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VILLAGER

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Shepard-Davern redevelopment plan released by task force

Plan seeks to protect homeowners while guiding area's transformation

by Jane McClure

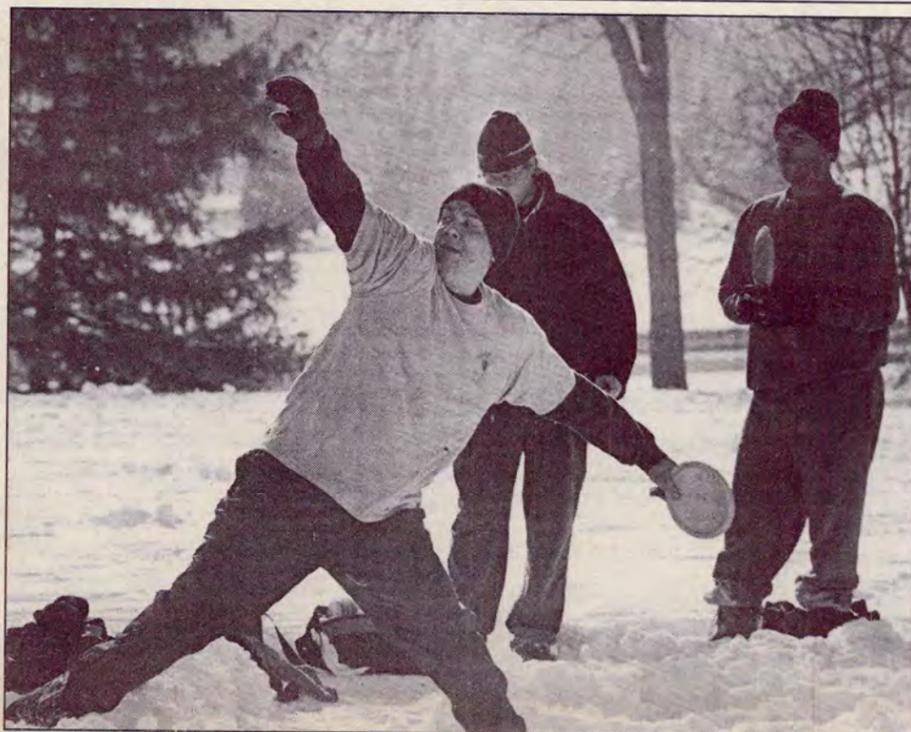
Proposed changes to Edgcombe Road and the land west of Davern Street continue to generate the most debate in discussions about the future development of the Shepard-Davern area of Highland Park. The Shepard-Davern Task Force released the final draft of a proposed land-use plan on January 28. The plan outlines both short- and long-term proposals for the redevelopment of the neighborhood.

The plan suggests removing the existing ramps and overpass at Edgcombe Road and West 7th Street and cre-

ating an at-grade intersection in its place. Edgcombe Road would become a parkway and would be extended to Stewart Avenue, cross Davern Street and link up with Shepard Road.

Edgcombe Parkway would be a focal point in the transformed triangular area bounded by West 7th and Davern streets and Shepard Road. The area now has about 50 single-family homes and duplexes, four apartment buildings and half a dozen commercial properties, dominated by River-Bank Business Center, home

Shepard/see page 2



You da man! Curt Gatlin (above) reaches back for a big drive during the St. Paul Winter Carnival's disc golf tournament last Saturday in Highland Park. Sunshine and temps in the mid-30s made for almost springlike playing conditions. If it wasn't for the snow on the fairways—an 18-inch blanket that nearly obliterated Neal Fitzgerald's disc (left)—a player might have forgotten it was winter. Photos by Brad Stauffer.

Heritage preservation feels the pain of a growing downtown

by Dave Page

The three-story limestone building that houses the Coney Island bar at 444 St. Peter St. has survived nearly a century and a half of blizzards and cloudbursts, but this winter it finds itself at the center of a storm of controversy that is threatening to take it down.

The 141-year-old structure is one of four buildings that were recommended for historic designation on January 21 by the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC). The buildings—the Coney Island bar and cafe, the Orpheum Theater and the former St. Francis Hotel—are located at St. Peter and 7th Place on property that is being eyed by city officials

for the expansion of St. Paul Companies across the street.

On the day following the HPC's 8-0 vote, St. Paul Companies withdrew its option to buy the theater and hotel from the St. Paul Port Authority for \$1.6 million. Mayor Norm Coleman then fired the three HPC members whose three-year terms were up for renewal this year. Charles Skrief, Kathryn Paulson and Bob Frame were dismissed for what outgoing HPC chairman Charles Skrief called "voting our consciences" and recognizing the historical significance of the buildings. Coleman had earlier asked the HPC to hold off making a decision.

St. Paul Companies had hoped to erect a

new office tower on the site to accommodate a near-doubling of the company's current downtown work force of 3,000.

City Council member Chris Coleman, whose Ward 2 includes downtown, called the mayor's actions "the biggest display of strong-arm tactics since the movie *On the Waterfront*." However, Mayor Coleman, citing the fallout from West Publishing's departure from downtown in the early 1990s, said the firings were warranted. "It's too important an issue not to have St. Paul Companies expand here," he said.

The firings caught HPC members by surprise. "The mayor acknowledged (in a meeting just prior to the HPC's vote) that the HPC

is an advisory body," said Skrief, a Summit Hill resident. "The commission agrees with that; we understand that the City Council can decide not to follow our recommendation."

A majority of the City Council is ready to do just that, according to council member Jim Reiter. In that case, St. Paul Companies may still be interested in the site, according to David Monfried, a spokesman for the insurance firm.

St. Paul Companies has no immediate need to expand, according to Monfried, "but our new building downtown, which was completed in 1991, is essentially filled," he said,

Heritage/see page 4

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Concordia opposes any Ayd Mill Road extension

University's concerns receive the support of two Snelling-Selby businesses

by Jane McClure

Citing the need to protect its campus from encroachment and allow for future expansion, Concordia University has come out in support of the linear park or "no-build" options for Ayd Mill Road.

Concordia opposes the two-lane and four-lane options for reconstructing Ayd Mill Road because they would require the removal of part of the Concordia campus, including all or part of a baseball field, a maintenance building and a parking lot. Those options would

extend Ayd Mill Road north to I-94. Concordia officials are concerned about the visual impact and the physical barrier that the extension would present.

"We have to balance our needs with our desire to have a robust business and residential community," said Lee Pao Xiong, Concordia's director of government and community relations.

According to Xiong, Concordia wants to keep its options open for expanding its campus westward. The campus is currently bordered by I-94 to the north and Dunning Field to the east. Several

years ago, the university promised its Lexington-Hamline neighbors that the university would not expand into the residential neighborhood to the south. The university has since sold whatever property it owned there, Xiong said.

The no-build option would leave Ayd Mill Road as is—a four-lane city street with no connections to the freeway system. The linear park option would totally remove the 1.5-mile roadway.

According to Xiong, Concordia

Ayd Mill Road/see page 2

Shepard-Davern force now considering ways to implement plan

to 2,000 US Bank employees. The plan advocates a mixed use of residential, commercial, hotel and conference facilities with park-like streets and extensive landscaping.

The task force intends to review steps for implementing the plan in February and to schedule a public meeting in early March. The Highland District Council could make its recommendations on the plan as early as March 18. The plan will then go back to the task force before it is submitted to the St. Paul Planning Commission and City Council. The document would ultimately be used to guide public improvements, private development and zoning changes in the affected area.

Neighborhood residents had hoped the plan would incorporate ways to preserve their homes. About half a dozen people turned out at the meeting to express their concern that they would be unable to buy comparable housing if they are forced to relocate. They

also were concerned that neighbors who may want to move before the plan is in place may have difficulty selling their property.

Neighbor Cliff Nash offered several suggestions to protect the residents' interests. He asked for a guarantee that their property would not be taken through condemnation while redevelopment is being discussed. "Letting the quality of life deteriorate because the neighborhood is slated for demolition is a dirty trick that must not be tolerated," he said.

Over the past few years, spin-off development from Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport has brought Hertz and Alamo

rental car facilities to the Shepard-Davern area. With the prospect of more airport businesses moving to the neighborhood, task force members want to see redevelopment controlled in a way that fairly compensates homeowners for their property and does not result in a sea of parking lots.

Task force members want to see redevelopment controlled in a way that compensates homeowners for their property and does not result in a sea of parking lots.

City planner Ken Ford said the city is hearing "very concrete interest" in redeveloping the area, but that the city also wants to protect residents' interests. He said one way of doing that is to change industrially zoned property to general business use. The industrially zoned sites are where the largest car rental lots are located.

"In the long run we have to ask what's going to be the best land use for the long-term benefit of the neighborhood," Ford said. He added that the city would not support a redevelopment plan unless homeowners are in agreement.

Under the proposed plan, the residential area east of Davern Street would be redeveloped for 1,000 to 1,500 new housing units, mostly in the form of townhouses, condominiums and apartments.

Task force members objected to the term "affordable housing" in the plan and said they wanted a wide spectrum of housing built. City staff agreed with the need for a variety of housing, but added that if the Shepard-Davern redevelopment replaces current housing, about 60 affordable units would be lost.

"There's a serious lack of affordable housing in St. Paul," Ford said. "We cannot take that lightly."

Ayd Mill Road

would support the two-lane option if it were moved further to the west and did not encroach on university property. Concordia would support the two-lane or four-lane options if the extension to I-94 were constructed underground, he said.

Concordia lost part of its campus when I-94 was constructed in the 1960s and more recently when Marshall and Hamline avenues were widened. Should portions of its campus be needed for an extension of Ayd Mill Road to I-94, Xiong said the university may be interested in a land swap with the city. One parcel that has been eyed by college officials is the St. Paul Water Utility property at Hamline Avenue and I-94.

Two businesses in the nearby Snelling-Selby district, Liberty State Bank and O'Gara's Bar and Grill, share Concordia's concerns about potential property loss caused by Ayd Mill Road's reconstruction.

The Snelling-Selby Area Business Association has come out in favor of any Ayd Mill Road option that preserves access to and from Selby Avenue. According to Liberty State Bank president Tim Macke, more than 30 percent of the bank's customers use Ayd Mill Road.

However, Macke said, Selby Avenue access should not come at Concordia's expense. That is why Liberty and

O'Gara's would join Concordia in supporting the no-build option, he said.

"Concordia has done a lot for this area," Macke said. "The university has been a good neighbor. We think the Selby Avenue exits can be redone and built in a way that does not infringe on Concordia's property."

However, he added, he was disturbed to learn that the Selby Avenue access issues had not had a more thorough airing with Concordia officials.

Though the Ayd Mill Road draft environmental impact statement (EIS) shows access to and from Selby Avenue via a ramp on the site of Concordia's baseball field, the document lists Selby access as one issue that still needs to be resolved. The EIS states that "the ramp from northbound Ayd Mill Road to Selby will be removed for these alternatives, but the ramp to southbound Ayd Mill Road from Selby may or may not be removed."

The public release of the EIS has been delayed until February 10 while city officials wait for the Federal Highway Administration to sign off on the document.

The St. Paul City Council and Planning Commission have tentatively scheduled a public hearing on the EIS for Wednesday, March 24, at City Hall.

District councils set Ayd Mill hearings

City's public hearing to follow sometime in March

by Jane McClure

Neighborhood planning councils on either side of Ayd Mill Road have scheduled meetings in the coming weeks to discuss the six alternatives for Ayd Mill Road contained in the draft environmental impact statement (EIS).

The Macalester-Groveland Community Council will make its recommendation for the future of Ayd Mill Road following a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, in the atrium of Macalester College's Olin Hall. The council's representatives on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force have recommended that the street be reconstructed as a two-lane parkway connected directly to I-35E and indirectly to I-94.

The Highland District Council will hold its meeting on Ayd Mill Road at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy.

The Summit Hill Association will hold 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 board will then rank the alternatives by preference.

The Merriam Park Community Council will hold a neighborhood 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 a preferred alternative until March 10 at the earliest.

The Summit-University Planning Council will hear presentations on Ayd Mill Road at its meeting on Tuesday, February 23, at 660 Selby Ave. The council's board will vote on a preferred alternative in March.

The Lexington-Hamline Community Council, Hamline-Midway Coalition and West 7th-Fort Road Federation have not yet scheduled meetings on the Ayd Mill EIS. The Snelling-Hamline Community Council voted last fall to support replacing Ayd Mill Road with a linear park.

The St. Paul City Council and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing on the EIS sometime in March.

The recommendations that come out of the above meetings will be forwarded to the Ayd Mill Road Task Force. The task force will recommend a preferred alternative, as will the mayor and Planning Commission. The City Council will then select the alternative or alternatives to be included in a more detailed, final EIS.

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Editors John Wadell
Dale Mischke
Copy Editor Pat Iverson
Production Artists Shirley Heyer
Craig Schuster

Advertising Manager Dennis W. Stern
Advertising Sales Tim Carroll
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Classified Ad Manager Suzanne Glidden
Classified Ad Sales Mary Helen Pates
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Contributors Tom Cody, Dick Gordon, Janet Lunder Hanafin, Mike Long, Jane McClure, Bob Gilbert, Bill Wagner, Brad Stauffer, Steve Michaels, Dave Page, Cathy Condon, Chris Smith, Terry Faust, Kristine Heykants, Leslie Walters, Victoria McCurdy, Eric Nathanson, Tom Surowicz, Michael Werner, Jeff Mores.

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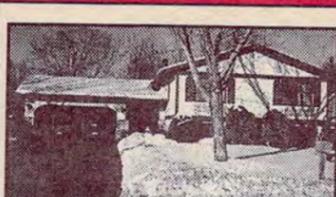
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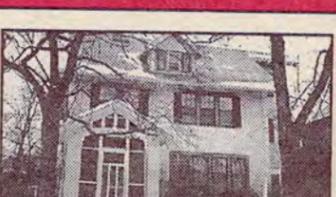
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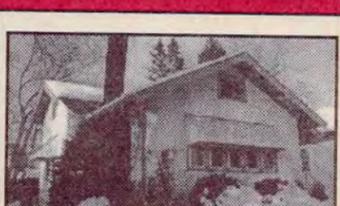
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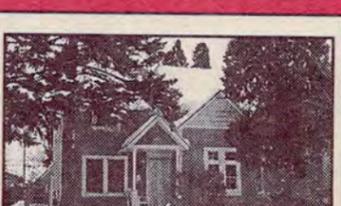
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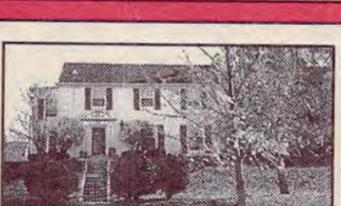
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The Tradition Continues

A family tradition since 1923 Original Coney Island has preserved a piece of old St. Paul for 76 years running

by Dave Page

The wooden sign on the front of the Original Coney Island bar and cafe reads "Anno Domini 1850."

"That's the year the land was platted," said Loucas Arvanitis, a long-time Highland Park resident whose family has owned the building at 444 St. Peter St. for the past 76 years. The three-story limestone structure that houses the bar was actually constructed in 1858, making it the oldest surviving commercial structure in St. Paul. Initially a hotel, it was used as a state arsenal during the Civil War. The building housing the adjacent cafe, which was built in 1888, is typical of the small hotels once common throughout downtown.

Loucas and his siblings Harry and Mary Ellen closed the cafe and bar five years ago to care for their mother, who had broken her hip. They continue to tend to the needs

of Frances Arvanitis, 90, and plan to reopen the business once she is back on her feet.

Meanwhile, the shuttered facade on St. Peter Street has been drawing a lot of interest from real estate speculators. "A Realtor called me just the other day," Loucas said. "I told him I wasn't interested in selling."

"Our mother doesn't want us to sell," said Loucas' sister, Mary Ellen, "and she's a shrewd business-woman."

The Coney Island buildings and the neighboring Orpheum Theater and 7th Place Apartments have been eyed by city officials as a site for the proposed expansion of the St. Paul Companies' headquarters across the street. The St. Paul Companies had an option to purchase the theater and apartments from the St. Paul Port Authority, but the insurance giant withdrew it following the St. Paul Heritage Preserva-



Loucas and Mary Ellen Arvanitis say they can have the Coney Island, with its 60-year-old mahogany back bar, up and running within days of a decision to reopen the downtown institution. Photos by Brad Stauffer.

tion Commission's decision on January 21 to nominate all four properties for historic designation. That recommendation is subject to the approval of the City Council and even then the buildings could be demolished. "But it's a lot easier to protect them with the historic designation," said Charles Skrief, outgoing president of the HPC.

The 2,300-seat Orpheum and the 130-unit 7th Place Apartments were constructed in 1916-17 as the New Palace vaudeville house and St. Francis Hotel. The Orpheum has been vacant since 1986, but the 7th Place Apartments is still home to more than 100 mostly low-income tenants. The buildings are remnants of the once-bustling entertainment

district along 7th Street and are considered good examples of the Beaux-Arts architectural style popular in the early 20th century.

The Arvanitis family is not opposed to historic designation for their buildings, but they are more interested in a written pledge from

Coney Island/see next page

Heritage preservation feels the pain of a growing downtown/

from page 1

"and we do expect the company will continue to grow." St. Paul Companies currently rents space in the Firststar and Hamm buildings downtown and has contracted for leased space in the Lawson Software building now under construction.

Last year, city officials approached the company about the availability of the 7th Place property "and it seemed like a logical site for expansion," Monfried said.

Earlier, the company had been considering expanding onto a surface parking lot that it owns to the west of its headquarters. However, Mayor Coleman believes that would be "a mistake of monumental proportions." He would like to see that land saved for the hospitality trade that is expected to develop around the new RiverCentre arena across the street.

Coleman has also championed the 7th Place site for St. Paul Companies because he thinks employees there would be more likely

to patronize the retail businesses and restaurants near Wabasha Street.

Monfried agrees. Employees working near the corner of West 7th and 5th streets are not going to walk two blocks to shop during a one-hour lunch, he said, and after work they would find it more convenient to jump on the nearby freeways out of downtown than to remain downtown to shop.

"We're very interested in the economic vitality of the city," Monfried said. "Our success and the city's success are very closely bound."

According to Aaron Rubenstein, the HPC staff member who drew up the report recommending the historic designation, four years have passed since the HPC last nominated a building for historic status. Only two of the commissioners who voted on January 21 had ever participated in such a decision before, he said.

The process was relatively new to Ruben-

stein as well. "I realized too late that this report was so controversial that I should have run it by (Robert) Kessler," he said, referring to his boss, the head of the city's Office of License Inspections and Environmental Protection.

Kessler took the unusual step of rescinding Rubenstein's recommendations. Mayor Coleman then asked new HPC chairman David Heide to his office a little over an hour before the January 21 meeting to request that the HPC postpone the vote while the city and St. Paul Companies worked out a plan that would satisfy historic preservationists.

A compromise may still be in the offing. The City Council appointed an advisory committee last week to recommend a process for putting together a development proposal that will take into consideration the wishes of all interested parties.

The biggest barrier to accommodating St. Paul Companies on the 7th Place site may be

the Coney Island. Though the Port Authority owns the Orpheum and former St. Francis Hotel and would like to sell, the Coney Island buildings are owned by the Arvanitis family of Highland Park and they have no intention of selling. "There are plenty of empty buildings downtown" to which St. Paul Companies can expand, Loucas Arvanitis said.

Arvanitis contends that the recent controversy has interfered with the restoration of his buildings and has delayed the restaurant's reopening. He is also skeptical about the impact of the HPC's vote. "It's hard to read between the lines," he said.

Council member Coleman agreed. Two weeks ago, he thought the majority of City Council members would oppose the acquisition of the Coney Island buildings by eminent domain. Last week he said he no longer had "a good sense" of the council's intentions.

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Coney Island cafe and bar /from previous page

the city not to condemn their property. "City Council members have assured us that they wouldn't take (the buildings) by eminent domain," Mary Ellen said, "but they won't put it in writing."

"Our family has paid taxes and preserved the property for over 75 years," Loucas said. "We think we should be allowed to keep it."

The Coney Island property was purchased by Loucas' father, Nick, who opened the Coney Island in 1923. Nick had immigrated to the United States from Greece in 1908. He enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War I and served as a wagoner in the Battle of Meuse-Argonne, the last major campaign of the war. His military service earned him his U.S. citizenship.

Nick returned to Greece to marry Frances in 1926 and together the couple ran the cafe, selling chili, hot dogs, hamburgers, pies and near-beer. When Prohibition was repealed in 1933, they opened the saloon and put in a mahogany back bar. Three years later, Nick added air conditioning. It was one of the first businesses in St. Paul to do so.

Frances and Nick had three daughters, all of whom were born at St. Joseph's Hospital. Hoping for a boy, the parents tried Miller Hospital for the delivery of their fourth child and Loucas arrived, confirming Nick's belief that Miller was the place to go for boys.

The four children and their parents lived above the cafe. By the time Harry arrived, the family had moved to Highland Park. The subsequent birth of Mary Ellen at Miller spoiled Nick's theory about gender and birthplace. "But I was just as athletic as the boys," Mary Ellen said.



Nearly as old as the city itself are the buildings housing the Coney Island cafe and bar at 444-448 St. Peter St.

