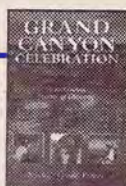


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VILLAGER

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City, state work out compromise plan for replacing 35E bridge

Agreement provides assurances on parkway, service lanes, more

by Jane McClure

City and state officials have reached a tentative agreement on the reconstruction of the I-35E bridge over the Mississippi River. A memorandum of support for the bridge plans will be considered by the St. Paul City Council this month.

"I think we've managed to meet halfway on a number of issues," said Ward 3 City Council member Mike Harris, who met with Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) commissioner Elwyn Tinklenberg on May 27 to iron out the details of the pact.

"With this agreement, we'll be able to move forward," said Steve Ryan of MnDOT. "We had a very good meeting with St. Paul and we understand its issues."

MnDOT plans to build a 124-foot-wide, \$27 million river span, which would be almost twice as wide as the

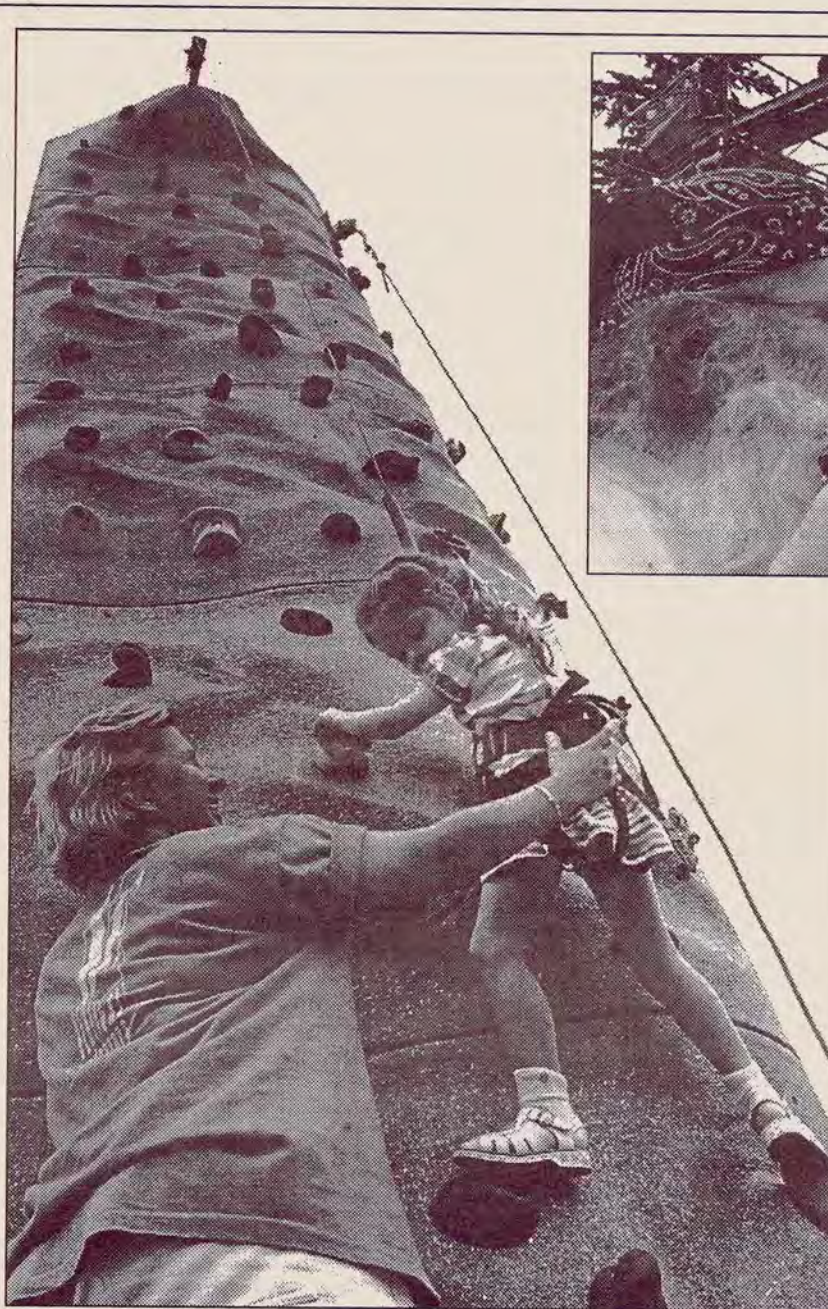
current 67-foot bridge. The new bridge would have two traffic lanes in each direction as well as auxiliary lanes that would allow traffic to safely merge onto the bridge. Bicycle and pedestrian paths are also proposed for the new bridge, which would be built exactly where the existing bridge sits.

The plans originally called for a 139.4-foot-wide bridge, but the shoulders and bicycle and pedestrian paths were narrowed at the city's request.

The agreement between the city and MnDOT also calls for the following:

- MnDOT will remain committed to a 1984 federal court order regarding the width, design and speed limit on the I-35E Parkway from West 7th Street to downtown St. Paul. Harris said he wanted assurances that a widened bridge would not

35E/see page 5



A Grand time was had by all

It may have been hot and humid, but that didn't keep 4-year-old Emily Saltysiak from trying to get a little closer to the sun by tackling the rock-climbing wall during Grand Old Day last Sunday. Pictured providing moral and technical support is Julie Noble. About 200,000 party-goers showed up to celebrate the return of summer by soaking up the music, food and fun. That's including Aaron and Barbara Hardley, shown above sharing the specialty of Papa Grande's Tortizzeria. Photos by Brad Stauffer.

Proposed district budget leaves some local schools wanting

Despite 6% general fund increase, teacher and staff layoffs are expected

by Michael Werner

The St. Paul school district revealed a much-anticipated budget on June 1 that would raise spending and, apparently, the fears of some local school principals.

The proposed 1999-2000 general fund budget of \$321.2 million represents a 6 per-

cent increase from this year's. It would increase spending largely for gifted and talented programs, special education and English language instruction.

However, despite the increase, the budget calls for cuts in custodial services and school library staff. At the same time, New Arrivals, a temporary school for students who are new to St. Paul, are homeless or participate in a shelter program, would be closed.

The budget provides about \$1 million to expand gifted and talented services across the district and \$2.1 million to enhance services to students whose native language is not Eng-

lish. Additionally, the district would spend \$745,000 to fund Superintendent Patricia Harvey's new school accountability program and \$500,000 to cover the costs of the district's lawsuit against the state.

The budget also calls for schools to buy back teachers, teachers' aides and services with compensatory education money, which the state now allocates directly to schools based on their populations of low-income students. Schools with higher percentages of impoverished students will receive the compensatory aid, while schools with fewer poor students will receive little or no money at all.

For example Benjamin E. Mays Magnet is scheduled to receive more than \$400,000 in compensatory aid to educate its large population of low-income students, while Capitol Hill, which resides in the same building and has a higher enrollment, will not receive any compensatory funds.

Schools were warned about the budget a few weeks ago and told that money may not be available to finance existing programs and teaching positions. EXPO Magnet School principal Paul Osterlund said under the pro-

St. Paul/see page 5

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Briefing set on design plans for rebuilding Ford Bridge

An update on the final design for renovating the Ford Bridge will be given at a public meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, June 14, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Parkway. Work on the bridge is scheduled to start next spring and be complete in two years.

Project manager Jim Tolaas of the Ramsey County Department of Public Works said bids for the construction project should be ready to send out later this year. The project, which has an estimated cost of \$8.7 million, will include replacing deteriorated concrete, girders and beams below the bridge deck, widening the bridge by 14 feet, replicating its original art deco-style railings and adding observation decks and ornamental street lights.

County, city and state officials and neighborhood groups on both sides of the Mississippi River have been involved in planning for the bridge reconstruction since 1996. Although the bridge is still structurally sound, its 28 expansion joints are showing significant deterioration. The joints, which allow the bridge to expand and contract with temperature changes, were repaired in 1973 and 1984. However, leakage around the joints has damaged some spandrel columns, the deck framing, and the deck itself.

Businesses on both sides of the river lobbied to keep the bridge open during reconstruction. Under the current plan, Tolaas said the bridge may have to be closed for brief periods, but the closings will be scheduled to avoid conflicting with peak traffic periods.

The Ford Bridge was originally named the Inter-City Bridge. It opened for traffic in 1926 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Resolution urges avoiding late-night flights out of MSP

When St. Paul city officials and employees fly into and out of Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport, they should not do it when people are trying to sleep. That is the point of a resolution adopted on June 2 by the City Council.

The resolution was introduced by City Council member Mike Harris at the behest of residents of his Ward 3 and the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's Airport Committee.

The resolution encourages all city officials, employees, boards and the traveling public to schedule work-related travel on flights to and from the airport between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. It also calls for the St. Paul legislative del-

egation to work with the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to reduce the number of nighttime flights.

Harris said he realized the resolution does not mean late-night flights will end anytime soon. In fact, the FAA requires the airport to be open 24 hours. According to Harris, the resolution was meant to raise awareness of nighttime noise issues and to state that the city should not spend its citizens' tax dollars on flights that disrupt residents' lives.

The resolution will be sent to travel vendors, all airlines and MAC. A similar resolution was adopted earlier this year by the Minneapolis City Council.

City Council bestows historic status on Coney Island bldgs.

Two century-old buildings housing the Original Coney Island bar and cafe were granted historic designation on June 2 by a unanimous vote of the St. Paul City Council. However, on a 5-2 vote, the council rejected historic status for the neighboring 7th Place Apartments (formerly the St. Francis Hotel) and Orpheum Theater.

Council members Chris Coleman and Jay Benanav argued for the preservation of all four buildings, but the majority did not want to do anything that would appear to be an impediment to future redevelopment.

Last January, St. Paul Companies withdrew its \$1.6 million option to purchase the Orpheum and 7th Place Apartments after the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission recommended designating the buildings as historic. Despite the City Council's vote on June 2, St. Paul Companies spokesman David Monfried said the company is no longer interested in expanding onto the 7th Place site.

Meanwhile, Doug Lamb, owner of the Candyland store on Wabasha Street, has offered the St. Paul Port Authority \$1.6 million to buy the Orpheum and 7th Place Apartments. The Port Authority board will act on Lamb's offer in July. Lamb would preserve the theater and 130-unit apartment building.

City Council member Jerry Blakey questioned whether a vote on the Coney Island's historic status should be held before it reopens. The bar and cafe have been closed for the past four years while owners Loucas, Harry and Mary Ellen Arvanitis tend to their ailing mother, Frances Arvanitis of Highland

Park. The Coney Island was opened in 1923 by the late Nick Arvanitis, who married Frances in 1926.

"I can assure you that we're going to reopen," Loucas Arvanitis told the City Council. He said the family is still in the process of restoring the buildings. "Whether it takes half a million or a million dollars, we'll pay the costs," he said.

Arvanitis said he expects the bar to reopen within six months and the cafe sometime before the opening of the Minnesota Wild's inaugural hockey season in October 2000.

World Insurance Company moves to Highland Village

The World Insurance Company has moved its Health Marketing Division into the first floor of the Plaza at 2145 Ford Pkwy. The division had been located in downtown St. Paul since 1997 when World merged with Mid-America Mutual Life Insurance Company of Roseville.

Omaha-based World has written life insurance policies since 1903. The seven employees in its Health Marketing Division occupy 3,100 square feet of the Plaza, from where they oversee a nationwide network of 10,000 agents.

Continental Property Group, owners and managers of the Plaza, recently signed a lease with another company for 8,300 square feet of space, according to Katie Childs, Continental's property manager. Childs would not name the company, but she said that its addition leaves less than 10,000 of the Plaza's 107,000 square feet vacant.

City reimburses Pinehurst residents for tree expense

Pinehurst Avenue residents who replaced city-owned trees at their own expense following the May 30, 1998, storm will be reimbursed for a portion of the cost.

The St. Paul City Council voted on May 26 to spend \$1,800 to compensate eight residents who spent a total of \$4,550 for nine boulevard trees. The trees, which were larger than those that are usually planted by the city, ranged in price from \$450 to \$1,025. The city reimbursement provides \$200 per tree.

Pinehurst Avenue was especially hard hit in the May 30 storm, which destroyed several thousand trees citywide. Following the storm,

some Pinehurst residents asked the city for permission to replace their boulevard trees with more mature trees to bring the area back to its previous appearance more quickly.

High school seeks \$150,000 STAR grant for field lights

Highland Park Senior High School is seeking the Highland District Council's support for a \$150,000 grant from the St. Paul Neighborhood Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) program to add lighting to the school's football and soccer field and to replace the track at Snelling and Montreal avenues.

A group of more than a dozen students presented their request on June 2 to the council's Community Development Committee. The committee postponed action until July to give the students time to develop their plans.

The students said the Highland field has electrical service, restrooms and locker rooms but no lights. As a result, the Scots have to play their home games during the day or at Central or Harding, which have fields that can be lit for night games. Also, Highland's gravel track is in such poor condition that it cannot be used to host home meets.

The total project has a price tag of about \$300,000. The students plan to match the STAR grant with money from the school district and their own fund raising. Parents and teachers are now helping with developing drawings for the project and writing grants.

County supports program for Sibley Manor residents

The Ramsey County Board has approved a \$16,000 allocation to support a social service program for residents of the Sibley Manor Apartments in Highland Park. The St. Paul City Council had earlier given \$13,500 to the program, which had been threatened by cuts in state funding.

Sibley Manor houses about 3,000 residents, about 85 percent of whom are immigrants or refugees. Its social service program provides residents with emergency assistance, crisis intervention, information and referral to other agencies, individual and family counseling, youth programming, school and job assistance, medical services, English and learning readiness classes, donated clothing distribution and a food shelf.

The West 7th Community Center, which has operated the program for several years, learned in December that the state had denied a \$32,000 grant to continue the program.

News briefs were compiled by Jane McClure and Dale Mischke.



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Council to hear Ford's request for height variance

by Jane McClure

There were more abstentions than votes for or against, but the Highland District Council's Community Development Committee on June 2 recommended granting Ford Motor Company a 25-foot height variance for a new addition to its Twin Cities Assembly Plant in Highland Village.

Ford is seeking a 45-foot height variance for the new automated facility that would store up to 335 truck bodies and move those bodies between the plant's main assembly building and paint building. The facility, which would be connected to the other buildings via an above-ground tunnel, would be 85 feet tall, or 45 feet taller than the city of St. Paul's 40-foot limit in the Mississippi River Corridor.

A motion to support a 45-foot variance failed on a voice vote of the seven-member Community Development Committee. The committee then voted 2-1 to support a 25-foot variance.

Committee members suggested that Ford construct the new facility 20 feet below grade, but that may not be feasible, according to Ford representatives Stan Valensky and Brad Bystrom. Ford

and its contractor, HK Systems of New Berlin, Wisconsin, have yet to determine whether it is physically possible to build below grade, and even if it is, it could add \$1 million to \$2 million to the project's \$5 million cost, they said.

The full Highland District Council will consider Ford's variance request at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 17, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Its recommendation will be heard by the St. Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee at 3:30 p.m. Thursday, July 1. The full Planning Commission is scheduled to vote on the matter July 9.

The 25,000-square-foot facility would allow for the more efficient movement and tracking of vehicles assembled at the Ford plant and for better controls over inventory and scheduling. "Adding this facility here shows Ford's commitment to the plant," said Valensky. "The workers are glad to see it coming."

According to him, the facility would help the Highland plant remain competitive with Ford plants in Edison, New Jersey, and Dearborn, Michigan, which also assemble trucks.

Committee members said they understood Ford's needs, but feared setting

a precedent in compromising the River Corridor's height restriction.

Most of Ford's property lies within the River Corridor. Several years ago, Ford received a 15-foot height variance for an automated warehouse that is 55 feet high. The company had initially sought a 25-foot height variance.

River corridor height restrictions were adopted by the City Council more than a decade ago to preserve the natural vistas along the Mississippi River. Earlier this spring, the Highland District Council voted to oppose a 74-foot-high cellular telephone antenna that had been proposed by Sprint/Spectrum near Shepard Road and Davern Street. That request was also rejected by the St. Paul Planning Commission.

Highland District Council member Greg McGee asked whether Ford could lower the building's height by extending its width or length. "We need to keep as much property open as possible for future expansion," Valensky replied. "If you landlock yourself, you limit the options for future development."

Documents filed with the city indicate that Ford's facility would not be visible from the Mississippi River or from Mississippi River Boulevard.

Macalester hopes to turn Summit home into dorm

Macalester College's request for a special condition use permit to transform a house at 1576 Summit Ave. into a dormitory will go before the St. Paul Planning Commission's Zoning Committee on June 17. It will be heard by the full Planning Commission on June 25.

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council opposes the request, arguing that the college's current special condition use permit does not allow a dormitory outside of the campus boundaries. City staff have recommended granting the new permit, arguing that because the property is zoned for multi-family residential and is within 250 feet of the campus boundary, it can legally be used as a dormitory un-

der the city code.

The college contends that the house has not been used as a single-family residence for at least 25 years and that the dormitory use predates the current zoning. The college used the house as student and faculty housing for many years.

Macalester neighborhood liaison Donna Kelly said the college wants to renovate the house and use it as a dormitory during the next two school years only. Long-term uses for the house and an adjacent vacant lot will be studied during that time, she said. Future possibilities include student apartments or townhouses.

The college has 87 students on its

waiting list for housing this fall. The 18 beds that could be gained by renovating the house would help meet that demand, Kelly said.

It will cost \$500,000 to turn the house into a dormitory. Six off-street parking spaces also would be required. The college wants to remove a garage to create more parking space behind the house.

According to Kelly, the vacant house has few walls, a questionable mechanical system, a half-painted exterior, crumbling steps and no secondary means of egress from the third floor. "Macalester College paid a premium to reacquire the property this year to ensure that we could eliminate this blight across the street from our campus," she said.

