

MONDAY

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Briefs

Corrections: Novi City Council Member Nancy Covert was misquoted in a June 7 article about hiring a consultant for Novi's Grand Plan of Industrial relocation.

Speaking of her support for a study by an independent consultant, Covert actually said it would "remove any doubt of in-house bias."

There were two errors in the Police News section of Thursday's Northville Record. A 19-year-old man arrested for stealing items from a car behind Cooke School June 1 was a Northville resident. Also, the story of a missing Northville woman who has since been found was first reported to city police by the woman's father.

School elections today: Polls are open today in the local school districts, but some voters may find the ballot a little bit dull.

In the Northville School District, the only items on the ballot are two open school board seats. The only people on the ballot to fill those spots are the two incumbents, Glenna C. Davis and Joseph Dunkerley Jr.

In the Novi Community School District, there is one open seat on the school board which is also uncontested. Incumbent Robert Schram faces no opposition for his four-year seat.

However, Novi voters in the Oakland Community College District do have a decision to make: Richard A. Blonde and Jay B. Shah, both newcomers, are vying for a four-year seat on the OCC board. In addition, incumbents Sandra L. Ritter and Douglas H. Wakefield both run unopposed for six-year terms on the OCC board.

The situation is more lively in the Walled Lake Consolidated School District. Walled Lake voters will decide whether to let their taxes increase faster than inflation rate — a Headlee Amendment override which school officials have called necessary to avoid massive budget cuts.

Headlee overrides failed in the district in 1987 and 1988. This proposal would allow the district's millage rate to increase from 33.98 mills to 36 mills.

In addition, Walled Lake district voters also have a local school board race: incumbent David Flammer, appointed to fill a vacancy in January, is running against challenger Jim Fugit. The winner will serve out the remaining two years of a four-year term.

Polls in each district are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. For information on polling places, contact the individual administration buildings: in Northville, 349-3400; Novi, 348-1200; Walled Lake, 624-4801.

Northville's jazz orchestra returns: The Northville Jazz Orchestra starts its summer season this weekend at the bandshell in downtown Northville, but director Rick Balek promises a new name, a new look and a better-than-ever sound.

The group has recently christened itself the Metro Jazz Orchestra because of a concert season with a new area-wide, Balek said. The band still makes its home in Northville, rehearsing on Monday evenings at the Community Recreation Center on Main Street.

The orchestra will play from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the bandshell, just off Main between Center and Church.

Bloodmobile visits Novi: An American Red Cross Bloodmobile will accept donations during a visit to Novi on Monday, June 11.

The Bloodmobile will be at Novi Faith Community United Presbyterian Church, 44400 W. Ten Mile, from 2 to 8 p.m. For more information call Ricki Veneziano at 349-5666.

Sports Briefs

Mustang Awards: In a vote by Western Lakes Activities Association coaches, the Northville baseball squad was awarded three All-Division selections: senior shortstop Joe Kaley, senior first baseman Steve Vigh and sophomore pitcher/designated hitter George Smojver.

In a similar vote by the softball coaches, the Mustangs placed four more players on the All-Division team: senior pitcher Rozann Staknis, catcher Laura Apligian and outfielders Melanie Apligian and Kara McNeil. Northville players Diane Beckert and Tricia Tumminia were given honorable mention.

Tennis correction: The Northville Record incorrectly reported that freshman Mark Schwagle was the first-ever Mustang tennis player to reach the state final. Actually, Tim Long (Northville High graduate 1962) was the first. Long — who was coached by Keith Krauss — lost in the prep singles final in 1962 but went on to Clemson University on a full-ride scholarship and later won an Atlantic Coast Conference crown. He was also the Michigan Junior Champion in '62.

Novi Track Awards: The Wildcat boys tracksters had their team banquet last week and 10 athletes were honored. The team Most Valuable Performer award went to junior sprinter Joe Taylor. The other recipients included: Colin O'Sullivan (Leadership Award), Chris Gannon (Most Improved), Brian Molloy (Hardest Worker), Steve Myers (Sportsmanship Award), Joe Leahy (Teamwork Award), Ken Fenchel (Wildcat Award), and Kris Krueger (Most Dedicated).

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INSIDE: Sleep problems are common, but analysis can help. We take a look at a sleep study center.