All six Arvanitis children worked at the restaurant, though only the three youngest are still involved. Loucas began working at the Coney Island in 1943. During World War II beef was hard to get so the cafe stopped selling hamburgers. Still, soldiers from Fort Snelling would ride the streetcar down West 7th Street to wait in line for Coney Islands, the signature steamed bun and hot dog covered in chili sauce.

"The secret is in the sauce," Loucas said. "Once someone worked at a Coney Island cafe long enough to learn the recipe for the sauce, he would open his own cafe. At one point, there were five or six Coney Islands within a couple of blocks of here."

Nick turned the day-to-day operations over to Harry and Loucas when Loucas was

discharged from the Army in 1957. The elder Arvanitis died six years later, but the family kept the restaurant looking much as it did when Nick opened it. Even today the ceilings are the original embossed tin, the 1929 refrigerator still works, the mahogany back bar and dark wood booths still line the walls, and the original grill and steamer stand ready and waiting by the window.

While the business has been closed, the Arvanitises have kept all of their licenses and insurance policies current. They repaved the lot to the north of the buildings, tuck-pointed the exposed stone on the north wall, put in a new boiler and painted the interior.

"Does it sound as if we don't want to reopen?" Loucas asked.

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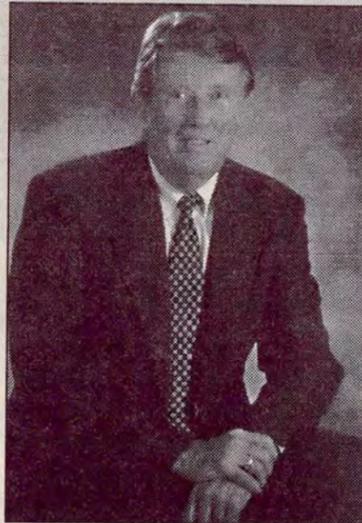
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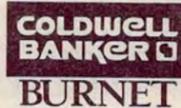
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VIEWPOINT

MISCH-MASCH

MICHAEL MISCHKE

Reading between the lines

Those of us who follow local, national and world events in the daily newspapers were treated once again in the last two weeks to the advantages of having two competing dailies in the Twin Cities. We also got a glimpse of their differing approach to covering the skirmish over the fate of historic buildings in downtown St. Paul. Reading between the lines, we might even have been able to detect who holds up whom as sacred cows in the Capital City today.

To recap: The St. Paul City Council unanimously passed a resolution on January 27 expressing the city's desire to work with the St. Paul Companies in expanding its corporate campus, even as concerns for preserving historic buildings and low-income housing are addressed, if that's possible. The resolution called for creating the inevitable task force to attempt to resolve a dispute that erupted when the city's Heritage Preservation Commission (HPC) voted unanimously on January 21 to recommend that the City Council grant historic status to the Orpheum Theater, the former St. Francis Hotel (now the 7th Place Apartments) and the two buildings that make up the Coney Island Bar and Cafe. Those four structures occupy the block on which the St. Paul Companies wants to erect a 450,000-square-foot office tower across the street from its headquarters. The company responded by withdrawing its purchase offer for the Port Authority-owned Orpheum and 7th Place.

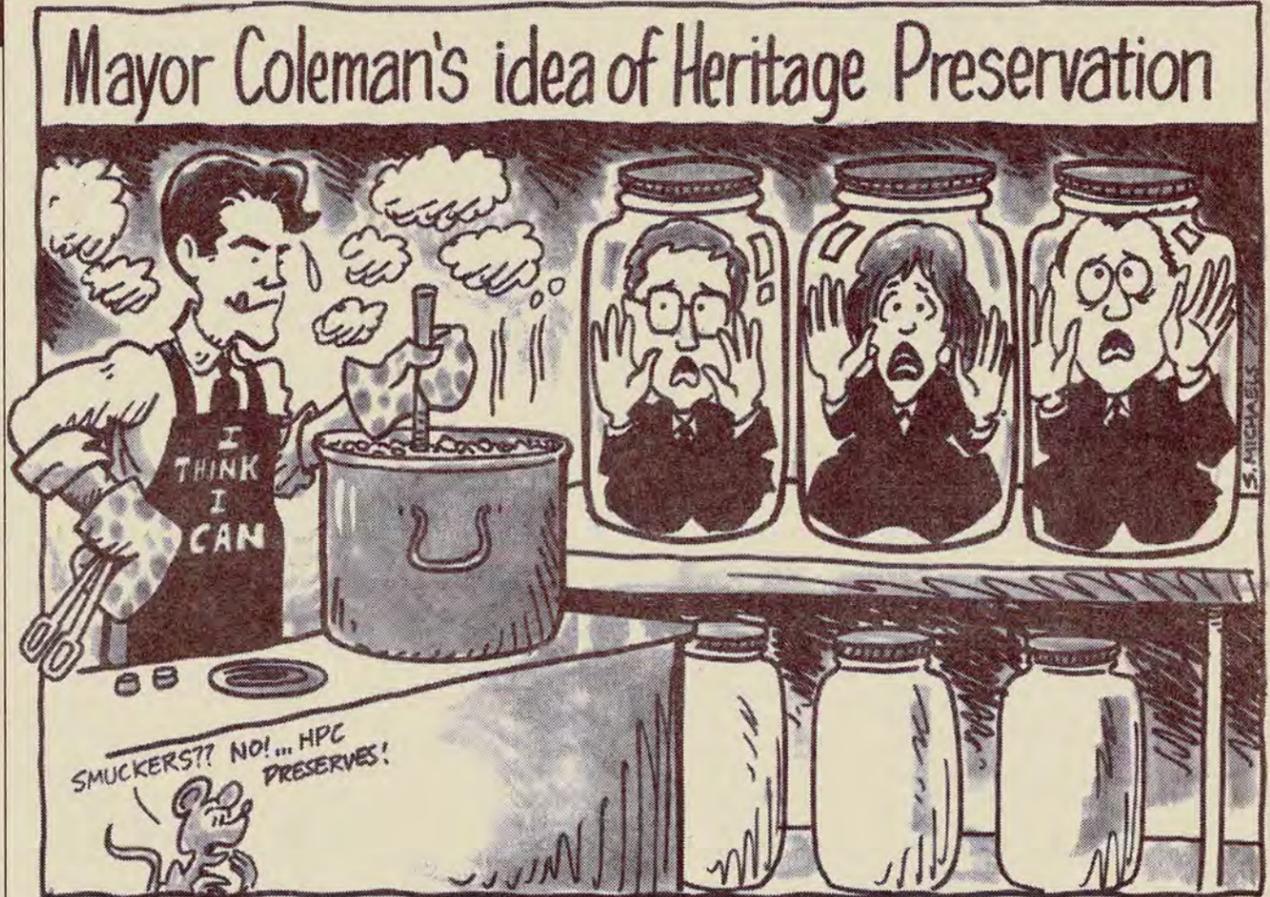
By not acceding to Mayor Norm Coleman's demand to delay the vote, and instead doing what its members were appointed to do, the HPC came under intense fire. Three commissioners whose terms were up for renewal found out on January 23 that their services were no longer needed. Coleman noted that HPC members "serve at the pleasure of the mayor." Imperially, he added, "I am not pleased."

How did the two dailies cover the story? Both papers ran prominent news articles on the HPC's vote the following morning. However, only the *Star Tribune* had the story on the oyster on January 24. The *Pioneer Press* didn't mention a word about the HPC house cleaning until January 26 when architecture critic Larry Millett wrote a piece fretting over what it meant for the future of a city that prides itself on preserving its past. The following day, *Star Tribune* columnist Doug Grow let loose with a sharply worded denunciation of "Mayor Wrecking Ball." The *Pioneer Press* first news article on the issue didn't appear until that same day under the headline, "Deal over company's expansion is sought." The paper's editorial board was silent on the issue until January 31 when it came out in support of downtown's largest private employer while paying lip service to the competing values of historic preservation and affordable housing. The editorial made no mention of the HPC firings.

To be sure, other *Pioneer Press* columnists also had their say on the issue—David Beal and Joe Soucheray in support of Coleman and the St. Paul Companies, and Don Boxmeyer in support of the HPC and the Arvanitis family of Highland Park, the owners of the Coney Island buildings.

Any longtime reader of the two papers could not have helped but view the editorial coverage as further proof that the more aggressive *Star Tribune* is less reticent than the hometown daily about printing news and opinions that happen to ruffle the feathers of the Coleman administration. That's a pattern we've seen for as long as Coleman has been mayor and hitched his wagon to the publicly subsidized fortunes of St. Paul's central business district. Even staff writers at the *Pioneer Press* would concur, albeit off the record. It makes you wonder what kind of coverage the St. Paul paper would have given the story had the *Star Tribune* not been on the scene.

The results won't be in for some time on whether the taxpayer-financed CPR that the Coleman administration is attempting to perform succeeds in resuscitating downtown, though there is some evidence that private investment is finally beginning to follow public. If that private investment is to include the St. Paul Companies' expansion onto 7th Place, it's vital that this contentious debate get a full and public airing. We are now where we should have been before this issue came to an unnecessary and unfortunate head.



For the greater good: a two-lane Ayd Mill Road

Editor's note: The guest editorial below was written by the four representatives of the Macalester-Groveland Community Council on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force. Each of the four has been studying the Ayd Mill Road issue for between two and 10 years. The editorial represents their recommendation for the future of Ayd Mill Road, not necessarily that of the community council. The Macalester-Groveland council invites area residents to comment on the issue at a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, in Macalester College's Olin Hall. Following the hearing, the council's board of directors will vote on its preferred alternative.

by Jane Jenkins, Kate McGough
Doug Zang and George Socha Jr.

We recommend reconstructing Ayd Mill Road as a two-lane parkway, though it certainly is not a perfect choice. As we have been told by those who are opposed to the two-lane option, it would have a lower capacity than a four-lane road, it would not offer the recreational opportunities that a linear park would, and it would open up Ayd Mill Road to traffic from two interstate highways and carry a great deal more traffic than Ayd Mill Road does now. However, the two-lane parkway does have advantages.

In choosing the two-lane alternative over the other five options for Ayd Mill Road, we were directed by two truisms. The first is, "If you build it, they will come." They will come to a reconstructed Ayd Mill Road. However, the reverse of the truism, "If you eliminate it, they will go away," is wishful thinking. A linear park would prevent motorists from coming to Ayd Mill Road, but it would not prevent them from coming to and through this area. Though we are concerned that there are a lot of suburban commuters who use Ayd Mill Road, most traffic—today and in the future—comes from the immediate area. It is unreasonable to expect that eliminating Ayd Mill Road will eliminate the current traffic demand to enter or pass through our neighborhoods.

The second truism is that people follow the path of least resistance. If Ayd Mill Road is removed, the path of least resistance will be other neighborhood streets—Lexington Parkway and Randolph, Jefferson, Snelling and Selby avenues. There are neighborhood residents who are currently burdened by high levels of traffic in front of their homes on these streets. We think it is unreasonable to continue to impact these people.

We feel that the best and highest use of the grade-separated Ayd Mill Road corridor is a roadway. Certainly, a linear park

would be a neighborhood amenity from which we would all benefit. But its narrowness would limit its ability to serve many recreational uses and the displaced traffic would have to go somewhere.

City staff has said that one downside of the two-lane alternative is that the road would be at capacity as soon as it opens. Frankly, this does not give the whole picture. The traffic volume on a two-lane Ayd Mill Road connected to the two interstates actually would be higher than under the no-build option. And in stating that the two-lane option would be at capacity, city staff is seeing the glass as half empty. We see it as half full. Under this option, the total traffic on Ayd Mill would be limited to its two-lane capacity. If there is going to be congestion, let it be a two-lane, grade-separated road that is congested. If we build it, they will come, and a four-lane roadway would quickly reach capacity too.

Minnesota Department of Transportation officials have stated repeatedly that we cannot build our way out of congestion and that new highway construction metrowide will be greatly curtailed. If we will have to live with congestion in the future, we prefer congestion on a two-lane, low-speed roadway.

The two-lane option would have lower speeds than the four-lane options. The posted speed limit would be 35 mph rather than 40 mph, and vehicles would not be able to pass—a large improvement over Ayd Mill Road's current four lanes and 45 mph speed limit. Also, we would like the two-lane Ayd Mill Road designated as a parkway to limit the potential for trucks to use the road.

We see a two-lane Ayd Mill Road as a kind of relief valve for congestion on other city streets while avoiding the impact of a four-lane road. A two-lane road would be more like a neighborhood street, more appropriate to the scale of the neighborhoods on either side of it, and less disruptive than a four-lane road from the standpoint of aesthetics, speed, noise and overall quality of life. It would offer more green space and more opportunities to add curves and other measures to calm traffic.

Some people want to see Ayd Mill Road carry a higher volume of traffic. Others wish it would carry none. Obviously, the linear park has more advantages for those whose homes border on Ayd Mill Road. But we want everyone to consider how the overall public good is best served. Unlike Lexington Parkway or Snelling Avenue, Ayd Mill Road was built below the grade of the adjoining neighborhood and nobody lives on Ayd Mill Road. Our desire is to find the option for Ayd Mill Road that minimizes the negative impact as it maximizes our neighborhood's quality of life.

Candy is dandy, but love, like all good things, takes time

by Phillip Hammes

I can understand Valentine's Day cards and candy. As a youngster, I gave valentines to each female member of my grade school class and I ate every piece of candy that I could get my hands on, regardless of its age or state of cleanliness. (It prepared me for Army food.)

The whole concept of love, however, is a lot more complex. "Love" may be the only single-word oxymoron in the language. There are enough yin and yang images connected to the word to buckle the knees of a Zen master. There is the love of a man for a woman, the love of a child for a large double banana split, the love of a nun for the sick and dying, the love of a woman for a young man who never returned from war.

With Valentine's Day approaching, it may be well to concentrate on romantic love. American author Ambrose Bierce, in his *Devil's Dictionary*, wrote that love is "temporary insanity curable by marriage." The bit more traditional Webster's says that love is "the devoted affection for or attachment to another." My own definition of love is "the never-ending process of giving and receiving kindness and dignity without impolite reservations."

Love is not a static condition. It is a process, one that takes time and knowledge and experience. The phrase "I love you"

means nothing without these things, except perhaps that one person wishes to know another person better. Love happens through the years.

This is probably not an attractive idea to citizens of the new millennium. They want pills that work in minutes and programs that appear immediately on computer screens. They like planes that travel from Los Angeles to New York in two hours, which is hardly enough time to recover from the Chicken Kiev. Speed can kill. It may also bore one to death.

Good things take time. Love takes time. I've never been one to think that Valentine's Day is tainted because the people who sell cards and candy make money on it. I think it is poignant that men and women set aside a day each year to make gestures of affection toward one another. I, for one, would rather see rich candy makers and card manufacturers than rich insurance salesmen and bankers.

The approach of Valentine's Day got me thinking about two stories that illustrate the two kinds of love that people are most involved with during the year: platonic love, or friendship, and romantic love, which I call "illusion with bite."

The first story takes place in London. Leigh Hunt, the poet, lived with his wife around the corner from Thomas Carlyle, the historian, and his wife, Jane. Hunt, like many literary men of his day, visited often with the Carlyles. One winter he was ill and did not visit for months. When he finally did appear,

Jane, whom he fondly referred to as Jenny, got up from her chair and dashed to his side. Impulsively, she kissed him on the cheek.

The next day, Hunt sent her a note. It was a poem, a valentine of friendship. He wrote:

*"Jenny kissed me when we met,
Jumping from the chair she sat in.
Time, you thief, who loves to get
Sweets into your list, put that in.*

*"Say I'm weary, say I'm sad,
Say that health and wealth have missed me.
Say I'm growing old, but add,
Jenny kissed me."*

The next story concerns Charles MacArthur, a writer of some renown. Once he found himself at a party in the apartment of George Gershwin. He saw a shy young woman sitting on a sofa. He took a bag of peanuts from his coat pocket. (He was a man of moods and one never knew what might be on his mind or in his pockets.) He approached the young woman, offered her some peanuts and, as they fell into her hand, whispered, "I wish they were emeralds."

The woman was actress Helen Hayes. They were later married and lived happily ever after.

District 197 board needs to act

To the editor:

The hot topic of discussion at the January 19 meeting of the District 197 School Board was whether or not to commence a search for a new superintendent. Here, we have all the elements of a true-life soap opera—emotional special-interest groups that appear out of the woodwork, the disappearance of millions of taxpayer dollars, and the star Bob Monson, the superintendent who is responsible for managing the school district's money.

On January 19 we heard teary-eyed testimonials from special-interest group members who had never before attended a District 197 board meeting. Another individual presented the results of an "unofficial" poll of five coworkers. One school board member stonewalled any action with rambling dissertations and repeated amendments. As a result, the school board is unable to begin an effective search for a superintendent.

By the time Monson's contract expires on June 30, the pool of superintendent candidates will have dwindled to the leftovers passed over by other school districts. With the school board hamstrung, the ongoing fanfare will continue to bring out the fringe elements of the district and the media to report on these events. The damage inflicted by this negative publicity will snowball as current and potential residents of the district avoid the public schools. Our school board needs to get down to business and act. Anything less compounds the problem and diverts us all from devising solutions to the school district's more than \$3.1 million budget deficit.

Angela Thornburg
Mendota Heights

VILLAGE POST

Stung at the geography bee

To the editor:

I was pleased that Michael Werner's story on the identification of gifted students in the St. Paul Public Schools (January 20 *Villager*) begins with a reference to my son's reception when he returned to his classroom after winning his school's geography bee: "When Stephen Haswell Todd rejoined his 8th-grade class, his peers heaped praise on him in a manner befitting a champion." Unfortunately, this particular part of the story was a complete fabrication. In fact, when Stephen returned to his classroom that day, the teacher and students had decided to play a practical joke on him—they ignored him, pretending he wasn't even there. (The next day, the teacher brought in a cake.)

The story didn't do any real harm—something like what was described probably would have happened were it not for the practical joke idea—but why make things up? What does this teach students?

Patricia Haswell
Highland Park

Editor's note: The writer was at Capitol Hill during the geography bee. He saw and heard the students cheering for the contestants on a television monitor. He assumed their enthusiasm would carry over into the classroom afterward and

was never told otherwise when interviewing Haswell Todd. It would appear the joke also was on our writer.

In defense of a city's heritage

To the editor:

We are veterans of the fight to save the birthplace of Minnesota, Coldwater Spring, from the rerouting of Highway 55 in South Minneapolis. As such, we're heartened to learn of the Heritage Preservation Commission's courageous defense of St. Paul's landmarks. This act shows a foresight and cultural pride that is missing from Minneapolis city government. In Minneapolis, the dollar wins.

Our leaders must understand that no number of jobs, no increase in tax revenue, no shiny new building can substitute for a community's cultural identity, for a community's pride in its history. We Minnesotans are a kind people. We don't ask for much. All we really want is for our corporate neighbors to behave like neighbors, with respect for the community. If they would act less like 600-pound gorillas and demonstrate some willingness to listen to compromise, we are sure people would welcome them to their new home.

As for Mayor Coleman, he should recognize that he is not a corporate manservant, but a representative of the citizens of St. Paul. The commission's 8-0 vote is unequivocal. The mandate of the commission is to preserve the city's history, not brush it aside. The mayor should follow the advice he had for the commission. He should "develop a capacity to listen" and stop "using the power of government as leverage" against people who are doing their jobs in commendable fashion.

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Chiropractic Care May Be the Answer for Your Headaches

More than 90 percent of all headache problems are either the tension or muscle contraction type or the migraine variety. Treatment of these two types of headaches has been the focus of research by doctors at Northwestern College of Chiropractic's Wolfe-Harris Center for Clinical Studies for the last several years. Results from these studies are being incorporated into the treatment program for headache patients at Northwestern College of Chiropractic Clinics.

Muscle contraction headaches

The most common headache doctors of chiropractic treat is the muscle tension or muscle contraction headache. The patient with this type of headache often describes a tight band around the head and a constant dull ache and tightness involving the back of the neck and shoulders. Although many patients have attributed their headaches to stress, this is seldom the direct cause. The real cause is that the muscles of the neck and upper spine are abnormally contracted. This is often brought on by mechanical and postural faults—causes of headache that can be helped. The abnormalities cause "built in" abnormal muscle tightness

so that even additional "life stress" can bring on a headache. Doctors of chiropractic report good results in the treatment of muscle tension headaches by attending to the underlying causes of the headache condition.

Migraine headaches

Migraine headaches are particularly severe headaches that often begin to occur in childhood or adolescence. Migraines often affect one side of the head, with the vision being disturbed and the patient feeling nauseous and vomiting. Migraines are two times more common in women than men and often run in families. The throbbing pain is a result of the expansion (dilatation) of blood vessels in the head.

The doctor of chiropractic gives special attention to stresses placed on the nervous system in areas vital to control of these blood vessels, specifically the upper back and neck. Relief from migraine headaches is often brought about by correction of problem in these areas, along with adjusting the patient's dietary habits and lifestyle choices.



Jeff Ewald, D.C.
Faculty Clinician



Kevin Kalb, D.C.
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City Council audit criticizes the operation of rec centers

Report suggests improvements in the areas of maintenance, hiring and program fees

by Jane McClure

Maintenance, hiring practices, fee policies and other issues related to the way St. Paul runs its recreation centers are being questioned in a recently completed performance audit conducted by City Council research staff.

