

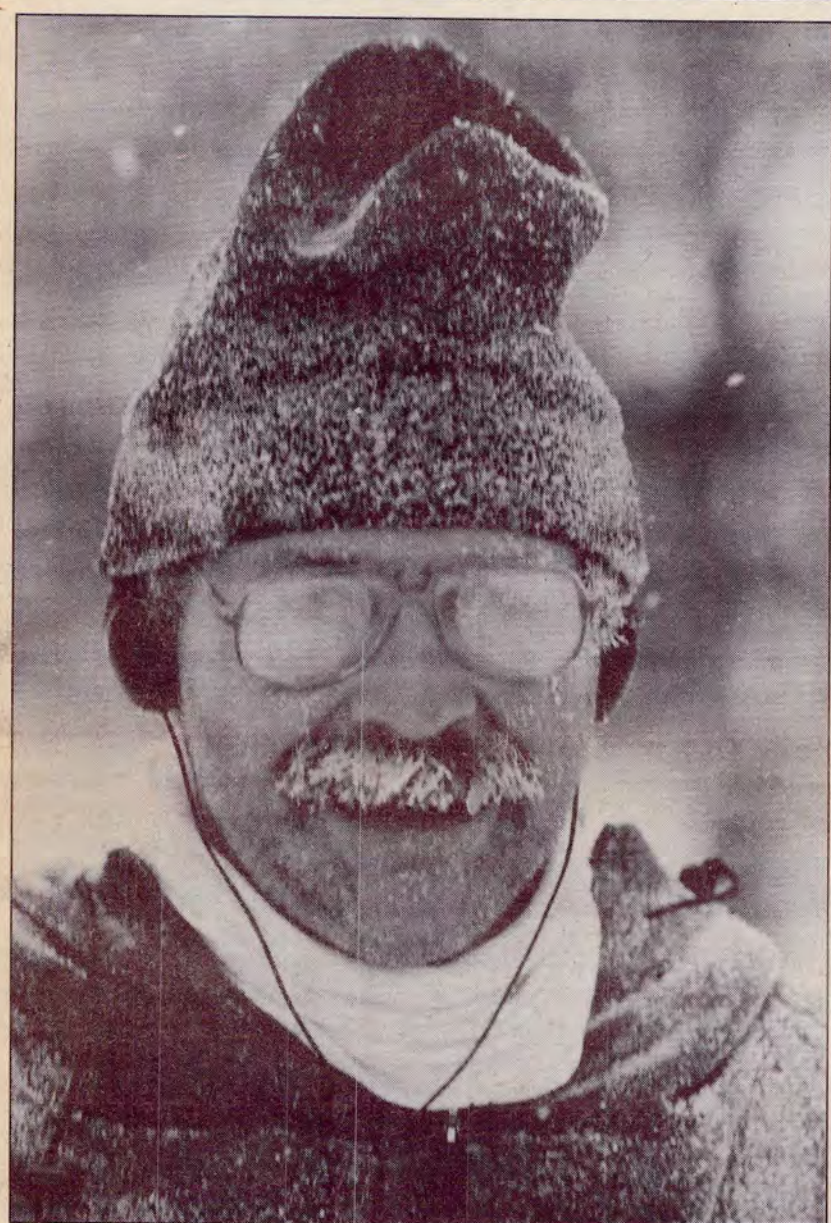


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A new year's resolution. Neither snow nor cold nor frosty lenses could keep David Brueggemann from his appointed 5-mile jog through his Macalester-Groveland neighborhood. Photo by Mike Long.

Councils cowed by controversy

Residents hope to rein in Ayd Mill Road debate

by Jane McClure

With the release of the Ayd Mill Road draft environmental impact statement (EIS) expected on January 27, neighborhood councils on either side of the 2.7-mile roadway have been planning the format for the meetings they will hold to discuss the document. The councils are proceeding carefully, hoping to avoid the bitterly divisive debate that soured a Snelling-Hamline Community Council meeting on Ayd Mill Road last fall.

"This is one of the biggest issues that we will be voting on," said Summit Hill Association president Molly Coskran. "It has implications for much of our neighborhood."

City Council members Jerry Blakey, Chris Coleman, Mike Harris and Jay Benanav have all said they will vote to release the EIS on January 27. (Each represents a neighborhood affected by the future of Ayd Mill Road.) All four cited the need to get the document out as quickly as possible for public comment.

Blakey said he will ask fellow council members to consider bringing in a mediator if the debate over Ayd Mill Road becomes too heated. Blakey has already hosted several meetings between opposing factions in the

Ayd Mill Road debate.

"Those meetings were so contentious, I'm concerned that the controversy will dominate the process," he said.

Six options are on the table for Ayd Mill Road. One group, Neighborhoods First!, prefers the option that would remove the roadway and replace it with a linear park. Another group, Citizens for Safe Streets, supports the three options that would reconstruct Ayd Mill Road with a direct connection to I-35E on the south and an indirect connection to I-94 on the north. A fifth option would leave Ayd Mill Road as it is—a four-lane divided road with no freeway connections. The sixth option would provide greater accommodation for buses along with ramp meters, electronic directional signs and other traffic control measures.

Though Benanav supports the release of the EIS, he has reservations about the study itself. He wishes the EIS would have considered how Ayd Mill Road fits into the larger regional transportation system and what effect the various alternatives would have on economic development and housing.

"I'm concerned that any decision made on the future of Ayd Mill Road be based on the most

up-to-date traffic, transit and land-use planning data," he said.

Once the EIS is released, it will be available for reading at St. Paul public libraries. The City Council and Planning Commission intend to hold a joint public hearing on the EIS sometime in March.

All comments made at the hearing or in writing will be forwarded to the Ayd Mill Road Task Force, a group of local residents and business people who have been reviewing alternatives for the roadway since 1993. The task force will recommend an alternative, as will the mayor and Planning Commission. The City Council will then select an alternative or alternatives to be included in a more detailed, final EIS.

Nine district councils are represented on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force. One of them, Snelling-Hamline, has already voted to support a linear park. The Hamline-Midway Coalition, West 7th-Fort Road Federation and the Lexington-Hamline Community Council have not yet scheduled meetings on the Ayd Mill EIS.

The other five councils have scheduled meetings as follows:

- The Highland District

Ayd Mill Road/see page 4

State legislators seek common ground in tripartite gov't

by Chris Smith

Debate over budget surpluses and education are expected to dominate the 1999 session of the Minnesota Legislature.

Local legislators detected a slower-than-normal start to the session as lawmakers got acquainted with the new division of power at the Capitol, but they all see big issues looming.

"The change in control of the House of Representatives will take some getting used to," said DFL state Representative Michael

Paymar of District 64B, referring to the new Republican majority. "It's been a little strained the first week of the session, but that's to be expected."

Freshman Republican Representative Tim Wilkin of District 38A believes there will be cooperation. "Tri-partisan is kind of a new word, but we're learning it," he said, referring to the parties that control the

House, the Senate (DFL) and the governor's office (Reform).

"I think we all agree there'll be a rebate of the surplus and some kind of tax cut. Just what it'll look like is anybody's guess."

With Governor Jesse Ventura proposing a rebate based on sales taxes and cuts in vehicle

registration fees, Republicans focusing on income tax cuts and DFLers on property tax cuts, "you have a classic three-legged stool," Paymar said.

"What usually happens is there's some kind of compromise, but I'm hoping that we'll have substantial property tax reform," said DFL Representative Matt Entenza of District 64A. "The property tax is not related to the ability to pay."

Wilkin favors an income tax rebate and

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City, county lay out strategy for lobbying '99 Legislature

Local governments seek the state's help in paying for pollution cleanup, light-rail transit, new housing and soccer fields

by Jane McClure

More money for housing, corrections, polluted sites, trees and soccer fields tops the wish list that St. Paul and Ramsey County officials will be submitting to the 1999 Minnesota Legislature.

The St. Paul City Council adopted its legislative agenda on January 6. The County Board has adopted much of its agenda, but has yet to consider proposals regarding housing, transportation and taxation. City and county officials will not adopt a set of transit goals until early February when a recommendation is expected on a preferred light-rail transit corridor. (See story on page 9.)

The city and county will request more money for new and rehabilitated housing through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency and the Metropolitan Council's Livable Communities Program. Without state assistance, the city and county cannot convince

private housing developers to take on inner-city projects, said Rafael Ortega, chair of the Ramsey County Board.

"Housing has to be something we really push for at the Legislature," said City Council member Chris Coleman. He and other council members have offered to speak to legislators about the city's housing needs, which range from low-income housing to more upscale townhouses for senior citizens.

"Housing is a priority statewide," said Bill Huepenbecker, who heads the city of St. Paul's lobbying efforts.

St. Paul is now considering dedicating one-half of its Sales Tax Revitalization (STAR) fund to housing. If the city does that, state Senator Randy Kelly of the East Side has offered to seek matching funds from the state.

Ramsey County is seeking the state's help in meeting unfunded mandates imposed in previous legislative sessions. "These new laws have a cost and we need help bearing those costs," Ortega said.

"One of the 1998 laws that affected us was the changes in maximum sentences for DWI offenders," said Terry Lindeke, who heads the county's intergovernmental affairs staff. Longer sentences and stiffer penalties for drunk drivers have created an additional \$12 million in costs for counties statewide, \$2.2 million in Ramsey County alone. At a minimum, the county wants the state's help in covering the costs of electronic alcohol monitoring, additional incarceration and ex-

tended probation, Lindeke said.

Ramsey County is seeking an additional \$6 million from the state to help cover the costs of providing services to the many felons who move into the county from other jurisdictions. Those costs are related to parole and probation services and incarceration when felons offend again.

The county also is seeking \$450,000 for early intervention programs for children ages 8-11. The purpose of those programs is to make existing juvenile crime prevention efforts more effective and strengthen partnerships among community agencies. The programs would establish new citizen review panels to aid in the prevention of child abuse.

The city and county together are requesting additional funds for the Weed and Seed economic development program and the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.

The city and county are also pushing for the establishment of a \$6 million statewide program that would offer matching grants for new soccer fields. Both the city and county budget for 1999 includes funds for new soccer fields. Nicknamed Mighty Kicks, the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission (MASC) program would be patterned after MASC's Mighty Ducks program, which helped fund the new rink at the Highland ice arena.

St. Paul is supporting a request by the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities and the League of Minnesota Cities for \$4 million

for new trees across the state. St. Paul lost several thousand trees in last summer's wind storms.

City officials are also pushing for several law changes and new programs that would address pollution cleanup, commercial and residential development, parks and mass transit.

The county and city are supporting legislation that would create a permanent state fund for the cleanup and redevelopment of polluted sites. Although the state currently allocates about \$15 million annually for these so-called brownfields, county officials contend that four times as much is needed. "We're just taking too long to clean up these sites," Ortega said. "We can't wait for the federal government to do it."

The city would also like to see the repeal of a law passed by the 1998 Legislature that would change the makeup of the STAR board in 1999. State Senators Dick Cohen and Sandy Pappas of St. Paul introduced the bill last year to establish a 17-member board with one member from each of the city's district council areas.

The STAR board, which is appointed by the mayor and City Council, currently includes representatives of district councils, neighborhood businesses and business associations, foundations, banks, private developers and community development corporations. City Council members said they did not request the change and did not understand its intent.

Legislature: State surplus, education expected to dominate debate/from page 1

permanent rate cut and the elimination of the "marriage penalty" on income taxes. "I think the rebate should be as high as \$1.5 billion," Wilkin said. "Some of the surplus money last session was spent to pay for projects instead of bond for them, but it could be cheaper to use low-interest bonds and return the money to consumers to pay off their high-interest debt."

Skoglund said that any income tax rebate or cut would benefit the wealthy most. "People who don't have much income—people like farmers, unskilled workers and retirees—wouldn't benefit," he said.

"I'm interested in something that will be equitable throughout the state and avoid the imposition of a federal tax on the money," said District 64 DFL Senator Dick Cohen. "The sales tax proposal looks like it might do that."

"What's clear is that there'll be a substantial rebate coupled with real tax reform," Wilkin

said. "Everyone seems to agree on that."

Ventura is expected to release his budget proposal on January 26. Most area lawmakers say they will be guided by that, and that the budget they pass will be no larger.

Wilkin said the budget may need to shrink from the last biennium. "A lot of surplus money from a few years ago was just spent," he said. "It artificially inflated the budget and drove up spending at a higher rate."

Wilkin, who has procured a spot on the House Tax Committee, said he is carrying a proposal that will require a three-fifths majority to raise taxes. "That way, it'll be harder for future Legislatures to undo the tax cuts we enact this session," he said.

The lawmakers are all expecting a call for increased spending on education, especially primary education, given Ventura's strong statements on reducing class sizes.

"I'd expect to see some funding for K-12

education and possibly for higher education," Cohen said, "but I wouldn't expect much of anything beyond that."

"I'm guardedly optimistic that we'll be able to work with the governor to get more resources for St. Paul's public schools," Entenza said. "But I'm worried that the Republican majority will say that city schools have too much money compared to suburban schools. It's a false comparison. St. Paul, Minneapolis and Duluth have special needs because of the high number of poor children in their districts. Equalizing funding means properly recognizing the extra challenges St. Paul has."

Paymar is worried that Ventura's anti-day-care statements may blossom into proposals to cut programs like Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE). "I was hoping this would be the year we saw ECFE get the increase it deserves," he said. "It's such a good program for families. There are some battles we'll be

fighting this session."

Paymar, Entenza and Skoglund will also make funding for higher education a priority. "I'm concerned about (Ventura's) statements on cuts in student aid for college," Skoglund said. "We have to recognize that that is the best return on our dollar we'll ever see. We all benefit from better-educated citizens."

"For Minnesota to remain a state that attracts employers, we need to make sure that all the kids who want to go to college can go," Entenza said. "We have to work with the governor to make him understand that it's an investment in the future and not a subsidy for people who don't want to work."

"I'm excited about the session," Paymar said. "I really think we have a great opportunity here. I think Minnesotans every now and then want to shake things up, and that has happened. All organizations need a shake-up from time to time."

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Editors John Wadell
Dale Mischke
Copy Editor Pat Iversen
Production Artists Shirley Heyer
Craig Schuster
Advertising Manager Dennis W. Stern
Advertising Sales Tim Carroll
Susan Dodd
Classified Ad Manager Suzanne Glidden
Classified Ad Sales Mary Helen Pates
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Contributors Tom Cody, Dick Gordon, Janet Lunder Hanafin,
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Steve Michaels, Dave Page, Cathy Condon, Chris Smith, Terry
Faust, Kristine Heykants, Leslie Walters, Victoria McCurdy, Iric
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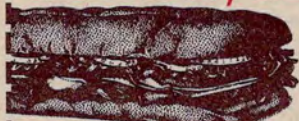


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Ayd Mill Road /from page 1

Council will discuss its process for choosing a preferred alternative for Ayd Mill Road on Thursday, January 21. It has tentatively scheduled a public hearing for Thursday, February 18.

• The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will hear presentations on Ayd Mill Road by city staff, Neighborhoods First!, Citizens for Safe Streets and South Lexington Parkway residents at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 21, at the Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.

The council will hold a public hearing on February 18 at a location to be announced. The format for the hearing will be hammered out this week by a council committee. Council members will rank each Ayd Mill Road alternative by preference on February 18.

• The Summit Hill Association will host an informational meeting on Ayd Mill Road at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, at the Linwood Recreation Center, 860 St.

Clair Ave. Summit Hill residents and business people are invited to comment on the EIS at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25, at Linwood. The SHA will then rank the alternatives by preference.

• The Merriam Park Community Council will hold a community forum on Ayd Mill Road at 7:00 p.m. Monday, February 8, at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. Following a presentation on the alternatives, the council will hear testimony from Merriam Park residents and business people and, if there is time, others. The community council will not vote on an alternative until March 10 at the earliest.

• A committee of the Summit-University Planning Council will discuss Ayd Mill Road on January 21. The full board will discuss its process for choosing an alternative during its meeting at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 26, at 660 Selby Ave.

City pays \$10,000 to business isolated by new Selby Bridge

The St. Paul City Council approved the payment of \$10,000 in damages on January 13 to a property owner affected by construction of the Selby Avenue Bridge.

In her claim against the city, Frances Wells said access to her commercial and residential property at 1477-1479 Selby Ave. was impeded by the construction of the bridge in 1993.

Wells claimed that the

city's decision to vacate Pascal Street when the new bridge was built denied her right to reasonable access to her property. To reach the property now from Selby Avenue requires traveling south and getting on northbound Ayd Mill Road. And because the new bridge is longer and wider than the old one, on-street parking in front of Wells' property was eliminated.

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Ordinance aims at licensing more of city's 40,000 dogs

The St. Paul City Council passed an ordinance on January 13 allowing veterinarians, pet stores and pet grooming salons that sell city dog licenses to keep the \$10 fee that they collect for first-time licenses. Fees for license renewals still have to be turned over to the city.

Veterinarians and pet stores have been selling dog licenses since 1996, but in the past they only kept \$1.50 of the fee. The paperwork involved discouraged many businesses from becoming deputy dog license vendors, according to Robert Kessler, director of the city's Department of License Inspections and Environmental Protection.

"Our goal is to get as many dogs licensed as possible," Kessler said. There are now about 40,000 dogs in St. Paul, but only 7,400 of them are licensed. Mailings, brochures and inserts in water bills have not significantly increased the number of licensed dogs, according to Kessler.

With more dogs licensed, it will be easier for Animal Control staff to return dogs to their owners, Kessler said, and fewer stray dogs will have to be put to sleep. The city expects annual revenue from dog license sales to increase by \$37,000 within two years.

Dogs that aid people with disabilities will continue to be issued licenses free of charge if the dog owner provides proof of the dog's training.

Hearing slated to determine parks director requirements

Qualifications for a new director of St. Paul Parks and Recreation will be the topic of a public hearing at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 3, at City Hall. The St. Paul City Council is studying a city ordinance that would alter the nature of the director's position. If all goes as planned, the ordinance would be adopted on February 10.

The city is seeking a replacement for long-time parks superintendent Robert Piram, who retired in December. Under the proposed ordinance, the title would be changed from superintendent to director. It also would give the mayor authority to appoint the director with the approval of the City Council.

Parks and Recreation used to be under the

umbrella of larger city departments, most recently Community Services. Mayor Jim Scheibel eliminated the Community Services director post several years ago, but the charter was never changed to turn Parks and Recreation into a true city department.

