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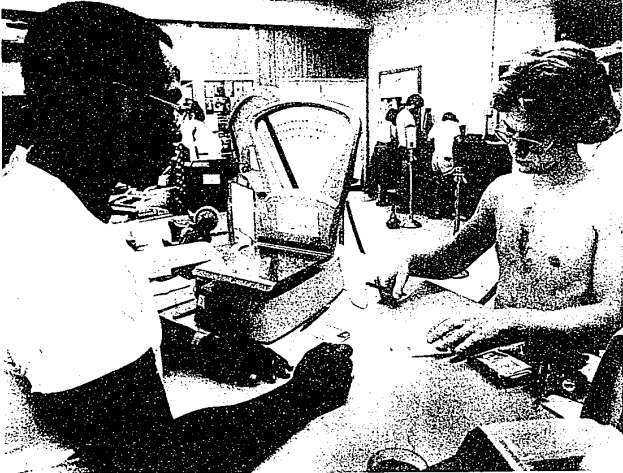
Farmington, Michigan

72 Pages

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Youths register without protest for draft



Edward Wright (right) was one of the thousands of persons born in 1960 who registered for the military draft on Monday. He is being helped by postal employee James Ray. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

By 11 a.m., Monday, 40 young men had filed quietly through the lines of customers at the Farmington post office to register for the selective service system.

By the end of next week, they will be a portion of an estimated four million men who registered in 35,000 post offices across the nation.

Fears of anti-draft demonstrations or incidents which prompted the Farmington post office to request extra police protection went unfulfilled Monday as men born in 1960 filled out the green-edged selective service cards. Next week men born in 1961 will register.

Questions before the U.S. Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the registration system which exempts women and the plans of peace groups to beef up their draft counseling facilities for the first time since the Vietnam era seemed remote in Farmington.

Most of the men signing up said they would willingly enter the service if they were drafted.

"It sounds good to me. I want to join, anyway," said Edward Wright of Farmington.

"I want to join the Marines if they take me — anything they can give me. It's a good opportunity."

SERVING in a wartime army doesn't dampen his commitment to join, according to Wright.

"It doesn't really matter. If you live in a country, you might as well fight for it," he said.

"If it comes down to it, I won't mind going for a good cause," said Kevin Minzaff of Farmington as he signed his registration card at a desk in the post office.

He wouldn't mind fighting a war against the Soviet Union.

"If it comes down to it, we've got to be ready to do something," he said.

While he was unsure if the country really needs a selective service registration, John Diehr of Farmington was signing up because "we have to be prepared first. I'd rather fight for it (the country) than sit back. I'd rather defend freedom."

"I think this registration is good for the morale of the country. People today are lazy and things that are in communism are getting into our country," he said.

Although Joe Hauska of Farmington signed up last Monday, he wasn't sure that there wouldn't be a draft or a war.

"The signs are the same as before. The Olympics are the same as 1936," he said.

Others saw the possibility of war on the horizon.

"I GUESS we've got to do it (register)," said Thomas Nugent of Farmington.

"It doesn't excite me too much. I don't think there's going to be a war. If there is, it'll be a conventional war. I've got to do it, so I'll do it. But I'm a little scared."

"I really don't want to go, but I have no choice," said Doug Dupuis of Farmington.

"I don't want to go to jail. If I had to (go into the service), I'd probably would go."

Refusal to register can lead to five years in prison and/or a \$10,000 fine. Advocating non-cooperation with selective service registration carries the same penalty.

Organizations such as the American Friends Service Committee of Detroit and Ann Arbor are adding to their draft counseling services. They are taking questions about the draft at 1-761-9293 in the Ann Arbor office.

The group isn't publicly against registration and a draft, according to Marc Mauer, community relations director for the American Friends Service Committee.

Instead, it offers an explanation of the various options available to young men faced with registration. Those options range from quietly not registering, publicly refusing to register or signing up.

THE GROUP is advising persons who wish to be regarded as conscientious objectors to that status when they register.

After that, according to Mauer, it's up to the government to devise a way to handle exemptions and deferments.

The Selective Service National Headquarters has its own telephone lines open to receive questions from young men. That number, in Washington D.C. is 1-202-724-0424.

After registration, a letter of verification will be sent to the men within 90 days. That letter, instead of a registration card, will serve as proof of registration.

Kidnap suspects plead guilty, will testify against 3rd man

By MARY GNIEWEK

Two defendants charged with the June 27 kidnaping of a Farmington Hills businessman waived their right to preliminary exams in Farmington District Court Monday, pleaded guilty as charged, and were bound over to Oakland County Circuit Court for trial.

Defendants Gary Lee Kelley, 22, and Rick Scoggin, 19, both of Salt Lake City, Utah, pleaded guilty before Judge Michael Hand on two counts of kidnaping and conspiracy to kidnap, which carry life sentences upon conviction.