Survey: Novi retail good as gold

By JAN JEFFRES
Staff Writer

If I-96 can be called a golden corridor of retail trade in Michigan, Novi has the Midas touch.

The city came in third in Oakland County in retail growth along the freeway from 1982 to 1987. According to the U.S. Census of Retail Trade, shopping opportunities along I-96 in the county increased 53 percent in the five-year timespan. The corridor is bounded by on the north and south by Eight and Fourteen Mile Roads, and on the east and west by Dequindre and Napier Roads respectively.

Figures recently released by the Oakland County Department of Community and Economic Development show that in 1982, Novi had 216 retail establishments employing 3,820 people. By 1987, 316 stores (a 46-percent increase) employing 5,683 workers (a 49-percent increase) had located here. Sales skyrocketed 97 percent, from \$263 million to \$561 million.

"I think the important thing there is all this growth took place before the freeway opening," said Oakland County Special Projects Coordinator Jack Draker. "In a lot of parts the building of the freeway actually hindered the growth. There's every reason to believe that with the freeway open the conditions for retail growth will continue during the next five-year period."

Within the study's timeframe, two major local shopping centers — Novi Town Center and West Oaks II opened. The first stores in West Oaks I began opening in 1981.

By the end of the five-year period, only two of the 18 communities in the study area accounted for more retail outlets along the freeway than Novi: Southfield with 16,450 and Farmington Hills with 6,692. Royal Oak came close with 5,165 shops. Other municipalities within the region include Oak Park, Hazel Park, Beverly Hills, Madison Heights, Clawson and Ferndale.

Countywide, retail sales along the corridor in the five-year period jumped from \$2.8 billion to \$4.3 billion. The number of stores along the corridor expanded from 2,874 to 3,388 and the number of retail workers grew from 37,623 to 50,718.

"It's undoubtedly one of the most important corridors in the state retail trade," Dricker said. "The balance of the county grew a little bit faster than



Photo by KAREN LANGER

West Oaks shopping center is part of Novi's growth as a retail center

it did in this corridor area. Oakland County as a whole and south Oakland County are very major parts of the retail trade in the state."

Data on retail trade for the final three years of the '80s has not yet been compiled by the county, he added.

Neighboring Wixom saw large percentage increases in retail growth — 54 percent more stores, 45 percent more retail workers and 83 percent

more sales. However in the five-year time span, overall Wixom added seven to its existing 13 stores and 42 retail employees to the existing 94. Sales went from \$6 million to \$11 million.

The portion of Northville within the perimeters of the study was one of six communities showing a negative retail growth (others were Royal Oak, Pleasant Ridge, Lathrup Village, Farmington and Beverly Hills). From

1982 to 1987, Northville had a 50-percent decline in retail establishments along the I-696 Corridor, a 76-percent decline in workers employed at these companies and an 83-percent decrease in sales figures. Northville's eight retail establishments registered in 1982 dropped to four in 1987, the number of people employed dropped from 22 to six and sales plunged from \$6 million to \$1 million.

House endorses recycling bills

Yard-waste measure left up to Senate

By TIM RICHARD
SCC News Service

LANSING — Homeowners would have to stop putting their yard clippings in the trash and burning them beginning in 1994 under two bills that cleared the state House of Representatives and are on the way to the Senate.

"It doesn't make economic sense to spend \$30 a ton to put yard clippings in valuable landfill space," said Rep. James Kosteva, D-Canton, sponsor of House Bill 4872 that passed 77-10 on May 31.

In other action, the House gave final passage to three Senate bills aimed at recycling old motor oil and sent them to Gov. James Blanchard for his signature.

The bills were supported by area Reps. Willis Bullard, R-Highland, Gerald Law, R-Plymouth, and Susan Munsell, R-Howell.

If Kosteva's bill becomes law, Michigan would more than meet its state goal of composting 10 percent of its solid waste stream by 2005.

"It's estimated that 20 percent of landfill space is yard clippings," said Kosteva. Michigan United Conservation Clubs' estimate is even higher — 25 percent.

"We've gotten away from the garden ethic, though it's still very much the European ethic," Kosteva said. Homeowners could leave grass clippings on their lawns.

He said many cities, villages and townships already are setting up programs of composting, a process of naturally converting dead plants into fertilizer. He cited the Northville-Plymouth-Canton area and a



Photo by CHRIS BOYD

Yard clippings would have to be recycled under new measure

14-community consortium in southeastern Oakland County.

