

In Our Opinion . . .

The Vocational-Technical Image Of Community Colleges

Educators as a group are uncommonly "image" conscious, and community college educators are no exception.

The image toward which they're working is, for the most part, that they're vocational and technical schools be located close to home.

In point of fact, they are still mainly junior colleges, where youngsters can pick up the first two years of credits before going to a four-year college.

Earlier this year, Oakland Community College sent out a news story emphasizing that more than one-third of its students were in the vocational-technical field.

What was de-emphasized was that two-thirds were getting the first two years of a four-year college program.

Schoolcraft College, in a story sent out last week, was somewhat more to the point. "From future airline hostesses to future zoologists, a record number of students are enrolled in 45 specific curricula at Schoolcraft for the

winter semester now underway . . .

"Of the 3,078 students, most—1,952—are enrolled in the first two years of study programs leading to a bachelor's degree at a senior college . . .

"Another 1,126 students are enrolled in 24 different one- and two-year career oriented programs."

In other words, two-thirds were planning to go on to a four-year college degree; one-third were in terminal programs.

That breakdown seems to be fairly common. It holds true, for example, at Kellogg Community College in Battle Creek.

This is not to point any sort of accusing finger at community colleges. Rather, it is to set the facts straight.

The facts are that community colleges are wrongly regarded as primarily vocational-technical schools; the bulk of their students, for reasons that may be academic or financial or family, are still using them as steppingstones to the full college degree.

How To Improve Your Chances Of Getting Killed In A Car

Want to get killed in your car? You can improve your chances if you:

- Drink before driving.
- Drive too fast on two-lane roads at night within 25 miles of home.
- Don't use your seat belt.

Almost half of all drivers involved in Michigan's 2,284 fatal traffic accidents in 1966 had done all those things, according to the Automobile Club's new 61-page study entitled "How To Bring More Back Alive."

The Auto Club's staff based its conclusions on a study of 435 fatal accidents. It pooh-poohed the theories that old cars in bad condition were responsible for any but a few accidents.

It also rejected vacation driving as any kind of major source of fatal accidents.

It found that bad drivers with high "point" totals were responsible for a disproportionate number of fatal accidents, and it leveled this scathing criticism of Michigan law enforcement.

"The point system identifies bad drivers but does not protect the rest of society by taking them off the road."

Nearly 16 per cent of the drivers at fault were between ages 16 and 18, al-

though that age group contains only 8.9 per cent of the drivers. "In addition, 50 per cent of teenagers involved in fatalities had been drinking."

One fatal accident in every 20 involved a motorcycle or motorbike. "State police reported that from 1964-65, cycle registrations increased by 66 per cent (from 39,000 to 65,000) while accidents increased 91 per cent (from 2,100 to more than 4,000). And almost all motorcycle accidents kill, cripple or very seriously injure."

The Auto Club suggests "a study of the feasibility of a special license for motorcycle and motorbike operators—requiring special training."

The special tragedy of motorbike accidents is that the average driver's age was under 21.

The lessons for public officials are many. But at this point, we concentrate on only two:

The most dangerous driving conditions are late at night on a narrow road close to home after you've been drinking.

Spring is coming, and the youngsters will be doing more and more dating and driving and hanging around and going to proms. Watch 'em!



In Old Farmington: Early Enterprise

This small frame building was home to the Farmington Enterprise prior to 1926 when publisher W. N. Miller enlarged and rebuilt it. The young "devil" in the apron is unidentified. This is not a venture into mild profanity; a printer's assistant is known as his devil. The other gent is editor W. J. Richards and Grace Tremper is standing beside him. Visible at left rear is the rolling mill owned by the Gildemeister family. The tracks running behind the

building are the turnaround for the interurban railway whose power house was located in what is now the LaSalle Winery. The car barns were across the street from there where the Shopping Plaza is now, and it was possible to board a trolley for Pontiac, Detroit or Northville. Anyone for the good old days and convenient rapid transit? The picture was loaned by Mrs. Viola Gildemeister.

Looking Back in the Files

5 Years Ago

10 Years Ago

15 Years Ago

MARCH 29, 1962

MARCH 28, 1957

MARCH 27, 1952

Tennis, Anyone?

Authorization to proceed in making bids for four black-topped tennis courts and fencing around them at the Farmington Senior High was given the administration by the Board of Education Monday night.

