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# Farmington Observer

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IN THE PAPER  
**TODAY**

**Strike pay:** Farmington Hills police, like other law enforcement agencies, are planning to ask the Detroit Newspaper Agency to help with overtime costs incurred during the ongoing strike. /2A

**Belt way:** A woman came away from a rollover accident in Farmington Hills in November 1994 with minor injuries. The reason? She was wearing a seat belt. /3A

**BUSINESS**

**Business moves:** The Observer's Business Milestones column highlights promotions, transfers, hirings, openings and other key business news with a Farmington-area connection. /8A

**TASTE**

**Flavor enhancers:** More and more cooks are reaching for herbs instead of salt to season their dishes. /1B

**Made in Michigan:** Chef Lou De-Cillis of West Bloomfield has invented a fat free ice cream that tastes good. /1B

**MALLS & MAINSTREETS**

**Jacobson's reorganizes:** Local Jacobson's stores each get new managers in a company juggling act. /4B

**SPORTS**

**Grid rivalry:** Farmington Harrison and North Farmington battled for intra-city football bragging rights Saturday. /1C

**LOTTERY**

The Saturday Lotto jackpot was worth at least \$5.2 million. The Michigan lottery numbers for Saturday, Sept. 9, are:

- **DAILY 3:** 1, 3, 7
- **DAILY 4:** 1, 1, 3, 9
- **LOTTO:** 14, 20, 25, 27, 36, 41

**INDEX**

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Classifieds . . . . . C-V | Police/fire . . . . . 7A |
| Malls . . . . . 5B        | Sports . . . . . 1C      |
| Movies . . . . . 6B       | Tests . . . . . 1B       |
| Personals . . . . . 6C    |                          |

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## She recalls daughter's screams



BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER

The mother of a Farmington 16-year-old sexual-assault victim recalls the night she yelled, into the darkness for help as a man attacked her daughter in an empty parking lot.

The woman, whose name is not being used to protect the victim's identity, recalled how she first heard screams coming from the south lot in the Farmington Downtown Center June 15. Her daughter was in-line skating when a naked man wearing a mask grabbed the girl.

Both mother and daughter were in 47th District Court Friday for the preliminary examination of the man accused in the attack. Judge Fred Harris agreed to delay the exam for Michael Bartok, 35, of Farmington Hills, until the results of forensic testing are known.

Bartok has pleaded not guilty to two counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and one count of second-degree CSC in connection with the incident.

As a result of the delay, the victim and mother were not called to testify. Afterward, the mother recalled how

her worst fears were confirmed the night she ran to her daughter's aid.

"I told myself, 'It's not her screaming,'" said the mother of the victim. "Then I ran out there and I saw him dragging her between two trailers. 'I yelled for help but I was under the impression no one could hear me.'"

Other people did, though, and immediately called Farmington police. When the mother arrived, the attack-

See ASSAULT, 2A

**Blade runner**



SHARON LEMEL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Band line:** Wayne State University student Michael Bregand uses his in-line skates to keep things rolling as he makes sure Harrison High band members are in proper formation. The Harrison High Marching Band is a three-time first-place finisher (1991, '92, and '93) in the state. Bregand, a 1993 Harrison High graduate, was a marching band member during that time. The band performed Saturday at the North Farmington-Harrison High game. For game details, see Page 1C.

## Sever stands on record, looks ahead

BY BILL COUTANT  
STAFF WRITER

Terry Sever has survived his share of political storms in Farmington Hills politics and comes back swinging.

Sever, who is running to retain his seat on the Farmington Hills City Council, has made his share of controversial decisions.

"Voters need to be reminded of the positions I've supported over the years," said Sever, a father of three. "I think residents were more sympathetic because of some of the abuse the council took as public officials."

Speaking of the controversial Timbercrest development that stirred the wrath of residents near the project on 12 Mills and Middlebelt and some

elsewhere, Sever said he's proud of the positions he took and the results. "Because we were able to negotiate and take a hard stand, we were able to get concessions we couldn't have under conventional zoning on that project," said Sever, 45. "I knew that last weekend (before the council approved the project by a vote of 6-1) that it would not be politically expedient to accept (developer Gary) Jonnet's offer. But it was good for the city."

The project, which occupied much of the council's time at public meetings and special sessions last year, was approved without a free-standing restaurant, a large grocery store, and with less-dense housing than had originally been proposed.

Despite a litter recall campaign over the Timbercrest issue last year, Sever said he's enjoyed public service.

Owner T-L printing with his wife Linda, Sever was part of a council that bought a wing of the Mercy Center and its attached property, bought and improved the Founders Sports Park on Eight Mile and won voter approval to bond for a \$6 million ice arena that opened Sept. 1.

Sever favors giving voters a chance to decide if there should be a special public safety tax that would add manpower, equipment and improve coverage and response time for both the police and fire departments.

"A lot of people don't realize that

See SEVER, 4A



Terry Sever

**Tagging donations**

**M**usic students from all three Farmington public high schools will be asking shoppers for donations Friday and Saturday, Sept. 15 and 16. The Tag Days benefit is sponsored by the Band/Orchestra Boosters of Farmington, North Farmington and Harrison high schools.

Students will be easy to spot: All will be wearing marching band, orchestra/symphony band or choir clothing. Money collected is divided among the three high schools and helps to pay for different events and hiring expert instructors. Those who contribute receive a ticket, or requested amount of tickets, good for a Tag Day Concert at one of the high schools.

**Family outing**

**FARMINGTON FOCUS**

**T**he Church of St. Alexander in Farmington Hills will host its annual family fall festival Friday through Sunday, Sept. 15-17.

People can participate in bingo, casino games, rides and games. A petting zoo, face painting, pony rides, and auction are also planned. An automobile will be raffled off Sunday.

Country and western outfit Stetson kicks off the festivities Friday night. The band will be joined by the Wildwest Dancers. For those who are little bit rock 'n roll, the Noise Boys will perform later Friday night. And, of course, a church festival wouldn't be complete without the culinary delights of french fries and pizza. St. Alexander Church is at 27835 Schiwassee.

**Poster note**

**M**iddle School students can win up to \$75 first prize in a poster contest sponsored by Farmington Area Counseling Centers.

Kids have to come up with a poster — no larger than 10 by 14 inches — highlighting the counseling center name as well as sending a drug free message. Posters must be submitted to the child's art teacher by Monday, Sept. 25.

Prizes include: First prize, \$75; second prize, a gift certificate to the Magic Planet; third prize, \$25 money gift from LOC Credit Union; and fourth prize, \$25 gift certificate at Harmony House. For information, call Shelley Renca at FAC 477-6767.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48336; faxed to 477-9722; or dropped off at the newspaper office.