

# Explosion Wracks Bedell's Restaurant

## Area Teachers Go To Conference; Kids on Vacation

Nearly 20,000 Birmingham-Bloomfield school children begin two-day vacation today as area teachers attend the regional conference of the Michigan Education Association in Detroit.

Teachers and administrators from both the Birmingham and Bloomfield school districts are taking an active part in the conference.

In Birmingham, six teachers are serving as chairmen of various programs in area schools.

## B'ham Studies Extension of Fairway Drive

Action on a proposal to open Fairway Drive in Birmingham as a through street was postponed without date by city commissioners Monday night.

The delay was ordered to allow the administration time to prepare plans and estimates of cost of the project.

If the proposal is approved, Fairway will be opened from Arden Lane east to a point 334 feet west of Pleasant St.

City Manager L. R. Gare was instructed to include in his preliminary plans a street with a narrow right-of-way than is normally required in Birmingham.

The plans are also to be designed without sidewalks and the proposed street is to be slightly south of the original sketch to allow development of property on the north half of the street.

IF THE original sketch were adopted, some of the lots on the northern portion of the block would be under the 3,000 feet required for development of the land.

Approximately 64 per cent of the property owners involved have approved of the opening.

Rough sketches making use of cul-de-sacs and different approaches to the street from both Lincoln and Northlawn were rejected by the commission.

Gare had said the use of dead-end streets and cul-de-sacs was not satisfactory as far as he was concerned.

"This would mean Fairway would be broken up into at least three or four segments and nothing but confusion would result from anyone trying to locate house numbers without a continuous street," Gare said.

HE SAID using cul-de-sacs or entrances to Fairway from either Northlawn or Lincoln would mean the homes would back up to the sides of other houses or provide many corner lots which would require large set-backs.

Commissioner David F. Breck asked what hardships would be inflicted on property owners if the street were not put through.

Gare said that many of the properties involved could not be developed at all if the project were not approved.

**Halloween Party, Parade Plans Set**

Birmingham's 27th annual Halloween parade and party will be staged on Thursday, Oct. 31.

More than 7,000 children are expected to take part in the festivities sponsored by the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce. The chamber has sponsored the event since 1959.

Henry M. Hogan, Jr., associate publisher of The Eccentric, is serving as the general chairman of the program this year.

The basic purpose of the event, according to Charles Mortenson, manager of the chamber, is to keep the children constructively occupied and out of trouble on Halloween.



**BOMBING IS SUSPECTED** by Bloomfield Township Police as the cause of an explosion that ripped apart the front street of Bedell's Restaurant, 2395 N. Woodward, early Wednesday morning. A 66-year-old porter, the only one in the

building, escaped injury. Wenzel Hartge (left) and Jack Bedell, co-owners of the eating establishment, survey the damage caused by the blast.

## AT 14 MILE AND SOUTHFIELD IN B'HAM

### Reject Zoning for Shopping Center

By LARRY EVOE  
City Editor

A zoning change request that would have permitted the construction of a small shopping center at 14 Mile and Southfield was denied by Birmingham city commissioners Monday night.

The owner of the four lots north of the intersection, Frederic K. Graef, had sought a zoning change from B-1 nonretail business to a B-2 neighborhood business classification.

Residents of Shipman Ave., the street immediately east of Southfield, had petitioned the commission to turn down the request.

Graef said he had asked for the change because he had not been able to develop the property under the nonretail business classification.

UNDER THE Birmingham zoning ordinance, a nonretail business is one that sells a service such as a doctor's office; and a neighborhood business is one that sells a product, such as a drug store.

Graef said he had been trying to secure tenants for a proposed office building on the lots for five years but had only two prospective clients in all of that time.

HE SAID the land would not be desirable as an office building site because it was too far from the central business district.

"Employees like to work in an office that is close enough to the downtown area to walk to stores to shop," he said.

This was the sort of thing one heard as he was carried along with the capacity crowd that pushed and shoved its way out of Seaholm's football field Friday night.

That crowd, of course, had reason to yell. The Maples had just soundly trounced arch-rival Ferndale, 35-13, in a convincing performance of how to play winning football.

AND, one night later, Seaholm fans saw their other wish fulfilled when Kimball rolled over unbeaten Roseville, 34-12, Saturday.

The Maple victory, coupled with Roseville's defeat, left Seaholm all alone on top of the Eastern Michigan League with a 3-0-1 record.

Only a 7-7 tie with upstart Hazel Park mars a perfect EML slate that the Maples have fashioned so far this season.

Roseville and Kimball are right behind with 3-1 records and defending champ Ferndale is in third. The Eagles have a 2-1 EML record.

Seaholm has three league contests left. The Maples travel to Mt. Clemens tomorrow, face East Detroit the following week and then close out the final year of the EML with Roseville.

THE ROSEVILLE game could be the final deciding factor in determining the league champ, providing both teams get through their next two conference matches without a loss.

The schedule favors Seaholm. Roseville has yet to play Ferndale, who should be smarting from the Maple defeat.

On the other hand, football teams are as unpredictable (See VICTORY, 4-A)

## Police Suspect Bomb; Porter Escapes Injury

By DAVE PHILPO  
Township Editor

A 66-year-old porter narrowly escaped death early Wednesday morning when an explosion ripped through Bedell's, a plush Bloomfield Township restaurant.

