

Merchants Urged To Scan Checks Carefully During Holiday Season

Michigan retail merchants should save themselves well more than half a million dollars in the busy December holiday shopping season by vigilant alertness to bogus check pass-

attempts, according to a conservative estimate by Det. Sgt. George C. Craft, head of the State Police check section at East Lansing. Sergeant Craft's opinion is based on his section's experience in December last year when 145 bogus checks totaling \$6,750 were processed. Bad checks submitted to the State Police for examination cost-

the section had examined 1,431 bad check specimens totaling \$87,384, or nearly \$9 million worth on a state basis for 10 months. This is comparable to recent years

in which Michigan businesses have suffered losses averaging \$1 million or more a month. With prospects appearing good for high volume holiday shopping, Sergeant Craft urged merchants and their sales personnel to guard against any relaxation in check cashing precautions.

He noted that bad check passers can be quick to take advantage of any weakening of vigilance, particularly in holiday periods when thriving business may overshadow a merchant's concern for the possibility of fraud. Sergeant Craft made these suggestions:

When the check endorser is a stranger, proper identification is a "must" rule to follow to avoid chance of fraud. This identification would include usually reliable evidence such as a driver's license or car license numbers. If still in doubt ask for further identification. Bear in mind that identification offered can be fraudulent too. The identification should be noted on the back of the check for reference if necessary for investigation later.

Michigan's Honors Council Taps 5 in Livonia, Plymouth

The highly-select Honors Council of The University of Michigan has admitted 417 entering freshmen, including several from Livonia and Plymouth, to its program of enriched studies.

Comprising 12 per cent of the incoming freshmen class in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, these Honor students were invited to join the program on the basis of high school records, scholastic aptitude and achievement scores, and academic promise.

Otto G. Graf, director of the Honors Council, explains that the program offers several types of unique academic opportunities. Among its features are special courses, independent departmental honors courses and honors sections of regular courses, opportunities to participate in research projects of faculty members, faculty-student discussion groups, and directed summer reading for credit.


In the junior and senior years students continuing in or joining the program take special courses in the field of concentration, leading to the honors degree.

The Council was established in 1937. There are now 1,077 undergraduates participating. Graf points to the program's success as shown by the achievements of the May graduating class. Almost 70 per cent of the 147 Honors graduates attained honors or high honors for academic achievement and independent work in their fields of concentration.

Over 90 per cent (142) are currently in graduate or professional school, many on one or more of the 125 scholarships and fellowships which are awarded to individuals in support of study here and abroad.

Local students selected for the program are: Daniel R. Durand, son of John E. Durand, 30449 Bonnydale, Livonia; Robert K. Lantz, son of Mr. William L. Lantz, 18340 Alpine, son of W. H. McAlpine, 15507 Norwich, Livonia; John M. Pascoe, son of John E. Pascoe, 30449 Bonnydale, Livonia; William M. Silvis, son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Silvis, 13239 Carol, Plymouth.

If we could all see ourselves as others see us what a crowd of pessimists we would be.



The Observer
LIVONIAN OBSERVER REDFORD OBSERVER
PLYMOUTH OBSERVER FARMINGTON OBSERVER

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Livonia Soldier Wins Top Honors at AFB

Airman 2/C Ronald Jaksch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jaksch, 14508 Bunting, Livonia, has been named honor student in his class which was graduated recently from the Refrigeration Systems Maintenance course at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas.

Mr. and Mrs. Jaksch received a letter of congratulations from his commanding officer, Lt. Col. Elmer Romigh, Jr., complimenting them on the achievements of their son.

The letter reads: "Less than 10 per cent of the graduates of the training course at Sheppard Air Force Base receive grades high enough to be named honor students. You are proud, therefore, of your son's achievement in maintaining a scholastic average that identifies him as such a student. He has been awarded a special certificate in recognition of his academic excellence.

"The knowledge that he has gained in this course will be valuable to him and to his country while he is in the United States Air Force and will serve him in later life as well.

"I express my sincere appreciation for your efforts in the development of a young man whose exhibits exemplary devotion to duty and country."

Three in Area Get All 'A's' at Mich. State

Three Livonia and Farmington youths are among 330 Michigan State University students who earned all-A records during spring and summer terms.

The students from this area whose names will be placed on the University's honor roll, which offers recognition of the highest attainment in scholarship are:

Robert G. May, son of George May, 24368 Powers, a major in accounting and financial administration;

Sara Shaw, daughter of Charles Shaw, 28262 Farmington Rd., an English major; and Stephen E. Crick, Jr., son of Stephen E. Crick, 16544 Merriman, Livonia, a major in mathematics and statistics.

The students were honored at a dinner by MSU President John A. Hannah.

Don Gets Sea Duty
Don S. Richardson, engineer third class, USCG, son of Mrs. Donald Richardson, 9521 Cardinal, Livonia, is a crewmember of the Coast Guard Cutter Casco, on ocean station duty in the Atlantic.

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Your Child's Homework

By DUMONT F. HIXSON, JR.



Because of the new mathematics, the new chemistry, and the new English grammar, many parents feel incapable of checking the quality of their child's homework. These courses appear new, different, and difficult. Nevertheless an excellent check on the quality of their child's work can be accomplished quite easily and very rapidly.

Parents can obtain a fairly accurate check on the quality of their child's work by checking the quantity that is produced in the homework effort. For most homework there is a relationship between quantity and quality. Most teachers, for example, notice that the better themes tend to be longer. The poorer themes tend to be abbreviated. Like most rules there are exceptions. But there is value in this check. It indicates parental interest.

The reason why a quantitative check will usually work is that it takes a little knowledge on the part of the child to write five sentences or more in answering the average question. Moreover, to do a certain amount of time and effort is required of the child. He will usually attempt to do a good job since he must expend the energy anyway.

To facilitate this method of homework checking, the parent might encourage the child to maintain a separate notebook for each course. Properly done the notebook should be an object of pride and accomplishment. A table of contents can be constructed and expanded as new assignments are completed. A page should be provided so that the class assignments are written down right in the classroom. Parents and children are often surprised at

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