

# Phonographs from page B1

ily. "The earliest recordings were comedy acts, singing and violin playing," he says. "The horn was the speaker and you couldn't get an orchestra in there. Caruso wasn't interested in recording early on. His first recording happened when someone brought a

phonograph and a piano into his hotel room. He did all his singing in two hours.

"Later on, technology improved and Caruso recorded a great deal after that. The later recordings are plentiful and not collectible."

Although he gets many

requests to speak publicly, Shin's schedule doesn't allow it. But he has written several articles for Korea's largest newspaper and a Korean magazine on vintage phonographs and old-time opera singers.

"Victor and Edison were the two main companies. Victor won out and received its patent in 1898. The dog became the company trademark."

The Shins have the large Victor dog - named Nipper immortalized in statue form in their foyer and several framed photos and little models displayed throughout their home. They also have porcelain salt and pepper shakers in the shape of old phonographs and even a little pencil sharpener made to look like an antique phonograph.

## Opera was king

"Serious classical music began in 1901 in Imperialist Russia," Shin notes. "Opera singers were like kings and queens. They were the only form of entertainment. There was no popular music, sports or movies."

He has original program books from the New York Metropolitan Opera from that era. On a more recent note, his fireplace mantle displays photographs of the Shins with various opera singers

of today and Neeme Jarvi, the Detroit Symphony Orchestra director.

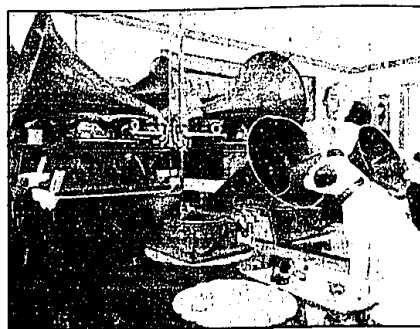
The Shins have hosted a number of parties in their home for opera singers and a season ticket holders of the Michigan Opera Theatre. They have seen Carreras, Domingo and Pavarotti perform separately, but elected not to attend the recent Three Tenors Tiger Stadium performance because they feared the sound system wouldn't be good in such a large venue.

While the first phonographs used cylinders to play music, that mode, which recorded only 3 minutes worth of music, disappeared by 1929. Disc machines were then the norm. Shin has 7,000 antique records in his collection as well. Some of the earliest discs are small and resemble today's compact discs, except for their color. None plays more than five minutes worth of music. Thus it took 10 to 12 discs to record an opera.

"The discs disappeared by 1950, two years after LPs were introduced in 1948," Shin said. Shin has paid thousands of dollars for each of his antique phonographs.

"He buys them in perfect condition," his wife notes.

Many of the phonographs rest atop antique mahogany cabinets made specifically for holding cylinders or discs. Some are ornately carved.



Nipper: The Victor company dog became its trademark. Shin has several models around his house in various sizes.

His rarest half dozen phonographs rest in front of the fireplace in the family room. Even the adjoining garden room, with sunlight streaming in, is full of old phonographs and cabinets.

All the old opera music recorded on the antique discs and cylinders are re-recorded on compact discs which the Shins listen to.

"It's not very practical to play the music on the old discs

because they only play for a few minutes and each use erodes the disc. They wear down very fast."

Shin played piano as a hobby, but says he has never been a professional musician.

The Shins three grown children, two sons and a daughter, enjoy classical music "but they're not crazy about antiques."

He is an elder at the Korean Presbyterian Church in Southfield.



SHIN PHOTO BY BILL BERGER

Scanning paper: Shin looks over an article he wrote for *Chosun*, Korea's largest newspaper, on antique phonographs. His wife, Soon Shin, also enjoys the hobby.

## The Pickety Patch MOVING SALE!

30% TO 60% OFF OUR ENTIRE INVENTORY NOW THROUGH OCTOBER 1ST

The Pickety Patch is moving to the Barn Antiques. Since we're having a little trouble fitting everything into the car we're having a sale on our entire stock of Home & Gift Items, Birdhouses, American Folk Art, Candles, Primitives, Country Home Creations, Wall hangings and more! Come on in and save!