Arthur P. Evon, 1150 Wincombe, Bloomfield Township, was described as "nervous and shook up," but was unharmed by the blast which police said was an apparent bombing. Damage was estimated at \$8,000.

The explosion tore open the front of the building and scattered concrete and lumber for more than 50 feet in front of the restaurant, located at 2395 N. Woodward.

Co-owners Jack L. Bedell, 3010 E. Bradford, Birmingham, and Wenzel Hartge of Orchard Lake, said they could think of no reason why anyone would want to bomb the eating place.

Hartge said there had been attempts to organize the employees when the restaurant opened in September of last year, but no threats or coercion were attempted at that time or since.

BLOOMFIELD Township Police Chief Norman Dehnke said he believed the blast was the work of a professional.

"It looks like the guy knew what he was doing," Dehnke said. "It appears to be a friendly little gesture saying, 'next time you cooperate or else.'"

Officers from the State Police crime laboratory sifted through the debris in an effort to determine what type of explosive was used. Their report is expected to provide the first substantial clue for Detective Lt. James Keller of the township police, who is in charge of the investigation.

FIRST TO arrive on the scene were Township Patrolmen Nick Pesock and Gil Fowler, who heard the explosion while cruising in the area at 3:24 a.m.

They saw a cloud of smoke and dust rise from the building and when they arrived, Evon was running out of the restaurant.

Evon told the officers that he was operating a vacuum cleaner in the front part of the building when the blast occurred. He was within 20 feet of the wall demolished by the bomb but was not in front of the blast.

BOOTH'S WERE ripped apart by the force of the explosion and broken glass littered the floor. A piece of lumber was hurled 20 feet and (See BOMB, 2-A)

"I thought it was a shotgun blast."

These were the words Arthur P. Evon used to describe the explosion that rocked Bedell's Restaurant early Wednesday morning.

Evon, 66, of 1150 Wincombe, Bloomfield Township, is the janitor at the restaurant and was alone in the one-story building when the blast occurred at around 3:24 a.m.

He said he was vacuuming in an aisle-way connecting the bar and eating area when he heard a noise like a gun going off. Evon escaped injury.

"I started to run out the door to call the police," he said, "but they pulled up before I could get to a phone."

A BLOOMFIELD Township patrol car had driven through Bedell's parking lot a short time before and was cruising south of Woodward and Square Lake Road when the blast was set off.

Evon said he did not see or hear anything before the front wall of the building was blown in.

There are no windows in the front of the building and the only view of the road is through the front door which is partially painted black.

Evon also said he could see (See EXPLOSION, 4-A)

## Peter Nick Trial To Start Today

The pending trial of Birmingham restaurant owner Peter Nick is scheduled to get underway today in Oakland County Circuit Court.

Nick, 40, is charged with encouraging an 18-year-old Pontiac girl to become a prostitute.

The girl, a divorcee, told police Nick encouraged her to enter a life of prostitution when she applied for a job as waitress at Nick's restaurant at 1593 S. Woodward last July 10.

Maximum sentence for pandering, a felony, is 20 years in prison. Nick has been free on \$500 bond since his arrest on July 15.

## Seaholm Victory Clears Title Path

By DICK ZEMMIN  
Sports Editor

"Boy, did we ever stop Super's passing!" "I knew we could beat Ferndale, we sure showed 'em!" "Now, if only Royal Oak Kimball can knock off Roseville..."

This was the sort of thing one heard as he was carried along with the capacity crowd that pushed and shoved its way out of Seaholm's football field Friday night.

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## Students, Faculty Await Field Day at Seaholm

Next Friday afternoon school spirit, Field Day pits the sophomores, junior and senior classes against each other in marching, cheering and game competition.

Each of the three classes will be decked out in costume following a central theme. The theme picked by each class is a carefully guarded secret.

It is known, however, that the seniors will be dressed in red and white; the juniors, blue and white; and the sophomores, green and white.

THE LINE of march will form on Lincoln in front of the school shortly after noon and the marchers will parade north on Cranbrook to the gym.

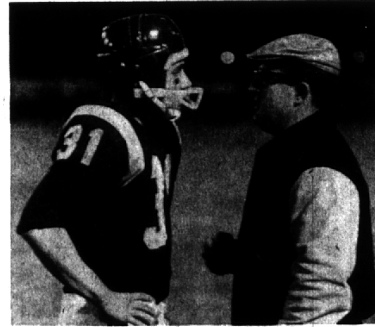
Once inside the school, competition will begin in earnest for the coveted symbol of victory—a cider barrel.

Competition will be held in such events as the flag shuttle relay, boys and girls tug-of-war, three-legged and barrel races and an egg-throwing contest.

One popular event, the tractor race, dropped last year. The cancellation was called when the front wheel of the senior vehicle crumpled, the chain on the junior's tractor snapped and the sophomores lost the steering wheel on theirs.

Since the Field Day began in 1939 the seniors have won 17 times, the juniors six and the sophomores never.

The 1962 winner was this year's senior class when they were juniors.



Eccentric Photos by Sumner Fowler

FOOTBALL doesn't consist of just passing, running and punting. A tremendous amount of planning and diagnosis is involved in each game, and the Seaholm-Ferndale encounter was no exception.

Maple quarterback Dick Swaney (31) and coach Carl Lemle put the heads together on more than one occasion. They came up with quite a few correct answers as Seaholm walloped Ferndale, 35-13.