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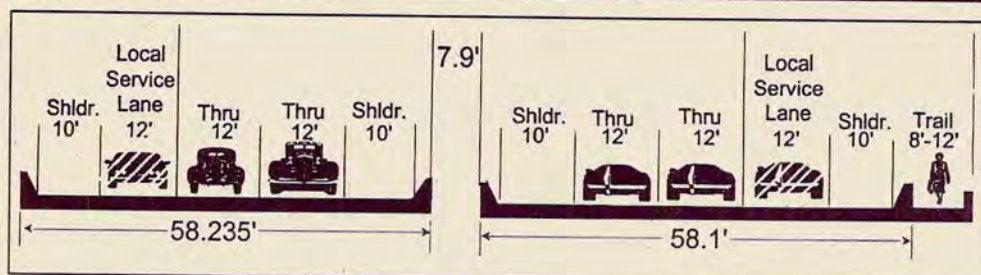
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Plans for reconstruction of the 35E bridge call for two traffic lanes in each direction, service lanes that would allow for the safe merger of vehicles and a bicycle/pedestrian trail.

35E bridge replacement/

from page 1

result in a wider parkway.

MnDOT will not convert the bridge's auxiliary lanes into full-service traffic lanes prior to 2011 without the approval of St. Paul officials. If MnDOT wants to convert the lanes after that date, St. Paul would have to be involved in the decision.

Crosby Farm Regional Park below the bridge will be used for storing construction equipment during the bridge work, but not without approval of the city's parks and recreation director. MnDOT will be required to minimize disruption to park land, wetland and vegetation, and must allow public access to the park during the construction period.

MnDOT will compensate the city for the use of the land and will build a vehicle turnaround on the park's access road to improve safety. MnDOT also has agreed to design the southbound entrance ramp onto the bridge at Shepard Road in a way that does not require using additional park land.

Access to the bridge for bicyclists and pedestrians will be provided from an existing trail. Safety improvements will be made at the southbound entrance and northbound exit ramps.

Harris conceded that everyone might not be happy with the agreement. "But people in the community have to remember that we've accomplished a lot over the past few years," he said. MnDOT had a much wider bridge on the table as well as a plan to shift the bridge's alignment while leaving the old bridge piers standing in the river. "Those were not acceptable to anybody," Harris said.

Of the local units of government that were asked to comment on the bridge plan, the St. Paul City Council was the only one that did not approve MnDOT's preferred alternative. MnDOT staff wanted unanimous support before final design is drawn up. The bridge itself will be replaced between 2001 and 2003.

St. Paul school budget/

from page 1

posed budget he expects to lose seven teachers' aides and the technology assistant who trains the staff and maintains the school's high-tech equipment.

Osterlund said EXPO depends on the aides to help deliver a teacher-driven curriculum that does not revolve around textbooks. Even with the current number of aides, he said, teachers must work a minimum of 12 hours a day. He believes the cuts could kill theme-based programs like EXPO's.

"We know the state poured a lot of money into the general fund, but where did that money go?" he asked. "Most of the schools that got the huge cuts are the ones with special programs or magnet programs. It looks like the district is not using its money to preserve those programs. We won't be able to deliver services the way we have in the past."

District officials say that some of the general fund money was earmarked by the state for very specific programs, such as reducing class sizes and expanding special education and English language instruction, thereby limiting resources available for schools.

"If we accept the revenue from the state, we have to spend it for the purpose it was intended," said Lois Rockney, the district's executive director of fiscal affairs and operations. "Even though we got more money, we have to initiate new programs to take that money."

Without compensatory funds, Central High School stands to lose six teachers, 2.5 educational assistants, a librarian, a secretary and a clerk. Central principal Mary Mackbee said the resulting increase in class size will adversely affect the school's climate and teacher morale.

Capitol Hill expects to lose three teachers and two teachers' aides. Principal Mary Dybvig is worried that the cuts will erode a well-established program, especially if 7th- and 8th-grade teachers are lost. She foresees problems because the school employs specialized

teachers that focus on one subject area.

"For us, if we lose a teacher and it's a French teacher, we lose French. If we lose a Spanish teacher, we lose Spanish," Dybvig said. "To make the program work we have to have all those individuals. That could be a major problem."

"This is the same program we had the year before and it's the program we've sold to the parents when we had information nights and open houses," she said. "At this point in time to say, 'Oops, this isn't the program,' would put us in a very difficult situation."

Dybvig said one way of saving the 7th- and 8th-grade program would be to increase class sizes in 1st through 3rd grades. She said the school could accommodate as many as 25 students in a class. In years past, she said, the 2nd grade has numbered as many as 28 students per class.

According to Cy Yusten, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning, schools like Capitol Hill will need to present their staffing solutions to the district for approval. "We're asking schools to try and focus on lowering class sizes in the primary years," he said, "but also to use good judgement about how to deploy teachers across the grades."

A meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, in the district board room for the public to comment on the proposed budget. The School Board is expected to adopt the budget at its June 22 meeting.

Women's Advocates seeks silent auction donations

Women's Advocates, the first battered women's shelter in the nation, is seeking donations for a silent auction that will be held this fall. The event will mark the 25th anniversary of the Grand Avenue shelter. For information, call Lou Powell or Cindy Anderson at 651-254-5454.

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VIEWPOINT

MISCH-MASCH

MICHAEL MISCHKE

Estranged schools and neighborhoods

The end of another academic year is as good a time as any, and perhaps a better time than most, to consider the role of the schools in our neighborhoods and the role of the neighborhoods in our schools.

Baby Boomers like me are still young enough to remember when the distinction between the two wasn't altogether clear—when the schools functioned as the very heart of the neighborhoods they served, and when most if not all of the neighbors had a vital interest in what happened at their local schools, whether those neighbors had children enrolled in them or not.

To a great degree, and with a dwindling number of exceptions (parochial schools come quickly to mind), that isn't true today, even though the ramifications of the estrangement that exists between neighborhoods and schools are greater than ever.

Consider the effect of a growing percentage of neighbors who have never set foot in their local schools and could not identify a single administrator or teacher if they had to.

Consider the effect when the local community council cannot attract a single interested representative from the local schools to sit on its board of directors.

Consider what is lost when, on a single street corner, children gather each school day morning to await buses that will transport them to half a dozen far-flung schools.

Consider what is lost when neighbors gather for friendly conversation at a block party and not one family's children have the same school in common.

Consider the social and financial costs when schools increasingly look to the surrounding neighborhoods for support and the relationship that would foster it doesn't exist.

Consider the social costs when stretched city budgets mean city services and capital improvement projects go wanting while the school facilities and resources that would alleviate the situation go under-used.

The stakes for both cities and school districts are immense.

Families always have and always will make decisions about where they live based on the quality of the schools. Businesses always have and always will make decisions about where they locate based on the quality of the work force.

And schools more than ever need to tap the goodwill of the surrounding neighborhoods—both businesses and residents—if we expect those educational institutions to fulfill their mission.

There's a lot of talk today about reforming schools to improve student achievement. A good place to start would be rekindling the relationship that neighborhoods and schools used to enjoy and from which they mutually benefited.

Struttin' their stuff

While we're talking about schools, hats off to the parents, teachers and students from three local institutions who were proud enough to show their colors in the Grand Old Day parade last Sunday.

Everyone loves a parade, but they love it even more when they can identify the local folks and institutions that have spent the time and effort to show what they've got. Some of the biggest rounds of applause I heard during the parade were directed at the marching contingents from Randolph Heights IHM/St. Luke's and Ramsey Junior High.

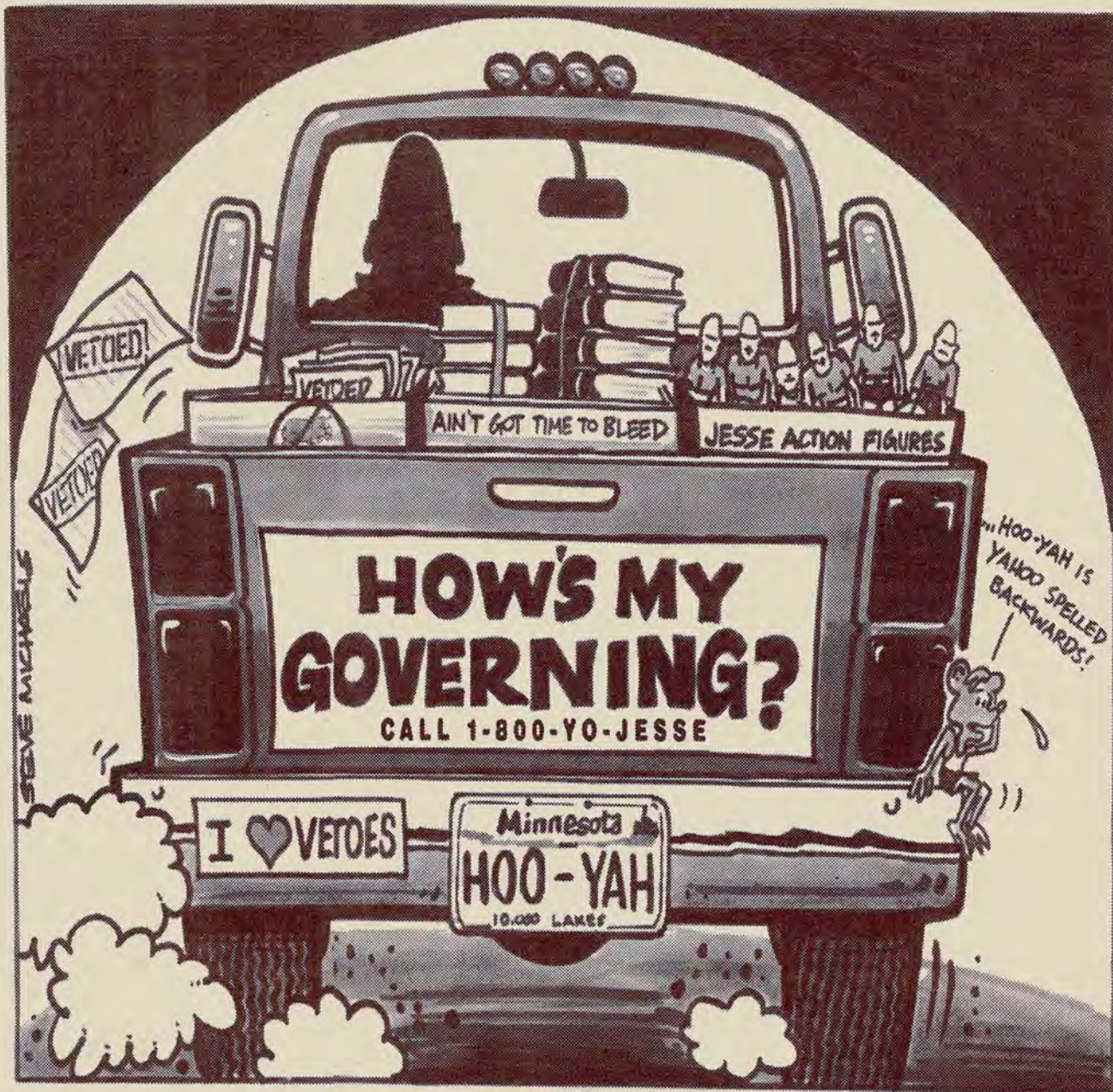
A few eyebrows were raised along the parade route when it was noted that the celebrity grand marshals were the players from Cretin-Derham Hall's Class AAAA state champion girls basketball team.

"Yeah, so where are the Highland boys?" I heard on more than one occasion.

The Highland boys, of course, referred to the Class AAA state champion boys basketball team from Highland Park High School.

As it happens, both teams were invited to be celebrity grand marshals, and at first it appeared that both teams would be. Highland Park later declined for lack of interest.

Must be a school and neighborhood thing.



It was a different kind of lawlessness then

by Dick Gordon

I grew up in the heyday of gangsters in the 1920s and '30s when Al Capone was ruling the mafia roost in Chicago and Al Karpis, after practicing his nefarious trade elsewhere, was relaxing on the shores of White Bear Lake. Organized crime was rampant, but nothing compared to the senseless shootings and kidnappings that have been taking place here and across the nation of late.

It was a different kind of lawlessness in those days. The perpetrators had a motive: money. When John Dillinger held up a bank, he was after loot, plain and simple. It was not because he was angry at one of the tellers because she had teased him about the way he dressed.

And what of the kidnappings? In the early 1930s, gangsters abducted William Hamm and Edward Bremer, two well-heeled St. Paul tycoons. Both were released after several weeks when the ransom demands were met. That doesn't mean everything was cut and dried, of course. In Bremer's case, there was enough uncertainty about his well-being that the *St. Paul Dispatch* had two afternoon extras printed up and ready to hit the streets. One carried the headline "Bremer found alive" and the other "Bremer found dead."

Hamm and Bremer lived long and productive lives after their abductions. The same cannot be said for Jacob Wetterling, who remains unaccounted for 10 years after he was kidnapped near his St. Joseph home. Or Julie Holmquist, who was abducted last July while in-line skating along a highway near her home in northwestern Minnesota. Her body was found three weeks later in a gravel pit north of

Lancaster, Minnesota.

Their abductors were not after money—just young people. The same seems to be true of the recent case of 19-year-old Katie Poirier, who was forcibly taken by a man on May 26 from a Moose Lake gas station where she worked. Like the Wetterlings, Poirier's family is still praying for her safe return, but with no ransom demand in the picture, it appears to be a long shot.

There are other differences between criminal activity today and 60 years ago. Gangsters mainly killed each other, albeit in sometimes novel ways. Dutch Schultz, for example, encased a rival mobster's feet in a bucket of cement before dumping him in the icy East River.

For the most part, law-abiding citizens were not injured when gangsters shot each other. Even when Dillinger gunned his way out of a Lexington Parkway apartment in April of 1934, no bystanders were hit.

Though I recall the stories of the St. Valentine's Day massacre and other gruesome murders, there was nothing

like the high school shootings in Littleton, Colorado, or Jonesboro, Arkansas. I don't recall any father smothering his infant son to death in an effort to regain rapport with a girlfriend as in the recent tragedy in Brownsville, Minnesota. Even Dutch Schultz would've winced at something that horrendous.

Back then there was a purpose—admittedly wicked—to the awful acts that were committed. Now it seems we're faced with killing for its own sake.

Looking back, the gangster era doesn't seem all that bad. At least we knew who the bad guys were and why they acted as they did.

For the most part, law-abiding citizens were not injured when gangsters shot each other. Even when Dillinger gunned his way out of a Lexington Parkway apartment in April of 1934, no bystanders were hit.

What's good for the Senate is good for schools

by Dale Mischke

It's funny, but what's mandatory for the most august lawmaking organization in the United States is not allowed in this country's public schools. A prayer opens the proceedings every day that the U.S. Senate is in session, yet the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that a public prayer in the schools would violate the Constitution's prohibition of government-sponsored religion.

This irony was not lost on Rabbi Moshe Feller. Rabbi Feller, Upper Midwest director of Chabad-Lubavitch, which operates a Jewish synagogue, school and residence in Highland Park, was invited by U.S. Senator Rod Grams of Minnesota to give the opening prayer for the Senate on May 20. Following the mass killing by two teen-agers at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, Rabbi Feller decided to use the occasion to commend the Senate for its daily tradition and to wish that "this wise and sacred practice be an inspiration to all convocations and assemblies which are convened daily throughout our blessed country... especially in the nation's public schools."

Rabbi Feller prayed, "Almighty God... before issuing Your Commandments... You awesomely declared, 'I am God, your God,'... because in Your infinite wisdom You knew that only by constantly focusing on Your sovereignty could humans control their negative impulses."

If Rabbi Feller is right, then our country is in trouble. In his seven-sentence prayer, Rabbi Feller referred to God no less than 17 times. How many times have you heard God's name invoked in public lately—outside of church and in anything but an epithet?

The Constitutional provision guaranteeing the separation of church and state was meant to protect a religious minority from persecution or utter domination by a religious majority. And here we have a leader of the minority Jewish faith calling for official prayer not only in the public



U.S. Senator Rod Grams and Rabbi Moshe Feller outside the Senate chambers on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

schools but at all convocations and assemblies.

In the hours before Rabbi Feller's prayer in the Senate, a confused teenager at a high school in Georgia shot six of his fellow students before collapsing in tears in the arms of a teacher. And in the hours following his prayer, the U.S. Senate narrowly passed new gun control legislation.

I wonder which would do more to protect our children from the demons that plague their schoolmates—new

gun control laws or a return to the old practice of officially sanctioned prayer in the schools.

In the halls of the Senate following his prayer, Rabbi Feller asked the senators he met to consider legislation mandating that schools begin each day with a moment of silence focusing on God.

Who could object to such a measure but an atheist (and maybe the ACLU), and are we really worried about offending their sensibilities?

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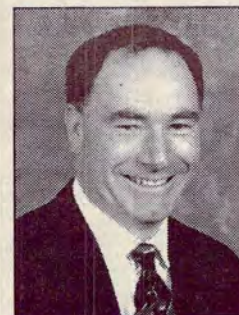
No matter what our age or condition, most of us have some aches and pains that are like old friends with some bad habits. We're used to having them around — we like to ignore them from time to time. Unfortunately, our bodies are trying to tell us something. We usually have a choice: listen early early, or listen late. Late is usually more painful and expensive.

It's often hard to know when to get treatment for the little things. But together, they can be significant, and especially when we stop and realize that we just don't do things like we used to. Our normal routines are the first things little aches affect. We do things differently. They take longer, and we're more tired when we're done.

You can ask yourself a few simple questions about your aches and pains.

- Do I feel worse in the morning than when I went to bed?
- Do I walk funny for a while when I get up from lying down or sitting?
- Do I have to turn my shoulders as well as my head and neck when I'm in the car?
- Do I lean on the handrails of my stairs more than I used to?
- Am I taking pain relievers more than once a week for my aches?

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Ports in a storm

Rise of families in crisis runs up against a shortage of foster homes

by Leslie Walters

HELP WANTED: Responsible, patient, flexible person with a little extra room in the house who is looking for a chance to love, guide and nurture a child and earn personal rewards in the process.

The job is Ramsey County foster parent. The market is wide open.

Over the past three years, the number of foster care homes in Ramsey County has decreased 21 percent, from 681 to 541. Meanwhile, the number of foster children has increased 10 percent, from 1,148 to 1,265.

The decline in foster parents is largely due to an aging population and changing life styles, according to Ramsey County foster care recruiter Terri Haselberger. Many of the foster parents on which the county has relied are now 60 or older, she said, and adults today are more apt to be working outside the home and do not have the time for foster parenting.

