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IN THE PAPER
TODAY

'I still love her': Kenneth Ray Tranchida said in his statement to police that he grew to love Tina Biggar, slain OU coed and Farmington Hills resident. /6A

OPINION

Hands up! Farmington Families In Action's anti-drug crusade might need some fine tuning, but overall the parents involved deserve a lot of credit. /10A

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Beauty and the beads: The Great Lakes Beadworkers Guild's first Bead Bonanza will take place this weekend. Among the artists who work in this medium is Posey Macedonia, who intricately knits beads into new purses as well as restores antique evening bags. /1B

Dedicated: Honors keep coming to famed sculptor Marshall Fredericks. He recently received an award from the king of Sweden at the unveiling of a work in Stockholm. And this weekend all are invited to the dedication of an earlier Fredericks piece at St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild in Bloomfield Hills. /1B

SPORTS

Golf champ: Farmington's Adam Hibbs is the winner of the Observer & Eccentric men's golf tournament. /1C

SPECIAL SECTIONS

Healthy living: LifeLine, a new health care magazine designed for individuals and families, is included among today's inserts.

LOTTERY

The Lotto jackpot was worth at least \$7.7 million. The Michigan lottery numbers for Wednesday, Oct. 4, are:

- **DAILY 3:**
623
- **DAILY 4:**
7593
- **LOTTO:** 3, 25, 29, 31, 42, 49

INDEX

ABB 1B	Real estate . . . 6F
At Home 1D	Rentals 9F
Business 6AA	8 Days 6B
Calendar 7C	Movies 5B
Classifieds F-11	Obituaries . . . 10C
Announcements . 4H	Opinions . . . 10-11A
Autos 7H	Police/fire . . . 9C
Crossword 6F	Reunions . . . 11C
Employment . . . 2Q	Sports 1C
Home, Service guide 4H	Street Scene . . . 8B

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Speaker tells parents: Believe

An inspirational speaker had several messages for Farmington-area parents Monday at Farmington Families In Action kickoff breakfast for Red Ribbon Month. One message: 'The way you spell love is T-I-M-E.'

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Throughout his presentation, Michael Karpovich asked the audience to raise their hands if they felt they were exceptional parents. Few did at first.

With anecdotes and comedic affir-

mation, "Karp" had more parents believing in themselves by the end of Farmington Families in Action kickoff breakfast Monday at Glen Oaks Country Club.

FPIA is in its 11th year finding ways to prevent drug and alcohol abuse among children.

David Klenke, a 13-year-old Farmington Hills boy killed in a hit-and-run accident Sept. 25, was remembered in a prayer at the start of the 11th annual event. A Detroit man, 22, has been charged with manslaughter and operating a vehicle under the influence in the death.

FPIA has several events planned for October Drug and Alcohol Awareness Month. This year's theme, "Parents Do Have a Choice," wasn't lost on the motivational speaker.

"The people who need to be here are not," said Karpovich, who has se-

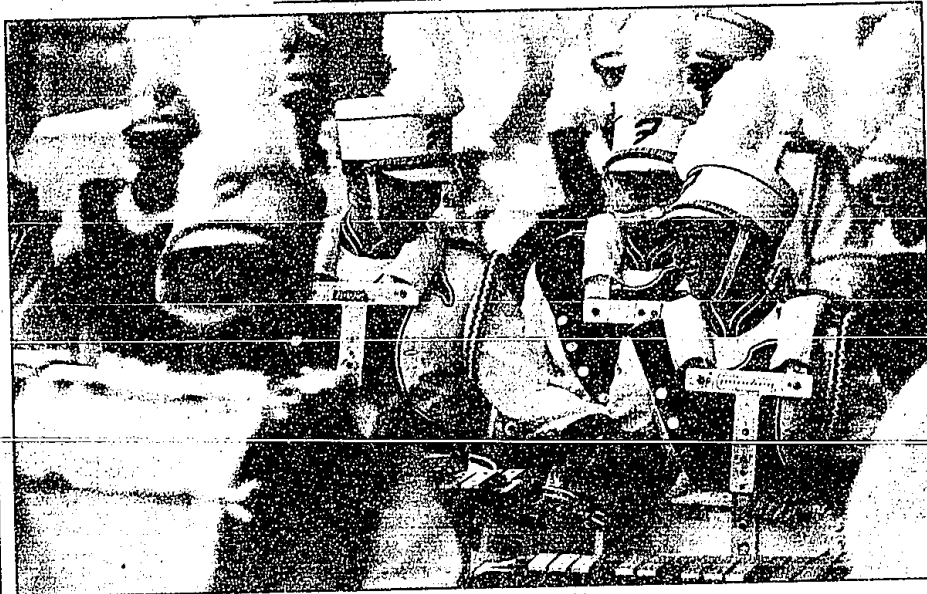
vere dyslexia — the result of brain damage at birth. "They never are. If you look around the room, these are the same people who are always at these things."

