wildlife of the tropics along with
traditional North American
wildlife and environmental
themes.

A big treat during the event will be a silent auction during

which visitors may bid on decoys hand painted by area celebrities, some from Farmington Hills. Proceeds from the auction will go to the Michigan Wildlife Habitat Foundation.

The following is a roster of decoy painters: Joe Dorok; Joanne Maliszewski, Farming-ton Observer editor, Jim, Hardy, San Marino Golf Course supervices or and watercolorist; Jim Morthrup, Detreit/Figers; Alex-Delvecchie, Red Wings; Cynthia Canty, WNIC; Joe Gagnon, Appliance Doctor; Tom Carney and Roger Bukoma, outdoor writers for the Oakland Press; Bob Talbert, Free Press columnist; Roger Weber, Channel 4; David Scatt and Amyre Makupson, Channel 60. son, Channel 50.

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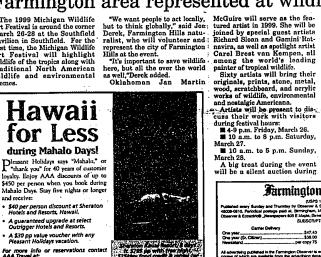
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