"Composting does not emit an odor. Only if there are food or animal wastes will there be any odor," Kosteva said.

In committee, the bill was

amended to define yard clippings to include tree trimmings less than four feet long and under two inches in diameter. Clippings which are diseased or infested would be exempt and could be disposed of in landfills. A week earlier, Kosteva's bill sur-

vived a challenge from some outstate members who wanted to allow counties the option of accepting yard clippings.

The companion measure, House Bill 4834, would prohibit burning of leaves unless specifically authorized by local ordinance. That would occur only in rural areas not covered by air pollution laws, said Kosteva, floor manager of both bills.

All area lawmakers, including Spaniola, favored the no-burn bill, which was passed 74-18.

All supported the three oil regulation bills which the House passed on 91-0 votes. The bills are aimed at keeping oil out of underground water supplies. The primary target is do-it-yourself oil changers, according to a House staff analysis.

"It's estimated that 11-plus million gallons (of oil) are improperly disposed of in the state of Michigan each year. That's more than the Exxon Valdez spill off Alaska," said Kosteva.

"There is a market of used oil to be re-refined and sold. There is a hope this will stimulate recycling. In Canada, you can purchase recycled motor oil that meet the standards suggested by auto manufacturers."

Sponsored by Sen. Vern Ehlers, R-Grand Rapids, the bills would:

- Prohibit dumping of used oil onto the ground or into sewers after July 1, 1991. The state Department of Natural Resources is to publicize a network of collection facilities.

- Prohibit incineration of used oil beginning in 1993.

- Prohibit spreading used oil on roads and other driving surfaces for dust control.

MONDAY ENTERTAINMENT

RAP BRIDGES THE GAP

City kid, suburbanite rhyme for a reason

This rap has no rhyme and a reason. Perhaps that might not be clear at first. A duo of black rapper and white disc jockey might throw you. But when Ronnie B. takes to the mike and spews out his bitter poetry, ripe with images of city living, the message becomes clear.

Organized Rhymes consists of Ronnie "Ronnie B." Bryant of Detroit and Brad "D.J. B.A.M." Kallen of West Bloomfield. Their alliance symbolizes a goal of uniting city and suburb, white and black — two areas that have become quite polarized. "That's what we're doing," said Kallen, a 1988 graduate of West Bloomfield High School. "You think about it. I live in West Bloomfield and he (Ronnie B.) lives in Detroit. He only lives 10 minutes away and yet, it's a culture shock."

The rap duo has a single out on Just Chillin' Records in Detroit and has been performing a number of shows in the area. Kallen said he's always had an interest in dance and rap music. He learned the art of spinning discs in part thanks to boxer Thomas Hearns. His mother, Jackie Kallen, served as the Kronk fighter's publicist.

Young Kallen practiced scratching on dated equipment until Hearns stepped in. Hearns gave Kallen some state-of-the-art stereo gear, including a pair of turntables.

"That was the best present in the whole world," Kallen said.

Enter a street-wise guy named Ronnie B., whom Kallen met working construction. The two hit it off. At one get-together, Kallen put on an instrumental record and Ronnie B. let loose with a torrent of rapper's prose for 10 straight minutes.

"He rapped off the top of his head," Kallen said.

"I just go into the studio and listen to the music," said Bryant, 18, who lived on the northwest side of Detroit,

"and say what's on my mind." Except these weren't merely a rhyme of obscure words. Most of the lines deal with the cruelty of the streets, where children die with frequency and drug pushers have their own lifelines.

Ronnie B. and Kallen collaborated on several numbers, on an anti-drug song "Walk Away." One day, the two had both just lost a friend. Brad had an acquaintance killed by a drunk driver, Ronnie B. a friend left dead by a bullet.

The end result turned out to be "That's Life," which is on the group's current single.

"We wanted to do a serious, realistic song — what you'd see in the streets," Kallen said.

Kallen said Ronnie B. has a gift for lyrics. He's no slouch at the turntable, either. He continues to perfect his craft.

"Everything looks easier than it is," he said. "You have to have control of the record itself and do exactly what you want to hear. ... You have to train your ear and your mind to do it."

