

A 'Shopping Center' For Sports

By W. W. EDGAR

A \$2 million sports complex that will include a regulation sized hockey arena and ice rink, 40 bowling lanes and eight tennis courts (four indoors and four outdoors) along with an indoor golf course and

practice greens is to be erected on a nine-acre site at Ann Arbor Road and General Drive in Plymouth Township. Under study for the past several months, the plans were completed and announced Thursday by owner Finlay McQueen, who stated, "This is the first complex of its kind in the country, and I think it will fill a long felt need in the community."

The new complex, which will provide parking space for 500 cars, is being developed by McQueen & Co. Inc., with Frank Moore, president manager of Plymouth Bowl as president and general manager.

Present owner of Plymouth Bowl on Plymouth Road, McQueen also owns Southfield Bowl on Eight Mile Road in Southfield and his name has been synonymous with bowling for four decades. His father owned and operated Glenageles, when it was a popular pin palace on Livernois Ave. in Detroit, and Argyle Recreation at the intersection of Grand River Ave. and Plymouth Road.

THE ELDER McQueen was a firm believer that bowling should stand on its own and was the first proprietor to

scold at any thought of having a cocktail lounge in conjunction with the topping of tenpins.

When he retired to a home in California and "Young Fin" took over, this policy was changed to meet the trend of the times.

The new complex, when completed, will give the Plymouth community, once a desert for hockey players, the finest facilities in the western suburbs.

The City of Plymouth now is floating a bond issue of \$1.5 million to construct a regulation ice arena at the rear of Central Junior High School to serve as a memorial building for the city's centennial. This arena, along with the McQueen promotion, will give the community two regulation sized rinks and eliminate the need of the youngsters traveling miles in the wee hours of the morning for their practice sessions.

"Our timetable," McQueen stated, "will depend on the township planning commission. It could take anywhere from eight months to two years before it can be opened."

"We have to go through the process of re-zoning the land, which is now part of the Gould

Industrial Park, and that could take time, even though the planners favor the complex."

IN ANNOUNCING plans for the competitive sport segment of the complex, McQueen also stated that there would be a sitable restaurant and a section devoted to the handling of sports equipment.

"All types of businesses have found it practical to locate in shopping centers," he said, "but this is the first sports super-market in the country where you can shop for your own leisure and pleasure."

With plans also under way to provide recreation on the 63-acre site now owned by the township adjacent to Hilltop Golf Course, the new complex will help to make Plymouth township one of the major sports centers in southeastern Michigan.

The 40 bowling lanes will be a Brunswick installation with automatic ball returns and automatic scorers. These automatic pinsetters are valued at approximately \$8,000 each, with each scoring machine that covers two lanes an additional \$4,000.

The golf course will be the latest design for indoor play and will have regulation sand traps along with putting greens.

It will be the same with the tennis courts. They will have a special playing surface that will make them available in all types of weather.

NO MENTION was made of a swimming pool, but McQueen hinted that could come later.

"I've been thinking of this complex for a long time," he said, "and have visited many sections of the country to get the latest ideas, all of which will now be incorporated into one operation."

"I was amazed," he continued, "when I learned of the demand for hockey facilities."

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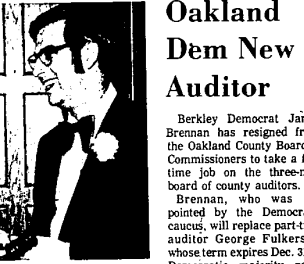
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MR. AND MRS. ERNEST OTTER, 14600 Huff, Livonia, are congratulated by Avery Greene after winning the "Grub-In-A-Bug" contest sponsored by Green Motors Volkswagen. Otter's winning guess of \$136.42 was nearest the \$136.36 worth of groceries filling a new car displayed at the dealership. The prize was the groceries which were donated by Kroger Foods.



JOHN H. HUSSEY (left), 29816 Clubhouse Lane, Farmington, accepts the presidential gavel of the United Northwestern Realty Assn. and Western Wayne-Oakland County Board of Realtors from outgoing president Daniel Williamson. Hussey, who is broker and owner of the John H. Hussey Real Estate Co., in Farmington was installed at the annual Christmas party on Dec. 18 in the Raleigh House in Southfield.

Hall Elected To Inter-City Post
Owen Hall, chairman of Hall & Young Inc. Realtors of Birmingham and Farmington, was elected president of Inter-City Relocation Service, a national non-profit real estate referral organization. Inter-City is based in

Chicago and includes members who serve 5,000 cities and towns throughout the United States and several foreign nations. Hall was the 1969 president of the National Institute of Real Estate Brokers and was 1969 president and 1970 "realtor-of-the-year" of the Birmingham - Bloomfield Board of Realtors.

Oakland Dem New Auditor

Berkley Democrat James Brennan has resigned from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners to take a full-time job on the three-man board of county auditors.

Brennan, who was appointed by the Democratic caucus, will replace part-time auditor George Fulkerson, whose term expires Dec. 31. A Democratic majority party vote last month created a third full time position on the board of auditors.

Brennan will receive a salary of \$27,300.

THE 37-YEAR-OLD Democrat will resign as comptroller staff assistant with the Chrysler Corporation to fill the vacancy on the board of auditors.

A graduate accountant, Brennan served on the Berkeley Planning Commission for two years, was a Berkeley councilman for four years and has been a member of the county board since 1969. He has been serving as chairman of the board's finance committee and says he is "an outspoken foe of waste in government spending."

Brennan, who will serve a three-year term on the auditors' board, will be replaced on the commission with a member appointed from his district.

Republicans last month termed creation of a third full-time auditor's position by Democrats "a political power play" and a maneuver to dump GOP appointed chairman Daniel Murphy.



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