"There are lousy parents. . . None of them are sitting here in this room." Parents need to quit beating themselves up, he said, especially when their children screw up.

Our society has become adrenalin junkies, Karpovich said. As a result, we're constantly chasing the unat-

See PARENTS, 4A

FHS band goes downhill — backward



SHARON LEIMIG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Homecoming fun: Sophomore Kristin Graw grabs the sleeve of junior Devin Erngren as they march backward down Shiawassee Hill Saturday with the school marching band, continuing a school tradition on homecoming Saturday. For more homecoming photos, see Page 3A.

Skaters of all ages warm up to arena

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Hills Ice arena got a big send-off over the weekend at the state-of-the-art facility's official coming-out party.

"Yesterday was really hectic," arena employee Anna Famie said Saturday. "I think today is going to be even busier."

The \$6 million arena, open since Sept. 1, was open for free public skating, tours and exhibitions over the weekend beginning with opening ceremonies Friday night.

"It's been busy right through," said arena Manager Jerry Nelson.

On Friday, Special Services Director Dan Potter played master of ceremonies and Mayor Joanne Smith presided over the ribbon cutting and dedication ceremonies.

Saturday and Sunday, hundreds of skaters, from the serious to beginner

tried the new surface.

"We have been taking our kids (Ashley, 7, and Josh, 12) to learn-to-skate lessons," said Cher Wrobel of Farmington Hills. "So we decided to try it ourselves."

Wrobel and her husband Harry said they periodically find enough ice in neighborhood ponds on which to skate, but love the convenience of the new arena.

"We've gone to Plymouth, but that's a long way," Harry Wrobel said. "It's great that we now have a place so close for the kids to skate. We love it."

Some advanced skaters, like Rory McKendrick, 14, were happy to have the arena in their hometown. McKendrick, who was part of a figure skating exhibition, said he likes the arena.

See ARENA, 2A



SHARON LEIMIG/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Two good skates: Gordy Harrison and his 7-year-old son Kevin remove their blades after an open skating session at the new Farmington Hills Ice Arena.

Man to stand trial in deadly hit-run

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The boy held back tears as he described seeing a car slam into and kill his older brother.

Wednesday's testimony of Stephen Klenke, 11, and that of four others satisfied 47th District Judge Fred Harris that there was enough evidence to bind over Christopher Phillip Smith Jr. to Circuit Court on charges of drunk driving, leaving the scene of a fatal accident and manslaughter.

Smith, 22, was solemn. He seemed to hold back his own tears as witnesses testified about the events of Sept. 25, when David Klenke, 13, was

struck and killed by a car on 10 Mile between Inkster and Middletown while he and his younger brother Stephen rode home together on bikes.

"I thought he (the car) hit David Klenke," Stephen Klenke said. "But he didn't."

He didn't pull back. And so it was for Oakland County Assistant Prosecutor Marc Barron to show that Smith was the one who hit and broke many hearts.

"This was very hard for him (Stephen)," said his mother Milica Klenke. "He's grown up a lot in the last week."

But there was little consolation even knowing the man accused of taking her son's life will face charges that could bring a sentence of up to 15 years in prison.

"We're all just heart-broken," she said after the preliminary examination.

Smith's attorney, Elias Escobedo Jr., questioned the link between Smith's black 1981 Ford Thunderbird and the car that had struck the East Middle School seventh-grader.

See HIT-RUN, 4A