

# Coincidence did it

## Millionth fan takes it all in stride

By MIKE GALLAGHER

Joe Monge of Redford has only been to two Detroit Tigers baseball games this summer, but he plans on going to a lot more next year.

Monge's name went down into the record books recently when he became the one-millionth fan at Tiger Stadium for 1977.

Monge's special day began when a friend who had season tickets offered the four ducats to him one August afternoon.

Monge accepted, then asked another couple to accompany his wife and him to the game that night.

The four made plans to meet at Monge's home at 7:30 p.m.

**RUNNING INTO SOME** car trouble, the other couple arrived 20 minutes late.

Monge, not wanting to miss the first couple of innings, hurried down to the stadium where he found all the gates but one closed.

"I was starting to get mad," said Monge. "Every time we got into one line, they'd start pushing us towards Gate 11. By that time I gave up on seeing the first few innings."

Monge proceeded to get in line at Gate 11, trying to figure out why all the other gates were closed.

*'I'm not a shy guy, just a sort of take the money-and-run kind of person.'*

—Joe Monge

Reaching the gate, Monge handed the usher his four tickets, whereupon a man in a business suit quickly colored them and began congratulating the dumbfounded Monge.

"I didn't know what was going on," Monge said. "All I knew was that I had three people with me and some guy just grabbed my tickets. And all this guy does is start congratulating me for being the one-millionth fan for 1977. Then he hands me \$20 for my tickets and says he has better seats for me. Hell, I didn't trust him. I told my buddy to keep an eye on him."

Monge says the man then took them to "fantastic box seats" right over the dugout and asked Monge to accompany him up to his office.

"I still didn't trust this guy," laughed Monge. "He knew it too. So he hands me this letter and says 'if you don't believe me, Joe, maybe this will help convince you.' The letter said 'congratulations, you are the one-millionth fan at Tiger Stadium for 1977 and you have been awarded a

portable TV, an AM-FM radio and two season tickets for the 1978 season.' I couldn't believe it. Nothing like that had ever happened to me. To top it off, he brings me out a box of souvenirs. Autographed balls, bats, pennants, just everything. It was a hell of a deal."

MONGE WAS THEN told he should listen for a PA announcement right after the third inning.

"When it came on it was unreal," said Monge. "People were yelling and applauding me when I stood up. It was just weird hearing it over the PA. I'm not a shy guy, just a sort of take-the-money-and-run kind of person."

The surprises were not over for Monge.

When he went downstairs with his wife to get a beer, a man came up and offered to buy him a beer for "the kid on the way."

The Monges are awaiting the arrival of their first child.

"I kept telling him no, trying not to create a scene," Monge said. "But he kept insisting. So he walks right up to the counter and orders four beers. Now right away I know this guy is somebody important, because the rules say you're only allowed to draw two beers. We thanked him, and that was it."

ON HIS WAY back to his seat, Monge ran into his best friend, whom he had not seen in a long time.

"I'll tell ya," said Monge. "It's one of the greatest days we've had this year."

Monge said it's not the best thing that has happened to them this year, as he smiles at his wife.

"It's going to be a boy," beamed Monge. "I have a one track mind. I'm going to give the little guy all the moments from the Tigers."

Monge says his "special day" was a once-in-a-lifetime thing.

"That was the first time I've ever felt that embarrassed," added Monge. "They treated me just like I was a VIP. It was great."

Thursday, September 8, 1977

(11A-Ro, 17A-F) (O-15A)



The Jordan Kahn Look for Fall

Classic elegance is appropriately conveyed by our Herringbone Sportcoat complete with bellows pockets and suede elbow patches, accessorized in uncommonly good taste with our scotch-ish wool crew neck and flannel slacks.



ORCHARD MALL  
ORCHARD LAKE ROAD NORTH OF MAPLE  
WEST BLOOMFIELD • 851-9444

Open Thursday and Friday 'til 9

Most major credit cards honored

## Marygrove adult ed classes beginning

The human ecology department at Marygrove College will offer four undergraduate credit classes this fall through the continuing education program.