Kallen has his influences, ranging from Ice-T to Third Base, an all-white rap group Ice-T, along with others such as Public Enemy and N.W.A., have come under criticism for the controversial nature of their music and for the violence at some of their shows.

Kallen doesn't feel rap music is a natural catalyst for such incidents, blaming it instead on a few "drugged up" individuals who infiltrate the shows. He hopes Organized Rhymes brings a much more positive image to rap.

Organized Rhymes will perform a series of shows at area schools. Like all local aspiring artists, Kallen envisions a major record deal, videos and stardom. One objective has already been achieved.

"It's just that kids, white and black, can get together peacefully and make music," he said.



Ronnie Bryant (l) and Brad Kallen form the unique Organized Rhymes

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Video Viewing

Releases fit only for background

For those who view television as background entertainment, well, Academy Entertainment has two just-for-you on the video racks.

"Rebel Storm" (R, 1989, color, 99 minutes) is a look at the future that is short on originality and bears too much resemblance to "A Handmaid's Tale" and a number of other post-apocalyptic films.

In this instance the apocalypse is the ascension to the White House of a hereditary line of evangelical rulers. When "Rebel Storm" opens in 2099, that line is represented by the Blessed Reverend Jimmie Joe II (Rod McCary) whose rule is enforced by shock troops roaring around on motorcycles and in rather decrepit vans. Their garb is somewhere between Darth Vader and the Roman Arena.

Their leader, Don Waldo (John Rhys Davies), is a sadistic fanatic who will stop at nothing to repress and eliminate the Kropfelders. The latter, it turns out, sum up everything abhorrent to fundamentalists — atheistic rock 'n' roll and sexuality.

Things get pretty silly when a film's dramatic focus and political turning point is popular music. Elliot Kropfeld, it turns out, was a rock 'n' roll disc jockey who refused to kneel under when the Christian evangelists assumed power.

The Reverend Jimmie Joe and his well-to-do supporters profess fundamentalist Christian values but hypocritically live a decadent life with, for ex-

ample, a copy of "Playboy" selling for \$120,000. Scapagating the Kropfelders is a major technique of this corrupt ruling elite.

The governmental action is that the Kropfelders are anti-social monsters to be eliminated and there was no Kropfeld in the first place.

Enter the heroes of the Kropfeld underground, the Hart sisters, Mila (June Chadwick) and Blaise (Elizabeth Keller), whose mission is to discover VHS tapes which prove that Kropfeld existed. By coincidence they join up with two would-be heroes, the Cage brothers, Arlie (Zach Gilligan) and recently paroled Joe (Wayne Crawford).

After all the usual shoot-'em-up, desert chase sequences which are pretty well staged, well, do I have to tell you? Rock'n'roll may be where it's at, but this film is simple-minded by any measure.

If you believe the premise of "Rebel Storm," however, you probably are so well anesthetized by the media that you won't question "Blown Away" (1989, color, PG-13, 92 minutes) and its preposterous assumption that high-fashion model Lauren La Salle (Lori Anderson) doesn't know that her husband, Rick (James Naughton), is a top-level drug dealer.

During several years of marriage, viewers are expected to believe, all these hard types landed at their country estate in helicopters and she never caught on. That's life in the suburbs with a major

modeling career and a cute daughter. When Lauren does overhear an incriminating discussion, she confronts Rick with her knowledge of his nasty occupation. His reaction, of course, is positively unfriendly when she raises the question of divorce and custody of their daughter.

Given his refusal, she manages to slip away with \$2 million in cash that conveniently happened to be in the house where she could get it at.

Lauren changes her identity, launders the two million bucks and takes flying lessons with Charlie (John Heard).

Of course, the next step is to evade Rick's gang of thugs and kidnap the baby. The finale of the epic is quite incredible.

No doubt these two tapes will make money with their cliched but standard chase-and-shoot formula. Cars, trucks, vans, planes, choppers, bikes — everybody likes a good chase even if it's a replay of the last 17 chase sequences.

Of course, there is so much interest in tapes of every sort and so much money flows in that everyone is interested in being part of video cassette success story. The large number of Oscar-nominated films available on tape this year prior to Awards night is an indication of the shift in the business from the box office to the home VCR.

But this kind of success bodes ill for the country's intellectual level. When anything sells, producers will sell everything.