Although the switch to an appointed directorship is not expected to be controversial, some people are questioning the requirements for the post. Currently, the requirements call for the director to have a bachelor's degree and five years of public or private managerial experience in a large service organization.

Ortega is chosen to chair Ramsey County Board in '99

Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael Ortega of District 5 has been chosen to chair the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners in 1999. He succeeds District 4 Commissioner Susan Haigh.

Ortega said that as board chair he will focus on public safety, property tax reform, corrections and welfare-to-work programs. "Transit is also going to be a critical issue," he said.

Ortega hopes to broaden local interest in the Riverview Corridor transit study that is now being carried out from downtown St. Paul to Highland Park. The study is examining light-rail transit and an upgraded bus system as possible ways to increase mass transit in the area.

Ortega said he is also looking forward to working with the Highland District Council on the West 7th Gateway project. He wants to see how improved transit and a transit hub may fit into plans to calm traffic and improve the streetscape at West 7th Street's western end.

Another issue confronting the County Board is unfunded state mandates, Ortega said. That is especially true in criminal justice, where longer sentences for convicted offenders are putting a squeeze on Ramsey County's finances and jail space, he said.

Ortega was elected to his second four-year term as a county commissioner in 1998. For the past three years, he chaired the Ramsey

NEWS BRIEFLY



Rafael Ortega

County Regional Rail Authority and represented Ramsey County on the Metro Light Rail Transit Board. District 1 Commissioner Tony Bennett of Shoreview is taking Ortega's place on the rail authority and LRT board.

Council approves final plat for Lexington townhouses

The St. Paul City Council approved the final plat on January 13 for the Lexington Commons townhouse project near St. Clair Avenue and Lexington Parkway. The decision means Mendota Homes can now begin selling the 10 townhouses currently under construction.

Lexington Commons has generated controversy in the neighborhood since the spring of 1997. Neighbors opposed to the project, claim it is incompatible with surrounding homes and will put more traffic on already-congested streets.

Kathleen Marx, who lives near Lexington Commons, asked the city to not act on the plat until certain issues could be resolved. Marx said the developers have promised to provide alley maintenance and off-street parking. She also raised concerns that alley

access to the townhouses may be used as a shortcut by drivers seeking to avoid the Lexington-St. Clair traffic light. "We're concerned that these issues are not legally enforceable," Marx said.

Mendota Homes owner John Mathern said the company will honor its agreements, but they did not have any direct bearing on plat approval.

Sibley Manor youth program receives partnership grants

The St. Paul City Council approved an additional \$67,000 in Civic Organizations Partnership Program (COPP) grants on January 13. The money, which comes from federal Community Development Block Grants, will go to eight additional programs.

Two of the programs are offered through the West 7th Community Center. The center's Kids Klub will receive \$10,000, and an outreach and youth program that provides a variety of services for residents of Sibley Manor Apartments in Highland Park will receive \$13,500.

The \$67,000 was in addition to the \$398,634 in COPP funds that were divvied up among 28 organizations in December. The only Villager area program recommended for funding in that round was a \$4,000 request for the Macalester-Groveland Community Council's youth program.

SHA, Mac-Groveland support ban on violent video games

A citywide effort to remove violent video games from St. Paul recreation centers got a push on January 14 when the Summit Hill Association voted to add its name to a letter asking for the games to be banned. The Merriam Park Community Council agreed to sign the letter in December. Other area district councils have received the letter but have not voted on the matter yet.

The letter states that some recreation centers are providing video games that call for players to "kill" or "wound" as many opponents as possible.

The letter also calls for the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation to look at developing violence prevention policies.

News briefs compiled by Jane McClure.

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Richfield • 66th & Penn
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VIEWPOINT

MISCH-MASCH

MICHAEL MISCHKE

Your primer on local education

The Villager's annual special section on education, which appears in the edition you hold in your hands, seems to become more and more challenging for us to produce with each passing school year.

To do a creditable job, we try our best to cover the local waterfront in the news we report about school issues, programs and services. The good news and the bad news, in this case, are one and the same: The waterfront seems to stretch longer and longer with each special section we produce. The welcome expansion of open enrollment, magnet and charter schools and other educational opportunities presents a bigger challenge not only for our staff, but for the parents and students who are confronted with choosing from a far wider array of school options.

It's our hope the six-page special section that begins on page 17 of this issue offers you some insight into the range of school choices available locally, the issues that confront both parents and students alike, and the assistance that is readily at hand in meeting the educational needs of you and your family. If you care to, let us know what you think.

Pinned against the boards

The modified lease between the city of St. Paul and the Minnesota Wild may indeed have been the best deal that could be hammered out under the circumstances. It's the circumstances themselves that ought to worry St. Paul taxpayers.

The St. Paul City Council, on a 5-1 vote, approved the amended lease after a council-commissioned report by Conventional Sports and Leisure International indicated that "overall the benefits of the amended lease outweigh the negative aspects of the changes." The changes were worked out over the past nine months between the Wild and Mayor Norm Coleman's staff before being suddenly sprung on the council two days before Christmas. The mayor wanted the council to act within a week. The council instead hired the consultants and laid the matter over until January 13—precious little time to review such an extraordinarily complicated deal with such far-reaching implications.

On the other hand, the City Council was pinned against the boards. The city-owned Civic Center has already come down and the \$130 million city-owned Arena Formerly Known as Civic is already going up. The council was hardly in a position to negotiate such issues as strike insurance coverage and arena naming rights at this stage of the game without putting taxpayers at greater risk than they are.

Super silliness

Sure, it was a disappointing end to a season that nearly everyone expected would last another two weeks with a trip to Miami for the Super Bowl. But come on now. The wringing of hands and gnashing of teeth that we've witnessed in the past 24 hours on the heels of the Vikings' 30-27 overtime loss to the Falcons should strike us all as more than a little extreme. My word, with the size of the headlines, the full-color photos of weeping fans and players, and the pages and pages of doleful post-mortems in Monday morning's papers, you'd have thought the Apocalypse was upon us.

I can get as worked up as the next guy at kick-off time on game day, but professional football is, after all, only a game. My guess is the fans' despondency at the abrupt end to the season has less to do with their longing for a Super Bowl championship than it does with the prospect of having little to look forward to between now and the return of warm weather. Doesn't say much about Minnesotans' vaunted love of winter, does it?

So go get the cross-country skis out of the garage rafters, plan a weekend excursion to a bed and breakfast on the St. Croix, start hitting the gym like you resolved to do this year, read a good book, head for the ski hills. The end of the Vikes' season, entertaining as it was, means we can now get back to life as we know it here on the frozen prairie. Enjoy it.



Inequities abound in issuing pistol permits

by John R. Shoemaker

Should the Legislature amend the state's concealed pistol law? That's an issue on which numerous political candidates took stands during the election campaign. Lacking in the debate was an examination of how the current system "works." As an attorney who has represented citizens with a wide variety of safety needs, I've witnessed the arbitrary and capricious decisions made on weapon permit applications and the lack of uniformity and fairness in the process.

Though the current permit law requires uniform standards so that citizens are treated fairly, the fact is that acquiring a permit for a concealed pistol depends to a large degree on the whim of the local official who reviews the application.

The law requires an applicant to show a "personal safety hazard," but it leaves that phrase undefined. Local officials have the discretion to approve or deny permits and a citizen may well qualify in one city or county and not qualify in another where the term "personal safety hazard" is interpreted differently. The result is the unequal application of the law and the possible violation of our state Constitution's guarantee of equal protection under the law.

Examples of unfair treatment abound. Take the case of a citizen whose application is granted one year and then renewed in following years. After years of lawful conduct, he or she receives a form letter from a local official denying the annual permit renewal request because "your reason for a permit is no longer valid." In this case, the law and statewide standards haven't changed; only the perspective of the local official has.

Recently, it was discovered that a city official was granting permits to individuals who did not even reside within his jurisdiction. Another example of abuse concerns the timely processing of applications. The current law states that failure to either grant or deny an application within 21 days "shall be deemed to be a grant." Yet some local officials sit on applications well past the 21 days and, when confronted, refuse to acknowledge the failure or to issue the permit.

State law provides that local officials may charge \$10 for processing permit applications; some officials charge \$15. State law does not authorize officials to collect applicants' fingerprints; some officials do it anyway.

The unfairness in the permit process does not rest solely with local officials. It's also inherent in the law. For example, the law requires that each application include a color photograph of the applicant. The written application requires that an applicant indicate his or her race. Members of racial minorities may well want to ask their state

representatives why a photograph and an indication of race are required before a decision is made by a local official.

If you think your statutory right to appeal the denial of a permit provides effective recourse, don't be so certain. Citizens who seek fairness in the permit process through the court system are rudely awakened to its burdensome costs. Almost every citizen who enters the court system seeking justice quickly realizes that the costs, delays and frustrations are too great.

Minnesota's concealed pistol permit law has been in place for more than 20 years. After years of debate, it's time for corrective action. The system is badly broken and needs a major overhaul.

Whether the Legislature adopts a "shall issue" permit system like more than 30 other states or decides to retain the current system, it must address the inequities and widespread abuses. Commissioning a legislative study on the current system would be a good start. Legislative hearings would also be appropriate. Providing more guidance to local officials and the courts on permit qualifications would help ensure uniformity and fairness. Adding penalties to the permit law for abuses by local officials and provisions for the awarding of attorney's fees to applicants abused by the system would also help.

Whatever direction our representatives take on this issue, the principles of fairness and justice must be the goal.

The writer, an attorney with the Minneapolis firm of Shoemaker & Shoemaker, has represented firearms owners and members of the firearms industry in state and federal courts.

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Sirens are far better than fines to awaken one to snow emergency

Dear editor,

The first snow emergency this winter (January 2) gave my family its first towing experience. At least eight tow trucks came barreling down our street shortly after 9:00 p.m. Our car was on the back of one of the trucks at 9:15. We were out on the street immediately talking to the tow-truck driver, who said that for \$65 cash he would put our car back down on the street.

In this age of plastic money, who carries \$65 in cash? So off went our only car with our only child car seat to the impound lot. Two hours later our street still had not been plowed. The next day we spent 5½ hours waiting in line at the impound lot to get our car back. We paid \$132.70, and we still owed \$40 for the ticket. That is some people's food budget! It seems a crime to charge that much.

Monday, on my way to work, I passed at least three cars on Snelling Avenue that had been plowed around. I was quite upset. Fifteen hours after the snow emergency ended, those cars were still sitting on Snelling. We didn't have 15 minutes to get our car off the street.

Last year, with almost no snow, people could not fully appreciate how much we need the snow sirens. I always liked the sirens. The sirens worked like an alarm clock to wake you up to move your car. A \$200 fine also wakes you up, but it's a harsh price to pay. I want the snow sirens back!

Michelle Yarmakov
Highland Park

An idea we can't afford

Dear editor,

For 35 years I've been a resident of Sibley Manor Apartments on West 7th Street in Highland Park. We can have a neat garden around the base of our building, we may keep a pet or two and we have only to cross the street to a shopping area. The rent is affordable and the property is maintained very well.

There has been a lot of chatter about good, affordable homes for low-income people. Here we are in affordable, pleasant housing.

Because property values have increased along West 7th Street, property taxes have increased so that it has become desirable to have businesses along West 7th. One suggestion is to tear down the garages for our apartments along with one group of buildings (30 apartments) to construct shops that would compete with the empty shops in Sibley Plaza across the street!

V.J. Lucky
Highland Park

Drop the nails, save the trees

To the editor:

Are we back to square one and tenpenny nails when our city wounds our immature boulevard trees? Since the city reinforced its ordinance against puncturing trees and using them as boulevard kiosks, it has seemed like an uphill battle. In the past month, not only has NSP stapled city-issued "No

VILLAGE POST

Parking" signs to trees on Selby Avenue, but the St. Paul Public Works Department has issued street maintenance signs that have been nailed to young trees on Colborne Street.

Granted, the ordinance has been difficult to enforce. Offenders are notified of their wrongdoing by a friendly warning sticker or a copy of the ordinance delivered to their home. But what do we do when our city agencies perpetrate the misdemeanor? They should be trained to set an example for residents by pushing the signs into soil or snowbanks or creatively using masking tape.

Tree lovers, educate your neighbors when you see them posting lost kitten or garage sale signs on your neighborhood trees. Also educate your city workers when hammers and staples become the tools of choice for posting their signs. If you see stapled or nailed trees, call the Citizen Service Office at 651-266-8989.

Bonnie Lawrence
Merriam Park

Editor's note: Gary Erichson, street maintenance supervisor in the St. Paul Department of Public Works, said city crews stopped stapling signs on boulevard trees immediately after the City Council clamped down on the practice a couple of years ago. He believes the signs in question had been stolen and were being used illegally. "We put out thousands of signs for street sweeping and lose 150 a day," he said. "I'm not surprised they're floating out there." He encourages anyone who sees a sign nailed or stapled to a boulevard tree to call 651-292-6600.

'St. Small' responds

Dear editor:

Re K. Griffin's letter to the editor on "Small thinking" (Villager, January 6):

K. Griffin should be aware that residents of St. Paul don't care what Minneapolisians call our city.

Griffin assures us that he or she would not move to our city of "over-priced, highly taxed, high-crime homes" if Ayd Mill Road were closed, by implication to be replaced by such an enhancement as a badly needed park. Hmmm. My home was not over-priced, my property taxes have gone down a bit and my neighborhood is not only not high-crime, but is lively and interesting.

I submit K. Griffin as a perfect example of the kind of Dakota County resident for whose benefit St. Paul residents should feel no duty whatsoever to self-destruct. I am sure most Dakota County residents do not share Griffin's contempt for their neighbor and would like to reach an accommodation in a wider context that is livable for all instead of, like Griffin, flinging insults.

Suzanne Lechtman
Snelling-Hamline

Clarifying conservatorships

Dear editor:

While we are unfamiliar with and therefore unable to comment on the O'Keefe conservatorship, we are well aware of the intricacies of conservatorship. We are also familiar with Karl Bushmaker and his conservatorship practice and want to address a number of inaccuracies or omissions in your article (Villager, November 4.)

First, your article made no mention of any reversals of Mr. Bushmaker's fees by the court in the O'Keefe matter, which would indicate the court found the charges to be appropriate.

Second, a potential conservator's ability to pay for a bond is irrelevant to his or her ability to serve as a conservator; the cost of the bond is paid out of the conservatee's assets, not by the conservator. In actuality, an underwriter reviews the conservator's financial background, including credit history, to determine whether the conservator is a good risk and worthy of having a bond written. If the family could not get a bond, it was not because they couldn't afford it.

Third, funeral planning is a very important duty of a conservator. It is considered by courts, attorneys, professional organizations, most families and conservators as integral to the overall financial and personal planning done on behalf of a conservatee. Once the conservatee dies there may be no legal authority to pay debts, causing difficulty in making and paying for funeral arrangements. Arranging for a pre-paid funeral also ensures that potentially painful decisions are made well before the grief-filled time at the death of the conservatee. It also affords the conservatee an opportunity to make his or her wishes known.

Finally, Mr. Bushmaker does not train new conservators as your article stated, but is very involved in our training program as a guest speaker and serves as a mentor to others wanting to become professional conservators.

Anita Raymond and Mary McGurran
Fairview Protective Services

Editor's note: No reversal of fees in the O'Keefe matter may or may not indicate the court found the charges appropriate. They were part of a negotiated settlement when Mr. Bushmaker agreed to resign as conservator of the estate. To the other above corrections and additions, we would be remiss if we didn't add another. Based on what turned out to be inaccurate information supplied to the Villager, the article stated that the family "petitioned the court for the removal of the professional conservator." In fact, court records indicate that no formal petition to remove was ever filed in the matter of the O'Keefe conservatorship. We apologize for the inaccuracies and omissions.

Diet for a congested city

Dear editor:

Relieving traffic congestion by building new or wider roads is like relieving obesity by loosening one's belt.

Village Post/see next page

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Back Pain Affects 80 Percent of Americans

Low back pain is a very common health problem (80 percent of Americans will be troubled by low back pain at some point in their lives) and is responsible for the largest amount of disability and work loss among people of all age groups. At chiropractic clinics, back and neck pain are the most frequently treated conditions. Major attention is given to identifying the causes of each patient's problems so that the most effective treatment approach can be applied.

What are the most common causes of back pain?

- TEARING OF FIBERS within muscles or ligaments.
- MISALIGNED SPINAL VERTEBRAE produced back pain or pain radiating to the leg by irritating nerves within the structures which surround spinal joints.

- PROTRUDING or RUPTURED SPINAL DISC can exert pressure on the sciatic nerve and cause intense pain to radiate down the leg.
- SPINAL ARTHRITIS of the wear and tear variety (osteoarthritis or degenerative arthritis) develops as part of the aging process, but can also occur with poor posture, scoliosis, misalignment of vertebrae or continued improper use of the back.
- POOR POSTURE, which can have a number of causes, results in a spinal joint strain and abnormal muscle tension, and is usually accompanied by misalignment of vertebrae.

What are the measures commonly taken?

- Corrective spinal manipulation along with improving posture and the way the back is used;



Jeff Ewald, D.C.
Faculty Clinician



Kevin Kolb, D.C.
Faculty Clinician

- Stretching and strengthening exercises;
- Back supports may be appropriate;
- Physiotherapy;
- Traction therapy.

Additionally, doctors of chiropractic refer to and work in cooperation with all other health care providers when indicated for patients' conditions.



Health care information provided by:
**Health Care Centers of
Northwestern College of Chiropractic
St. Paul Clinic
621 South Cleveland • 690-1788**

If language is a temple, some of us are opting for cut-rate motels

by Phillip Hammes

There's an old saying that goes something like this: Speak German to the soldiers, French to the ladies, Italian to the princes and Spanish to the Almighty. In the days when Knute Rockne coached Notre Dame, alumni said he spoke Polish to the guards and German to the tackles. When he wanted to communicate with the center, he just grunted and pointed straight ahead.

In neither of those cases was anything said about English. I mean proper English. It might be the language of choice if it were spoken correctly by a majority of the citizenry today. The problem is, it isn't.

Instead, a subspecies of the English language is being used—a composite of slang, advertising slogans and infant chatter. A critic might point out that this is the way languages stay fresh. Fresh is good, but something too fresh is sometimes unusable.

There is always the danger of a language deteriorating into babel. As an example, the newest edition of a famous academic dictionary declares that split infinitives are fine. It is now legitimate, grammatically speaking, to boldly go where no grammar teacher has gone before.

