

# In theater or sports, Michael sets a fast pace

By CORINNE ABATT

He doesn't just come right out and say it, but St. Regis School eighth grader Michael Wantuck has one foot firmly in the present and the other ready to step into a most promising future.

He is, as another generation likes to put it, "very together."  
Michael has the leading role in the Michigan Opera Theatre production of Gian Carlo Menotti's one-act opera, "Amahl and the Night Visitors." It will be staged Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 17-18, at Music Hall Center at 2 p.m. both days plus a 6:30 p.m. performance on Sunday.

Amahl is a role which this 13-year-old veteran actor has coveted for some time. So, it was fortunate that shortly after he and his family moved here from Florida, Michigan Opera Theatre elected to do the Christmas opera, which Menotti wrote especially for television.

THE AUDITIONING TEAM was as pleased as anyone when they held the boys-only audition for the role and came upon Michael, who happened to have starred twice in the lead role in "Oliver," once with Vincent Price playing Fagin, as well as with Sandy Duncan in "Peter Pan," and on television with Jackie Gleason. Michael

has also done a number of TV commercials.

As if that weren't enough, he is the national 12-year-old champion in three-meter springboard diving and silver medalist in the one-meter. He also won the first all-around winner award for nine and under in the 1973 Junior Olympics in Florida in 1973 and finished second in the 11 and under age group in gymnastics in the Florida State competition in 1974.

In brief, he sings, he dances, he acts, he dives, he plays piano, figure skates and does gymnastics.  
Dressed in the blue St. Regis school colors, he talked rather matter-of-factly about his career answering questions as though he had heard them before, but ready to answer them once again.

"My sister, Christine, a junior at Andover High School, got me interested in acting when she was in Junior Theater in Florida. I always wanted to do what my sister wanted to do."

By the time he was cast as Oliver in a college production in Florida, he was already singing with the Miami Boys' Choir. It was his father, Kenneth, who opened this door. Michael's father, who is with Bendix Corp. of Southfield, has always liked to sing in choirs and in barbershop groups.

HIS SECOND APPEARANCE as Oliver was with the Kenley Players of Ohio—that is the production which also starred Vincent Price.

"Vincent Price is wonderful," Michael said. "There just couldn't be a better person than him."

After playing Michael Darling to Sandy Duncan's Peter Pan with the Kenley Players, Michael decided he would like to be the first boy performer ever to do Peter Pan.

It has always been a plum for actresses such as Jean Arthur and Mary Martin. So, why not a boy in the part, he reasons.

Casually and with a smile, he tossed in the fact that the flying equipment he and Ms. Duncan used was the same that powered Jean Arthur and Mary Martin across the stage. Peter Fay is the designer and operator of the apparatus.

Michael's hope is that these pleasant experiences will lead eventually to a career in films—acting, directing and producing.

But, before all that comes about, he plans to have another decided edge over the rest of the crowd.

If his diving career continues as well as it started, he would like to compete in the 1980 Olympics as a member of the United States diving team. He's studying with Ann Aubrey at Groves High School pool. It isn't as far-fetched as it might sound coming from some other eighth grader—Michael does hold a national diving championship.

HE FIGURES THE Olympics might do for him what they did for Bruce Jenner, provide a springboard into TV commercials and films.

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ada as well as at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 S. Cranbrook.

Jurying will be March 1. The jurors will be Kathryn Lipke and Ted Ramsay. Ms. Lipke is an instructor at Concordia University in Montreal, and Ramsay is professor of art at the University of Michigan. Her work with paper as the medium was exhibited in Yaw Gallery last year.



Michael Wantuck has his eye on the 1980 Olympics. (Staff photo by Dick Kelley)

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### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS Summary of Proceedings City Council Meeting November 14, 1977

The Farmington Hills City Council met in regular session at City Hall, 1977 at 8:00 P.M. Council Members present were: Amori, Dolan, Dudley, Oppertshauser, and Smith. Mr. Deacon and Mr. Lichtman were away due to business.

Amendatory Ordinance #C62-108 a request to rezone property located on the north side of Eight Mile Road between Gill and Halsted Roads from Single Family Residential use (RA-3) to Special Purpose use (SP-3) was unanimously enacted.

Amendatory Ordinance #C62-109 a request to rezone property located on the north side of Northwestem Highway between Fourteen Mile and Nottingham Road from Single Family Residential use (RA-2) to Multiple Family Residential use (RC-2) was unanimously enacted.

Resolution to establish a Special Assessment District to correct the Hamilton Street sewer water problem unanimously approved.

Appointment of George T. Roberts to the Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously approved.

Piate and Moran, C.P.A.'s presented a report of the 1976-77 Annual Audit.

Resolution of Intent to enter into a lease agreement for use of the Ten Mile Road School for the 4th District Court unanimously approved.

Resolution of Intent to Issue Industrial Revenue Bonds for the Rex Publishing Company-Parish Service Company of Research Drive unanimously approved.

