

Farmington Observer

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IN THE PAPER
TODAY

Day in court: A Farmington man, facing drug manufacturing charges, has been bound over for trial in Oakland County Circuit Court. /4A

Land sakes! Farmington Hills City Council members discussed future land use in the city with the city's planning commissioners. /5A

TASTE



Cookies: Baker's secrets for making four different size oatmeal cookies from the same dough. / 1B

Gold medal cooks: Local culinary arts students win first prize in a national competition, and keep cool under pressure. / 1B

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Western wear: City slichers are discovering that the country look can't be beat, buying boots, prairie skirts, and stetsons from local specialty stores. /6B

Behind the Label: Who's Eric Gaskins and why are designer departments proud to feature his couture clothes? /6B

LOTTERY

The Lotto jackpot was expected to be worth at least \$9.5 million. The Michigan lottery numbers for Saturday, Oct. 7, are:

- DAILY 3: 536
- DAILY 4: 4463
- LOTTO: 3, 12, 20, 25, 44, 48

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High school hockey plan studied



Now that Farmington Hills has an ice arena, how about some local high school hockey teams to compete on the new ice? Well, the Farmington area does have a hockey tradition.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

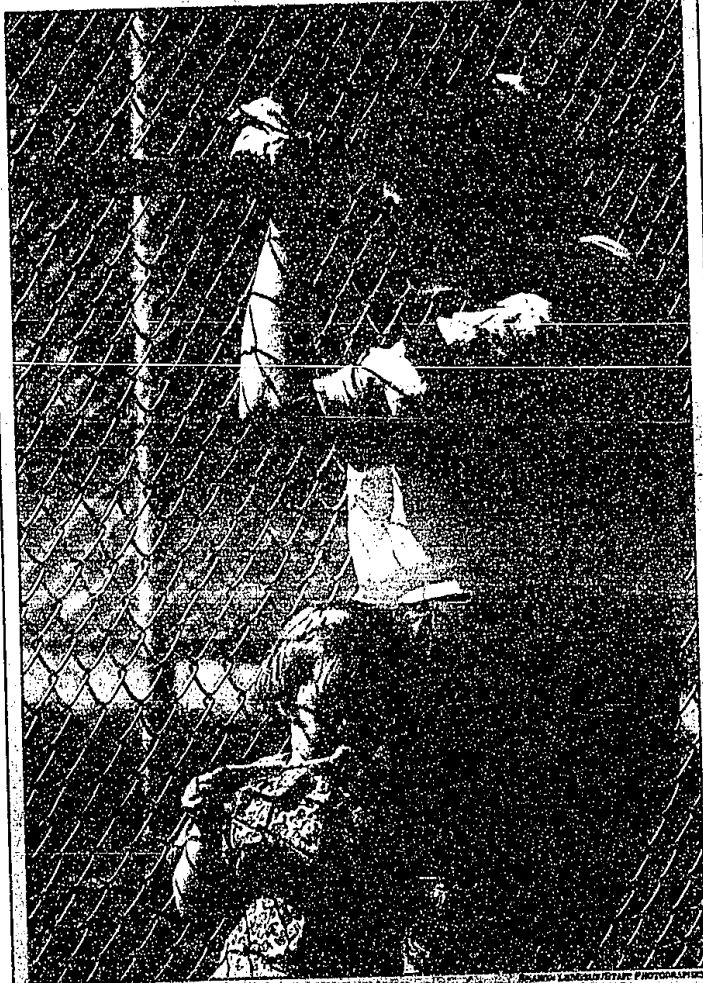
Farmington's Board of Education will see if high school hockey can cut ice.
 Board members plan to review a recommendation by a special committee to consider ice hockey as a varsity sport at its scheduled Tuesday

study session. District officials are looking into the feasibility of the sport with the recent opening of Farmington Hills Ice Arena.
 In the committee's recommendation, players from all three high schools would play on one unified team that would start play in 1996-97. A second and third team could be

added if enough interest is generated. Start-up cost is estimated at \$30,750. The board would have to make a decision by Jan. 1 to meet deadlines for state, league and conference affiliations.
 "The recommendation is that we consider establishing a hockey team," said Don Cowan, director of kindergarten through grade 12 instruction. "We're assuming there is a lot of interest judging by the people we have talked to."
 The Farmington area has a hockey tradition.

