

After six years

Facelift sought for roundtable

By LYNN ORR

After six years of operation, the Student Roundtable needs a facelift. That's the opinion of the majority of senior high students, who have served as school representatives to the group which meets monthly with school board members and administrators. Providing an opportunity for exchange of ideas among three bodies of the district's educational system—students, school board, and administration—is the purpose of the roundtable's monthly sessions.

But students want more feedback from administrators; a better way to

select roundtable members; better representation of varying groups within the student body; and better communication with the student body as to the group's functions and goals. "I think what the roundtable needs is concerned students and a fair way to choose the students so everyone has a chance," said Kim Kopko, Harrison High student.

"I don't think the kids in our school know what roundtable is or what we do," charged Jerianne Gugel, Farmington High student and chairperson of the group.

Many of the students requested better communication at the meetings, in-

cluding feedback from the administration on student suggestions initiated during roundtable discussions.

"There has been some action as a direct result of this group," Supt. Lewis Schulman responded. More money was devoted to student activities funds at the urging of student roundtable members, said Lynn Nutter, assistant superintendent of secondary education.

Board members William Gravius and Helen Prutow both said they had benefited by roundtable sessions.

"This is my only contact with students in the whole district," Gravius said. "I get a well-rounded opinion of what's going on in the district, although you don't get the feel of the burn-outs."

"This is my first year on the board," Ms. Prutow said. "You've changed my mind on a great deal of

subjects."

In his first year as principal of Farmington Senior High, Gerald Potter likes the roundtable because it gives him a chance to find out what's going on in the other high schools.

"I think I've received more than I've given," he said. The evaluation session produced a number of ideas to improve the roundtable sessions including: inviting school board members to student council meetings; student attendance at board meetings.

Students participating in the evaluation session included: Farmington High students Jerianne Gugel, Maureen Hickey, Lynette Seiner, and Terry Lewis; Harrison students Kim Kopko, Barbara Vagnozzi, and Ann McDevitt; and North Farmington High students Megan Saunders, Kevin Howley, and Kathleen Bowen.

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Youth acquitted in Olympia killing

Rutherford Massenberg, 17, accused murderer of Farmington Hills resident David Jones, has been acquitted by a Recorder's Court jury.

Massenberg had been arrested in connection with the Jones' murder which took place at a parking lot near Olympia Stadium on November 7. Jones was fatally shot while walking alone to his car after a tennis match at the Detroit sports arena.

After the verdict Monday, Jury Foreman Vaughn Klugh said jurors didn't believe the testimony of Willie Lee Pugh who said he was with Massenberg during the holdup of the 31-year-old mortgage company execu-

tive. Pugh claimed Massenberg did the actual shooting.

"He contradicted himself too many times. We doubted that Massenberg was ever really there," said Klugh.

Pugh was testifying for the prosecution under a grant of immunity. Controversy surrounded the slaying because parking lots attendants had left their posts early, turning off the parking lights, which forced Jones to walk through the lot in darkness.

Since the murder, security has been heightened in the stadium area and the parking lot lights are being left on longer after night events.

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