Leading singing group has adventurous times

In sweet harmony, the Pollard family of Livonia, who has more than 60 years of experience in "barbershoping," sings a winning chorus. Dressed in his riverboat gambler's white tails, Jim Pollard, 24, refuses to take credit for leading the 62 members of the Farmington Hills chapter of the Sweet Adelines to their recent victory at the Masonic Temple. Using a showboat theme, the four-part harmony group won the coveted silver medal with its renditions of "Here Comes the Showboat" and "Why Do I Love You?"

THE SWEET Adelines is comprised of women aged 16 to 70 from throughout the metropolitan area. A silent addition to the musical group is Flame, the Leader Dog who beiongs to Laura Pappas of Farmington.

With their young, enthusiastic direc-

Farmington Observer

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tor of 1½ years, they outsang 18 other regional chapters. Now they are slated to compete for the gold medal against 30 regional winners in the 1882 international competition in Minneapolis. The group's first taste of success came last year when, directed by Jim, they placed second in the regional competitions in London, Ontario.

In spite of his modesty, his family claims that it's Jim's skill which suggested the group and doubled the membership from 30 to more than 70.

"He has excettement, a natural ability to direct," said his mother, Gloria, who has been with the Sweet Adelines for about 22 years.

about 22 years.

SECONDING her opinion were his younger brother Craig and his father, Tom, and they ought to know.

After all, they explained, for six months Jim was the assistant director, the state of the state

shoppers.
"He's easy to sing for," his father

"He's easy to sing for," his father said.
"You can tell exactly what he wants, "Craig added.
"If you can get 62 women to tear up during a sad part in "Why Do I Love You?" you've got to be good," his mother said, touching the sliver medal that hung from a blue cord around her neck.

that tang norm a meck.

Debbie, Jim's wife of almost two years, agreed with her mother-in-law and tugged at the bustle on her confining satin costume.

THE COSTUME was petting too tight now that she was expecting a new Sweet Adeline or barbershopper in a few months, she said. And for the Pollards, singing in four-part harmony is a family tradition.

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Debble, who graduated from Bentley High School in 1976, knew this when she first sang with Jim, a '75 Bentley graduate, in the school's concert chorus, directed by Jerry Smith. She was 'Jim's family to the competitions. She gave in to it shortly after she married Jim and joined the Sweet Adelines.

Both Oraig, a '75 Bentley graduate, and Jim sang at home, with the Roosevelt Elementary School chorus, with the Riley Junior High School Choir, and with the Bentley chorus. Even their other activities are family affairs. Jim works with his father who owns Technical Tooling in Reddord Township.

THE ENTIRE family usually turns out to see Craig roller skate. Recently, he and his dance partner took fifth out of 33 teams in a competition at Virgin-



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Basking in the glory are Craig, his younger brother, and, Tom, his father — both members of a Wayne barbershop group.

Please turn to Page 4A



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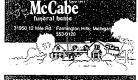
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