Meagher praised the decision to delay the configuration recommendations another year. "I think it was a good idea, so we can adequately plan for the changes," he said. "If we have an idea of what the plan will be in March, we will have enough time to implement the changes."

Sister Katherine Ann Rappl, RSM, principal of St. Rita's, was grateful for the delay, but said she was concerned that her school might suffer an enrollment drop because parents are now unsure if it will stay open beyond June, 1991.

"Some are wondering if we're going to go through one more year, and others are very grateful for a Catholic education." she said, describing the mixed response of school parents to the commission's announcement.

Sister Rappl added that she hoped the commission would take into account her school's stable enrollment and potential for an increase in primary-grade students from Webster, which she described as a growing area. She remarked that the school is currently engaged in a marketing campaign to increase enrollment. -1.13 - -4

Pickett said the commission will meet again on Feb. 22.

Bridget's. Only Saturday evening Masses

The St. Joseph's/St. Bridget's Parish

Council is now in the process of examining

when Masses will officially end at St.

Joseph's. Also being considered are op-

Among possibilities being discussed is

selling the church to a group of people in

West Bloomfield who would like to restore

are still conducted at St. Joseph's.

tions for the building.

Parents

ୀ cetera

Continued from page 3. pastors and priests.

Last week, following heated opposition from parish representatives at public hearings in January, Pickett's commission said it would delay recommendations for grade reconfigurations and school closings in the southeast and southwest quadrants until spring of this year.

Wagner remarked that his group was still opposed to plans for the southwest and southeast quadrants, despite the announcement by Pickett's commission that the implementation of grade configuration proposals would be delayed in both quadrants.

"I guess we're still concerned as to the rest of the plan," Wagner said, citing ACE's opposition to quadrant governing boards and quadrant-wide uniform tuition rates.

The commission's plan to reorganize the northeast quadrant is already in effect, having been approved by Bishop Matthew H. Clark. Three schools closed in the northeast last year, and two more will close

the building for use as a day care facility during the the day and as a community center for evening activities. This plan is contingent on whether the group receives state grants to renovate the building.

Powers noted that people in the parish have some strong feelings of sadness and nostalgia about the parish. But, he concluded, "when you look at the reality, you've got to face the music."

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this June.

The commission has released no proposal for the northwest quadrant as of yet, though no school closings are expected.

ACE's ultimate goal is to meet with the commission and Bishop Clark, Wagner said. "I think in the offing ... we're going to try and form some clear questions for the commission and the bishop," he said, adding that he believed there was a "widespread perception" that the diocese is not listening to parental input on the schools' issue.

Pickett said he was out of town when the Sunday protest took place, but questioned why the protesters chose Fisher to stage their action.

"I don't quite understand why they're demonstrating on campus," he said. "They didn't ask for permission." He added that while he had no problem with people criticizing the idea of a quadrantbased school system, the decision to organize the system along those lines was made by the diocese, not by the commission.

"The decision was made prior to the formation of the commission," Pickett commented, adding that "(the protesters) were probably off by about 10 miles."

When asked where the protesters should have staged their action, he answered, "Buffalo Road, or (Sacred Heart) Cathedral." The diocesan pastoral center is located at 1150 Buffalo Road, and Bishop Matthew H. Clark resides at the cathedral.

Father George Norton, diocesan spokesman, said the quadrant system will improve Catholic schools financially while preserving a governing role for parents.

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CLASSIFIEDS

General

School plan

the proposals last month. Both quadrants

sent parish representatives who hotly con-

tested the commission's recommendations.

However, opinion was much more divided

among the southwest quadrant represen-

tatives than among the southeast represen-

tatives. The latter were nearly unanimous

in denouncing the time line of the proposal.

bishop recommendations on governance

and finances in each quadrant, Pickett said,

although he declined to give details on

these aspects. Configuration recommenda-

That's good news to Christopher

Meagher, principal of Seton Intermediate

and Catholic Junior High, who spoke on

behalf of the Southeast Quadrant's Prin-

cipals' Association at a Jan. 24 hearing on

At the meeting; Meagher remarked that

establishing a quality junior high in the

quadrant by fall of this year would be near-

ly impossible, given the limited amount of

present, it was a mission of St. Bridget's.

Between 1878 and 1912 it was a mission of

Over the years, as the parish's popula-

tion has declined, more and more of its

ministries have been moved to St.

tions will wait until spring, he said.

the schools plan.

time available to do so.

Closing

St. Rose of Lima.

Continued from page 3

The commission will soon send the

Continued from page 3

Announcements 7

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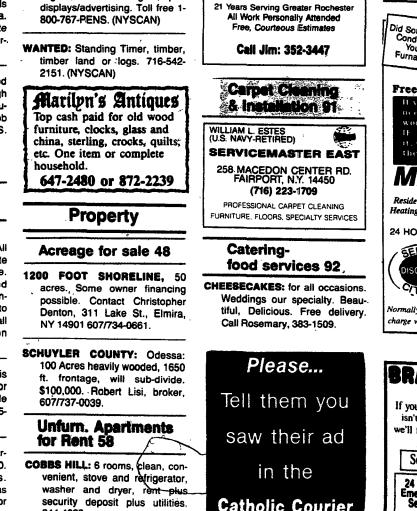
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