

*Practice makes perfect*

# Botsford Hospital disaster drill runs smoothly



KEVIN BIANDO/staff photographer

Students from Farmington Harrison and Farmington High Schools gained firsthand knowledge of emergency medical procedures at Botsford General Hospital Tuesday.

By Scott Adler  
staff writer

It happened in Kansas City at the Hyatt Regency Hotel when a walkway collapsed. It happened in Washington D.C. when a plane collided with a bridge and it happened in France when two buses crashed, killing over 50 people.

Disasters like these can happen anytime, anywhere and hospitals need to be prepared to mobilize doctors and nurses to meet the demands of a sudden influx of injured victims.

Botsford General Hospital, on Grand River in Farmington Hills, took precautions Tuesday to insure a speedy reaction to tragic events by staging a mock disaster drill with area high-school students as victims.

The mock disaster was a car and bus

collision on the I-96 freeway, complete with fake blood, gashed legs and false eyeballs dangling from their sockets.

Farmington and Harrison High Schools provided the 35 victims who volunteered for the project.

"Something like this could happen," Dr. Robert Mandrell, disaster drill coordinator, said of the mock accident. "We have to rehearse it or (the real disaster) will be chaos."

The fake victims were brought into the hospital as if the disaster was real. Nurses and doctors were stationed at the emergency entrance, tagging the victims and deciding to which of the three locations within the hospital they should be sent. This process is referred to as triage, or the sorting out and classification of disaster casualties to

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