

Suburban Life

Loraine McClellan editor/477-5450



Thursday, December 22, 1988 O&E

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Holiday Greetings



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

The staff of the Farmington Observer gather around the piano in Farmington Historical Museum's living room to send wishes for your holidays to be decorated with joy. We are, at top left, Randy Budden, Farmington area circulation manager; and from left, Roy Meadows, outside classified salesman; Jan Halm, retail sales-

woman; Rose Butler, receptionist; Joanne Maliszewski, reporter; Casey Hans, reporter; Loraine McClellan, Suburban Life editor; Randy Borst, staff photographer; and Bob Sklar, Farmington Observer editor.

MADD

Posters bring home the theme:
'Drive Sober — Drive Smart'

By Loraine McClellan
staff writer

BEN YORK, a first grader at Highmeadow Elementary School, has won Farmington district's first-place prize in the first-to-third-grade category of the MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) poster contest.

Reed Hextall, a fourth grader at

Highmeadow, took the first-place spot in the competition among fourth and fifth graders.

And Jim Campbell, a seventh grader in Power Middle School, won the number-one spot in the competition among sixth to eighth graders.

Ben received a check for \$25 and Reed and Jim each received \$50 checks for their winning posters using the theme "Drive Sober — Drive

Smart" sponsored nationally by MADD in cooperation with National Car Rental and sponsored locally by Oakland County MADD in cooperation with Farmington Families in Action.

The three winning posters are on their way to be judged countywide with 27 other participating Oakland County school district winners.

"It's a big win for us," said Cindi Helisek, a Farmington Hills resident who coordinated the contest throughout the county. "This is MADD's third poster contest, but the first time our area entered, and we couldn't have done it without the manpower from Families in Action (chapters) in 27 school districts."

"We had more than 100 entries in the Farmington area alone. That's a lot of children thinking about driving sober for our first poster contest."

MADD'S MISSION is to mobilize victims and their allies to establish the public conviction that impaired driving is unacceptable and criminal in its efforts to promote corresponding public policies, programs and personal accountability.

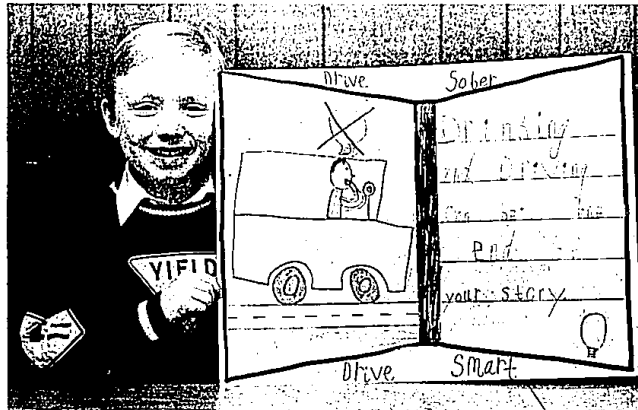
"These posters will be used as a part of our public awareness program," Helisek said. "Gannett (Advertising) has promised us 10 MADD billboards in Oakland County that we believe will be reproductions of the posters that come from the contest, but that doesn't mean that those posters will be done by Oakland County kids."

"The posters have already been posted in public buildings. They will be reproduced in our county and national newsletters. At least a dozen of them will be used on a calendar we are going to publish to be sold as a fund raiser."

Prize money escalates as the winning posters go on from district, to county, to state and national judging.

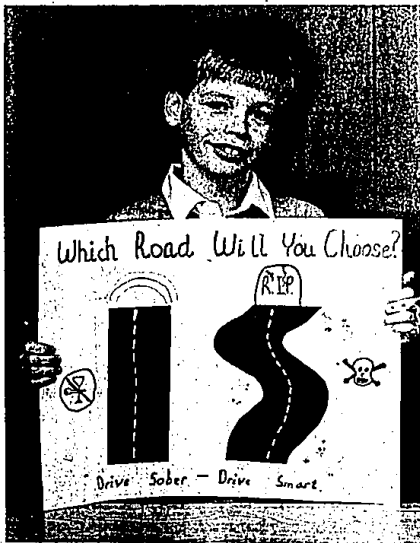
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Staff photos
by
Randy Borst

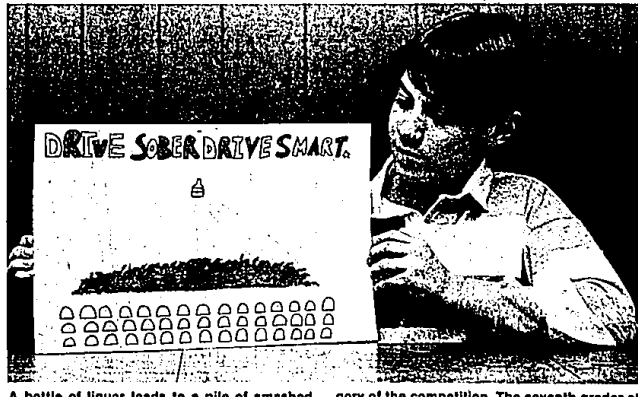


"Drinking and driving can be the end of your story," is the message from Ben York whose poster took the first prize in the district in the

first-to-third grade category. The first grader at Highmeadow Elementary School is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dave York of Farmington Hills.



Reed Hextall used a straight road and a crooked road to get across the "Drive Sober — Drive Smart" theme and won the first prize in the district in competition among fourth and fifth graders. He is a fourth grader in Highmeadow Elementary School and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Hextall of Farmington Hills.



A bottle of liquor leads to a pile of smashed cars and then rows of tombstones on Jim Campbell's poster, which won the first-place spot in the district in the middle school category of the competition.

The seventh grader at Power Middle School is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell of Farmington Hills.