Foster children are either voluntarily given up by their parents or removed from their parents' home because it is deemed by authorities to be unsafe, Haselberger said. The parents' abuse of alcohol or drugs is the most common reason for a child's removal, she said. Other children have mental health problems, major illnesses or physical disabilities that their parents cannot handle.

Children who are removed from a home are usually placed in an emergency shelter until more permanent accommodations can be found, she said. Many of these children have emotional problems to work through. The county used to place kids with emotional problems in a more restrictive environment, such as an institution, she said, but now treats them as outpatients in a foster home.

The typical foster home in Ramsey County



Foster parents Sandy Laness, Sharon McCollam, Mary Makens and Marline Vanderkelen gather for support at the Lincoln Avenue home of Deanie Hooks. Photos by Terry Faust.

has three or four foster children, Haselberger said, though some have just one. Two-thirds of the children in foster care are 5 or older, and more than half are children of color. "Our foster homes pretty well reflect the population," she said. "We like to place a child in a home reflecting their culture. We need that diversity to choose from."

About half of the foster parents in Ramsey County are relatives of the children they care for, Haselberger said. "If nobody steps forward from that child's regular world, then we look to our pool of foster parents," she said. "When we have fewer foster homes to choose from, we can't meet all needs. That means having to send a child to a different school or separating siblings. We hate to do that."

Foster parents in Ramsey County do not have to work or be particularly well off and they do not have to be married, Haselberger said. However, they must be at least 21 years old, financially stable and have appropriate sleeping quarters. They should be flexible and caring people who are willing to make a home for someone else's child and help that child with homework, medical appointments and the like. Foster parents may serve as mentors for the birth parents or otherwise help build a bridge to family reunification.

Many foster parents have adopted their foster children. "It's a wonderful thing to do, and we totally support it once parental rights are terminated," Haselberger said.

Foster parents receive monthly payments

from the county for their children's room and board, clothing and personal needs. Medical and dental costs are covered through medical assistance or other insurance. Foster parents are offered 12 hours of continuing education each year along with the help of case workers and support groups.

The county does not discourage single adults from becoming foster parents, Haselberger said, but the biggest need is for parents who work in the home or only part time out of the home. "It's real hard to have working people caring for little ones in particular," she said. "And we have a lot of teen-agers who would not do well to come home to an empty house. Most of our kids need more support than the average child their age just because of the experiences they've been through and the emotional issues they've created. But I wouldn't want someone who is working to not consider it because we do have situations that work for some kids."

Ramsey County is hoping to establish about 30 new foster homes this year. "If each family took three kids, we're looking at homes for 90 children," Haselberger said. "That would be a wonderful success."

According to Haselberger, the rewards from being a foster parent are significant and often include a relationship that lasts a lifetime. "Our foster parents often end up having a mentoring relationship, especially with the older kids," she said. "Some very strong supportive relationships develop."

"When parenting foster kids, you learn a lot," Haselberger said. "You learn common sense, how to be sensitive, how to go around a power struggle instead of right through it. You become very skilled. We have many people who've been at it for 20 years. But we need more, and I believe they're out there."

Two families find a place in their homes for the children of others

by Leslie Walters

Between them, Deanie Hooks and Christine Cole have had more than 160 children.

Besides her two birth children, Hooks has opened her Lincoln Avenue home to more than 100 foster children over the past 26 years. Cole, her husband Jerry and their nine birth children have shared their Hague Av-

enue home with more than 50 foster children over the past six years.

Hooks and Cole got into foster parenting for similar reasons. Cole was looking for a way to fill her home with activity after her older children had gone away to college.

Hooks said, "I wanted my kids to know what it was like to grow up in a large family and not concentrate on themselves so much."

Hooks, who had two infant children who died, was also looking for a way to mend the heartbreak. "Having a strong personal need is an important qualification (for a foster parent)," she said. "It's not just you giving; it's you receiving, too."

As a single parent, Hooks had a hard time convincing Ramsey County that she could provide foster care. "Not a lot of single par-

ents were doing foster care then," she said. But after a while she had no trouble working with the county. "It's been 25 years and I love it," she said. "It's become easier over time. I don't sweat the small stuff anymore."

Besides her own children—ages 6, 13 and 16—Cole has four foster daughters from age

Foster/see next page

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by John D. Rice, M.D., Eye Physician and Surgeon

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With four additional foster children, Christine Cole has her birth children (from left) Phillip, Chrystle and Tesheila setting a table for nine at their Hague Avenue home.

Foster families/

10 to 13 living in her home. Cole is qualified to serve children with more serious behavioral and discipline problems, and because of that she is required to take 50 hours of specialized training every year.

Hooks takes primarily teen-age girls. Currently, she has seven foster daughters ages 13-18 in her eight-bedroom, five bathroom Victorian home. Each girl has her own bedroom and they share a separate kitchen.

Cole and Hooks both praised the foster parent training they received through the Ramsey County Department of Human Services. "The classes are great," Hooks said, "but you also learn a lot from experience. Some of these kids come from very dysfunctional families. There's usually a large degree of alcoholism or chemical dependency. Often, they come from homes run by single moms who've tried their best or by parents who've had mental health issues. I counsel a lot of my kids in self-esteem, sexual abuse, chemical abuse and alcoholism."

"One of the biggest challenges is taking a child who's been reared with different principles and standards than your own and trying to teach them positive values," Cole said. It's even harder with older foster kids, she said, because their minds are pretty much set by adolescence. "But with children, lots of love and guidance and understanding go a long way," Cole said. "Any behavior can be turned around with love and support."

After witnessing the special needs that her

foster children have had, Cole decided to return to school. She will graduate in December from Metropolitan State University with a degree in psychology. "It's really helped me with the kids," she said.

Cole and Hooks agree that it's difficult to be foster parents while working outside of the home, although that is what Hooks did before retiring last year from her position as a full-time hospital administrator. Ramsey County prefers its foster parents to work in the home, Hooks said, but it will find financially creative ways to get a new foster parent started. "But you don't want to rely on foster parenting for your sole income," she said. "A child could leave tomorrow."

Both women said there are tradeoffs to being a foster parent. Cole has had to forsake her own personal activities for more family-oriented school and church activities. Still, she said, "it's been rewarding."

Cole recalled a very depressed boy who came to live with her family. "Watching him go into therapy and hearing the therapist say, 'You're giving him what he needs: love and structure'—just to see those kind of changes is very heartening," she said.

As a foster parent, "your private time is not the same," Hooks said. "Teenagers don't do well with baby sitters. But foster parenting has helped me overcome two bad marriages and two children dying. It helps me as a person. I'm probably a little more swell because of it."

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Giving debtors their due

Worley builds a \$4 million biz bringing people back from the brink of bankruptcy

by Chris Smith

Ten years ago, Tiff Worley was employed as president of Felas Lasers, a medical equipment distributor, when a colleague suggested that he investigate the credit counseling business.

Posing as a person deeply in debt, he applied for the services of two different Twin Cities credit counseling firms. He was decidedly unimpressed.

"It was a very dehumanizing process," said Worley, a Highland Park resident. "I didn't know anything about the business, but I knew I could do it better."

Worley established Metropolitan Financial Management (MFM) in 1990 and made humanizing the process its mantra. In 1991, the nonprofit company's first full year of operation, MFM had revenue of \$20,000. By 1998 that figure had grown to \$4 million.

"It's easy to be judgmental about people who find themselves overwhelmed by debt," Worley said, "but that doesn't do anyone any good. Putting a scarlet letter 'D' on their clothing is not helping."

"Tiff and his counselors put people in the equation," said Bruce, a Woodbury resident and former MFM client who declined to give his last name. "There was a real sense of relief after we met with Tiff because now we had a plan that we worked on together and that was going to get us out of the situation."

For MFM, putting people in the equation begins at the beginning. "I'd say 98 to 99 percent of the people who call us get a real live person right away," Worley said. "The major-

ity will have an appointment later that day."

MFM cannot handle every debtor's problem, "but as a nonprofit we can help some people other agencies might reject," said Jim Keen, MFM's director of operations.

If a client is not right for its program, MFM will refer him or her to other agencies, including bankruptcy attorneys. "But you have to remember that people come to us because they want to pay their bills," Worley said.

MFM's clients agree on a budget and a monthly payment they can make toward retiring their debt. "Then they have to go out and live on that budget without their credit cards," Worley said. "The first 90 days are critical. We encourage them to call for support and ideas or if they're having problems."

MFM then handles what Bruce calls the nasty part—convincing creditors to accept lower interest rates and sometimes reduced balances. "Creditors usually recognize that getting something is better than getting nothing," Worley said. "In the long run, they recognize that if they treat the client fairly, they're going to keep a customer."

Bruce came to MFM after being turned away by another credit counseling firm. With his business experiencing "lean times," Bruce said he maintained his standard of living with credit cards. "It was basically buying stuff we didn't need with money we didn't have," he said. "I think we were up to \$42,000 in unsecured debt when we came in (to MFM)."

According to Worley, Bruce's situation is typical. "In our society, where credit is so easy to get, you are what you buy," he said. "People

With his business experiencing "lean times," Bruce said he maintained his standard of living with credit cards. "It was basically buying stuff we didn't need with money we didn't have. I think we were up to \$42,000 in unsecured debt."



Metropolitan Financial Management founder Tiff Worley (right) and his assistant Jim Keen show clients how to get a handle on their credit card debt. Photo by Terry Faust.

will try to remedy financial problems by borrowing more money."

One of the keys to MFM's success is the low fees it charges—an enrollment fee of \$25 and a monthly processing charge of \$5.00. MFM is able to get by on that partly because many creditors are willing to donate a percentage back to the agency.

A native of Louisville, Kentucky, Worley earned a college degree in sociology and served in the Army Medical Corps. He worked as an epidemiologist and for various medical products companies before moving to Highland Park 18 years ago and becoming director of marketing for 3M's vision care division.

With MFM, Worley seems to have found

his calling. "What we try to do is treat people the way we'd like to be treated and give them some peace of mind," he said. "People come in here in crisis. We want to make a qualitative difference in their lives as soon as possible."

In eight years, MFM has grown to include nine offices in six states. In 1998 it handled the transfer of more than \$25 million in funds, and last month alone it accepted 750 new clients. But the number that Worley is most proud of is MFM's 65 percent success rate, about double the industry average.

"We've been out of debt for about two years now and the budgeting skills we learned we still practice," Bruce said. "My wife has been able to leave her job and we're about to move into a new house."

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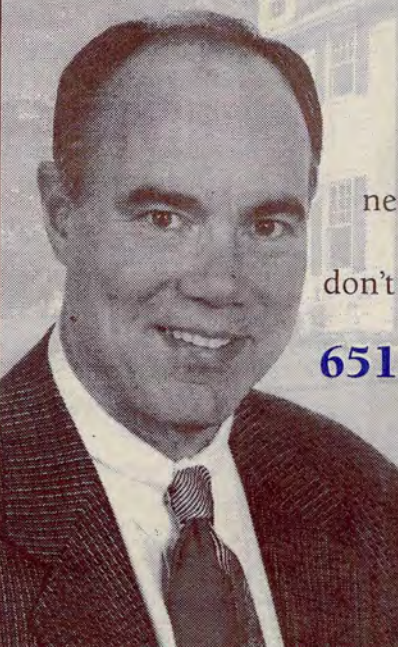
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Chipotle Mexican Grill's Minnesota operations manager Ed Berg Jr. and store manager Doug Kaster oversee the renovation of the Denver-based chain's newest restaurant in Highland Crossing.

Photo by
Terry Faust

From Mexico by way of Colorado

Chipotle's second Minnesota grill opens in Highland

by Kevin Dobbs

Ed Berg Jr. is a nonstop promoter of a restaurant concept he calls "gourmet food you can eat with your hands." As Minnesota operations manager for the Denver-based Chipotle Mexican Grill, Berg, 46, is now overseeing the opening of the company's second Twin Cities restaurant, this one in the Highland Crossing center at Cleveland Avenue and Ford Parkway. The restaurant will open on June 18.

"When you come to Chipotle, you walk in and hear music," Berg said. "You see and hear meat sizzling on the grill. You see the crew working in wide open spaces and you smell all the great ingredients. It's really something."

Chipotle Mexican Grill, which operates 16 restaurants in Colorado, two in Missouri and one in Ohio, plans to open six restaurants this year in Minnesota. One has been operating since March in Stadium Village on the University of Minnesota's East Bank. The others will be located in Apple Valley, St. Cloud, Maple Grove and at Calhoun Commons in South Minneapolis.

Chipotle (pronounced *chi-POTE-lay*) takes its name from the Mexican

word for a medium-hot, smoked and dried jalapeño. The restaurant chain has thrived in the Denver area and, according to Berg, its quick service and fresh Southwestern cuisine is well-suited to the Twin Cities as well. "This is a terrific restaurant market," he said. "The Highland location in particular will do very well. It's a community with old roots and new growth."

Berg, who lives in suburban Minneapolis and grew up in Mendota Heights, Eagan and Farmington, should know. His father, Ed Berg Sr., operated two restaurants in Highland Village from the late 1950s until the early '70s: Lee's Village Inn and Lee's Kitchen. The former was located in the space now occupied by Perkins on Cleveland Avenue, the latter in the space now occupied by Faricy's on Ford Parkway.

Ed Berg Jr. is a graduate of St. John's Prep School in Collegeville, Minnesota, and the University of California at Los Angeles. He has been involved in the restaurant business in one way or another nearly all his life, including a stint opening A&W restaurants across Southeast Asia.

Patrons of Chipotle can expect what Berg calls a "very focused" Southwest-

ern and Mexican menu. Chipotle diners can order burritos or tacos of a minimum of 22 ounces and have them stuffed with grilled steak, chicken or pork complemented by a host of fresh vegetables, cheeses and sauces arrayed along a made-to-order service line. Prices start at \$4.55.

"All our tacos and burritos will be freshly made," Berg said. "There'll be no freezer, no microwave oven, no can opener in the place."

The Highland Chipotle will seat about 75 people inside and another 30 on an outdoor patio. It will have 25 to 30 full- and part-time employees in addition to the staff of the regional office, which at least initially will also be located at Highland Crossing.

The demand for Southwestern and Mexican cuisine in the United States has grown dramatically in recent years, according to *Nation's Restaurant News*. Chipotle started with one store on the University of Denver campus in 1993. When founder and majority shareholder Steve Ells is finished this year, the company will have opened at least 23 additional restaurants. According to

Chipotle/see next page

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

The Crazy Carrot Juice Bar, 1577 Grand Ave., was one of five businesses to receive Walter and Lydia Deubener Awards for Small Business Excellence this year from the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce. The Crazy Carrot was opened in January 1998 by Tony Barranco, Eric Strauss and Liem Nguyen. The partners have since opened outlets in Minneapolis' Uptown, Dinkytown and downtown and in Naples, Florida.



Cary Miller-Dolan

David Herr of Summit Hill, a partner in the Minneapolis law firm of Maslon Edelman Borman & Brand, was honored recently with the 1999 Advocate's Award from the Minnesota State Bar Association's Civil Litigation Section. Herr, a 1978 graduate of William Mitchell College of Law, has written books and conducted educational programs for attorneys that have helped shape trial and appellate court practices in Minnesota.

Dr. Dennis D. Walston, formerly of Highland Family Physicians Clinic on Randolph Avenue, has moved his practice to the HealthEast Macalester-Groveland Family Physicians Clinic at 45 N. Snelling Ave. A 1980 graduate of the University of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, Walston is past chairman of the Department of Family Practice at St. Joseph's Hospital and a former medical director at HealthEast's Payne Avenue Clinic.

Patrick Lee-O'Halloran of Minneapolis' Longfellow neighborhood has joined the downtown Minneapolis law firm of Maun & Simon. A graduate of Carleton College and the University of Minnesota Law School, Lee-O'Halloran formerly worked in the St. Paul law firm of Heacox, Hartman, Mattiani, Koshmrl, Gosgriff & Johnson.

Cary Miller-Dolan of Minneapolis' Longfellow neighborhood has joined the St. Paul firm of McCullough, Smith, Wright & Kempe as an associate in family law. A 1995 graduate of Hamline University School of Law, Miller-Dolan served for the past two years as an associate in family law with Richard D. Goff & Associates.

Heidi Gesell, president of Cherokee State Bank, has been named the bank's CEO as well. Cherokee has also promoted Jim Plante to retail banking officer and Dawn Reding to portfolio manager. Todd Schultze has been hired as an assistant vice president.

Bonita Kosciulek of Minneapolis' Longfellow neighborhood has opened a shiatsu massage studio at 4161 S. Minnehaha Ave., Minneapolis. A graduate of the Minnesota Center for Shiatsu Study, Kosciulek is nationally certified as an oriental bodywork therapist. She combines shiatsu with other healing techniques such as tuina or Chinese medical massage, moxibustion and cupping.

Bonfe's Auto Service & Auto Repair, 380 W. 7th St., has opened Bonfe's Mechanical Service in the space formerly occupied by St. Paul Automotive at 337 W. 7th St.

Silk-N-Satin, a shop that specializes in silk flower arrangements for weddings,

has opened at 614 Portland Ave. Owner Nancy O'Connor has been making silk flower arrangements out of her home for the past 10 years. She and partner Jackie Soby also sell gift baskets, bud vases and other gifts for all occasions.

Shannon Hendricks of Macalester-Groveland has been promoted to vice president of Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America. Hendricks is also corporate controller and treasurer of the firm, for which she has worked since 1985. A CPA, she earned a B.S. degree in accounting at the University of St. Thomas.

Samuel H. Asher, executive director of the United Jewish Fund and Council since 1989, will be leaving to become executive director of the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, Connecticut, in August. According to James Stein, president of the Highland-based UJFC, a committee has been formed to seek a new director.

Maggie Powers of Powers and Associates, a Highland Park-based health and nutrition communications firm, has received the Minnesota Dietetic Association's highest honor, the Medallion Award, for her contributions to the profession. Named an outstanding health professional educator by the American Diabetes Association (ADA), Powers is currently writing a cookbook for the ADA on *Fabulous Forbidden Foods*.

Elena Tivyan of Macalester-Groveland has joined the sales team at Edina Realty's Highland Village office. Tivyan, who immigrated from St. Petersburg in the former Soviet Union in 1980, has been involved in real estate sales since 1987. She has also worked in retail sales and as a mechanical engineer with a specialty in optics.

