

## For park purchase

# County eyes Glen Oaks

By LYNN ORR

Southwest Oakland County may be the beneficiary of a new public golf course and park in Farmington Hills.

The Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission is considering the \$2.5 million purchase of Glen Oaks Golf Course, located on Thirteen Mile west of Middlebelt. The 139-acre site is owned by the Moslem Shriners, who have removed the property from the real estate market for 75 days to allow the commission time to assess the purchase. The Shriners were paid \$2,000 by the commission for the 75-day market removal.

A public hearing is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. June 27, in Glen Oaks, to allow public comment on the purchase, according to Eric Reickel, manager of the parks and recreation commission. He urges the public to attend.

County commissioner Robert McConnell (R-Farmington Hills)

urged the commission to consider the Glen Oaks site as part of the commission's master plan to acquire sites in southern Oakland County. The majority of the parks commission's holdings are located in northern and eastern Oakland County.

The master plan calls for parks closer to the populous areas of the county.

**PARKS COMMISSIONERS** attended a luncheon meeting at Glen Oaks last week to take a look at the property, which includes a 114.5-acre, 18-hole golf course and 24 acres of vacant adjacent property. The proposed purchase also would include a stone clubhouse with dining and banquet facilities. The main floor of the clubhouse is approximately 12,000 square feet.

The commission is interested in the possible recreational potential of the vacant property, including construction of a wave-action pool and other facilities, Reickel said.

By TIM RICHARD

Midnight oil burned at Schoolcraft College last weekend as an administrative budget committee put together a 1978-9 spending plan to place before the board of trustees this week.

Trustees will work on the budget in a meeting beginning at 8 p.m. Wednesday. If necessary, they will schedule a special meeting June 21. A public hearing is scheduled for 7 p.m. June 22.

"We're short right now about \$700,000," said Kenneth Lindner, vice-president for administrative affairs

and budget committee chairman, last Friday.

Although he was unable to fill in details, he hinted broadly that "some things are going to fall by the wayside" without additional revenue.

**OPERATING REVENUE** is expected to total \$11.1 million, said Lindner. Debt retirement will cost another \$668,000.

Here are the prospects for the community college's three main sources of revenue:

- Property taxes—The tax base (state equalized value of all homes

and businesses) is nearly \$2.1 billion, up about eight per cent. It will bring in about \$3.7 million in operating revenues. The voted tax rate will remain at 1.77 mills because two millage increases were rejected by voters in 1976 and 77.

•State aid—The Michigan Legislature hasn't completed work on aid bills, and the house and senate have different versions. Averaging them, however, Lindner looks for an increase of 14 per cent. That would put total state aid at about \$4.8 million.

•Student tuition and fees—This is the only area over which the college has any control. Lindner indicated little increase could be expected from natural growth. He wouldn't say whether the administration would recommend an increase. Current tuition and fee rates per credit hour are \$15.50 for district residents, \$26.50 for other residents of Michigan and \$39.50 for out-of-state residents. Last year, this item raised \$2.4 million, or nearly a quarter of the budget.

"FOUR YEARS ago," said Lindner, "we told the board there would be a shortfall of revenue of about \$1 million in five to six years."

"We're short right now about \$700,000."

"Budget requests are up nine per cent, and we can't fund it. We've got to take some strong stands. We've got to make some strong decisions."

A complicating factor this year is that the college is negotiating new contracts with two employee groups—the Faculty Forum and the Association of Office Personnel. The groups have announced they will bargain cooperatively; that is, one union will not initiate a settlement until the other group is ready to settle.



Glen Oaks Golf Course in Farmington Hills may become Oakland County property for the use of county residents. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

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PHOTOGRAPHY LOCATION:  
24040 Orchard Lake Road  
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PHOTOGRAPHY DATES:  
Monday, June 26  
through  
Wednesday, June 28

PHOTOGRAPHY HOURS:  
4:30 p.m. — 9:00 p.m.

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