

# His photo sparkles in national ad

BY SUE BUCK  
STAFF WRITER  
sbuck06@homecomm.net

You can call them bubbly. Now you can call them famous. That's what some Farmington High School pompon girls are, as photographer Jason Justman, the photographer who snapped their photos. Justman's photo depicting the teens was selected for a Sprite ad and is appearing in national magazines with the heading "Bubbly."

Justman, a Farmington High School graduate who is a senior at Michigan State University, also works as a freelance photographer for Mid American Pom-Pon, a Farmington Hills-based company which hosts competitions and summer camps. It is a nationally recognized pompon instruction group in business since 1979.

The prize-winning photo was shot during a statewide competition at Saginaw Valley State University Feb. 25.

"It's not every day that a girl gets to be in a nationwide Sprite advertisement doing something she likes to do — poms," said Kate Bouschet, one of the Farmington High School girls in the picture.

"I was shocked and amazed," said Natalie Schauer.

Other Farmington High students in the photo are: Holly Bruce, Adriane Grace, Jillian



Original: Jason Justman's photo was severely cropped, converted to black & white and retouched for the ad.

Pacer and Julie Militello.

Beginning and continuing dates the ads can be seen in magazines are: DC Comics, September 2001; ESPN, June 25; Rolling Stone, July 5; Sports Illustrated, June 25; Honey, August 2001; Electronic Gaming

Monthly, August 2001; The Source, August 2001; Vibe Magazine, August 2001; XXL August 2001; Ritmo Beat, September/October 2001; Van Spanish, July 2001; Urban Latino, August-September 2001 and Spin, August.

"We were contacted by Lowe Lintas & Partners in New York, New York," said Justman.

He knew something big was in the works when Karen Blazaitis, president of Mid American Pompon, left three messages in an hour on his voice mail about a month ago.

Justman expected to hear the offer came from an advertiser much smaller than the Sprite soft drink company. "Being a student it was nice to get some recognition," he said. "It helped to offset my costs."

He admits a special feeling that his photo depicted students from his alma mater. "I was involved with TV-10 a couple of years. That got me involved visually." TV-10 is the Farmington School District's cable television channel and studio.

"Most of the hassle was trying to get the releases from all of the people," Justman said.

He comes from a family where his uncle, aunt and grandmother were photographers. Justman learned photography in a black and white darkroom at Farmington High.

"I'd really like to do something outside of the United States," he said.

Blazaitis learned about Justman's photographic capabilities after he did the Web site design for www.pompon.com

Justman plans to pursue a career in telecommunication and computer science.



STAFF PHOTO BY DEB BRENNER

Here it is: Jason Justman holds the national ad featuring his photo. Pom squad members Holly Bruce, Kate Bouschet and Natalie Schauer are featured in the ad photo.

## Hills firefighters rise to the occasion at Team Challenge

BY ALICE ASINORE  
STAFF WRITER  
aashmore06@homecomm.net

The man trapped in the crumpled car was a real dummy, but the Farmington Hills Fire Department rescued him anyway. In fact, a lot of dummies were rescued that day.

Two teams from Farmington Hills recently competed in the Regional Extermination Symposium and Team Challenge at Henry Ford Community College.

The department placed first and third in Team Unlimited Pit, third in the Team Limited Pit, and scored second in the overall rankings in the regional challenge.

"The teams were placed in scenarios based on real wrecks," said Tom Shurtleff, Training Officer for Farmington Hills Fire and Rescue.

He said, "The accidents have some complexity to them. They are next to freeway barriers or on their roof."

Mannquins were pinned inside the vehicles and six-man

### FARMINGTON HILLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

■ 'The teams were placed in scenarios based on real wrecks.'

Tom Shurtleff  
—Farmington Hills Fire and Rescue

teams raced the clock to free the trapped "victims."

He explained that a "pit" was the 50-by-50 foot area containing the staged accident.

In limited competition, teams are not allowed to use the "jaws of life," Shurtleff said.

"It requires teams to really know their muster and use all their tools."

Those tools include pry bars, battery operated reciprocating saws, chisels and jacks.

"Equipment that you would normally find on most fire trucks across the country," Shurtleff said.

He said teams are rated on a 10-point system in 13 categories

including scene management and tool usage.

The event also includes a learning symposium on the first day of the two-day competition.

"It's an educational process that lets everybody learn from each other," Shurtleff said. "The challenges enhance and improve emergency vehicle extrication within the region."

Shurtleff hopes to see more teams enter the competition.

"We had 14 teams and we had room for 18 teams. "It is a great opportunity for communities to learn."