Chipotle Mexican Grill/

from previous page

Nation's, the average Chipotle restaurant generated \$1 million in sales in 1997. As the newest entrant in the Twin Cities "fresh-Mex" market, competing with more established operations such as Baja Tortilla Grill and Pasqual's, Chipotle has the advantage of the financial backing of Oak Brook, Illinois-based McDonald's Corporation as an equity partner.

"McDonald's is a minority investor," Berg said. "The relationship is unique in that we can pull resources that we need from them, but they don't push anything on us. We're the first company they've invested in. They recognize that we have a good thing going."

The Highland Chipotle will occupy the space left vacant by Boston Market, which closed last year after its parent company filed for bankruptcy. Chipotle signed a lease in January with Highland Crossing LLC, owner of the shopping center, and is now putting the final touches on the interior of the space.

According to Jim Stolpestad, an investor in Highland Crossing LLC and president of Exeter Realty Corporation, the property manager for Highland Crossing, Chipotle will mesh well with other stores in the shopping center, including Barnes & Noble, Starbucks, Video Update and Old Country Buffet.

"Highland is a little short on food places, and I think a fresh concept like this will fit in well," Stolpestad said. "We had a lot of interest in the space, but we went with (Chipotle), so obviously we think it'll work."

There is now only one vacancy at Highland Crossing, and Stolpestad said that space will be filled by September 1. Chicago Beef Company, a locally owned company, recently signed a lease for the space formerly occupied by Chesapeake Bagel Bakery. The new restaurant and deli, which is patterned after Portillo's in Chicago, will specialize in Chicago-style hot dogs and roast beef and hot pas-trami sandwiches.

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Snell-Ham rethinks Ayd Mill Road position

Council considers second choice in case linear park option loses out

by Jane McClure

While the Ayd Mill Road Task Force awaits its orders to reconvene, the Snelling-Hamline Community Council is considering amending its recommendation on the future of the two-mile roadway. Council members want a fall-back position if their favored option—replacing Ayd Mill Road with a linear park—is rejected by the St. Paul City Council.

A recent survey of residents and business people in the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood suggests that a large majority favor as their second choice the “no build” option, or leaving Ayd Mill Road as it is with no connection to I-35E or I-94. Of 137 people responding to the survey, 79 supported the no-build option. Coming in a distant second with 17 votes each were the two-lane and four-lane alternatives. Those roadways would include a direct connection to I-35E on the south and an indirect connection to I-94 on the north by extending Ayd Mill Road along a railroad spur east of Pascal Street to the frontage roads of Concordia and St. Anthony avenues.

The Snelling-Hamline council will hold a neighborhood meeting in the weeks ahead to discuss how it should present its recommendation to the Ayd

Mill Road Task Force, the Planning Commission and the City Council.

Snelling-Hamline council member Don Ludemann suggested that neighborhoods at the north end of Ayd Mill Road band together to support the no-build option, which is already the preferred alternative of the Merriam Park and Hamline-Midway community councils. Concordia University and the Snelling-Selby Area Business Association have also said that they could support no-build.

Not everyone is convinced that no-build or the linear park will prevail. Those two options “are never going to happen,” said John Galatowitsch, a member of the Snelling-Hamline council. Galatowitsch suggested that the council look more closely at the two-lane roadway. According to him, pressure from people at the south end of Ayd Mill Road for an I-35E connection may be too great to overcome.

Galatowitsch said he is concerned that if the constituencies represented on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force cannot agree, the city could choose an alternative that is more harmful to the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood. “Then we’re going to get a four-lane road whether we like it or not,” he said.

The Merriam Park Community Council is also considering amending its position on Ayd Mill Road. The council will meet at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 9, to discuss a recommendation that Ayd Mill Road be rebuilt as a two-lane roadway with no connections to the freeways but with added bicycle and pedestrian trails.

The Ayd Mill Road Task Force is expected to reconvene soon to sift through

the more than 100 comments received during the public hearing period that ended in April. Any new positions taken by the district councils may not be included in the public hearing record, but they may be submitted to the City Council and Planning Commission when they begin their review of the alternatives this summer.

The task force also will submit a preferred alternative to the Planning Commission and City Council.

Of the groups that are represented on the task force, here are their preferred options:

• **No-build:** Merriam Park Community Council and Hamline-Midway Coalition.

• **Linear park:** Lexington-Hamline and Snelling-Hamline community councils.

• **Two-lane parkway:** Highland District Council (which also supports a four-lane roadway), Macalester-Groveland Community Council, Summit Hill Association, West 7th/Fort Road Federation, Midway Chamber of Commerce (which also supports a four-lane roadway) and Snelling-Selby Business Association (which also supports a four-lane roadway if access to and from Selby Avenue is preserved. Otherwise it supports no-build).

• **Four-lane roadway:** the Summit-University Planning Council.

The Grand Avenue Business Association, University UNITED and RIP 35E also have a vote on the task force, but none of those groups has taken a formal position. The St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce supports a four-lane roadway, but it does not have a representative on the task force.

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The city of St. Paul is looking for someone to purchase and move the historic Armstrong-Quinlan House, which has been vacant for the past decade. The bid deadline is July 9.

Buyer with financial vision sought to save Armstrong-Quinlan House

by Jane McClure

For just \$2.00, the century-old Armstrong-Quinlan House can be yours. The only catch is that it will cost you about \$3 million to move and restore the 600-ton structure.

The city of St. Paul is advertising to find a buyer for the 11,123-square-foot brick house, which is located at 233-235 W. 5th St., just down the hill from the Cathedral of St. Paul. Viewings for potential buyers will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, June 15 and 29. Bids to purchase and move the house are due at the St. Paul Planning and Economic Development (PED) office by 4:30 p.m. Friday, July 9.

Prospective buyers are required to submit a business plan for the house and demonstrate the financial capability to move it and begin restoration work within 120 days. The city will contribute \$150,000 to the project upon the building's relocation. Bob Geurs of PED said the cost of renovating the house could range from \$400,000 to turn it into an antique store to \$1.6 million to convert it into a restaurant.

The house originally had to be moved or demolished to make way for a proposed 1,400-space parking ramp and transit hub. The ramp is expected to serve the new River-Centre arena going up on Kellogg Boulevard as well as meet a growing need for parking spaces downtown. However, the house is also located in an area that has emerged recently as a possible site for a new baseball stadium for the Minnesota Twins.

Acting as the Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) Board, the St. Paul City Council voted in April to proceed with a 60-day study of the Armstrong-Quinlan House. The study is required because the structure is on the National Register of Historic Places. The city is soliciting offers for buying and moving the house during that same period.

No serious offer has yet been received.

As much as he would hate to see the historic house torn down, Ward 2 council member Chris Coleman said the lack of a solid redevelopment proposal is not a good sign. "I'd like to see someone come forward, but I don't really hold out much hope for saving the house," he said.

Members of the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission also are hoping that the house can be saved. Commissioners David Heide and Gar Hargens have been meeting with city staff to determine whether the house could remain at the site and be incorporated into a transit hub.

The 2½-story Armstrong-Quinlan House is considered a rare surviving example of the mansions that once dotted downtown St. Paul. John Milton Armstrong commissioned noted St. Paul architect Edward Payson Bassford to

build the structure between 1886 and 1890. Armstrong's descendants owned the property until 1943 when it was sold to John and Dorothy Bloomquist. They in turn sold the property in 1948 to Gordon and Helen Larson for use as the Key Hospital for Recovering Alcoholics. In 1949 the house was purchased by Bertha Quinlan and converted into a nursing home. For years it was known as the Quinlan Home.

The house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. It has been vacant for the past decade.

In the late 1980s, the state looked at using the house and adjacent property as a site for a new Minnesota School and Resource Center for the Arts. The state purchased the properties through condemnation in 1987-88, but the arts school was built in Golden Valley instead. The house and the 5-acre site it sits on are still owned by the state, which has declared it to be surplus property.

The 2½-story Armstrong-Quinlan House is considered a rare surviving example of the mansions that once dotted downtown St. Paul.

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1/4 tsp. salt

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1/3 cup chopped fresh cilantro

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Mother's Day contest winners named

Area shoppers had a chance to "Win One for Mom" as part of the Mother's Day promotion featured in the May 5 *Villager*. Those who were 18 and older were invited to stop by participating businesses through Mother's Day and enter a drawing to win \$100 gift certificates from any of 13 area restaurants.

The winners and restaurants that awarded them with certificates are as follows: Jendayi Berry of Minneapolis, Billy's on Grand; Sue Coleman of Stacy, Cherokee Sirloin Room; Steven Curtis of Summit Hill,

Tavern on Grand; Colleen Elvin of Apple Valley, Seasons Inn; Angie Fischer of Highland Park, the Malt Shop; and Peter Koeleman of Minneapolis, Moose Country.

Also Allan Mahnke of Minneapolis, Zander Cafe; Barbara Poppelwell of Cottage Grove, Willowgate; Penny Pray of Maplewood, Carmelo's Ristorante; Ed Ryan of Summit Hill, Wild Onion; Joel Santerre of Minneapolis, Highland Grill; Daunae Schilling of Minneapolis, Fabulous Fern's; and Madeline Tilton of Summit Hill, the Vintage.

Macalester-Groveland COUNCIL CAPSULE

COUNCIL MEETS ON JUNE 17

The next meeting of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council will be held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 17, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. Topping the agenda will be the election of a local resident to represent the district at large on the community council's board of directors. Any resident of Macalester-Groveland is eligible to run for this position. Also to be filled are board positions representing neighborhood businesses and religious institutions. For more information, call Kathie Tarnowski at the council's office at 651-695-4000.

The June 17 meeting will also include consideration of new four-way stop signs at Finn Street and Sargent Avenue, a discussion of the mayor's plan to cut \$3 million from the city's budget for 2000, including \$800,000 from the Police Department's budget and \$425,000 from the Division of Parks and Recreation.

STREET PAVING PROJECT DISCUSSED

Residential streets in the area bounded by St. Clair, Cleveland, Randolph and Fairview avenues will be repaved next spring and summer. New boulevard trees will be planted and lantern-style street lighting will be installed at the same time. Residents of that area are invited to attend a meeting of the council's Transportation Committee on Thursday, June 21, to discuss the paving project. Public input is being sought on

such design elements as street width, sidewalk alignment, the curvature of corners and curb bump-outs.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. For more information, call the community council office at 651-695-4000.

KIDSPARK SHIFTS TO SUMMER HOURS

KidsPark, a licensed drop-in child care program cosponsored by the Macalester-Groveland Community Council, will operate this summer on a part-time basis. Located in the original playground building at the Groveland Recreation Center, 2045 St. Clair Ave., KidsPark will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from June 22 through mid-August. The cost is \$3.00 per hour plus an annual membership fee. Parents may exchange hours of service for hours of child care.

Use of KidsPark is not restricted to Macalester-Groveland residents. For more information, call 651-698-7841.

LEAD PIPE REPLACEMENT REIMBURSED

More than half of the homes in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood get their drinking water through lead pipes. To provide an incentive for residents to replace the pipes, the community council has arranged with a plumbing contractor for a group discount. The discount should lower the cost to an average of \$1,300 per household. The cost can be paid up front or over a 10-year period at approximately 5.7 percent interest.

Macalester-Groveland residents are also eligible for a \$200 grant to help pay the cost of replacing the lead pipes. The reimbursement is available on a first-come, first served basis through a \$100,000 grant from the city of St. Paul's Sales Tax Revitalization program. However, \$50,000 of those funds have

already been committed. To apply for a grant, call Patrick Shannon at the community council office at 651-695-4000.

HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS OFFERED

Macalester-Groveland owners of single-family homes and owner-occupied duplexes can now borrow up to \$10,000 for home improvements through the community council's Middle Income Fix-Up Fund. The loans are made at prime rate with no household income limit and no second mortgage. They are repayable over five years.

Also available to Macalester-Groveland homeowners is the new Moderate Income Fix-Up Fund. Income eligibility limits range from \$22,500 for one person up to \$36,900 for a family of six. Applicants may borrow up to \$10,000 and receive up to 20 percent of that amount as a grant.

For more information on the loan programs, call Jessica Bakkene at the community council office at 651-695-4000.

STAFF POSITION OPENS

The community council is seeking to hire a new block organizer and youth coordinator. The single, full-time position requires strong communication and organizational skills. For more information, call Kathie Tarnowski at the community council office at 651-695-4000.

JOB CONNECTION HIRING WORKERS

The Macalester-Groveland Job Connection is looking for hard-working youths and adults interested in performing lawn care, gardening, minor repairs and other household chores for senior citizens in the neighborhood. Wages and scheduling are negotiated between the workers and the seniors. For information call Jessica at the community council office at 651-695-4000.

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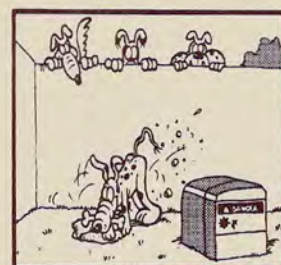
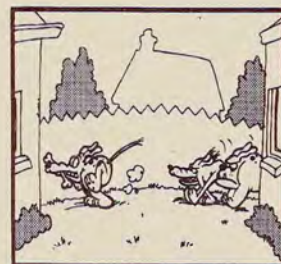
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River Corridor rule may foil hopes for luxury condos on Shepard Road

City planners seek variance to 40-foot height limit

by Jane McClure

Variances to the Mississippi River Corridor's 40-foot height restriction may be necessary if the Shepard-Davern area is to ever see the quality and quantity of new housing units being sought, according to St. Paul city planners.

The recently completed Shepard-Davern Small Area Plan calls for 1,000 housing units of various styles and price ranges in an area bounded by West 7th Street, Shepard Road and Homer Street. However, about 300 to 350 of those units might have to be eliminated if the height restriction remains in place.

Luxury apartments and condominiums have been recommended along Shepard Road, but because of the high price of land in the area and the difficulty of building below grade, those developments may not be financially feasible unless they are allowed to exceed the height restriction.

"We have a special situation there because of the underlying bedrock," said city planner Ken Ford. The bedrock lies close to the surface of the ground, making underground construction very expensive, he said.

"If we have to abide by the height limits, the best we can do is three-story walk-up apartments with a lot of surface parking," Ford said.

The St. Paul Planning Commission's Neighborhood and Current Planning Committee is now reviewing the Shepard-Davern Small Area Plan. It will report to the full Planning Commission at 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 11. The committee is expected to ask that a public hearing on the plan be held at 8:30 a.m. Friday, July 9.

The 40-foot River Corridor height restriction, which was adopted by the city in the early 1980s, affects only that part of the Shepard-Davern area west of Alton Street. A Stu-

dio, an architectural consulting firm hired by the city, has suggested a 65-foot building height limit within the River Corridor there. This 65-foot limit would give developers the flexibility they need to realize a sufficient return on their investment, the consultants said.

Planning commissioners said they would rather see taller buildings dealt with on a case by case basis with variances rather than change the ordinance. Developers who wanted to build above the 40-foot limit could then be required to meet specific building or landscaping design guidelines.

The Highland District Council has historically opposed variances to the River Corridor height restriction, according to district council president Shawn Bartsh.

Planning commissioner Anne Geisser, who co-chaired the Shepard-Davern Small Area Plan task force along with Bartsh, said she disagrees with those who oppose buildings higher than the 40-foot limit. "The Mississippi is a working river in the middle of the city," she said.

According to Geisser, the apartments and condominiums east of Alton Street are tall enough so that residents can enjoy a view of the river from their windows. That needs to be seen as an amenity that makes the housing more desirable, she said. "If you build only to 40 feet, I don't know what residents will be able to see," she said. "I assume Shepard Road."

However, Bartsh predicted that there will be strong opposition to relaxing or waiving the height restriction. And those concerns are not limited to residential development, she said.

"Drive from Fort Snelling and what do you want to see," she asked, "the bluff line and the trees or some big Best Western motel with a big neon sign on the roof?"

A house in every vacant lot: Mayor lays out ambitious growth strategy

by Jane McClure

Vacant lots in St. Paul would all be filled by new homes under an ambitious program on the drawing boards at the St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development (PED). The program is part of Mayor Norm Coleman's goal for creating 2,500 new housing units in the city in three years.

Details of the program are expected to be reviewed by the City Council in mid-June. They include more aggressive selling of city-owned and tax-forfeited properties, the establishment of a housing resource center and as much as a 90 percent cut in city fees for housing projects.

PED director Brian Sweeney said the city needs to make it easier for developers, community development corporations and private individuals to buy city-owned lots. "Of the 300 vacant city-owned lots, between 100 and 150 are buildable," he said. According to Sweeney, lots that are too small or otherwise not feasible for construction will be sold off to adjacent property owners.

In addition, there are more than 300 tax-forfeited properties in St. Paul. Some of those properties could ultimately wind up under city ownership.

Sweeney said the city could encourage new housing development by setting citywide design standards. Once the designs are approved, they could be used on lots where variances or zoning changes are not needed. Sweeney said that would streamline the construction approval process.

"The process can be long and tedious and

frustrating to developers," he said. "We need to find ways to change that."

Perhaps the most controversial proposal being considered by PED is reducing building fees for city-subsidized housing projects. The developer of a \$1 million housing project currently pays \$15,565 in city fees. The city's proposal would reduce those fees to \$1,400. On a \$100,000 single-family home, the fees would be reduced from \$3,494 to \$140.

The City Council has never approved proposals to cut fees, said Robert Kessler, director of the Office of License Inspections and Environmental Protection. He said the council will have to weigh the loss of revenue against the greater property tax base.

LIEP is proposing that if the City Council approves the fee reduction, it do so on a one-year trial basis.

Other ways being suggested by PED to streamline housing projects include:

- Using the new City Living home loan program to encourage homeownership. Sweeney said the program has had a great response since it was introduced in early May. About \$3.3 million of the \$4 million available has already been spoken for. "It really couldn't have been more of a success," he said. PED is now looking at ways to expand the program.