Record Reviews

Nugent lends licks to Damn Yankees

DAMN YANKEES
— Damn Yankees

First, there was Bad English, in which Neal Schon, Jonathan Cain and John Waite joined forces in a calculated move to land a few chart singles. They succeeded, but mostly on the pop side of rock.

Now, meet the Damn Yankees, who are also likely to succeed commercially, but with a slightly different audience — and in a much louder fashion. Group ringleader Ted Nugent, Michigan's own guitar hero, saw to that. He and his cohorts, Tommy Shaw (formerly of Styx), Jack Blades (formerly of Night Ranger) and drummer Michael Cartellone, have created an album that should put AOR program directors across the country in a state of nirvana.

Despite this being Nugent's most overtly commercial project in years (if ever), it's difficult to find any signs of compromise. Each song contains at least one heavy dose of signature Nuge riff, not to mention a dash or

two of the subtle sexuality that makes Nugent's music so endearing to the faint of heart.

Blades and Shaw split the vocals throughout the album, with Blades getting the nod for "Coming of Age," the current single. Shaw contributes some old Styx harmonies to Blades' vocals in "Bad Reputation," yet another guitar workout. "Runaway" sounds like an outtake from the last Shaw solo album that Terrible Ted scooped up in his inimitable way.

This album sounds like a bunch of rock veterans who got together to share some licks, crank up the amps and have a heck of a good time. Blades even borrowed the idea from the debut Night Ranger release of having a self-titled song on the album — the result is a fun, lyrically worthless romp.

Each of the three main components makes their own distinctive contribution to the project, making the album a worthwhile buy for more than just Nugent, Styx, and Night Ranger fans.

READING, WRITING AND ARITHMETIC
— The Sundays

The Sundays are a brilliant band. That's all that need be said. But, for most, that simply won't do. Of course, people would like to know why.

After countless listens to The Sundays' debut album "Reading, Writing and Arithmetic," (Joffen) the whys to The Sundays' joyous music outnumber succinct answers. And therein lies the beauty.

The Sundays hail from North London and are pegged as the band of 1990 by the British music press. Skeptics, naturally, would doom the outfit to wither in its own hype.

But the four-member outfit could win over the most jaundiced music listener with a steady, unrelenting stream of gorgeous guitar melodies and breathless vocals by its lead singer, Harriet Wheeler.

Part of The Sundays' appeal is they've seemed to encompass all that was positive musically of the 1980s and refined them.

Making a smart purchase

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for the answer and don't stop probing until you get it.)

If you had to do it all over again, what would you do differently? (This one works to identify all the "lost opportunities" as well as any "mistakes" the seller feels personally responsible for.)

If money was not a constraint at times what could you have done with this company? (He or she probably will tell you in the next five minutes everything that is wrong with the business.)

Should an independent audit be used to reveal problems with a company? An audit is verification of financial data using procedures and tests known as GAAS (generally accepted auditing standards). While these procedures are the best known for checking the reliability of financial data, they have not been designed to uncover fraud and actions of collusion on the part of company management.

Readers who have business-related questions or event announcements for this column's readers forum may contact Mark Trends at 474-1149 or submit their requests in writing to: "Focus: Small business," Reader's Forum, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

Sundays' sound a hit

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isn't particularly catchy. It is not really like anything else.

Perhaps it is supposed to be artistic. That's probably the most feasible answer.

The lead singer, guitarist and founding member of the band, known only as "Robert," explains the album thusly: "You don't have to be out of your skull to listen to repetitive music. Our music is trance-like anyway. There's this cycle, and there's always things coming off the cycle, taking to a completely different tangent. It all depends on the listener. It should be a hold, a conglomerate. Nothing in the music should be more important than anything else. It should be a total onslaught of everything together."

As strange as this "explanation" sounds, it actually does make a little bit of sense. You see, the album is full of loud, fuzzy guitars, thumping bass and pounding rhythms — common stuff in energetic rock or punk albums. What is unusual is that instead of "revving up" the listener, these sounds work together to lull the listener into a trance.

The sounds are repeated to a monotonous degree. Hence, the description of "trance-like."

