

Truck, bus drivers cited in accident

By Dave Varga
staff writer

Bloomfield Township police will ticket both drivers involved in an accident in which a pickup truck knocked over a school bus with 10 Rooper students on board Sept. 26.

The students and the truck driver were treated for minor injuries and released from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac. The bus driver was not injured.

Some of the students, ranging in age from 9½ to 12, were back in school Sept. 29, others stayed home to rest, according to Linda Chapin, head of Rooper. They live in Bloomfield Township, West Bloomfield and Farmington Hills.

None of the students was seriously injured, Chapin said. They had "scrapes, sprains, bruises, bumps and stiffness, but there were no broken bones or stitches," she said.

"They seemed to be taking it well," Chapin said. "Certainly it was a scary experience for the youngsters."

THE BUS driver had just dropped off some students and was crossing Long Lake Road from Waabek Lake Drive in Bloomfield Township a few minutes before 4 p.m. to drop off more students. As he crossed, a Sierra pickup heading east on Long Lake hit the rear quarter panel, knocking the full-size bus on its side onto a median.

Both drivers were partly to blame under the "contributory negligence theory," according to

township traffic officer Norman O'Brien.

The truck was going over the speed limit, however, the bus should have yielded, O'Brien said.

The bus driver, Edward Evans of Detroit, will be ticketed for failure to yield, O'Brien said. In addition to fines, Evans will get three points added to his driving record.

The pickup truck driver, Gary Walter Charles of Mount Clemens, will be ticketed for speeding, since police investigation showed he was traveling 55 to 61 miles per hour in a 45 mph zone. He will get two points and a fine.

O'Brien said the law says speed forfeits right of way, but the speed wasn't too excessive and the roadway is flat enough so the bus driver should have had time to see the truck.

AT ROOPER, Chapin said they would wait until the police report was complete before letting Evans drive there again. Evans works for United Hebrew Schools, which owns the bus, but Rooper can request a different driver.

Evans has driven Rooper students for about three years. Evans was visibly shaken by the accident Wednesday as he watched the children put into ambulances and taken to the hospital as a precaution.

Parents at the hospital and those who talked to weren't blaming him, Chapin said. "There were no allegations at all about the bus driver and a lot of expressions of, 'We haven't seen Mr. Evans. Is he OK?'"

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

● ASSAULT PROBE

A man thought to be in his 20s pushed his way into a Farmington Hills woman's apartment but left when she resisted his advances, police said.

Thinking it was her fiancé, the woman, in her 20s, answered a buzz at her door in the Orchard Lake Road-Eight Mile area at 5 a.m. Oct. 1.

As she picked up her cat, a man wearing a ski mask pushed his way into her apartment, pulled her to him and walked her backward. When she resisted, he left without burling her.

Police are trying to determine if an earlier suspicious call the woman

received that night was connected to the incident, said Sgt. Charles Nebus.

● THEFTS REPORTED

An imitation fur coat valued at \$400 was reported stolen from a house on East Farm Lane Court between Sept. 18 and Oct. 2.

Tools valued at \$350 were reported stolen from the maintenance office at Gateway Apartments Sept. 21-27.

Stereo equipment, a color TV, gold and savings bonds valued at \$2,500 were reported stolen from a house on Hamilton Sept. 27-28.

Women's rings valued at \$10,000 were reported stolen from a resident of Farmington Place, 32900 Grand River, Sept. 28.

A 1988 Chevrolet and its contents, valued at \$14,600, was reported stolen from Brookdale Condomini-

ums, 31831 Grand River, Sept. 28-29.

Cash was reported stolen during a break-in at Dean's Pizza, 20772 Farmington Road, Sept. 28-29.

A bicycle valued at \$150 was reported stolen from a yard on Kendallwood Sept. 29.

A 1988 Dodge Shelby valued at \$16,500 was reported stolen from Greenhill Apartments between Sept. 30 and Oct. 1.

Jewelry valued at \$4,700 was reported stolen from a house on Laurel between Sept. 30 and Oct. 2.

A flute, jewelry, camera equipment, money, binoculars and a telephone valued at \$1,735 were reported stolen from a house on South Farm between Sept. 30 and Oct. 2.

All four tires and rims were reported stolen from 18 new cars parked at Farmington Hills Chrysler Plymouth, 31015 Grand River, Oct.

1-2. The property was valued at \$8,000.

● TICKETS ISSUED

A 17-year-old West Bloomfield man and an 18-year-old Grosse Pointe man were ticketed for possessing narcotics paraphernalia when a bong pipe was found in their car outside Max & Erma's, 31205 Orchard Lake, Sept. 29.

A 21-year-old Detroit man was ticketed for violating the controlled substance act when a marijuana pipe and a stem from a marijuana plant were found in his car at Botsford Terrace Apartments Sept. 30.

Two 17-year-olds and one 18-year-old, all from Farmington Hills, were ticketed for possessing alcohol in a motor vehicle when wine coolers were found in their car during a traffic stop on Middlebelt and Eight Mile Oct. 1.

Foundation honored by Reagan

President Ronald Reagan has honored Farmington Hills-based Little Caesars Pizza for its Little Caesars Love Kitchen Foundation, which helped to feed the hungry in the United States and Canada.

The love kitchen was one of four Michigan programs that received ci-

tations as part of the Reagan administration's effort to encourage private organizations to lend a hand in volunteer and community outreach efforts.

Winners of the awards received a cut-crystal tetrahedron engraved with the presidential seal during cer-

emonies Sept. 28 at the White House.

In a ceremony at the White House rose garden, Reagan praised the organization for extraordinary efforts to improve their communities through volunteer programs and other philanthropic projects.

"You are America's good samari-

tans," the president said. "There are few things more inspiring than the pure generosity of a neighbor's helping hand, that distinctively American spirit which says: 'We can. We care.'"

"That generous spirit is what this citation program is all about."

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

Parents need books for kids

Fairview Early Childhood Center in Farmington Hills will hold a children's book drive now through Oct. 21. The drive is sponsored by the Fairview Parents Group, which is beginning a lending library at the school.

They are asking for donations of books appropriate for children from infancy through 8 years old. Used books in good condition are welcome.

Books may be dropped off at the Fairview Center, 28500 Oak Crest, Farmington Hills, or call 628-8335 to have books picked up at your home.

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A Man's Gotta Do What A Man's Gotta Do

All young men have one responsibility in common. They have to register with Selective Service within 30 days of their 18th birthday. It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

A public service message of this publication and Selective Service System

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