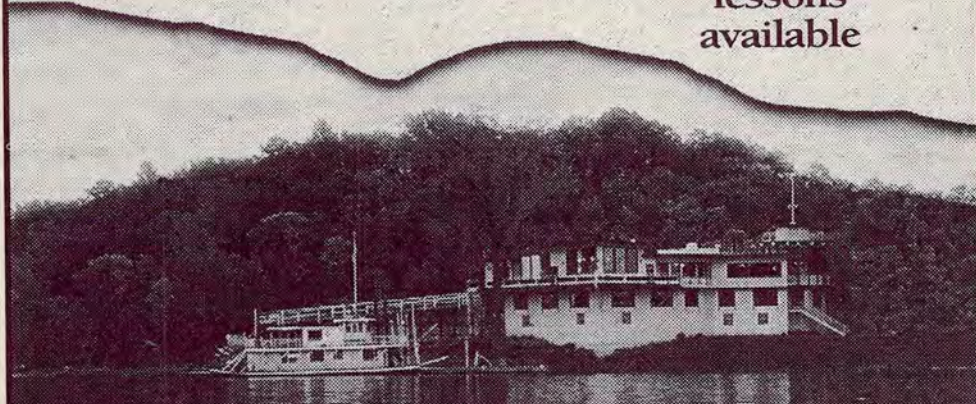
- Creating a housing resource center, a one-stop alternative for people who are interested in renting, buying or rehabilitating homes in St. Paul. Those programs are currently split between PED and the city's Housing Information Office.

- Assembling a new citywide task force to advise PED on housing issues.

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Highland senior earns trip to national forensics tournament

by Barbara Gorski

Racing heart, spinning head, sweating palms. Those are typical symptoms of someone who has been asked to speak in public. But Sandra Japuntich, a senior at Highland Park High School, is a notable exception.

She will be heading to Phoenix, Arizona, this week to participate in the Desert Sun Nationals sponsored by the National Forensic League. According to Highland forensics coach Dave McGinnis, Japuntich is the first St. Paul public school student to qualify for the national tournament in more than a decade.

A Macalester-Groveland resident, Japuntich placed second in

the original oratory category during the state competition in Walker, Minnesota, early this spring. Only two winners were chosen in each of five categories, which also included humorous reading, extemporaneous speaking, dramatic interpretation and dramatic duo. Approximately 400 students competed in the state qualifier.

Japuntich is a founding member of Highland's speech and debate team, which has become one of the most competitive high school forensic teams in the state since its inception in 1997. The team won the novice and junior varsity state Lincoln-Douglas Debate tournaments during the 1998-99 season and placed second in the Section 5AA speech tournament.



Sandra Japuntich

McGinnis, who has been Japuntich's coach for all three years, said two things stood out about her from the start. "She's really dedicated to forensics and has the en-

ergy you need to be good at it," he said. "And she's a really good actress. She can make you feel what she's saying."

For the topic of her 10-minute original oratory, Japuntich decided to address the issue of people in society who tend to be overlooked, including the elderly, the poor and the homeless.

"Too often, those who are not the coloraturas of our society are ignored as we focus on those who demand our attention," she said in her speech. "We have developed the incredible power to make people invisible. We ignore those who do not ask for our attention, and we silence others by hiding them from view."

Japuntich said not making eye contact with certain members of

society allows people to remain separate from them. "We don't look at people who are gross and dirty," she said. "We don't want to look at things that are ugly."

Japuntich believes the invisible members of society can be seen if people would only try. She outlined the steps that can be taken to help disenfranchised citizens participate in society.

Japuntich, who is among Highland's top 10 graduates this spring, plans to enroll in the honors program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall and is considering a major in psychology or journalism. She believes her speaking skills will enhance her chances for success in whatever field she chooses.

SCHOOL NOTES

Cretin-Derham Hall won its second straight Minnesota State Bowl title last month. The Raiders topped nearly two dozen other teams in written and oral rounds to make it to the final, where they edged out Chaska and St. Cloud Tech. The Raiders clinched the title by correctly answering the question: What is the Code of Hammurabi? Team members included Hansi Wietzke, David Faigerlie, Frank Rogers, Mark Sweeney and Dan McMurray. Their coach was Terry Cullen, a 1998 CDH graduate and member of last year's state-champion bowl team.

Four area high school students were among eight who recently received Youth Hero Awards from the United Way. They include Cretin-Derham Hall juniors Venise Battle and Molly Frye, who helped organize a conference on racism for Twin Cities high schools; Sibley junior Nadia Eldeeb, a volunteer tutor and coach who has also donated her services to the elderly clients of the Wilder Foundation's Health Care Center; and Central junior Hang Lee, the youth president of the First Hmong Assembly of God Church.

Betsy Johnson, a 7th-grader at Nativity School, came in first at this year's state science

fair. Her project was entitled "Triboluminescence: Can I Make Glow-in-the-Dark Aspirin?" The Minnesota Section Institute for Food Technologists awarded her \$100 and presented her adviser, Tamara Lodge, with \$50. The Society of Tribologist and Lubrication Engineers gave her \$50 and her advisor \$400.

The Dowling Environmental Learning Center in Minneapolis took first place in the inaugural Lego League tournament on May 22 at the Science Museum of Minnesota. More than 200 kids on 12 teams competed to see who could design, build and program the best working robot. Capitol Hill Magnet School was honored for having the best program and most creative robot name: Mr. Wigglesworth.

Highland Park Senior High School's class of 1969 will hold its 30-year reunion on Friday and Saturday, June 25-26. For information, call Kathleen Eggert at 651-777-8796.

Ericsson Community School, 4315 S. 31st Ave., Minneapolis, is again offering its popular summer enrichment program for youngsters in grades K-6. More than 70 classes will



Julie Schmid's 4th-grade class at St. Mark's School got to make their cakes and learn from them too while studying the regions of the United States. The students baked and decorated cakes in the shape of each state and then assembled their creations to form a 9-by-15-foot edible map of the nation. The cake was served to more than 250 people following the school's spring musical on May 20.

be offered during weeklong sessions beginning June 21. Costs range from \$14 to \$34. The registration deadline is June 11. For information, call 612-627-7192.

Computer camps for children ages 7-12 will be held during the mornings of June 14-18, July 19-23 and August 2-6 at the Jewish Com-

munity Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. Each week-long camp will focus on computer sci-fi experiences. The cost is \$50 per session. To register, call 651-698-0751.

Roosevelt High School's class of 1969 will hold its 30-year reunion on Friday, June 25, at the Decathlon Club. Call 612-557-0177.

Cadets set high school supermileage mark

St. Thomas Academy successfully defended its state title and set a new national standard in fuel efficiency during the State Supermileage Vehicle Competition on May 17-19 at Brainerd International Speedway.

Last year, the academy set a record with a vehicle that got 836 miles per gallon. This year's team redesigned the vehicle's body and tweaked the en-

gine to break the national high school record with 1,005.97 miles per gallon.

The team has been invited to compete in the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) College Supermileage Challenge on June 11-12 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. There the team will compete against fuel-stingy vehicles created by college students from across the nation.

"We've got a good group of kids and we compare (against the college teams) pretty favorably," said STA physics teacher Mark Westlake, the team's coach.

This year's participants include seniors Michael Haddad, Scott Linde, Ryan Pattison, Breandan Finnigan, Carl Schneeman and Jim Mulrooney; sophomore Kevin Smith; and freshman Ryan Dobie.



Carl Schneeman, left, Kevin Smith, Mike Haddad, Ryan Dobie and driver Scott Linde put St. Thomas Academy's supermileage car through its paces.



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Highland's new meating place

Von Hanson's takes pride in being a little old-fashioned when it comes to service

by Catherine Condon

To Dan McDowell, it's not so much the start of grilling season as it is the unique tenderizing technique that accounts for the large volume of steaks being carried out the door at the newly opened Von Hanson's Meats in the Highland Shopping Center.

"Nobody does it the way we do," said McDowell, who runs the store with partner Jesse Thomas.

That statement could well be the slogan for Von Hanson's, which bills itself as an old-fashioned meat market specializing in fresh and smoked meats. The Highland location is the newest of the 10 Von Hanson's Meats operating in the Twin Cities area. The others are located in Apple Valley (where Von Hanson's launched its first store 15 years ago), Chaska, Cottage Grove, Eagan, Plymouth, North Oaks, Savage and Woodbury.

The stores all sell Von Hanson's line of marinades and seasonings and feature in-house bakeries that offer hamburger, hot dog and bratwurst buns, bread and dinner rolls. Frozen appetizers, snacks, beverages and other meal accompaniments are also available, as are made-to-order deli sandwiches priced at \$4.99 per pound.

"It's a full-service meat market, meaning

everything's done fresh at the counter," said McDowell, who is also part-owner of the Von Hanson's in Cottage Grove.

"We do everything per customer," he said. "If they want things wrapped in a certain way or cut in a certain way, that's what we offer. It's not prepacked and it's not self-serve. We cut things here. We grind our hamburger fresh here. All the sausages are smoked on the premises along with our beef jerky and beef steaks. There are no additives in our meats. We don't pump them with sodium."

Especially popular at the Highland Von Hanson's are turkey rolls featuring the store's own blend of sage and onion stuffing, pork rolls with wild rice, and marinated kabobs and sirloin steak. Another best seller is seasoned chicken breasts.

Bundled meat packages range in price from \$37.95 for a 36-pound beef-pork mix to \$199 for the "Hundred Pounder," which includes 10 pounds of steak, 20 pounds of ground beef, 30 pounds of chicken and 40 pounds of pork, all in small packages. "It's not something that's pre-frozen," McDowell said. "We do those up fresh so that customers see what they're getting. A lot of families will get them because they're nice serving sizes."

The Highland location, which formerly housed the Pet Connection, required a great



Co-owner Jesse Thomas, right, displays a tray of New York strip steaks, while employee Sean Geraghty shows off some of the freshly baked bread that can be found at the newly opened Von Hanson's Meats in the Highland Shopping Center. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

deal of remodeling before Von Hanson's opening. "There's no remnant of what it used to be," McDowell said. "We tore down the whole inner structure. There was nothing that we could salvage."

Both owners were thrilled with the response during Von Hanson's first few weeks of business in Highland, a neighborhood that Thomas said fits specialized operations like theirs.

"With the other businesses around, it seemed like a good mix," added McDowell, who like Thomas lives in Apple Valley.

"Highland is a nice area," Thomas said. "We find out more and more every day how won-

derful it is here."

Competition from nearby grocers like Lunds, Jubilee Foods and Widmer's is not a concern, according to McDowell. "We have a few things that (other area stores) have, but I don't think there's anybody out there that has the whole package," he said. "You come in here and you don't have to wait. A long wait for us is three minutes. You go in a grocery store and you could be waiting in line for 10 minutes."

"The bottom line is that here, an owner is always going to be in the shop," McDowell said. "You can always get an answer and it's coming right from the source."

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The Highland District COUNCIL CAPSULE



BOARD TO MEET JUNE 24

The Highland District Council will not meet on the third Thursday of this month as normal. The meeting has been postponed until 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 24. The agenda for the meeting will be published in the June 23 *Villager*.

PUBLIC HEARING SET ON CIB PROJECTS

St. Paul's Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Committee will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 17, on the projects that are vying for funding in 2000 and 2001. The hearing will be held from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. in Room 40 of City Hall.

Area residents are invited to testify on the projects that have been proposed for the Highland area. The projects include an addition to the Homcroft Recreation Center, improvements to Crosby Farm Park, curb bump-outs at Cleveland and Pinehurst avenues, and landscaping and traffic improvements at the west end of West 7th Street.

Following the hearing, the CIB Committee will forward its recommendations to Mayor Norm Coleman, who will hold a second public hearing in July.

HOME BURGLARIES ON THE RISE

With summer just around the corner, the Highland Park neighborhood is once again seeing an increase in residential burglaries. Area residents are advised to take the following precautions to lessen their chances of becoming a burglary victim.

Lock the doors to the house and garage, even during the day when you are at home or in the yard. If your home has a porch, keep the porch door locked. Burglars who gain access to the porch often can find their way into the rest of the house quite easily and without being observed by neighbors. Those who are planning a summer vacation should install timers on a couple of lights and arrange to have their mail temporarily stopped or picked up and their grass cut. Neighbors who notice suspicious activity should call the police immediately.

Summer is also a great time to form a block club, which may be the best defense against crime. For information on forming a block club, call the council at 651-695-4005.

THANK YOU, DONORS

The district council would like to thank those who responded to its request for financial support in the spring newsletter. Those who forgot to contribute may still do so by sending their donation to the Highland District Council, 1978 Ford Pkwy., St. Paul, MN 55116.

WEB SITE DESIGNER SOUGHT

The district council is seeking a local computer expert who is interested in volunteering his or her time and talents to help the council design a Web site. For information, call the council at 651-695-4005.

Bringing the library to you

The St. Paul Public Library recently announced that it is increasing its bookmobile stops from 31 to 37 across St. Paul neighborhoods.

In the *Villager* area, the bookmobile will make stops at the following locations every other week: Sibley Plaza Shopping Center on West 7th and Davern streets from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Cleveland Hi-Rise at 899 S. Cleveland Ave. from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Fridays, and Wilder Park at 1181 Edgumbe Road from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Fridays.

A complete bookmobile schedule is available by calling 651-642-0379 or visiting the library's Web site at www.stpaul.lib.mn.us.

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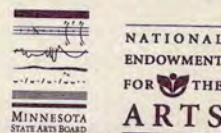
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NAMES in the NEWS

Howard Guthmann of Mendota Heights has been named president of the Ramsey County Historical Society. A partner in the St. Paul accounting firm of Wilkerson, Guthmann & Johnson, he is a past chairman of the St. Paul Port Authority and the St. Paul School Board. Also elected to the board were first vice president **James Russell**, second vice president **Anne Cowie Wilson**, secretary **Richard Wilhoit** of Macalester-Groveland and treasurer **Ronald Zweber** of Ramsey Hill.

William Randall of Macalester-Groveland has received the Distinguished Community Builder Award for 1999 from the Indianhead Council of the Boy Scouts of America. A 1932 Eagle Award recipient, Randall was Ramsey County Attorney from 1959 to 1975 and has been president of the Minnesota Division of the American Cancer Society, the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, the Indianhead Council and several other organizations.

Richard "Fred" Arey of Ramsey Hill received the Flanagan Prize for literary excellence for his book, *Waterfalls of the Mississippi*, at the Minnesota Book Awards on April 23. Other area authors receiving honors were Macalester College professor **Michael Obsatz** in the help and guidance category for *Raising Nonviolent Children in a Violent World*, Macalester-Groveland resident **Kim Alan Chapman** in the nature category for *Valley of Grass: Tallgrass Prairie and Parkland of the Red River Region*, and Macalester



Debbie La Fleche

professor **Janet Holmes** in the poetry category for *The Green Tuxedo*.

Debbie La Fleche of Highland Park is one of 33 contestants selected to participate in the Mrs. Minnesota-America pageant at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, June 26, at the Fitzgerald Theater. The winner will represent Minnesota in the Mrs. America Pageant in Honolulu in September. The mother of four sons ages 10 to 19, La Fleche works as a registered nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital. She graduated from Central High School in 1973 and received her B.S. in nursing from Bethel College on May 22.

John Comer of Highland Park has been named Civil Servant of the year by the U.S. Army Reserve 88th Regional Support Command at Fort Snelling. He is responsible for the command's mail room and duplication center.

N.M. Kelby has received a \$40,000 fellowship in literature from the Bush Foundation. The Ramsey Hill resident recently completed her first novel, which in unfinished form received a Loft Mentor Series award in fiction. Formerly known as Nicole Niemi, Kelby has

worked as a magazine editor and writer, television producer and reporter and artist in residence in schools. She has also written plays and two books of poetry.

Renee Kvasnik of Highland Park recently received the Able Toastmaster Bronze Award. She has served as president of the King Boreas Toastmasters and is a two-time recipient of the Outstanding Toastmaster of the Year Award.

Judith Griep, Arlene Leyden and **Marguerite Pye** have joined the Advisory Council of the Highland Block Nurse Program. They will be involved in promoting awareness of the program, advising the director and assisting with fund-raising activities.

Dick Sarafolean, state chairman for Mothers Against Drunk Driving and a frequent speaker on the dangers of drinking and driving, has received the 1999 Volunteer Service Award from the Business Economics Education Foundation. An Ashland Avenue resident, Sarafolean is retired from the St. Paul Fire Department where he served for over 33 years.

Marvin Pertzik of Highland Park, former president of the Jewish Community Center and a member of its board since 1970, will be honored for 30 years of leadership at the JCC's annual meeting on June 16. Pertzik was instrumental in the establishment of the JCC's cultural arts and education departments and in the development of its endowment program. He is an attorney with Moore, Costello & Hart.

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Still growing at 125. Sister Mary Regina McCabe, a Visitation graduate of 1924 and the oldest member of the Visitation Sisters of Holy Mary community that operates the Mendota Heights school, pulled the ceremonial ribbon off Vis' new \$3.2 million gymnasium and arts complex on May 23. The 32,000-square-foot facility is the newest addition to the 125-year-old school for girls from prekindergarten through high school. McCabe served as the honorary chair of the capital campaign that built the complex. At left with microphone is Brenna Murphy, Visitation Class of 1966, who chaired the capital campaign.

RELIGIOUS NOTES

Minnehaha United Church of Christ, 4001 S. 38th Ave., Minneapolis, will offer an intergenerational Bible school on Wednesday evenings from June 16-30. This year's theme is "Being an Anti-Racist Church." The sessions will begin at 6:15 p.m. with meals from the African-American, American Indian and Latino traditions. Bible study, storytelling, crafts and worship will follow. To register, call 612-729-7556.

Bridges for Peace will host its annual conference from Thursday through Saturday, June 17-19, at the Temple of Aaron Synagogue, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. The conference will include guest speakers, panel discussions, music, workshops and worship. For information, call 612-898-3306. The registration deadline is June 15.

A **healing service** will be held at 7:30 p.m. Monday, June 21, at St. Therese Church, 1928 Norfolk Ave. Presiding will be the Reverend Gerald Foley. For information, call 651-690-1501.

