Monitoring devices, surgery aid in difficult births

Four moms-to-be lay quietly in labor rooms at Botsford General Hospital Monday morning, their bodies attached to digital monitoring devices recording their unborn baby's heartbeat and their labor contractions.

Two were there for stress tests. Labor was induced to see if it would be dangerous to the offspring. Stress tests are commonly performed in high risk or overdue pregnancies.

The other two were there because their time had come. One father-to-be

The other two were there because their time had come. One father-to-be dressed in surgical room garb hoped for a boy as his wife was wheeled into the delivery room.

The four cases will become statistics. L500 bables are delivered each year at the 250-bed estepathic baspital. That's an average number, according to Dr. Pall Adler, chairman of obstetries and gynecology. What is nursual, Adler points out, is the change in attitude about the unborn child. With new equipment, frugs and techniques, the quality of life of the infant is becoming a greater concern to attending physicians. Adler cites Casaarcan-section births, which have climbed from an average of 5 percent eight years ago to 15 percent of all deliveries today.

"THERE'S BEEN A change in atti-

"HTRRE'S BEEN A change in attitude, with more emphasis on the quality of life of the infant."
A C-section birth, which involves major surgery, is performed if a woman's
pelvis is too small to accommodate the
infant through the birth canal, if the
baby's heart beat drops below 120
times a minute and stays down, or if
the umbilical cord is compressed.

Because of the use of ultrasound,

"Ten or 15 years ago, a C-section which uses ultrasonic sound to produce was rare if the baby was breech — but on today," says Aider, who had selliv-ered 8,000 babies in his 30-year career. month of pregnancy or even at the last minute before birth.

Another test performed during preg-nancy is aminocentests. A large needle is inserted into the uterus to draw fluid to be analyzed. Anniocentests can alert doctors to an Rh factor incompa-tibility prior to both. Because amniocens measures the maturity of the unborn child, it can tell doctors when to perform a C-section. In the case of a baby with Rh incompati-bility, it alerts a pediatrician to be on

hand to perform an exchange transfu-sion after birth.

A drug called rhogam is given to pa-tients with Rh incompatibility at the

tients with the incompationity at the end of their pregnancy to protect against the factor at the next pregnan-cy.

"With each successive pregnancy, the baby can be more severely affect-ed," Adler said. "That used to be the tragedy 15 years ago."

THE HOSPITAL has started a rooming-in program for fathers of the newborn. It allows the father to visit from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Continuous

rooming-in requires a private room and the baby stays with the mother all day and night.

Patients also have the option of tuning into infant care television programming shown daily on the hospital's free station, Channel 6.

Adder says in the future laboring mothers will be equipped with telemetry devices so that baby's heart beat and mother's contractions can be recorded while the patient is walking.

The hospital is planning a major expansion project which includes a new delivery room set up. The plan awaits approval by state commissions.



Laurel Falk, R.N., checks the contractions of a mother giving birth and the heart beat of the child through a computer read-out in the



Dr. Philip Adler, director of medical education at the hospital and chairman of its obstetrics and gynecology department checks a digital read-out which records the mother's contractions and the baby's heart

Staff photos by

BY LOUISE OKRUTSKY

DRIVERS start your engines and cruise down Grand River for the Farmington Founders Festival parade at 10 a.m. July 26. The parade, as usual, is loaded with its share of baton twirlers, marching bands, drill teams and politices. The amarchers of the political persussion will be left to their own two feet it the festival can't find a few more drivers willing to watch the road while their passengers wave and flash those pearly whites. If you want to creep down Grand River in a late model car loaded with political ambition, call Dan Dozer at 478-3049 or the Farmington Chamber of Commerce office, 474-3440.

WHATDIDCHASAY, PARDNER?
Them's fighting words. Draw. For those with an overdose of westerndrovies, the feating will all of the partial will be partial will be the partial will be partial will be

SQUARE DANCERS will have to cut back on their festival high stepping. The Spinning Gears square dance session at disk July 24 in the Downtown Farmington Center has been cancelled. The Gears couldn't find a caller for that date. Instead, It haers, there's a good chance a rock band will fill in the Spinning Gears' time slot.

IN OTHER ACTION on the air-festival scene, the Michigan State Fair opens its first scarecrow contest Aug. 22 in the fairground's Agriculture Building, Scarecrow exhibits should be between four to five feet tall and two to three feet wide. Each entry must stand alone on its own base. Scarecrows will be judged according to the following criteria: originality, creativity, attractiveness and good use of natural materials such as buttley, lotch, vegetable matter, straw, wood, flowers and seed. There aren't ary restrictions on materials used for the exhibit. (If you can come up with one that wants to go to Ozionaf find a brain for himself, so much the better): Tules and applications are available by calling Robert McLachian, supervisor of agriculture, livestock and youth exhibits at 388-1000 or writing to him at the Michigan State Fair, Detroit, 48203.

THE DEADLINE for receiving nominations for Senior Citizen of the Year Awards has been extended from July 15 to Aug. 8. The award, sponsored by the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, will be given to persons who have contributed their time and energy within the past year. Service over a number of years will be given consideration. Only organizations may submit nominations. The awards are sponsored by the OSA and the Michigan State Fair. Applications and further information can be obtained from the nearest area agency on aging or by writing the state office, PO Box 30026, Lansing, 48909.

THE SWEDISH CLUB of Metropolitan
Detroit will conduct a fund raising auction from
noon to 8 p.m. July 26 on its property at Freedom
and Ruth, west of Orchard Lake Road. The auction
features collectibles such as antique typewriters, a
200-year-old carpenter's plane. Austrian crystal
and Copenhagen porcelain. Refreshments
available. All proceeds go to the Swedish Club's
Building Fund.

A BIG Angles salute to Lane Truby of Allan-Kimball Ltd., Farmington, for proving that diamonds are a man's best friend. Trubey was selected for an award in the 1980 Diamonds for Men competition open to jewelry designers. Trubey's diamond studded hat band encircling a cowby hat will be part of the winning collection traveling to 20 major market cities through the

year. For that rich urban cowboy look, IA sends an appropriate salute: $\Diamond \Diamond \Diamond$.

PUT ON YOUR Walking shoes: the Farmington Historical Society will sponsor a walking tour of the historic district at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. July 24-25, at 7 p.m. July 25, and 2 p.m. July 26. Sign up for the free tours at the society's booth in the Downtown Farmington Center.

FARMINGTON HILLS Parks and Recreation department can't guarentee that you'll have every picnic basket in Farmington city park, but it'll start you off with a series of games in its Picnic-Pac. Designed for family reunions of getogethers, the pack includes equipment for volleyball, badminton, bocce ball, horse shoes and more (or so sayeth Parks and Rec.) To reserve a pack for you picnic, call 474-6115. A \$10 deposit is required. Reclait fee is \$4 ad \$4\$ and the packs must be reserved 48 hours in advance.





Hudson's Brides Registry: an important part of your wedding picture

CIT INTIDOTION IT DATE OF YOUR WORKING PICTURE WITH DATE OF YOUR WORKING PICTURE AND A STREET OF THE ARCHING TO STREET OF THE ARCHING THE

hudsonis