

# New chief gives city high marks

By Julie Brown  
staff writer

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer is satisfied with his first month on the job.

"I'm exceptionally happy," he said Friday. "I think it's a very dynamic community. I'm very impressed with the caliber of people we have in this department."

Dwyer, a former Detroit Police commander, replaced former Farmington Hills Police Chief John Nichols. Nichols was elected to succeed Johannes Spreen as Oakland County sheriff.

Dwyer spent 23 years with the Detroit Police Department, ending up as head of Police Chief William Hart's staff.

"It's been a very smooth transition for me," he said of the move to Farmington Hills.

"OBVIOUSLY, YOU don't have the same kind of problem here with crime that you do in Detroit."

"It's different because you don't have the residents, quite frankly, committing these crimes. It's different, but I've been able to quickly adapt. I hope to have a long tenure with the Farmington Hills Police Department. This is a fine department, and there's always room for improvement."

The successes Dwyer points to include the following:

- Jerry George Beckus, 18, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of possession of stolen property over \$100. Two juveniles were also apprehended.

Farmington Hills officers recovered more than \$3,000 worth of camera equipment.

"We had received an anonymous phone call that they were selling this property," Dwyer said. Officers Charles Nebus and Craig Summers worked undercover, offering to buy the stolen property. They were assisted by Officers Paul Cavan and Duane Fox.

"They had received information earlier that day, so it wasn't a long-term investigation," Dwyer said.

The property had been taken in a breaking and entering at a Livonia residence. The suspect was turned over to the Livonia Police Department.

AN INVESTIGATION is continuing to see if Beckus and the two juveniles are responsible for other breaking and enterings in the area.

"It may contribute to clearing up several breaking and enterings in and around Farmington Hills," the chief said. "All of the officers involved did an outstanding job. It was good citizen participation, too."

- Spencer Owen Young and Leonard Anthony Beden, both of Detroit,

were arrested Feb. 22 on a charge of breaking and entering at the Discount Video at 33288 W. 12 Mile. Approximately \$3,300 worth of video equipment was recovered.

Officer Gilbert Kohls responded to an alarm and saw a vehicle leaving the parking lot.

"He followed them for a little way in the vehicle, and then on foot," said Mirl Spencer, inspector, operations bureau. Both suspects have been bound over to Circuit Court for trial. A \$20,000 cash bond was set for each.

- Officer Tim Connor assisted the Farmington police Feb. 22 in the arrest of Tommie Barnes of Highland Park and Howard Steven Simon of Detroit. The two were arrested on a charge of armed robbery of a bank.

- Officer Don Pradette and Gregory Trout, an auxiliary officer, helped in the Feb. 20 arrest of Orrin Scott Cuthbertson and Dana Earl Jenkins, both of Detroit. The two were arrested on a charge of armed robbery of Romano's Pizza in Farmington, and were turned over to the Farmington police.

- Officer Charles Rozum arrested Cedric Lanier Bryant of Detroit Feb. 21 on a charge of armed robbery of the Taco Bell, 27740 Grand River, on Jan. 18.

A follow-up investigation led to Bryant, via an informant and a photo lineup. Bryant was arrested after being picked up by the Detroit police.

- Leslie Arnold Johnson was arrested on an armed robbery charge, for a robbery at the Taco Bell at 27740 Grand River Ave.

Johnson was arrested by the Redford Police Department Jan. 17 on their own armed robbery charge. He fit the description for a Farmington Hills suspect, and was identified in a lineup. The case was bound over to Circuit Court, with a \$25,000 bond set.

"This is really out of the ordinary," Dwyer said of the crimes. "Normally, we don't have this magnitude of crime. The key is that it did happen, but there was outstanding police work done by the Farmington Hills Police Department."

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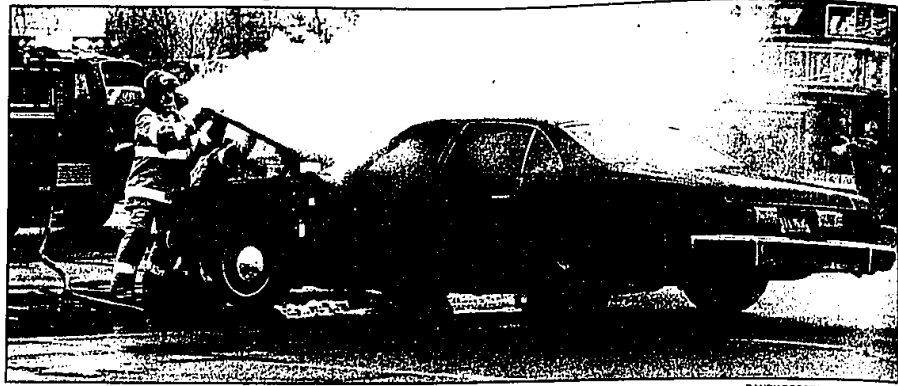
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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

## A hot one

Farmington Hills firefighters had their hands full last Thursday when this car broke into flames. It happened about 4:30 p.m. at the

Great Scott shopping center on Orchard Lake Road and Thirteen Mile.