Second Church of Christ, Scientist, 2315 Highland Pkwy. has merged with First Church of Christ, Scientist and has taken on the latter's name as of June 1. Sunday services and Sunday school times have been changed to 10:30 a.m. The Wednesday testimony meetings remain at 7:30 p.m. Second Church has been located in Highland for 78 years. First Church has been holding services in an office complex in Energy Park since moving from Summit Avenue three years ago. The new entity will continue to operate two Christian Science Reading Rooms in St. Paul, at least through the summer. They are located at 247½ S. Snelling Ave. and at 56 E. 6th St.

The **summer solstice** will be celebrated by Minnehaha United Church of Christ at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, June 20, at Hiawatha Park in Minneapolis. Participants are asked to bring flowers to share. For information, call 612-729-7556.

A **blessing of the animals service** will take place at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 16, outside Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave. For information, call 651-699-6886.

"**Celtic Voice, Celtic Vision: A Celebration of the Celtic Soul**" will take place from July 15-18 at the College of St. Catherine. The cost is \$10 for the keynote presentation only or \$105-\$195 for other options. Prices increase after June 11. For information or to register, call Wisdom Ways at 651-690-8830.

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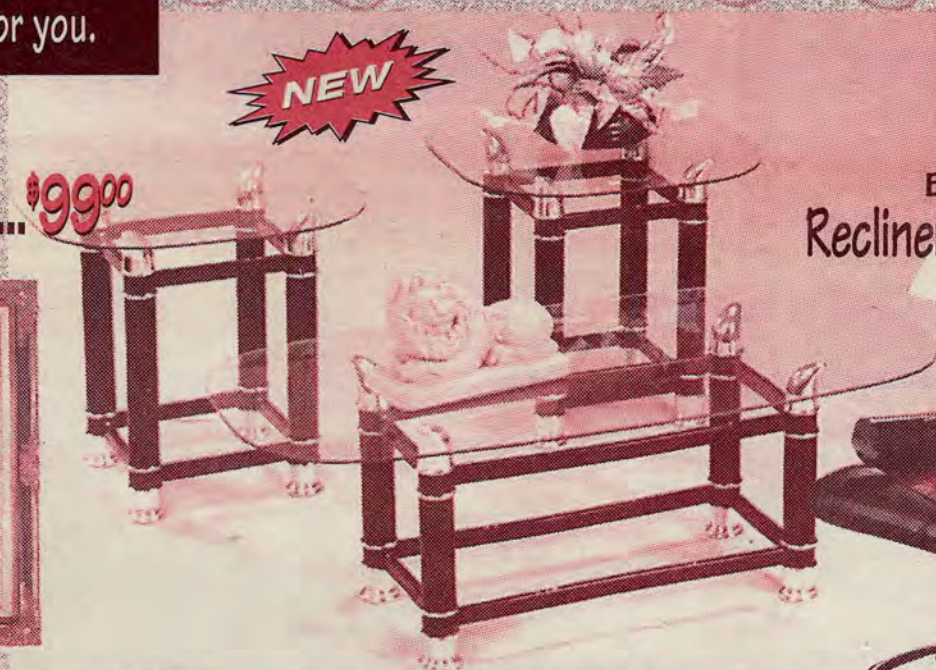
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Wednesday/June 9

"HEALTHY BODY IMAGE: Teaching Kids to Eat & Love Their Bodies, Too!" a workshop to teach adults to help kids accept their naturally diverse body shapes and learn to be motivated to eat well and be active for health and satisfaction rather than to manipulate body size, will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 this evening at the Sweatshop, 167 N. Snelling Ave. The cost is \$30, or \$25 for members. To register, call 651-646-8418.

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will meet at 7:00 this evening at the Longfellow Community Center, 36th Ave. and 35th St., Minneapolis. This month's meeting will focus on water gardening in containers. There also will be a silent auction to raise funds for speakers.

Friday/June 11

"A CENTURY OF QUILTS," the Midwest's largest annual quilt show, will take place beginning today at three different sites: the Radisson Hotel and Radisson Inn in St. Paul and also in the Landmark Center. Hours will be from 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. today, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. tomorrow and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$6.00 for one day, or \$12 for a multi-day pass.

Saturday/June 12

A CIVIL WAR WEEKEND will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. today and tomorrow at Historic Fort Snelling. The role that Fort Snelling played in the war will be portrayed. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. For information, call 612-726-1171.

A CHILDREN'S DAY will be held from 1:00 to 4:00 this afternoon at the Sibley Historic Site, 1357 Sibley Memorial Hwy., Mendota. Children can try using 19th-century writing tools. There also will be guided tours of the houses. The cost is \$3.00 for adults, \$2.50 for seniors and \$1.50 for children ages 6-16. Call 651-452-1596.

SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL RESCUE will hold a pet adoption day from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today at Petco, 2277 Ford Pkwy. The adoption fee includes a free initial vet exam and an ID tag. For information, call 651-771-5662.

A BRUSH DROP-OFF SITE will be set up today in the employee parking lot at Liberty State Bank, 176 N. Snelling Ave. Drop-off hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Brush does not include tree roots, stumps,



Web of life

Expo Magnet School held a dedication ceremony last week for the new tile wall that now graces its front lobby. More than 300 tiles were decorated by students to represent the food chain and their respect for the planet. Annie Craddock, 9, is pictured pointing out the tile she made to her sister Cara. Photo by Terry Faust.

leaves or grass. The cost is \$5.00 per carload and \$15 per truckload. Call 651-221-4462.

"RALLY 'ROUND THE FLAGS," a 90-minute tour of the Civil War artifacts decorating the state Capitol, will begin at 1:30 this afternoon. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. For reservations, call 651-296-2881.

Sunday/June 13

"GERMAN DAY" will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. today at the Germanic-American Institute, 301 Summit Ave. There will be bands, dancers, children's games, food and a special 250th Goethe birthday exhibit. Admission is free. For information, call 651-222-7027.

WALKING TOURS of Irvine Park will be given at 1:30 this afternoon beginning at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. For reservations, call 651-296-8760.

Monday/June 14

"LIBRARY KIDS ARE COOL," a program that encourages children to read, will begin today and continue until August 31 at all St.

Paul public libraries and the Minnesota Children's Museum. Prizes and free performances will be featured.

Tuesday/June 15

A HOMEOWNERSHIP WORKSHOP will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 this evening and will continue on June 17 and 22 at Concordia University. First-time homebuyers will learn about the rights and responsibilities of homeownership. The sessions are free, but there will be a \$20 fee for a credit report. To register, call 651-222-0311.

Wednesday/June 16

A FAMILY FUN DAY will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. today at Historic Fort Snelling. Visitors will learn more about 19th-century technology and can participate in frontier-era activities. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and free for children ages 6-15.

Thursday/June 17

"LANDSCAPING WITH NATIVE Minnesota Plants" will be offered by The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library and the St. Paul Neighborhood Energy

Consortium at 7:00 this evening and on Wednesday, June 23, at the Highland Park Library, 1974 Ford Pkwy. Participants will receive a list of appropriate plants and where and how to plant them. To register for this free program, call 651-222-3242.

LA LECHE LEAGUE (St. Paul Metro chapter) will meet at 7:00 this evening. The discussion will focus on nutrition and weaning. For meeting location information, call Gail at 651-227-3887.

Friday/June 18

THE MINNESOTA STREET ROD Association will hold its 26th annual "Back to the 50s" car show at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Hours will be from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. today and tomorrow and from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday. There will be hundreds of exhibits, free concerts, the Cruise-N-Art craft fair, a swap meet and food and games. There will also be a special kick-off event from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thursday, June 17, in Rice Park with the classic cars surrounding the park. The cost for the car show is \$8.00 for adults and free for children 12 and under. Call 651-641-1992.

TOURS of the state Capitol will be given at 7:00 and 8:00 this evening. Guides will discuss the growth of the Twin Cities during the territorial days and visitors can climb up to the rooftop to view the Quadriga, or the golden horses. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. For information, call 651-296-2881.

A SPEECH will be given by Dr. Thomasye Williams, an eye witness to civil rights history in Birmingham, Alabama in 1963, at 9:00 this morning at William Mitchell College of Law, 875 Summit Ave. Williams will speak and lead a discussion after viewing Spike Lee's documentary "4 Little Girls." Admission is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students with valid ID. For reservations, call Ethnic Communication Arts at 651-699-9233.

Saturday/June 19

THE GREAT RIVER ROAD GARAGE Sale, featuring 25 plus families, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. today between 31st and 36th streets and Edmund Boulevard and 44th Avenue in Minneapolis. For information, call 612-721-7891.

A GARAGE SALE will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. today in the Lexington-Hamline neighborhood. Maps of the sale

The Kiosk/see next page

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Snelling-Hamline COUNCIL CAPSULE

URBAN GARDEN GAIT

The fifth annual Urban Garden Gait, a walking tour of gardens in the Snelling-Hamline neighborhood, will be held on Sunday, July 18. The event is organized by neighborhood residents as a fund-raiser for the community council. Tour-goers will be able to view a wide range of gardening and greening efforts, including water gardens and a Japanese garden. Garden Gait guides will be available for \$4.00 beginning June 26 at Cahoot's Coffee Bar, 1562 Selby Ave. For information, call the Snelling-Hamline office at 651-644-1085.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

A spring cleanup will be held for residents of the Snelling-Hamline, Lexington-Hamline and Merriam Park neighborhoods from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 12, in the Midway Shopping Center parking lot. Items that will be accepted include construction material, scrap metal, reusable clothing, household goods, bicycles, TVs, VCRs, lawnmowers, computers, carpeting, fluorescent bulbs and furniture. No hazardous waste or compost will be accepted.

The cost is \$5.00 per carload, \$10 for wagons and minivans, and \$15 for pickups. Larger loads will be charged by size. Extra fees will be charged for some items, including \$2.00 per mattress or box spring; \$5.00 per TV, VCR or other electronic item; and \$5.00 per couch. A free reuse area will be set up where neighbors can exchange usable goods. For information, call 651-644-1085.

THE FREE MARKET

The Free Market connects people who have things they want to give away with those who are looking for free things. Items in high demand include appliances, electronics, furniture, musical instruments, pet supplies and recreational equipment. Those who are looking to give or receive may call the Free Market at 651-222-7678 or find it on the Web at www.twincitiesfreemarket.org.

PRIDE IN NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING

Property owners in the Snelling-Hamline and Merriam Park neighborhoods may now apply for grants to make exterior home improvements through the Pride in Neighborhood Housing project. Eligible projects include painting and the replacement or repair of siding, roofing, foundations and porches. Approved applicants may receive a grant totaling 15 percent of the project cost, up to a maximum of \$1,500.

Pride in Neighborhood Housing is funded by a \$150,000 grant from the St. Paul Sales Tax Revitalization program. The aim of the project is to build pride in the neighborhood by improving the housing stock.

Applications may be received by fax or mail by calling Sherilyn Young at 651-644-1085 or via the Internet at www.freenet.msp.mn.us/ip/nhoods/stpaul/mpcc.

The Kiosk

from previous page

locations will be available for distribution the morning of the sale at 1191 Ashland Ave. Call the Lex-Ham office at 651-645-3207.

Sunday/June 20

"FATHER'S DAY at the Ramsey House," a special tour led by costumed guides to learn about the role of fathers in the Victorian Era, will be held today at the Alexander Ramsey House, 265 S. Exchange St. Tours will be given at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15 (free admission for fathers with a child's paid admission). For reservations, call 651-296-8760.

A SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION will take place from 6:00 to 10:00 this evening at Hidden Falls Park. The celebration will take place in the shelter at the bottom of the hill near the north entrance. Participants should bring their own picnic supper. There will be music and movement, a fire ring and roasting of marshmallows. There will be a \$2.00 fee for the pavilion rental. Call 651-649-0510.

Tuesday/June 22

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening in the O'Shaughnessy Auditorium parking lot at the College of St. Catherine for a walk around the neighborhood. For information, call Chuck at 651-644-7502.

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ON THE TOWN

Rock of ages

In the shadow of the Grand Canyon, a father leads his son to adulthood and in the process closes the book on his own childhood

by Bob Gilbert

When Brandon Patton graduated from Central High School in 1991, his father, Michael Quinn Patton, took him on a backpacking trip to the Grand Canyon. The elder Patton wanted to celebrate his son's transition into adulthood with 10 days in the wilderness.

The trip inspired the elder Patton to write *Grand Canyon Celebration: A Father-Son Journey of Discovery*, a book published this month by Prometheus Books. Its 359 pages recount their hiking by day through one of the world's geological wonders and their discussions at night about what it means to be a man.

The Pattons were guided on their trip by Malcolm Gray, a family friend and Jungian therapist who had hiked the canyon many times. Gray played the part of tribal elder during the discussions each night. His mysticism served as a counterbalance to the elder Patton's more scientific leanings.

Patton, who lives in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood, has a Ph.D. in sociology and makes his living writing academic texts. According to him, stories depicting positive relationships between sons and fathers are rare in Western literature. Zeus and Cronos, Oedipus and King Laius, Luke Skywalker and Darth Vader—so many myths recount how the father abandons or abuses the son, he said. In

fact, the only positive father-son myth that Patton knows of is the Arthurian legend of Lancelot and Galahad, but even then Lancelot does not realize until later that the young man he is mentoring is his son.

"I was looking to articulate that fathers and sons could have an ongoing, positive

relationship—that we didn't have to anticipate all the conflicts that mythology says will inevitably arise," Patton said. "I was deeply involved in raising Brandon right from the start, even though his mother and I divorced when he was little. At the time of the Grand Canyon trip, I was struggling with the transition from having a father-son relationship to an adult-adult relationship with Brandon. What does a modern, humanist father tell his son about being a man?"

The challenge for Patton was to create a ceremony for initiating his son into adulthood. Patton's own father had not initiated him into adulthood and as far as he knew American culture did not offer any examples.

The Pattons' nightly discussions in the Canyon centered on issues raised by Robert

Bly in his book *Iron John*, which at the time was breaking new ground in understanding the psychological wounds of manhood. *Iron John* tells about a boy's coming of age. An age-old story that was recounted by the Brothers Grimm, it engendered lively debate among the three hikers about leaving home,

the search for identity, finding a mate and going to war, among other issues.

Patton was majoring in the sociology of youth at the University of Cincinnati in the 1960s when a youthful counterculture was flowering in America. Later, as a Peace Corps volunteer in the West African country of Upper Volta (now Burkina Faso), he witnessed the ceremonial initiation of young men of the Gourma tribe. Patton promised himself then that if he ever had a son

he would do something to recognize his coming of age.

It took Patton six years to write his book. As the author of five academic texts on qualitative research, he found it difficult to shed his academic background and write with genuine feeling about his relationship with his oldest child. His next hurdle was to

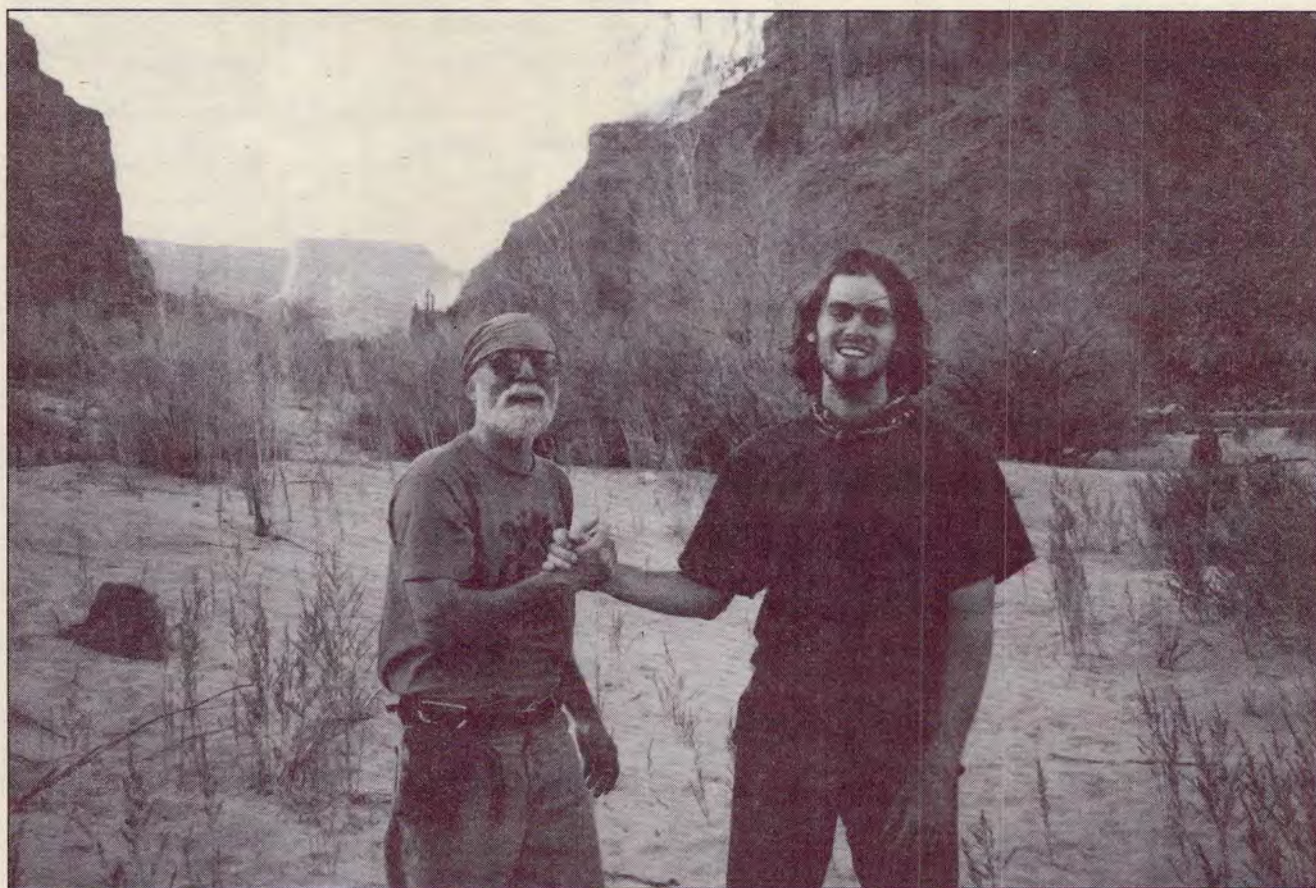
find a publisher. The book crosses so many subject matters—the men's movement, mythology, wilderness, parenting, psychology and history—that many publishing houses did not know what to make of it.