Consider this scene. A recent morning on the Nicollet Mall. A woman is sitting next to me. At her feet sits a white dog the size of the Mad Hatter's teacup. The woman starts speaking to the dog. She uses words like "dozzums, ookie,

crumbie-wumbie, tummy-tum."

I spit out a mouthful of coffee. This is not what I want to hear at this hour in the morning.

But the truth is, this woman is not unique. People talk like that now—and not just to their pets. Business people end their conversations on the phone with "bye-bye." Who are these people talking to? Elmer Fudd?

Once upon a time, someone engaged in serious business ended an important call like this: "Good day, sir. It has been a pleasure. I hope our exchange of ideas has had a beneficial effect upon your plans. I am, sir, at your service."

I'm exaggerating a jot, I know. But the idea is, there was a touch of adult behavior and formality to business. There was none of the "That's the deal I want, boy. Bye-bye." No wonder lawyers are so busy. No one says anything explicitly anymore, excluding when they use profanity, which has reached new levels of explicitness.

Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. once remarked: "Every language is a temple in which the soul of those who speak it is enshrined." Obviously, some people have deserted the temple in favor of the cut-rate motel down the street.

A man no longer extends his hand to a doctor and says, "Doctor Lorillard, my compliments, sir. I have come to consult you upon a delicate matter. I trust you are not hurried. The consultation may take some time."

The good doctor no longer replies, "Mr. Quinblott, have no fear. My schedule is not pressing. Please sit down and tell me your concerns. I am, sir, at your service."

These days, a man waves at the doctor and says, "Say, Binky, how's the old golf game? Are those hiccups on your neck or do you have the measles? I've got trouble cleaning the old holding tanks. Do you have a pill? A brown bomber or something?"

The doctor says, "Stinky, sit down. No, on the old couch. That's right. My neck is my business. Now, satchel-butt, my advice to you is to eat more bran. Or oats. You ever see a constipated horse?"

And when Stinky leaves the doctor's office, he tells Binky, "Bye-bye."

It is in the plitcal arena that language takes its cruelest beating. Proper phrases are used, but nothing is communicated except a contempt for communication. Did you see President Clinton's testimony before the grand jury? One might call his problem a case of "conjectural amnesia."

In essence Clinton said, "I think I don't recall, but if I do recall something it might not be the thing that took place but something like it which happened at another time. I think I can say that. If I can recall what it is I just said."

And the lawyer said, "Uh huh."

The English language is in danger of becoming a cultural antique. It could be used in the 21st century much like Latin was used during the Renaissance. People will speak it only on formal occasions and write it only in legal and religious documents. The first plastic dollar will have etched on it not "e pluribus unum," but "coming from diverse sources an entity of unified homogenous spirit."

Village Post: It's like relieving obesity by loosening one's belt/

from previous page

If Ayd Mill Road is connected to I-35E, the worst of both worlds will result: Ayd Mill Road will be used by more suburban traffic and the neighborhood traffic now on Ayd Mill Road will be shunted to ever-maddening neighborhood streets.

If Ayd Mill Road is connected to I-35E, suburban sprawl will be encouraged, mass transit or alternative transit will be discouraged and a rare opportunity to enhance and unify St. Paul neighborhoods will be lost.

Build a linear park. Reduce Lexington Parkway and Hamline Avenue to two-lane streets with center turn lanes and bike paths.

Brian Bates
Macalester-Groveland

The truth is that during much of her career she has been an administrator working with some of the St. Paul Public Schools' most influential staffers. I met Ms. Schunk at J.J. Hill Magnet School. There, I witnessed principal Delores Henderson, curriculum specialist Schunk and a number of powerful administrators help convince enough worried parents to authorize the questionable move of the Hill program to the old Control Data site or face losing future gifted-and-talented programs—a move based as much on fabricated fears as any established facts.

Imagine my surprise to see ads portraying the Mae Schunk who I knew as a quintessential administrative insider to be an outsider, part of Jesse's fresh new wind.

Paul Paulos
Macalester-Groveland

neighborhood not as a thoroughfare, but as a place to live.

It is a basic law of physics that the faster particles move, the greater pressure they exert on each other. The faster we drive, the less room there is on the road. If each of the several thousand car owners living near Lexington Parkway were to follow the 30 mph speed limit, the change in traffic patterns would be astonishing. If we also yielded to pedestrians, we would create room for walkers, bikers and shoppers. With this resolve, we could look back years from now, thankful that we converted Ayd Mill Road to open space that will forever help relieve the pressures of city living.

In the Midway area we've been talking of linking Como Park with Summit Avenue and the parks lining the rivers that make our city so beautiful. Ayd Mill is a crucial link in that web. Combined with all the attractions of Selby, Snelling and Grand avenues, we could create a new recreational hub for the area.

We need to make choices, understanding all the potential our area has. We can choose to be the back door to a suburban mall dedicated to cars, sprawling highways and parking lots, or we can choose to be an urban village that has at its core open park land, parkways, and small business centers served by the two freeways that already exist.

Jonathan Dregni
Hamline-Midway

Not the Mae Schunk I knew

To the editor:

I find it unconscionable how the Ventura forces misrepresented Lieutenant Governor-elect Mae Schunk throughout the campaign. A case could be made that by shielding her from most ads and interviews and keeping her job as an educator so ill-defined, many voters saw Schunk as a 36-year teacher. Even *Newsweek* in its November 16 issue described Schunk as a "motherly... teacher of 36 years."

Visions of Ayd Mill Park

To the editor:

It's an easy guess that we all share these two values: first, that traffic speed and volume detract from our quality of life, and second, that park land adds to our quality of life.

That doesn't account for many other factors that keep our area attractive, but it does put the focus of the Ayd Mill Road debate where it belongs—on the development of our



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CREATIVE LIGHTING & HOME ACCENTS

Task force weighs benefits of two light-rail transit routes in St. Paul

by Jane McClure

With the design of the Hiawatha light-rail transit (LRT) route under way in South Minneapolis, St. Paul and Ramsey County officials are hoping that it will soon be their turn to receive state and federal funding for LRT.

The St. Paul Transit Vision Advisory Task Force is expected to recommend a primary transit corridor for the city and surrounding area at its meeting on January 21 at the Minnesota History Center.

Task force members are divided over whether to recommend the so-called Riverview Corridor along the Mississippi from the Lower East Side to Fort Snelling or the Central Corridor from downtown St. Paul to downtown Minneapolis via I-94.

The Riverview Corridor is the top priority of the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority, which has undertaken a \$1.15 million study of the corridor and its three alternative routes—Shepard Road, West 7th Street and the Canadian Pacific railroad line that runs between the two.

However, the Riverview Corridor must overcome the skepticism of the St. Paul City Council. Last year council members Mike Harris and Chris Coleman blocked a request by Ramsey County to put the Riverview Corridor on the city's legislative agenda because of the project's high cost and lack of public support.

The Central Corridor was studied extensively during the 1980s after metropolitan counties chose it as the region's top LRT priority. Pierce Butler Route, University Avenue and I-94 were all considered as possible LRT routes before I-94 got the nod. Still, the project never mustered enough support at the state Capitol.

Central Corridor advocates say there is more demand for transit along that route

than the Riverview Corridor. However, Bob Straughn of the Midway Chamber of Commerce believes that ridership estimates should be updated before any corridor is recommended.

Task force member Brian Merchant of the Highland District Council is calling for both the Riverview and Central corridors to be developed. He envisions the formation of a "transit triangle" with the Hiawatha Corridor that would connect to transit routes from outlying areas and other commuter railroads.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has formulated plans for a \$655 million commuter rail system that would utilize existing tracks. MnDOT's plans for commuter rail will be presented in detail to the Legislature in February.

Art Leahy, director of Metro Transit, said that any light-rail improvements should not be made at the expense of the bus system. Buzz Cummins of the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce agreed. "Can we really expect to fund major new projects and also put new revenue into the bus system?" Cummins asked. "Until I see a commitment from the Legislature, I'm skeptical."

According to Al Shetka of the St. Paul Department of Public Works, federal officials are less likely to contribute funds for rail projects when money is being taken away from the local bus system.

Metro Transit is seeking a 20 percent increase in its budget for the next two years—from \$98.7 million to \$120 million. About \$12 million of that would be dedicated to the expansion of service. Metro Transit is also seeking \$52 million in bonding authority to pay for more buses and park-and-ride facilities.

"I think there's support (in the Legislature) for a comprehensive transit and bus transportation system," Leahy said.

Grand Hill townhouse plan moves forward despite local opposition

by Jane McClure

Plans for a 10-unit townhouse development in Summit Hill moved a step forward on January 13 when the St. Paul City Council upheld a lot split and variance that had previously been approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA).

The council supported the request of Mendota Homes to split a 136,000-square-foot lot at 5 Crocus Hill despite the pleas of neighbors to postpone action until a site plan and other anticipated variances could be considered at the same time.

"It would be a mistake to grant the request until we see the full picture," said neighbor Cameron Blodgett.

"This is going to be piecemeal," said Steve Mahon, an attorney for neighbors James and Bonnie D'Aquila. Mahon argued that the lot split was illegal because it turned 5 Crocus Hill into a non-conforming property and because the variance did not meet conditions spelled out in the city code. He also asked the council to deny both requests and wait until a site plan is ready for a public hearing.

On January 8, the St. Paul Planning Commission rejected the D'Aquilas' request to hold a public hearing on the site plan. Commissioners said the request did not meet the criteria for such a hearing and that they were tired of constant squabbling over infill housing projects in the city. "Is this going to happen every time a developer wants to build eight to 10 townhouses?" asked commissioner Cathy Nordin. "We're never going to get more housing built if this keeps happening."

Neighbors were considering last week whether to appeal the Planning Commis-

sion's decision against the site plan hearing to the City Council.

The lot split was required for Mendota Homes to build on the eastern half of the property, which slopes down from the Summit Hill bluff to Grand Avenue. That part of the lot is vacant and zoned multi-family residential.

A 19-foot setback variance was required for the single-family home that sits on the western half of the property. The house requires a 25-foot setback, but the lot split would bring it within 6 feet of the new property line. John Hardwick of the BZA recommended approving the lot split and setback variance on the condition that the townhouses be built at least 25 feet from the single-family home.

City Council member Chris Coleman, whose Ward 2 includes Summit Hill, said granting the lot split and variance does not guarantee approval of the site plan or any additional variances. "This is a difficult decision," Coleman said, adding that he would have preferred to see all variances and site plans presented as one package.

John Mathern of Mendota Homes said holding one public hearing on all details of the project would "mix the discussion of zoning and planning." He promised to provide neighbors with details once the lot split was approved.

According to Mathern, the project will consist of a four-unit and a six-unit building. Each building will be two stories tall and have underground garages. The townhouses will offer 2,000 to 2,400 square feet of living space and will cost \$250,000 to \$275,000 each. All of the units will share a driveway onto Grand Avenue.

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St. Paul continues efforts to assess gifted kindergartners, 2nd-graders

by Michael Werner

When Stephen Haswell Todd rejoined his 8th-grade class, his peers heaped praise on him in a manner befitting a champion. The praise was well deserved; the Highland Park resident had just topped Capitol Hill Magnet's best and brightest to win the school's annual geography bee.

Haswell Todd is undeniably talented. He is on the honor roll and participates in debate, choir and musical productions. In some school settings, his gifts could doom him to social failure. However, at Capitol Hill he has found an environment in which excellence is the rule, not the exception.

"There's a big desire to learn at Capitol Hill," Haswell Todd said. "There's none of the attitude they talk about at other schools where the smart kids are looked down on as nerds. It feels very secure that way. You're never afraid of doing your best."

"These kids appreciate talent and they don't think it's odd," said Richard Cash, a curriculum specialist at Capitol Hill. "These kids can shine here and it's OK."

For years, some gifted and talented students have been slipping through cracks in a districtwide system that could best be described as patchwork. Until this year, the district lacked a uniform system of identifying such students, sometimes relying on testing, teacher recommendations, parent recommendations or student interest.

According to St. Paul School Board member Becky Montgomery, the Charlotte/Discover method that the board adopted this year to assess gifted and talented students should remedy the deficiencies of the past.

"There are students in the district capable of performing at high levels who've not been identified," she said. "This is a method to ensure that we find the kids who could benefit from more challenging activities."

Previously, only students entering Capitol Hill were tested and the district was having a hard time getting students of color, poor students and students who speak English as a second language to apply.

A modified version of the Charlotte/Discover assessment replaces that test and is now being used to assess all kindergarten and 2nd-grade students in the St. Paul public schools. The assessments began in November and will continue through next month.

Kindergartners and 2nd-graders currently enrolled in non-public schools must be assessed before they can apply to any of the St. Paul Public Schools' accelerated programs for the 1999-2000 school year. The 2nd-grade assessment was held last week. A kindergarten pre-assessment will be conducted from 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, January 30, and the kindergarten assessment will take place from 9:00 a.m. to noon Saturday, February 6. To register, call 651-603-4979.

Montgomery believes the new assessment will have a far-reaching impact on schools. "It will help all of our school buildings further develop and strengthen their gifted and talented programs," she said. "There will be more kids who will be identified as benefiting from gifted and talented programs and the schools will be able to respond to that need."

As elementary students become involved in more challenging activities, Montgomery said the district also will likely see a growth in the International Baccalaureate and advanced placement classes at the junior and senior high levels.

Details about the gifted and talented assessment process will be presented at an 11:00 a.m. workshop during the district's parent information fair on Saturday, January 23, at the St. Paul National Guard Armory, 600 Cedar St. Other parent information sessions will be held in February. For details, call the gifted and talented office at 651-290-8338.

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SCHOOL NOTES

A Sage Scholars program is being offered this winter at the College of St. Catherine. Topics include "Memories and Imagination: Writing Our Stories" in January and May, "From the Ground Up: Designing and Implementing a Garden" in February, "Artists as Theologians: Christian Art and History" in March, and "Curious About Computers?" in April. Each session features three two-hour classes. Tuition ranges from \$25 to \$35. For information, call 651-690-6819.

Visitation School is finishing up construction on a \$3.4 million arts and athletics complex. The project, which began in June, includes a new gym, ballet studio and theater. A grand opening has been scheduled for May.

The WOWjr program will provide free computer training over the next few weeks at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. A team of educators equipped with laptops and a specially designed curriculum will provide the classes which are open to the public. The schedule includes a class for girls in

grades 5-8 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursdays, January 28 and February 4; a beginners class for adults from 10:00 a.m. to noon Tuesday, February 2; a class for families to surf the Internet together from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7; and a class for kids to be announced. To register, call 651-698-0751.

The University of St. Thomas will introduce its first undergraduate course this winter to be taught entirely online. German Cultural Heritage will be offered February 1-May 17 through the university's School of Continuing Studies. Students may earn four undergraduate credits (\$306 per credit) or audit the course for \$150. For information, call 651-962-5950.

Computer classes for adults will be offered in February at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. Class topics include an introduction to computing, word processing, card making, surfing the Web, genealogy and more. Costs range from \$12 to \$45. For information, call 651-698-0751.

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THE HBA TODAY

BY PATRICIA BOYD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HIGHLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

HBA OFFICERS NAMED

The Highland Business Association has named the following officers for 1999: president David Burley of the Highland Grill, past president Tom Schramer of Sevenich Butler Gerlach & Brazil Ltd., vice president-Highland Fest Mark Moeller of R.F. Moeller Jeweler, vice president-promotions Nancy Moeller of R.F. Moeller, vice president-membership Anne Langford of Langford Chiropractic, vice president-commu-

nity development Nancy Dykeman of Rosewood Estates, vice president-business/social Steve Johnson of Liberty State Bank, secretary Terry Cullen of Felhaber Larson Fenlon & Vogt PA, and treasurer Chris Weber of the Highland Bank.

Other board members include Sally Staggett of the Franciscan Health Community, Wendy Madsen of Ryan Properties, Linda Alter of Coldwell Banker Burnet, Chris Matteson of CEMA Sargent Corp., John Fox of Ford Motor Company, and Beth Johnson of Re/Max. The Highland District Council representative is Ken Jefferson. Several openings remain on the board. For information, call David Burley at 651-690-1173.

ANNUAL DINNER SET

The HBA will hold its annual dinner on Thursday, January 21, at the St. Paul Pool and Yacht Club. The social hour begins

at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow. The guest speaker will be Highland resident Matthew Michalski, the "Rookie" on KSTP-AM's afternoon talk show with Joe Southeray. Music will be provided by Mike King and Peter Shu. The cost is \$35. For information, call the HBA office at 651-699-9042.

VALENTINE SKATE DATE

The HBA will host a Skate Date from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 14, at the Highland Ice Arena. The Valentine's Day event is open to the public, but is limited to adults only. Music will be provided by Nightsounds. The cost is \$7.50 and skate rental is available.

Afterward, all skaters will be entitled to a complimentary flower or beverage if they stop to have a bite at the Highland Grill or Famous Dave's. For information, call 651-699-9042.

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Highway 55 protesters rebuild in the wake of state's bulldozers

Campaign against planned reroute continues in the courts and at site

by Dave Page

Asked on Minnesota Public Radio's January 5 "Midday" program about the groups opposed to the rerouting of Highway 55 in South Minneapolis, Governor Jesse Ventura said he didn't understand why they hadn't protested more when a citizens task force was planning the route more than 20 years ago.

Tim Moore, chairman of the Park and River Alliance, had a ready answer. "We trusted politicians to do the right thing back then," said Moore, a South Minneapolis resident and a sophomore at Roosevelt High School when Ventura was a senior there. "If the people of the Twin Cities had known Camp Coldwater spring and an oak savanna were threatened, they wouldn't have accepted the proposed rerouting of Highway 55."

Besides, circumstances have changed enough in the last 15 years to warrant another look at the Highway 55 project, according to Lynn Ford, a member of the alliance's board. "Open space has become much more of an issue," Ford said. "People who live in the city don't want their open space taken away so that people in the suburbs have an easier commute."

Though Minnehaha Park will actually gain 2.3 acres under the rerouting plan, much of the new land is unused railroad right-of-way behind the nearby Parkway Plaza shopping mall, according to Ford. "That isn't what we mean by open space," she said.

Reroute opponents continue to battle the highway project on several fronts—in the courts and at 54th Street and Riverview Road where highway protesters have maintained an encampment since August.



Highway 55 protesters were busy last week rebuilding their encampment in South Minneapolis. At left, a woman named "Freedom" climbed one of the oaks that lie in the path of the planned reroute and strung yarn to jam any chainsaw used in felling the tree. At right, Marshall Day and Wes Wenger help Douglas Swanson construct a new shelter for protesters. Photos by Mike Long.