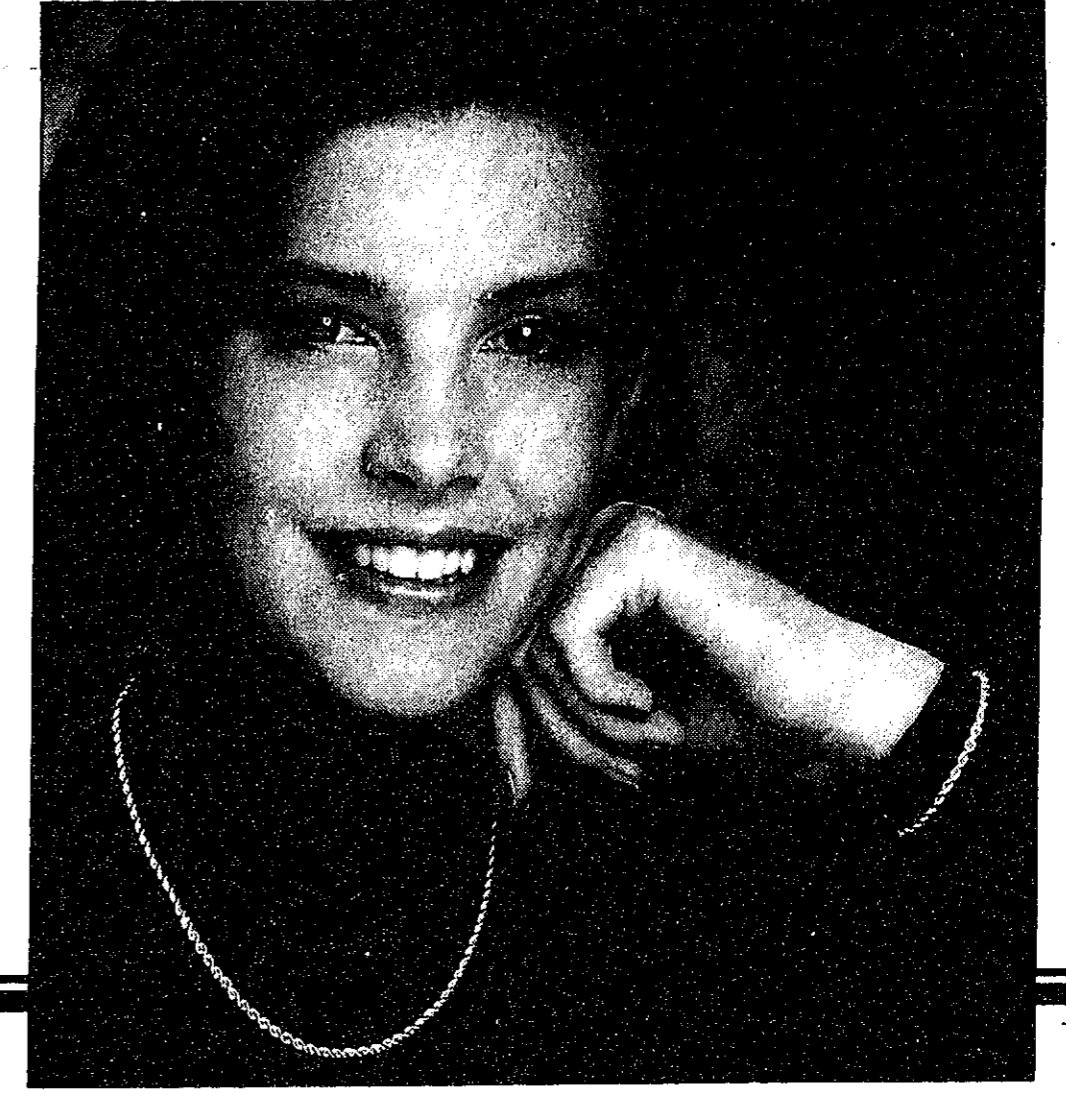
It seems impossible to believe that music made with fuzzy guitars, thumping bass, etc. . . . could be hypnotic, but Loop has managed to do it with this album.

The group said that it was influenced by such divergent elements of popular culture as Vietnam films, MC5, new age, Stanley Kubrick and Sun Ra. Judging by "A Gilded Eternity," Loop doesn't seem to be lying.

Their music is something that can only be described with almost meaningless oxymorons like "loud new age" or "relaxing hard rock."

In other words, this is challenging music. It can't be adequately explained either in words or by comparison to any other type of music — it has to be heard to be understood.

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Who's buckling up in Michigan (FRONT SEAT)
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