

Farmington Hills doctor has license suspended

By SHIRLEE IDEN

Dr. Don R. Krohn, chief of obstetrics and gynecology at Providence Hospital in Southfield, will have his medical license suspended for 30 days because of sexual misconduct charges.

The suspension, and a three-year probation period, were ordered by the Michigan Board of Medicine in a ruling last Wednesday.

William Wilson, attorney for Dr. Krohn, said he will appeal the decision. Dr. Krohn, who has an office at 27600 Farmington Road in Farmington

Hills, was acquitted in 1977 of second degree sexual assault, the charges which led to the inquiry by the medical board.

Charges against the doctor stem from his activities in September 1976 when he attended a business meeting, consumed about seven alcoholic drinks and later allegedly assaulted a West Bloomfield woman in her home.

The medical board's complaint said, in part, "license pinned the female occupant down against her will and did partially undress the female occupant

and placed his hands underneath her brassiere and fondled her breasts." After a struggle with a male neighbor, the doctor is alleged to have run out of the house and drive off in his car. He was pursued by police and apprehended after a chase.

DR. KROHN'S defense was that he suffered amnesia brought on by hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) and cardiac irregularities and remembered nothing of the incident.

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge William Beer ruled that the doctor was not guilty because there was reasonable doubt of criminal intent due to

Krohn's intoxication. The Michigan Board of Medicine which has control over the licensing of physicians is a board of 13 members, three of whom are non-doctors.

A spokesman for the board said attorney Wilson should receive the order of suspension early this week and that it would go into effect in 60 days.

"Of course, they have the right to appeal," he said. "But usually the board has been upheld and found to be reasonable and fair."

He added the 30 days suspension was "very light" and the probation period unusual. "Normally, there would be a suspension of 90 days or even more and

probation isn't handed out too often." Krohn's probation requires that he abstain from drinking alcohol, take medication, avoid stressful situations and make quarterly reports on his health to the Medical Practice Board. Wilson contends that the decision was "very close" with five members of the board voting for the suspension and four against it, with three absences and one abstention.

"I WAS CONFIDENT the board would not suspend his license and will immediately file an appeal when I receive the order," he said. "I will ask that the order not go into

effect pending the appeal. The records are voluminous and I think it will take time. Any judge will see that an error has been committed."

He added that Dr. Krohn has followed his doctor's regime faithfully for more than two years and called the three years of probation "excessive."

Southfield attorney, James Burdick, a non-medical member of the board, said the key element of the ruling was not the 30-day suspension but the probationary requirements.

"These are terms that will be quite difficult to monitor," he said. Providence Hospital declined to comment on the matter.

Nordic ski race draws big crowd

Despite a 20 below zero wind chill factor, the second annual Farmington Hills Nordic Classic cross country ski race at Glen Oaks Golf Course last week drew 118 participants.

The race, sponsored by Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation, in cooperation with Oakland County Parks and Recreation and the Backpacking store, is essentially two races in one. It is di-

vided into Class 'A' for experienced racers and a Novice category for less experienced skiers.

Age classifications ran from 11 years and under to 40 years and over, both male and female. Depending on age, the race length ran from between 1 to 10 kilometers.

Awards were given for the first three places in each age classification. Winners in the novice category were David Hurd, Paula Ciccone, Bob Gregg, Jacqueline Webb, Hugh Sisting, Marilyn Lipson, Gerard Gabanski—all taking first place in their division.

Other first place novices were Chris Coggan, Rick Getzen, Theresa Burtus, Sean Hurley and Kathy Berry. Securing second place were Bill Kreager, Deb Peplinski, Dennis Hryley, John Gramer, Maryann Coggan and Brad Bachelor. Also taking second place awards were Gordon Folk, John Pavlak and Jennifer Pavlak.

Third place winners were John Cogan, Jyrki Lehtovaara, Peter Geigel, Mark Hurley, Eric Stasak and Mark Pribak.



Engineer honored

Harold J. Gibson of Farmington Hills has been elected to the Society of Automotive Engineers fellow grade of membership. He was cited for outstanding contributions to the advancement of knowledge of complex relationships which exist between fuels, lubricants and engines. He is employed by the Ethyl Corp.

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