

Suburban lawyers exchange ideas

Defending drunken drivers is problem

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motor vehicle code — only to discover to his delight that the clerk is all out of copies or tries to charge the accused \$2 or \$3 for a copy of an ordinance that is supposed to be available at no cost.

His client is sent to the clerk's window with a quarter in his pocket asking

for a copy of the law only to be turned away for insufficient funds. The clerk then asks the clerk to sign a statement explaining why he was not given a copy of the code, and the clerk's statement is used in court by the defense counsel.

ANOTHER unexpected avenue of

defense, Larin said, involves the question as to whether township police have jurisdiction to travel outside of their municipality to make a drunk driving arrest. Larin says he's challenging West Bloomfield Township and Bloomfield Township on grounds that Oakland County township officers aren't deputized by the county sheriff to enforce the law outside of their jurisdiction.

Another case still pending, Larin said, is his appeal of a conviction where his client was found drunk in a car parked in a parking lot with the ignition on.

Larin maintains that state law only applies only to persons "driving a motor vehicle upon the highways of this state while under the influence of an intoxicating liquor."

Larin argues that a parking lot is not a highway but admits that he hasn't been successful in convincing the court to rule in his favor yet.

While attorneys laughed at the sobriety tests, the problem of the drunk driver and the seriousness of the crime was stressed. Attorney Morgan emphasized how a judge can revoke a license for even a reduced charge of impaired driving and that two convictions for driving under the influence can result in lifetime suspension of driving privileges, not to mention months in jail.

"Put still it's thought of as the funny crime," Larin said. "We use words like 'blasted,' 'plastered.' We've got all kinds of funny names for it. But there are no funny names for crimes like larceny in a building and rape. And drunk driving is a serious crime."

The lawyers said it was their intent to "raise the standards of the profession" in the area of drunk driving and stimulate discussion among legal authorities.

Coyle, the seminar's drunken guinea pig, was driven home after the conference.

Meters could cut energy consumption

Energy costs for the consumer keep going up and up, and there soon may be a way to watch how much money, and energy, is being used in the home every minute of the day.

Over the next few months, the U.S. Department of Energy will work hand-in-hand with local utilities in six cities throughout the U.S. and Canada installing special meters. The meters will be installed in randomly selected houses.

Each meter will have two rows of numbers. The top row will show the time. The bottom row displays the cost of energy used in the household since the previous midnight.

The meters will perform other functions as well. It can calculate the estimated cost of energy for the next hour, how much was spent in the previous 24-hour period or how much the total month's bill will be.

According to energy department studies, people use their air conditioners, furnaces, ovens, lights, and other appliances less if they get immediate feedback. In one study, consumption dropped 10 to 15 percent.

Energy used in households with meters will be compared with 100 control homes in each city. The meters may be available to the public soon for an installation cost of between \$50 and \$100. Persons using them would be eligible for a tax credit.

The energy department study will continue through the rest of this summer and for the winter.

Help and care for arthritics

More than 20 million Americans suffer from arthritis, a rheumatic disease. The Michigan Chapter-Arthritis Foundation, a Torch Drive supported service, provides help and care to individuals stricken by the disease.

Henderson is elected

Stewart R. Henderson, class of '81, was elected to serve on the Undergraduate Council at Dartmouth College in recent college wide elections.

He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. H. Richard Henderson of Farmington Hills. He served as an associate editor of the "Jack O Lantern," the college's official

humor magazine throughout this year. Last year he was active in track and field. He received a citation for his academic work in sociology 7.

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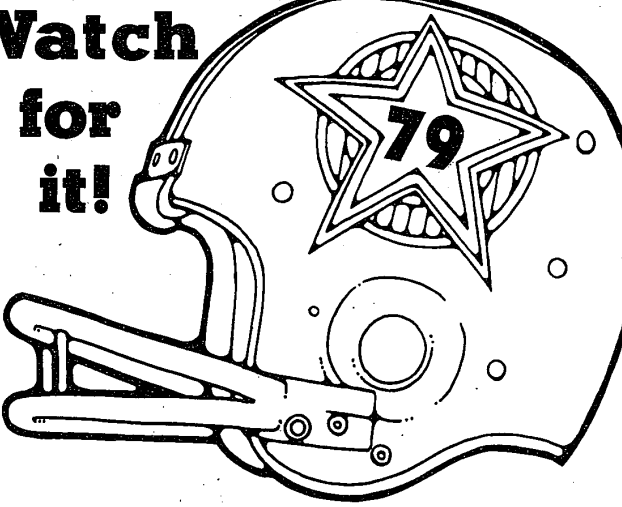
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