Book store fans afraid of change

Kmart's acquisition of Borders Book Stores has been described by one retail analyst as a marriage made in heaven for the two princi-

pals. However, some Borders customers interviewed Saturday at the 13 and Southfield Road store the road store wondered how the new relation-ship will affect them, much like children have questions about their place in a newly blended family.

family. "What's going to happen to the store?" asked Fran Toroniewski, a Southfield resident waiting for the doors to open. "Here, you can escape. It's just not a bookstore. I hope it doesn't change." Lewis Booth, a Bloomfield Hills resident, visits most week-ends to browse and buy. "I hope it doesn't change Borders," he said. "It has good choice, knowledge-able staff. It's a nice environ-ment." Babeson who declimut to rive

ment. Rebecce, who declined to give her last name and sold she lives in Southfield, believes that the acquisition will send Borders into the dumper. "They'll turn it into crap," she sold of Kmart's pur-chase.

crap, she said of Kmart's pur-chase. "I'm a little nervous," con-fessed Peggy Kona of Beverly Hills. "The help here is great. I don't care who owns it as long as they keep the service up." Don't worry, said Orren Knauer, director of investor rela-tions for Kmart, and Tom Mc-Bride, assistant manager at the Beverly Hills Borders. "We have no intention of changing anything customers would recognize what goes on in a Borders store," Knauer asid. "We as a matter of practice

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HOME ORGANIZATION

leave the operations of our speci-sity stores of our subsidiaries to the management of those subsidi-aries," he said. "As long as they're doing well ... they're going to run their own show." "To my knowledge, the same management team will be on line," McBride said. "Every-thing's going to stay the same. Customers won't notice any chances."

Customers won't notice any changes." That's exactly the right strate-gy, said Frederick Mars, a Farm-ington Hills retail consultant. "They (Borders) are a category killer," he said. "They have a management team that under-stands the business. Kmart didn't buy it to change it. You buy it to leave it alone and grow." Borders is more than a book-store for regular customers. It's a

Borders is more than a book-store for regular customers. It's a place to browse without being hassled or forced to buy. Chairs are scattered throughout the 140,000 titles on display to en-courage pattorns to linger. Kathleen Mendte has worked there for three years

courage pattons to infect. Kathleen Meale has worked there for three years. "It's definitely different than shopping in a mall in selection, personal attention to the custom-er, a willinguess to special order anything in print," she said. "They're buying us for who we are. If they're smart, they aren't going to change it." Kmart acquired the 21'Borders nationally Friday with a stock swap after much speculation in the business community. Borders brings a tremendous reputation, Kmart enpital and real estate ex-pertises for future growth. Details remain to be worked out so that Waldenbooks and its superstore business, Basset, also owned by Kmart, wort directly compete with Borders, Knauer said.

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Victory in hand

BY TIM RICHARD STAFF WRITER

By Thy Riccitand By Thy Riccitand Brayr Wargs During his eight years in the Michigan Legislature, Rep. James Kosteva has consistently voted to restrict abortions but never was vocal about it. Until last week. Facing a challenge from a Right to Life candidate in a revised dis-trict, Kosteva, D-Canton, was prime sponsor of a shot bill to re-pair a constitutional flaw in the 1991 parental consent law. "We're here for one purpose only: to provide elarity to a defini-tion of medical emergency) that Judge Schneffer said was incor-rect, Kosteva told the House. Kalamazoo Circuit Judge Phil-lip Schneffer ruled in mid-year that the law — requiring that gifs under 18 need the consent of a parent or a probate judge to ob-turi an abortion except for an "emergency" — failed to define an energency.

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Berman loses on abortion bill

The Observer/ MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1992

Victory in hand Kosteva had victory in hand oc-sponosory, including four of the New Welked in the door – 55 bouw we is a source of the source

basis of a physician's good faith clinical judgment, so complicates the medical condition of a preg-nant woman as to necessilate an immediate abortion of that wom-an's pregmancy to avert her death, or for which a delay in performing an abortion will create scrious risk of substantial and irreversi-ble impairment of a mejor bodily function."

No changes

No changes Opponents apent most of an af-ternoon session trying to tack on 26 amendments. None got more than 48 vote. Here are some they offered: An Marine Bernan, D. South-field — keep the content of Kos-teva's bill but add a sentence giv-ing all other women clear abortion rights. The effect would have been to repeal Michigan's law against abortion which has been legal dead wood since the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision.

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Berman - emergency to include a girl's threat to commit suicide, stated intent to visit an unqualified abortionist or risk of impairment to her fertility.
Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills - emergency to include al-lowing a physician to certify he believes a girl will try a self-in-duced abortion or visit an unqual-fied abortionist.
Sna Mursell B-Howell

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ified abordionist. . Sue Munsell, R-Howell — emergency to include hyperten-sion, juvenile diabetes, hepatitis. sickle-cell anomia and other all-ments that might cause a sponta-neous abortion. Lyn Bankes, R-Livonia — emergency to include the HIV vi-rus.

emergency to include the HIV virus.
Berman — establish an advisory council from the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology to draw up a new definition of medical emergency for future use.



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