



The Royal Palace in Dam Square



The Workers



The administration with Martha Smeding, Ineke Anten and Tineke van den Broek



The press conference panel with Ross, Palle, Yas and Rob



The wannabee's around the piano

JOHN & BETTY A Winning Combination

Jack Morrison, Michigan State FFS Rep.

When John Wieck and Betty Hirschman heard the Four Freshmen would be appearing at the Grand Hotel on Mackinaw Island (ITINERARY SPELLED IT MACKINAC) Sunday, Sept. 11, 2005 (just 18 miles from their home), they were most excited. This was soon dashed as they found it was for a private party. John did the next best thing he could do and that was to arrange for the Freshmen to appear in their small resort town the preceding night. Five years earlier John and Betty hosted a similar Four Freshmen Concert. Back then it was in the heart of the summer resort season. Now, after Labor Day, John wondered if there were enough people to support such an event as most summer residents head back south after Labor Day. They took the challenge and did a remarkable job of promoting this concert. They had articles written in news publications in and around the area. They had radio stations promoting it, as well as having them do a live interview with Bob Flanigan. They had posters in every restaurant, motel and store in a 30-mile radius. Whenever they attended a community event they handed out info on the concert. Their efforts were well rewarded as I was told there were close to 500 in attendance. It was also encouraging to see a number of FFS members who drove up from downstate...

If this was not enough effort, John picked up three of the Freshmen in Traverse City the night before the concert which is a two hour drive. Their plane was late and the Freshmen and John did not get home until 3 AM. The next morning John was up again driving back to Traverse City to pick up Curtis, as his flight was cancelled and did not meet up with the other Freshmen as planned. Further complications arose as Bob's drum set was lost, and after many frustrating calls with the airlines they had to find another drum set for Bob to use.

After a great concert, John and Betty arranged an afterglow for the Freshmen and fans at a local restaurant. The Freshmen were very accommodating and attended this party although I am sure they were all very tired.

To put this in perspective, the Freshmen have appeared in Grand Rapids, a city of 400,000, three times in the 90's and had crowds in the 500 range while Cheboygan, a town of 5,000 people, had a crowd that matched Grand Rapids.

On behalf of all those who were able to attend this fabulous concert - **Thanks John and Betty for making this possible!**



Corrie ten Boom house - Haurlem