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Thursday, October 23, 1997

CHAT ROOM



Nancy Hurley

## Let's hear it for the band, says Harrison mom

wish I had been in the marching bank to high school, I wish I had been in the marching band. Of course, it wasn't Harrison High School's top notch competing band in which my daughter plays flute. Our band was small and played the football games, but did march in the parade one time. I think I would have had fun being part of a marching musical team. I was probably where I should have been in the stands, armed with unlimited school spirit and strong vocal chords, cheering my team and the band with all I had.

I was and am the ultimate specta-

cheering my team and the band with all I had.

I was and am the ultimate spectator—enthusiastic, loud and proud. I guess I've found my niche in the standa when Harrison's mighty marching band heads out to wage battle, act in the physical confrontation of the football teams, but in the clash of cymbals, beating of snargs and bass drums, the melodious tones of woodwinds and brass, and the wind whipped flags of the color guard. Not a head to head competition against another team, but a showcase of tal-ent from many bands, all striving for he impossible: perfection. Each band constantly working to better its best performance.

The marching band experience for parents is one of car pools, baking

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## Publicist transformed by shimmy

By day she's the local cable TV coordinator. By night she's an exotic Middle East dancer.



By MEGAN SWOYER
SPECIAL WHITER
Sometimes its easy to
guess a person's hobby
from the way they look.
Strong shoulders might
say swimmer. Sunburnt nose and soil
under the nails? A gar-

under the naile? A gardener perhaps.

And if you guess that someone with
tight calves, a strong mid-section and
loads of self eateem could be a belly
dancer, you're correct. Mary Linda
Calderone of Farmington Hills possesses
barefoot entertainers.

She's also the Southwestern Oakland
Cable Commission's community outreach
coordinator, or public relations person.
But when she's awinging and swaying on
stags, she won't be catolling the benefits
of her community coesses than the
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break at Uncle Sam's Village Cafe in Dearborn, where she dances from time to time. The last six years, her teacher, Princess Madha of Farmington Hills, has inspired her to lose 10 pounds, stand straight, hold her head high and become a dazzling nighttime phenomenon. I consider the princess my trainer, says Calderone. Princess Madiha is known as the queen of the shimmy, on the contrainer of the contrainer, and Princess Madiha, who is originally from Syria. Then join a club, I say. Bocause this is work here. Mary's a great dancer because she wanted to be."

cd to be."
Calderone, of Lebanese descent, is the quintessential belly dancer. Long dark hair frames har delicate face and bright, sometimes mysterious eyes – a ringer to Aladdine free spirited Princess Jasmine. "Belly dancing is my way to express my feministy," asys Calderone, whose stage name is Hawida. "I love all that stuff—



Student & teacher: Mary Linda Calderone gets pointers from her instructor, Princess Madiha, who is also responsible for the design of Calderone's costume, which includes gold coins.

make-up, qlamorous hair, eye catching jowelly. I know I must have been like Cleopatra in my other like.

Although historically the dance has had a tough time combating its image, Calderone shrugs off the negativity and believes that belly dancing is an art form that should be considered as respectable

"Princess Madhin calls it Middle Eastmann and the should be considered as respectable are manned." Says Calderone. "She doesn't

like it when people call it belly dancing. She thinks that's vulgar." The Victorians were correct to note the everwhelming sense of sexuality and man beguiting powers attached to the dance. Today's costumes, usually cover-

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