Patton sent a copy of the manuscript to Bly, who wrote back that he liked the way Patton describes Brandon and his generation as different from previous generations in their sense of self and their destiny and their ability "to put down their feet and pick them up more quickly."

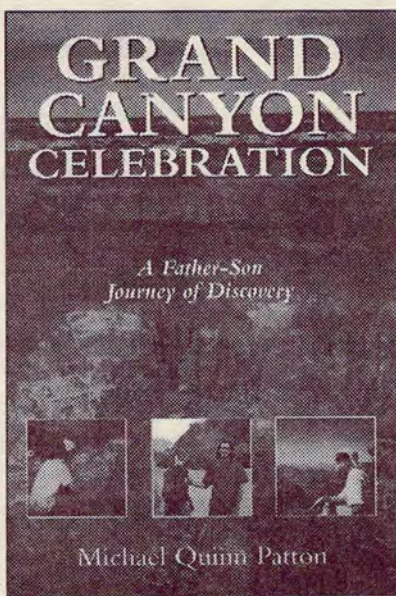
Brandon, now 26, is living in Boston and supporting himself as a musician. Patton has since taken his second son, Quinn, to the Grand Canyon and is taking his daughter, Charmagne, a 1999 Central High School graduate, on the same trip in mid-June.

Patton did not realize it at the time, but by conducting Brandon's passage into manhood he was also healing the wounds he carried from his relationship with his father. With the luxury of 10 full days together uninterrupted by the usual responsibilities of life, Patton was able to tell his son about his own mother's death when Patton was 12 and about his father's efforts to keep Patton and his three siblings together.

"There were several places on the trip where I was trying to explain my relationship to my father but also trying to explain it to myself," Patton said. "Unlike my relationship with Brandon, the relationship I had with my



Father and son Michael and Brandon Patton saw their relationship in a new light at the bottom of the Grand Canyon.



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Music

The Cabaret Pop Series will continue with "Melodies of Romance," a concert featuring conductor and saxophonist Matt Catingub and pianist John Bayless, along with the Minnesota Orchestra and the Metropolitan Boys Choir, at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, June 9-10. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$35, call 612-371-5656.

"Sounds of New Orleans" will be performed by the Minnesota Orchestra at 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Friday, June 11, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$35, call 612-371-5656.

Flash Cadillac will perform with the Minnesota Orchestra at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, June 12, and at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, June 13, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$35, call 612-371-5656.

One Voice Mixed Chorus, the Twin Cities' gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community chorus, will perform "Voices of the People" at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, June 12, and at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, June 13, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Auditorium at Macalester College. Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. For ticket information, call 612-344-9663.

The Singer's Voice, an autobiographical music series hosted by Dan Chouinard, will continue at 8:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Dakota Bar & Grille in Bandana Square with the following: Katy Elsen on June 13; and Tommy Nystrom on June 20. Call 651-642-1442.

The Graz Gregorian Chant Schola will perform at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, June 13, at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Admission is \$10, or \$6.00 for students with ID. Call 651-228-1766.

BOZO allegro, a 9-piece rock-jazz fusion big band, will perform at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, June

13, at the Dakota Bar & Grille in Bandana Square. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, free for kids.

The Minnesota Orchestra and the Cabaret Pops Chorus will perform the best of Rodgers & Hammerstein and Jerome Kern at 11:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. Friday, June 18, at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19, and at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, June 20, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$38, call 612-371-5656.

Dance

The Twin City Ballroom, 265 W. 7th St., will hold dances, featuring the waltz, foxtrot, tango, hustle, Latin and swing dancing, from 9:00 to 10:30 p.m. on Sundays during June and from 10:00 to 11:30 p.m. on Fridays during June. Lessons will be given an hour before the dances. Admission is \$5.00. Call 651-771-4718.

"Swing Night in the Caves" will take place from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. every Thursday at the Wabasha Street Caves, 215 S. Wabasha St. The line-up will include the following: the Moonlight Serenaders on June 10; and Beasley's Big Band on June 17. Free dance lessons will be given at 6:15 p.m. Admission is \$6.00. Call 651-224-1191.

A special "Swing Night" will be held from 8:00 p.m. to midnight on Friday, June 18, at the Wabasha Street Caves, 215 S. Wabasha St. The Moonlight Serenaders will provide the music for the dance. Dance lessons will be given at 7:15 p.m. Admission is \$8.00. Call 651-224-1191.

The TGIS Singles Social Club will hold a smokefree singles dance at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at the Thunderbird Hotel, 2201 E. 78th St., Bloomington. The Underbeats will provide the music for the dance. Admission is \$10, or \$8.00 for those arriving before 9:00 p.m. Call 651-644-3443.

ON THE TOWN briefly



Pangea World Theater will perform *Bearing Witness* at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, June 10-13, in the Hennepin Center for the Arts, 528 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. The play follows Ahn and Aslé on their journey to discover solutions for their society torn apart by war. Pictured is Zeke Shepherd-Lykken. For tickets, priced at \$12 and \$14, call 612-343-3390. Photo by Jim Clifford.

Books

The Hungry Mind Bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will host the following readings at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted): Jennifer Price will discuss her book *Flight Maps: Adventures with Nature in Modern America* on Wednesday, June 9; Melissa Bank will read from her short story collection *The Girls' Guide to Hunting and Fishing* on Thursday, June 10; Scott Weidensaul will discuss his book *Living on the Wind: Across the*

Globe with Migratory Birds on Tuesday, June 15; A. Manette Ansay will read from her novel *Midnight Champagne* on Thursday, June 17; Karen Donovan will read from her book of poems *Fugitive Red* on Friday, June 18; Lawrence Weschler will read from his new book *Boggs: A Comedy of Values* at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 19; and Robert Wolf will discuss his book *An American Mosaic* on Tuesday, June 22. Call 651-699-0587.

Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080 Ford Pkwy., will offer the

following events for adults: the Mystery Bookclub will discuss Ron Handberg's *Dead Silence* at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 9; "Venetian Vacation," a travelogue by Dr. Francesca Santoro L'hoir, will be given at 1:00 p.m. Sunday, June 13; the Wednesday Night Bookclub will discuss Italo Calvino's *If On a Winter's Night at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 16*; Dr. Walter Benjamin will share his Depression Era memoir *The Magical Years* at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 17; and a summer solstice celebration will be held at 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 21. Admission is free. Call 651-690-9443.

Julian C.R. Okwu will discuss his book *As I Am: Young African American Women in a Critical Age* at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, June 17, at the Hallie Q. Brown Community Center, 270 N. Kent St. Call 651-699-0587.

Dennis M. Clausen will read from *Prairie Son* at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at the Hamline Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. The book is a memoir of Clausen's father, Lloyd, and takes place in rural Minnesota from 1920-40. Call 651-222-3242.

William Kent Krueger will read from his new novel *Boundary Waters* at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, June 20, at the St. Clair Broiler, 1580 St. Clair Ave. For information, call 651-699-0587.

Family

The Children's Theatre Company, 2400 S. Third Ave., Minneapolis, has opened *Once on This Island*, a musical fable, a story within a story about an unexpected moment in time on an island in the French Antilles. Performances will continue through June 12. For tickets, priced from \$10 to \$25, call 612-874-0400.

"Baby Dinosaurs" has opened at the Minnesota Children's Museum. There will be auto-

mated dinosaurs in a swampy, prehistoric environment. Children can take a swamp walk, dig for dinosaur bones and fossils and build a dinosaur out of a bag of bones. The exhibit will remain on view until September 6. Call 651-225-6000.

Theater Mu has opened *Tales of the Starfruit Tree*, a production featuring two special folk tales from the traditions and fables of Southeast Asia, in the Weyerhaeuser Auditorium at Landmark Center. Performances will be given at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays through Saturdays and at 3:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays until June 12. For tickets, priced at \$9.00 and \$12, call 651-224-4222.

The Red Balloon Bookshop, 891 Grand Ave., will offer the following activities for children at 10:30 a.m. on Saturdays: the Melpomene Institute will present a female athlete to read stories about physically active girls to children ages 7-11 on June 12; Kevin Lewis' *Chugga-Chugga Choo-Choo* will be read at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 19; and Earl Fleck will present his new novel *Chasing Bears: A Canoe Country Adventure* at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, June 19. Call 651-224-8320.

History Hijinx programs for children ages 3-11 will be offered from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The line-up includes the following: make a 3-ring recipe binder and sample some soul food on June 13; and view the Minnesota Historical Society's vast collection of Munsingwear lines and decorate a pair of boxers for yourself on June 20. Call 651-296-6126.

Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080 Ford Pkwy., will offer the following activities for children: Father's Day will be celebrated with songs, stories and treats at 10:00 a.m. Monday, June 14; and summer solstice will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. Monday, June 21. Call 651-690-9443.

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Film

"Cinema With Passion," a festival of Hong Kong films, will take place at midnight on Fridays and 11:00 a.m. Saturdays at the Riverview Theatre, 3800 S. 42nd Ave., Minneapolis, and at midnight on Saturdays at the Oak Street Cinema, 309 S.E. Oak St., Minneapolis. The festival will continue with the following films: *Game Kids* at midnight on June 12; *The Casino Raiders* at midnight on June 11, at 11:00 a.m. on June 12, and at midnight on June 19; and *BioZombie* at midnight on June 18, and at 11:00 a.m. on June 19. Admission is \$6.00. Call 612-376-7715.

Exhibits

Michael Blaser's most recent work "St. Paul on the Mississippi" has opened at the Captured Visions Gallery, 201 N. Western Ave. For information, call 651-228-9579.

"With Two Voices: Selections of Western and American Indian Art from the Harmsen Collection," an exhibit of art from one of the nation's leading collections of Western Americana, has opened in the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center at the University of St. Thomas. Admission is free. For information, call 651-962-5560.

"Altered Images," an exhibit of photographs by Ann Ginsburgh Hofkin, Ann-Marie Rose, Dorothy Schlesselman and Mary Tortorici, has opened in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at the College of St. Catherine. Call 651-690-6644.

"Minnesota Territory, Remembered and Recorded," an exhibit featuring paintings, drawings, prints and books from 1849 to 1900, has opened at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. The exhibit will be

open for viewing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays until September 25. The cost is \$1.00.

"Vessels," an exhibition of wood-fired stoneware and porcelain by Stephen Lloyd and raised copper by Timothy Lloyd, has opened at the Raymond Avenue Gallery, 761 Raymond Ave. The exhibit will remain on view until June 16.

"Revelations of the African Potter," an exhibit featuring historical and contemporary ceramic vessels from 12 different cultures of the African continent, has opened at the Northern Clay Center, 2424 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis. The exhibit will remain on view until June 12.

"Inherent Order," an exhibit of paintings by Dani Roach, has opened at Groveland Gallery, 25 Groveland Terrace, Minneapolis. An exhibit of new paintings by Fred Anderson has also opened in The Annex. The exhibits will remain on view until June 19. Call 612-377-7800.

An exhibit of black and white photos by Walter Kvasnik taken in Beijing, China, is on display at the Buffet King in Sibley Plaza.

"Wings of Paradise," an exhibit featuring 62 paintings of the world's most beautiful silk moths by John Cody, has opened in the University of Minnesota's Bell Museum of Natural History, 10 S.E. Church St., Minneapolis. The exhibit will remain on view until August 29. For information, call 612-624-7083.

An exhibit of watercolors by Betty Falk has opened at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. For information, call 651-698-0751.

"Hmong Artistry," an exhibit of more than 60 textiles featuring the elaborate needlework of Hmong textile artists, will open Thursday, June 10, in the Minnesota Museum of American

Art at Landmark Center. The exhibit will remain on display until August 22. For information, call 651-292-4355.

"Not Your Ordinary House," an exhibit of drawings and photographs of Minnesota concept houses, will go on display Thursday, June 10, at the Ramsey County Historical Society in Landmark Center. The exhibit will remain on display throughout the summer. Admission is free. Call 651-222-0701.

"A Gathering of Stitches," an exhibit of historic and contemporary quilts and garments that include quilting, will open with a reception from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, June 13, in the Goldstein Gallery in McNeal Hall on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota. The exhibit will be on display until September 12.

Theater

Tossin' Junk, a new play by Meg Grundy, has opened at the Jungle Theater, 2951 Lyndale Ave., Minneapolis. This moving, yet hilarious play is a portrayal of three women seeking dignity and friendship on the fringes of our country's poverty belt. Performances will continue until June 20. For tickets, priced from \$16 to \$22, call 612-822-7063.

Penumbra Theatre Company, 270 N. Kent St., has opened Ntozake Shange's classic choreopoem *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*. Performances will continue through June 27. For ticket information, call 651-224-3180.

Theatre in the Round Players has opened George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House* in their performance space at 245 Cedar Ave., Minneapolis. Performances will be given at 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 7:00 p.m. Sundays until June

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27 (the last performance will be given at 2:00 p.m.). For tickets, priced at \$14, call 612-333-3010.

The University Theatre has opened the Tony Award-winning musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* in Rarig Center, 320 S. 21st Ave., Minneapolis. For ticket information, call 612-624-2345.

The Guthrie Theater Lab has opened Stephen Sondheim's musical thriller *Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. Performances will continue through June 20. For tickets, call 612-377-2224.

Park Square Theatre has opened *The Heiress* in the Historic Hamm Building, 20 W. 7th Place. The play, based on Henry James' 1850 novel *Washington Square*, is about Catherine Sloper and her father, a wealthy, domineering doctor, who tries to protect her from the man of her dreams who he believes is only after her money. Performances will be given on Thursdays through Sundays until June 27. For tickets, priced from \$9.00 to \$24, call 651-291-7005.

The Golem, a theatrical production based on the Jewish folktale of a supernatural being made of clay, has opened at Theatre de la Jeune Lune, 105 N. First St., Minneapolis. Performances will be given at 8:00 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 7:00 p.m. on Sun-



Peter Halverson, left, Norah Long and Mark Calkins star in North Star Opera's production of *Song of Norway*, the Broadway operetta based on the life and music of the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. Performances will be given at 8:00 p.m. June 19, 23, 25 and 26 and at 3:00 p.m. June 20 and 27 in the E.M. Pearson Theatre at Concordia University. The production will include Lise Houlton's Minnesota Dance Theatre performing sequences from the *Peer Gynt Ballet* and pianist Charles Kemper playing Grieg's renowned Piano Concerto in A Minor. For tickets, priced from \$16 to \$32, call 612-343-3390.

days until June 27. For ticket information, call 612-333-6200.

Miss Saigon will open at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, June 12, at the Ordway Music Theatre. The Tony Award-winning musical tells the story of love and self-sacrifice between a young Vietnamese girl and an American soldier at the time of the fall of Saigon in 1975. Performances will continue until July 3. For tickets, priced from \$30 to \$70, call 651-224-4222.

Evita will open Tuesday, June 22, at the Historic Orpheum Theatre. Performances of Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical masterpiece will be given at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday and at 2:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday until June 27. For tickets, priced from \$24.50 to \$57, call 612-673-0404.

Etc.



"Into the Light," a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender arts and culture series co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center and the St. Paul Companies, will take place through June 29 at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. As a part of the series, Sharon Isbin will perform at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 10, in the 3M Auditorium at the Minnesota History Center. A film festival will also be

part of the series. A series pass to all events will be available for \$45, or \$35 for JCC members and employees of the St. Paul Companies. Call 651-698-0751.

Auditions for the Lexington-Hamline Community Theater's summer production are scheduled for Saturday, June 19, and Monday, June 21, with call backs on Tuesday, June 22. The location and time are yet to be determined. The play also has not been determined, but performance dates have been set for August 5-7 and 12-14 in the E.M. Pearson Theater at Concordia University. For information, call Sarah Pearson at the Lexington-Hamline office at 651-645-3207.

Pattons celebrate father-son journey /from page 27

father was never about love. It was about respect.

"My father's generation was defined by a sense of duty," he said. "He did his duty in World War II, with a job he didn't like and with his family. Everything he did was based on that. Duty is not something our generation

responds to. My father's life was framed by duty—he did it every step of the way—and he wanted to be respected for that, not loved."

Writing his book and taking those trips to the Grand Canyon not only cemented his relationship with his children, Patton said, but brought a

sense of closure to his relationship with his father, who died in 1989.

Michael and Brandon Patton will talk about *Grand Canyon Celebration* and their experiences together in a free public program at 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 14, at Unity Church, 732 Holly Ave.

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SPORTS

CODY'S CORNER

TOM CODY



New stadium: Let's not shoot for the moon

Let me make this perfectly clear: I am not in favor of higher taxes, but I would like to see the city of St. Paul spend some of our money for a new outdoor baseball stadium downtown. My property taxes are already astronomical, so I figure at least a portion of them ought to be spent on something I want.

There are plenty of places where the city could tighten its belt to help pay for a new ballpark. For starters, we could forget about sweeping the leaves off the streets in the fall. People could rake and haul the leaves to the county compost sites themselves. Plowing the streets in the winter also appears to be beyond the capabilities of the St. Paul Public Works Department, so let's sock the money away for a new stadium instead. Spring comes every year and the streets will eventually clear themselves.

However, the main purpose for building a new stadium should not be keeping the Minnesota Twins in the Twin Cities. With the newly emerging definition of "major league market," it's time to admit the obvious: Minnesota is no longer major league. A nice AAA minor league club will eventually be brought to the Twin Cities, bringing us full circle over the course of the last 50 years. Our parents got by with the Saints and Millers and it's beginning to look as if we'll have to do the same.

I applaud St. Paul Mayor Norm Coleman for his efforts to help revitalize downtown with baseball, but I think he should be shooting for a scaled-down version of a major league park, something in the neighborhood of 25,000 seats. The St. Paul Saints could move into the new park until that day in the not-too-distant future when the Twins start loading up the U-hauls.

NBA FINALS

As usual, you read it here first. Check out the comments I made in my February 3 column: "The Pacers have assembled a cast of talented players, perhaps enough to win it all this summer. Indy's foe in the Eastern Conference finals should be the Knicks." Certainly, Patrick Ewing's injury to his Achilles' heel put an end to any drama that this series held. Larry Bird's team will now have to figure out an answer to the Twin Towers in San Antonio. This should be a well-contested championship series. It seems to have "seven games" written all over it. Tim Duncan will be too tough for Rik Smits. I don't see how the Spurs can lose.