The St. Paul City Council, which called for the audit last year, will review the report at its February 3 meeting. Council president Dan Bostrom said the audit will then be sent back to Parks and Recreation staff for further comment before returning to the council. The city's Parks and Recreation Commission plans to conduct its own review of the audit on February 10.

Marcia Moermond of the council research staff said the audit found that Parks and Recreation is doing a good job overall in operating the city's 41 recreation centers. However, the report contains 47 recommendations on recreation center policies, programs, staffing and maintenance practices.

Acting Parks and Recreation superintendent Vic Wittgenstein said he was "fairly com-

fortable" with the results of the audit. Still, he and special services director Vince Gillespie take issue with several of the recommendations. They contend that many of the recommendations in the report were already being addressed when the audit got under way and that some of the recommendations were simply taken from existing Parks and Recreation plans.

"They repeated a lot of our work as their own findings," Wittgenstein said.

Some of the areas of contention include:

- Maintenance of facilities. The Parks and Recreation Commission wants the city to tackle the deferred maintenance of its current facilities before any more recreation centers are built or expanded. "Our position is that we should fix up what we have before we build anything else," said Jill Danner, the commission's chair.

According to the audit, maintenance work orders are backlogged and the city's 174 ballfields are "very overused." Better maintenance of ballfields, tot lots and tennis courts is particularly needed, the audit stated.

Wittgenstein admitted that there was a lot

of demand on the city's ballfields, but he said requests for more money to better maintain the fields have not always been granted when the city budget is prepared. He said a plan is in place to upgrade the most heavily used fields. The recreation centers in need of the most improvement locally are Homecroft and Desnoyer Park. The audit also ranked the ballfields at Hillcrest as "poor."

- Diversity of staff and volunteers. The audit said Parks and Recreation should have a more diverse group of employees and volunteers to better reflect the population of the neighborhoods that they serve. However, Wittgenstein said that Parks and Recreation has been successfully recruiting staff and volunteers of color. Of the last nine recreation center directors hired by the city, seven are African-American. In total, 21 percent of recreation leaders and assistants are African-American, 8.5 percent are Asian and 8.5 percent are Chicano-Latino.

Danner also took issue with the audit's findings. "I think the recreation centers do reflect their communities," she said. "Did council research staff even visit the centers?"

- Fees. The audit suggests that the city should develop a formal, written policy on the waiver of program fees in cases of financial hardship.

Moermond said the fee policy is controversial because booster clubs that raise money for recreation centers want to maintain control over how that money is spent. However, she said, allowing each recreation center to have its own fee waiver policy could open the city to charges of bias.

"In theory it sounds great, but we're dealing with 41 recreation centers here," Wittgenstein said. He said all but three centers have booster clubs that raise funds to subsidize the cost of equipment and activities for young people who cannot otherwise afford them.

"The feeling of the booster clubs is, 'We've earned the money and we want to decide how it's spent,'" Gillespie said.

Wittgenstein said the creation of a citywide policy on fees could mean that nearly everyone in a poorer neighborhood would qualify for a waiver. He said that could result in not having enough money to pay for the programs.

CIB budget tightens as requests for capital projects roll in

Desnoyer, Linwood and Homecroft playgrounds among local projects vying for funds

by Jane McClure

A wish list of improvements to streets, recreation centers, playgrounds, golf courses and other city property is taking shape for St. Paul's 2000-2001 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB). Local funding requests include expansion of the Homecroft Recreation Center, a new gym floor at the Linwood Recreation Center and new playground equipment at Desnoyer Park. Project requests are due at the city's budget office by February 12.

CIB Committee chair Paul Gilliland cautioned those making requests in this latest round of funding that money will be tight. "It's going to be as tight as it can be and we're going to have a really difficult time choosing projects," he said.

A request to rebuild the 18-hole Highland Park golf course probably will not be on the list. City Council member Mike Harris of Ward 3 and St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation staff are continuing to review options for renovating the golf course and clubhouse. Harris' legislative aide, Dan Smith, said a CIB funding request will likely be made for \$300,000 to study soil and drainage problems

at the golf course.

In December, the City Council nixed a proposal by Blackheath Golf Limited to renovate and manage the facility for the city. The private partnership proposed to lease the course for \$1.00 a year in exchange for making \$3.5 million in improvements. As part of the plan, the course would have been reserved on some weekday afternoons for corporate clients and conventioners.

Funding requests are typically submitted by city departments, district planning councils, recreation center booster clubs, community development corporations, business associations and block clubs. The requests are reviewed by city staff and before being sent to the CIB Committee, a citizens advisory group. Smaller task forces focused on residential and economic development, community facilities, and streets and utilities will review the requests this spring. District planning councils will rank projects submitted from within their districts.

The task forces will make their recommendations to the full CIB Committee. Mayor Norm Coleman and the St. Paul City Council will review the committee's recommenda-

tions in August and make their final decisions by year's end.

One of the biggest challenges facing the CIB Committee is the number of ongoing multi-million dollar projects that return for funding year after year. "There's a presumption that we have to finish those projects," Gilliland said. Such projects include the reconstruction of Shepard Road and downtown street improvements.

The committee also must decide whether to pay for projects that received money for planning two years ago. In 1997 the City Council used a one-time allocation of city sales tax funds to plan four capital projects, including an expanded Homecroft Recreation Center in Highland Park.

A committee has been studying Homecroft's needs over the past several months. Highland District Council community organizer Gayle Summers said a CIB request is now being prepared for submission. No dollar amount has been set.

"I think there are assumptions that because those projects got planning funds, they should be approved this time around," Gilliland said. However, he cautioned that it

will be difficult to support all four previous projects if they are submitted with hefty price tags.

The Desnoyer Park Improvement Association and the Merriam Park Community Council are working on a CIB request for a new playground at Desnoyer and the rehabilitation of its tennis and basketball courts. Last year, Desnoyer was one of five playgrounds identified as having potentially hazardous equipment.

The Linwood Recreation Center Booster Club and Summit Hill Association (SHA) are supporting a request to replace the gym floor in the 8-year-old center. A wooden or poured floor is being sought because the existing tile floor is too slippery, said SHA board member James Njus. A poured floor was sought when the recreation center was planned in the late 1980s, but tile was installed to cut costs.

CIB funds also may be sought to help pay for streetscape improvements and center islands on Fairview Avenue in the Macalester-Groveland neighborhood. Last year, the St. Paul Public Works Department restriped Fairview from a four-lane to a two-lane road with center turn lanes and bicycle lanes.

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Grand dame passes on

Death cuts short the career of beautician Marie Stapleton

by Dick Gordon

Only death could bring an end to Marie Stapleton's career as the owner-operator of Stapleton's Beauty Shoppe at 1830 Grand Ave. The 87-year-old Macalester-Groveland beautician had hair appointments scheduled for the mornings of January 21 and 22, but died peacefully in her sleep the night of January 20—"just the way she wanted to go," said grandson John Lynch.

The youngest of 13 children, Stapleton was born in Sisseton, South Dakota. She followed her sister, Gertie Stapleton Lau, to St. Paul in the late 1920s and settled near Portland and Fairview avenues. The sisters attended a beautician school in St. Paul and in 1943 they opened Stapleton's Beauty Shoppe next door to the Grandview Theater.

"I never thought of going anywhere else," said Margaret Shevlin, a regular customer for more than 50 years. "Marie was such a good worker—very friendly and always cheerful."

Hazel Strese, another regular, echoed those sentiments. "I started going to Marie at least 25 years ago because I lived on Grand Avenue," she said. Strese since changed her address, but never her beautician.

Mariell Gadde first came to Stapleton's some 20 years ago when her parents, Bill and Maude Strock, were custodians at the Grandview Theater. They became close friends of Stapleton. "I'd have my hair done at 5:00 in the morning so I could get to my job on time," Gadde said. "Marie didn't seem to mind coming in so early. She was such a warm and caring person." Gadde's last appointment was for 5:30 a.m. on January 22, one of those that Stapleton couldn't keep.

"My grandmother had another early-morning customer," Lynch said, "and that didn't bother her at all. Although she was still driving her '78 Chevy, she'd usually take a cab to the shop about 4:30 a.m. The place was cold because the Grandview turned down the heat during the night. Marie would warm it up with space heaters so it would be more comfortable for her customers."

Stapleton was always thinking of her customers, according to Lynch, and even at 87 she would help them out to their cars in the winter. "I don't want those old ladies to fall," she would say.

In the early days, Stapleton's drew its customers from the nearby Irish, German



Marie Stapleton

and Jewish communities. Business was so good through the 1950s and '60s that Marie was able to buy a new car every year, Lynch said. Business gradually fell off as longtime customers died or moved into nursing homes. Gertie passed away in 1977, but Marie kept on working.

Stapleton was able to continue operating partly because of her friendship with the Marvin Mann family of Highland Park. Longtime owners of the Grandview Theater and the building that houses both the theater and Stapleton's, the Manns charged Marie very little rent. "The Manns would've liked to expand, but they never considered encroaching on Marie's space as long as she was alive," said a friend familiar with the situation.

Stapleton was liked by all who knew her. In every respect, she was a remarkable woman, devoted to her longtime companion, Tom Lynch, who preceded her in death, and to their son, Jack.

"Marie was an 87-year-old lady with a 60-year-old body and a 60-year-old mind," said Jaci Peterson, owner of the Grand Reflections salon at 1926 Grand Ave. Though they may have been competitors, Peterson and Stapleton regularly visited back and forth during the 30-plus years they operated next door to each other.

"Marie was very with it," Peterson said. "She wasn't an old lady at all—and always smiling."

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Holy Spirit principal team proves four heads are better than one

by Michael Werner

Last June, staff members at Holy Spirit School were stunned by the news that their principal was leaving. The announcement left the school with little time and limited options to find a replacement before the start of the new school year.

Holy Spirit's pastor, the Reverend Michael Papesh, turned to parish leaders for advice. A suggestion for some kind of interim situation evolved into a recommendation to have two of the most experienced faculty members, Carol Summers and Deb Townley, take charge until a new principal could be hired for the following school year. The two were taken aback to say the least.

"My heart just dropped and my stomach sunk," Townley said. "I said, 'Mike (Papesh) I'm not a principal. I can't do this.'"

However, the more Summers and Townley discussed the idea, the more they began to think that a team of teachers aided by the pastor could probably do the job.

The faculty discussed the idea at length in early July and decided to give it a try. Three teachers stepped forward to form the team: Townley, who teaches 8th grade; Cressy Epperly, who teaches 3rd; and Lois Laurie, who teaches 4th.

Though she helped formulate the team-teaching approach, Summers did not throw her hat in the ring. "I'm a teacher and since this is my last year of teaching, I wish to leave that way," she said.

The three team members divvied up the

administrative duties with Papesh while maintaining their daily teaching assignments.

"I put in 10- to 12-hour days at school and then go home and correct papers, make phone calls to parents and do the teacher thing," Laurie said. "Yet, I find it energizing, which just amazes me."

The foursome has been a model of efficiency for the most part, with no voice mails unanswered, no letters unopened and no concerns unaddressed. Still, their skills were challenged from the beginning.

"For the first two months our clocks didn't work and that was a real issue," Townley said. "There was Holy Spirit time and there was real time. We had to reorganize the whole drop-off and pickup schedule on the playground. We just kept people informed and parents picked up on the routine."

The team also overlooked conferences being held at nearby Cretin-Derham Hall, which left Holy Spirit parents unprepared to deal with a parking lot packed with cars. "I've become very good at saying, 'Oops, I'm sorry,'" said Townley. "We were well-intentioned, but that was one piece of information we overlooked."

Despite the occasional bump in the road, the team has thrived.

"It does take a little extra time, especially as a full-time classroom teacher, but working with Lois, Deb and Father Mike continues to be exciting," Epperly said.

"We're doing something that's extraordinary," Papesh said, "but for us, it just feels comfortable."



Holy Spirit School's administrative duties are being aptly handled this year by Cressy Epperly, Lois Laurie, Reverend Michael Papesh and Deb Townley. Photo by Mike Long.

Teachers have noticed the difference as well. "Occasionally, there've been principals who have sat in their office and made decisions without much input," said 5th-grade teacher Joan Glidden, a 25-year veteran at the school. "I'm not saying that we didn't have good principals, but there were some decisions that were made that we were never asked about. The principal team lets us know what's going on and asks for our input."

Students and parents also have responded positively to the team approach. The results from the school's fall marathon is just one example. The team decided that \$32,000 was an attainable goal, but students smashed previous school records by raising more than \$42,000.

Laurie said the team's success has converted the skeptics, including principals from other Catholic grade schools. "The first couple of

deanery meetings I went to, it was like they (the other principals) were waiting for me to drop the other shoe and tell them what a mistake we'd made," she said. "But they don't do that anymore. They don't even ask how things are going. They know things are going well."

Despite the team's success, Holy Spirit was prepared to hire a principal for the coming year. Still, the school community has been reluctant to give up a good thing. "I was hoping they wouldn't look for a principal, that they'd just keep this team in place," said parent Anne McQuillan. "I think it's working great."

So, the school devised a compromise whereas the new principal will work in committee with a team of teachers selected by the faculty. "I wouldn't mind doing it another year because I think it's working," Laurie said. "I like what it's done for our school. It's a real happy place to be."

Freshmen applicants begin new round of waiting game at popular CDH

by Michael Werner

Eighth-graders from across the Twin Cities filled Cretin-Derham Hall's classrooms on January 16 for three hours of tests designed to measure their abilities in curriculum areas, such as math and reading. It was just the beginning of a month that promises to test their patience as well as their abilities.

CDH's status as one of the top schools in

the state has again helped it attract more than 500 applicants for next fall's freshman class. The problem is, the school can only accept 325 freshmen.

CDH was on the receiving end of an outcry from angry parents last year when 200 freshmen, including many who had attended local Catholic elementary schools, were told they would not be accepted to the school, which serves about 1,250 students in grades 9-12.

CDH had kept the same admissions criteria as before, but had changed its priorities. Instead of giving highest preference to students coming from Catholic schools, those who had siblings at the school and those whose parents or grandparents were alumni, the admissions staff paid closer attention to whether the applicants had been behaving in school and working up to their abilities. To determine that, the school sent out question-

naires to 8th-grade teachers asking them to evaluate the student's performance.

Admissions director Mary Jo Groeller said at the time that changing the priorities made the school accessible to more families. "It leveled the playing field a little bit," she said.

The school is keeping the same priorities this year. Acceptance letters will be sent out

Cretin-Derham/see next page

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Budget woes have District 197 board contemplating search for new leader

by Bill Wagner

The District 197 School Board has stopped short of saying it is seeking a replacement for Superintendent Robert Monson. However, board members have taken the first step in that direction.

In a unanimous vote on January 19, the board resolved to have an ad hoc committee compile a list of superintendent search firms. The committee's recommendation was expected to be voted on by the full board on February 1, when this issue of the *Villager* was going to press.

Board chairman Gary Hagstrom stressed that the January 19 vote was merely to come up with a list of firms, not to spend money on a superintendent search. He said the action was by no means an indication that Monson would be replaced.

"He (Monson) or anyone else could be a candidate," Hagstrom said. "All seven board members voted to look at these search firms."

Monson said he would not comment on the matter until the February 1 board meeting. He was scheduled to meet with the board last week for a performance review.

Last month, Monson received a letter from board members stating that there did not appear to be adequate support for the renewal of his contract, which expires on June 30.

Monson came under fire recently as a result of serious budget problems in the district. According to Howard Carlson, assistant superintendent for business services, a \$3 million deficit is being projected for June 30 of this year. Such a shortfall, he said, would make it necessary to implement staff cuts across the board, including teachers.

The shortfall was not identified until last September when auditors discovered that the district's predicted June 30, 1998, general fund balance was nearly \$1 million off. More than half of the shortfall was blamed on lower than expected state aid. Carlson redrafted the 1998-99 budget after coming on board in mid-August.

Monson said the auditors called the shortfall an honest mistake made during a time when the district was operating without a

full-time business manager. However, critics have blamed Monson for not keeping a tighter rein on the district's finances. They also have cited the construction of two middle schools and high administrative salaries as reasons for the district's financial woes.

This is not the first time that board members have discussed replacing Monson, who came to the district five years ago after serving as a school superintendent in Massachusetts. After being embroiled in a 3-3 deadlock for nearly six months, the board voted unanimously in February 1997 to renew Monson's contract for two more years. The contract included a provision for periodic performance reviews.

Prior to that vote, board member Dave Jackson complained that Monson operated too independently and was not receptive to comments from board members. However, other board members said Monson's actions were bound to ruffle a few feathers because he was trying to make changes in the district. The long-running deadlock led to the passage of a ballot question to add a seventh seat to the board.

At the time, Monson defended his record in office. He noted that of the 100 or so district residents and staff members who attended the meeting when his contract extension was being reviewed, all but one spoke favorably of him.

Monson also had his backers at last month's meeting. Johanna Mohwinkel chided the board for making the superintendent's status a divisive issue. She said the board had to correct its propensity for "dysfunction and micro-management."

Monson also was credited by supporters for improving high school graduation test scores during his tenure.

However, he also had his detractors. Lisa Alters, co-chair of the Somerset School PTA, said Monson had worn out his welcome. "I'd strongly urge the board to go forward with the superintendent search," she said.

As for the district's deficit, task forces composed of parents, staff, students and concerned citizens are now studying the problem to come up with recommended cuts.

Cretin-Derham admissions

the final week of February.

"It's pretty much the same kind of situation as we had last year," Groeller said. "I'm hoping parents have selected a second choice as well so they won't be caught by surprise or left without another option."

Many families were caught by surprise last winter. After CDH announced its admissions decisions, parents began calling the school to complain, saying that they had been planning for years to send their children to the school and never imagined that they would not get in. Many students who were placed on CDH's waiting list had not applied anywhere else and started scrambling to find other schools.

Groeller predicted that the makeup of next fall's freshman class will be similar to the current one. Of that class, 92 percent are Catholic, 67 percent have a sibling or alumni connection to the school and 15 percent previously attended public schools. "We have basically the same number of applicants and they're coming from a lot of the same schools," Groeller said.

Deborah Capron, whose daughter Cristen has applied to attend CDH this fall, said she is nervous about the admissions process. "I don't know what to expect," she said. "I'm real leery because there were so many people disappointed last year. It's scared me ever since."

Capron, a Derham Hall alumna, thinks her daughter's academic record gives her a good chance of being accepted. However, the family is considering Visitation School as a backup.

Kathleen Hennes, whose son Nathaniel is applying to CDH, said some parents are using the admissions process to keep their young teens academically in line. "They tell their kids, 'You've really got to knuckle down and believe if you think you're going to go to Cretin-Derham,'" she said.

In the past, Hennes said some families took the process for granted. "I think people assumed that if their child was in a Catholic grade school, it meant they would automatically get into any of the Catholic high schools, including Cretin-Derham Hall," she said. "Up until a couple of years ago, all the kids I knew who applied there had gotten in. Now a person would be foolish not to be concerned."

CDH has conducted an educational campaign to address those concerns. Principal Richard Engler and Groeller held a series of informational meetings last year to explain the admissions criteria to students and parents. The admissions office also has included a copy of the criteria in its mailings. "They really did a good job of getting the information out to parents so you know what to expect," Hennes said.

Groeller said CDH plans to maintain its present size, which means the school will most likely continue to deal with a pool of applicants larger than the available space.

"We try very hard to be as fair as we can," she said. "But the reality is that when you have more people apply than you can take, someone's not going to get in. It's not an easy process."

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Napoleon's French Bakery meets its Waterloo after 19 years on St. Clair

by John Wadell

John Driggs feels as if he has lost a close friend. The retired Lincoln Avenue resident had walked the five blocks from his home to Napoleon's French Bakery, 1806 St. Clair Ave., almost daily for the last 12 years. Last Monday, he showed up at the front door only to find a notice stating that the 19-year-old bakery had closed.

"The benefits of Napoleon's went beyond baked goods," Driggs said. "It was very family-friendly. You could see people doing business there, people writing books. Mothers would come in with kids to get some time away from the house. Groups of elderly met there regularly, and students from Macalester and St. Thomas. There'll be no replacing it."

According to Bob Kinsella, a partner in Tri-City Restaurants, which owned Napoleon's, the bakery had been losing money for the past three years. He said increased competition from coffee shops and bread chains and franchises hurt the bakery's retail business, and it was becoming increasingly difficult to find wholesale customers willing to pay for the shop's higher-end breads and hand-rolled pastries.

"We were serving cappuccinos and espressos long before Starbucks and Caribou Coffee came on the scene," Kinsella said. "We figured people would be coming in to buy baked goods and have a cup of coffee, but we found that people, at least in the morning, were coming in primarily for coffee and would then buy a treat. Then, when Breadsmith moved to Grand (in December 1997) our bread sales went down. It was a terrible surprise. We took quite a nick."

Operations manager JoAnna Zachman

said the bakery also never fully recovered from a 10-day power outage during last spring's storms. "Some customers went elsewhere when we closed and never came back," she said. "It's a loss to the community. I'm sure it'll be missed."

Kinsella said the bakery was losing about \$1,000 a week for the last six months. He said he convinced Tri-City's other four partners to wait until after the holidays to see if the situation improved. The shop did extremely well selling its signature La Bûche de Noël confections over the yuletide, but sales slacked off again after the first of the year.