Shurtleff is pleased with the outcome of this year's challenge. "I am really proud of our guys."

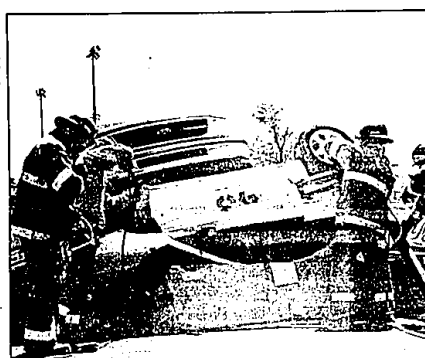
They have done really well over the past three years. We began to really evaluate the process and have improved dramatically," Shurtleff said. "We are now among the best in the country."

"Our teams have taken to earnest the mission to sharply focus and improve techniques," Shurtleff said.

Farmington Hills Team One included: Inspector Dennis Hughes (team captain), Inspector Bruce Belsky (medic), Inspector George Baker, Inspector Steve Biebel, Firefighter Gerard Antonietti and Firefighter Brian Gullison.

Farmington Hills Team Two was composed of: Firefighter Robert Crawford (team captain), Firefighter Michael Crawford,

Acting Sergeant Matthew Green (medic), Firefighter James Prieskorn, Firefighter Chip Thiesen, Firefighter Brett McMahon and Alternate Firefighter Michael Harvey.



Going for It: Members of the Farmington Hills Fire Department rescue a 'victim' during Team Challenge at Henry Ford Community College.

## Becca from page A1

me to think these kids don't have any music in their schools. As far as having a music teacher and music classes, it doesn't exist."

She's hoping some of the Logan Elementary children and school employees can come to the concert.

She leaves Aug. 26 for New York University where she will major in vocal performance and music theater.

Singer received the Joan MacKenzie Memorial Vocal Music Scholarship which honors the memory of MacKenzie who taught vocal music in the Farmington Public Schools from 1970-1986.

MacKenzie died Dec. 26, 1986, after battling cancer for more than three years.

During her tenure she directed the choirs at Harrison and North Farmington High School and Warner Middle School.

She taught general music at Warner Middle School part-time while teaching at North Farmington High School.

Her teaching career began in the Redford Union School District directing choirs at Redford Union High School.

"I always loved singing, from



Becca Singer

song, Singer said. Her father told her the story about how her Bubbe used to sing and people would knock on the door and inquire who was singing.

"Bubbe is Yiddish for grandmother," Singer explains. "Even when she was 90 years old, Bubbe sang in the nursing home where she resided, she said."

Besides her parents, Marvin and Ruth, Rebecca has two brothers David and Daniel. Singer was cantorial soloist at Adat Shalom Synagogue in Farmington Hills, a soloist/ensemble performer at Church of Today-West in Warren, and a featured performer at Theatre Arts productions in Walled Lake.

She first sang the national anthem at North Farmington High School when her brother, Daniel, was a senior and captain of the basketball team and she was a freshman at the school.

"I started singing at soccer games and football games," she said. "I loved it here. I had a great high school experience."

For more information about the benefit, call Singer at (248) 489-9597.

## "It's a New Day at Crittenton!"



Dr. Brad Merrelli, Chief of Staff Family Practice

"We are experiencing the dawning of a new day at Crittenton Hospital. It is refreshing to see synergistic cooperation between the nurses, physicians and management to renew their commitment to the people of Rochester and surrounding communities. I am honored to serve during this time and expect Crittenton to become the polished jewel of the Rochester community."

"It's a new day at Crittenton because of the fresh commitment by the new administration, employees and physicians to provide outstanding care. Renovation plans show a dedication to making Crittenton a premier community hospital, and the new board, strengthened by community members and physicians, has a clear vision for the future."



Dr. Keith Hinshaw, Chief of Surgery General Surgeon

CRITTENTON  
HOSPITAL IN ROCHESTER

Quality Care...Close To Home

1101 W. University Drive, Rochester, Michigan 48307-1831

www.crittenton.com

### SUMMER FUN CENTERS

Kids ages 6-12 are invited to enjoy arts & crafts, group games, sports, contests, and much more at one of several area Summer Fun Centers, sponsored by the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services.

centers will be open Monday through Friday 9-11:45 a.m. at Beechview Elementary, Wooddale Elementary and Olde Town Park and from 12:30-3 p.m. at Woodcreek Elementary, Kenbrook Elementary and Olde Town Park.

The program is free for kids

ages 6-12. To register, just come to one of the Fun Center locations. The program ends Aug. 3.

For more information, call 473-1800 or refer to your Summer Farmington Hills Special Services brochure.