The two have agreed to testify against a third defendant, Insung (Henry) Kim, who police believe masterminded the plot. In exchange, the court

dropped a third charge against the pair, possession of a firearm, which carries a two-year mandatory sentence upon conviction.

Kelley and Scoggin, held in the county jail, are scheduled for arraignments before Judge Hilda Gage in Oakland County Circuit Court Aug. 4 at 1:30 p.m. Judge Hand continued their \$500,000 bond.

A district court officer said there will be no further agreement for leniency if the pair don't keep their part of the bargain to testify against Kim, who is free on \$100,000 bond. Kim is tentatively scheduled for a pretrial exam in Farmington District Court Aug. 4.

HE IS CHARGED with conspiracy to

kidnap, possession of a firearm, kidnaping and assault with intent to kidnap. Police will request the court to set an even higher bond for Kim at his pretrial.

According to police, on Friday, June 27, Kelley tried to hustle Byung Park and his wife, Majin Park, into a rented car in front of their Farmington Hills home as they prepared to leave for work.

Mrs. Park escaped and ran back into her home where she called Farmington Hills police, who arrested Kelley and took the Parks into protective custody just minutes after the incident occurred.

Kelley named the other two alleged conspirators and police made the arrests that day. Kim was apprehended

at a Denver airport between connecting flights from Detroit to Salt Lake City. He was extradited to face the charges. Scoggin was arrested at Detroit Metropolitan Airport as he waited to board a flight.

Police say the kidnap victim's brother, who lives in Salt Lake City, bragged to Kim about "a rich brother in Farmington Hills." Authorities theorize Kim hired Kelley and Scoggin to participate in the haphazard plot to kidnap Mr. and Mrs. Park and hold their two young children hostage for a \$40,000 ransom.

The family was not hurt in the incident. Farmington Hills Police Sgt. Al Havner said Park's brother might be called to testify at Kim's trial.



Talking to a funny face

It was Kid's Day over at City Park on Tuesday and Sandra Jardon, 5, found that part of the fun included meeting clown Tag-A-Along (Norman Nettie). Kid's Day was just some of the fun which kicked off this year's Farmington Founders' Festival. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

He skirts the skies daily

Balloonist earns a living in clouds

Randy Byrne is cozy with cumulus clouds. Each day the Livonia man earns his living doing what others only experi-

ence vicariously in Jules Verne novels. Byrne is a balloonist. Using ropes, wind and hot air, he manipulates the giant tangle of wicker basket carrier

and nylon balloon to skim over cities, towns and countryside.

Once such contraptions were used only by daring aviators soaring through the skies in search of mystical adventure. Today they're apt to be used to float advertisements over a football stadium or carry young passengers from festivals such as the Founders Festival.

But that hasn't caused his romance with the skies to evaporate for Byrne.

"You live out your best fantasies just hanging out in the clouds," he said as he unpacked spools of double navy braid rope used to tether the balloon.

His fascination with silently floating across the horizon began 2 1/2 years ago

when he rented a balloon for an advertising stunt for a retail store.

"It was neat. I bought a balloon. Now I have a dealership," is the way Byrne, 22, summarizes his career switch.

NOW, HE, his partners and crew work with several balloons.

Among the balloons they own is the bright yellow model they set up in the parking lot of Our Lady of Sorrows Roman Catholic Church, Farmington, for Kids Day. The balloon, which has a capacity to dislodge 77,500 cubic feet of air space, was first rolled flat on the ground awaiting the crew.

(Continued on Page 14A)

Bond school draws potential buyers

By MARY GNIEWEK

A vacant Farmington Hills elementary school which the district has been trying to sell for the last seven years is suddenly the object of three purchase offers made by local businessmen.

The Farmington School Board voted Monday to decide Aug. 5 which offer to accept on Bond Elementary School, at 13 Mile west of Orchard Lake. Bond was closed in June 1973. The board didn't rule out the possibility of considering new offers made before the Aug. 5 deadline.

School administrators have been requested to present board members before Aug. 5 with a simple analysis of the three offers and to make a recommendation.

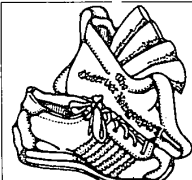
All three offers are contingent on rezoning the property from school classification to office use. Offers range from \$312,000 cash to \$375,000 on a land contract over five years at 9 percent annual interest.

The three bidders presented overviews of their offers to the school board Monday. Ron Hughes, a West Bloomfield banker and developer, is offering \$340,000 on a land contract over three years at 10 percent annual interest.

Hughes made the only offer with a non-refundable clause. He has agreed to pay \$12,000 in the first 18 months of the deal. In that time, he'll attempt to get the land rezoned.

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Your Observer carrier will be stopping by this week to collect for the month. Please be ready, and be sure to save your receipt — it's worth a \$1.00 discount on the next classified ad you place in your hometown newspaper.



Randy Byrne gave some of the children a thrill during Kids Day in the park by telling them about hot air ballooning. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)