"January was maybe our worst month ever," Kinsella said. "We made a huge reduction in the labor force and the rest of the employees were working a tremendous number of hours. We just couldn't make it."

Attempts to sell the bakery have thus far been unsuccessful. However, Kinsella said he is still hopeful someone will make an offer before he is forced to liquidate the assets.

Cherif Khazem opened Napoleon's on St. Clair and Prior avenues in 1980. The bakery moved two blocks down the street five years later to its current location at Fairview Avenue. It was purchased in 1990 by Tri-City, which operates restaurants at three Embassy Suites hotels. Along with the St. Clair bakery, the company also closed its Napoleon's deli in Bloomington. The two shops employed 42 people.

Driggs said that if customers only had an inkling that the bakery was in trouble, maybe something could have been done to save it.

"It's not like a gas station closing," he said. "This is going to affect several other businesses in the area. Part of the ambiance of the neighborhood has been lost."

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Rob Roy and Company Salon is the new name for the D.J. Engel's Studio of Hair Design. The full-service hair salon, which has been located at 2169 Ford Pkwy. since 1974, was purchased last month by Robert Sell, a hairstylist at the shop since 1995. Sell, 31, has 14 years of experience in the field, including stints at New Art Salon and Rita Ambourn Hair Design. Staying on at Rob Roy as independent contractors are former D.J. Engel's owners Penny and Denny Engel.

Chiropractors Joseph Grosz and Michael Buffington have opened a new clinic at 905 Jefferson Ave. The partners invite their patients to set their own fee based on what they think the service should cost and what they can afford.

Dan Simon of Summit Hill has opened Twin Cities Mediation at 1305 Grand Ave. TCM specializes in resolving disputes surrounding divorce, such as child custody, visitation, child support, property division and spousal maintenance. Mediation allows clients to split the mediator's fees instead of each paying a

separate lawyer. TCM also handles conflicts between neighbors and businesses that might otherwise require a court battle. A graduate of Highland Senior High School, Simon has a master's degree in counseling from the University of Minnesota and a law degree from the U of M Law School.

M.A. Kinane Productions, an art studio offering custom calligraphy and illustration services, has opened at 615 Grand Ave. Owned by Mary Anne Kinane, the business has been located for the past 12 years in Bandana Square.

Lani Jordan of Macalester-Groveland has been named the new information officer for the Minnesota Supreme Court. She succeeds Rebecca Fanning, who has taken a job in public information for the U.S. Office of the Courts in Washington, D.C. Jordan has worked in communications for a variety of agricultural cooperatives for the past 14 years. Before that, she was a reporter, a columnist and a bureau manager for United Press International, working out of Detroit and Lansing, Michigan, and Green Bay, Wisconsin.

St. Mary's Home, 1925 Norfolk Ave., has been named Employer of the Year for 1998 by Midway Training Services (MTS). St. Mary's puts five of MTS's developmentally disabled clients to work each day making the beds of residents at the nursing home. The collaborative effort has paid dividends both for St. Mary's and MTS. MTS clients love the work and the residents of the home have grown close to the workers.

The Wellness Center, 4201 E. 54th St., Minneapolis, has been purchased by Terri Burks. The center opened more than 13 years ago and offers massage therapy and bodywork, acupuncture and oriental medicine, nutrition counseling, flotation tank therapy, life purpose counseling, personal coaching, classes and workshops.

Jennifer Eisenhuth, an orthodontist for the past five years, has opened a second office at 1371 W. 7th St. Eisenhuth also operates an office in White Bear Lake.

Matt Anfang of Highland Park has been named manager of public policy for the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce.

Potato pizza's appeal

Spudzza brings slice of old country to Grand

by Victoria McCurdy

When high school choir director Nannette Stroebel decided to open a restaurant with chef Ty Arlandson, it was only natural that the pre-opening celebration include madrigal singers performing early Renaissance music. That's because Spudzza, 1571 Grand Ave., serves a potato pizza that was adapted and renamed from an old Italian recipe.

"Everyone asks if the crust is made of potatoes," Stroebel said. "The answer is 'no.' We use a regular pizza crust, topped with a sour cream sauce with fresh herbs. Then comes the layer of potatoes." The Spudzzas are finished with a variety of cheeses and toppings.

This may be old news to "Spudzza groupies," as Stroebel calls them, who have enjoyed the pizza for the past six Grand Old Days. "We have people who look for our booth every year," she said.

Stroebel started Spudzza with a girlfriend in May 1992. Having recently moved here from Illinois, she was working for Daytons and the Minnesota Orchestra while hoping to land a job teaching music. Her first foray into the world of food vending was, appropriately enough, during Tater Days in Brooklyn Park.

"It was a total bomb," Stroebel said. "My partner and I were like Sweet Martha wannabes (a refer-

ence to State Fair cookie concessionaire Martha Olson of Highland Park). We had this potato pizza concept and we rented these huge ovens. About 30,000 people were expected and we planned for 1 percent of that. We were lucky if 500 people showed up for the event."

Stroebel used the down time at the festival to work on perfecting the pizza recipe, which was originally extremely labor intensive. Arlandson, a Minneapolis resident, soon joined the fledgling enterprise while retaining his job as a chef at Daytons. He helped the two women sell Spudzzas during Cedarfest, their third festival that summer.

"We could tell he knew what he was doing," Stroebel said. "He helped open the Sky Room and cooked at the Oak Grill. He knew everything about equipment. I felt I had to bring him in as a partner."

Spudzza continued to grow even after Stroebel became choir director at Harding and Arlandson was hired to help develop Sidney's restaurants. Two years ago, the three landed a spot in the Food Building at the State Fair. "We'd been trying to get into the fair since the start," said Arlandson, who quit his job with Sidney's in 1997 to devote his time to Spudzza.

According to Stroebel, the idea for opening a restaurant came from their customers. "We never in-

tended to open up a spot," she said, "but every fourth person who bought a Spudzza at a festival would take a bite, turn around and say, 'Where can I get this the rest of the year?'"

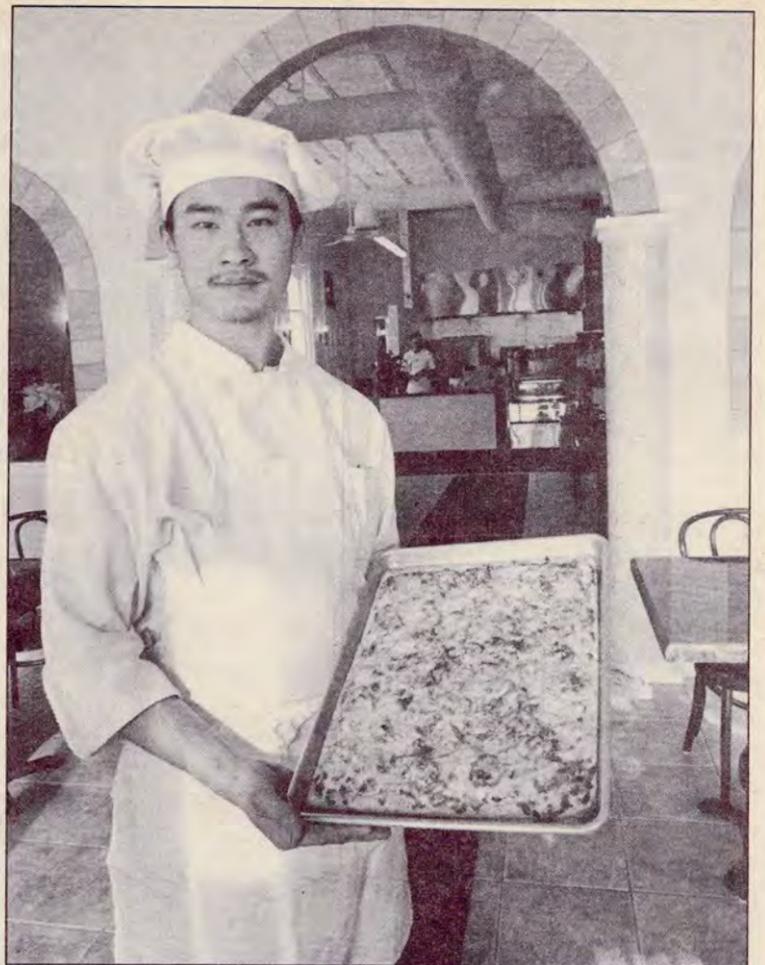
Arlandson spent long nights sitting in front of prospective restaurant locations keeping track of traffic flow. "He had this little notebook and would check off the cars," Stroebel said.

The partners finally negotiated a deal with Berkeh Mishulovin, owner of the former Old City Cafe. Stroebel was tipped off that Mishulovin was ready to sell. "I called at 9:00 on a Thursday night in early September and I was over there at 9:30," Stroebel said. According to her, a slice of Spudzza helped seal the deal with the bank.

Arlandson and Stroebel purchased the restaurant, its kitchen equipment and the lease at the end of September and hoped to open within two months. However, the need to make unanticipated improvements delayed the opening until December 26. "We had to put in a new vent system, dishwasher, everything," Arlandson said.

Arlandson did the majority of the work, including painting and installing new light fixtures and floor tiles.

Both partners said they are thrilled to be located on Grand Avenue. Spudzza is open seven days a



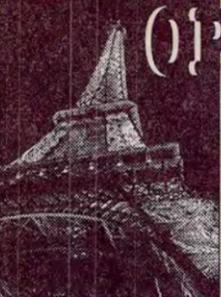
Chef Ty Arlandson shows off one of his trademark Spudzza pizzas at the newly opened Grand Avenue restaurant. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

week and home delivery is available. Prices start around \$2.25 per slice for the basic rosemary dill Spudzza to \$18.95 for a whole bacon cheddar pizza. The restaurant also serves homemade chicken noodle soup with potatoes, salad, a brie and French bread plate, and desserts.

Future plans for the restaurant in-

clude creating an archway to connect it with Dunn Brothers, acquiring a wine and beer license, and serving breakfast.

Arlandson is now running the restaurant while Stroebel splits her time teaching singing by day and slinging pizza by night. "So far so good," Stroebel said, "but this is only day 10."



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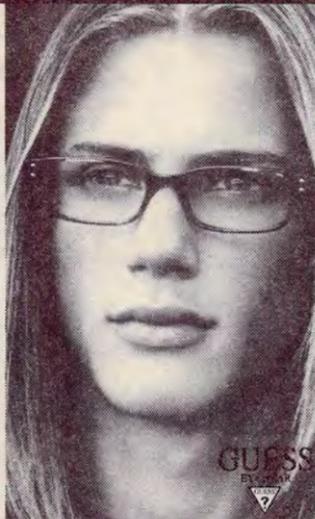
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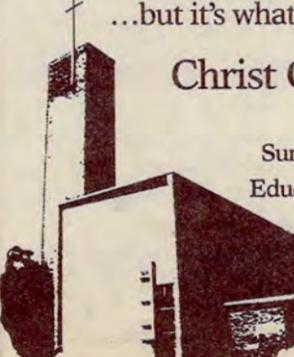
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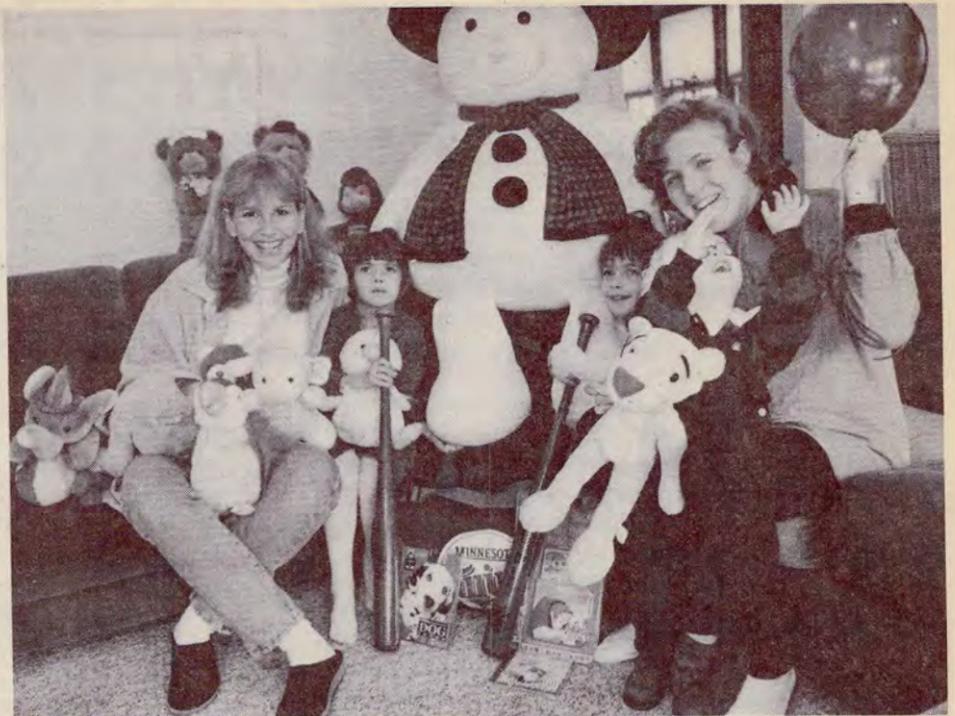
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Stephanie Ross Upin, left, with daughters Heather and Emily, 5, and Wendy Lutter with son Tate, 2, sit amid some of the items that have been donated for the Carnival of Hearts fundraiser that will be held on February 14 at St. Paul Academy. Photo by Mike Long.

Carnival of Hearts planned to raise special valentine gift for ailing kids

Wendy Lutter and Stephanie Ross Upin certainly have their hearts in the right place. The Highland Park residents have been planning a Valentine's Day party since last summer to raise money for children who need to undergo heart surgery.

Their labor of love will come to fruition with a Carnival of Hearts from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, February 14, at St. Paul Academy and Summit School, 1712 Randolph Ave. The family event will feature soccer clinics by Minnesota Thunder coach Buzz Lagos, dog sled rides around the SPA fields, live entertainment, an opportunity for kids to make crafts from around the world, face painting, an interactive heart adventure, silent auction and costumed characters. The afternoon will end with a carnival parade.

Lutter and Upin have been aided in their task by a committee of nearly two dozen volunteers, most of whom hail from the Villager area. Lutter said they wanted to get away from asking people to attend a typical fund-raiser where they had to "hire a baby sitter, rent a tux and eat bad chicken."

"We wanted to make it a really neat day that parents could spend with their kids," she said. They also wanted to spread the word about Children's HeartLink.

Since its founding in 1969 in Minneapolis, the international medical charity has provided life-saving heart surgery for nearly 1,000 children from 27 countries. Children's HeartLink works with hospitals in developing countries to provide the surgery as well as to donate equipment and supplies and train medical professionals. HeartLink doctors and nurses will be heading to Kenya in March. They plan to bring along a gigantic card signed by kids who attend the carnival.

The committee is hoping to raise \$25,000 at the carnival. Upin said Great Harvest Bread Company is supplying bakery items, D'Amico & Sons is providing valentine cookies for decorating, Summit Hill artist Dan Bruggeman has donated a painting for the raffle, Kirby Puckett has rounded up Twins hats, videos and other items that can be won at the fish pond, and the Jewish Community Center will be offering fitness evaluations for kids and adults.

"For a \$5.00 admission fee, people are going to get a ton of stuff," Lutter said. "We're excited that it's being held here in our own backyard."

Admission includes all food and activities. There is an extra fee for the dog sled rides. For details, call 612-928-4860, extension 11.

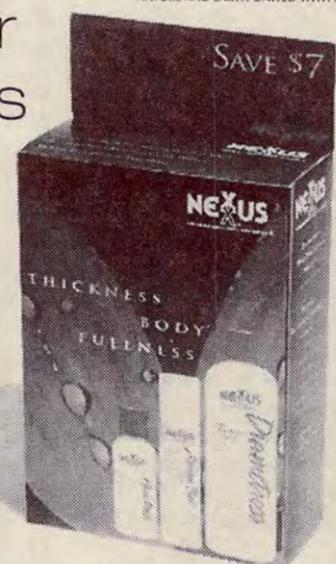
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Snelling-Hamline COUNCIL CAPSULE

BOARD ELECTION

The Snelling-Hamline Community Council will hold an election to fill one seat on its board of directors at its meeting at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 4, in Room 103 of Liberty State Bank, 176 N. Snelling Ave.

The seat is open to all who live or represent a business in the area bounded by Summit, Snelling, University and Hamline avenues and Ayd Mill Road. The position of board secretary also will be voted on that night. For information, call executive director Karen Dalton at 651-644-1085.

COMMUNITY CIRCLE DIALOGUES

Community circle dialogues will be taking place across St. Paul between February and May. The dialogues will involve groups of 10-15 people who will discuss public policy issues and share ideas on such topics as race, education and housing in St. Paul. The groups will meet for five sessions over a period of two months. A citywide forum will follow.

All groups will be provided with a trained facilitator whose job will be to keep the discussion focused and to ensure that all voices are heard. Those who are interested in being a participant, facilitator or host of a dialogue are asked to call community organizer Sherilyn Young at 651-644-1085.

SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

The seminar "Neighborhoods: Some Assembly Required IV" will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, February 20, at Arlington High School, 1495 Rice St. The event attracts neighborhood leaders from around the city for a series of workshops and speakers. The keynote speaker this year will be Jennifer Henderson from the Center for Community Change and Strategic Interventions in Washington, D.C.

The event also will include the induction of a new group of honorees to the mayor's Neighborhood Honor Roll. Board members John Galatowitsch and Glenn Nordstrom are the nominees from Snelling-Hamline and Merriam Park, respectively. District 13, which includes the Snelling-Hamline, Merriam Park and Lexington-Hamline neighborhoods, also nominated the Farm in the City program for a project award.

The cost of the seminar is \$15.00 in advance or \$20 on the day of the event. Lunch is included. For information, call Sherilyn Young at 651-644-1085.

PLANT EXCHANGE

The Snelling-Hamline neighborhood is planning a plant exchange with the Desnoyer Park neighborhood and is looking for one or two volunteers to coordinate the event. For information, call Shirley Reider at 651-644-7845.

NEIGHBORHOOD ISSUES COMMITTEE

Anyone living or working in Snelling-Hamline may join the Neighborhood Issues Committee. The committee will meet in late February to discuss the impact of billboards in the neighborhood and work on a proposal for a special district sign plan. For details, call Sherilyn Young at 651-644-1085.



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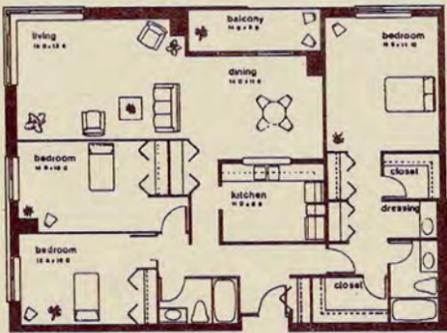
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After lunch observe a committee hearing if you wish.



Macalester-Groveland COUNCIL CAPSULE

AYD MILL RECOMMENDATION RECEIVED

At its January 21 meeting, the Macalester-Groveland Community Council heard a recommendation from its four representatives on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force. Jane Jenkins, Kate McGough, George Socha and Doug Zang all agreed that Ayd Mill Road should be rebuilt as a two-lane parkway. They oppose the four-lane options for Ayd Mill Road because of the volume of traffic four lanes would carry if the roadway were connected directly to I-35E and indirectly to I-94. The four task force members rejected the linear park option because of the potential for increasing traffic on neighborhood streets like Lexington Parkway and Hamline Avenue.

The community council will hold a public hearing on the six options being considered for Ayd Mill Road at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, in the atrium of Macalester College's Olin Hall. Following the hearing, the community council's board of directors will rank the proposals by preference.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 21 MEETING

Also on January 21, the council voted to support a redesign of the sidewalks at intersections in the neighborhood of Jefferson Avenue and Pascal Street, where the streets are soon scheduled to be repaved. The council would like to see a more traditional design, with the sidewalks ending at both cross streets rather than in a single diagonal terminus. A committee of residents will survey the corner property owners to determine if they would be willing to maintain the triangular lawn or ground cover at the corners. If not, the corners will be paved over with concrete.

Susan Crumb of 1663 Berkeley Ave. was elected to the council's board of directors to represent Grid 11, which is bounded by St. Clair, Fairview, Jefferson and Snelling avenues.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT DEADLINE NEARS

The deadline for submitting projects for the next round of the city of St. Paul's biennial Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) is February 12. Projects proposed for Macalester-Groveland include planted medians on Fairview Avenue between Summit and Randolph avenues and new tot lots at Mattocks Park and the Edgcombe Recreation Center. Those with additional suggestions and those who are willing to serve as a representative on one of three CIB task forces are invited to call the community council at 651-698-7973.

The task forces, which are made up of representatives from each of the city's 19 district councils, review and rank projects in three categories: community facilities, residential and economic development, and streets and utilities. Their recommendations are forwarded to the citywide CIB Committee,

The Highland District COUNCIL CAPSULE

HIGH SCHOOL FIELDHOUSE PLANS REVIEWED

The Highland District Council will next convene at 7:00 p.m. Thursday, February 18, in the Community Room at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Representatives of the St. Paul Public Schools will present plans at that time for a new fieldhouse at Highland Park Senior High School. The fieldhouse will be located on the south side of the school off of Snelling Avenue and Edgcombe Road.

