

The Disney pop group Savvy is shown as the cast of "The Wannabes," a TV show to be completely shot and produced in Michigan. From left are Shaylen Carroll, Mariah Parks, Stephen Scott (not in Savvy), Drew Reinartz, Sarah LeMaire, Andrew Stern and Alan Shaw. The series profiles a group of teenagers seeking to become pop stars despite their performing arts high school's dismissal of any deviation from classical artistic expression.



TV show filming in state

By JOSEPH SZCZESNY
Of The Oakland Press

S3 Entertainment Group of Ferndale plans to work with Texas-based Stern-LeMaire Productions Inc. to produce the first television series to be filmed and produced in Michigan.

Jeff Spilman, managing partner at S3EG, along with Ron Stern and Christine LeMaire of Stern-LaMaire, said in an announcement Monday that a sitcom titled "The Wannabes," will begin shooting in Michigan within the next three months.

The national and international rights to 26 episodes of "The

Wannabes" have been ordered, Spilman said.

"Due to the generous Michigan film incentives, the show will be entirely produced in state, hiring local Michigan crew and talent, resulting in hundreds of new jobs during the term of the series," Spilman said.

"S3EG is thrilled to be a part of the first television series to be completely produced in Michigan," said Spilman, who has been working with local unions and schools to train workers for jobs in the film industry.

"The Wannabes is a great opportunity to involve more Michigan

talent and workers in the television and film industry and give the Michigan economy an extra boost," he said.

The show is a fictional adaptation of the real-life Radio Disney pop sensation Savvy, which is made up of six multi-talented teens.

The series profiles a group of teenagers seeking to become pop stars despite their performing arts high school's dismissal of any deviation from classical artistic expression.

The cast showcases upbeat performances away from school grounds and unbeknownst to school administrators.

"Savvy and the entire Stern-LeMaire team are extremely excited to be filming our series in Michigan," stated Chris LeMaire.

"We are looking forward to working with the communities and the people to really utilize the great assets that Michigan has to create a dynamic television program that fans will enjoy," she said.

Each episode will be written by a creative team led by Doreen Spicer, who has previously written the Disney Channel's hit movie "Jump In!" and the sitcom "The Proud Family." The show will be directed

PLEASE SEE WANNABE/C-2

Local supplier reducing costs in recession

By JOSEPH SZCZESNY
Of The Oakland Press

ArvinMeritor Inc. of Troy's broad drive to reduce costs has netted \$430 million since October.

Chip McClure, ArvinMeritor chairman, CEO and president, said the Troy-based supplier of parts for cars and trucks is prepared to do what's necessary to get through the tough times and thrive again in the future.

"The difficult conditions we continue to experience in our commercial and light vehicle markets has required us to take aggressive steps during the past six months to align our organization to the lower capacity levels," McClure said.

"Many of these actions have regrettably impacted our employees, but the ArvinMeritor leadership team is committed to successfully manage the company through the continuing economic turbulence," McClure said.

"We identified and implemented these actions quickly and are pleased to report the savings are significant, which will help protect the long-term health of the company," he said.

PLEASE SEE SUPPLIER/C-2

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



APIDERM SKIN CARE

Royal Oak resident Jena Campbell is shown having an ultrasonic facial performed by April Predeteanu. "Men and women will see results in just one treatment," Predeteanu, owner of Apiderm Skin Care Center, said. Campbell, a consultant with Gail & Rice, has been a client at Apiderm for more than 15 years. Campbell credits the treatments, along with regular facials and microderm abrasion, for maintaining her youthful complexion and skin tone. Campbell is

an event coordinator who often works with the North American International Auto Show. "I work with an agency that hires models on a daily basis. It's important for my skin to look its best," she said. Predeteanu is a licensed electrologist, cosmetologist and esthetician, and holds five certifications in laser hair removal. Apiderm is at 2221 Livernois Road, Suite 107 in Troy. For more information, call (248) 528-2028 or visit www.apiderm.com.

BUSINESS BRIEFING



BOOM GOES THE ALARM

Sonic Alert, a developer of specialized hearing solutions and the Sonic Boom clock line in Troy, has announced that its Sonic Bomb (SBB500ss) alarm clock has been ranked in the top five best overall alarm clock performance by the Good Housekeeping Research Institute (GHRI). After testing more than 40 clocks with special features, GHRI stated that "...for those individuals who need a little extra boost in the morning, it's extremely loud and will get anyone up." To see a video of the GHRI study and the Sonic Bomb in action, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=5eSb3wfuSGg. Sonic Alert is a privately owned company that was founded 36 years ago by inventor Adam Kollin based upon a light-flashing signal system that he developed to help his hard-of-hearing grandmother. Today, the company produces about 100,000 clocks annually as well as continuing to serve the hard-of-hearing market with door bell, telephone and sound signalers; and amplified telephones, neck loops and listening devices.

