she quit her job as a food designer at the Ritz-Carlton in Denrborn to run lee Dreams, a Plymouth business providing sculptures for caterers and banquet halls. Raukar and husband Paul will compete 10 a.m. to 5 nm. Saturday, Jan. 19, in the professional team competition then it's on to the Winter Olympies in Salt Lake City for Raukar and Ohio carver Aaron Costic Feb. 15-16. In 2000, Raukar and husband Paul won in Plymouth.

The first time I over won was

in Plymouth.

"The first time I ever won was in Plymouth," said Raukar who's competed in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Alaska since compeleting her culiarry training in Croatia. She moved to Plymouth six years ago, "It feels different carving there. It's kind of home with work or compeling avainst ten and you're competing against top chryers."

Mike Watts agrees Plymouth's competitions offer carvers and the public the opportunity to experience the best in ics sculpture. Carvers from Japan, the U.S. and Canada will vie for \$10,000 in prize money against consistent award winners. The the oldest and largest icc carving event in North America. We're expecting the most spectacular festival we've ever had, and Watts, festival organizer. "Several of the teams will use Plymouth to practice the piece they will do in Salt Lake City."

Along with the competitions and displays, a variety of activities will entertain families at the free festival.

ties will entertain families at the free festival.

The Plymouth Whalers hockey team will hold a Charity Shootout noon to 3 p.m. Satur-day, Jan. 18, on Penniman Street between Kellogg Park and The Gathering. Business owners

are getting in on the fun too. Native West exhibits more than 500 stone carvings by American Indian artists Jan. 14-28 in the gallery at 863 West Ann Arbor Trail.

"There will be sculptures on the street and in the park and inside the gallery," said Annette Horn, Native West owner. The carvings are being shipped in from New Mexice just for the event. Many of them are fetishes, small enough to fit in the palm of your hand, but we'll also have table size. We get a lot of collectors for the fetishes. Native Americans believe they have special powers that can better a person's life. Our most popular (seller) is the bear. It represents good health and strength. They're intricately carved from alabaster, Picasse marble, and opal and all hand done so no two are ever alike."

### Swan from page B1

Bolshoi, dazzled by the Bolshoi scts and costumes.

Grössman won't soon forget the experience of seeing the 90-member company dance Tchaikovsky's classic ballet about an evil sorcerer who turns maidens into swans.

n face, he's risking \$2 million to bring the tour to audiences from Dolaware to Las Vogas because of the impression it left

original designs," said Grossman. "It's Tchalkovsky's masterpiece. Audiences know all of the melodies and story line. This is go to and it will speak to them. They can escape the stress we live in right now. It's uplifting. "My favorite part is the second act where you see the lake and forest. It's all done with lighting."

## Kids, here's your chance to 'work' for the Detroit Pistons during a game

The Detroit Pistons are looking for kids to "go to work," when they host the Milwaukee Bucks during a special Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day matinec contest at 3 p.m., Monday, Jan. 21.

contest at 5 p.m., beneath 21.

The team is planning its first Kids' Day, in which children, age 8-14 will "work" in a variety of jobs throughout the arona to gain unique behind-the-scenes insight into what it takes to put on a major event, while experiencing an NBa game in a way no spectator can.

encing an NBA game in a way no spectator can.

The 76 youngsters will each be assigned a participatory activity which they will "work" from the time doors are opened through the first half of the game. For their "salary," each child will receive three tickets to the game, a meal voucher and a commemo-

CHOSS-COUNTRY SKIEG

Because there is limited space available, pre-registration

is required. For more infor-mation, call Monday through

Friday at least one week in

Call each site for reserva-

tion. Pay on day of lesson. \$13 includes equipment rental, 90 minute lesson and open

skiing for half day; \$9 with own

Lessons take place conditions

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way to enjoy the outdoors.

rative Kide' Day work shirt. The "lobs" will include guest service hosts, Team Hospitality representatives, ticket takers, concessions wendors, media assistants and court custodians to sweep the NBA flood young sters can apply to "work" during the guest of the NBA flood of the

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