Area residents are welcome to come view and comment on the plans. For information, call the district council office at 651-298-5138.

which is appointed by the mayor and includes one representative from each of the 19 district councils. Following a public hearing, the CIB budget is adopted in late fall.

LAST CALL FOR SNOW SCULPTORS

Macalester-Groveland's seventh annual Teen and Family 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 the Teen and Family divisions for the best all-around sculpture, most original, best use of materials, most artistic and best team effort. Prizes have been donated by Highgrove Community Federal Credit Union, Liberty State Bank, Green Mill Restaurant, Wet Paint, Coffee News Cafe, Crazy Carrot, Great Harvest Bread Company, Science Museum of Minnesota and ArtScraps.

The entry fee is \$10 per person, which includes a 4-foot block of snow for each team to sculpt, lunch, hot beverages and snacks. For a registration form, call Lee Wallace at the community council office at 651-698-7973.

SNOW SHOVELERS SOUGHT

Students and adults who are interested in shoveling sidewalks for area seniors through the community council's Job Connection are now being sought. The jobs pay between \$7.00 and \$10 per hour. For information, call Jessica Bakkene at the community council office at 651-698-7973.

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVISTS CONVENE

"Neighborhoods: Some Assembly Required IV," an all-day seminar, will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, February 20, at Arlington High School, 1495 Rice St. The event will feature workshops, recognition of outstanding neighborhood projects and the addition of three Macalester-Groveland residents to the city's Neighborhood Honor Roll.

The Macalester-Groveland project that will be honored this year is the community council's effort to encourage homeowners to replace lead water service pipes between their homes and the city's pipes.

Added to the Neighborhood Honor Roll will be Kate McGough, 1172 St. Clair Ave.; Tom Moss, 175 Woodlawn Ave.; and Doug Zang, 1377 Wellesley Ave. Moss is a longtime board member who has lent his talents and expertise to numerous council committees. McGough has volunteered on the Ayd Mill Road Task Force since its inception more than five years ago. Zang is a board member who has been active on several committees as well as the Ayd Mill Road Task Force.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS SET

The community council's Environment Committee will meet on Thursday, February 4. The Long-Range Planning Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 16. The Airport Noise Committee will meet on Wednesday, March 10. All meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Edgcombe Recreation Center, 320 S. Griggs St.

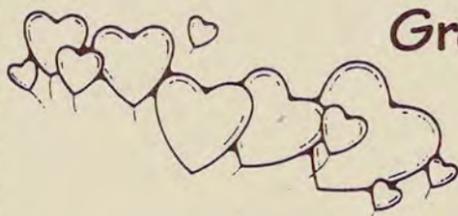
SHEPARD-DAVERN DRAFT PLAN PUBLISHED

The final draft of the Shepard-Davern small area plan is now available for review at the Highland District Council office in the Hillcrest Recreation Center. Large panels in the office show what that area would look like if the plan comes to fruition. The district council will hold a public hearing on the plan in March before sending it on to the St. Paul Planning Commission and City Council for their approval.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY FORMS

The Highland District Council has applications available for area residents who are interested in attending the St. Paul Police Department's seventh Citizen Police Academy. The academy offers citizens a glimpse at the policies and procedures of the Police Department and a chance to become more involved. It meets weekly from March 10 to May 19. For information or an application form, call 651-292-3583.

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Task force's vision for St. Paul transit corridor remains fuzzy

by Jane McClure

St. Paul's Transit Vision Task Force has been unable to set its sights on a preferred transit corridor through the city and on whether light rail, improved bus service or commuter rail would best serve St. Paul.

At the task force's final meeting on January 28, members split their support between the proposed Riverview Corridor, which would extend through the Highland Park neighborhood to South Minneapolis, and the Central Corridor, which would take commuters between the downtowns of St. Paul and Minneapolis. A few called for the development of a "transit triangle" that would connect the Riverview and Central corridors to the planned Hiawatha Corridor light rail transit (LRT) line in South Minneapolis.

The task force members adopted a list of recommendations at the meeting, ranging from more bus hubs to more transit funding. However, they disagreed about the need for LRT and the viability of proposed LRT and commuter rail systems.

The task force was organized last fall by the St. Paul City Council and Ramsey County Board of Commissioners. Its recommendations will go to local elected officials and St. Paul legislators.

"We're pretty well divided," said task force

co-chair Ruby Hunt of Macalester-Groveland. A former St. Paul City Council member and Ramsey County Board commissioner, she favors the Riverview Corridor because at some point development of a Central Corridor "is a given," she said.

The Riverview Corridor would extend from St. Paul's East Side through downtown and the West 7th and Highland Park neighborhoods before crossing the Mississippi River and hooking up with the Hiawatha Corridor in Minneapolis. That route is the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority's top choice as a transit corridor. Possible alignments include West 7th Street, Shepard Road, I-35E or existing railroad lines.

The Central Corridor would connect the two downtowns via I-94 or University Avenue.

Task force co-chair John Labosky, executive director of the Capital City Partnership, said the Riverview Corridor should be built first. "If we only do the Hiawatha and Central corridors, then all roads will lead to Minneapolis and people won't come to St. Paul," he said.

The St. Paul and suburban chambers of commerce also support the Riverview Corridor, while the Capitol River Council (which represents downtown St. Paul) and the Midway Chamber support the Central Corridor.

Capitol River Council representative Paul Mohrbacher predicted vehement opposition from businesses and residents if an LRT route is developed along West 7th Street. "There's no neighborhood support for this," he said. "This is the neighborhood that fought I-35E and they'll probably do the same thing on this."

Highland District Council president Shawn Bartsh asked that the task force not make a recommendation or seek money for a specific corridor or mode of transit until a \$1.5 million study of the Riverview Corridor is completed this year and the public has had a chance to comment. "The Riverview Corridor was chosen as a priority with no public input," she said.

Bartsh noted that the Riverview study includes \$25,000 for a consultant to draft a "community involvement plan." She added that Highland residents are working to complete a land-use plan for the Shepard-Davern area this spring and that any decisions on the Riverview Corridor should wait until then.

Highland District Council members were unhappy to learn that the Ramsey County Regional Rail Authority voted on January 26 to seek \$30 million from the Minnesota Legislature to study the Riverview Corridor as well as a Red Rock commuter rail corridor that would run from St. Paul to Hastings.

Commissioner Susan Haigh raised concerns about the county seeking state funds before the task force completed its work.

Ramsey County commissioner Rafael Ortega, whose district takes in the Riverview Corridor area, said he shares Haigh's concerns about the timing of the funding request. Still, he said he did not want Ramsey County to be left out. He said Hennepin County is requesting another \$60 million from the Legislature for LRT and Anoka County is asking for \$10 million.

"We have nothing on our side yet—nothing," he said.

The county rail authority is expected to adopt the task force's recommendations in February. The recommendations will also go to the St. Paul City Council where any notions of LRT on West 7th Street will run into staunch opposition from council members Chris Coleman and Mike Harris.

Harris said he could support improved bus service in the area, but he would like to see more done to explore Shepard Road's transit potential. Coleman said he is not against transit, but that LRT is the last thing the West 7th neighborhood needs.

"People are concerned that light rail on West 7th Street will be I-35E all over again," Coleman said.

SENIOR NEWS

Free income tax counseling, sponsored by the American Association of Retired Persons, will be available beginning February 3 to people age 60 and older with low or moderate incomes at the following times and locations: from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays at

the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. (call 651-698-0751 for an appointment); and from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the Hillcrest Recreation Center, 1978 Ford Pkwy. Seniors should bring a copy of last year's tax return, all

W-2 and 1099 forms for last year, and rent credit slips or a copy of property tax statements for 1998 and 1999.

The Merriam Park Senior Program will offer the following programs in the coming month: an exercise class at 10:00 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; line dancing at 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. on Mondays; blood pressure checks and foot care clinics on Wednesday, February 3; bingo at 12:30 p.m.

Wednesdays, February 10 and 24; and a Valentine's Day party at noon Friday, February 12. For more information, call 651-645-7424.

Rosewood Estate-Highland, 750 S. Mississippi River Blvd., is offering a caregiver support group at 11:00 a.m. each Monday. Dessert and coffee are provided. Those who attend are welcome to bring a bag lunch. To register, call Melissa Shaw at 651-698-1111.

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Announcing the Villager's 1999 Spring Home Improvement Issue - March 10th

Readers of the *Villager* have long been known for responding in droves to the messages of local home service advertisers. Whether it's plumbers, painters or custom-cabinetry makers, these home service companies will readily attest that the *Villager* is the primary vehicle for much of their local marketing—and much of their local business.

To appeal even more to this unusually responsive market, the *Villager* is planning a special Home Improvement Section in our Mar. 10 issue. The Home Improvement Section will include feature stories on home repair and improvements, energy-saving tips and expert commentary on getting local homes, lawns and gardens ready for spring and summer.

According to the most recent U.S. Census, nearly 25,000 dwellings of four or fewer units

are located within the *Villager's* free delivery area—the vast majority being single-family homes. As you probably know, those homeowners represent a highly educated, high-income population—people who tend to take more than the usual amount of pride in their homes, lawns and gardens, and allocate their family finances accordingly.

We invite you to take advantage of that market by displaying your services or products in our Home Improvement Section. To make your advertising message even more compelling, we are offering extra color throughout the section.

Concentrate your advertising dollars in this area this spring and reap the benefits for months to come. For personal attention to all your advertising needs, call Dennis, Tim, or Susan at (651) 699-1462 before the March 3 deadline. And thanks.

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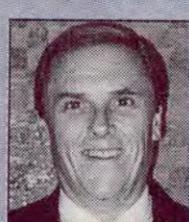
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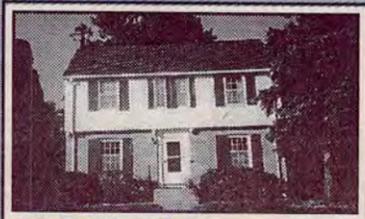
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TUDOR ON THE PARK
Across from Cherokee Park, up-to-date, 3 large BRs, 2 baths, natural woodwork, hardwood floors, newer kitchen with nook, 2 fireplaces, cedar closet, great family room, built-in china cabinets in dining room.
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651-690-8524



NEW LIST — "ALL BRICK & CHARM"
2 BRs with large ready-to-finish expansion. Natural woodwork, hardwood floors, coved ceilings, fireplace, DR + eat-in nook in kitchen, 3-season porch, fenced yard, newer mechanicals, brick 1-car garage + parking.
Jim & Sue Lindsay
651-690-8569 • \$169,900



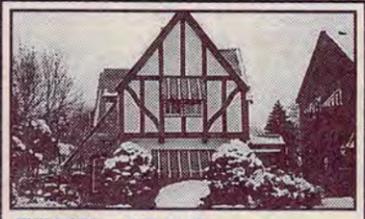
CHARMING BRICK 1-1/2 STORY
Great curb appeal leads you into this lovely 3-BR, 3-bath home! Newly painted in and out! Fireplace in living room, formal dining room, Kregel kitchen, new mechanics. Showings: February 5, 1999.
Jeannie S. Marver
651-690-8571 • \$176,000



FABULOUS LAKESHORE
Beautiful 3+ BR log home located on lovely Silver Lake, North St. Paul. Great room with huge eat-in kitchen, 4 baths, 3 fireplaces. Minutes from downtown. Find country in the city.
Dick Distad
651-690-8516 • \$299,900



TOWNHOME ON SUMMIT
This prominent 3-BR, 4-bath townhome on Summit is delightful! Upper level features 3 oversized BRs, lower level is finished, tucked under 2-car garage and more!
Terry Records
651-282-9637 • \$259,000



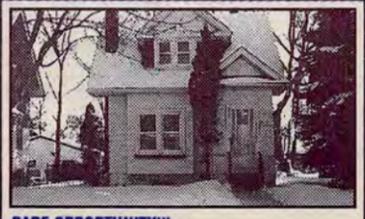
JUST LISTED — NEW ROOF
Super curb appeal on this charming Highland Park stucco Tudor. Main floor 1/2 bath, 3-season porch, newer kitchen. Knotty pine recreation room with second fireplace. 2-car garage!
Gary Fabel
651-282-9613 • \$199,900



1825 SUMMIT — 4+ BR
Great woodwork throughout main floor, plus spacious living room and formal dining room great for entertaining. Frank Lloyd Wright leaded glass windows, 4 BRs up, great value at this great price!
Linda Alter
651-690-8584 • \$287,500



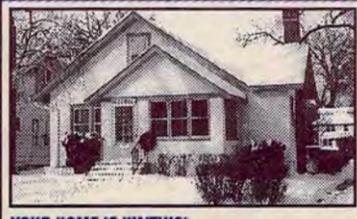
GREAT ALL BRICK — NEW!
New on the market. Fantastic duplex on large lot. Newer roof, furnace, 2-car garage with electric opener, updated mechanics, and interior shows nice. Call me for private showing.
Sanae Storey
651-690-8564 • \$90,000



RARE OPPORTUNITY!!!
Grampa's house loaded with woodwork, built-ins, hardwood floors, fireplace, open staircase, formal living and dining rooms, newer bath. Needs your TLC, and d'cor. Heart of Macalester/Groveland.
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ANOTHER NEW LIST IN...
Highland Park. 3 BRs, formal dining and eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, great d'cor. Finished lower level family room, new main floor bath, beautiful private lot, patio for summer barbecues.
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SCHOOL NOTES

Erin O'Leary of IHM-St. Luke's School has been selected as the Region 8 winner of the 1999 National Catholic Education Association Distinguished Teacher Award. The honor is presented annually to 12 teachers in the United States. O'Leary was recommended for the honor by the principal, students, parents and colleagues. She has been at IHM-St. Luke's since 1992 and currently teaches religion in grades 6-8 and assists with curriculum development. She is a graduate of the College of St. Catherine and holds a master's degree in K-12 curriculum from the University of St. Thomas. She will receive her award on April 6 in New Orleans.



Erin O'Leary

Cretin-Derham Hall will host the ninth annual Upper Midwest JROTC Challenge from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday, February 5. More than 700 participants from 13 high schools across Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota will compete in six events, including drill squad, quiz bowl, rifle match, color guard, orienteering and physical fitness. Crack drill squads from Cretin-Derham and St. Thomas Academy will perform precision drill team exhibitions during the event.

The Talmud Torah of St. Paul Day School, 768 S. Hamline Ave., will hold open houses from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Friday, February 5, and from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 25. For information, call 651-698-8807.

Visitation School, 2455 Visitation Drive, Mendota Heights, will hold an open house for families interested in grades 7-8 at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6. Visitation is opening a second coed section of 6th grade this fall. For information, call the admissions office at 651-683-1707.

St. Paul Early Childhood Family Education is now offering a class for first-time parents and their infants ages 7 months and younger. Classes will meet on Mondays at Randolph Heights Elementary School and on Thursdays at Highland Junior High School beginning the week of February 8. For information, call 681-293-5345 or 681-293-5344.

Highland Park Elementary School and its French immersion program will hold an open house from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 18, at the school, 1700 Saunders Ave. All subjects in the school's kindergarten and 1st grade are taught in French. English language arts and reading begin in grade 2. For information, call 651-293-8770.

Highland to celebrate Chinese New Year

Students will celebrate the Year of the Rabbit during a Chinese New Year party at 10:35 a.m. Wednesday, February 10, in the auditorium of Highland Park Senior High School, 1015 S. Snelling Ave.

The celebration will include a lion dance, Chinese martial arts demonstrations, folk dancing and Chinese New Year songs. Performers will include students who are studying Chinese at Webster Elementary, Ramsey Junior and Highland Park Junior and Senior highs.

The lion dance is a form of ritual street theater in China. It will be performed at Highland by members of the Gin Foon Mark's Kung Fu School.

The celebration is open to the public. To register, call Harriet Levine at 651-293-8940.

Congressman Bruce Vento recently announced the nomination of 14 students for appointments to U.S. service academies. Local nominees include Conor Ryan and Patrick O'Brien of Cretin-Derham Hall, Ian Sanchez and Nicholas Tackaberry of St. Thomas Academy, and Michael Trudeau of Central High School.

Mark Davis, a professor of biology at Macalester College, recently received a \$200,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to continue his field research of grasslands and oak savannas. The grant will support summer research for 12 Macalester students over the next three years. To date, more than 30 of Davis' students have conducted field research at the Cedar Creek Natural History Area near Bethel, Minnesota.

Lee Educational Services, located in the Mendota Plaza Shopping Center in Mendota Heights, will celebrate its grand opening with free cake and punch from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, February 13. The center specializes in K-12 assessments, tutoring, homework help, and preparation for standardized and college-entrance exams. It also offers evening courses in elementary-level Spanish and French as well as computer classes for children and adults. For information, call 651-683-9397.

FastTrac programs are once again being offered by the University of St. Thomas to place entrepreneurs on the path to business success. Information on FastTrac I, a nine-week course for people who want to start a business, will be given at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 23, and 9:00 a.m. Saturday, February 27, at the university's Minneapolis campus, 1000 LaSalle Ave. Information on FastTrac II, an 11-week course for entrepreneurs looking for the skills to make an existing business grow, will be provided at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, in the O'Shaughnessy Educational Center, and at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, February 20, in the Murray-Herrick Campus Center on the St. Paul campus. For information, call 651-962-4408.

Red, White and Blueberry Bread

An all-time customer favorite! Dried blueberries and cherries are folded into a white loaf with just a hint of lemon. Available Wednesdays and Saturdays in February.

Who will be Baker of the Day?


Don't forget to vote for the non-profit group you'd most like to see run our bakery and keep ALL SALES on Sunday, March 21. Vote in the store (adults over 18 only, please) from February 12-25. No purchase is necessary, but we will insist on giving you a free slice!

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THE KIOSK

Wednesday/February 3

A **SUPPORT GROUP** for people dealing with depression will be offered from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening and the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. For information, call 651-698-0751.

"A **CONNECTION WITH OTHERS**," an educational support group for parents, will meet from 7:00 to 9:00 this evening and on every Wednesday through March 10 at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The cost is \$100 for all six classes. To register, call 651-698-0751.

Thursday/February 4

THE HOME AND PATIO SHOW, featuring more than 600 exhibits, continuous landscaping and home improvement how-to seminars and various gardens, will be held from noon to 10:00 p.m. today and tomorrow, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday at RiverCentre. Admission is \$6.50 for adults and \$2.00 for children ages 6-12. For information, call 612-755-8111.

Saturday/February 6

A **SNOWSHOE HIKE** will take place from noon to 2:00 this afternoon at the Crosby Farm Park Nature Center (meet at the pavilion). Besides the hike, families can sit around a bonfire while listening to traditional Native American stories and learn how Minnesota tribes survived the winter. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. To register, call 651-487-8272.

Sunday/February 7

THE GREEN PARTY, a growing progressive political party, will hold a series of discussion forums in the upcoming months. The first, focusing on "Grassroots Democracy: Green Party Legislative Agenda 1999," will take place from 1:00 to 3:00 this afternoon at the Merriam Park Library, 1831 Marshall Ave. For information, call 651-698-5266.

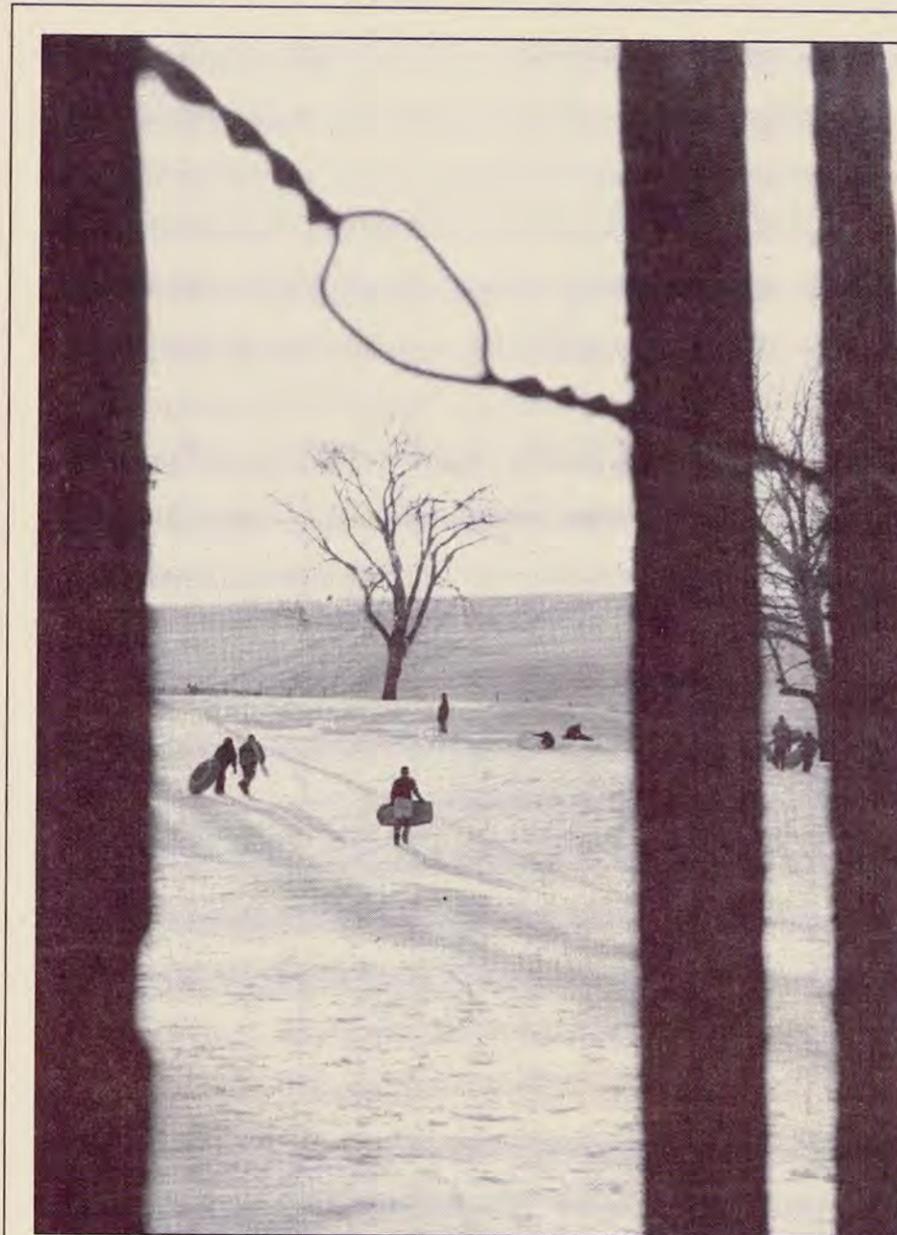
Monday/February 8

THE WORDSMITH TOASTMASTER Club will meet from 6:30 to 8:00 this evening and every Monday in the Merriam Park Community Center, 2000 St. Anthony Ave. This meeting is open to anyone who wants to improve his or her speaking skills and confidence. For information, call Cherif at 612-825-4923.