OAKLAND COUNTY

Delphi transaction adds jobs

Honigman Miller Schwartz and Cohn LLP announced that a cross-disciplinary team of its attorneys represented Tempo Group, Inc. in negotiating the principal terms and conditions of the \$100 million acquisition of the remaining pieces of Delphi's global brake and suspension component business. Beijing West Industries Co., Ltd., the buyer, is a new joint venture based in Beijing, China that is owned by Capital Iron & Steel Co. of China, the Tempo Group, Inc. and a state-owned investment company of Beijing. The transaction involved the hiring of about 3,000 employees and the acquisition of machinery and equipment; intellectual property; and real property interests related to five manufacturing facilities and 16 technical centers located in 10 countries. In addition to negotiating the master sale and purchase agreement, Honigman Partners Phillip D. Torrence (from the firm's Kalamazoo office), Frederick J. Frank (Detroit), Barbara A. Kaye (Ann Arbor) and Ronald E. Whitney (Detroit) negotiated the relevant terms and conditions for manufacturing services agreements in selected jurisdictions; leases from Delphi for periods subsequent to closing; a transition services agreement; and other ancillary agreements.

BIRMINGHAM

Wine tasting fundraiser planned

The Birmingham Rotary Club is having its 7th annual wine tasting fundraiser at The Reserve at 375 S. Eton St. in Birmingham from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Friday, May 8. The event will feature 25 wines, appetizers and desserts. Children will benefit from this year's event with proceeds being distributed to Childhelp-Michigan, Orchard's Children Services and an International Rotary Project serving an elementary school in the Philippines. "Rotary International's motto for this year is 'Make Dreams Real.'" The event will include a special Reserve Room with premium wines and a 50/50 raffle and door prizes. Event tickets are \$50 per person and raffle tickets are \$10 each. For sponsorship opportunities, tickets or more information, call (248) 505-1704, or visit

PLEASE SEE BRIEFS/C-2

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Is your business celebrating a significant anniversary or milestone, expanding or moving, or has it earned an award? Do you have a new or newly promoted employee or manager? Please e-mail your information to business.news@oakpress.com for "Business Briefing."

INDEXES

52-Week High	52-Week Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
13,136.69	6,469.95	Dow Industrials	8,057.81	-25.57	-0.32	-8.19	-34.50
5,536.57	2,134.21	Dow Transportation	2,958.99	-30.00	-1.00	-16.35	-38.78
530.57	288.66	Dow Utilities	331.40	-5.38	-1.60	-10.62	-33.78
9,687.24	4,181.75	NYSE Composite	5,410.28	+33.84	+0.63	-6.02	-39.37
2,433.31	1,130.47	Amex Market Value	1,402.03	+8.31	+0.60	+3.2	-37.80
2,551.47	1,265.52	Nasdaq Composite	1,653.31	+7.7	+0.05	+4.84	-27.35
1,440.24	666.79	S&P 500	858.73	+2.17	+0.25	-4.93	-35.35
764.38	342.59	Russell 2000	468.05	-15	-0.03	-6.29	-31.78
14,564.81	6,772.29	Wilshire 5000	8,769.26	+24.71	+0.28	-3.50	-34.61

Commodities

Oil prices fell but recovered from lows earlier in the day as traders continued to look for signs the economy is set to recover. Prices rebounded later in the session as stocks pared early losses.

	LAST	CH.	%CH.	WK	MO	QTR	%YTD
Cattle (lb)	.87	...	-0.06	▲	▲	▲	+4.13
Coffee (lb)	1.15	-0.04	-3.44	▼	▲	▲	+2.86
Copper (lb)	2.13	+0.06	+2.66	▲	▲	▲	+51.82
Corn (bu)	3.88	-0.03	-0.70	▼	▼	▼	-4.79
Crude Oil (bbl)	50.05	-2.19	-4.19	▼	▲	▲	+12.22
Gold (oz)	894.70	+12.50	+1.42	▲	▲	▲	+1.26
Lumber (1,000 bd ft)	182.00	-3.10	-1.67	▼	▲	▲	+7.44
Natural Gas (mm btu)	3.63	+0.02	+0.50	▲	▲	▲	-35.44
Platinum (oz)	1240.40	+50.40	+4.24	▲	▲	▲	+32.49
Unleaded Gas (gal)	1.46	-0.02	-1.20	▼	▲	▲	+44.87
Silver (oz)	12.76	+0.44	+3.55	▲	▲	▲	+13.25
Soybeans (bu)	10.22	+0.14	+1.44	▲	▲	▲	+5.09
Wheat (bu)	5.23	+0.01	+0.24	▼	▼	▼	-14.36

Currencies against U.S. \$ Pound 1.4831 ▲ Can. Dollar .8194 ▲ Euro 1.3358 ▲ Yen .009992 ▲



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