

amusements

Singletons To Meet

The Dearborn-Livonia Singletons will hold their next dinner social Friday evening, Jan. 15, in Master's, 2703 W. Seven Mile, Livonia.

The evening will start with a social hour at 6:30, followed by dinner at 7:30.

Anyone interested in attending the dinner social to learn more about the Singletons is urged to write to P.O. Box 2175, Fort Dearborn Station, Dearborn, 48124.

The Singletons is the only national service organization limited in membership to unmarried men and women.

'Faust' Arias Are Presented

YPSILANTI The Eastern Michigan University-Chive Symphony Orchestra will present operatic highlights from Gounod's "Faust" at 3 p.m., Jan. 10, in Pease Auditorium. Edward J. Szabo, associate professor of music, will conduct.

The program will include soloists from the EMU vocal faculty, including Emily Lowe as the young Marguerite, Oscar Henry as the philosopher Faust, Fredric Moses as the devil Mephistopheles, and Charles Rose as Marguerite's brother Valentin. Glenda Kirkland will play the young Siebel; Valja Bumbulis, Marguerite's neighbor Marthe; and John Elwell, a student named Wagner.

The chorus for the performance will be provided by the EMU Opera Workshop Chorus and the EMU Men's Chorus.

Harry Bowen, associate professor of speech and dramatic arts, will narrate. The performance is open to the public without charge. A public reception in Room 130 Alexander Music Building will be given immediately following the concert by Phi Mu Alpha, honorary music fraternity.

Singles Meet

Wayne Alumni Singles will hold their monthly coffee hour Sunday, Jan. 10, from 4 to 5 p.m., at the Wayne State Alumni House, 441 W. Ferry, Detroit.

Single college graduates from WSU and other colleges are invited to attend.

Quintet Upped

Five members of Wayne State University's 9-6 freshman basketball team of 1969-70, are now members of the Tartar varsity for 1970-71.

Hockey Full-Time Hobby For Many

Ice is a very valuable commodity in Observerland. It's a commodity which is spoken of with awe and almost reverence by hockey fans at any rate.

It can cost you inconvenience, money and lost sleep, if you have a son who wants to emulate Gordie Howe.

For many it's a full-time hobby between the months of September and March.

Observerland now has more than 2,600 boys involved in organized hockey. . . 800 in Livonia, 300 in Garden City, 450 to 500 in Westland, 145 in Plymouth, 120 in Farmington, about 400 in Southfield and some 430 in Redford Township.

Not such a big number when you consider the thousands who take part in community basketball or baseball associations.

BUT A PRETTY big number when you consider the elusiveness of that thing called ice time. . . and when you consider that Plymouth, Farmington, and until this month Southfield, don't have artificial ice rinks to hold practices and games.

And it's a pretty big number in terms of inconvenience, money. . . and lost sleep.

Yet those who are involved and this means the whole family feel it's worth it.

LIVONIA'S two indoor rinks and hockey association are now in their third year.

"I think it's the best thing that's ever happened to Livonia," reports Mrs. Ray Wilson, mother of two hockey players and wife of last year's president of the Livonia Hockey Association.

In Plymouth, Wendell Hough says, "It's important for the kids to have a feeling of success, and my kids enjoy playing hockey."

Hough knows whereof he speaks. . . he has three sons who are hockey players. They are David, 11, a Freshwater, Jimmy, 13, a Bantam, and Bob, 15, a Midget.

ON A TYPICAL Sunday morning Hough's eldest son is up at 3:15 and is picked up around 4 to practice at Winter Wonderland in Detroit. Hough himself leaves at 5 with his second son to pick up three other kids and proceeds to Winter Wonderland for a 6 o'clock practice. Before leaving he has wakened David, who will be picked up in time for a 7 o'clock practice.

"And we probably got back Saturday night at 10 from a game at Jackson," reports Hough.

"Clearly if we had ice locally, we wouldn't have those kinds of hours. We could rent them out to teams from other communities."

THIS HAS BEEN the experience in Livonia, where the Wilsons' son, Neil, 15, plays on a Midget team. His schedule for a week might include a 6 to 7 practice Sunday morning and a 9 to 10 p.m. game later in the week, but the rink is just around the corner.

His brother, Mark, who is 10 and a Squirt, is on the traveling team, which spends more time on the road. But most of his practices and games are in the early evening hours and this helps.