Final Plat for Meadowbrook Forest Subdivision (41 lots) located south of Nine Mile east of Halsted, including escrow deposit of \$176,402.31 unanimously approved.

Final Plat approval for Harvest Hill Development (16 lots) located south of 13 Mile Road between New Bradford Street and Lake Park Drive postponed until November 21, 1977.

Agreement for Planned Unit Development for Parkside Subdivision postponed until November 21, 1977.

Farmington Area Advisory Council (F.A.A.C.) request for budget appropriation increase of \$2,000 unanimously approved from unappropriated surplus.

Waiver of 5' foot sidewalk construction in front of 28945 and 28963 Orchard Lake Road for 2 year period or until Orchard Lake Road widening project is completed unanimously granted.

Public Hearing date set for December 19, 1977 regarding request for alley vacation north of Becker Street.

Hold Harmless Agreement with Michigan Municipal League for use of personnel testing and allied services unanimously approved.

Resolution regarding the Use Factors schedule used for compaction sewage disposal charges unanimously approved.

Introduction of the following Amendatory Ordinances to the City Code unanimously approved:

- #C-4 Amendement to Uniform Traffic Code establishing Parking for Handicappers.
- #C-5-77 Amendement to Section 24.010 - Chapter 24 the 1978 Natural Electrical Code.
- #C-6-77 Amendement to Section 24.020 Chapter 24 Reference Section 24.030 Chapter 24 Changes in Code.
- #C-7-77 Amendement to Section 24.040 through 24.210 Chapter 24 adding new sections 24.222 through 24.430 inclusive regarding Electrical Permits and Inspections.
- #C-8-77 Amendement to City Code Part 1, Chapter 3 by adding Parks and Recreation Ordinance.

Amendment to Police Officers Contract to allow residency in both Cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington unanimously approved.

Quarterly Transfer of Major Road Funds to Local Road Funds in amount of \$39,366 unanimously approved.

Public Hearing date set for November 28, 1977 to establish necessity and Special Assessment District for Nine Mile and Halsted road paving project.

Meeting adjourned at 1:34 A.M.

Prepared by: Floyd A. Cairns, City Clerk  
Approved by: Joan Dudley, Mayor

Published: December 8, 1977

"I'm really striving to go to the 1980 Olympics," he said. "I hope I can do it at 16 when I'll have to work harder for the 1984 Olympics."

All of these activities Michael fits neatly into a daily pattern: School, then diving practice at Groves pool, then supper and rehearsals at Music-Hall.

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS Summary of Proceedings Special City Council Meeting November 8, 1977

The Farmington Hills City Council met in Special Session at City Hall on November 8, 1977 at 8:00 P.M. Council Members present were: Dolan, Oppertshauser, Dudley, Deacon and Amori. Smith arrived late and Lichtman was absent due to out of town business. Others present were: City Manager Majors and City Attorney Bibeau.

Low bid by the Mars Building Company in amount of \$2,377 for additions and alterations to the Police Department second floor and Administrative office remodeling unanimously accepted.

Low bid by Clearfoot Brothers Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$18,140 for construction of the Waldron Storm Drain unanimously accepted.

City Attorney reported regarding a request to postpone the effective date of the RC-21 Ordinance establishing a mid-rise senior citizen housing district that any action to amend or repeal the ordinance would in no way stop the tolling of days to the effective date of November 14, 1977.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Prepared by: FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk  
Approved by: JOAN DUDLEY, Mayor

Published: December 8, 1977

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS Summary of Proceedings City Council Minutes November 21, 1977

The City Council of the City of Farmington Hills met in regular session at City Hall on November 21, 1977 at 8:00 P.M. Council Members present were: Amori, Deacon, Dolan, Dudley, Oppertshauser, and Smith. Others present were: City Manager Majors, City Clerk Cairns, Planning Consultant Coates and City Attorney Donahue.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions tabled by a vote of 4 to 2. Mr. Amori and Mrs. Dudley opposed.

After Public Hearing introduction of Amendatory Ordinance No. C62-114 a request to rezone 25.98 acres located between Northwestern Highway and Oldie Franklin Road from single family residential use (RA-1) to Office Service use (OS-1) and Multiple Family Residential use (RC-3) unanimously denied.

After Public Hearing, introduction of Amendatory Ordinance No. C62-115 a request to rezone 40.41 acres of Supervisor's Plat of Woodcrest Farms located on the north side of Northwestern Highway between Valley and Wellington Roads from Single Family Residential use (RA-1) to Office Service use (OS-1) unanimously denied.

Consideration of the Introduction of Amendatory Ordinance No. C62-116 a request to rezone property located on the west side of St. Francis Street between Byron and Grand River Avenue from Single Family Residential use (RA-4) to Multiple Family Residential use (RC-3) adjourned until December 19, 1977.