A **GARDEN SALON** on "Growing Places—Gardens to Visit" will be given at 7:00 this evening at Squire House Gardens, 1129 Grand Ave. "Gardening in Extremis—Confronting Difficult Times" will be offered on February 15. The cost is \$5.00. For reservations, call 651-665-0142.

Tuesday/February 9

A **FAMILY ISSUES PARENTING GROUP** will meet from 7:00 to 8:30 this evening and the second Tuesday of each month from



Picture-perfect weather. Balmy temperatures attracted sledders to the slopes of the Highland Park golf course last Thursday afternoon. They are framed by the snow fence erected around the park's perimeter. Photo by Mike Long.

September through May at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. The focus of this month's meeting is raising children with character. To register, call 651-698-0751.

A **NEW PARENTS AND BABIES GROUP** will meet from 9:30 to 10:30 this morning and the second Tuesday of each month at the Jewish Community Center, 1375 St. Paul Ave. This month's meeting will focus on nutrition for parent and baby. To register, call 651-698-0751.

Wednesday/February 10

"**THINK ST. PAUL**," a new lecture series focusing on the arts and sciences, will begin at noon today in the Jerome Hill Theater of the US Bank Trust Center, 180 E. 5th St. Dr. Thomas Sullivan of the University of St. Thomas philosophy department will examine how much power people have over their own futures. Admission is free.

THE LONGFELLOW GARDEN CLUB will meet at 7:00 this evening at the Mother Earth Garden Center, 42nd Avenue and East 38th Street, Minneapolis. This month's meeting will focus on vegetable gardening in small spaces.

"**LUNCH AT THE CAPITOL**" with area legislators will be offered today and tomorrow in Room 318 of the state Capitol.

Senator Dick Cohen and Representative Matt Entenza will discuss legislative issues from noon to 1:00 this afternoon. Cohen and Representative Michael Paymar will do the same from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. tomorrow. Participants may bring their own lunch. Box lunches will also be available from Cecil's Deli for \$7.50. For reservations, call 651-296-5931.

Thursday/February 11

A **WORLD WAR II ROUNDTABLE** discussion on the 15th Air Force, which was stationed in the Mediterranean during World War II and successfully struck targets in Europe and North Africa during one of the longest campaigns of the war, will be held at 7:00 this evening at Historic Fort Snelling. Admission is free. For information, call 612-726-1171.

Friday/February 12

THE PRIVITIZATION of public services and the effects that can have on workers and communities will be addressed today and tomorrow during the seventh annual Labor Educational Conference in Macalester College's Weyerhaeuser Chapel. National labor and civil rights leader Staughton Lynd will deliver the keynote address at 7:00 this evening. The conference continues on Saturday with a morning session on "Why

Privitization is Happening." Saturday afternoon's session will include a discussion of last summer's strike by telephone workers in Puerto Rico, the struggle against private prisons in the South and the campaign to challenge privatization as a strategy of government and business. All programs are free and open to the public. For information, call 651-696-6371.

"**WORLD OF WHEELS**," Carquest Auto Parts 37th annual showcase of hundreds of unique vehicles, will take place from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. today, from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. tomorrow and from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Sunday at RiverCentre. The cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12. For advanced tickets, priced at \$7.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children, call 612-925-4848.

Saturday/February 13

A **FRIENDSHIP DINNER** will be held at 6:00 this evening at the St. Paul Citadel Corps, 401 W. 7th St. There will be a special performance by the 3M Male Chorus. There will be a \$5.00 donation to raise funds for the Salvation Army. For reservations, call 651-224-4316.

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

"**A FROZEN CHOZEN PURIM**," starring The Minnesota Klezmer Band and special guest vocalist Donny Maseng, will be held at 7:00 this evening at the Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. The cost is \$10. For information, call 651-698-8874.

"**A SCOTTISH RAMBLE**," the largest indoor Scottish Festival in the Upper Midwest, will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. today and from noon to 5:00 p.m. tomorrow at Landmark Center. There will be a Highland dance competition, seminars, demonstrations, music and dance performances, exhibits, food and storytelling and more. The cost is \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for seniors and children. Call 651-292-3225.

Sunday/February 14

A **VALENTINE SKATE DATE** open to adults only will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 this evening at the Highland Ice Arena, Snelling and Ford Parkway. The program is sponsored by the Highland Business Association. The cost is \$7.50. For information, call 651-699-9042.

Tuesday/February 16

A **PROGRESS REPORT** on the renovation of Harriet Island Regional Park will be offered by the St. Paul Division of Parks and Recreation at 1:00 p.m. today in Rooms 40A and 40B of City Hall. For information, call Tiffany at 651-293-6860.

THE ST. PAUL HIKING CLUB will meet at 7:30 this evening at 1935 Summit Ave. for a walk around the neighborhood. For information, call Chuck at 651-644-7502.

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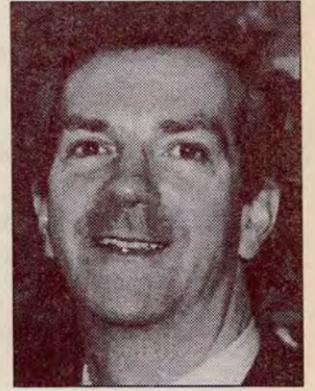
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RELIGIOUS NOTES

The Reverend Carol Tomer was installed as the new pastor of Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 1935 St. Clair Ave., on January 30. Tomer was born in New Jersey and received her master's degree in divinity from Harvard, where she received a prize in preaching. She did additional study at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. She has been ordained for more than 10 years and has done church-related work for the past 16.



Reverend Carol Tomer



Dan Nodes

Mazal Mondays will continue at 7:00 p.m. at Mount Zion Temple, 1300 Summit Ave. "Entering the Hasidic World: Healing Insights for Life" will be led by Rabbi Manis Friedman on February 8. For information, call 651-698-3881.

Russ Connors, a professor of theology at the College of St. Catherine, will discuss "Sexual Ethics: Can We Think Differently?" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, in the college's Jeanne d'Arc Auditorium. Admission is free. For information, call Wisdom Ways at 651-690-8830.

The Temple of Aaron, 616 S. Mississippi River Blvd., is offering the following activities in the next two weeks: a Shabbat Lunch and Learn study group will meet after services on Saturday, February 13 (\$5.15 for lunch); and the Women's Rosh Chodesh

Group will study "Jewish Women Under Muslim Rule" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 16, at the home of Rabbi Julie Gordon. Call 651-698-8874.

"What Does Judaism Say About...?" a series geared for Jewish singles, will continue with a discussion of the meaning of relationships at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 10, at Beth Jacob Congregation, 1179 Highway 110, Mendota Heights. For information, call 612-692-8306.

The St. Paul Academy of Jewish Education is offering the following courses: "Connections through Prayer and Song" on Mondays, February 22 and March 8 and 15; and "Reading and Creating Contemporary Midrash" on Mondays, March 22 through April 12. Classes will meet at 7:00 p.m. at the Talmud Torah of St. Paul, 768 S. Ham-

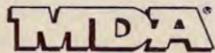
line Ave. Admission is \$5.00 per class. For information, call Holly Brod Farber at 651-698-8807.

Fool's Sunday, a festive service that invokes the spirit of Mardi Gras, will take place at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, February 14, at Minnehaha United Church of Christ, 4001 S. 38th Ave., Minneapolis. Festivities will continue after the worship service with a Fool's Day brunch. Participants are encouraged to come in costume. For information, call 612-729-7566.

Dan Nodes, director of graduate liberal studies at Hamline University, will conduct a lecture series on the writings of the early Christian fathers at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, February 3-24, at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, 1111 Summit Ave. For information, call 651-222-6220.

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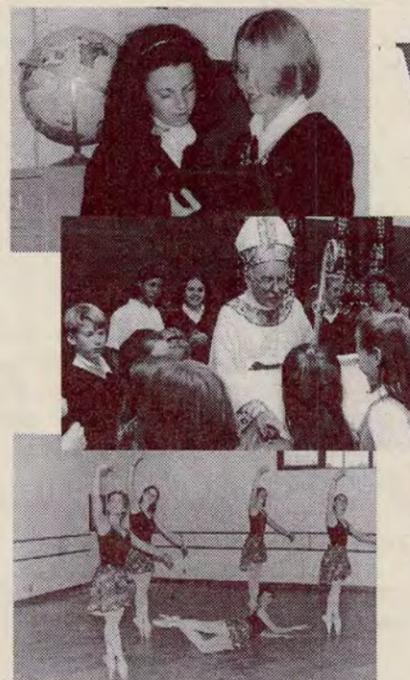
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ON THE TOWN

A stitch in time

Nine women piece together the past while sharing their passion for quilting

by Victoria McCurdy

It's hard to pinpoint the exact date that the first quilt was completed in Minnesota, but chances are a group of women created it. "Traditionally, women quilted to make blankets warmer," said Martha Knittig of the Minnesota History Center. "They'd work in groups, piecing together layers of fabric and often using recycled clothing. It was a source of social interaction and creative expression and it fit with their sense of thrift."

Knittig is curator of the "Q is for Quilts" exhibit now on display at the History Center. The exhibit of 14 vintage quilts presents a series of snapshots of the history of quilting in Minnesota by telling the stories behind each quilt.

However, the history of quilting in Minnesota is still being stitched and the History Center exhibit reflects that. Dozens of quilting groups from across the state are participating in the Great Quilting Bees at the History Center on the first and third Saturdays of each month.

"I think there's this deep need in people that hand work addresses," said Sharon Sachwitz of the West End Quilters, a group of

nine local women who will be participating in the Great Quilting Bee on February 6. "From a practical standpoint, you could go and buy a blanket from the store for a lot less money."

"But you wouldn't have the satisfaction or the beauty of doing something like this," said fellow member Mary Lou Murray as she hand-pieced squares of fabric. "I have a lot of nephews, and last year I completed seven baby quilts."

The West End Quilters was founded seven years ago by Jean Curtis-Neitz of Macalester-Groveland. The group meets each month in the home of a member. Last month at the Highland Park home of Joan Fearing, Curtis-Neitz spread out a friendship quilt that the nine women had made together. "Each member made a block representing our dream house," said Curtis-Neitz, pointing out squares that featured everything from a country cottage to an igloo. "In the center is a traditional friendship block and in the corners you can see we all signed it."

At meetings the West End Quilters share their passion for quilting as well as their personal lives. Through the years they have helped each other through surgeries,

divorces and their children's births. It is not an evening they like to miss.

"The husbands know not to schedule anything on that Wednesday," Sachwitz said.

Quilters at the History Center bees are now nearing completion of "The Minnesota Lily," a large quilt stretched across an antique frame. It is the third quilt that the groups have collaborated on



West End Quilters Sharon Sachwitz, Mary Lou Murray, Jean Curtis-Neitz and Joan Fearing show off a friendship quilt that the group recently made together. Photos by Terry Faust.

since the bees were inaugurated in October 1997. "Right now we're shaking hands over the quilt," said Knittig, referring to the stage at which the majority of the quilt has been completed and the quilters are straddling the last 2 feet.

"We encourage anybody who comes by on February 6 to do a few stitches," said Curtis-Neitz.

According to Murray, the quilt exhibit grew out of the work of the Minnesota Quilt Project, which over the past 12 years has documented more than 3,500 quilts across the state. "We wanted to exhibit some of the quilts that we'd documented," said Murray, former co-chair of the project.

"The 14 quilts on display at the History Center were chosen for their variety, quality and the stories behind why people made them," Murray said. "For instance, one quilt was made by a husband and wife during their first year of marriage. They were living with their mother-in-law and she couldn't stand idle hands."

The West End Quilters are proud to be part of a long quilting tradition in Minnesota, though they do make concessions to modernity. For instance, they glean many of their ideas for new quilts off the Internet.

The members of the group often swap fabric at meetings. The hostess will pick a theme and each member will bring nine 10-inch squares of fabric based on that theme. "That's one way we build up our stash," said Curtis-Neitz, referring to their stockpile of fabric. "Themes have included

California, Ants, Aliens and Our Teenage Years. This grey-blue piece was from the Apathy month."

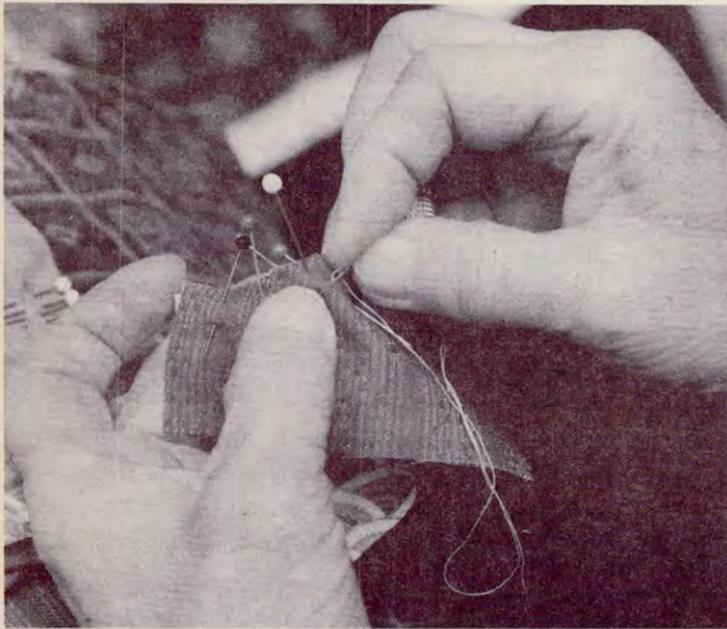
The group has even had an ugly-fabric exchange. "The challenge was to do something interesting with it," Curtis-Neitz said.

The West End Quilters have also taken on several projects for charity. "We donate little preemie quilts to the Elizabeth Ministry that might be given to a young mother who needs some encouragement," Fearing said. Full-size quilts have gone to Lutheran Social Service and Birthright. Sachwitz donates her quilted "comfort caps" to women who have lost their hair through chemotherapy.

"The projects strengthen us as a group," Curtis-Neitz said.

A strong group already, the West End Quilters say they will continue meeting "forever and ever." Some evening, they might even include their husbands. "We've thought of doing that," said Curtis-Neitz.

Admission to "Q is for Quilts" is free and open to the public from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays, and noon to 5:00 p.m. Sundays at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The exhibit will remain on view through October. The Saturday quilting bees, which run from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., will also continue through October. People interested in starting or joining a quilting group are invited to call the Minnesota Quilters Association at 651-642-9538.



West End Quilter Jean Curtis-Neitz demonstrates the finger work.

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Music

Violinist Anne-Sophie Mutter will perform Beethoven's only violin concerto with the Minnesota Orchestra at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, February 3-4, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$18.25 to \$63.50, call 612-371-5656.

"**Music Under Glass**," a series of noontime performances on Thursdays in the Como Park Conservatory's Sunken Garden, will continue with the following: St. Croix Brass on February 4; and Laurie Leigh and Lisa Hinds on February 11. 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 cents for seniors and children. Call 651-487-8200.

The St. Paul Early Music Series will present Marion Verbruggen & Friends at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6, in Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University. For tickets, priced at \$12 and \$18, call 651-523-2459.

Lyra Concert Baroque Orchestra will perform "Rococo Romance" at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6, and at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7, in the Olson Campus Center at Luther Seminary, Hendon Avenue and Fulham Street. The concert will include music by Rameau, Marcellini, Corelli and Vivaldi. For tickets, priced from \$6.00 to \$16, call 612-404-9632.

The Tom Cravens Piano Trio will perform a free jazz concert at 8:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7, in the Janet Wallace Concert Hall at Macalester College.

Max Morath, known as the "Ragtime Man," will perform at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$16.75 to \$33.75, call 612-371-5656.

The Frederic Chopin Society will present Swedish pianist Per Tengstrand at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7, in the Janet Wallace Fine Arts Center at Macalester College. For tickets, priced at \$12 and \$15, call 612-822-0123.

The Singer's Voice, an autobiographical music series hosted by Dan Chouinard, will continue at 8:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 7, at the Dakota Bar & Grille in Bandana Square with Prudence Johnson and Gary Rue. Call 651-642-1442.

Street Sounds, an a cappella quintet from San Francisco, will perform at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, February 10, at the Ordway Music Theatre, 345 Washington St. A world party will precede the concert at 5:30 p.m. For tickets, priced from \$7.00 to \$19, call 651-224-4222.

The Schubert Club will present violinist Maxim Vengerov accompanied by pianist Igor Uryash at 8:00 p.m. Thursday, February 11, at the Ordway Music Theatre. For tickets, priced from \$20 to \$28, call 651-224-4222.

"**Mozart's Requiem**" will be performed by the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra at 8:00 p.m. Friday and Saturday, February 12 and 13, and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 14, at the Ordway Music Theatre, 345 Washington St. For tickets, priced from \$17 to \$49.50, call 651-291-1144.

Butch Thompson and The Jazz Originals will perform at 8:30 p.m. Saturday, February 13, at the Fitzgerald Theater, 10 E. Exchange St. For tickets, priced from \$15 to \$19, call 612-989-5151.

The Plymouth Music Series will perform "Witness with Billy Taylor," a concert of the classical music of African-Americans, at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, February 13, at Orchestra Hall. Call 612-371-5656.

The Prospect Park Players, under the direction of William Eddins, will perform "Silence to Chaos—Zero to Eight" at 3:00

ON THE TOWN briefly



Jim Stowell is the troubled Scottish nobleman and Carolyn Goelzer plays his wife in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, opening Friday, February 12, at the Jungle Theater, 2951 S. Lyndale Ave., Minneapolis. An open house to view the theater's new performance space will be held from noon to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6. Performances will run until April 10. For tickets, priced from \$16 to \$22, call 612-822-7063.

p.m. Sunday, February 14, in Sundin Music Hall at Hamline University. For tickets, priced at \$15, call 612-331-8345.

"**A Voice From the Orchestra—**for Valentines" will be performed by the St. Paul Civic Symphony at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 14, in the Concert Hall at Macalester College. Admission is free.

Music in the Park Series will continue with the following concerts at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at St. Anthony Park United Church of Christ, 2129 Commonwealth Ave: JoAnne Brackeen and Eddie on February 14. For tickets, priced at \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door, call 651-645-5699.

Organist Marilyn Biery will perform the music of Bach, Reger, Libby Larsen and the Third Symphony of Louis Vierne at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, February 14, at the Cathedral of St. Paul. Admission is free.

"**Folk Music of the Andes**" will be performed by Leo and Kathy Lara at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, February 14, in the Buetow Music Center at Concordia University. Admission is free.

"**Jesus and All That Jazz**," a vesper service with a Mardi Gras flavor, will be held at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, February 14, at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave. A trio of jazz musicians including pianist Laura Caviani and saxophonist

David Milne will perform.

A **student concerto** will be performed at 8:00 p.m. Monday, February 15, at the College of St. Catherine. Works by Bruch, Chaminade and Mozart will be included in the program. Admission is free.

Books

The Hungry Mind Bookstore, 1648 Grand Ave., will host the following readings at 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted): Bret Easton Ellis will read from his book *Glamorama* on Thursday, February 4; Sandra Alcosser will read from her book of poetry *Except By Nature* on Friday, February 5; Joseph Sobol will discuss his book *The Storytellers' Journey* at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, February 6; Richard Mosher will read from his book *The Taxi Navigator* on Monday, February 8; Phil Cousineau will discuss his book *The Art of Pilgrimage* on Tuesday, February 9; and Roger Cohen will discuss his book *Hearts Grown Brutal: Sagas of Sarajevo* on Wednesday, February 10. For information, call 651-699-0587.

