Leader from page A1

cone, with a number of firsts.

Ho's the first from the Farmington area to hold such a high post in the State Capitol since Fred Warmer was governor nearly 90 years ago. Raczkowski is the youngest person to hold the majority leader's job.

Raczkowski is the first Republican from southeastern Michigan to hold a top House majority post since Bob Waldron of Grouse Pointe was speaker in 1957-68.

Raczkowski was up against Michael Green, R. Mayville, and Mary Ann Middaugh, R. Paw Paw, who was predicted to become the next GOP floor leader. But much like his 1996 pri-

mary campaign when he defeated heavily favored Cathleen Webb, Raczkowski emerged to the forefront.

Raczkowski, who was re-elected to a second term Nov. 3, will serve a floor leader for the 1999-2000 session.

"I didn't anticipate in taking it on the first ballot," Raczkowski said. "I was viewed as an underdog. The rumor is I took 75 percent of the ballot."

The floor leader directs the House agenda, firms up caucus positions and monitors parliamentary procedures. His first task will be to make newly elected Republican lawmakers are "up to snuff" on state House

sees in Hoor leauer position in paying dividends for both communities.

"This will allow Farmington and Farmington Hills to have a seat at the policy making table in terms of leadership," he said. "It heightens the cities' visibility in making sure we get our fair share back, which is extremely important."

Raczkowski, who termed his election as an "honer and "huge responsibility," pledges to continue work on tax cuts for working families, providing more money for schools and welfare reform.

Since he was elected in 1996, Raczkowski served on Health Policy, Labor and Occupational Safety, Public Utilities, Urban Policy and Economic Development committees.

The Perricane-Raczkowski

ommittees. Perricone-Raczkowski

ticket breaks up the stranglehold on House GOP lendership posi-tions of the Grand Rapids-Hol-land bloc. "We have full balance right off the bat," and Raczkows-ki Wednesday morning. "And we have a better mile-fermale bal-ance than the Democrata." Seester part form will be Patrioperations.
His extra duties won't keep him away from Farmington and Farmington Hills, either. He sees his floor leader position as paying dividends for both com-

have a better male-female balonce than the Democrata.

Speaker pro tem will be Patricia Birkholo of Saugatuck. Two
associate speakers pro tem will
be Judith Seranton of Brighton
and Bruce Patterson of Canton;
assistant floor leaders will be
Middaugh, a first-termer who
succeeded her husband, and
Paul DeWesse of Williamston.
Caucus chair will be John Pappageorge, a freshman from Troy;
and assistant caucus chair will
be Charles LaStat of St. Joseph.
Rep. Gerald Law, R-Plymouth,
who hosted a reception for the
1999 group, anid voting numbers
would not be revealed. "You can
see why," he said – suggesting
that it would keep those who lost
from developing grudges.

Visitors to the House gallery in the north wing of the Capitol noxt year will see a lot of Raczkowski, who will present the calendar of what will be taken up each day. The a high visibility job with the ability to help other candidates with their help of the candidates with their cop," Raczkowski will meet with Perricone and Democratic floor leader Mike Hanley of Saginaw.

He and Perricone are sworn not to duplicate Democratic floor tectics of stretching out sessions so that the big bills are brokered in the closing days of early July a "calendar of constipation," he called it.

- a "catenar of consupation," he called it.
Paul Hillegonds, the GOP speaker in 1995-96, made long steps toward keeping up a flow of legislation throughout the early months of the session.
Raczkawski has come a long

way from his early days in politics when he was called "Cocky Rocky" and known more for collish enthusiasm than subtlety of thought.

collish enthusiasm than cunticy of thought.

Perricone and Raczkowski are known as hard-nosed partisans, but Raczkowski said he has a friendly relationship with the Democratic floor londer, Rep. Kwame Kilpatrick of Detroit.

"We were classmates at Detroit College of Law," Raczkowski said. "In our first session, we were the youngest in our parties."

"We've had a good progression of what people perceived we were going to do." Raczkowski added. "We won our second term with 65.6 percent of the vote. We're very proud to be majority floor leader.

And with that, the Army Won.

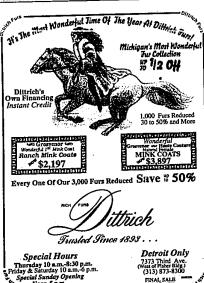
More leader."
And with that, the Army reservist was off to nearby Kenbrook Elementary School for a Veteran's Day presentation to











Noon-5 p.m.

FINAL SALE

Police-Fire from page A8 In Farmington Hills:

In Farmington Hille.

Someone smashed the back window of a 1992 Ford Explorer parked at the Macaroni Grill on Northwestern Highway Nov. 7, causing \$250 damage.

Vandals mowed down at least two mainboxes on Whitlock the night of Nov. 7-8, causing \$75 damage.

PRINCASE DEPUTED

DRUGGED DRIVER?

DRUGGED DRIVER?

In Farmington Hills:
Police arrested an 18-year-old Hills man
who was driving a 1989 Lincoln on the soft-

ball diamond at Harrison High at 10:30 a.m. Nov. 8. When stopped, the driver babbled incoherently. Officers found 17 tablets that looked like LSD in the man's pants pocket. EMBEZZLEMENT

EMBEZZIEMENT

In Farmington Hills:
Police arrested a 23-year-old Garden City
man after several piece of equipment were
stolen from Lucky's Collision on Industrial
Park Nov. 6. The employee, who was working his last day, admitted putting the body
frame repair kit, jam elamps and frame
anchor in his car.

A former employee at a Farmington Hills law firm is believed to have embezzled \$41,261 in checks between February 1994 and September of this year. The woman wrote checks to vendors, which were cashed by her. She quit the law office of Wood, Kull and Herschfus and hasn't been heard from since. since.

THEFT

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole a 1997 Decathlon Rock Rider men's bike from a garage on Valley Side Drive Nov. 2.









Dinner Sets - Crystal Stemware - Stainless & Silver Flatware
Discontinued China - Crystal Vases, Bowts, etc.
China Gitts - Figurines - Gourmet & Housewares
Executive Gifts - Children's Gifts - Christmas Shop



(2 Blocks East of Don Valley Pkwy. South off Lawren QPEN: Wed., Thure., Fri. 10 am - 9 pm • Sat. & Sun. 10 am - 6 pm



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nimum of \$10,000 in new money to open and obtain the APY on the Privile oney Market Gold account. Above APY is effective through 3/3/199 on balances 0,000 or more, thereafter the APY will be determined by our rates in effect at it is for this account. Account service fees, if applicable, will necked the APY to at and brotzend accounts not oligible. Ofter subject to change without notice.