Hockey's traveling teams are put together after tryouts and comprise the best players in the community. In the Inter-City League are: Livonia, Westland and Garden City, as well as Ecorse, Wyandotte, Trenton, Allen Park and Dearborn. Mrs. Wilson says that Mark was lucky in being able to start with the Livonia program when he was eight.

THE VARIOUS associations put the money to various uses. . . to help buy ice time, to equip the boys with jerseys or, in the case of Westland, complete uniforms (except for the skates), to buy goalie equipment, to buy insurance and so on.

But the parents are still called on to dig into their own pockets, although many older boys can and do pay their own ways.

As one father put it, "Outfitting a boy to play hockey, with neither the best nor the worst of equipment, means you get no change back from a \$100 bill." The hockey stick is the least expensive item on the list. . . it's only about \$3.

A pair of those well-padded pants can run \$20. Then there's the helmet, the shin guards, the shoulder pads. . . the skates and a few other things.

The jerseys, at about \$20 apiece and the hockey stockings, are often supplied by sponsors, if not by the local hockey association. For a team, it can run a sponsor between \$400 and \$600.

But that's not all. There's still that valuable commodity, ice, to be paid for. In most cases the boys pay for practice time, at anywhere from \$1 to \$2 per hour, depending on local arrangements. This can work out to another \$40 to \$100 per season. Most game times are paid for by the association or the community.

Then there's the gas. . . and the lost sleep.

JUST WATCHING a hockey game makes it easy to understand why the boys like it.

But what about the par-

In the Wilson family, Mrs. Wilson is getting into the act in a rather unusual way. . . she plans to be a Christmas tree or a butterfly.

She didn't want to be outskated by her sons and has taken lessons for three seasons. Thus, she will be in the ice show the Livonia rinks are planning in April.

SELLING things is another way in which the boys and their families help hockey's growth.

The Westland association stages three dances a year, help raise funds, along with candy sales and other projects. It is the only one with a women's auxiliary.

Among other things, the women do skates and pit their hockey prowess against the Mites in an exhibition game. This game is so popular that this year there'll be two teams of mothers taking on the five-to-eight-year-olds in February.

In Livonia last year, they sold decals to the tune of more than \$8,000, and Redford Township has just finished selling bumper stickers, raising \$5,000 in the process.



IT'S SUNDAY MORNING — and it's quarter to four. This is not an unusual scene when you have a hockey player in the house. The Wendell Houghs of Plymouth have three. Left to right are Bob, 15, Dave, 11, and Jim, 13. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

ents, who have to commit so much time and money? And the dedicated coaches and sponsors?

"We wouldn't do it if we didn't want to," says Hough.

He probably sums it up best when he says, "We'll support what is wholesome and creditable and the kids enjoy." Of the coaches he says, "Our coaches are committed. . . they want the kids to win, but they also want to get them involved and the latter is the more important."

He feels that this is particularly true of Joe Gates, who has been the key person in keeping hockey alive in Plymouth for the past 11 years.

Or as a Farmington sponsor, another man who has put a lot of time and effort into promoting hockey, Russell Ellis, says, "I know when there are 250 to 300 teenagers watching a game (or playing hockey), they're not on the streets getting into trouble."

And skating for many has a carryover effect. Like Mrs. Wilson, you can be a Christmas tree or a butterfly. Or



EVEN WITH TAPING — if often takes two or three hockey sticks to get through a season. Both Mark Wilson, 10, and his brother, Neil, are experts at this job after three seasons in Livonia's hockey program. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

like some fathers who have been impelled to don skates again, you can join an over-30 hockey league and recap-

ture those good old days for yourself. The lines are changed of 30 hockey league and recap-

EMU Band In Concert

YPSILANTI The Eastern Michigan University Symphony Band will present its final concert of the semester at 8 p.m., Jan. 12, in Pease Auditorium. The 70-member band is conducted by Thomas Tyra, director of bands and associate professor of music.

Donald Platter, featured soloist for the concert, will perform "Concerto for Clarinet and Band" by Rimsky-Korsakov. Clarinet soloist with the band for three years, Platter will receive a Bachelor of Music Education degree at the January commencement.

Also featured on the program is a new work for bands by American composer David Ward-Steinman, "Jazz Tangents" attempts to synthesize the rhythms, harmonies and improvisations of

the jazz medium with the more formal structures of concert music.

Other selections include an overture by Reed, "Symphony No. 6 for Band" by Vincent Persichetti, "Patterns for Band" by White, and five movements from "Facade" by William Walton.

The concert is open to the public without charge.