Issues Rejected

By the very narrowest of margins at the polls on Tuesday, voters of the Clarenceville School District rejected both a \$1,250,000 bond issue and a five mill operating levy increase.

Bike Rideo

Plans are now getting underway for a bicycle rodeo program under the sponsorship of the Farmington Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Zoning Justified

Farmington Twp.'s R-1 zoning classification was upheld. A decision in favor of the Township in the Padover v. Farmington Township case was handed down by Judge Frederick C. Ziem in Oakland County Circuit Court following drawn-out hearings of testimony which started the latter part of last year.

Even Then

Warm spring days during the past two weeks had their unpleasant aspects as well as those of a more pleasing nature. As frost began coming out of the ground at greater depths, more and more deep runs in roads with inadequate bases developed.

School Boundary

Strengthening of the west boundary line between the Farmington and Novi School Districts to conform with the Haggerty Rd. division line between the two townships was approved by the County Board of Education last week.

Queen Crowned

Crowning of the first queen for the Guys and Dolls Teen Club of Clarenceville took place earlier this month. She is Queen Marge Roberts.

Suburbia Scolded

In a speech last week before a group of the nation's planning experts, a prominent New York businessman said a few choice words about suburban sprawl and its impact on the city. He termed the suburban areas as "parasites" and labeled its citizens as "carpet baggers."

Grape Raisers Abound

Nearly everyone who has a garden or a lot large enough for a garden has at least one grapevine, reports Willard E. Brown, an assistant county agricultural agent.

Taxes, Taxes

New taxes are still the golden words that will solve all of the state's problems, or so a great many politicians seem to think.

Parking Problem

Parking is a problem not just in Farmington, but in practically every community in this growing suburban area. It isn't a problem that ends with parking meters or even two free community parking lots.

Flying Farmers

Michigan farmers are turning the airplane into an important tool to help them meet the steadily mounting demand for food, feed and fiber. They are treating more than 150,000 acres with insecticides, fungicides and herbicides.



ROBERT W. NEUHAUSER, Farmington High School teacher, displayed this demonstration of diffusion and osmosis at the recent National Science Teachers Association convention in Detroit. Neuhauser also participated in a discussion on the increasing role of computers in education and creative thinking.

14 At Dunkel Bridge Club Have 'A' Cards Championship Matches Set

Fourteen students at O. E. Dunkel Junior High School achieved all A records for the first marking period of the new semester. An additional 304 students completed the period with a B or better average.

Those at the top of the scholastic list with straight A's included: Julie Billmeyer, Susan Erickson, Nancy Greene, Robert Murray, Marcia Walck, seventh grade; Gail Cepnik, John Combes, June Fedson, April Garbin, Barbara Page, Debora Robertson, William Swan, Diane Valassia, eighth grade; and Sheila Marvin, ninth grade.

The second championship game will take place March 20 at 8 p.m. It will be an Open Pairs tournament. This game is located at 400 E. Lincoln, Birmingham, in the Birmingham Y&CA. Trophies and refreshments are also available and reservations are being taken.

The Mayfair Club holds three weekly games. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday evenings. The Tuesday and Friday games are held at the address on Northwestern Hwy. The Thursday game is held weekly at the Birmingham Y.

Club master point games are held on the second Tuesday and the second Thursday of the month, and the Friday master point game is the first Friday of each month. The Tuesday evening game costs 75 cents per session, and \$1 on master point night, if you have attended one regular session. The other two games are \$1.25 per player. For further information call MA 6-2109.

Timely Tips on GARDENING

By Betty Frankel

A "lawn" is an open space of ground covered with grass and not tilled. The word is of ancient Celtic origin and meant heath or moor or an open, clear place. Since early times a lawn has been a thing of beauty, and the lawn is the true focal point of most present day gardens.

Since a good lawn lasts indefinitely, it pays to put a little extra effort into the establishment of a new lawn. Don't rush the process. Follow the simple step-by-step procedure and allow enough time to do the job properly. The lawn will then become thick and elastic and will be a joy for years to come.

1. GRADING IS the first step in building a new lawn. First, rough grading is done to establish the basic contours of the land. The lawn may be level, convex, concave, or with curves that conform to the slope of the terrain. Make all curves as gentle and sweeping as possible and avoid abrupt changes in level. A flat, level lawn is the one most frequently seen for city lots, but in suburban or rural areas interesting changes in grade are often feasible and can add design interest. Also, a low bank at the edge of a lawn can serve as a screen and wind barrier. The land contours affect garden design and plant growth, so don't overlook the importance of proper grading.