In the early morning hours of December 20, in the largest law enforcement action in state history, some 600 state and local officers arrested 37 demonstrators at the encampment. Bulldozers then demolished the seven vacant, state-owned homes still standing in the roadway's path.

A tour of the encampment on January 8 turned up just two protesters—Ron Bear and a woman named Austin who wouldn't give her last name. Bear and Austin said that between 10 and 12 protesters are still living at the site. The encampment, which resembled the Renaissance Festival in the relative warmth of October now has the look of a Soviet gulag.

Bear and Austin huddled around a campfire, trying to keep warm in the sub-zero cold. The two were among the demonstrators arrested in December. They were charged with trespassing and were scheduled to appear in court on January 19, after this issue of the Villager went to press.

Wearing insulated overalls, boots, a wool cap and scarf, Austin hugged herself as she

pointed with her eyes to the various parts of the camp. "There are three tents set up over there, and that's the kitchen," she said nodding to four poles covered by a tarp.

Austin has lived at the encampment since August. She was one of three women who last fall regularly chained themselves inside one of the homes slated for demolition. She was

chained there on the morning of December 20 when, she said, law enforcement officers "came in quickly and used pain compliance holds and pepper spray" to subdue the demonstrators.

The Park and River Alliance expects a decision within the next month on its petition to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals to overturn the May 1998 ruling by U.S. District Judge Donald D. Alsop to

dismiss the alliance's challenge of the Highway 55 environmental impact statement (EIS). Though Alsop agreed that the 1985 EIS did not consider the impact of the rerouted highway on the Camp Coldwater and Fort Snelling historic sites, he ruled that a six-year statute of limitations barred any court action.

Meanwhile, a coalition of groups, including

Earth First! and the Mendota-Mdewakanton Dakota Indian tribe, are awaiting a decision by Hennepin County District Judge H. Peter Albrecht on whether to issue a temporary restraining order and allow an investigation of their claims that the rerouted highway might harm the spring and nearby land that the Indians say is sacred.

A federal judge denied their request for a temporary restraining order, but state attorneys agreed to suspend work on the highway until Albrecht makes his decision.

According to Assistant Attorney General Bill Sierks, the Minnesota Department of Transportation has redesigned the roadway's sewer system to lessen the impact on the Camp Coldwater spring. However, Moore contends that the state has failed to gather enough hydrological information to know with any certainty how construction will affect the spring, Minnehaha Creek or Minnehaha Falls.

And though a 1986 Minnesota Historical Society survey found "no known sites of historic, architectural, cultural, archaeological or engineering significance within the area of the proposed project," members of the Mendota-Mdewakanton have collected affidavits from Native American elders attesting to the religious importance of the area.

The encampment, which resembled the Renaissance Festival in the relative warmth of October now has the look of a Soviet gulag.

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The Highland District COUNCIL CAPSULE

BOARD MEETING SET

The Highland District Council will hold its next board meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 21, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. For information, call the district council office at 651-298-5138.

SHEPARD-DAVERN MEETING

The next meeting of the Shepard-Davern Task Force will be held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 28, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. The task force will review the second draft of the Shepard-Davern Small Area Plan. For information, call the council office at 651-298-5138.

INTERCLUB FIESTA

InterClub will celebrate the gifts of Spanish-speaking residents in the neighborhood with an evening of music, dance, stories, arts and food from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, January 30, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. InterClub was developed in 1994 by the Highland District Council, Hillcrest Recreation Center and Creative Theatre Unlimited in cooperation with other groups. Its goal is to celebrate the



Highland by grids

neighborhood's rich cultural heritages through the arts. Admission is \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family.

RECYCLING REMINDER

The next recycling day in the Highland area is Monday, February 1. Residents should have their recyclables sorted, bagged and on the curb by 7:00 a.m.

Residents are being reminded that it is illegal to throw car batteries in the trash. Stores and service stations that sell batteries are required to accept old ones at no charge.

ence given to those who live or work within the council's boundaries.

COMMUNITY PLAN

The Merriam Park and Snelling-Hamline community councils are looking for volunteers to assist with the development of a new community plan, "Growing Into the Future." Volunteers are needed to come up with ways to solicit comments from neighbors on drafts of the plan. Help also is needed with the typing and creation of the report. For information on upcoming meetings, call Sherilyn Young at 651-645-6887.

GETTING INVOLVED

New renters and block club leaders in Merriam Park will receive a letter from the community council within the next month. Renters will get information about how to get involved in community activities, how to recycle and where to go for tenant resources. Block leaders will get information about council activities, training opportunities and local crime statistics.

Renters interested in becoming involved in their neighborhood are asked to call community organizer Sherilyn Young at 651-645-6887. Those who want information on block clubs may call crime prevention coordinator Christine Yanchar at the same number.

Merriam Park COUNCIL CAPSULE

AYD MILL ROAD OPTIONS

With the release of the draft environmental impact statement for Ayd Mill Road, the Merriam Park Community Council is taking steps toward making its official recommendation for the future of the roadway.

Individuals who are interested in making their preference known may complete an advisory ballot and return it to the council's office. Board members will review the ballots before making their recommendation. Ballots are available at the council's office and will be posted on the council's Web site at www.tcfreenet.org/ip/nhoods/stpaul/mpcc/.

Neighborhood businesses and organizations are being asked to make their preferences known by completing a questionnaire that will be mailed out before the end of January. Those who do not receive one may call the council office at 651-645-6887.

The roadway alternatives will be discussed during a community forum at 7:00 p.m. Monday, February 8, at the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. The board will hear testimony from interested people, with prefer-

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Mandell, Cohen honored for their commitment to artistic endeavors

Central High School drama teacher Jan Mandell and state Senator Richard Cohen are among the recipients of 1998 U.S. Bank Sally Ordway Irvine Awards. The awards are given annually to individuals making significant contributions to Minnesota's arts and cultural communities.

Mandell received the education award for her direction of the Central Touring Theatre Program over the past two decades. She was honored for providing a safe space for teens to create, perform and tour original theatrical pieces to diverse audiences throughout the metro area. She also was cited with providing a program that encourages teamwork, boosts individual confidence, fosters creativity and teaches basic skills.

Cohen, who represents



Jan Mandell



Dick Cohen

Senate District 64, received the commitment award for his support of the arts in Minnesota. Since he became chairman of the State Government Finance Committee in 1993, the amount of state funding for arts organization has increased from \$6 million to \$26 million. He also was cited for establish-

ing the Legislative Arts Caucus, initiating creation of the Minnesota Film Board and lobbying for various arts organizations.

The awards are named after Sally Ordway Irvine, who made the Ordway Music Theatre a reality. Award winners receive a crystal trophy and \$2,500 cash prize.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Jerry Kelly retired at the end of last year after serving as a State Farm Insurance agent for 40 years, the majority of them at the agency's office at Grand and Fairview avenues. Kelly is a 1958 University of Minnesota graduate and a former Macalester-Groveland resident. He now lives in Hastings.

Matt Caron has been named Young Practitioner of the Year by the Minnesota

Chiropractic Association (MCA). A 1992 graduate of Northwestern College of Chiropractic, he practices at Caron Chiropractic Clinic on Snelling Avenue in Highland Park. He also is president of the Metro East District of the MCA.

Drs. Thomas Mackenzie and O. Douglas Wangenstein of Macalester-Groveland have been appointed to test committees in their

respective fields by the National Board of Medical Examiners. Mackenzie is a professor of psychiatry at the University of Minnesota. Wangenstein is a professor of physiology and pediatrics at the U.

Squire House Gardens, 1129 Grand Ave., will host a garden salon on plant hardiness at 7:00 p.m. Monday, January 25. The cost is \$5.00. Call 651-665-0142.

Macalester-Groveland COUNCIL CAPSULE

BOARD MEETING

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will meet at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 21, at the Edgcombe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St. Residents will be given an opportunity to elect a board representative from Grid 11, the area bounded by St. Clair, Fairview, Jefferson and Snelling avenues, to serve the remaining months of an unexpired term.

The agenda will include consideration of three modifications to the city's plans for the Jefferson-Pascal street paving project. Residents are concerned about pedestrian safety and are asking the city to redesign the corner sidewalks, to use clear sealant on the curbs and to plant native ground cover on the corners instead of sod.

Also on the agenda will be a presentation on the Ayd Mill Road draft environmental impact statement (EIS). City project manager Mike Klassen will explain the six alternatives still under consideration for the roadway. Representatives of advocacy groups will make short presentations on their positions. In addition, the three Mac-Groveland representatives to the Ayd Mill Road Task Force will make their recommendations on a preferred alternative. The community council board plans to rate the six proposals following a public hearing in February.

Snow Sculpting Contest set

Macalester-Groveland's annual Snow Sculpting Contest will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6, on the Summit Avenue median between Albert and Pascal streets.

Prizes will be awarded in both teen and family categories. The cost is \$6 per person, which includes lunch, hot beverages and snacks. After February 1, the cost jumps to \$10. To register, call Lee Wallace at 651-698-7973.

JOB CONNECTION

Students and adult workers are needed to shovel sidewalks for area senior citizens through the Macalester-Groveland Job Connection. Pay ranges from \$7.00 to \$10 per hour. For information, call Jessica Bakkene at 651-698-7973.

MIDDLE INCOME FIX-UP FUND

Mac-Groveland single family and owner-occupied duplex owners can borrow up to \$10,000 at prime rate with no household income limit and no second mortgage through the community council's Middle Income Fix-Up Fund. For information, call the council of office at 651-698-7973.

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Rachel Joseph, grade 3, grimaces while searching for a vowel sound with tutor James Lee at Lee Educational Services in the Mendota Plaza Shopping Center. Photo by Mike Long.

Lee Services caters to students needing a little extra instruction

by Catherine Condon

When Rachel Smith started having problems with multiplication, her parents began to worry. "She refused to work with us," said her mother, Debbie, of Mendota Heights. "We tried flash cards. We begged. We pleaded. She absolutely would not do it."

Smith saw an announcement about the opening of Lee Educational Services in the Mendota Plaza Shopping Center and decided to sign her daughter up. For six weeks, the Mendota Heights Elementary School 3rd-grader attended 90-minute tutoring sessions twice a week.

"Believe it or not, Rachel learned her multiplication," Debbie said. According to her, a mix of rote sheets, word problems and creative teaching tactics inspired her daughter. "I'm so grateful," she said. "I can't brag about it enough."

The center is the brainchild of James Lee, who holds a master's degree in education and most recently worked as a special education teacher at Oak-Land Middle School in Stillwater. He taught remedial reading, math and other skills, but yearned for more freedom to work with students individually. Lee Educational Services opened in October.

"In the public schools, you can't work one-to-one like you can here," said Lee, a live-in caretaker at the Sibley House in Mendota and the father of two. "I miss the chaos and all the kids, but there's a lot more satisfaction as far as getting results and making a difference."

The center specializes in K-12 assessments, tutoring, homework help, and preparation for standardized tests and college-entrance exams. It also offers evening courses in elementary-level Spanish and French (the next session begins February 1) as well as computer skills for children and adults.

Classes are held in the afternoons, evenings and on Saturdays. A shuttle service is available to pick up students after school and in-home instruction is available. Adult Spanish was scheduled to begin this month and adult French is expected to be added in March.

Those wanting to check out the facility and talk to the staff may do so during an open house from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 13.

So far, the center has served about two dozen students, most from within School District 197. Several students have progressed enough to reduce their hours. A few, like Smith, have already moved on.

According to Terry Friedrichs, director of remedial and advanced studies, the center stands out among similar services for both its individualized instruction and its prices.

"Two-thirds of our remedial and advanced

kids are taught on a one-to-one basis," said Friedrichs, who has two doctorates and nine licenses in various educational fields. "We only charge \$30 an hour. Many other tutoring agencies charge \$40 an hour for four-to-one classes, with different skills being taught at the same table."

The center charges \$25 an hour for two-to-one instruction, but only if the students are close in age, are learning the same skills and have compatible personalities.

Four licensed teachers instruct elementary students enrolled in the center's after-school French and Spanish courses, which have a limit of 12 students per class. "They don't offer elementary foreign language in the local public schools and usually not in the private schools," Friedrichs said.

Most youngsters undergo academic assessments before the tutoring begins. The \$200 assessment fee is waived if the student enrolls in 15 hours of classes.

"Testing points out not only if there's a need for tutoring, but how big the problem is," Friedrichs said. "Testing also shows areas in which the student excels."

Friedrichs said the most common requests for help are in elementary reading and math, and secondary writing skills. Typically, students attend 90-minute or two-hour sessions twice a week.

"The number of hours per week and how they're configured is up to the parents," he said. "We can design hours that fit their needs."

Ramaiah Muthyala is pleased with the improvement that his 22-year-old son, a brain injury survivor, has made at the center. "It's been only two months and we've seen a lot of progress," said Muthyala, a resident of Mendota Heights. "He started with multiplication and now he's doing algebra."

"We're very proud of the results," said Friedrichs, a St. Thomas Academy graduate who grew up in Mendota Heights. "We haven't lost a student due to lack of learning or parental dissatisfaction."

Lee said he plans to add lots of classes this summer. "We're thinking about offering enrichment classes in poetry and previewing algebra, pre-algebra and geometry," he said.

Lee and Friedrichs are quick to dispel the notion that students who need tutoring somehow are lacking in intelligence. "Almost every child we have in here has a pattern of strengths and weaknesses," Friedrichs said.

"Some children in 2nd or 3rd grade are already saying, 'I hate math' and 'I can't do math,' because of one lousy experience or because they got stuck in a certain area," Lee said. "We like to think that we can keep their options open."

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SPOTLIGHT on Education

Your guide to local school programs, personnel and educational services.

Economics 101

As tuition skyrockets, college-bound receive an early education in finance

by Catherine Condon

As Highland Park High School senior Tami Ellis awaits news from the nine colleges to which she applied, she ponders her financing options. All but two of the schools are private institutions that cost around \$25,000 a year for tuition, fees, room, board and expenses. Ellis, whose father is pastor of Highland Park's Church of the Messiah and whose mother teaches high school biology, is depending on government loans and grants to ease the financial burden. Her need, she said, is substantial.

"I'm the oldest of five kids, and my mom just started working this year," said Ellis, 17, who is ranked ninth in her class of 300. "I'm going to apply for a lot of merit-based scholarships as well."

The problem is, the cost at both public and private colleges continues to rise. "In the last five to 10 years, public school tuition has probably gone up about twice the rate of inflation," said Macalester College president Michael McPherson, author of *Keeping College Affordable* and *The Student Aid Game*. "Many states have been under pressure to cut taxes, and there's been a lot of demand for spending on health care, elementary and secondary education and prisons. These things have tended to squeeze what the government is willing to put into higher education, and families have been asked to pay a larger share."

Costs have risen at private institutions as well, but not as fast in recent years, according to McPherson. "What we see driving the rising costs are the need to keep faculty fresh and adequately compensated and the great

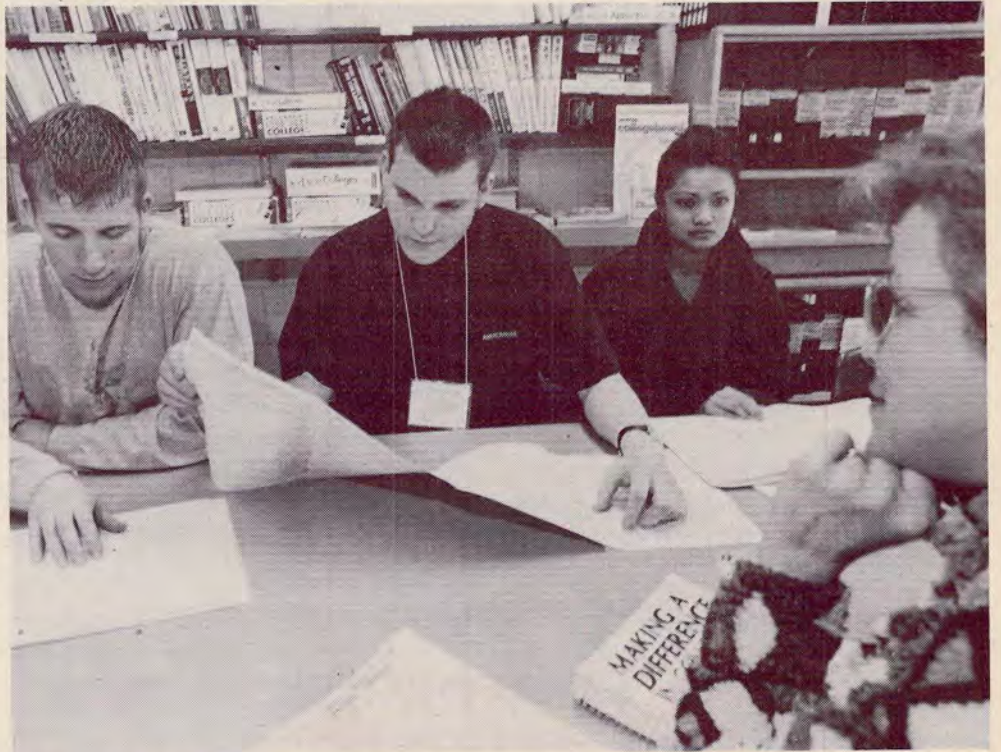
demand for advanced technological resources," said Pam Johnson, director of financial aid at the College of St. Catherine, where tuition is up 4 percent over last year.

"The cost of technology is overwhelming, just like it is in any business," said Marla Friederichs, associate vice president of enrollment at the University of St. Thomas. "But we're dealing with wise consumers. It's in our best interests to remain competitive on all fronts, and that takes money."

Between 75 and 84 percent of full-time students receive financial aid at Macalester, St. Catherine and St. Thomas, where the cost of tuition, fees and room and board ranges from \$19,124 to \$25,400. The schools themselves often provide a large portion of a student's financial aid. According to the Minnesota Private College Research Foundation, the state's 16 private colleges awarded \$122 million in student financial aid from their endowments in 1996-1997, nearly four times the amount awarded in 1986-87.

According to Cretin-Derham Hall counselor Joan O'Connell, private institutions are increasingly giving aid based on merit as well as need. That way the colleges "get the student body they want," said O'Connell, a former director of career development at St. Catherine.

However, students still depend on federal and state help. Two federal grant programs target low- and middle-income families: Pell Grants, which offer a maximum of \$3,000 per year; and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants, which offer up to \$4,000 annually. The Perkins Loan Program awards up to \$3,000 to students from low- to moderate-income families, and the Stafford Loan Program, which has no income limits, offers



Highland Park Senior High guidance counselor Kay Frye works with seniors Mike Stoffel, Joe Matthews and Sinourn Eim in the school's career planning center. Photo by Mike Long.

freshmen and sophomores up to \$3,500 and upperclassmen up to \$5,500 a year.

