

Records sought in school case

By Casey Hays
staff writer

Extending their investigation of a March 29 drug incident at Farmington High, Farmington police will try to subpoena medical records from Botsford General Hospital for evidence.

According to Gary Goss, deputy director for the Farmington Department of Public Safety, detectives will take their request to the Oakland County prosecutor this week. Police said they have still not questioned the 16-year-old victim, a Farmington High student, who has reportedly refused to talk to them on the advice of her attorney because of possible drug charges being brought against her.

Goss said his agency has no intention of pursuing such charges, but admitted it could happen. The final decision rests with the county prosecutor.

The victim reportedly took a synthetic drug, thought to be LSD or lysergic acid diethylamide, in the school parking lot shortly after school was dismissed on March 29. After returning to her Farmington Hills home later in the afternoon, she had a "severe reaction," according to investigators. With the help of paramedics, she was taken to Botsford General Hospital for treatment.

LONG BEFORE the Farmington High incident occurred, local drug education programs had begun to take shape. About two years ago, Farmington Public Schools adopted a new state-sponsored health curriculum in which the district took responsibility of all drug education.

Betty Nicolay, a Farmington Hills parent and drug education activist working with a committee in the district to implement the program in all schools, said things are going "awfully slow."

"I can appreciate their concern and taking care, but I'm concerned with the kids we're missing along the way," said Nicolay, a founder of the Farmington Families in Action group who coordinates activities at the state level.

Although the district always had piecemeal programs, this overall drug education effort appears to be taking shape this school year. A 11-

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Farmington Families in Action

member study committee recommended investigating the Michigan Model health education program in May of 1988.

The Michigan Model is a core health curriculum, addressing substance abuse problems, the AIDS virus and a host of other student and family health issues. One segment of the program, the Student Assistance Program, is designed to help students with chemical dependency problems, those from chemically dependent families and others who need peer counseling by working through teams at each school.

BUT THOSE close to the programs, including some school administrators, said things are going more slowly than they had hoped. Some are concerned that, although teams have been set up, they are not doing as well as they are supposed to do. Teachers and staff involved in setting up Student Assistance Program teams did not attend a seminar to that end until last year, according to school officials.

Luckily, such a team was already in place and able to take action quickly during the recent drug incident at Farmington High, parents and administrators said.

Other segments of the Michigan Model program include the THINE program, an acronym for Teaching, Helping, Involving, Noticing, Kids, which is done in all fifth grade classrooms by both Farmington and Farmington Hills police departments and a continuation of the BABES program, a drug and alcohol awareness program conducted in early elementary grades by volunteers from Farmington Families in Action.

As part of the Michigan Model program, Lynn Levin was appointed substance abuse coordinator for the Farmington district. The school social worker said the program is

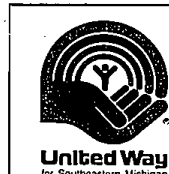
"going great" and she believes the district would have done similar work in substance abuse education, even without adoption of the Michigan Model.

EACH SCHOOL is developing, or has developed, an action plan, geared to that individual school. Some have peer counseling, some are bringing in self-esteem speakers. O.E. Dunekel Middle School is looking at setting up a Students Against Driving Drunk Chapter.

But, Levin said, such programs take time. "We're aiming — we haven't gotten there yet."

She said the support group programs are being formed at all the middle schools and high schools, but she envisions taking it one step further and into the elementary schools, which could come next year.

"We are getting close to where other districts are now," she added. "It's a slow process."



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Faxon to seek 6th state Senate term

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Farmington Hills Sunday.

Faxon sponsored the bill that led to the first revision of the Michigan School Code since 1933. He also sponsored the law establishing the Michigan Council for the Arts and has gained a national reputation for his support of arts programs, cultural institutions and historical preservation.

In addition to sponsoring the Michigan Clean Indoor Air Act, Faxon said, he has supported environmental protection measures since the early 1970s, when the first significant series of environmental bills were approved by the Legislature.

A former teacher, Faxon is the founder of The International School, a bilingual elementary and preschool day school in Southfield.

He began his work in Lansing as the youngest delegate to Michigan's Constitutional Convention in 1961.

He served three terms in the state House before winning election to the state Senate in 1970.

It's official: Sever declares candidacy

Continued from Page 1

His first action, if elected to the Senate, would be to introduce legislation directed at reducing the availability of alcohol to minors.

His basic goals if elected, he said, would include unifying all the re-

sources in the 15th State Senate District "to establish a long-range strategic plan for the nineties."

A "Sever for Senate Committee campaign kickoff" will take place 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 1, at the Farmington-Farmington Hills Community Center. Tickets are \$25 per person.

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