

Thrash and crash, then kiss the lady's hand

(Continued from 1-A)

show up for the weekend events. Of prime interest for many of the onlookers at the convention will be the broadsword and shield combat.

These fierce struggles between the valiant warriors are fought with rattan swords and plywood shields. The mandatory protection for head and body joints often takes the form of Freon gas cans fashioned into helmets, hockey gloves and knee pads.

Some even make their own chain mail. Cousins said he is currently

making his own from 14 gauge wire.

IN BATTLE, a blow to the arm signifies that the arm is severed or disabled. A blow to the head means death. In reality, it may mean a sharp whack, and perhaps a bruise, but the combatants live to enjoy the feasting later in the day.

At the Kalamazoo conference, an ox roast is scheduled to nourish the weary warriors. There will also be dancing and drinking of mead and such. For entertainment, play productions with mummery, mim-

icry, puppetry and music are planned.

While the men do battle, the women talk about embroidery, mead-making and tarot card reading.

"Let's put it this way," Cousins said, "there's no women's lib people in this thing. Our women like to be dominated." But, he pointed out, women are treated like ladies. The young squires will kiss their hands, wear their favors and engage in combat in their honor.

"Above all else," he decreed, "a woman's honor stands."

THE DIFFERENT SCR groups are broken down into feudal territories.

Michigan, Ohio and Indiana are known as the Barony of the Northwoods. Farmington is the Canton of Armavale. The group in Detroit, before it was dissolved, was known as the Roaring Waste.

Individual members also take on different names. Cousins calls himself Coley Cuthbert. His

friend, Tom Welti, 21, of 2614 Westmeath, Farmington, is known as Ban Bane.

By virtue of their life styles and interests, the members of the SCA tend to be as closely knit as the chain mail the young knights wear.

"It's like a fraternity, we can rely on each other," Cousins explained. "The people in the society are clannish. Once they accept you, they accept you as a best friend."

The things that don't involve the society are referred to as "mundane." In their mundane lives, many members of the SCA are college students, or writers, or artists with a sprinkling of high school principals, accountants and car washers.

THEY ARE drawn together by their fascination with the medieval; the political and social aspects of the times, Cousins said. With the SCA they are able to put learning and recreation together. The recreation, however, same-

times tends to override the more serious side of historical events.

"I tend to forget the environmental aspects of it — the plague and things — and tend to lean toward the pageantry."

"I think it's just a hobby," Cousins added, but unfortunately some people "try to relive this every day of their lives."

The society deems them as sickies."

Man is arrested for child abuse

FARMINGTON HILLS—A Farmington Hills man was arraigned Monday on charges stemming from the sexual abuse of a nine-year-old boy.

Timothy W. Sullivan, 19, of 26077 Lyncastle, was arraigned before 48th District Court Judge Michael Hand on charges of taking indecent liberties with a child under the age of 16, according to the Farmington Hills police.

Sullivan pled innocent to the charges and was released on a \$1,000 personal bond. No examination date was set. The charge carries a maximum ten year sentence.

According to the police, Sullivan

encountered two juvenile boys playing in the Middlebelt-10 Mile Road area April 26.

Police said he sent one boy away and then took the other into a nearby woods and performed indecent liberties while holding the boy at knifepoint.

The boy was later released and the incident reported to police.

Based on a description that the accused was dressed in jogging clothes, police theorized that the runner would again use the same route. On May 6, police said, they arrested Sullivan as he jogged through the area.



Charles H. Van Deusen, 43, of Farmington Hills, has been named director of finance by the Board of Wayne County Road Commissioners. Van Deusen, a 1952 graduate of the University of Michigan, joined the road commission in 1952 as a civil engineer.



Tyson-Lang (Craig Fleischer) in combat dress. (Evert photo)

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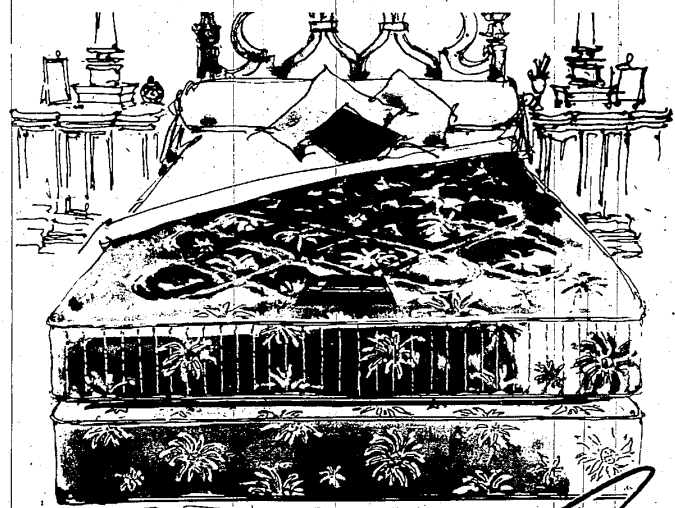
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