According to David Busse, Macalester's director of financial aid, Minnesota has one of the top six financial aid programs in the country. The state's SELF loans have few income restrictions, a current interest rate of 5.75 percent and no banker's fees. "It's probably the least expensive loan program I've ever seen," Busse said. Maximum loans are \$4,500 for freshmen and sophomores and \$6,000 for juniors and seniors.

The Minnesota Grant Program provides up to \$6,800 annually to low- and middle-income families. "The idea is that students should be responsible for at least half the cost of their education, whether it's in the form of loans or work or savings," Johnson said. The amount she typically sees granted is around \$3,000.

According to O'Connell, about 80 percent of Cretin-Derham Hall's 310 seniors plan to

attend a four-year college. Almost all are seeking financial aid.

"Most students say they have very little money saved and they don't know how they're going to pay for college," said Kay Frye, a guidance counselor at Highland Park Senior High. About 46 percent of Highland's 300 seniors plan to attend a four-year college, Frye said, and 90 percent of them qualify for financial aid. She encourages students to apply for scholarships that are offered by unions, churches and other groups in which their families may participate.

Nancy Subra of Mendota Heights believes that she and her husband earn too much to qualify for most governmental aid programs. "I think that's where the majority of people fall," said Subra, the mother of two sons, including Dan, a sophomore at Henry Sibley High School.

Financial aid/see next page

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Board allows schools to draft alternatives to block schedule

by Michael Werner

The pressure on St. Paul's public middle school and junior high principals to implement a block schedule by next fall has subsided for now.

At its January 4 meeting, the St. Paul School Board voted to allow schools to draft alternatives to the eight-over-two block scheduling, which typically involves eight courses of 80 minutes in length spread over two days. The board had mandated all middle schools and junior highs convert to the block schedule, but backed off after parents and educators took issue with the notion during the packed meeting.

"We're taking away choice and implementing block scheduling across the district and I'm not convinced the (current) schedule is a problem," said parent Maggie Felling. "Not all children learn the same, so why do we have to have the same system?"

The School Board's vote will allow principals to sidestep the directive, which was initiated in order to create longer class periods for teaching core courses, particularly science. The responsibility now will fall on individual schools to either adopt a block schedule or draft an alternative that suits their particular situation. Alternative plans must be presented to the district office by January 29. Of the district's 10 middle and junior high schools, Highland Park, Cleveland Quality and Hazel Park already operate under a block schedule.

School Board member Tom Conlon said the decision will enable schools to take an active part in shaping their schedules. "If we give them as much flexibility as we can and say here are the goals you have to achieve but we're going to let you decide how to do it,



Ramsey Junior High 7th-grader Korey Wenker and 8th-grader Shanay Hopson hang out at their lockers between classes. The School Board is pushing for a block schedule that would keep middle school students in class for 80-minute periods. Photo by Mike Long.

most people will probably accept that," he said. "I think that's all the people were asking for."

According to principal Larry Gallatin, Ramsey Junior High will consider alternatives to the eight-over-two schedule. "I think people are comfortable with 55-minute periods," he said. "Some teachers are worried about how you keep students actively engaged for 80 minutes."

Gallatin is no stranger to block scheduling. Five years ago, as principal at Cleveland, he helped the school make the transition to a block schedule. "It was the teachers' choice," he said. "They wanted to do it, so they were

enthusiastic about it and we had very few problems in implementing it. It allows for a lot more in-depth learning. It provides a lot of alternatives to the traditional kinds of input from a lecture or film. Creative teachers can do an awful lot with an 80-minute block."

Highland Junior has used a block schedule for four years, and principal Gene Janicke said the school will not use the School Board decision to consider other options. "We've had tremendous success with this schedule," he said. "From what we know about how kids learn and how teachers teach, it just fits much better than anything else we've tried."

Janicke cited overwhelming teacher sup-

port at the school as another reason for the success of block scheduling. "The teachers feel strongly that they'd never go back," he said. "The kinds of lessons that are required by the state's Graduation Standards fit so much better in that 80-minute block of time."

"Our kids do seem to get more out of their classes because they're there for a longer stretch of time," said Leah VanDassor, an English teacher at Highland.

Still, block scheduling has its critics. They raise the arguments that 80-minute classes are not conducive to teaching middle school students with short attention spans and that block schedules cost students class time.

Gallatin confirmed the latter claim. "Obviously you do lose teaching time because you're only doing 80 minutes every other day instead of 55 minutes each day," he said. "However, you aren't starting and stopping so much, so you save time at the beginning and end of each period. There's a reduction in (overall teaching) time, but advocates of the eight-over-two schedule say that the time you get is more quality time."

Gallatin said he feels that it is ultimately the teachers who determine whether or not a particular schedule is successful. "It's important to have the staff on board and feeling reasonably good about it," he said. "Right now you have teachers who use the 55 minutes very well and some who don't, and the same thing happens with 80-minute classes. There has to be training on how to productively use the time."

"I think the eight-over-two works as well or better than any other alternative I've seen," Gallatin said, "but I'm not going to force it on anybody."

Financial aid/ from previous page

However, families making under \$100,000 may benefit from income tax credits, according to McPherson. One tax credit offers up to \$1,500 per year to a family during a student's first two years of college. Another offers a 20 percent credit of up to \$5,000 per year per student.

St. Thomas sophomore Torri Smith relies on a Pell Grant, Stafford Loan, university scholarships and her salary from a part-time job

to pay for college. Smith's parents help with off-campus living expenses, but "I carry the brunt of tuition," she said.

The idea of forcing a student to pay for college on her own with no help from the state—a proposal floated by Governor Jesse Ventura both before and after his election—unnerves Smith. "I don't know anybody my age who can make \$20,000 a year," she said.

"When the governor

makes a statement that if you're smart enough to go to school, you're smart enough to figure out how, part of that is looking for resources like state financial aid," Johnson

said. "Though (Ventura) has not been very complimentary toward these things, I think that as he grows to understand what the state is doing, (he will realize) that it fits

pretty well with his general philosophy."

"The governor needs to remember that in the case of public higher education, the state is paying a lot of it,"

McPherson said. "If we're all smart about education, we'll recognize how valuable it is and we'll all do our part to make sure that people can get through college."

	Enrollment *	Tuition, fees, room and board	Students receiving financial aid	Average financial aid package †	Average amount of financial aid coming from school †
Macalester	1,730	\$25,400	75%	\$15,345	\$10,400
St. Catherine	1,429	\$19,124	80%	\$12,000	\$4,000-\$5,000
St. Thomas	4,420	\$20,368	84%	\$13,506	\$5,000

* Traditional, full-time, undergraduate, day student

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Local school open houses, fairs can help parents make smart decisions

by John Wadell

Choosing a school used to be easy. Parents would just send their youngster to the public or private school closest to home. Today, with open enrollment, magnet schools, charter schools and other academic opportunities, selecting the best school for one's child often requires some homework.

To help parents and students make a more educated decision before classes start next fall, local schools are gearing up for informational fairs and open houses in the next few weeks.

In St. Paul, the 1999-2000 "School Choices and Services Catalog" was mailed out last week. The catalog describes each St. Paul public school and includes an application for elementary magnet and citywide option schools.

The district will also host an information fair from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23, at the St. Paul National Guard Armory, 600 Cedar St. The fair will feature exhibits on school programs and sessions on graduation standards, gifted assessment, early childhood parenting and technology in education. Private, parochial and charter schools will also participate in the fair. Admission is free. For details, call 651-293-5162.

The application deadline for attending public schools in St. Paul next year is February 26 for secondary schools and March 19 for elementary schools. For details, call the Student Placement Center at 651-293-5413.

In Minneapolis, families with children who will be entering kindergarten or changing elementary schools next fall are asked to fill out a school request form, which is due by February 28. Guides with maps of attendance areas may be picked up at any public school. The request forms and guides also will be available at an elementary and middle school information fair from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 6, at International Market Square. For information, call the district's Welcome Center at 612-627-2918.

School District 197 will hold open houses at Henry Sibley High School for incoming 9th-graders on February 4 and 8-11. Kindergarten roundups are still being planned. For information, call 651-681-2398.

A few local private high schools have already held open houses, including Cretin-Derham Hall, St. Thomas Academy and Visitation. The following is a list of the local secondary school showcases, elementary open houses and kindergarten roundups scheduled in the weeks ahead:

ST. PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS (Secondary)

Capitol Hill Magnet, 560 Concordia Ave. Showcase for grades 7-8 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 16. Call 651-293-5918.

Central Senior, 275 N. Lexington Pkwy. Showcase from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Monday, February 8. Call 651-293-8700.

Highland Park Junior, 975 S. Snelling Ave. Showcase from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 9. Call 651-293-8950.

Highland Park Senior, 1015 S. Snelling Ave. Showcase from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, February 11. Call 651-293-8940.

Ramsey Junior, 1700 Summit Ave. Showcase at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 11. Call 651-293-8860.

(Elementary)

Adams Spanish Immersion, 615 S. Chatsworth Ave. Open house from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Monday, March 15. Kindergarten roundup from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Monday, May 10. Call 651-298-1595.

Benjamin E. Mays, 560 Concordia Ave. Open house at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 9. Kindergarten roundup at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 4. Call 651-293-8730.

Capitol Hill Magnet, 560 Concordia Ave. Open house from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25. Call 651-293-5918.

Expo for Excellence, 540 S. Warwick St. Open house from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 9. Kindergarten roundup from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 4. Call 651-290-8384.

Groveland, 2045 St. Clair Ave. Kindergarten roundup from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 25. Call 651-293-8760.

Highland, 1700 Saunders Ave. French immersion and PREP program open house from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18. Kindergarten roundup from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 11. Call 651-293-8770.

Homecroft, 1845 Sheridan Ave. Kindergarten roundup at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 8. Call 651-293-8955.

Horace Mann, 2001 Eleanor Ave. Kindergarten roundup from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, April 15. Call 651-293-8965.

J.J. Hill, 998 Selby Ave. Open house from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 18. Kindergarten roundup from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 13. Call 651-293-8720.

Schools/see page 22



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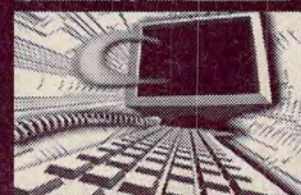
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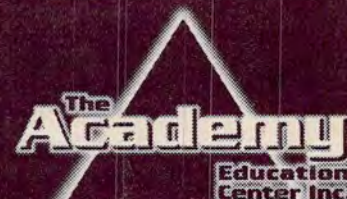


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Verdict out on whether new state graduation standards will pass test

by Michael Werner

Speak with anyone knowledgeable about Minnesota's public school system these days and the discourse is likely to center around two words that have spawned vigorous debate across the state—graduation standards.

Everyone seems to have an opinion about Minnesota's new graduation standards, which define what students need to know to earn a high school diploma.

One aspect of the graduation standards has come under particularly heavy fire from educators and legislators alike—the High Standards or Profile of Learning. The 1999 Minnesota Legislature will hear arguments during this session to fine-tune or eliminate the new standards.

The Profile of Learning is intended to assess whether students can apply their knowledge across 10 areas of study (see next page). Each of the learning areas has a set of skills that students must complete as part of "performance packages." Students who are currently in 9th grade will be the first ones required to complete 24 of the 48 performance packages in addition to passing Basic Standards Tests in reading, writing and math in order to graduate in the year 2002. Current 11th-graders are only required to pass the basic tests in reading and math, and 10th-graders must pass all three subject areas.

According to Jeanne Klein, graduation standards leader for St. Paul Public Schools, the new assessment system will better prepare students for a marketplace that has come to be dominated by the service industry.

"All kids who graduate from high school must be able to read," she said. "That wasn't necessary years ago when large percentages went on to farms and factories. If they didn't learn how to read they could still make a living. That can't happen in the 21st century."

Central math teacher Marty Hawthorne believes that the graduation standards will help prepare students for a work force that relies on critical thinking rather than memorization. "I always tell kids, 'I doubt you'll ever find a job where someone will say add these 40 numbers for me,'" he said. "However, they're going to come up and say, 'I've got this process over here and I've got so much material. What's going to result in the best thing?'"

Most St. Paul schools are now in the process of implementing the standards. At Highland Park Senior High School, 9th-graders are already receiving instruction to

meet the graduation standards in physical education, U.S. citizenship and science. Rebecca Keller, a science teacher and graduation standards facilitator for Highland, said the school is also experimenting with its sophomores, juniors and seniors to determine what will and won't work for future classes.

"In the upper grades the kids are doing the standards, but they're not accountable for them," Keller said. "We're doing them to see how they're working and to make sure they're working for the (freshman) class when it does count. This is so new, it's not real clear how we're going to get this done."

The district is waging an ongoing campaign to train its staff through workshops and small group seminars, but the magnitude of overhauling an educational system ensures that questions will linger.

"There's a lot of things that seem small, but when you sit down and put them all together, there's a lot that needs to be done still," said English teacher Leah VanDassor of Highland Park Junior High. "There's been training, but I don't think there's been enough."

VanDassor said that some teachers may be compromising the school's efforts. "I don't think a lot of teachers are on board with it and I think that's hindering progress," she said.

Ramsey Junior High principal Larry Gallatin echoed her sentiments. "I think there's a feeling (by the teachers) of being a little overwhelmed by it," he said. "They have to do it on the fly so to speak, because they're still teaching the 150 kids that they have plus figuring all this stuff out and implementing it. It's a major task."

Yet despite talk of stress and frustration, some St. Paul educators insist the graduation standards have the power to expand students' opportunities for learning. Hawthorne, for example, pointed to a project he is creating based on the movie *The Great Escape*, which he hopes will fulfill some of the graduation standards in mathematics.

"I'll break the kids up into teams and each one of them will be a POW and will have to figure out how to escape," he said. "If they tunnel, they'll have to figure out the best shape for the tunnel, how much dirt will need to be removed and what to do with it. I'm excited about (the Profile of Learning). It really lets a teacher be as creative as possible under certain guidelines. Learning doesn't have to

Graduation/see next page

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Profile of Learning's 10 areas of study

The following are examples of skills that students must demonstrate in the state-mandated Profile in Learning:

1. Arts and Literature. Create and/or perform original presentations in dance, music, theater, visual arts or media arts. Interpret and evaluate complex works of art in literature.

2. Decision Making. Make informed decisions that enhance individual, family and community health in all six priority health areas; promote healthful nutrition/dietary practices and physical fitness; reduce and prevent tobacco use, drug/alcohol use, intentional and unintentional injuries, HIV/STD and unintentional pregnancies. Apply informed decision-making processes to select appropriate physical activities to achieve fitness.

3. Inquiry. Trace significant themes in the development of the United States.

4. Math Applications. Apply concepts of shape, space and measurement to illustrate and describe the physical world and solve problems.

5. People and Cultures. Understand the foundation, rights and responsibilities of United States citizenship. Evaluate events and actions from diverse U.S. and world perspectives.

6. Read, View, Listen to complex information in the English language. Read and apply technical information from a variety of English language documents or electronic media.

7. Resource Management. Understand how individuals, households, businesses and governments use scarce resources to satisfy unlimited wants and needs.

8. Scientific Applications. Understand and apply scientific concepts, theories and principles in two of the following: biology, chemistry, physics, earth and space studies, environmental science or technical systems.

9. World Languages. Comprehend and communicate in a language other than English on a range of applications.

10. Write and Speak effectively in the English language for a variety of academic purposes and situations.

Graduation standards

be dry and boring."

Highland Park Senior High principal Joann Knuth believes the Profile of Learning will be a valuable tool for students who plan to continue their education. "Hopefully the graduation standards will provide them with a curriculum that will better prepare them for postsecondary experiences, whether it be college, university, technical school or work," she said. "It will provide them with the skills

to apply their learning to real-world situations. It'll prepare them to be productive citizens.

According to VanDassor, the true test that the graduation standards will need to pass is that of time. "A few years down the road this is all going to be a lot better," she said. "I just hope it doesn't go away before we finally get to that point."

School district employs 'Can Do' attitude

St. Paul Public Schools is entering the final weeks of "Operation Can Do," a districtwide strategy to help students pass the Minnesota Basic Standards Tests that they will be taking in the next two weeks.

A phone bank was set up last week to call parents of 8th-graders to alert them to the tests. "Countdown to Success" updates were being sent home weekly to help parents of 8th- and 10th-graders prepare their children for the tests. Public service announcements about the tests were being aired on KFAI radio in English, Hmong and Spanish.

About 3,700 8th-graders in St. Paul are expected to take the tests this winter and about

5,000 students in grades 9-11 have yet to pass them. All 10th-graders will take the required written composition test on January 20, which is being given for the first time this year. All 8th-graders and students in grades 9-11 who have yet to pass will take the reading test on February 2 and the math test on February 4.

The district will offer practice tests from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, January 23, for those in grades 9-11 and on Saturday, January 30, for those in grade 8. The sessions will be held at Arlington and Humboldt high schools. Bus transportation will be provided. To register, call 651-487-7380.



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* Courtesy parking is available at the Centennial Building Ramp (north of the Armory) or park at the state-owned lot south of Sears and take the trolley to the Parent Information Fair.

* Hmong, Spanish, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Somali and American Sign Language interpreters will be available for the entire fair.

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Schools schedule open houses, roundups/ from page 19

Linwood A+, 1023 Osceola Ave. Open house at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25. Kindergarten roundup at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 20. Call 651-293-6606.

Longfellow, 318 Moore St. Open house from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 4. Kindergarten roundup from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 4. Call 651-293-8725.

Monroe, 810 Palace Ave. Kindergarten roundup from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, March 25. Call 651-293-8690.

Museum Magnet, 560 Concordia Ave. Open houses from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, February 18. Kindergarten roundup from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, May 6. Call 651-293-5926.

Randolph Heights, 348 S. Hamline Ave. Kindergarten roundup at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 23. Call 651-293-8780.

Webster, 707 Holly Ave. Open house at 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 1. Kindergarten roundup at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 11. Call 651-293-8625.

(K-12 schools)

St. Paul Open, 90 S. Western Ave. Upper School showcase from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18. Lower School open house from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 3. Kindergarten roundup at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, May 27. Call 651-293-8670.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Children's Country Day, 1588 S. Victoria Road, Mendota Heights. Open house from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 11. Call 651-454-7499.