2. IMPROVE THE SOIL. This is the ideal time to work on soil texture and to enrich the soil. It's so much easier to correct problems at this stage than later when grass has already been planted. Poor soil can be greatly improved by adding the proper ingredients. If the soil is light and sandy, clay can be added or peat, compost or other organic material can be worked into it. This will make it better able to hold moisture so it will not dry out as quickly. The organic material will also add necessary nutrients to the soil. If the soil is heavy clay, sharp sand and organic material should be added to give it a lighter, spongy texture.

The soil should be rototilled or spaded. This should be done to a depth of two feet, if possible. Stones and other rubbish should be removed. Work the soil over several times. Ideally this should be

done over a period of several weeks and many, although not all, of the weeds in the soil will be removed.

After the soil has been conditioned, spread over the surface the top soil that was removed before rough grading was done. If there is no top soil, purchase enough rich soil to make a covering several inches deep.

Chemicals to kill weeds and weed seeds may be used at this stage.

3. ALLOW THE SOIL to settle for several weeks. Give it a thorough soaking to aid it in settling. If any pockets or depressions develop fill them in and make the surface smooth and even. Don't skip the settling period. It is important.

The beauty of a lawn can be marred forever if the ground sinks and sags after the grass has been sown. The extra time needed in well spent.

4. ENRICH THE SOIL with commercial fertilizer two or three weeks before sowing seed. Any complete, balanced fertilizer is satisfactory. A 10-6-4 formula spread at the rate of four to five pounds per 100 square feet will supply the necessary nutrients. A 10-6-4 formula, which is proportionately higher in nitrogen, is also satisfactory. If the soil is especially poor use a heavier application of fertilizer. If the soil is acid add lime, although this is not necessary for most lawns in this area.

5. AS FINAL PREPARATION rake the soil thoroughly. Roll lightly or tamp to make it firm and even. Then rake again lightly to provide a soft crumbly surface.

6. CHOOSE THE PROPER SEED for your growing conditions. Kentucky bluegrass and Merion bluegrass are the most dominant grasses in most lawns in this area. Merion is considered an improved type of bluegrass. Best grass, much as used on golf greens, can be used for lawns but needs more care, closer mowing, more watering and is less disease resistant. Fescue grasses grow better on poor, dry soil or in shade and withstand hard use. Although a lawn can be grown from a single type of grass seed, a mixture of seeds is generally sound. A good mixture might include 5 per cent roughstalk bluegrass and 10 per cent red top. These are temporary grasses that sprout quickly and give

an immediate green look while they shade and shelter the better grasses until they become established. Eventually these temporary grasses die or are crowded out.

In addition to the temporary grasses a mixture might contain 50 per cent bluegrass, 30 per cent Chewings fescue and 5 per cent Rhode Island bent. Then, depending on the conditions of the lawn or of various parts of it, the grass best suited will predominate. Bluegrass will take over in well-drained fertile soil, fescue where competition is keen, bent-will dominate if the lawn receives close frequent mowing and heavy watering.

7. SOW THE GRASS SEED on a calm day when the soil is relatively dry. The amount of seed needed will vary depending on the mixture. Bluegrass seeds are small and light and by weight cover a proportionately larger area. Fescues and other seeds are bulkier and fewer seeds are in a pound. Approximately two to four pounds will be needed for 1,000 square feet.

Use a spreader to sow seed. To insure even distribution, divide the seed into two portions and apply in two steps. Sow one half lengthwise using overlapping strips. Sow the rest of the seed in strips running at right angles to the first strips. After sowing, rake lightly or just barely cover with good top soil or peat.

8. AFTER SOWING keep the soil moist until the tiny seedlings have sprouted and become established. Frequent light sprinklings are called for, contrary to the rules given for watering established lawns. Use a light fine spray several times a day for the first few weeks. Later, water more deeply less often.

9. MOWING BEGINS as soon as the seedlings are more than two inches tall. Cut with a sharp mower that has been set at one and a half inches. This early cutting will help thicken the turf and will help eliminate sprouting weeds. Mow frequently.

10. THE FINAL STEP is weeding. Many weeds will sprout the first summer. Cut them out or pull them out. Later in the season when the grass is less tender 24 D can be used, but not at first. In time the healthy turf will crowd out most of the weeds that remain.

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