## cable connection

COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAM-MING

Monday, March 11

- 12 noon — Governor's Report — State of the State Report.
- 12:30 p.m. — Life styles. Dale Alexander, Martha Griffiths.
- 1 p.m. — Soundtrax. Adrenalin (rock group).
- 2 p.m. — Rock Hot Shots. Host, Mike Lewis.
- 2:30 p.m. — Duel of Knowledge. Farmington vs. Novi.
- 6 p.m. — Governor's Report — State of the State Report.
- 6:30 p.m. — Life styles. Dale Alexander, Martha Griffiths.
- 7 p.m. — Soundtrax. Adrenalin (rock group).
- 8 p.m. — Rock Hot Shots. Host, Mike Lewis.
- 8:30 p.m. — Duel of Knowledge. Farmington vs. Novi.

Tuesday, March 12

- 12 noon — S. Farmington baseball.
- 12:30 p.m. — Harrison High Financial Aid Seminar.

- 2 p.m. — Insight. Host, Fred Lichtman.
- 6 p.m. — S. Farmington baseball.
- 6:20 p.m. — Harrison High Financial Aid Seminar.
- 8 p.m. — Insight. Host, Fred Lichtman.

Wednesday, March 13

- 12 noon — Church of Today.
- 1 p.m. — Farmington Community Library Express. Story hour.
- 1:30 p.m. — Cooking with Class with Judy Antishen.
- 2 p.m. — Third World Travel.
- 2:30 p.m. — Tough Love. Youth assistance.

Thursday, March 14

- 12 noon — Health talks.
- 12:30 p.m. — Money Matters.
- 1 p.m. — Novi community news.
- 1:30 p.m. — Keeping in Touch.
- 2 p.m. — Third World Travel.
- 2:30 p.m. — Tough Love. Youth assistance.

- 6 p.m. — Church of Today.
- 7 p.m. — Farmington Community Library Express. Story hour.
- 7:30 p.m. — Cooking with Class with Judy Antishen.
- 8 p.m. — Third World Travel.
- 8:30 p.m. — Tough Love. Youth assistance.

Friday, March 15

- 8 p.m. — Insight. Host, Fred Lichtman.

- 2 p.m. — Insight. Host, Fred Lichtman.
- 6 p.m. — Health talks.
- 6:30 p.m. — Money Matters.
- 7 p.m. — Novi community news.
- 7:30 p.m. — Keeping in Touch.
- 8 p.m. — Third World Travel.
- 8:30 p.m. — Tough Love. Youth assistance.

W.L.W. with Mary Barnett and Violet Altschuler.

Viewer's Choice. Call in a request for your favorite show to be rerun between 4 and 9 p.m., 553-7303.

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## Something To Think About

BOB ROCK

## DEATH A PART OF LIFE

Attitudes toward death are shaped by the physical world, as well as by religious beliefs. Throughout most of history, the world was a place of hardship, poverty, disease and starvation. Infant mortality used to be extremely high, and death was a common occurrence among all ages, especially in time of epidemics and plagues.

As a natural result, death was very much a part of everyday life, a fact with even the youngest child was familiar and one for which everyone had to be prepared. In most places, even burial was among the living—on farms, in town commons, as well as in church yards.

Fortunately, medical science and prosperity have greatly decreased infant mortality and increased life expectancy. Urban living has changed the pattern of personal burial. Death has ceased to be an everyday part of life. More than ever before, the experience of the funeral service is important to help us understand and accept death when it does occur.

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To reserve your place call 358-2313

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**INVITATION**

**CHANEL COLLECTION**

Thursday, March 14  
2:00 p.m., International Designers Salon  
Informal Showing,  
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

It is with pleasure that we invite you to review our collection of Chanel apparel and accessories. The classic designs, superior workmanship and splendid fabrics reflect a talent of legendary proportions. Please be here for the formal presentation at 2:00 p.m., or any time between 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., for an informal viewing of these internationally acclaimed fashions.

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