Our new location at The Barn Antiques (248) 349-0117 is located just 2 miles from downtown Northville on 8 Mile Road just west of Back Road. Open Daily 10-5, Wed 11-8, Sunday 12-5

Pickety Patch is located in Downtown Northville 126 N. Center (248) 347-6225

ALL MOVING SALES ARE FINAL

## On the road to Miss America...

Audrie Chernaukas, a former Miss Farmington who currently represents Redford as Miss Michigan, is in Atlantic City gearing up for the Miss America pageant to be broadcast Saturday, Sept. 18, at 8 p.m.

The program will be shown on the FOX TV network.

The 23-year-old Livonia native was crowned Miss Michigan last June in Muskegon. She performed lyrical ballet on pointe to the Titanic Suite from the Academy Award winning movie "Titanic."

A recent honors graduate of the University of Michigan, she received a bachelor of arts degree in international studies. She graduated in the top 5 percent of her class and was awarded a James Angell Alumni Scholarship and a Public Service

Scholarship. She plans to continue her education in law school and eventually pursue a career as an entertainment attorney.

Chernaukas has studied ballet, tap and jazz dance for 20 years. She has performed across the country for the International Arts Shows and was offered a position as a Rockette. She has been teaching Russian ballet for many years.

Her platform, "Be Tobacco Free," educates youth about the hazards of tobacco. She currently works with the Karmanos Cancer Institute presenting HOT (Hazardous of Tobacco) programs and the Tobacco Action Coalition. She strives to provide youth with the tools necessary to make a healthy and educated decision

about tobacco use and to resist peer pressure. She recently recorded three public service announcements for the American Lung Association.

Last week Chernaukas interviewed for the \$10,000 Quality of Life scholarship.

Supporters can send her a good luck card at: Miss Michigan Audrie Chernaukas, Harrah's Casino, 777 Harrah's Blvd., Atlantic City, N.J. 08401.



Audrie Chernaukas

## The Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce is ready to serve up the 1999 Taste of Farmington & Business Expo

Tuesday, September 28, 1999  
5:00 - 9:00 pm  
Wm. Costick Activities Center  
28600 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills  
(1/4 mile east of Middlebelt Road)

Join us for this fun and festive evening featuring food selections from the area's most popular eateries:

**Tickets:**  
\$5 in advance  
\$7 at the door  
Call the Chamber office at 474-3440, to reserve yours today!

Over 60 area business will also showcase their products and services. This is a wonderful way for residents to do business in their own back yard!

Purchase tickets for your family & friends and say, "Have dinner on me!"

The 1999 Taste of Farmington & Business Expo is proudly supported by:

**Gold Sponsors:**

Botsford General Hospital  
Farmington Observer

**Silver Sponsors:**

Atwater Block Brewery  
Farmington Family YMCA  
Great Lakes Health Plans  
Michigan National Bank

## Schoolcraft College

— presents —

# Culinary Extravaganza VIII

Sunday, September 26, 1999 • Waterman Campus Center  
2:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Join us as Schoolcraft College presents Culinary Extravaganza VIII, Sunday, September 26 from 2 to 5 p.m. in the Waterman Campus Center. More than 50 southeastern Michigan restaurants and food distributors will be on hand with sample dishes and beverages, from tempting appetizers to luscious desserts.

As you enjoy this food fancier's feast, you might want to purchase a raffle ticket for prizes including airline tickets and jewels, or be a bidder in the live auction. A gourmet dinner for eight in your home, a private wine tasting seminar for 20 people with Master Sommelier Madeline Trifton, a Las Vegas trip and a REMAX balloon ride are just some of the packages ready for the lucky winners.

This marvelous event combines a fascination with food with a love of learning and a desire to help students who need assistance completing a degree or the training for a new career.

Tickets are \$40 per person or \$75 for two and are available before the event or at the door. To order or for information, call (734) 462-4417. Schoolcraft College is located at 18600 Haggerty Road, between Six and Seven Mile roads, just west of I-275.

**Proceeds from Culinary Extravaganza help fund student scholarships at the College**

SPONSORED BY

**THE Observer & Eccentric**  
NEWSPAPERS  
"Part of HomeTown Communications Network"

*HomeTown News... it's all about you!*