Convent of the Visitation, 2455 Visitation Drive, Mendota Heights. Open house for grades 7-8 at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6. Call 651-683-1700.

Friends School, 1365 Englewood Ave. Informational session from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 4. Call 651-917-0636.

Highland Catholic, 2017 Bohland Ave. Kindergarten roundup at 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 2. Call 651-690-2477.

Holy Spirit, 1406 Randolph Ave. Kindergarten roundups at 1:00 and 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 27. Call 651-698-7233.

IHM-St. Luke's, 1065 Summit Ave. Open house for kindergarten through 8th grade from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, January 28. Call 651-224-4836.

Minnehaha Academy, 3107 S. 47th Ave., Minneapolis. Upper school open houses at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday, January 26, and Thursday, February 11. Informational program for grades 1-8 at 6:45 p.m. Tuesday, February 23, at the Lower and Middle School, 4200 W. River Pkwy. Kindergarten and preschool informational program at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, February 6. Call 612-729-8326.

Mounds Park Academy, 2051 E. Larpenteur Ave. Open house from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Thursday, February 4. Call 651-777-6788.

Nativity, 1900 Stanford Ave. Open house at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 28. Call 651-699-1311.

St. Paul Academy and Summit School. Open houses from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 31, for grades K-6 at the Lower School, 1150 Goodrich Ave., and for grades 7-12 at the Upper School, 1712 Randolph Ave. Call 651-698-2451.

Sunny Hollow Montessori, 636 S. Mississippi River Blvd. Open house at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 20. Call 651-690-2307.

Talmud Torah of St. Paul, 768 S.

Hamline Ave. Preschool open houses from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Friday, February 5, and 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25. Call 651-698-8807.

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Roosevelt Senior, 4029 S. 28th Ave. Open house from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Monday, January 25. Call 612-627-2658.

Sanford Middle, 3542 S. 42nd Ave. Open house from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 9. Call 612-627-2720.

Hiawatha Community, 4201 S. 42nd Ave. Call 612-627-2750 to set up a tour.

Howe Community, 3733 S. 43rd Ave. Call 612-627-2755 to set up a tour.

Dowling Urban Environmental, 3900 W. River Pkwy. Call 612-627-2732 for a tour.

DISTRICT 197 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Henry Sibley High, 1897 Delaware Ave., Mendota Heights. Meeting for parents of incoming non-public and non-district 9th-graders will be held at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 4. Meetings for incoming students within the district will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, February 8-11. Call 651-681-2354.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

Concordia Early Learning Center, 1395 Pierce Butler Route. Open houses from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, January 29, and Tuesday, February 2. Call 651-649-5795.

Minnesota Technology High School, Learning Adventures Middle School and St. Paul Family Learning Center, 1745 University Ave. Open houses from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Friday, January 29, and Tuesday, February 2. Call 651-649-5403.

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THE KIOSK

Wednesday/January 20

THE 1999 MINNESOTA SPORTSMEN Boat, Camping and Vacation Show will be held beginning today and continuing through January 24 at RiverCentre. Hours will be from noon to 10:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$6.50 for adults and \$2.00 for children ages 6-12.

A TWO-PART SERIES on parenting successful children will be given by Patty Carney-Bradley from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening and on January 27. The first session will focus on daughters and the second session will focus on sons. The cost is \$5.00 per session. To register, call 651-698-0751.

Thursday/January 21

THE STERLING SPEAKERS Toastmasters will hold its next weekly meeting at 6:30 this evening at the Lexington Library, 1080 University Ave. Call Dan at 651-645-1240.

THE MOMS CLUB of the Highland/MacGroveland area will meet from 10:15 to 11:30 this morning. Lisa Mastain will discuss differing personality types between mother and child and how that can affect parenting style. For meeting location information, call 651-917-3823.

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

AN INTRODUCTION to acupuncture will be given by Deborah Clarke, a practitioner at the Wellness Center, at 7:00 this evening at Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080 Ford Pkwy. Call 651-690-9443.

Friday/January 22

A FORUM to discuss "Valuing Women's Work: Building Child-Care Solutions for Women Who Depend on It and the Women Who Provide It" will be held from 1:00 to 3:30 this afternoon in Owens Science Hall at the University of St. Thomas. Admission is free. For information, call 651-962-6119.

Saturday/January 23

JAY BENANAV, City Council member from Ward 4, will hold an open house from 10:00 a.m. to noon today at Pangaea, 1811 Selby Ave.

TOURS will be given from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. today and again on January 30 at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. During the tours, local organists will per-



Walking in his winter coveralls. Stan Roberts looked more like Jack Frost while clearing the paths at Rosewood Estate-Highland following last Thursday's snowstorm. "Under all this, I'm smiling," he said. Photo by Terry Faust.

form on the restored Hutchings pipe organ. The cost for the 75-minute tour is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. Visitors who just want to listen to the music may do so for \$1.00. For reservations, call 651-297-2555.

STATE SENATOR DEANNA WIENER, representative of District 38, will hold a town meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today at the Eagan City Hall, 3830 Pilot Knob Road. The focus of the meeting will be taxes and a pizza lunch will be served. For information, call 651-297-8073.

Sunday/January 24

CHRISTOPHER MEILI, the Swiss security guard whose efforts to prevent the shredding of bank records led to the recent payment of \$1.25 billion to the families of Holocaust victims, will be saluted today at the Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. A dessert reception with Mr. Meili will follow the 7:00 p.m. program.

Tickets are \$7.00, \$5.00 in advance. For information, call 612-334-7070.

Monday/January 25

"THE WORLD THIS WEEK," a Minnesota International Center (MIC) forum, will be held from 6:00 to 7:30 this evening at the University Club, 420 Summit Ave. Martha Raddatz and Tom Gjelten from National Public Radio will speak about major international issues. A reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$18, or \$12 for MIC members and students. To register, call 612-625-4421.

Tuesday/January 26

GASLIGHT TOURS will be given at 6:30 and 7:00 this evening and tomorrow evening at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Visitors will get a glimpse of the past and view the house in its original gas lighting and experience the social eti-

quette of the Gilded Age. The cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children. For reservations, call 651-297-2555.

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening in the parking lot of the St. Paul Cathedral, at Selby and Summit avenues, for a walk around the neighborhood. Call Chuck at 651-644-7502.

A SUPPORT GROUP for brain injury survivors will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 this afternoon and the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. Call 651-698-0751.

A LANDMARK SERIES Public Affairs Forum will be held from 12:30 to 1:30 this afternoon at the Landmark Center, downtown St. Paul. Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist will speak on "Restoring the Wealth of Our Cities." Admission is free.

"TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY," a weight loss group for seniors, will meet at 7:00 this evening and every Tuesday at Calvary Lutheran Church, 341 S. Hamline Ave. For information, call 651-224-2270.

Wednesday/January 27

A LUNCHEON to benefit Our Lady of Good Counsel Cancer Home will be hosted by the Council of Catholic Women at noon today at St. Helena's Catholic Church, 3201 E. 43rd St., Minneapolis. The cost is \$5.00.

Saturday/January 30

"WINTER ON THE HILL," special tours with a St. Paul Winter Carnival theme, will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. today and on February 6 at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. There will be a display of photographs that show how the Hill family and their neighbors celebrated the carnival. The cost for the 30-minute tours will be \$5.00 for adults, \$4.00 for seniors and \$3.00 for children ages 6-15. The cost just to see the exhibit is \$1.00. For tour reservations, call 651-297-2555.

THE SAINTLY CITY CAT CLUB will hold its 23rd annual Championship and Household Pet Show from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. today and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. tomorrow in the Roy Wilkins Exhibition Hall at RiverCentre. Admission is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for seniors and children under 10. For information, call 651-455-8043.

STATE REP. MICHAEL PAYMAR will hold a constituents forum from 9:30 to 11:30 this morning at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

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Winter Sunday Schedule

8:00 Low Mass 9:30-12:00 Child Care
10:00 High Mass & Church School 11:30 Adult Education
5:30 p.m. Weekday Masses
Feb. 7th 4:00 p.m. Solemn High Mass for the Feast of Candlemass

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Learning Hour 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.

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Keep your tootsies toasty by taking in these Winter Carnival activities

One hundred and thirteen years of winter merriment will reign supreme when the St. Paul Winter Carnival begins its 10-day run on Friday, January 29.

The signature event for this year's festival, which carries the theme "No Time for Cold Feet," will be a Super Snow Slide at Como Park. Activities around the slide will include a snow playground, a tree maze and a skating rink.

Throughout the carnival, entries in the ice and snow sculpting competitions will be on display at Rice Park and at the Roseville Oval, as long as weather permits. In addition, the Winter Carnival Community Theatre will make its second annual appearance with the production of *The Pajama Game* from January 22-February 6 at Como Park High School.

The carnival schedule also includes the following:

Pre-Carnival Events

Carnival Kick-off Celebration, reunion and festival warm-up party featuring the White Sidewalls, 6:00 p.m.-midnight Friday, January 22, Town Square Park.

Queen of Snows Fashion Show, 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 23, Radisson.

King Boreas Cross Country Ski Race, 10:00 a.m.-noon Sunday, January 24. (Kids race at 9:00 a.m.) Phalen Golf Course.

Friday, January 29

Winter Carnival Antique Show and Sale, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., RiverCentre. Continues January 30-31.

St. Paul Mixed Bonspiel, 2:00-10:00 p.m., St. Paul Curling Club. Continues January 30-31.

Winter Carnival Royal Coronation, 6:00 p.m., RiverCentre. Grand Royal Ball Dance, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m., Landmark Center.

Saturday, January 30

Kids Day at the King's Castle, noon-4:00 p.m., Landmark Center.

Disc Golf Tourney, noon, Highland Park.

Vulcan's Coming Out, 10:00 a.m., Landmark Brewery.

King Boreas Grande Day Parade, 2:00-4:30 p.m., downtown.

Saintly City Cat Show, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Roy Wilkins Exhibition Hall.

"Winter on the Hill" exhibit of carnival history, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Hill House. Also on February 6.

Orchid Show, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Como Conservatory.

Thinsulate Wilderness Experience, with snowshoeing, dog sled racing and other traditional winter activities, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Como



"Landmark Swings," a dance with music by Café Accordion Orchestra, will get people into the carnival spirit at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, January 21, at Landmark Center.

Park. Also on January 31 and February 6-7.

Klondike Kate Cabaret, 8:00 p.m.-12:30 a.m., Landmark Center.

Winter Carnival Button Bash with live music at various St. Paul nightclubs, 9:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m.

St. Paul's 150th Birthday Concert with Lamont Cranston, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Landmark Center.

CaveDance, 5:00 p.m.-12:45 a.m., First Trust Center.

Sunday, January 31

Sunday in the King's Court, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Landmark Center.

Vulcan Fire Truck Rides, noon-3:00 p.m., Como Park.

Orchid Show, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Como Conservatory.

Saintly City Cat Show, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Roy Wilkins.

Tuesday, February 2

Senior Royalty Coronation, 1:00-3:00 p.m., the O'Shaughnessy at the College of St. Catherine.

Junior Royalty Coronation, 7:00 p.m., the O'Shaughnessy.

Talent Contest Finals, 6:30 p.m., Roseville Area High School.

Wednesday, February 3

Carnival Day at the Children's Museum.

Hockey game featuring the Royal Guards vs. the Vulcan Krewe, 7:00 p.m., Roseville Oval.

Bouncing Team Tryouts, 7:30 p.m., University Club, 340 Cedar Ave.

Thursday, February 4

Seniors are Royal entertainment and refreshments, 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Landmark Center.

Celebrations of Culture Hispanic Fiesta, 6:00-10:00 p.m., Landmark Center.

Friday, February 5

Softball in the Snow, 6:00-10:00 p.m., Rice-Arlington Sports Complex. Continues February 6-7.

Klondike Kate Cabaret, 8:00 p.m.-12:30 a.m., Landmark Center.

Saturday, February 6

Teen and Family Snow Sculpting Contest, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Summit Avenue median.

Frozen 5K & Half Marathon, 10:30 a.m., Minnesota Mutual atrium.

King's Castle Salute to African-American Culture, 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m., Landmark Center.

Dance Team Competition, noon-5:00 p.m., South St. Paul High School.

Children's Speed Skating, 10:00 a.m., Roseville Oval.

Car Racing on Ice, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Lake Phalen.

Torchlight Parade, 6:30 p.m., downtown.

Royal Dethroning and fireworks, 8:00 p.m., Kellogg Park.

Family Night Post-Torchlight Parade celebration, 7:30-9:30 p.m., Landmark Center.

Vulcan Victory Dance with music by the Rockin' Hollywoods and a '50s costume contest, 7:30 p.m.-1:00 a.m., Radisson Hotel Grand Ballroom.

Sunday, February 7

Sunday in the King's Court, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Landmark Center.

Frosty Fingers Kite Fly, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Lake Como.

Car Racing on Ice, 9:45 a.m.-3:05 p.m., Lake Phalen.

Special Olympics Nordic Ski Event, 1:00 p.m., Como Park.

Jigsaw Puzzle Contest, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Town Square Park.

Antique Sleigh and Cutter Rally, noon-3:00 p.m., Phalen Park.

Golf in the Snow, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Lost Spur Country Club.

Bonfire and Passport Drawing, 5:00 p.m., Como Park.

All events are free or have a reduced admission price with a carnival button. A button costs \$3.00 and may be purchased at a variety of St. Paul retailers. For details, call the carnival line at 651-223-4710 or call up its Web site at www.winter-carnival.com.

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ON THE TOWN

Call of the wild

Mackenzie brings haunting sounds of Scandinavia to the O'Shaughnessy

by Janet Lunder Hanafin

Scandinavian mythology and ancient singing traditions will echo through the O'Shaughnessy the weekend of January 29-31 when Ruth MacKenzie presents excerpts of her powerful musical work, "Kalevala: Dream of the Salmon Maiden."

The Macalester-Groveland resident's piece will be linked with the works of two other 1998 McKnight Artist Fellows—composer Mary Ellen Childs and choreographer and dancer Laurie Van Wieren—as part of "Wildfire," a theatrical program offered as part of the Women of Substance series at the College of St. Catherine.

"Kalevala: Dream of the Salmon Maiden" is a full-length suite based on an ancient Finnish epic that was first transcribed 150 years ago. The suite, which was presented to packed houses at the Southern Theater in 1997 and at the Guthrie Lab last year, earned MacKenzie Artist of the Year awards from the *Star Tribune* and *City Pages*.

In "Kalevala," MacKenzie combines dancing, singing, instrumentation and narrative to tell the story of Aino, a young woman who resists marriage to a forest magician and flees to the sea to discover truth.

"The story of the Salmon Maiden is about living your own truth," MacKenzie said. "When I read the story it really hit me. I wanted to present it in a powerful art form. I wanted to sing it instead of tell it."

Well known as a composer and performer, MacKenzie did not consider Scandinavian musical traditions particularly interesting until she toured Sweden and Finland as a folk-rock singer with the musical ensemble Trova in 1992. There she discovered kulning (pronounced "coolning"), a high-pitched singing technique for calling animals. In 1994 she returned to Scandinavia on a Jerome Foundation grant to learn kulning from a woman in Umeå, Sweden.

"We practiced in her garage," she said. "It seems to resonate in people as a really, really ancient sound. It's at once the most beautiful sound I've ever heard and also the ugliest. It's the sound of the wild. Most Scandinavians have heard their mothers call them with a form of it."

Becky Waller of *Mpls.-St. Paul* magazine described the sound thusly: "The hair on the back of my neck stood briskly on end—my animal alertness activated—when I first heard Ruth MacKenzie sing kulning. It was one woman talking to another through my headphones, really, but it might as well have been one wolf trying to find another under the moon."

Originally from Denver, MacKenzie moved to the Twin Cities when she was 19 and toured throughout the Midwest as a singer and songwriter.

"I did a lot of things, as any free-lance musician does," she said. "I sang in clubs and sang in concerts. And I still teach through COMPAS and the Minnesota State Arts Board."

Her career as a blues and jazz singer has included performances at the Ordway Music Theatre with Women Who Cook, the Walker Art Center, Ruby's Cabaret and the Dakota. She also has had a long and fruitful career in theater, including productions of the Minnesota History Theater, New Music Theater Ensemble, Actors Theater and Madison Repertory Theater.

MacKenzie now has a couple of other irons in the fire. Several sponsors in Finland are working to bring the entire company of "Kalevala" there for a series of performances next summer. She also has been commissioned by the Children's Theatre Company to write a piece based on "The Snow Queen" by Hans Christian Andersen.

"In a way, I think my projects put Scandinavian tradition right back where it belongs," she said. "This is passionate music and there are passionate stories to be told."

"Wildfire" also will include a set by Childs'



Macalester-Groveland singer/songwriter Ruth MacKenzie will light up the O'Shaughnessy stage with Mary Ellen Childs and Laurie Van Wieren as part of a theatrical program called "Wildfire" on January 29-31. Photo by Ann Marsden.

company Crash, an ensemble known for creating music while in motion; Van Wieren's dance drama "The Lives and Death of Cinderella," which features members of her group the B-Specifics and 500 pairs of shoes; and the premiere of "Fire Drums," which blends MacKenzie's kulning techniques with Childs' theatrical use of percussion.

Performances will be given at 8:00 p.m.

Friday and Saturday, January 29-30, and 2:00 p.m. Sunday, January 31, at the O'Shaughnessy at the College of St. Catherine.

Tickets are \$18 for the evening shows and \$12.50 for the family matinee, which will include a panel discussion on "How to Thrive as a Woman Artist." For ticket information, call 651-690-6700.



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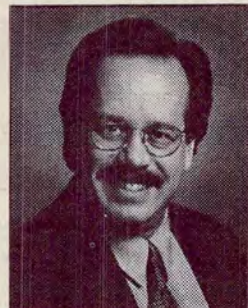
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Music



"Melodious Lunches," a noon-time concert series, takes place from noon to 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Terrace Cafe in the St. Paul Student Center at the University of Minnesota. The schedule includes Michael Monroe on January 20; David Heiser and Brendan Taaffe on January 21; Benjamin Woolman on January 27; and Bradley Joseph on January 28.

"Music Under Glass," a series of noontime performances on Thursdays in the Como Park Conservatory's Sunken Garden, will continue with Cliff Brunzell and His Golden Strings Jazz Quartet on January 21 and Singers! on January 28. Visitors may bring a bag lunch or order one from Black Bear Coffeehouse (\$6.25) for pickup at the conservatory 30 minutes before the performance. Call 651-488-2327 for lunch reservations by noon the day before the performance. Admission is \$1.00, or 50¢ for seniors over age 62 and children ages 6-12. Call 651-487-8200.

