

Teachers say OK

(Continued from page 1A)

Both Coleman and Barry believed the March 1 stipulation would allow the district to plan fall schedules earlier and cut down on the number of pink slips sent out each year.

Under a new federal law, the board is required to pay unemployment compensation to laid-off teachers who haven't been called back by the end of the school year. The contract provides that any unemployment compensation paid after a teacher has been recalled will be deducted from future pay as of the date of recall.

Teachers on leave will be required to pay FEA membership dues or a service charge, under the new contract. The board denied a grievance brought by the FEA in August, in which the FEA had requested the firings of three teachers on maternity leave who had failed to pay dues or a service charge to the FEA.

Coleman believed the new contract, achieved without a strike, proved the bargaining process works.

"We're happy for parents that we didn't have any disruptions," he said. "I think both the teachers and the board got a good contract. It's something we can live with. We've had a very good relationship with the community, and neither side wanted to have a strike. That community support is worth something."

Good faith was demonstrated by both sides, Barry added.

"We appreciated the fact that the district did retire almost all the people who were pinkslipped," he said. "We have an openness with our administrators that some districts don't have. I think the fact that we did not strike, although we had the authorization from our members to do so, and that we were willing to go back to the bargaining table and iron it out without a strike, convinced the board of our sincerity."

Women will serve punch and lunch

The Women of North Farmington will meet for "Punch and Lunch" at 11 a.m. Thursday in Farmington Community Center. Guest speaker will be Jody Busen, of the Oakland County Women's Bar Association, who will talk about women's legal rights.

Guests are welcome, and may make reservations by calling Ann Carrier, 626-8720.

Membership inquiries will be taken by Pat Muzzarelli, 553-4326.



Pay phones lowered

Standing almost 7 feet tall, Detroit Piston Bob Lanier can reach any coin telephone. But up until recently, Kerri Hines, 1977 Michigan Easter Seal Society poster child, may have had some problems. To make pay phone calling more convenient for the young and the handicapped, Michigan Bell lowered the height of 49,000 pay phones in the state; about 500 of them are in the Farmington area. Enclosed telephone booths are being phased out because they can be a hindrance to some handicapped people. They will be replaced by phones mounted on walls or metal poles.

Accused brothers remain in jail

A pre-trial examination has been set for Sept. 22 for James Joseph Belcher, 31, and his brother Walter Belcher, 26, both of Farmington Hills, who face a charge of assault with intent to kill.

Both men remained in Wayne County jail as of Friday afternoon. Bond was set at \$75,000 for James Belcher and \$50,000 for Walter Belcher.

The assault victim, according to Livonia police, is Donald Williams, who remained in guarded condition in St. Mary Hospital in Livonia as of Friday afternoon. Brain surgery was scheduled.

The two brothers were arraigned before Judge James Mies in 18th District Court last week on the charge.

Police gave this account of the incident, which took place in the early hours of Sept. 11.

The Belcher brothers drove their station wagon past a party taking place on Melvin, south of Eight Mile in Livonia, involving about 200 young people.

Following a verbal exchange concerning the right of way, the Belchers and another driver, Clyde Hiner, 18, of Farmington Hills, stepped from their cars. One of the Belchers struck Hiner, knocking him to the ground.

scene in their car when an unknown person threw an object that hit the car, causing some damage.

The two men stopped their vehicle and approached witnesses to find out who threw the object. But they left without receiving an answer, stating they would return.

Witnesses told the police the two men later came back to look for the individual who threw the object at their car. A few minutes later, they were seen leaving the backyard of the house with Williams walking between them, police said.

Thirty minutes later, Williams was found in a vacant field near Mortlock Street and taken to the hospital.

The names of the witnesses are being suppressed because they have been threatened, according to Sgt. Thomas Carothers of the Livonia police.

Additional warrants are expected to be issued against one or both of the brothers in regard to Hiner's injuries, as well as for assaults on others at the scene, according to police.

Finnish taught at cultural center

Conversational courses in the Finnish language will begin on Oct. 3 in the Finnish Cultural Center, 35200 Eight Mile, in Farmington Hills. The lessons will begin at 7:30 p.m. and continue on Monday evenings. Registration information will be given by contacting Mrs. William Pudas, 478-7620, or Mrs. Toive Hill, 533-7691.

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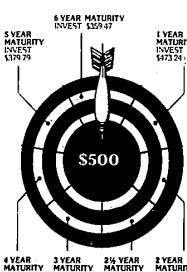
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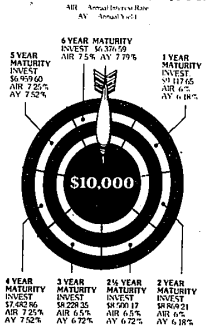
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