The big loser will be NBC-TV. The network has to be seething, with two of the worst television markets in the NBA playing for the title. The games will draw interest from the

Cody's Corner/see page 34

Once bitten, twice shy

CDH's storybook season falls short of happy ending

by Bill Wagner

Late last month, the Cretin-Derham Hall baseball team was on the verge of breaking a national record for winning streaks and making a bid for its fourth straight state championship. By last week, all the Raiders had to look forward to was a long summer.

CDH lost its first game in more than two years in an 11-10 squeaker to Hastings in the section 3AA semifinals on May 27 at Midway Stadium. The Raiders, playing their worst baseball of the season at the worst possible time, then lost to Hastings again in a 10-0 rout in the section final on June 2.

For CDH (24-2), this is the first time in five years that the team will not be competing in the "big show." The Raiders have made 14 state tournament appearances in the last 20 years and hold the record for state titles with nine. For Hastings (20-5), it will be the first state tourney appearance in 32 years.

The May 27 loss to Hastings left the Raiders two victories shy of the longest prep baseball winning streak—68, set by Archbishop Molloy of New York from 1963-66. CDH is tied for the second longest winning streak with Hill of Oklahoma City, which won 66 in a row from 1952-54.

After its first loss to Hastings, CDH climbed back through the losers bracket and defeated Hastings 10-6 on June 1 to force a one-game showdown for all the marbles the next afternoon. But the Raiders, whose pitching had been depleted by the previous night's victory, was never in it. Hastings hit the ball well in the title game and barely broke a sweat while taking advantage of six CDH errors.

"When you beat that team, you beat the best," said Hastings coach Mike Loudon after the win. "I thought we were pretty evenly matched. They made some errors, but I thought that we hustled them into the errors a little."

CDH coach Jim O'Neill gave the victors their due. "They're a really aggressive team that puts the ball in play and makes things happen," he said. "I think



CDH junior Rob Kimlinger takes a cut at a pitch from Hastings' Jason Stouffell in the early going of the Raiders' 10-0 section final loss. Photo by Ben Ogren.

they have a good chance to win the state title if they get the pitching."

Despite amassing some awesome numbers during the year, CDH was a young ballclub. Thirteen players graduated from last year's state championship team, and the added pressure of the streak had started to weigh heavily on the Raiders shoulders.

"It isn't an excuse, but I think the kids did start to feel the pressure," O'Neill said. "If you would've thrown that situation (the streak) at last year's team, I don't think it would've been a problem, but we had a lot of new guys this year. They need to grow from this and I think they will. I was proud of the way we came back after the first loss to Hastings. We showed that we could play with them. But I think Hastings was a better ballclub than we were."

O'Neill tried to give the Hastings batters something new to look at by starting right-handed knuckleballer Joe Mauer in the title game. Mauer, a stand-out catcher for CDH, was replaced after the third inning when Hastings went up 4-0 on two hits and three errors. Dan Salmen was pulled after 1½ innings after Hastings scored three more runs on two hits and two more errors. The game was called on account of the 10-run rule

in the sixth after J.P. Gagne intentionally loaded the bases. A high chopper to short and a wild throw to first drove in three more runs.

Throughout it all, CDH could never get its bats going against Hastings' Jason Stouffell, who gave up only three hits in six innings.

"The night before, we did what was necessary to survive," said O'Neill, who used both of his top pitchers—Gagne and Jon Marzolf—in the June 1 victory.

The Raiders had staged a comeback in that win, Marzolf pitched superbly in relief and the CDH batters got to Hastings' right-handed closer, Jeff Taffe, for four big runs. However, the Raiders did not have enough gas left in the tank the next day.

O'Neill praised his pitching staff. None of the senior foursome—Gagne, Marzolf, Salmen or Matty Demarus—had pitched in their junior years, but all posted extraordinary numbers this season. Marzolf had a 9-0 record with an ERA under 1.00, Gagne was 6-1, and Salmen and Demarus were both 4-0.

"When you consider how inexperienced we were in pitching at the start of the year, what these guys accomplished was something," O'Neill said.

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The River Road Run Motorcycle Tour to benefit multiple sclerosis will be held on August 21-22. Participants will begin at the state Capitol and will follow a scenic route through Minnesota and Wisconsin. More than 170 riders participated in last year's tour. A pre-ride meeting will be held on July 15. For information, call 612-335-7900.

The Great River Ride, a fund-raiser for the American Lung Association, will be held the weekend of August 13-15. Bicyclists will ride a paddle boat from St. Paul to Hastings and then pedal their way to Winona. Participants must raise at least \$300 in pledges. For information, call 1-800-642-5864.

Local finalists for the 23rd annual David Winfield Minority Student-Athlete Awards include Jaraux Knighton and Wazira Withers of Central, Niambi Shakir of Highland Park and Phillip Archer of Cretin-Derham Hall. The awards banquet was held on June 6.

The "Tour de People," a 6-mile bike ride to encourage mental health, will begin at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 12, from the Wabun Picnic area at Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis. Check-in and a continental breakfast will begin at 9:00 a.m., followed by greetings from Congressman Bruce Vento. A picnic lunch will follow. There also will be free bike tune-ups, T-shirts and door prizes. The ride is sponsored by People Inc., which

is celebrating its 30th year of promoting independence for people with mental illness and other disabilities. To register, call 651-774-0011.

Open swimming will be available at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and 7:00 p.m. Wednesdays beginning the week of June 14 at Heritage Middle School in West St. Paul. The cost is \$3.00 for the one-hour sessions. Aqua exercise, lap swimming, water walking and water exercising also is being offered. For information, call 651-905-4094.

The St. Paul Blackhawks' U-13 boys soccer team will hold a fund-raiser from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 15, at the El Amancer restaurant, 194 Concord St. The event will include dinner and a silent auction. The cost is \$12. For information, call Nancy Mason Hauser at 651-224-1475.

Cretin-Derham Hall has added three new coaches for the coming school year. Eric Mjølness will coach girls gymnastics, replacing Laurie Jennrich. He has coached the last three years with the Spirit Gymnastics Club and has been an assistant at Hamline University. Jim Anderson will coach swimming and diving, replacing Jan Turham. He is a former MIAC champion and national finalist, and is head coach of the Twin/Gopher Swim Team. Rick Kuehlwine will coach volleyball, replacing Theresa Canton. He has been an assistant coach at Simley High School for the past five seasons and runs the Northern Heat Volleyball Club.

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CLIP 'N SAVE



Matt Birk (pictured) of the Minnesota Vikings and Corbin Lacina of the Carolina Panthers are putting their money where their muscles were formed with the purchase of the former Positive Health Company on St. Clair Avenue. Photo by Terry Faust.

NFL linemen Birk, Lacina team up to open Total Athlete fitness center

by Tom Cody

When Matt Birk and Corbin Lacina head off to their respective NFL training camps next month, they will be leaving behind something for local athletes who are interested in following in their footsteps.

The two offensive linemen recently opened the Total Athlete training and nutrition center on St. Clair Avenue. They bought the former St. Clair Theater building from their own trainer, Roger Erickson, whose Positive Health Company has operated there and in the space next door for the past decade.

Birk and Lacina met Erickson early in their high school football careers at Cretin-Derham Hall and have been disciples of his ever since.

Lacina was a 125-pound guard on the freshman team when he started working out with Erickson in 1985. Next month, he will be starting his seventh year in the NFL with the Carolina Panthers. He is still playing guard, but now tips the scales at 305 pounds.

Birk began working out with Erickson eight years ago. He was 175 pounds at the time. He is now a 315-pound lineman in his second year with the Minnesota Vikings.

"Roger was a major factor in where I am today," said Birk, who parlayed a football scholarship into an economics degree from Harvard. "He's been the main influence in my training. I had weights in my garage in high school, but I had no idea what to do with them. Roger channeled my energy and made my workouts smarter."

Birk said he wanted to get involved in the fitness business to spread the word and make weight training available to more people. "Corbin and I worked out together in the off-season with Roger," he said. "One day we started talking about buying the place from him. We thought it would be beneficial for both parties."

Erickson, who has been training athletes for the past 25 years, is considered one of the country's top speed, strength and conditioning coaches. His list of clients have included high school players as well as many college, Olympic and professional athletes. He opened Positive Health in December 1989 in the small shop adjacent to the old St. Clair Racquetball Club and moved into the larger space five years ago.

"He had a small gym," said Birk, "and he sold some nutritional supplements, but it was a ham-and-egg, here-and-there deal. You

never knew what might be available. He was just one guy and was limited in what he could do. His value has always been his philosophy and his ability to speak to teams and individuals. He's still going to be running that part of the training operation for us. He was way overextended before. With us in the store, he'll be much more available."

"I was tired of being stuck behind the counter," admitted Erickson. "I'm much more interested in getting out on the street than in running a store. I'm going to start work on an athletic training book and video now. This was perfect timing for me and I'm hoping that it'll work out well for Corbin and Matt. It seems to be a perfect match."

"I'd always had the desire and commitment to play professional football," said Lacina, "but Roger set me straight on what I had to do to accomplish my goals. He's kept me healthy for all these years—that's probably been the number one thing for me. He taught me a lot about nutrition and weight work."

"A lot of young kids are taking stuff to get strong these days and they don't know anything about what they're doing," he said. "We gave a seminar at a local high school last month. I was talking about proper nutrition and I asked 100 kids if they'd eaten breakfast that morning. Four raised their hands."

Birk said that Total Athlete is not in the business of peddling dangerous dietary supplements to youngsters in search of a quick fix. "We'll carry everything (even the controversial androstenedione used by slugger Mark McGwire), but we won't sell the stuff to people who don't know what they're doing," he said. "Most of these supplements are ineffective for people under 30. We push sound nutrition here, not pills."

Total Athlete also offers a plyometric flexibility program to increase athletic ability. "Very honestly, I'm not in the NFL because of my size," Birk said. "I've always had good feet and athletic ability."

Total Athlete will stress lateral movement, flexibility, foot speed, coordination and vertical jumping during its first plyometrics camp from June 15-July 15. The low-impact sessions will be offered for 1½ hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays at a cost of \$289.

"We're looking to give athletes a quicker first step," Lacina said. "The camp will involve a lot of running and jumping. Weight training is not all about lifting weights."

Total Athlete/see next page

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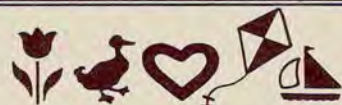


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Cody's Corner: UST takes second in nation

/from page 31

hard-core hoops junkies across the nation, but that'll be it.

SILVER SALUTE

The University of St. Thomas baseball team came home from Salem, Virginia, with the second place trophy from the Division III World Series. "The final game (a 1-0 loss to North Carolina Wesleyan) was spectacular," said coach Dennis Denning. "They got a run off (UST ace Chris) Olean in the first, then neither team could score. We hit a shot with the bases loaded and one out in the ninth that turned into a 5-4-3 double play. It was a great experience out there. The defense for all the teams was really good and the pitching was great. We made all the plays and we hit the ball. That's what was frustrating. We did everything we could do to win the thing, but we got beat."

Denning said his players were devastated after the game, so he took them out for a bowling tournament afterward. "I think it helped get them some perspective," he said. Seven seniors graduate off Denning's club, but one of them will see further action soon.

"Olean was drafted by the Brewers and I think he'll do well for them," Denning said. "He has the good fastball, but everybody at this level does. What sets him apart is the good split-finger pitch. He's unhittable when he's got that going."

STREAKING

After being eliminated from the playoffs, Cretin-Derham Hall baseball coach Jim O'Neill has now had a little time to digest the impact of the 66-game winning streak the Raiders put together over the last three seasons.

"What's probably most surprising about the streak is that we never had any big comeback victories," he said. "We always seemed to get ahead and stay ahead. Ninety percent of the time we were facing the opponent's best pitcher, but we couldn't put our best guy out there every game. It's hard to put a streak together in baseball because the game isn't always fair. You can play well and still lose, and the breaks

seem to even out over time."

O'Neill said one of the strangest games the Raiders won during the streak was the 1998 Class AA state championship game against Eden Prairie. "We'd hit 50-plus home runs that season, but all we got were a few singles against them," he said. "We won 2-1 and scored both runs off passed balls."

Ironically, O'Neill said, CDH's biggest comeback in the past three years was probably the streak-ending, 11-10 section semifinal loss to Hastings on May 27. "We were down 11-4," he said. "A bunch of crazy things happened. They scored two runs when our catcher couldn't find the ball. They had seven infield hits. We had three guys thrown out at the plate. Yet we still rallied for six runs and had the bases loaded with nobody out in the seventh."

"And yet we didn't score. I don't remember the last time that happened to us."

PREP STATEMENTS

• Jacob LeDuc of Central, Brian Geraty of St. Thomas Academy and Brian Bohlig of Cretin-Derham Hall qualified for the state golf tournament by placing in the top five at the Section 3AA tourney. The tourney will be played on June 8-9 at Bunker Hills in Coon Rapids.

• The state tennis meet was staged last week. St Paul Academy won the Class A third place team trophy, beating Litchfield 4-3 in the final match. The Spartans got wins from singles players Dan Stenson and Mike Mohan, and the doubles teams of Zach Pettus-Peter Stenson and Jeff Sanders-Charlie Dickenson.

Sibley won its first-round Class AA state tennis match against Hutchinson 6-1, but then dropped its next two. Winners for the Warriors vs. Hutch were Brian Schway, Kevin Lindgren, Alan Garelick in singles, and Eric Milos-Paul Craighead, Jon Holman-Ashish Shaw and Matt Samelian-Steve Schmell in doubles.

Cretin-Derham Hall was also strongly represented, with two doubles teams competing at state. The Pat Marzolf-Tim Johnson tandem won the Section 3AA title, while the Nick Hartzler-Mike Gallagher duo also qualified. Individual section champion Connor McKim from CDH made it to state as well. All of the Raiders were eliminated in their first-round matches.

• The state track meet was held last Saturday at the Blaine national Sports Center. Chris Holmes of Sibley took home an individual gold medal in the girls event, winning the pole vault with a career-best 14-foot-3 effort. Other local participants included Jaraux Knighton of Central (long jump), Natasha Holt of Sibley (200M), Carla McHattie of Central (400M), Laura Ashley of Sibley (800M), Kate Albrecht of Highland Park (1600M), Lauren Pickett of Central (3200M) and Heather Hamilton of Central (300M hurdles).

In the boys meet, local participants include Joe Thomas of STA (high jump), Tony Decker of STA (shot put), Dan Knappmiller of Central (800M), Paul Fischer of Central (3200M) and Ryan Hover of STA (110M hurdles).

Total Athlete

/from previous page

Birk and Lacina also are hoping to conduct seminars throughout the metro area, speaking to college and high school teams about their program.

"That's the toughest part about this," Lacina said. "Every time we speak to 100 athletes, there are only maybe a couple who will be interested in developing their abilities to the next level. We're looking for the people who are willing to make a commitment to work hard."

"Total Athlete will really be a plus for local athletics," said Andy Bischoff, a CDH football coach who specializes in weight training. "These two guys are living proof of what they're selling. I think they'll enhance the athletic performance of the people who are willing to listen to them."

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651 696-0855 \$219,900



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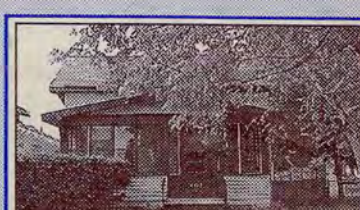
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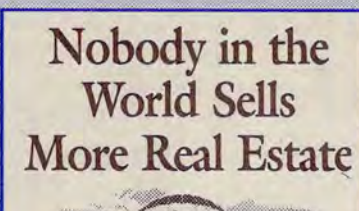
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1004 Bayless. \$177,900. Storybook St. Anthony Park story-and-a-half home, lovely woodwork, gorgeous yard, perfect sunroom addition. Don't wait.

651 646-2100 \$177,900



Highland - Reduced!

Great Highland Park starter with 3 BRs and 2 baths. Features include: lower level family room, new roof, and a nice fenced back yard. Now only \$129,900!

651 696-0879 \$129,900



Longfellow

Classic Longfellow expansion bungalow. This charming home has natural woodwork, hardwood floors and a living room fireplace. Call for a private showing.

651 696-0879 \$92,900



Close to Phalen!

Outstanding 2-story with walk-up attic. Charm galore... nat. wdwk., hardwood floors, built-in buffet and a newly remodeled kitchen! Call today for a private showing.

651 696-0879 \$92,900



First Choice Offering!

Lexington Riverside — mint, remodeled and all updated south-facing condo! Newer carpet, newer appliances and all neutral decor. Must see to appreciate!

651 696-0888



Mission Style 2-Story

Original character & light fixtures w/tasteful updates. Handsome DR built-in & wdwk., new kit. w/Mission cabinets. Updated plumbing & bath. 2-car garage. Perennial gardens.

651 222-5541 \$114,900



Mac/Grove 3-BR

Wonderful 2-story home full of 1920's charm, large living room with stone fireplace, hardwood floors, formal dining room with built-in buffet, ready to enjoy.

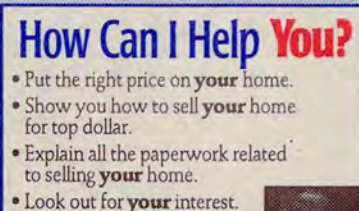
651 696-0849 \$179,900



Arts & Crafts Bungalow

New listing. Fabulous woodwork including beamed ceilings, bookshelves, & built-in buffet. Spacious 2-BR, nat. birch kitchen, updated ceramic bath, FP, private yard, patio.

651 696-0849 \$179,900



How Can I Help You?

- Put the right price on **your** home.
- Show you how to sell **your** home for top dollar.
- Explain all the paperwork related to selling **your** home.
- Look out for **your** interest.
- Bring **you** only qualified buyers.
- Find you the best home for **your** money.
- Look after **your** needs and wants.
- Represent **you**.



Gloria Smith
651-699-4269



View from the Deck

2-bedroom plus townhouse in Ivy Falls overlooking park, well maintained, decorated in the 90's.

651 696-0851 \$164,900



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