The Friends of the St. Paul Public Library will kick off its Fireside Literary Series, held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays through March 23 at the Hamline Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave. Barton Sutter will lead off the series with his collection of essays *Cold Comfort: Life at the Top of the Map* on February 16. Call 651-222-3242.

Family

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 presented at 12:30, 1:30, 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through February 14 at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. Admission is free.

The Youth Performance Company has opened *Home On the Mornin' Train* in the Howard Conn Fine Arts Center, 1900 Nicollet Ave., Minneapolis. 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.

Music in the Park Series Family Concerts will present "Let's Make an Opera!" at 6:15 and 7:30 p.m. Friday, February 5, at St. Matthews Episcopal Church, 2136 Carter Ave. Cynthia Lohman and Bradley Greenwald will perform arias and duets from Mozart's "Magic Flute" and other operas and children can help build sets, design costumes and take a voice lesson. Admission is \$6.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children, or \$5.00 and \$4.00 in advance. For tickets, call 651-644-4234.

Mixed Blood Theatre Company, in commemoration of Black History Month, will perform the following plays in its historic firehouse theater, 1501 S. 4th St., Minneapolis, at 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays: *Paul Robeson*, a play about one of the most remarkable people ever wiped out of the history books, on February 6; and *Daughters of Africa*, a play featuring the music of Bessie Smith, Billie Holiday and Aretha Franklin, among others, on February 13. For tickets, priced at \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children, call 612-338-6131.

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

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following: weave a basket out of papers, fibers and cloth on February 7; and make valentine cards on February 14. Admission is free. Call 651-296-6126.

Like Waters Rolling Down, a free musical about justice in housing, will be performed from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7, at Central Presbyterian Church, 500 Cedar St. Call 651-224-4728.

"Electric Powwow," a performance weaving together storytelling, traditional and contemporary music and dance of the Native American, will be performed Friday through Sunday, February 12-14, and Wednesdays through Sundays, February 17-28, in the E.M. Pearson Theater at Concordia University. Showtime will be at 7:30 p.m. with additional shows at 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Admission is \$17 for adults, \$14 for seniors and students and \$9.00 for children. Call 612-706-0414.

SteppingStone Theatre For Youth Development will open *And a Child Shall Lead Them: Young Martin Luther King, Jr.* on February 14 in the E.K. Weyerhaeuser Auditorium at Landmark Center, 75 W. 5th St. Performances will continue on Tuesdays through Fridays and Sundays until March 7. For tickets, priced at \$6.00, call 651-225-9265.

Minnesota Youth Symphonies will perform at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 14, at Orchestra Hall. For tickets, priced from \$9.00 to \$16 for adults and \$3.00 to \$4.00 for children, call 651-699-5811.

Dance



"Let's Dance, The Cabaret" will be performed by Doug Varone at 8:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday, February 4 and 5, at the Southern Theater, 1420 S. Washington Ave., Minneapolis. For tickets, priced at \$16, call



Kimber Fiebiger of Macalester-Groveland has opened an exhibit of her bronze sculptures at House of Hope Presbyterian Church, 797 Summit Ave. The exhibit will remain on view throughout February. A coffee reception will be held at 10:00 a.m. Sunday, February 7. Photo by Brad Stauffer.

612-375-7622.

A special **"Swing Night"** will take place from 8:00 p.m. to midnight Friday, February 5, at the Wabasha Street Caves, 215 S. Wabasha St. The Moonlight Serenaders will provide the music for the dance. Dance lessons will be given at 7:15 p.m. Admission is \$8.00. Call 651-224-1191.

The **TGIS Singles Social Club** will hold the following smoke-free singles dances at 8:30 p.m. on Saturdays: the Classics will provide the music for a dance on February 6 at the Thunderbird Hotel in Bloomington; and Dancer will provide the music for a dance on February 13 also at the Thunderbird Hotel. Admission is \$10, or \$8.00 for those arriving by 9:00 p.m. Call 651-644-3443.

"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.

Sunday, February 7, in the Twin City Ballroom, 265 W. 7th St. Dance lessons will be given at 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00. For information, call 651-771-4718.

Etc.



"Monsters of Grace," a multimedia presentation of film, music, image and poetic vocals viewed through polarized 3-D glasses, will be performed at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, February 13, at Northrop Auditorium. For tickets, priced from \$16 to \$28, call 612-624-2345.

Exhibits



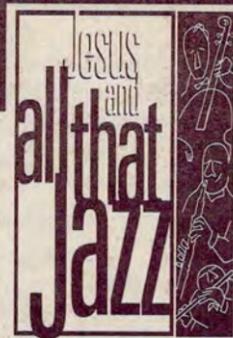
"Images of the Sea: Art and Technology of Underwater Photography," an exhibit by pioneering photographer Flip Schulke, has gone on display in

the Olin-Rice Science Center at Macalester College. It will remain on display through May 15. Call 651-696-6102.

A new exhibit of popular prints and engravings from the 19th century has opened at the James J. Hill House, 240 Summit Ave. The exhibit will be open for viewing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays until March 27. Admission is \$1.00. For information, call 651-297-2555.

"Discover Greatness! An Illustrated History of Negro Leagues Baseball," a new traveling exhibit featuring 100 photos and memorabilia, has gone on display at the Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd. The exhibit will remain on display until March 14. Admission is free. Call 651-296-6126.

"With Two Voices: Selections of Western and American Indian Art from the Harmsen Collection," an exhibit of art from one of the nation's leading



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collections of Western Americana, has opened in the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center at the University of St. Thomas. Admission is free. For information, call 651-962-5560.

"On the Road with Thomas Hart Benton: Images of a Changing America," an exhibit of paintings, drawings and lithographs depicting America's transition from a rural agricultural nation to an urban, industrialized world power, has opened at the Minnesota Museum of American Art in Landmark Center, 75 W. 5th St. The exhibit will remain on view until February 14. Call 651-292-4355.

"Absence/Presence: the Artistic Memory of the Holocaust and Contemporary Genocide," has opened in the Katherine E. Nash Gallery at the University of Minnesota. The exhibit will remain on display until February 25.

"Nocturnes," an exhibit by Mike Lynch, Laura Hampton, Darin D. Anderson, Randy Reeves, Sarah Bowker, Eric Austen Erickson, Mark Horton and Matthew Smith, has opened at the Groveland Gallery, 25 Groveland Terrace, Minneapolis. Also, an exhibit of new paintings by Greg Graham and Cameron Zebrun will be on display in the Annex of the Groveland Gallery. Both exhibits will remain on view until February 13. For information, call 612-377-7800.

An exhibit of the sculpture of Kirk Sklar, an art professor at Concordia University, has opened 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.

"Smoke," a national juried exhibition on smoking, has opened at the College of Visual Arts, 173 Western Ave. Works representing a wide range of media make up this controver-



Pangea World Theater will open Sophocles' *Ajax* on Friday, February 5, in Studio 6A of the Hennepin Center for the Arts, 528 S. Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis. The play, which is about power, pride, human failings, war, politics and the tragic downfall of a great leader, could be taken right out of today's headlines. Performances will continue at 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays and Fridays, and at 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through February 21. For tickets, priced at \$12, or \$10 for students and seniors, call 612-335-3200.

sial exhibit, which at times adulates and at other times condemns smoking. The exhibit will remain on view until February 12.

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

Chris Matteson of Macalester-Groveland currently has three of her paintings on display at the Montserrat Gallery in New York City. The exhibit will run until February 13.

"Off the Wall," an exhibit of 3-D wall art by local artists David Enblom, Keith Haynes and Kelly Anderson, will open with a reception from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Saturday, February

6, at Hair of the Dog Gallery, 541 Ohio St. Becka Schafer will perform Celtic fiddle music during the reception. The exhibit will be on display until March 13. Call 651-224-6281.

Theater

Nine Dollars and Thirty-six Cents, a dark comedy about the acceptance of death, will be performed at 8:00 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, February 4-6, and at 2:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7, in Westlund Theatre at Concordia University. The one-act play was written by Seraphina Richardson, a Concordia University student, and is directed by student Jessica Walker. For information, call 651-641-8742.

Theater Mu will present the 7th annual "New Eyes Festival" from Friday through Sunday, February 5-7, at The Play-

wrights' Center, 2301 E. Franklin Ave., Minneapolis. The following staged readings will be performed: *Tales of the Starfruit Tree* at 7:00 p.m. Friday, February 5; *The Tale of the Dancing Crane* at 3:00 p.m. and *Night Flights* at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6; *Pocketful of Dust* and *The Pipa Player* at 7:00 p.m. Sunday, February 7. The cost is \$6.00 for all readings. For reservations, call 612-824-4804.

The Penumbra Theatre will open *Indigo Blues*, the story of two sisters whose lives twist and turn in their passion for the same Romeo, on February 10 at the Hallie Q. Brown Center, 270 N. Kent St. Performances will be given at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays, at 8:00 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, at 2:00 p.m. Sundays and at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Wednesdays until March 21. For tickets, priced from \$14 to \$25, call 651-224-3180.

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SPORTS

CODY'S CORNER

TOM CODY



Shorter season, no Mike makes for NBA intrigue

The abbreviated 50-game NBA season opens this weekend after a nasty work stoppage lopped off the first three months of the schedule. But three months of NBA basketball seems just about right to me. This year's playoffs will have fresher players and fresher fans as well. The players might not enjoy the four- and five-game work weeks, but fans will certainly have their fill of basketball action. There won't be many East-West clashes during the shortened season, but that will only heighten the importance of division play.

Life in the NBA A.M. (After Michael) will be vastly different. Instead of spending six months to see who'll draw the Chicago Bulls in the playoffs, this season carries some real intrigue. The Indiana Pacers have assembled a cast of talented players, perhaps enough to win it all this summer. Reggie Miller will get plenty of help from Antonio Davis, Rik Smits, Travis Best, Chris Mullin and Derrick McKey.

Indiana's foe in the Eastern Conference final should be the Knicks, whose front line of Larry Johnson, Marcus Camby and Patrick Ewing might be the most formidable in the league. Having Latrell Sprewell playing in the Big Apple is a match made in heaven. Miami will be the third seed. Voshon Lenard's injury leaves the Heat without a true shooting guard and they'll have trouble generating offense.

I'm picking the Lakers to face the Pacers in the NBA finals. This should be the year that Kobe Bryant steps into his own, especially with the departure of Nick Van Exel. Shaquille O'Neal, Eddie Jones, Robert Horry and Derek Harper will score enough points to give rookie Sam Jacobson plenty of playing time in Tinsel Town.

The Lakers will likely have to battle Houston in the Western Conference finals. Veterans like Hakeem Olajuwon, Charles Barkley and Scottie Pippen will benefit from the shortened season. The Rockets' guards might be a weak link in the playoffs, though. Eddie Johnson is older than basketball commissioner David Stern.

WOLVES REVAMP ROSTER

Tom Gugliotta must've flunked math in grade school. I'll spell it out for him: \$80 million is greater than \$50 million. Googs made the decision to go to Phoenix, apparently because he didn't want to play with Wolves' point guard Stephon Marbury. A year from now, Marbury will be with his hometown Knicks and Googs will still be stuck in the desert with a .500 team—and he'll be \$30 million light.

The big question for Minnesota is who will take the last-second shots now that Googs is gone? The pressure will probably fall on guards Anthony Peeler, Chris Carr, Malik Sealy, Bobby Jackson and Marbury. The deal with Denver was one of Kevin McHale's best moves ever. He obtained two perfect fits in Jackson and center Dean Garrett. More important, he finally unloaded Michael Williams, the salary cap monster who's haunted the team for five years.

Joe Smith was certainly a bargain. Calling him a "power

Cody's Corner/see page 29

All fired up

Maureen Smith has hot hand for Blazer hoopsters

by Bill Wagner

Maureen Smith has been a model of consistency this season for the Convent of the Visitation basketball team. As of last week, the 5-foot-10 senior forward was averaging 16 points and eight rebounds per game to help lead the Blazers to a 4-2 conference record.

"We depend on Maureen a lot," said coach Paul Bernabei. "She's very effective inside and gets a lot of offensive rebounds. But she can shoot outside as well—she's deadly from the 15-16 foot range. And she can create some things for other players with her passing. She's not a one-on-one player, but she's very effective coming off picks."

Smith has stepped up her level of play each year at Vis. She was bothered by a broken toe her freshman year and languished on the Blazers' JV squad, but she earned a starting spot on the varsity her sophomore year. Last season she was an all-conference pick and the team's second-leading scorer. This season, she has consistently ranked among the metro area's scoring leaders and has a good chance of being named to the all-state team.

"That's one of my goals for this year," Smith said. "I've continued to develop throughout high school and it would be nice to take that next step."

Bernabei said he is pleased with Smith's development as a playmaker. However, Smith makes her biggest contribution when shooting the ball. So far,



Senior Maureen Smith checks the scoreboard during Visitation's 61-14 win over St. Paul Academy on January 26. Photo by Mike Long.

she has hit on 50 percent of her shots from the field and 70 percent of her free throws.

"I've coached her for two years now and I don't think I've ever seen her miss a shot left or right," Bernabei said. "If she misses, it's going to be short or long."

As for rebounding, Smith seems to have a knack for being in the right posi-

tion at the right time. "I don't jump that high," she said, "but you can get rebounds by working hard."

Smith has logged some stellar performances this year. She scored 28 points and had 10 rebounds against Holy Angels, collected 14 points and 13 boards

Smith/see page 31

STA finds success doing goalie shuffle

by Tom Cody

Goaltenders Brian Monahan and Ethan Keller have been splitting time between the pipes this winter for the St. Thomas Academy hockey team. Heading into the final month of the season, the two seniors had each allowed exactly 3.14 goals per game, which is one reason that coach Billy McCarthy has them sharing the position.

"We played them both last year as juniors," McCarthy said. "They were both very good in that system. Neither one established himself as the number-one guy, and no one's really claimed the job this year either."

The rotation has worked well for the

Cadets this season. They won six of their first eight St. Paul Suburban Conference games and nine of their first 14 games overall.

"One positive of sharing time is that Monahan and Keller can pick each other up," McCarthy said. "If one guy loses a game, we come back with the other guy. We don't have to go to the well with a hole in our bucket. On the negative side, the team has to adjust to a different goalie each game and that can be difficult. Ethan and Brian have very different styles in playing the puck."

"Monahan is your typical, goofy goalie," McCarthy said. "Goals don't bother him; it's like water off a duck's back. He's got a passion for the game

and he's a great leader for us. He plays hunches in the nets. He's more of a reflex goalie."

Keller, on the other hand, is "intense," McCarthy said. "He's got his game face on all day when it's his turn. He goes through a lot of rituals. He treats every game like a championship game. He guards the net very physically."

Both goaltenders will rave about the performance of the other. "Brian is really consistent," Keller said. "I can't remember his last bad game. He's always ready. But he likes to let the defensemen handle the puck in our end. I like to do it myself."

Goalies/see page 30

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Aging gracefully

Sibley gymnast hopes to cap stellar career with third trip to state tourney

by Tom Cody

Seventeen-year-old athletes are usually not considered over the hill, but they are in women's gymnastics, which tends to favor girls who are in their early adolescence.

Sibley High School senior Katie Lecher hopes to strike a blow for veteran gymnasts this season. She has been an individual qualifier for the state meet each of the past two years and hopes to earn a third trip next month.

"This is probably my last year in gymnastics," Lecher said. "I'd like to finish strong, avoid injuries and make it to state again. The sport just wears you down. I feel old these days. It's hard to maintain the physical and mental demands of gymnastics for so many years."

Lecher began taking gymnastics classes at the YMCA when she was 6 years old. She learned the basic tumbling and dance moves before moving on to the more competitive Turners Gymnastics Center in Mendota Heights.

"I was always a hyper little kid, flipping around in the living room," Lecher said. "I thought it was cool when I first got involved at Turners. I learned the compulsory events at each level and kept progressing. I stayed with the club team through 9th grade, but I got tired of such a demanding schedule. I was going four hours a day, all year long. I switched to the high school team as a sophomore, where it's more laid back. I was ready for the move and I'm glad I did it."

Sibley coach Kathy Balzart, who has been a gymnast and coach at both the club and high school level, can empathize with Lecher's de-

cision. "It all depends on what you want out of life," she said. "Some kids get their whole social life at the club; some don't. If you want to get into other things, then the high school team is a better option. You can compete in gymnastics, then join the soccer team, the track team, whatever. In the club, you can't do that. You're there non-stop, year-round."

Lecher's past two seasons have earned her a place among the Twin Cities' top gymnasts. She qualified for the state meet as a sophomore and junior by placing second in the Section 3AA all-around competition behind Cretin-Derham Hall star Courtney Norman.

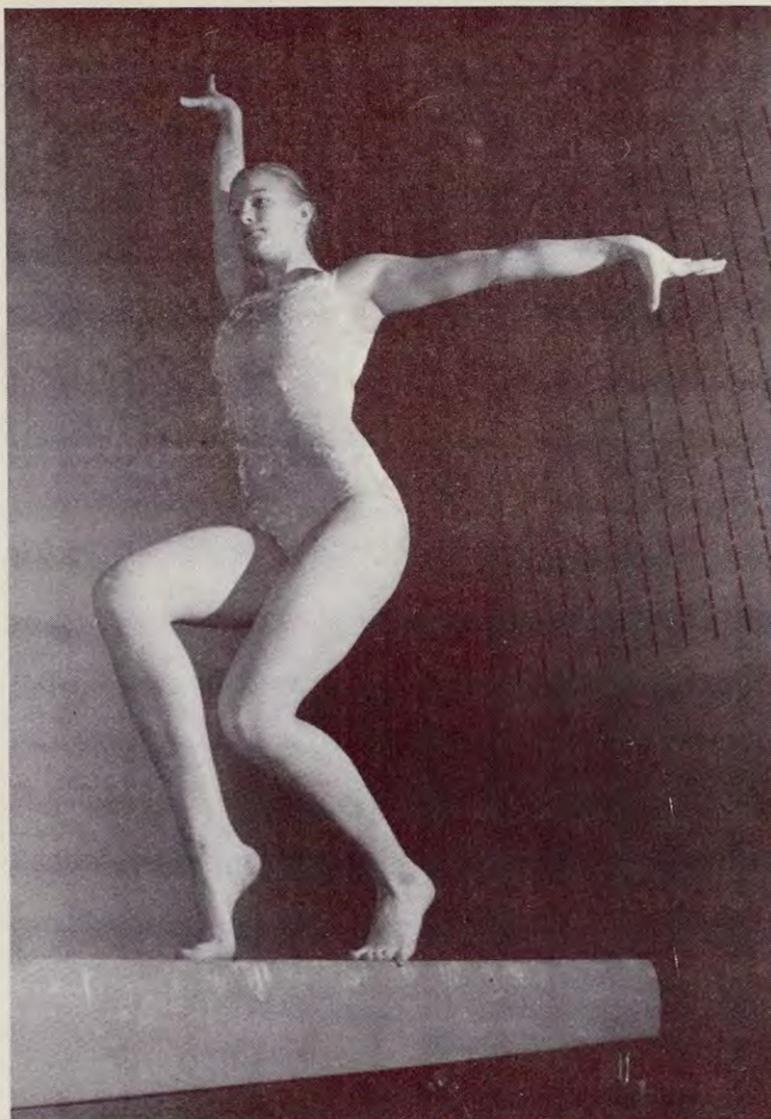
"It was overwhelming to go to state," Lecher said. "Marching into the (Roy Wilkins) arena, the big crowd—it was very exciting. I felt more comfortable as a junior, so I'd really like to get another shot at it."

Now that Norman has graduated, Lecher rates as one of the favorites to win the section all-around title.

"What makes Katie so tough is that she doesn't have just one outstanding event," Balzart said. "She's strong on the vault, but her scores are nearly as high on the floor exercise. She's elegant, strong and has great poise. Katie has been through this so many times that she makes very few mistakes."

"Katie is tall (5-foot-7) and her moves are very graceful," said Cretin-Derham senior Kristi Germann, who is one of Lecher's competitors and friends. "She flies off the vault and she lands it every time. The best part about Katie is that she's competitive, but she still has a great attitude about the sport."

Lecher said this year has been tough for her. "I hurt my wrist in late November, which knocked me out for a couple of weeks," she



Sibley senior Katie Lecher shows her form on the balance beam. Her last two seasons have earned her a place among the Twin Cities' top gymnasts. Photo by Terry Faust.

said. "My top vault this year (9.0) is still a bit under my best from last year (9.2). My top all-around (34.0) also is still short of last year's (34.6). I get winded sooner on the floor exercise now, but I can still do the same routine. The vault that I do is the one I've done since I was 13—a half-on, one-and-a-half off. I can still pull that one off."

Balzart said Lecher's scores are important

to Sibley, which has a young, inexperienced team this year. "Our other all-arounders are Marissa Benthin (7th-grade), Angie Leitner (junior) and Lyssa Leitner (sophomore)," she said. "We're just below the middle of the pack in the St. Paul Suburban Conference, so our team won't be a section contender. Katie certainly has a good shot at the (individual) section all-around."

SPORTS SHORTS

The USWCA Women's Five-Year and Under Challenge, a curling tournament for women who have competed for five years or less, will be held on Saturday and Sunday, March 20-21, at the St. Paul Curling Club, 470 Selby Ave. Sixteen teams will compete. The entry fee of \$100 per team includes continental breakfast, lunch, dinner and event pins. For information, call Mary Ann McCall at 651-696-1041.

