

Entrepreneurs blend ideas on business, art

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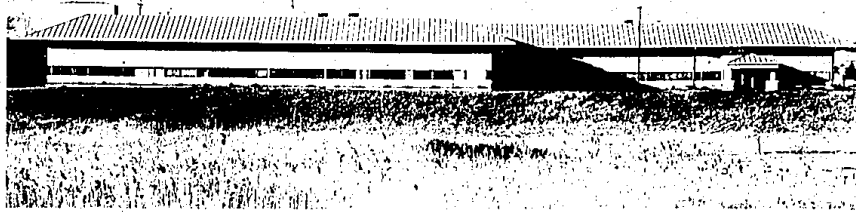
fronting on the lake, the trapezoidal structure has oblique angles that project into the surrounding site.

THE BUILDING has an aquanautical motif. The canopied entrance is circular with a dorsal fin-like projection above punctuated by a series of circular porthole openings. The two-story dining area, with a second-level balcony, is surrounded by three walls of glass lending a view of the lake. One of the walls, on the lake side, is faceted and canted up to the roof edge emphasizing the asymmetry of the facade. The configuration of the building might help to serve as a ritual launching and perhaps mark a turnaround for the tainted image of Walled Lake due to poor zoning and unchecked development.

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Within the oftentimes banal architectural landscape of our mass-consuming society, once based on planned obsolescence, good honest commercial design will last a very long time. As in one of the rules of retailing, "let the buyer beware," so too, "let the seller beware."

Date Northup is a college professor and architectural historian.



The Jasman Construction Building in Plymouth Township is reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie House style when seen from a distance.

CHRISTOPHER LARK

Window shopping?

(AP) — Here's a quick lesson in what to ask about when you shop for new windows.

The R-value measures the insulating ability of the window. The higher the R-value, the more it will keep warm air in your home.

U-values measure the overall heat transfer through the window. The lower the U-value, the lower the heat transfer rate.

Low-E glass: When sunlight strikes ordinary glass, most of the short wave energy passes through and is absorbed by the rugs, walls and furniture. This can cause fading of fabrics. Low-E glass is coated with metal oxide and restricts the passage of heat energy in and out of a window.

Air filtration: the lower the AF number, the more efficient the window is at preventing air infiltration. The National Wood Window and Door Association notes three classes of windows: Class 20, 40 and 60. Class 60 has the lower AF numbers.

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