

Bands from page A1

best band; top prize is a \$500 gift certificate to Guitar Center.
 Sean Stranberger, lead vocalist and guitarist for Squeeze Box, said he and his bandmates are excited about performing at the show.
 The group is made up Sean, Jeff Rosenfeld, lead guitar and back-up vocals; Ricky Muldrew, bass; and David Shilakes, drums. All are from North Farmington High School except David, who is a student at Catholic Central High School.
 "We play a variety of pop, punk and alternative," Sean said of the band that's been together for about a year.
 The group opened the North Farmington annual talent show recently and has put out their own self-produced recording.

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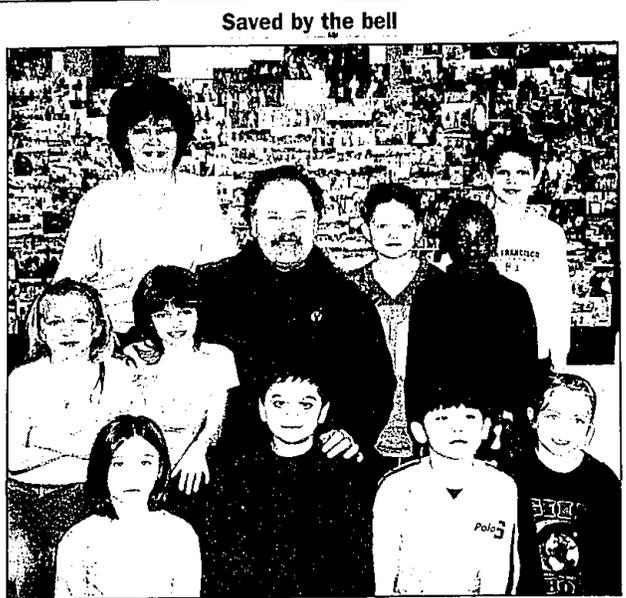
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Saved by the bell

Celebrity visit: Dennis Hoskins, who played Mr. Belding, the principal, on the TV show "Saved by the Bell" visited Gill Elementary recently during a Sharing Assembly. Hoskins presented a photo of his TV class with the message: "To the students of Gill Elementary. Study hard. Play hard. Follow your dreams."

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Vagnozzi begins walk to Lansing Friday

Democrat Aldo Vagnozzi will lead several area candidates in a five-day walk to Lansing, which begins Friday in downtown Farmington.
 Vagnozzi supporters have pledged about \$3,000 to support his walk, the candidate said. He plans to stop at various locations that will highlight campaign issues, including a Farmington nursing home where he'll discuss care of the elderly.
 The march to Lansing begins at 7:30 a.m. Friday, at Anna's Cafe on Farmington Road, just south of Grand River. From there, he'll visit Farmington Hills City Hall at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake (8:15 a.m.) and Farmington City Hall, 23600 Liberty (9 a.m.).
 A large van with a Vagnozzi campaign sign attached will mark his progress.
 The walk will conclude in Lansing with a rally on the State Capitol steps at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, May 16.
 Vagnozzi is the only declared Democratic candidate for the House District 37 seat. Currently three Republicans - John Akouri, Valerie Knol and Terry Sever - will vie for that party's nomination.

Hills buyer Monico honored by state group

By PAUL R. PACE
 STAFF WRITER
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Kelly Monico, senior buyer for the city of Farmington Hills, has been named Buyer of the Year by the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association.
 Monico, who has been with the city since 1996, was selected for her efforts in developing a cooperative bid for medical supplies to be used by the members of the Tri-County Purchasing Cooperative, which includes Farmington Hills and other cities in Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb counties. Through her efforts, Farmington Hills and surrounding communities will save thousands of dollars on medical supplies.
 Her boss, Michael Lasley, director of central services, broke the news by springing a surprise on her.
 "He told me he nominated me," Monico said of the honor. "And then he said, 'Oh, by the way, you won.'"
 She has also been instrumental in developing a system that allows the city to be proactive with purchasing contracts, saving both time and money. In 1999, she was named Outstanding Employee of the Year, the highest award a civilian employee can attain.
 Before coming to the Hills, Monico worked in the private sector for seven years in Iowa and Minnesota. The 35-year-old and her husband Gary have a 7-year-old named Tony, and Kelly's stepchildren are Angela, 16, and Daniel, 17.
 So what is it that puts her above the rest? "I think I really enjoy what I do," she said. "I enjoy the people I work with and I want to do the best for the people I work with and the residents."
 City Manager Steve Brock said, "Kelly is a can-do, take-charge individual. She enjoys a challenge and is tireless in her efforts to bring value and professionalism to the city of Farmington Hills."



Kelly Monico

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