

## SPECIAL EVENTS

## 'Board' adults enjoy role playing, changing history

BY BARBARA WILSON  
STAFF WRITER

The games people play aren't just for kids anymore. Gaming has become a new favorite with many adults who seek entertainment that stimulates the mind, allows for socializing among friends, and doesn't require a five-mile jog every day.

The old standards — parlor games — like checkers, Scrabble and backgammon, have loyal fol-

lowings with tournaments scheduled around the country. These, however, are not necessarily the games that have attracted thousands of men to the pastime, leading to the resurgence of gaming in general.

Computer games, role-playing games and advanced board games have soared in popularity among adults.

Role-playing games became popular with the inception of

Dungeons and Dragons back in the late '70s. Players would assume roles of various characters and would make game moves based on how their character would respond in a situation. Vampire: The Masquerade is a role-playing game that has now taken gamers by storm.

There are many more of these games now being played, but they were introduced to the general public with various murder mys-

tery games. Popular as party games, players perform as various suspects and the others try to solve the crime.

Card games take on new meaning with Star Trek: The Next Generation and Magic: The Gathering. Players collect cards — some with very ornate drawings — and then play using set rules in an attempt to collect even more cards.

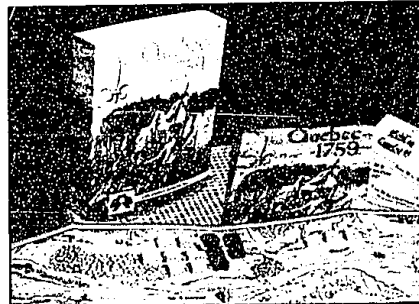
David Spurling of Novi takes advantage of a Monday night "Magic" fest at Border's Books and Music. He learned about the game on CompuServe and then his wife, a school teacher, started seeing kids play it at school.

"I started with a \$15 investment, but people spend a lot of money on it," he said. "It's nice to have a place to come to meet other people who play game."

There are also many new board games on the market that make Monopoly really look like child's play. Allies and Axis by Milton Bradley is probably the most mainstream of the strategy board games enjoyed by gamers today, but even that is limited in scope.

Also popular are miniature games in which elaborately painted figures are moved about in re-enactments of battles — real or imaginary.

These games have inspired huge conventions where the mini-



ART EMANUEL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On the Plains of Abraham: The French and Canadians (blue) fight the British (red) for control of Quebec in Columbia Games' Quebec 1759. The British fleet is to the east of the battle.

atures, which range in size from 54 millimeters to 6 millimeters, are on display.

Gamers often spend hours pouring over books and magazines learning all they can about the time period to take the most advantage of their opponents.

While these games are enter-

taining and challenging, they do have drawbacks. The boards can be huge and you have to have two people to play.

Players can hook up to a computer service and play each other from two different places, or gamers can play a computer opponent.

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FINE ARTS  
Window

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strands (representing the soul) twirling upward. The work is so bright that even on a cloudy day it looks illuminated.

Smaller features include stars in the night sky and fish in the water.

"I'm thrilled with it," said Ginny McGuire, Mickey's widow.

"Mickey and Ginny both were very active members of this church," Jones said. "We were interested in (the window) being both an expression of Mickey's life and a statement that this church wants to make to the world."

McGuire was an advertising art director for D'Arcy, Maclus, Benton and Bowles for 48 years. Celebrating 20 years of sobriety,

McGuire was a "model and mentor" for others overcoming alcoholism, Jones said.

"He celebrated his sobriety date as his birthday all those years," the pastor said.

The church is marking its 125th anniversary this year. People from the church played a key role in the window project. Shaw met with the church council in February and heard comments about her design. The window was paid for with money given in McGuire's memory by his family members, friends, colleagues and fellow church members.

Workers from Henderson Glass of West Bloomfield installed the window, which was divided into nine frames.

The window is lit at night.

"It's such a neat location for a stained glass window, right at street level," Jones said.

Almost all of the glass was made in Europe. The colors came about from between 50 and 55 firings in a kiln, Shaw said. The window replaced a painted window from 1962 that had faded.

Shaw's other project sites include the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the new Honolulu Police Headquarters. She was commissioned by the city of Baltimore last year to design a stained glass gift to Pope John Paul II.

## ART BEAT

Arboret features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Mary Kleim, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax them by calling (810) 644-1314.