Ray Charles will perform with the Minnesota Orchestra at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, January 22-23, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$25.75 to \$43.75, call 612-371-5656.

Minstrelsy will perform "Dancing in the Season of Light" during a preview concert at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 24, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. They will also perform in concert at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, January 30, at University Lutheran Church of Hope, 601 S.E. 13th Ave., Minneapolis. For tickets, priced at \$8.00 and \$10, call 651-699-1808.

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: a 50th birthday party for Lowell Pickett, proprietor of the Dakota, on January 24. For information, call 651-642-1442.

Music in the Park Series will continue with the Ethos Percussion Group at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 24, at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave. For tickets, priced at \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door, call 651-645-5699.

The Hill House Chamber Players will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday, January 25, and again on February 1 at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. Tours will be given after the concerts. For tickets, priced at \$12, call 651-296-8205.

Judd Herrmann will perform at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, January 30, at Hair of the Dog Gallery, 541 Ohio St. Admission is \$10. Call 651-224-6281.

The Musical Offering will perform a concert of chamber music at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 31, in Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University. For tickets, priced at \$12 for adults, \$10 for students and \$5.00 for seniors, call 651-523-2459.

Books



The Hungry Mind Bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will host the following readings at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted): Patrick McCabe will read from his novel *Breakfast on Pluto* at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 20; Maria Amparo Escandon will read from her new

ON THE TOWN

briefly



Remembrance Ensemble will celebrate the release of its first recording with a concert of sacred a cappella music at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, January 23, at Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church, Dayton and Mackubin Street. The group performs compositions by member Jill Simon of Highland Park (third from left), who takes as her inspiration the sacred text of the Baha'i Faith. Tickets are \$15 at the door or \$10 in advance by calling 651-686-8859.

novel *Esperanza's Box of Saints* on Friday, January 22; Cameron Stracher will read from his book *Double Billing* on Monday, January 25; Anne Landsman will read from her book *The Devil's Chimney* on Tuesday, January 26; and Thom Jones will read from his book *Sonny Liston Was a Friend of Mine* on Wednesday, January 27. For information, call 651-699-0587.

Deborah Caulfield Rybak and David Phelps will discuss and sign copies of their book *Smoked: The Inside Story of the Minnesota Tobacco Trial* at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 26, at Barnes & Noble Highland, 2080

Ford Pkwy. Call 651-690-9443.

Linda Niemann and Lina Bertucci, authors of *Railroad Voices* and two of the first women to work as railroad brakemen, will give a talk and slide show at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 28, in Room 317 of Landmark Center.

Bell Hooks will discuss her book *Remembered Rapture* at 7:00 p.m. Friday, January 29, at Macalester-Plymouth Church, 1658 Lincoln Ave.

Iconoculture, a group made up of trend consultants Vickie Abrahamson, Mary Meehan and Larry Samuel, will discuss

their book *The Future Ain't What It Used to Be* at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 2, at the James J. Hill Library, 80 W. 4th St. Call 651-265-5500.

Family



Katie's Cabaret, an interactive improvisational theatre performance for the young and young at heart hosted by Ramsey Hill resident Amy Elizabeth Fisher, has begun its sixth season with performances every second Saturday of the month through May at the Bryant-Lake Bowl

Theater, 810 W. Lake St., Minneapolis. For tickets, priced at \$5.00, call 612-825-8949.

The Wizard of Oz, starring Mickey Rooney as the Wizard, has opened at the Historic Orpheum Theatre in Minneapolis. Performances will continue through January 24. For tickets, priced from \$25.50 to \$45.50, call 612-673-0404.

The Nokomis Community Library, 5100 S. 34th Ave., Minneapolis, will offer the following activities throughout January: Toddler Time at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays; preschool storyhours at 10:30 and 11:15 a.m. on Wednesdays; and the family films *Hundred Penny Box* and *Seven Wishes for Joanna Peabody* on Monday, January 25. For information, call 612-630-6700.

Storytimes for children ages 3-5 will be offered on Fridays through February 19 at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. A storytime for day care groups will meet at 10:00 a.m. and a session for families will meet at 10:45 a.m. To register, call 651-642-0385.

"Theater in the Attic," a series of three short plays written by Patty Lynch and Beth Gilleland exploring the joys and stresses that families share, will be given at 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays running through February 14 at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission is free. For information, call 651-296-6126.

Web Sight, a play about young heroes and sheroes and how they can make connections to weave more positive futures, has opened at In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theatre, 1500 E. Lake St., Minneapolis. Performances will continue at 10:00 a.m. Tuesdays

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through Fridays and at 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays through February 13. For tickets, priced at \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for children, students and seniors, call 612-721-2535.

Central Touring Theatre will present four original student plays at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, January 21, at Central High School, 275 N. Lexington Pkwy. Using music, dance, rap and poetry, the plays capture young people's impressions of everyday experiences. Tickets are priced at \$4.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children. Group rates also are available. Call 651-293-8700.

"Bug's Eye View," a new insect-based exhibit, will open Saturday, January 23, at the Minnesota Children's Museum, 10 W. 7th St. Children can don a field vest and grab a clipboard to study the insect world. They can wander through a live butterfly tent, step into a bug's head to look through its multi-lenslet eyes, control a six-legged robotic bug and create their own insects, among other activities. The exhibit will run through May 9. Admission is \$3.95 for toddlers and seniors, \$5.95 for others. Call 651-225-6000.

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: learn the Norwegian art of rosemaling on January 24. Admission is free. Call 651-296-6126.

"Sundays at Landmark," a family-oriented event series, will offer the following events at 2:00 p.m. on Sundays in the Cortile at Landmark Center: Tou Ger Xiong will perform on January 24. Admission is free. Call 651-292-3225.



The Children's Theatre Company has opened Alan Ayckbourn's interactive family comedy *Mr. A's Amazing Maze Plays*. Audience members will help Suzy (Britta Ollmann) and her exceptional dog Neville (Dean Holt) match wits with their evil neighbor Mr. Accousticus. Performances will continue through March 28. For tickets, priced from \$10 to \$25, call 612-874-0400.

"My Many Colored Days," an Adventures in Music for Families program, will be performed by the Minnesota Orchestra at 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. Sunday, January 24, at Orchestra Hall. Dr. Seuss' *My Many Colored Days* and Katy Rydell's *Wind Says Good Night* will be set to music during this hour-long performance. For tickets, priced from \$9.00 to \$28, call 612-371-5656.

The Youth Performance Company will open *Home On the Mornin' Train* on Wednesday, January 27, in the Howard Conn Fine Arts Center, 1900 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis. In this production, two groups of children

threatened by forces and reasons they struggle to understand brave the underground railroad to safety and freedom. Performances will continue through February 14. For tickets, priced at \$7.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 14 and under, call 612-623-9080.

One Voice Mixed Chorus will perform "Embracing the Elements" at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, January 29 and 30, at Highland Park High School, 1015 S. Snelling Ave. For ticket information, call 612-344-9663.

"Viva Cultura Hispana," an evening of fun for the whole

family, will be presented by InterClub from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, January 30, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Activities will include family games, folk dances of Mexico by Los Alegres Balidores and performances by a harpist from Central America. Admission is \$3.00 per person or \$5.00 per family. For information, call 651-698-2309.

"Let It Snow," a winter adventure family festival, will be offered from noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 31, at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The festival will include the high-energy English Morris-style folk dancing of Uptown-on Calhoun and Tangled Web, the folk music of China from master folk artist Ying Zhang and stories from Wil Hollnagel of the Forest History Center in Grand Rapids. Children can also make snow globes, wood-block prints, Finnish-style felt mittens and small snowshoes. Admission is free. For information, call 651-296-6126.

Dance



"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 Beasley's Big Band on January 21; and Swing Beat on January 28. Free dance lessons will be given at 6:15 p.m. Admission is \$6.00. Call 651-224-1191.

"Landmark Swings!" an evening of swing dance, will take place from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Thursday, January 21, at Landmark Center, downtown

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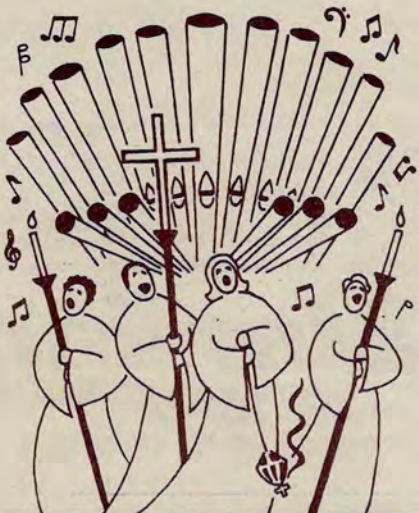
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St. Paul. Cafe Accordion will provide the music for the dance. Lessons will be given from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 at the door and \$5.00 in advance. For information, call 651-292-3276.

A special "Swing Night" will take place from 8:00 p.m. to midnight Friday, January 22, at the Wabasha Street Caves, 215 S. Wabasha St. The Minnesota Jazz Orchestra will provide the music for the dance. Lessons will be given at 7:15 p.m. Admission is \$8.00.

Trinity Irish Dance Company, the originator of progressive Irish dance founded in 1990 and based in Chicago, will perform at 8:00 p.m. Friday, January 22, at Northrop Auditorium. For tickets, priced at \$14.50, \$20.50 and \$26.50, call 612-624-2345.

"There's No Time For Cold Feet," a dance featuring the waltz, foxtrot, tango hustle, Latin and swing dancing, will be held from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Sundays, January 24 and 31, in the Twin City Ballroom, 265 W. 7th St. Dance lessons will be given at 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00. Call 651-771-4718.

Minnesota Dance Theatre will perform "A World Journey" at 8:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, January 28, 29 and 31, at the Fitzgerald Theater, 10 E. Exchange St. For tickets, call 612-338-0627.

The TGIS Singles Social Club will hold a smoke-free singles dance at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 30, at the Thunderbird Hotel in Bloomington. The Underbeats will provide the music for the dance. Admission is \$10, or \$8.00 for those arriving by 9:00 p.m. Call 651-644-3443.

Theater

The Magic Fire, Lillian Garrett-Groag's new comedy-drama recalling two immigrant families whose refuge from political turmoil in Europe has landed them in Argentina during the Peron regime, will open at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 20, at the Guthrie Theater. Performances will continue through February 14. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$37.50, call 612-377-2224.

The Mixed Blood Theatre Company will open *The True History of Coca-Cola in Mexico*, a political, burlesque docu-comedy by Aldo Velasco and Patrick Scott, at 8:00 p.m. Friday, January 22, in its historic firehouse theatre, 1501 S. 4th St., Minneapolis. Performances will continue at 8:00 p.m. Fridays in Spanish and at 7:00 p.m. Saturdays in English. There also will be an English performance at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 7. For tickets, priced at \$15, call 612-338-6131.

Always... Patsy Cline, a new production based on the friendship between Patsy Cline and her number one fan Louise



"Michael Feldman's Whad'Ya Know?" will be broadcasted live at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, January 23, at the Historic State Theatre, 805 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. This popular public radio program is broadcast at 10:00 a.m. Saturdays on WCAL 89.3 FM and at 2:00 p.m. Sundays on KNOW 91.1 FM. For tickets, priced at \$18 and \$26, call 612-989-5151.

Seeger, will open Tuesday, January 26, in the Ordway's McKnight Theatre. Performances will continue at 8:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays and at 2:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays until May 2. For tickets, priced from \$20 to \$35, call 651-224-4222.

The Gin Game, the Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy starring Julie Harris and Charles Durning and directed by Charles Nelson Reilly, will be performed at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, at 2:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday and at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, January 26-31, at the Historic State Theatre. For tickets, priced from \$14.50 to \$47, call 612-673-0404.

The Minnesota Opera will open Verdi's *Otello* at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, January 30, at the Ordway Music Theatre. Performances will continue through February 6. For tickets, priced from \$23 to \$75, call 651-224-4222.

Film

A film series will be offered at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and at 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. on Fridays through February in the St. Paul Student Center at the University of Minnesota. The line-up includes the following: *Armageddon* on January 20 and 22 (7:00 p.m. showings only); and *Ronin* on January 27 and 29. Admission is \$2.00, or \$1.00 for U of M students. Call 612-625-9794.

"Cinema With Passion," a festival of Hong Kong films, will take place at midnight on Fridays and 11:00 a.m. on 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 include the following: *Sonatine* at midnight Saturday, January 23; *Shaolin Temple 3: Martial Arts of Shaolin* at mid-

night Friday, January 22, at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 23, and at midnight Saturday, January 30; and *Haunted Cop Shop* at midnight Friday, January 29, and at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 30. Admission is \$6.00. Call 612-376-7715.

Exhibits

An exhibit of the sculpture of Kirk Sklar, an art professor at Concordia University, will open with a reception from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Monday, January 25, in the Art Department Gallery in Luther Hall, 275 N. Sydicate St. The exhibit will remain on view until February 19. For information, call 651-641-8494.

"Altered Images," an exhibit of photographs by Ann Ginsburgh Hofkin, Ann-Marie Rose, Dorothy Schlesselman and Mary Tortorici, will open Monday, February 1, in the Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at the College of St. Catherine. A reception will be held from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6. Call 651-690-6644.

Etc.

The Wild Yam Cabaret will perform a variety of work by, for and about women at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, January 30, at the Linwood Community Center, at St. Clair Ave. and Victoria St. Estrella Lucia from the Rincon del Flamenco Dance Company will dance, Amanda Seigel will sing Yiddish folk songs, Carla Vogel will share her story "The Rebirth of Esther Pinkle," Lynn Cross will read some of her poetry and Eve Blackwell will host as Lucille, All-Star Queen of Megashopper of the '90s. Admission is \$5.00 in advance and \$6.00 at the door. For reservations, call 651-293-9072.



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Vikes' march to Miami misses a beat

The turning point in the NFC championship game came not in the overtime period, not in the second half, but late in the second quarter with the Vikings leading the Falcons 17-7. Randall Cunningham threw a perfect strike into the end zone. The ball glanced off Randy Moss' fingertips and the Purple had to settle for a field goal. The Vikings were back on their heels from that point on. They really hadn't played in a close game all year and it showed down the stretch on Sunday.

The Vikings made many mistakes in the game, but the ones that hurt the most were those that resulted from their ultra-conservative approach on offense. With 30 seconds left in regulation, the Vikes had a 3rd-and-3 from their own 30. Inexplicably, they chose to run out the clock when there was nothing to lose in trying another long pass, one that would have put them in the Super Bowl had it succeeded.

All season, the team thrived on a wide-open, take-your-chances offense built around the deep pass. But when it came to crunch time, the coaches' keesters tightened up. The game plan for the second half and overtime period looked like it came from the Groveland Midgets' playbook. Robert Smith ran on first down on seven consecutive series. Cunningham threw deep exactly twice after halftime. Certainly, Gary Anderson's missed field goal with 2:11 left was lethal. Part of the beauty of sports is the unexpected. After successfully nailing 122 kicks in a row, what were the odds that Anderson would miss from 39 yards out?

Minnesota was guilty of breaking the Cardinal (make that Falcon in this case) Rule of Sports: Never count on anything in the sporting world. Anytime you look ahead, you seem to get knocked in the head. Oh well, at least we can enjoy the Super Bowl commercials now.

BANDWAGON SINKS, NO SURVIVORS

This just in: The Vikings' bandwagon was involved in a tragic mishap late Sunday afternoon. The overcrowded craft hit a patch of ice, rolled several times, then careened onto Lake Minnetonka. The thin ice (blame El Niño) could not support the bandwagon, not with the entire state of

Cody/see next page

So close, it hurts

Vikings' Zamberletti, Ryan suffer another super loss

Dick Gordon

Change is a way of life with the Minnesota Vikings, as it is everywhere in the National Football League. Coaches are hired only to be fired. Playing rosters are altered from game to game if not day to day. Owners come and owners go (hello, Tom Clancy; goodbye, Tom Clancy) and stadiums are raised and razed.

But there are also constants. In Vikingland they are trainer Fred Zamberletti and equipment manager Dennis Ryan, who together have logged 61 years in purple. Though longevity is their common denominator, there is one major difference in their portfolios — Super Bowl experience.

Zamberletti, 66, a former Highland Park resident who moved here in 1960 when he accepted the trainer's position, worked the sidelines at all four previous Viking Super Bowl appearances.

Not so Ryan, 39, who lives in Highland not far from where he grew up. The last time the Vikings reached the Super Bowl in January 1977, Ryan was a 17-year-old high school student who worked part time as a Viking locker boy, performing such tasks as cleaning the mud from players' cleats. Ryan was offered the chance to attend



Like Viking fans everywhere, Viking equipment manager Dennis Ryan, wife Laura and children Annie, 3, Ben, 7, and Maureen, 5, fell just short of the goal for '99. Photo by Mike Long.

the Super Bowl in Pasadena that year by the late Stubby Eason, the Vikings' equipment manager at the time, but he turned it down so that he could fulfill his duties as captain of the Highland Park High School wrestling team. Ryan has had no such outside commitments since acceding to Eason's position in 1981, but the Vikings never obliged with a return to the promised land. In fact, they rarely came close—until this year.

"I remember thinking when I talked to Stubby in

'77, 'What the heck, we'll probably go again next year,'" Ryan said.

Next year was a long time coming. It may be a lot longer still.

At 8:00 a.m. on the Monday following the Vikings' 30-27 overtime loss to Atlanta in the National Football Conference championship game, Ryan and Zamberletti were back at work at the team's Winter Park practice facility in Eden Prairie. "I've never been this disappointed in my life—about anything," Ryan said. "To

come so close...."

During the regular season Ryan works many 14-hour days, and the playoffs, for all their excitement, mean additional work. "But it's very welcome," Ryan said. "I'm a fan as well as an employee."