Several kids play on travel and recreational teams in the area. Many former NHL players live in Farmington, including John Oprodnick, Robert Picard and Dennis Haxell.
 Philadelphia Flyers' superstar Eric Lindros lived in Farmington for a year while playing for Compuware's Tier B Junior A team. One NHL hall of fame and Hills resident thinks high school hockey is a good idea.
 "I would think it would be a wonderful venture," former Detroit Red
 See HOCKEY, 9A

On the bubble at Shlawassee Park



Family meeting: The Nens families of Farmington Hills and Terra Haute, Ind., got together at Shlawassee Park Wednesday for a little tennis. Two-year-old Alyssa of Farmington Hills blew a bubble as her grandmother, Ann, of Terra Haute watched the game between her children, husband and daughter-in-law.

Students to surf Internet

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Public Schools students can look forward to a never-ending ride on the info highway.
 The district has entered a five-year agreement with Macomb-Oakland Area Network, which will allow full access on the Internet. Farmington schools will pay \$7,500 for each of the first two years and \$10,000 a year for three years for a \$45,000 total.

The central office will be connected to the MOAN network initially, but the plan calls for each school building to be wired.
 Students and staff could access reference material, use electronic mail and maintain their building's own sites on the World Wide Web.
 "The sky's the limit as far as what we can do with it," said Kathy Jones, director of data processing/information management.

Two Farmington schools are already going full speed on the superhighway.
 Hillside Elementary has its own site on the World Wide Web while East Middle School students are accessing the Internet through a Global Village Project.

Hillside's web site was set up through the University of Michigan Department of Education and art consultant Jean Warner. Farmington Hills-based Silicon Graphics Industry donated an Iris workstation to the school.

The Hillside web site offers information about the school and provides hyperlinks to students' work. People from the around the world can access the site.
 "I think what it does is it helps us make new friends in a sense," Warner said, "because we have new mentors in the field. It also shows that we're not just talking but preparing kids for the 21st century."

While enamored with the glitz of new technology, there are several practical applications, school officials said.

Teachers can communicate with other teachers to share ideas through E-mail. Parents could access memos normally sent home with their child on their personal computer.

Students are the biggest beneficiaries in the technology boom, school officials said.
 "They would have a lot more access," Jones said. "If I'm in a social
 See INTERNET, 9A

'Answer guys' hot performers with young, old on fire safety

BY BILL GOULTANT
STAFF WRITER

Clad in white lab coats and nerdy black-rimmed glasses, "The Answer Guys" produced several fire safety inventions for an audience of interested observers.

Phil and Ted, as they call themselves when performing, clapped their hands and said "Hi!" and "Franz" of Saturday Night Live fame and said "The answer we're the Answer Guys."

The real-life Farmington Hills firefighters Don St. Clair (Phil), Donny Hughes (Ted) and Lt. Mike Carr (as himself) are getting lots of laughs at Farmington area elementary schools and some senior citizen residences. But it's not time with 20,000 out-of-work these guys are looking for a new career.

"We just use this as a way to get our message across about fire safety," said Carr, a fire prevention specialist with the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

Gill Principal Mike Duff found that after the laughs, students remember the lessons on fire safety.
 "The way they present it, it helps get the message through," Duff said. "I don't know of any other fire department that does this kind of thing."

"The Answer Guys" lay the groundwork for their inventive fire protection with some profound words:
 "Max has always been fascinated with fire," Phil says. "And women too," adds Ted, not quite sure if

fires of women are more fascinating.
 The pastells follow as the would-be inventors show their staff to Gill students. A hosting invention does its job too well, almost burning Ted in his delivery. He calls it a "rump roast" to the laughing



Sound the alarm: Longacre first-grader Kristen Graffmiller plugs her ears as the smoke detector alarm goes off.

See SAFETY, 2A