## FEATURED ARTIST

Karen Carter Van Ganser of Troy is the featured Main Gallery artist at the Shawwasee Arts Center and Gallery in Owego. Her show continues to July 9 (call (517) 723-8354). A reception for the artist will take place 2-4 p.m. Sunday, June 25.

Van Ganser, who works in oil and watercolor, earned a master of art education degree from the University of Michigan. An avid sailor, many of her works include the changeable quality of water.

"My approach to painting became one of trying to capture the moods of nature as seen in and around water," Van Ganser said.

She teaches art classes for children and adults on the community education level. The artist has served on the board of directors for the Michigan Water Color Society and was its social and traveling exhibition chairwoman. She is active in the Detroit Society of Women Painters, the Birmingham Women Painters and the Palette and Brush Club. In 1993 and 1994 she won first prize in the Our Town Art Exhibit and Sale at the Community House in Birmingham. In 1984 Van Ganser was named official artist of the Mackinac Race, an annual yachting event.

## ON BOARD

E. Jeffrey Wurges has been elected to the board of directors of the Paint Creek Center for the Arts.

Wurges, who is art director and account executive of Idea Consultants Inc. in Farmington Hills, brings his expertise in marketing, graphic arts and public relations to the PCCA governing board. He is well versed in appropriate market strategies and creative vehicles for non-profit organizations.

A longtime resident of Rochester Hills, Wurges earned his

bachelor of fine arts degree from Eastern Michigan University. He has also done graduate work in graphic arts and psychology at Wayne State University.

The non-profit Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 407 Pine in downtown Rochester, provides studio art classes, contemporary exhibits and community programs. Each September the PCCA sponsors the Art 'n' Apples Festival, a juried multimedia art fair, in Rochester Municipal Park.

## APPOINTED

Nora Mendoza of West Bloomfield and Barbara Van Dusen of Bingham Farms are among four people recently reappointed by Gov. John Engler to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. The 16-member council was formed to encourage, develop and facilitate an enriched environment of artistic, creative and cultural activity in Michigan.

Mendoza is an artist whose paintings have been exhibited throughout the state. She served as vice chair of the New Detroit Arts Committee for several years and was a member of the Oakland County Cultural Council. She received the Women in the Arts Award from the Michigan Women's Foundation in 1988 and the Michigan 150 First Lady Award in 1987. Mendoza studied at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit.

Van Dusen has been a member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Board of Directors Executive Committee for more than 20 years. She earned a bachelor of arts degree from Smith College in 1949. She is a member of the Detroit Institute of Arts Founder Society, a member of the Detroit Historical Society and a board member for the Community Foundation for Southeastern Michigan.

## INTERLOCKEN SCHOLARSHIPS

Three Florida teenagers were recently awarded scholarships on behalf of the Marvin and Betty Danto Scholarship Fund to attend the Interlocken Center for

the Arts National Music Camp this summer in Interlocken, Mich. Danto is the chairman and chief executive officer of the Michigan Design Center in Troy and the Design Center of the Americas in Dania, Fla.

About three to four scholarship awards are earmarked annually for minority, inner city or financially disadvantaged, deserving students who are American citizens living in south Florida or southeastern Michigan. Students of the arts and especially music students who excel on the piano, bassoon, oboe, violin, trumpet, percussion, drama and ballet students are encouraged to apply for these scholarships. To obtain an application for a summer 1996 scholarship, or for more information, contact Carol Horning, Interlocken Arts Camp, P.O. Box 109, Interlocken, Mich. 48043-0109, phone (616) 276-7618, fax: (616) 276-6321.

## AT WORK

Don Manos Handcrafts of Latin America, 210 W. Sixth in Royal Oak (call (810) 542-5856), is hosting a contest now to July 31 to guess how many nails are in a jar at the front of the gallery. Closest to the correct number wins a \$100 gift certificate to Don Manos. Second prize is a \$50 gift certificate, third prize is a \$25 gift certificate. The contest is meant to help make up for any difficulties encountered during construction work in the area while the city installed brick sidewalk pavers and streetlights. Don Manos is also making changes: adding two smaller retail rental units, two apartments on the second floor and a basement, and redoing the gallery area.

## NATIONAL SHOW

Karen Anne Klein, who teaches color pencil drawing at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association in Birmingham, is one of the featured artists in "American Watercolors and Drawings," an exhibit continuing through Aug. 17 at the Jane Halem Gallery in Washington, D.C. (call (202) 232-4644).

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