"The Super Bowl's the biggest game there is—for the trainer as well as the coaches and players," said Zamberletti, who remembers every fumble, penalty and injury from past Vikings' Super Bowls. "If you

Vikings/see page 31

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Scots have power, just need the fire to succeed

by Bill Wagner

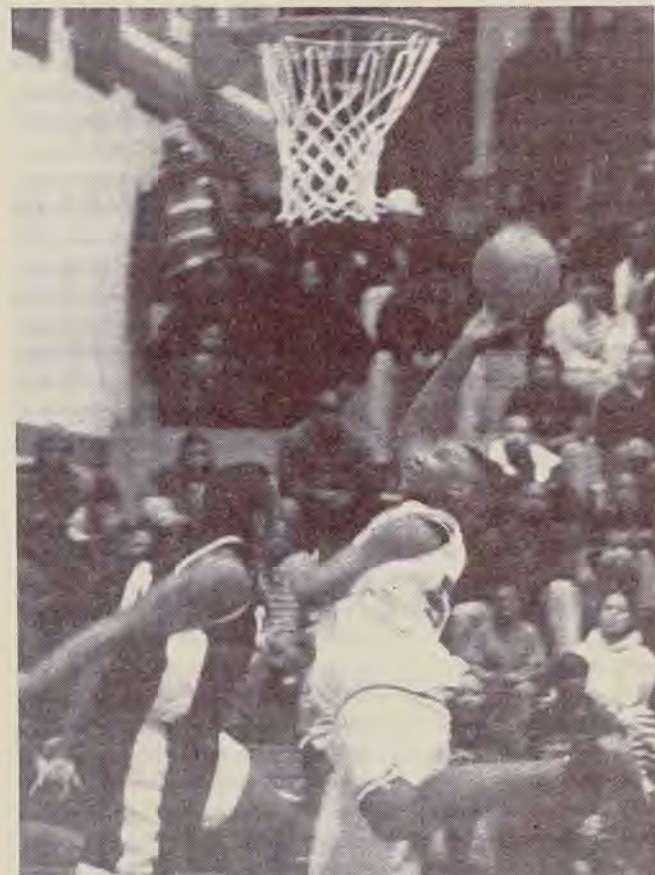
Highland Park boys basketball coach Charles Portis wants his players to get a lot tougher on opposing teams. The Scots, who had compiled an 8-2 record as of last week, have been doing a lot of things right this winter. They have decent size to go along with good rebounding and shooting skills. Still, Portis would like his squad to work harder in that part of the game that does not show up in the box scores but is needed to win championships—defense.

"Good half-court defense is just a matter of being aware," Portis said. "It's a matter of kids understanding just how important defense is. We need to have more players diving for loose balls."

If the Scots can tighten up their defense, Portis said there is no reason they can't be right in the hunt with Central, Cretin-Derham Hall and Johnson for the St. Paul City Conference crown, and competing for the Section 3AAA title against defending champion St. Thomas Academy.

Highland does have considerable offensive weapons in its arsenal. Senior Mark Wingo, a 6-foot-5 power forward, has been one of the metro area's scoring leaders, averaging nearly 20 points per game. Wingo can post up and shoot from the outside when called upon. Portis said Wingo is a good Division II college candidate, but could improve his prospects by getting more physical on

Highland /see next page



Highland Park forward Mark Wingo attempts a reverse layup against Central center Nate Hunkins during the Scots' recent 56-48 loss. Photo by Mike Long.

Cody: March to Miami waylaid in Mpls./from previous page

Minnesota jammed onto it, and it sank slowly into the icy waters of Gray's Bay. There were no survivors. By 4:00 p.m., all that remained was one of those \$14.95 Viking window flags floating harmlessly on the surface.

The bandwagon had quite a run before its untimely demise. A few highlights along the way:

9/1/98: The bandwagon arrives in town. It is a monstrous, converted model of an old flatbed truck off one of Purple McCombs' San Antonio used car lots. At this point (after a 4-0 exhibition season), there's still plenty of room available.

10/5/98: The Vikings win in Green Bay. All aboard! The "Color Purple" starts popping up everywhere. Even your mother has a Randy Moss jersey by now.

11/1/98: Tampa Bay beats Minnesota. There are now a few seats available again. The bandwagon riders are obviously equipped with cell phones, as the radio sports talk shows stage a suicide watch.

11/25/98: Wins over Green Bay at home, Dallas on the road. Souvenir stands are starting to appear in gas station parking lots. You can't get a spark plug at a gas station these days, but you can get a set of plastic Vikings horns.

1/3/99: Playoff bye week. The bandwagon parks at Gabe's, just to torment Green Bay fans. Terrell Owen's last-second TD sends the Pack home early. There is jubilation on the flatbed.

1/10/99: The bandwagon rolls into the MetroDome for the Cardinal game. With a 17-0 Vikings lead, the bandwagon is loaded beyond capacity. Arizona scores twice; the bandwagon stalls. Jumper cables are produced. The bandwagon is restarted with a 41-21 win.

1/16/99: The week before the conference title game is the bandwagon's finest hour. Newspapers run stories about the Vikings' food service, the Vikings' wives, the Vikings' garbage collectors. Cris Carter's paper boy is interviewed on K-FAN. The bandwagon is planning a trip to Miami. What could possibly go wrong?

SETTLEMENT BOOSTS WOLVES' FORTUNES

The Minnesota Timberwolves caught a big break when the NBA lockout ended. The settlement included a salary cap on players with six to nine years of experience, which will severely limit free agent forward Tom Gugliotta's options. The rule should give Kevin McHale the bargaining edge necessary to retain the team's top scorer. The really good NBA teams have four or more established veterans. The Wolves would've taken a step backward if they'd been reduced to the Kevin Garnett-Stephon Marbury duo.

The team still has a glaring weakness in the paint, but perhaps there'll be enough extra cash and salary-cap room to procure an effective space-eating center during the free agent frenzy this month. The Wolves need to improve their rebounding and post defense to better their chances as playoff contenders.

The settlement did little to alter the union-management relationship. The players will continue to call the shots as long as they've got the money. David Stern may sit at the commissioner's desk, but there's no question who's really in charge here. As for the fans, you can be sure that little will

change. Spike Lee can still afford to sit in the front row at Madison Square Garden. You and I still can't.

THE HALL CALLS

It's hard to argue with the recent baseball Hall of Fame balloting that produced an unprecedented three inductees: Nolan Ryan, George Brett and Robin Yount. The baseball writers have in recent years cast ballots for questionable candidates (witness Don Sutton). This time they nailed it.

All three players made special contributions to the game, which is what it should take for Cooperstown consideration. Ryan changed the concept of power pitching, hurling seven no-hitters and striking out nearly every citizen in the country. Some players rely on longevity as their sole credential for the Hall (witness Carlton Fisk, Steve Garvey and Tommy John, three above-average candidates who were spurned in this year's balloting). Ryan, on the other hand, was still magnificent at age 44. He threw a no-hitter against Toronto that season.

Brett and Yount were rare commodities, not only for their offensive prowess but for their dedication to their respective teams and cities. They were among the last of a dying breed of loyal athletes who won't have to agonize over which uniform to show on their Hall of Fame plaques.

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

• On the local girls basketball front, there are plenty of noteworthy scoring averages: Laura Haugen (Highland Park, 17.1 points per game); Maureen Smith (Visitation, 16.4); Nakia Carlisle (Central, 14.5); Kate Townley (Cretin-Derham Hall, 13.5); Lee Durant (Minnehaha, 13.5); Shaunte Johnson (HP, 12.2); Amy Scarborough (Roosevelt, 11.3); and Steph Scott (Minnehaha, 11.3).

Among the top local scorers in boys basketball are Jerry Webb (Central, 21.5); Eric Nelson (Sibley, 20.1); T.J. Prunty (St. Paul Academy, 17.3); Mark Wingo (HP, 16.4); Thaddeus Fly (Roosevelt, 16.3); and Minnehaha's John Breneman (16.3) and Peter Hamburge (11.8).

• Top boys hockey scorers include Sean Doyle (Sibley, 17 goals, 13 assists); Bubba Haugland (Sibley, 7 and 12); Tyler Montgomery (SPA, 10 and 9); Anthony Blumer (St. Thomas Academy, 9 and 10); Charlie Dickinson (SPA, 9 and 7); Andy Norman (Central-Highland, 11 and 4); Darren Richardson (CDH, 7 and 8); Joe Vanelli (CDH, 8 and 6). Top goaltenders and their goals-against averages are Ethan Keller (STA, 2.33); Kris Unise (CDH, 2.63); Andy Gross (Sibley, 2.79); Kevin Hennessey (Minnehaha, 3.08).

Top girls pucksters include Alexa Gollinger (St. Paul United, 20 and 7); Lindsey Rhein (CDH, 14 and 10); Kim Hayes (United, 9 and 8); Katie Otis (Sibley, 7 and 10); Katie Hermes (CDH, 3 and 12); Kerry Rollwagen (United, 1.58 goals-against average); Stephanie Seiler (Sibley, 2.08); and Erin Bray (CDH, 2.61).

• Top area wrestlers include Roosevelt's Jafari Vanier (15-1 at 103 pounds), David Heidt (14-2 at 125), Marcus Levesseuer (15-0 at 135), Cory Vanier (16-0 at 130) and Vince Zeiher (15-1 at 160); and STA's Chris Abbott (17-1 at 152).



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Highland Park basketball

the defensive end.

One of the team's best players in that regard is 5-foot-9 senior point guard Terrance Stokes. In addition to his defensive play, Stokes is a skilled ball-handler who can break down a team's defense on the other end of the court. The senior captain was hampered by a bad knee earlier this winter and is still playing with a brace that affects his shooting. Just the same, Stokes has been averaging 12 points and six assists a contest.

Thomas Miley, a 6-foot-8, 250-pound junior center, has been chipping in another 11 points an outing for the Scots. Miley has a good shooting touch both inside and out. Still, Portis said he also could upgrade his play by being more aggressive.

Senior 6-foot-2 forward Joseph Matthews was an unknown commodity at the start of the year, but Portis put him in the starting lineup at the end of December and he has responded with some impressive three-point shooting. Moe Hargrow, a 6-foot-3 sophomore, offers unusually good size at guard.

Diaz Cruz, a 6-foot-2 senior guard and forward, is a "potentially great defensive player" as Highland's sixth man, according to Portis. Jeffrey Brown, a 6-foot-8 junior center, also

comes off the bench to give the Scots some rebounds and blocks.

Highland has come a long way this year, given that Portis was only sure of two starting positions at the start of the season—Stokes and Wingo. The Scots had two big wins at the Fargo Tournament in the last week of December, including one over highly regarded Fargo-Shanley. They also defeated a fine Minnehaha Academy team that is expected to challenge for the league and section titles.

Their only two losses have been at the hands of De La Salle and Central. The Scots outrebounded the Islanders 39-24 in the first loss, but did themselves in by turning the ball over 17 times. Highland also matched up well with the talented Minutemen on January 8 before losing 56-48. "We played pretty well; they just played better," Stokes said.

Portis said he is looking to Stokes to provide leadership on the court and pass along some of his hustle and desire—especially when the opponent has the ball.

"These are the things players need to learn to be a good basketball team," Portis said. "We feel we have some good players who'll show what they're made of as the season goes along."

Vikings' staff suffers loss too

win, it's the biggest win ever, and if you lose, it's the biggest loss. It takes a lot of time to get over it."

Zamberletti recalled the first Vikings' Super Bowl in January 1970, the last year of the old American Football League. "We were 13½- or 14-point favorites," he said. "When I first saw the Kansas City Chiefs, our opponents, I remember thinking that they looked awfully good."

By the time Zamberletti helped Joe Kapp off the field, writhing in pain from a shoulder injury late in the fourth quarter, the Chiefs had proved to be just as good as they looked and the Vikings were 23-7 losers.

"In the regular-season opener the next fall, we kicked the hell out of the Chiefs, 27-10," Zamberletti said. "But that didn't make up for the Super Bowl loss."

Zamberletti and the Vikings would appear in three more Super Bowls in the 1970s and

lose all three. Between then and now, they've come close to a Super Bowl appearance twice—in 1988, losing 17-10 in the NFC championship game when runningback Darin Nelson couldn't hold on to Wade Wilson's fourth-down end zone pass, and this year.

"The (loss to Atlanta) hurts," Zamberletti said, "but not as much as those Super Bowl losses. There's pain now, but it's like a woman having a baby. There's a lot of pain when she's in the delivery room, but a few days later she's talking about having another baby."

Ryan agreed. "Things look pretty bleak now," he said, "but in a day or two I'll feel better. And hopefully I'll get to a Super Bowl someday."

"A man can live 40 days without food," Zamberletti said. "He can live several days without water and even a short while without oxygen. But you can't live without hope."

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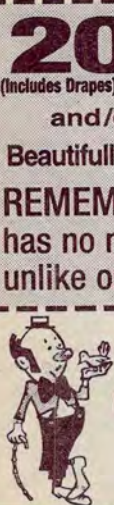
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STUDENT/ADULTS needed for snow shoveling. Call the Macalester-Groveland Job Connection. 651-698-7973. **v**

LIKE CHILDREN? Jewish Community Center of St. Paul is looking for people who have some experience working with children to work in drop-in babysitting. EOE. Mondays and Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Rose, 651-698-0751. **v**

PART-TIME SALES help; flexible hours; Baby Grand, 651-224-4414. **v**

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PART-TIME RECEPTIONIST/Secretary. Local funeral home seeking individual to greet families and perform secretarial duties. Computer experience preferred. Please send resume to: Villager, Box 301, 757 Snelling Ave. S., St. Paul, MN, 55116. **v**

RETAIL FT/PT. Kids in school? Come work with us. Friendly, outgoing, detail-oriented person needed for sales/customer service. Please apply in person. Elite Repeat, Randolph at Hamline. **v**

For additional job openings, turn to the Employment Opportunities ad section. For advertising information, call 651-699-1462.

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PART-TIME NANNY. Great pay and hours. Responsible person with car to watch two children, Feb.-May, Mon.-Fri. (Could extend into summer.) Girls 13 & 14, active in sports. Great job for student. Person needs to be responsible, caring, willing to work with flexible schedule between 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (M-F) Pat or Cathy after 6:00 p.m. 651-450-5512. **gv**

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Parents are urged to exercise caution in arranging child care. Be sure to investigate references. To obtain a list of licensed day care providers in the area, call 651-641-0332. **gv**

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FOR RENT 1143 Goodrich. Spacious 2-bedroom upper duplex. Prime location, fireplace, HW floors; avail. Feb. 1; \$850/mo. + util. Call Simone, eves. 651-225-8306. **v**

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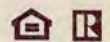
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John Otteson



Prospect Park

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651 696-0856 \$210,000



Beth Johnson



Highland Park

Nice 3-BR, 2-bath home just a few blocks to Cretin-Derham Hall. Features include: hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, fireplace and a lower family room. Flexible possession.

651 696-0879 \$145,000



Scott Brownlee



Fabulous Tudor

Charming 2-story, 2-BR. Great Mac/Groveland location, sunny LR with fireplace, hardwood floors, updated kitchen, newer mechanicals, 2-car garage. This is a must see!

651 696-0849 \$149,900



John Schneeman



Cozy in Hamline

Charming 3-BR home on quiet street near Hamline University. Priced in the mid \$80's, and features updated bath and kitchen, plus lots of woodwork and built-ins.

651 686-8895



Randy Brown



Mississippi River Boulevard

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Bob Reidell



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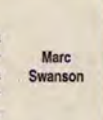
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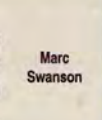
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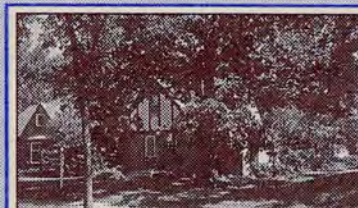
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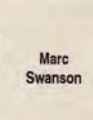
Marc Swanson



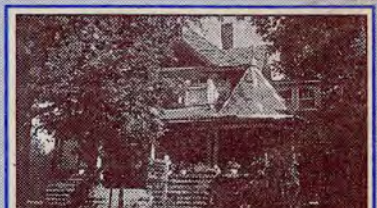
Classic Tudor

Great Nokomis location! Home offers 4 BRs, 3 baths, fireplace, formal dining room and eat-in kitchen. MUST SEE 5533 13th Ave.

651 696-0866 \$154,900



Marc Swanson



Great Victorian!

929 Hague. 4-BR, 2+ story with all of the details. Fantastic woodwork, stone fireplace, great front porch. 2,000 sq. ft. Call for a private showing.

651 696-0862 \$124,500



David McLaughlin



Victorian Holidays!

This 4-BR is waiting for you on St. Paul's famous Grand. This home is priced to sell. Fenced yard, gas fireplace, recessed lights, stained glass, hardwood floors.

651 696-0845 \$189,900



Mike Brennan



You Must See Inside!

This updated and remodeled large 3-BR, 3-bath home with main floor family room, master BR suite, 3 separate fireplaces, large double garage and much more!

651 696-0888



Mitch Fink



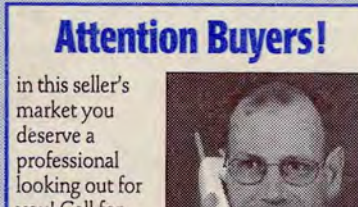
Highland Park - \$149,900!

Absolutely mint 3-BR, 2-story home with lots of extras! Hardwood floors, double garage and located just a quick walk to Highland Village. Must see to appreciate!

651 696-0888



Mitch Fink



Attention Buyers!

in this seller's market you deserve a professional looking out for you! Call for my **FREE Buyer's Packet**, loaded with the info you need to make the right move.



Orrin Jenstad
651-696-0895
651-394-8637



Why Rent? \$69,900

Great 2-BR, 2-bath home in nice neighborhood. New siding, new windows, new 2-car garage, fenced-in yard, newer kitchen, separate dining & more. Close to everything.

651 696-0865 \$69,900



Bob Boland

**Buying?
Selling?**
Just thinking about it?
Now is the time
to list your home for Spring sales.
Call for a **Free Market Analysis.**



**Kate McGuire
&
Ray Hoffmann**
"Bridging the Gap"
651-222-5541
MN/WI RE/Source
www.remax-crossroads-mn.com



S-P-A-C-I-O-U-S!

Extensively remodeled home surrounded by lakes and woods! Four large BRs on one level, fireplace, spacious living room.

651 696-0859 \$179,900



Mark Wiebusch



Price Reduced!

Very well-maintained home! Family room with brick wall fireplace, sliding glass doors lead to large deck and fenced yard! Large 2-car, insulated garage with workbench.

651 696-0859 \$75,000



Mark Wiebusch



Fabulous Potential*

So much space for the money! Kitchen has been totally re-done, 3 BRs and an updated bath in this 2-story home. Ready for some finishing touches.*

651 696-0874 \$129,500



John Otteson



HELP!

I Have a Buyer...

Who needs 4+ BR, 3+ baths, at least 3,000 square feet., for less than \$350,000, in a good city neighborhood.

651 696-2100



Beth Richardson