

Conspiracy alleged in armed robbery

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with an early-morning shoot-out on the Jeffries Freeway May 6, following the robbery, that left a Livonia patrolman wounded and a third suspect, Arthur E.

Sherman of Garden City, dead.

Barton was scheduled to testify at Thursday's preliminary examination, but Hand told Bunting it was not necessary.

Bagacianis testified that Leland gave the three suspects a floor plan to the Nine Mile house, showed them where the house was, and said "there was marijuana and possibly cocaine" in the house during a Saturday, May 4,

meeting at a Farmington Hills restaurant. Leland and the three suspects were to have split any cash obtained from the house, he added.

"He (Leland) wanted it (the robbery) done that Saturday night," Bagacianis said. "He told us we didn't have to take guns in the house, but to take them would make it simpler."

Bagacianis allegedly talked with Leland 10 hours before the Sunday night robbery, telling him "we didn't do it last night — we'll probably do it tonight," according to testimony. Leland was not with the trio when they robbed the house, Bagacianis added, because he knew the victims.

ONE POUND of marijuana, a half gram of cocaine and some hashish were removed from the house. And more than \$1,000 in cash taken from a victim's pocket, Bagacianis testified. The victim, testifying, however, said there were no drugs in the house at the time of the robbery.

Suspected marijuana was confiscated from the suspects' car by Livonia

Police following the shoot-out, Nebus said. "They (the defendants) said they had used up the cocaine," Nebus added, noting no hashish was confiscated.

The victim who testified said he first met Leland 10 years ago and described him as a "casual acquaintance."

The victim said the last time he saw Leland was "two or three years ago" when Leland visited the victim's house on Nine Mile, where the victim lived with a brother. Bagacianis knew Leland "since about the eighth grade," Bagacianis testified.

THE TRIO of Barton, Bagacianis and Sherman began watching the Nine Mile house at 9:30 p.m. Sunday, May 5, and entered through the back door at about 11:30 p.m. brandishing a sawed-off shotgun, according to Bagacianis'

testimony and police accounts. It is alleged that they then tied up the victims, assaulted the woman, and took stereo equipment, musical instruments, money and drugs from the house in a three-hour spree.

Leland is being held in the Oakland County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 cash bond, reduced from \$100,000 two weeks ago by Hand at the request of defense attorneys, Nebus said.

"Leland can post 10 percent of the bond, or \$5,000, to gain release from jail pending his arraignment. He was originally charged with the three counts facing him Dec. 17 in 47th District Court, to which he pleaded not guilty."

Barton is being held on \$1-million cash bond and Bagacianis on \$600,000 cash bond.

Road widening plans continue

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bound and southbound. Shoulders in the area will also be paved.

Farmington Hills plans to widen the road to three lanes from 11 Mile to I-696 which the county will then overlay, Pajot said.

Future plans to complete the project are under consideration by the county and cities, with many agreements already reached. The long-term Orchard Lake Road proposal calls for four lanes from Grand River to Shilawessee and five lanes from Shilawessee to 10 Mile Road, according to officials.

Farmington and Farmington Hills officials are in agreement with county

construction plans for 1988 and 1989, Pajot said.

THE ORCHARD Lake/10 Mile intersection is scheduled to be widened to five lanes, including turn lanes, in 1988. A two-part project is planned for 1989 widening Orchard Lake Road to one half mile south of 10 Mile, and creating four lanes from Fink to Grand River.

In the second phase, two southbound lanes, one northbound and one left turn lane are planned, Pajot added.

In 1990, I-696 off ramps will be improved, and work done on Orchard Lake between 10 and 11 mile roads.

County plans call for reconstruction of the present two lanes, installing passing lanes where needed.

Pajot said Farmington Hills officials would prefer three full lanes along the mile stretch, which the county will consider.

FARMINGTON HILLS officials were not available to comment on the project.

The segmented project will take several years to complete, according to Pajot. Deadman hopes it will "flow smoothly."

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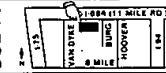
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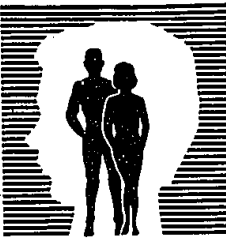
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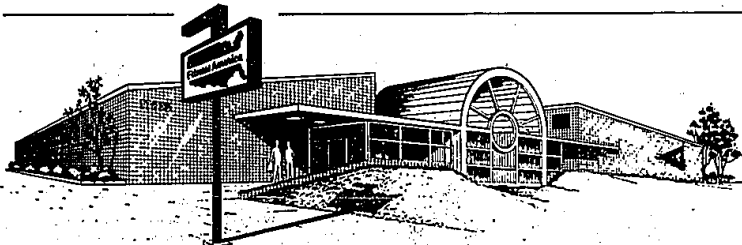
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