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IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Candidate forum: The five candidates for the 15th District state Senate opening fielded questions on education. /3A
Charges reduced: An Oakland County Circuit Court judge has reduced charges against two men accused in a 1994 rape case involving a Farmington girl. /4A

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

HoldUp Suspenders: Meet the Hermans of Southfield who guarantee your pants will never fall down again with their patented product. /8A
WTVS Stores: Three new shops are opening around town, selling educational products with partial proceeds to public television. /8A

TASTE

Mother's Day: Easy-to-prepare dishes are fun for kids to prepare, and sure to please mom on her special day. /1B
Focus on Wine: Barbera is called a "people's wine" because it does not require long cellaring time for maximum enjoyment. /1B

SPORTS

Area-wide event: Boys track teams competed Saturday for the championship of the 26th-annual Observerland Relays. /1C
Let's play 21: Two of the area's better baseball teams — Farmington and North Farmington — played a doubleheader Friday. /1C

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GOP hopefuls debate for Honigman seat

With the special primary election to fill the recently-vacated seat of state Sen. David Honigman close at hand — Monday, May 13 — a public forum has been planned to assist voters in casting their ballots.

Three of the five candidates in the primary race will attend the community forum: Reps. Willis Bullard Jr., 38th District, and Barbara Dobb, 39th District; Farmington Hills Councilman Terry Sever.

GOP candidate Ed Cox is not expected at the event, according to committee chair Patricia Hardy. Unaffiliated Democrat Barry Brickner also will not attend.

The GOP nominee selected May 13 and Brickner will face off in a special general election June 4.

Coordinated by the 11th Congressional District Republican Committee, several local Republican organizations are co-sponsors of the event.

These organizations include Bloomfield Republican Women's Club, Farmington Area Republican Club, Greater West Bloomfield Republican Club, Huron Valley Republican Women's Club, Northville Community Republicans, Republican Committee of Oakland County and Republican Women of Westland.

The public is invited to attend the event to be held at Congressman Joe Knollenberg's campaign headquarters, 27877 Orchard Lake Road in the Orchard 12 Shopping Center. The event will begin at 7 p.m. Seating is limited. There is no charge.

If you have a question for the candidates, fax it to Mike Kelly, the moderator, at (810) 352-3550, or write him at 24659 W. 10 Mile Road, No. 3, Southfield 48034.

O.E. Dunckel 6th-graders go Latin!



STAFF PHOTOS BY SARAH LAMIRREX

With skills and songs: Sixth-grader Jolene MacLeod dons a hat she designed from her imagination. The colors belong to Panama's culture.

Students limbo to Latin beat

O.E. Dunckel Middle School in the Farmington District bounced and jigged to a decidedly Latin beat last Wednesday.

About 500 Dunckel sixth-graders entertained a large audience with a variety of activities — including stories, folk tales and songs — from their unit of study on the nations of Latin America.

The students also displayed artwork they produced — with a Latin touch, of course.

For more on Wednesday's event, please see Page 8A.



Folk tales, anyone? Jenny Holland (left), Courtney Carson and Danielle DeVore enact a Latin folk tale for passersby.

Nab time: Day care visitor arrested

■ People who run two day-care centers, one of them in Farmington Hills, told police a man made threatening statements during visits. The suspect awaits a forensic examination.

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER



Farmington Hills arrested a Westland man after he allegedly caused disturbances at two day-care centers Wednesday.

John Glen McNamara, 28, was arrested for a misdemeanor charge of disorderly conduct at 8:35 a.m. at the Kinder-care day care center on Nine Mile east of Haggerty.

He was arraigned before Judge Fred Harris in 47th District Court later in the day and was taken to the Oakland County Jail. Bond was originally set at \$200, but the charges were refilled and bond was increased to \$500.

"The bond is not an issue at this time," said Farmington Hills Police Inspector Marty Bledsoe. "He (McNamara) is undergoing a forensic exam (to determine mental competency) and won't be released. Once that is complete, he'll then have to go back before the judge who will make a determination."

According to police, the man first went to the Westland Kinder-care on Joy Road in Westland at about 8 a.m. where he asked about the facility and then began ranting about just getting "back from Vietnam" and that "the Japs were coming." He asked to play with the children, police said.

He left and returned, telling the center's director that police had told him to come there and play with the children, the director reported. The man also allegedly said that all the children in the school would be "disintegrated" within the next four hours. He then left and gestured as if he had a weapon or bomb and said, "do you know what I could do to this place," the director told police.

Westland Police were dispatched, but the man reportedly had gone to the Farmington Hills Kinder-care.

At that location, the man also asked to see the children and said he wanted to be "Big Bird," the Sesame Street character, police said. He was not allowed inside and began yelling while walking on the front ramp, witnesses told Hills police, who arrested the man. He had no weapons when arrested.

One of the workers at the Hills facility told police that the man had been her boyfriend three years ago. She said he had continued to harass her and her mother, who has complained to Wyandotte police about the man.

A spokeswoman for Kinder-care, the nation's largest day care provider,

See NAB, 2A

Scholarly trio gain national scholarship

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

When it comes to National Merit Scholars, Farmington Hills has three of a kind.

Brendan Fay of Harrison High, Sneha Madhavan of Detroit Country Day School and Jerrel Mast of Walled Lake Western High received awards of \$2,000 each.

More than 6,900 students nationwide are awarded \$27 million worth of scholarships through the program sponsored by the non-profit corporation. Students are selected on the basis of academic achievement and standardized test scores.

National Merit Scholarship Corporation plans to announce winners May 20 for awards sponsored by colleges and universities.

"It's an honor," said Madhavan, 17, who is the daughter of Narayanan and Indira of Farmington Hills.

Madhavan, Fay and Mast fit the academic profile:

■ Madhavan has been a member of the Cum Laude Society for two years



Sneha Madhavan



Brendan Fay



Jerrel Mast

and made the Summa Cum Laude honor roll all four years at Detroit Country Day. She previously attended St. Fabian School in Farmington Hills.

She was in the top 105 in the Michigan Math Prize Competition and fourth in the region in the National Chemistry Olympiad. She mixes school work with curricular activities, playing soccer and tennis at the Birmingham private school.

"It's a lot of work, but I think it's worth it," said Madhavan, who is

considering a major in chemistry at MIT. "I work for myself and it gives me a sense of satisfaction by doing well."

■ Mast boasts a 4.0 grade-point average as Walled Lake Western's senior class valedictorian. He posted a 1,520 SAT score. He is the son of Harlan and Evelyn Mast of Farmington Hills.

Mast, 17, is captain of the school's Quiz Bowl team. He's also an accomplished violinist and member of the Metropolitan Youth Symphony and

Detroit Symphony Civic Orchestra.

He enjoys math, physics and European history. He plans to attend Princeton University and major in math or physics and then possibly pursue a career in medicine.

"Math is probably my favorite subject," Mast said. "I like the certainty and precision."

■ Brendan Fay, 17, was named an All American in Physics by the American Association of Physics. Fay also scored in the top-10 in the Michigan Mathematics Prize.

He's a member of Harrison High's national champion TEAMS squad and the school's Quiz Bowl Team.

Fay is also a member of the Harrison Honor Society and is co-captain of the Hawks boys' soccer team and member of the track team. He is the son of Bruce and Linda Fay of Farmington Hills.

"I do study," said Fay, who plans to pursue architecture. "When you learn to make a habit of homework and studying, an amazing amount of free time opens up."