



Study Portrait of an Artist

Among the thousands winding their way through the Detroit Institute of Arts last week to see the exhibition of Van Gogh paintings and sketches were three Guyton High School students. They are (from left) Dian Depodesta, 22760 Little John, Birmingham; Candy Wilson, 32751 Franklin Road, Franklin, and Joan LaKatos, 18851 Hillcrest, Birmingham. The show will remain at the Institute through Sunday.

Behind the Welcome Mat

by CORRINE ABATT

Manley Bailey had the members of the Birmingham Quakers feeling nostalgic last Wednesday when he showed slides of the history of this area and gave a vivid account of the life of a boy growing up in a small town.

In the summertime a youngster could spend the whole day around Maple and Woodward and never worry about getting hit by a car. He could drop into the blacksmith shop or the harness store and watch the men at work or he could saunter into the lively stable or over to the train station for a look-see.

IN THE LATE afternoon he might drop by the National Hotel, at the corner of Woodward and Hamilton where the Detroit Bank and Trust is today, and sit in the shade of the big trees and watch the men pitch horseshoes.

In the winter a youngster could hang his skates over his shoulder and head west on Maple through the countryside for a skating party at the Old Mill Pond (Quarton Lake).

THOUGHTS THAT pass in the night: Many occasional churchgoers are disappointed that they don't experience a tremendous upsurge of religious feeling when they attend a service. Isn't it a little like reading a title list of Shakespeare's plays and expecting to be overcome by the author's dramatic genius?

"WHY IS IT" department: The phone never rings until you hop in the bathtub, the furnaces only goes on the blink when it's zero or below outside, you only get flat tires when it's cold enough to form icicles on your fingernails, the children behave best when you least expect it.

The only spectacular ideas you ever get seem to come in the middle of the night and by morning they are forgotten, the best cake you bake is one you whip up in a hurry for the family, the only time you ever find the perfect dress or coat is when you don't need it, and everytime you start in on a piece of celery at a dinner party all conversation stops and it sounds like you are chopping down giant redwoods.

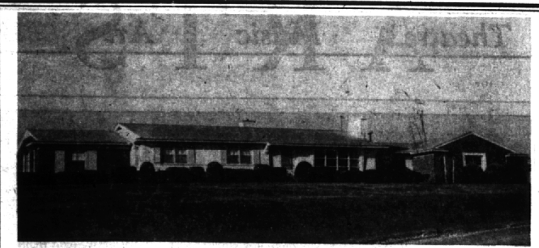
A RECENT news item stated that Princess Grace was seen in

Paris in an unstylish outfit—skirt a trifle too long, gloves a trifle too short, glasses a trifle too pointed, hat too old and shoes too comfortable looking.

I like to think that this was her private and ladylike rebellion against the autoerotic fashion world. No outlandish, beatnik outfit, just a quiet, small detail type protest to show that Princess Grace is not a slave to fashion. Hooray for her!

Display Ceramics

Ceramics by William Pitney of 1020 Hazel, Birmingham, are currently on display in the Community Arts gallery on the Wayne State University campus as part of the WSU art department faculty show. The exhibition will be up until Feb. 15.



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'Conversation' Sets 8-Week Sessions Here

Topics, meeting places and times for "Conversations in the Arts" have been set for this area. The eight-week long sessions are held once a week for two hours each. The program is an activity of Detroit Adventure.

"Conversations" in this area will be on "The Elements of Art" at the Baldwin Library on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. beginning Feb. 12; on "New Dimensions in Fiction" at Jochim Ries and Richard Werry,

Baldwin Library on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. beginning Feb. 13 and "Roots of Modern Art" at MSUO on Fridays at 2 p.m. beginning Feb. 15.

Participating in the discussions will be Michael P. Church of the University of Michigan extension service and Nita Schwartz of the Baldwin Library on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. beginning Feb. 12; on "New Dimensions in Fiction" at Jochim Ries and Richard Werry,

all members of the Wayne State University faculty for "New Dimensions in Fiction" and John Fraser Mills of Wayne State University and John Galloway of MSUO for "Roots of Modern Art." Registration for the "conversations" begins Feb. 4 at the Backham Building in Detroit. Detroit Adventure is a cooperative organization of cultural and educational institutions in the Detroit area.

Graders

(Continued from 1-D)
 another. A third student voted him "a famous man."

They chose their favorites: Peach Tree in Bloom, Inises and The Harvest, "because of the pretty colors."

"His self-portrait . . . was the best. Smooth and a creaming sort of brush strokes," said one of the boys.

"A landscape, a path and trees and the castle of Auvers," and "Fishing Boat on the Beach at Saintes-Maries," said two others.

VAN GOGH'S personal life received their compassionate attention. One felt sorry that "he made so many pictures and he only sold one picture," but a fellow student called attention to "how his brother supported him and had confidence in him and when he cut off his ear."

The eternal freshness of the Dutch painter's works were noted by a Franklin who remarked that she "liked the pictures because . . . they were like they were a long time ago."

BUT THE HIGHEST accolade came from a young boy who was the most restless student in the gallery. His written review was fine but he made his most heartfelt comment on the way back to school from the exhibit. "I know what I'm going to do with my six dollars at home. I'm going to buy one of them paintings."

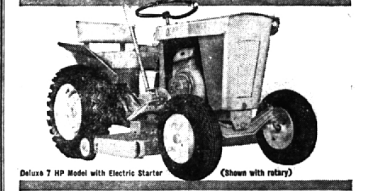
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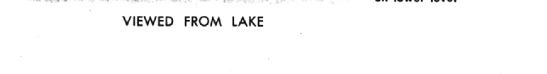
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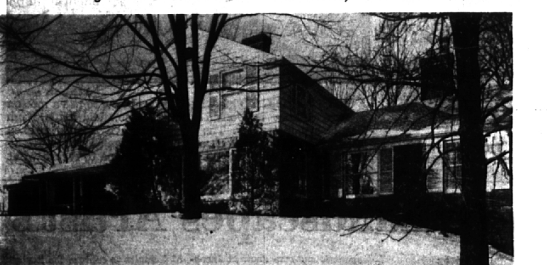
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