Credits earned are applicable to either a bachelor's or associate degree, or students may enroll on a non-credit basis.

"Food for Consumers," a daytime offering, deals with the basic principles and procedures of foods and nutrition. The course covers fundamentals of food selection and preparation with guidelines for attractive and economical meals which include basic nutrients.

"Dress Designing" teaches the principles of dress designing and pattern making, fitting problems and the construction of self-designed ensemble.

"History of Interiors" is a cultural study of the development of furniture

and related elements of interiors from ancient times to the modern era. This course is recommended for those involved in furniture sales and merchandising.

"Perspective on Effective Parenting" is a course designed around a 13-week television series, to be presented this fall on WTVS, Channel 56, which explores the skills of good parent-child relations.

For more information, contact the Continuing Education Office at Marygrove College, 682-8000, ext. 210.

### Help for first-home buyers

A bill has been reintroduced in Congress to give families saving for a down payment on their first home tax protection up to \$2,500 a year. A similar bill was defeated last year.

**27% OFF ALL WALLPAPER**

CALL IN ANY PATTERN FROM ANY BOOK.  
Post Wallcovering Distributors

- |                         |                        |                         |
|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| TROY<br>524-2200        | ANN ARBOR<br>662-1140  | SOUTHFIELD<br>353-7007  |
| BLOOMFIELD<br>851-7110  | ROCHESTER<br>651-2600  | LIVONIA<br>522-7500     |
| GROSSE PTE.<br>886-4050 | FARMINGTON<br>474-1780 | MT. CLEMENS<br>792-0800 |

PHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED • NO DEPOSIT  
NO FREIGHT CHARGE • NO DELIVERY CHARGE • PAY WHEN DELIVERED TO YOUR HOME • ALL WALLPAPER AT FULL DECORATOR'S DISCOUNT • TO EVERYONE... 345 DAYS A YEAR



Venini with a touch of glass

Venini, long an innovator in new art lighting, creates a unique lamp inspired by contemporary sculpture...a sophisticated setting for the tempo and spirit of today. Fashioned of tessuto glass into a bold mushroom design. 22-inch high lamp priced at \$529.20; 14-inch high lamp priced at \$511.20. Exclusively shown in our Designers Showcase at our Birmingham store only.

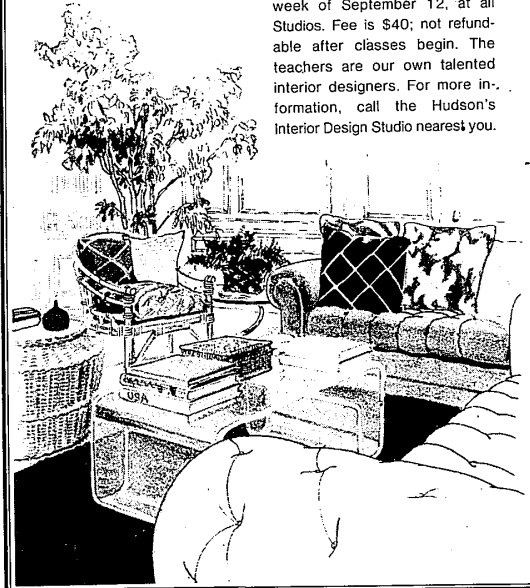
Michigan Chandelier Co.  
...you'll see us in a better light

DISPLAYED IN OUR DESIGNERS SHOWCASE ROOM  
6580 Telegraph at Maple, Bloomfield Plaza.  
Master Charge or BankAmericard honored.

## LEARN DECORATING FROM THE EXPERTS

Hudson's Interior Design Studio has created a very special 6 week course for you, designed specifically to help you avoid costly decorating mistakes, give you up-to-date decorating information, and assist you in determining your own decorating style. Six 2-hour classes, starting the

week of September 12, at all Studios. Fee is \$40; not refundable after classes begin. The teachers are our own talented interior designers. For more information, call the Hudson's Interior Design Studio nearest you.



HUDSON'S  
interior design studio