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Administration and Nursing Team
 Standing: Jeanno Smith,
 Kim Hornbeck, RN,
 Diane Howell RN
 Seated: Lisa Szymanski RN,
 Sue McCalden RN,
 Linda Donaldson, RN, NHA

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5 split \$30,000

Chamber raffle winners shocked, excited

By TIM SMITH
 STAFF WRITER

The five Grand Prize winners in Sunday's Fantasy Corvette Raffle & Country Hoedown obviously can't divide a sparkling new car into a handful of pieces. So the five-person contingent from LOC Federal Credit Union plan on taking the easy way out, sitting \$30,000 in cash in \$6,000 portions.

"I'm like, shocked," said Debbie Mashinske, one of five LOC executives who kicked in \$20 toward the \$100 raffle ticket, one of 922 sold for the raffle. "I've never won anything like this before. It's more than I started out with, anyway. . . We're buzzing about it around here."

Nine other ticket holders won prizes ranging from \$1,000 to \$150, according to the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored the raffle.

According to executive vice president James Dickinson, who wasn't on hand for the raffle drawing held at the William Costello Activity Center, he couldn't believe his ears when LOC employee Bernice Brandon called with the grand news. Brandon represented the credit union at the drawing.

"I said three times to Bernice, 'Are you kidding?'" said Dickinson.

He noted that LOC is a long-time supporter of the chamber, buying Founders Festival raffle tickets for years. LOC also was one of four Farmington businesses where tickets were available to the public.

Most of the winning team, which also includes LOC president Dennis DeWitt, loans VP Jay Young and accounting VP Karl Hassa, agreed right away to take the cash instead of the gleaming blue car. But it was not a unanimous consensus - at first.

As of 4 p.m. Monday, Hassa's vote was unaccounted for (she was out of the office) and Young was on the fence about which way to go. By 4:30 p.m., however, Hassa was contacted by telephone and opted to go for the cash. Another 20 minutes or so later, even Young "came to his



Show me: LOC Credit Union officers who won cash are Jay Young, left, Debbie Mashinske, Karl Hassa and Dennis DeWitt. Not shown is James Dickinson.

STAFF PHOTO BY JEFF KERR

senses," said Mashinske. Brandon, along with seven other employees, contributed toward the purchase of a second raffle ticket. Since Sunday, Dickinson said the executives who bought the winning duet have been encountering some good-natured ribbing from the employees who lost out.

"Everybody's pretty excited that somebody here won it," Dickinson said. "But people (employees) are saying, 'Wasn't I in on that ticket?'"

Mashinske, the person assigned to buy the raffle ticket every year on behalf of "four or five" executives, said she had a good feeling this would be the winning year. One reason for her optimism was the fact she waited until the last week to buy the ticket, rather than purchasing it weeks in advance.

"When you hear about people winning something like this, they always say they bought their ticket at the last minute," said the Livonia resident.

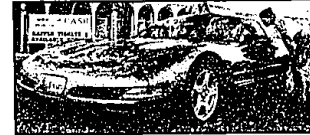
She was so optimistic that, when customers stopped by Friday to purchase their own tickets, "I said to them, 'I'm sorry, but I'm winning the 'Vette.' You'll finish in second or third (place)."

Mashinske said she planned on using her share of the winnings to buy a full-length fur coat, either a fox or a

mink. The other raffle winners are as follows: \$1,000, Mark Boyd; \$500, The Burroughs People; \$500, Martha Howell; \$500, Nancy Luetchhoff; \$250, Kristin Funni; \$250, Hunt Lopatone, Miller; \$250, Harold Collins; \$150, John M. Patrick; \$150, Todd Lipa.



PHOTO BY BILL HANCOCK



Hoedown: Checking out the prize Corvette is Tara Larabee of Farmington Hills. Country dancing, above, at the party is Amanda Wasvary.

It's Coming...

DISCOVER Farmington and Farmington Hills

An advertorial section!
 Publication Date:
 Thursday, September 11, 1997

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers look forward to presenting this new special section about the Farmington/Farmington Hills area businesses. There will be no ads as we know them. Instead your ad will be a story and photo about your business history, dreams and progress. This section will be published in Farmington, Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Livonia, Northville and Novi-a total circulation of 60,430.

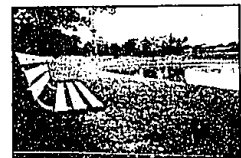
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Those whom advertised in The Farmington Founders Festival Section will receive 10% discount off your Discover Farmington ad.



Deadline
 Tuesday, August 19th at 5 p.m.

THE
Observer & Eccentric

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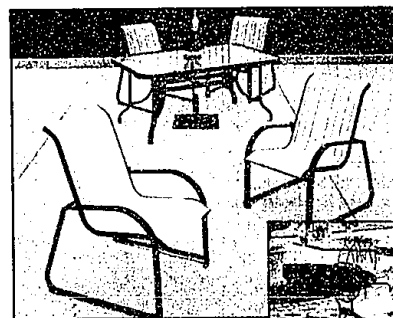
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