Anna Clauson of Highland helped lead Thompson Academy of Gymnastics South to a first-place finish in the Level 6 division of the state USA Gymnastics championships in December. Clauson placed second in the all-around for 12-year-olds. She also won the all-around title for her age and skill level at the Peppermint Twist Invitational at Concordia University. The meet attracted gymnasts from the U.S. and Canada.

Nanette Virnig of Mendota Heights dished out a game-high six assists to help lead the Gallaudet University's women's basketball team to a 91-79 win in the championship game of its holiday tournament. The junior point guard is a graduate of the Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf and is averaging 5.1 points and 2.2 assists per game for the Bison.

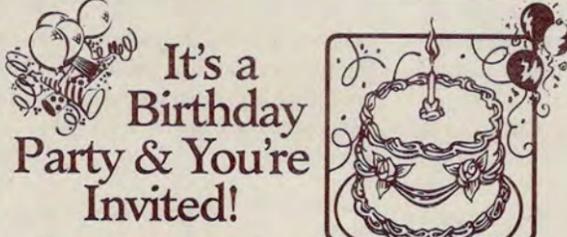
The 1999 Bowl for Kids' Sake will be held on Saturday and Sunday, February 27-28, at the Midway Pro Bowl. Proceeds from the event will benefit Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Twin Cities. This year's campaign chair is Minnesota Viking Ed McDaniel. For information, call 651-224-7651.

The Level 1-4 boys teams from Turners Gymnastics in Mendota Heights brought home first-place trophies from their first meet this year. Top finishing team members in the all-around competition included Justin Hammar, Nick Holupchinski, Nathanael White, Kevin Green, Jordon Marshall, Justin Reardon, Nathan Jimerson, Nicholas Jimerson, Gus Roethlisberger, Ben Lundgren and Chad Giles.

A spring training baseball camp will be offered on Sundays, February 28-March 21, at the Macalester College fieldhouse. The camp is for players ages 7-18. For information, call Matt Parrington at 651-696-6770.

Becca Clauson of Highland was a little under the weather, but still completed a full in double back on the floor exercise for the first time in her gymnastics career during the Granite City Invitational on January 16. She placed first in the event among Level 10 competitors with a 9.75 and went on to win the all-around with a combined score of 37.25. She competes with Thompson Academy of Gymnastics South.

Kate Ryan Reiling, a Cretin-Derham Hall graduate, was named an NCAA Division III first team All-American after leading Macalester College to a national soccer championship last fall. Reiling, a junior, directed the Macalester attack from her center midfielder position. She scored nine goals, had five assists and was named the Final Four's most valuable player on offense.



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Cody's Corner /from page 27

forward" is stretching it a bit, though. He and Kevin Garnett won't exactly bring much of a physical presence into the lane. Still, they're young, possess tremendous up-sides on offense and will block more shots than any other duo in the league. Garrett and former Wisconsin Badger Paul Grant will have to be the enforcers in the paint.

I'm predicting a 29-21 record for Minnesota this season (30 if Marbury hits a 60-footer at the buzzer some night). I also see the Wolves advancing through the first round of the playoffs. Wouldn't it be great if it were against Phoenix?

GOPHERS IMPROVED

Clem Haskins has once again positioned the Gophers to take a run at an NCAA playoff bid, despite a dearth of offensive talent. The whole thing will have to be settled the last week of February, when the U faces Purdue twice and Northwestern. The Gophers don't want to head into the Big Ten tourney needing two or three wins for a playoff berth.

Clem has been using his bench effectively, consistently spelling his starters in the first half in order to save them for late runs. Quincy Lewis and Kevin Clark take far too many shots, but there aren't many alternatives. Miles Tarver has been a model role player. When he sticks to rebounding and passing, the team can play with anybody. Phenom Joel Przybilla's rapid development continues to astound me.

However, Mitch Ohnstad will have to supply points off the bench if the Gophers are to have any post-season success, and Kyle Sanden is going to have to produce something on defense or from the perimeter.

It's a long shot, but nobody plays the underdog better than Haskins.

THE MOURNING AFTER

I drove past a gas station last week and saw a forlorn, frozen figure standing behind a sign that read "Vikings Souvenirs: Half Price." The sports talk show hosts had to be working overtime for the past two weeks trying to get fans past the disappointment over Minnesota's loss to Atlanta in the NFC championship game. Owner Purple McCombs called it "the toughest loss I've ever had." Since his only other sports experience was with the San Antonio Spurs, I guess you've got to believe him.

Overlooked in all the angst was the Vikes' remarkable 15-1 regular season record. That's one of the problems in sports: A single loss in the post-season can diminish the accomplishments of five months of work.

The Vikings set unprecedented offensive marks, discovered a rare talent in Randy Moss and captivated the entire state. It'll be hard to repeat the magic next fall. Brad Johnson will be gone, since with the salary

cap it's nearly impossible to retain two high-priced quarterbacks. Defenders Robert Griffith and Eddie McDaniel should be the top priorities for the Vikings to sign when free agents are considered. The offense should return intact, but once again it'll be centered around running back Robert Smith, not Moss. Smith's overtime disappearance against the Falcons was a huge factor in the crushing upset.

Smith hurts his knee more often than my street is plowed. His durability (or lack thereof) is the key to whether this team will reach the top.

WINTER BLAHS?

I've got just the cure. It's time for the annual Ball Park Tours winter baseball banquet. This year's event will be held at 6:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6, at the Prom Expo Center. Hall-of-Famer Harmon Killebrew will be the keynote speaker. Future Cooperstown colleague Paul Molitor and St. Paul Saints' manager Marty Scott will also attend. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 at the door. For details, call 651-227-3437.

HIGH SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

It's a three-team race for the St. Paul City Conference boys basketball title, with Highland, Central and Cretin-Derham Hall running neck-and-neck heading into the final month of play. Highland will host Central on February 5, CDH will host Central on February 9 and Highland will host CDH on February 23. All three teams play aggressive, up-tempo styles, and all three games should provide top-notch prep entertainment.

CDH leads the City Conference race in girls basketball. The Raiders will face a young, talented Central team on the road on Tuesday, February 9. CDH won the first meeting 68-64 in overtime.

Girls hockey playoffs get under way this week. Sibley, which has compiled a 12-7-0 record, drew a tough seed in Section 3 play. The Warriors will have to face highly ranked Eagan in the second round. Meanwhile, St. Paul United (the Visitation-SPA combined team) is carrying an 11-5-1 record into the Section 2 playoffs.

CDH has a chance to unseat Johnson in the City Conference boys hockey league. The Raiders beat the Governors 4-2 last month and the rematch is at 8:00 p.m. Saturday, February 6, at Aldrich Arena. In the St. Paul Suburban Conference, the battle is between St. Thomas Academy and Sibley for second and third place behind Hastings.

Minneapolis Roosevelt remains the top wrestling team in the area. The Teds have four or five grapplers who could qualify for state. Wrestling sectionals get under way in two weeks.

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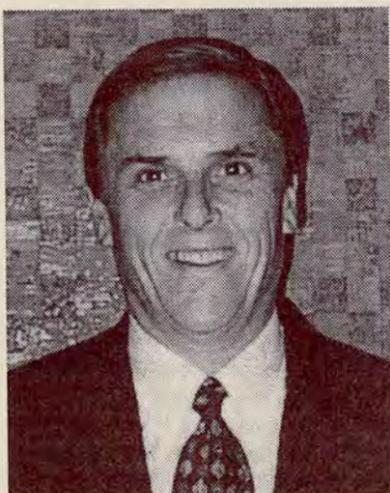
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Brian Monahan, referred to by his coach as the "goofy goalie" of the St. Thomas Academy pair, stretches for a save from outside the crease during practice. Photo by Mike Long.

Goalies share starting duties

/from page 27

"Ethan has really stepped up as a leader on this year's team," Monahan said. "He talks it up a lot. He's one of those goalies who can get into a swing where he gets red-hot. When he's in one of his streaks, he's unbelievable out there."

McCarthy is not the only local high school hockey coach who is rotating goalies this season, though many prefer to play just one. Cretin-Derham Hall coach Brandon Ferraro has been rotating junior Kris Unise and senior Dan Fieberger.

"Fieberger is a big kid who goes down after the puck," Ferraro said. "Unise is a bit more athletic, more of a standup goalie. They've both played very well, but I'm going to go with the hottest guy come playoff time. I like playing just one goalie. I think that's the only way he can gain confidence in himself. I want my guy to feel like he earned the job."

St. Paul Academy coach Bill Ross has no such dilemma. "We only have one goaltender, sophomore Max Buetow," he said. "I'd prefer to have it that way though, even if I had a choice. I think it gives the player a chance to fully develop. But the ideal situation would be to have a senior starter in the nets with a sophomore backing him up and getting spot duty."

Sibley coach Scott Reddy had a similar situation last year. Senior Andy Gross, his starting goalie this year, played backup last year

behind all-state senior Bob Tallarico. "It's Andy's turn now," Reddy said. "He's a really strong, athletic goalie with good feet and a good glove. If we had two equal goaltenders, I'd consider rotating them, but I prefer to go with one guy and try to get him on a hot streak."

Though the Cadets recently moved into third place in the St. Paul Suburban Conference, McCarthy holds little hope of his team overtaking top-ranked Hastings for the conference championship. "They're very, very good," he said of Hastings. "They were hitting on all cylinders when we lost to them (8-0) the first time. Our goaltender wasn't the problem that night. We had no chance."

"I have no idea what we'll do with the goalies in the playoffs," McCarthy said. "We're rotating them now on a two-game basis. That seems to work a little better than every other game."

"I'd like to start every game," Keller said. "Brian would, too. Both of us have come through the (St. Thomas) system, both of us have done the work, and playing time is the payoff. But I think (the rotation) is best for the team."

Monahan concurs. "If I play, fine," he said. "If Ethan plays, that's fine too. This is not a glory deal, it's what's best for our team. I'm not as sharp if I don't play every game, but I do pick up things by sitting on the bench. Juggling time has its merits."

"One positive of sharing time is that Monahan and Keller can pick each other up," McCarthy said. "If one guy loses a game, we come back with the other guy. We don't have to go to the well with a hole in our bucket."

Sanneh to play soccer in Germany

Tony Sanneh of Highland Park has signed a contract to play with the Hertha Berlin soccer team in Germany. He is one of only three Americans and the only Minnesotan to make it to the Bundesliga, one of the top three soccer leagues in the world.

In high school, Sanneh was a two-time all-state selection and helped lead St. Paul Academy to two state titles. In college, he scored 138 points, placing him first on the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's all-time scoring list. He played professional soccer with the Milwaukee Rampage and the Minnesota Thunder, and most recently has been with the MSI's DC United.

He was sidelined with an injury during the recent World Cup Games, but planned to return from Germany this winter to train with the U.S. national team.



Highland's Tony Sanneh has agreed to bring his scoring talent to Berlin.

Smith leads Visitation hoops /from page 27

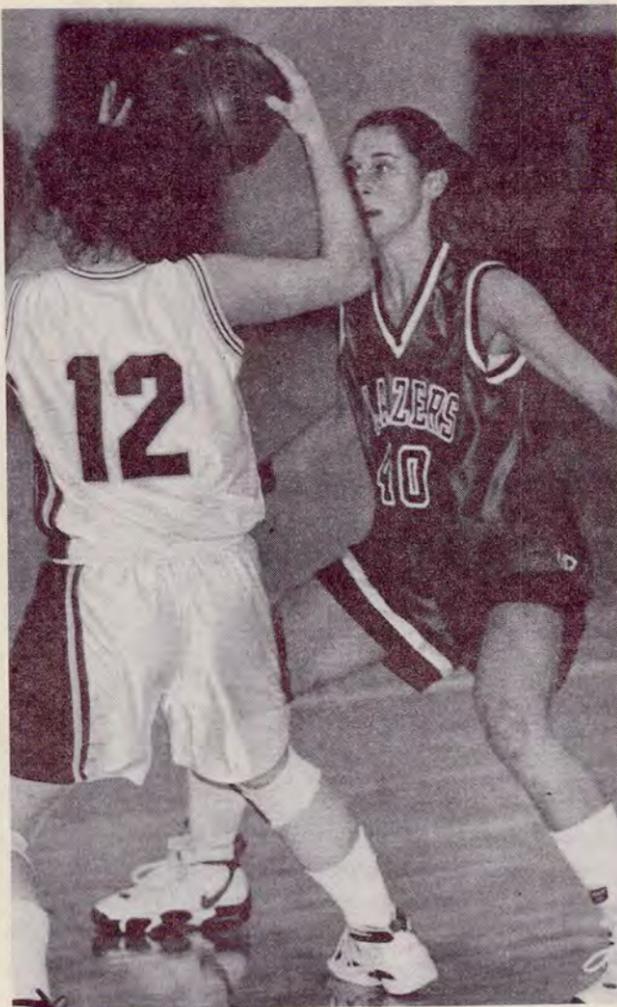
against Trinity, and had 23 points and 11 rebounds versus St. Bernard's. Barring injury, she is sure to break the 1,000-career point mark during the regular season.

"She's somebody we really count on," Bernabei said, "and she has a great attitude, too."

Smith said she gets a lot of encouragement from her father, Dennis, a former University of St. Thomas basketball player. "He sees me play and always wants to offer helpful advice," she said. "He's very positive."

Smith is upbeat about what her team can accomplish this year. Her supporting cast includes junior center Shannon Fitzgerald and sophomore guard Colleen Traeger, both of whom have been averaging 9 points a game. Junior guard Kelly Fitzgerald and junior forward Miquela Hernandez round out the starting five. The Blazers also have a strong bench with senior guard Elisa Ryan, sophomore guard Jenny Carnival and junior center Katie Hanson.

Visitation went 20-4 last season to win its fifth straight Tri-Valley Conference title, but this year the school has moved into the rugged Tri-Metro Conference. Conference-leading Blake handed the Blazers a 22-point loss on January 29. Their only other conference



Blazer forward Maureen Smith didn't give the Spartans' Carly Thomforde (12) much room to maneuver during last week's conference clash. Photo by Mike Long.

defeat so far was a squeaker against a strong Minnehaha Academy squad on January 22. This week, Visitation will have another test when it faces De La Salle.

"We knew the games

would be a little tougher this year," Smith said. "We beat teams pretty badly last year, but that's not going to happen as often in our new conference. Still, we can do well if we keep working hard."

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PART-TIME PERSON to do PM cleaning; University Ave. near U of M, M-F, \$8.50; phone 612-423-6993. v
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HIV CAREGIVER. Clare House, an adult foster care home for persons living with HIV/AIDS in St. Paul, seeks caregiver to provide resident care, meals and housekeeping services. Experience in health care, human services and/or HIV/AIDS desirable. Training provided. Please call Clare Housing at 651-222-6409 for application materials. v

SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS. Make a difference in someone's life. We are seeking people interested in providing support to adults with disabilities on the job, in the community and in their daily life. FT and substitute positions available at both our Richfield and Minneapolis sites. Join our team and be eligible for: benefits package salary \$8.75/hour, training provided. Please apply at Metro Work Center, 2730 E. 31st St., Minneapolis, MN 55406. v

BOOKKEEPER/OFFICE MANAGER. Small, nonprofit is seeking an enthusiastic, detail-oriented, experienced, full charge bookkeeper. This person will assist with general secretarial, administrative and organizational support. Must have Windows 95 experience. Will consider part-time or job share candidates but prefer full-time candidates. Send resume to: Metro Work Center, Inc. 2730 East 31st St., Minneapolis, MN 55406 or fax 612-729-7382. v

CUSTOMER SERVICE, full time. Busy, friendly, neighborhood, Grand Ave. and Highland locations; organized, mature person, excellent compensation pay package. Call Holly, 651-699-2703, White Way Cleaners. v

DENTAL/ORTHO ASST. Terrific opportunity in our growing orthodontic office. Seeking an experienced Registered Dental Assistant with good communication skills. Ortho exp. a plus. Excellent salary/benefits. Call 651-699-2013, 8-4. v

CREATIVE, FRIENDLY person to assist with retail sales; apply at St. Clair General Store, 1787 St. Clair Ave. 651-699-6210. v

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Help Wanted

CRIPPLED, RETIRED MAN needs ride to Lund's and back. Pay cash. 651-696-1126. **v**

FLORAL DELIVERY driver, part time, 1 to 2 days a week; includes some Saturdays; must be able to work 5 days prior to floral holidays. Must have good driving record. Perfect for retired person. Apply in person at A. Johnson & Sons Florist, 1738 Grand Ave. 651-698-6000. **v**

OFFICE ASSISTANT. East Bloomington mental health practice seeks motivated person to provide FT reception/general office services. Telephone, typing and basic computer skills required. Fax resume to 612-854-5062. **vt**

ADMINISTRATOR/BUSINESS manager. FT church administrator/business manager needed. Bachelor's degree required. Must be proficient in Office 97. Financial management and supervisory experience necessary. Full benefits. Send resume, cover letter and salary requirements to Pastor Susan Peterson, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 700 S. Snelling Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116. **v**

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

Child Care Wanted

IN-HOME NANNY, 4 days/week; infant and toddler; generous pay. 651-698-9570 or 651-699-3283. **gv**

SEEKING NANNY. Responsible, caring, flexible individual with car to watch three active schoolage children part time until the end of May, 3:00-6:00 p.m. Full time June-August, 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Great for student. Call after 6:00 p.m., 651-690-9482. References required. **v**

LOVING CAREGIVER needed for 14-month boy; our So. Minneapolis home; Thursdays, Feb.-May, 8:45-4:45 p.m.; Jon/Jenny, 612-822-4279. **v**

Child Care

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**

SITTER SERVICE has nannies for all occasions; days, evenings, vacations; FT/PT; 651-429-2963. **v**

LICENSED DAY CARE any age, full/part-time, 35E and W. 7th area; nonsmoking; 651-224-2072. **v**

LICENSED DAY CARE openings, infant plus; food program; 651-227-1079. **v**

WEST 7TH AREA licensed day care; toddler/preschooler openings; food program; 651-310-9850. **v**

Home Health Care Wtd.

NEEDED: In-home personal care/housekeeping for older woman; hours flexible; leave message, 651-224-1910, Terry. **v**

For Rent Residential

All real estate or rental advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Equal housing opportunity. **gv**

APRIL 1, SUNNY, 3-bedroom duplex near Macalester; sunroom, fireplace, wood floors, dishwasher, washer/dryer, storage, off-street parking; 651-646-7720. **gv**

ONE-BEDROOM upper, Lexington/Randolph, March 1; bus, heat paid; 651-698-4879. **v**

For Rent Commercial

MASSAGE STUDIO. Great location, 35E/Grand Ave.; \$395, all utilities paid; 651-222-4567. **gv**

HIGHLAND EXPOSURE. 1,600 sq. ft., street front avail. in small Highland Park strip center. Previously a full-service beauty salon. Off-street parking, illuminated signage. Priced to move. Call Deb, 612-938-4452. **v**

Roommates Wanted

MATURE FEMALE, nonsmoker, share nice 2-bedroom, 1 3/4 bath, duplex, Crocus Hill; \$335 + utilities; 651-292-1512. **v**

Wanted to Rent

MERRIAM PARK ARTIST, Gretchen Dreisbach is looking for a huge (approx. 3,000 sq. ft.) open empty space to rent for a show. Need only for 2 weeks to a month; call 651-647-0208. **v**

MARRIED COUPLE, teachers, seeking rental opportunity where they can have their dog. Seek quiet and professional neighbors. Excellent references. House sitting experience. Call 651-641-0275. **v**

MATURE COUPLE looking to rent a nice, furnished apartment in Highland area for June & July. Please call 651-452-8864 for more details. References available. **v**

Vacation Opportunity

TIME-SHARE ALTERNATIVE. Access same resorts & condos around the world. No limit. Free cruise and discounts on cars, air, golf, restaurants and more, \$1,295. Call 800-345-9688, ext. 4586. **v**

Lost & Found

FOUND: WHITE & GRAY kitten with flea collar, Marshall/Snelling area; 651-644-5843 after 6. **v**

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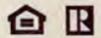
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New Newell Park Duplex

Great property near Hamline College. 1-BR lower unit, upper unit has 2 levels and 2 BRs. Easily converted back to 3-BR home with 3rd floor rental. Present income \$1,300 mo.

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Great Starter Home!

2 BRs, 2 baths in a nice neighborhood close to everything. New windows, new siding, new 2-car garage, newer kitchen, fenced in yard, porch in back. Must see today.

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Prospect Park

Spacious 4-BR, 2-story with hardwood floors & beveled glass. Walk-up, unfinished attic with bannister and hardwood floors. Double lot, 2-1/2 car garage. Numerous updates!

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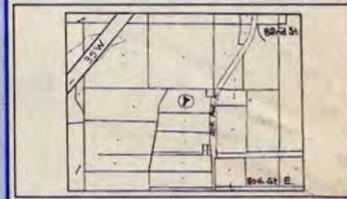
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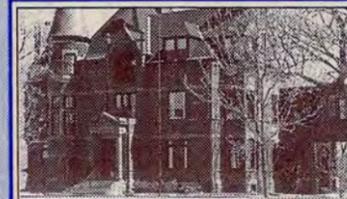
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