After Public Hearing, Amendatory Ordinance No. C62-117 a request to rezone separate parcels totaling 62.05 acres located between 13 1/2 Mile and 14 Mile Roads between Halsted and Haggerty Roads from Single-Family Residential use (RA-1) to Planned Residential use (RP-2) unanimously introduced.

After Public Hearing, Amendatory Ordinance No. C62-111 a request to rezone 5.099 acres located at 28200 Grand River Avenue between Haggerty Road and 1275 front, Light Industrial use (LI-1) to General Business District use (B-3) unanimously introduced.

After Public Hearing, Amendatory Ordinance No. C62-112 a request to rezone 1.34 acres located at 28615 Grand River Avenue between Haggerty Road and 1275 from Light Industrial use (LI-1) to General Business District use (B-3) unanimously introduced.

After Public Hearing, request to vacate that part of Argus Avenue lying east of Power and between 165 and 164 of Krave's Grand River Heights Subdivision No. 1 unanimously granted.

Final Plat for Parkside Subdivision (16 lots) located on the south side of 13 Mile Road between Farmington and Drake Roads including escrow deposit in amount of \$9,819.29 unanimously approved.

Planned Unit Development Agreement for Parkside Subdivision unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 P.M.

Prepared by: FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk  
Approved by: JOAN DUDLEY, Mayor

Published: December 8, 1977

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS Summary of Proceedings City Council Meeting October 24, 1977

The Farmington Hills City Council met in regular session at City Hall on October 24, 1977 at 7:30 P.M. Council Members present were: Amori, Dolan, Deacon, Dudley, Smith and Oppertshauser who arrived late. Absent: Mr. Lichtman was out of town on business. Others present: City Manager Majors, City Attorney Bibeau, Planning Consultant Coates, and City Clerk Cairns.

After Public Hearing, necessary was declared for Moran Street Sewer improvements in Supervisor's Middlebelt Ten Mile Road Plat #1 by a vote of 4 to 1. Mr. Deacon opposed.

After Cost Hearing, Special Assessment roll in the amount of \$26,000 for sewer improvements in Noble Brook Farms # 1 & 2 and Elm Grove Valley Subdivisions unanimously confirmed.

After Public Hearing, Amendatory Ordinance #C62-108 a request to rezone property located on the north side of Eight Mile Road between Gill and Halsted Roads from single family residential (RA-3) to Special Purpose use (SP-3) was unanimously introduced.

After Public Hearing, Amendatory Ordinance #C62-109 a request to rezone property located on the north side of Northwestem Highway between Fourteen Mile and Nottingham Road from single family residential use (RA-2) to multiple family residential use (RC-2) was unanimously introduced.

Amendatory Ordinance #C62-8 a request to establish elderly housing residential districts where the maximum height of structures would be twenty-five feet was unanimously enacted.

Amendatory Ordinance #C62-L establishing elderly housing residential districts where the maximum height of structures would be sixty feet was enacted by a vote of 4 to 2. Mr. Deacon and Mrs. Dudley opposed.

Delinquent assessments to be added on 1977 City Winter Tax Roll in the amount of \$142,704.92 unanimously approved.

Preliminary Plat for Sudbury Woods North Subdivision (11 lots) located west of Drake Road between Thirteen and Fourteen Mile Roads unanimously approved.

Preliminary Plat for Sudbury Woods South Subdivision (14 lots) located west of Drake Road between Thirteen and Fourteen Mile Roads unanimously approved.

Preliminary Plat for Heritage Hills Subdivision # 11 and #12 (16 lots) located on the southeast corner of 14 and Drake Roads unanimously approved.

Final Plat for Green Hill Commons Subdivision #3 (16 lots) located east of Halsted Road south of 13 Mile Road including escrow deposit in amount of \$24,764.32, unanimously approved.

Hamilton Street Storm Water problem discussed and action tabled until staff report is presented November 14, 1977.

1977-78 General Fund Budget amended in the amount of \$40,000 to cover increased cost of liability insurance from unappropriated surplus.

Second low bid by the Garwood-Detroit Truck Equipment, Inc. in the amount of \$9,000 for an Alby Mobile Street Sweeper unanimously accepted.

Second low bid by the Jack Doherty Supply, Inc. in the amount of \$23,000 for a Vaccine 300 Catch Basin Cleaner unanimously accepted.

Legal advertising requirement waived and bid awarded unanimously to Dick Morris Chevrolet, Inc. in the amount of \$13,066.25 for the purchase of three 1977 Chevrolet Malibus.

Final Plat for Green Hill Woods Subdivision (104 lots) located west of Halsted Road, on Nine Mile Road unanimously approved.

Planned Unit Development Agreement for Green Hill Woods Subdivision unanimously approved.

Liquor license transfer at 31425 W. Twelve Mile Road (Monks' Cellar) from C.G.T., Inc. to P.G.G., Inc. unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:33 A.M.

Prepared by: Floyd A. Cairns, City Clerk  
Approved by: Joan Dudley, Mayor

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