## Store owner fined \$5,000 for obscenity violations

stell system.

A \$5,000 fine levied against a Farmington Hilts party store owner charged with selling hard-core pornography to a minor during a Juno 1989 police crackdown will be split and given to commonity youth programs.

Dawood Toma Soroki, 42, owner of the Grand Square Liquer Shoppe, 38411 Grand River, pleaded no contest Oct. 15 to two felony counts of distributing obseene material to children and two misdemeanor counts of second-degree obscenity.

Soroki, who refused to discuss the case, faced up to two years in prison and a \$1,000 fine for each of the feloniest and one year In prison and a \$5,000 fine for each misdemeanor. But Oakland County Circuit Judge Fred Mester levied a \$5,000 fine for all offenses Monday.

day.

"This court has unfortunately seen too much of this dedigration of the human body," Mester said as he sentenced Soroki. "This type of thing is contributing to a lowering of standards."

Mester also agreed to split the \$5,000 fine between

Mester also agreed to split the \$5,000 fine between the Farmington Public Schools for a student assistance program, and the Farmington Farmilies in Action for substance abuse education books.

"This gives you an opportunity to contribute something back to your community, of which you are a part," Mester told Soroki.

Meiter told Sorokl.

THE FELONY charges stem from a Farmington Hills police undercover operation June 8, 1989, in which the 15-year-old son of a police officer from another city bought three pornographic magazines reportedly on display in the Grand Square Liquor Shoppe. The state obscenity law charges, the misdemeanors, stem from the police department's early 1989 investigation of the city's party stores and bookstores by an undercover police officer.

'I was disappointed that the judge didn't place him (Soroki) on probation. He received no juli time or probation, Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer sald. "When you plead no contest to two felonics and two misdemeanors and a person only pays \$5,000." Sorokl, who appeared calm and smilling at his sentencing, refused to talk with the Observer. He said he was angry the Observer published his photo in the Monday, Nov. 26 cellition with a story about his scheduled sentencing.

sentencing.

Soroki told Mester he had nothing to say before sentencing, but his attorney, Jack Bain of Farmington

Hills, spoke on his behalf.
"This is not somebody who blatantly decided to break
the law," Bain said. "Now my client will probably lose
his business as a result of this. He will have plenty of
crobbums."

BAIN DESCRIBED Soroki as a hard-working family man. Bain also talked about the undercover operation conducted by Farmington Hills police in which they sent in a minor to buy hard-core pornographic magazines. "The magazines in question had been in store for literally years," Bain said, adding police conduct monthly liquor inspections of the store. "At no time was It suggested to Mr. Soroki that those magazines should be removed."

gested to Mr. Soroki that those magazines should be removed."

But Dwyer responded later that "we can't arbitrarily
tell them not to have them (magazines). We can suggest
it. But we can't demand."

Farmington Hills police and city officials plan to
again ask the Michigan Liquor Control Commission to
revoke Soroki's liquor license. The city council recommended revocation last year following a public hearing
on Soroki's Volations, the result of police undercover
operations using an underage cadet.

The Grand Square Liquor Shoppe, according to city
records, has been charged with selling alcohol to minors
three times since 1986. Management pleaded guilty or
was convicted in all three cases.

Attorney Bain told Mester that Soroki has had three
LCC violations in seven years.

Dwyer lauded the police department's citizens crime
prevention advisory committee, which requested an inresulting in the sale of pornography in Farmington

Hills.

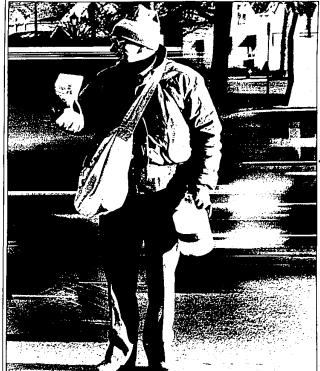
"I'M EXCITED that the city is having an intensety."

prevention acvisory communes, many contents of the vestigation into the sale of pornography in Farmington Hills.

"TM EXCITED that the city is having an intensely pro-active effort to (curb) drugs, pornography and things that make a city undestrable. This will help protect our city from becoming like other communities that in our estimation have gone down the tube," said committee chairman-elect Ralph Rebandt, pastor of Oakland Hills Community Church, Farmington Hills.

The investigation, initiated in March 1989, showed that of 36 establishments, is did not self under the obscenity law. The remaining establishments sold adult entertainment, such as Hustler and Playboy. Five of the establishments sold bard-core material, the type bought by the 15-year-old.

"We revisited all of the locations that we initially investigated and we found that all but one location—whose owner is facing pornography charges — has removed these type of hard-core magazines," Dwyer said.



## For he's a jolly Goodfellow

As traffic whizzes by, Farmington's Dick Armhen distributes his Goodfellows news-papers at Farmington Road and Grand River Friday. Armhen was one of dozens of Farmington Area Goodfellows working to see that needy children and serviors have a happy Christmas. Last year, 161 families (including 354 children) and 132 seniors were recipi-

ents of food, clothing, toys and gift certifi-cales. This year, the need is even greater, raid Richard Tupper, president and general chairman of the Farmington Area Goodfel-lows. For more information about donating, ca



SHARON LaMIEUX/staff photogr

Dawood Saroki, fined \$5,000 on pornography Jack Bain, speaks for him during Saroki's sen-and obscenity charges, stands as his attorney, tencing in Oakland County Circuit Court.

## City to kick off holidays with old-fashioned flair

Enjoy a ride on a turn-of-the cen-tury trolley car, take in a free mov-ie, stop and listen to Dickens-style carolers or just check out special

ie, 'stop and listen to Dickens-style carolers or just check out special bollday promotions. And (bo, ho, ho) don't forget Santa arrives at 1 p.m. in the Downtown Farmington Center parking lot this year by hellcepter.

It all happens Saturday, Dec. 1, during Farmington's fifth annual hollday event, this year called "An Old Fashloned Downtown Farmington's Hollday." Events begin at 10 a.m. and run through the 5:30 p.m. tree lighting in the downtown center. Some events and programs will also continue each Saturday through Dec. 22.

"It's really a two-fold thing," said Weody Strip Sittsamer, executive direction of the country, which is eventive direction of the country, which is eventive for the programs of the country, which is eventive direction of the country, which is eventive direction of the country of

'I think we've created a tradition.

-- Wendy Strip Sittsamer DDA director

ONE OF THE strengths of the event is the involvement of a number of community groups, and businesses donating time and money to community events, Strip Sittsamer said.

community events, Strip Sittsamer said.

For example, The Farmington Players perform throughout the day in Dickens-era costume, the Farmington Community Library downtown branch is hostling a "create-antown branch is hostling a "create-antown program from 10 am. to 430 p.m., and the Farmington Area Jayees are offering a charitable gift-wrapping service and is, again, sponsoring the annual holiday tree lighting. The Henry Ford Community College Brass Quartet is also scheduled to play at 2 p.m.
"The whole idea is that familles can make a whole day of it—and we hope they do," Strip Sittsamer added. "There are a lot of different lings happening."

we note and a second things happening."

Some other highlights this Saturation at

Some other highinguis did day include:

Santa arriving by hellcopter at

1 p.m. After his arrival, he will visit with children from 1-3 p.m. at the H&R Block building and from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Village Commons. On Dec. 8, 15 and 22 he will be at the Village Commons from 1-5 p.m

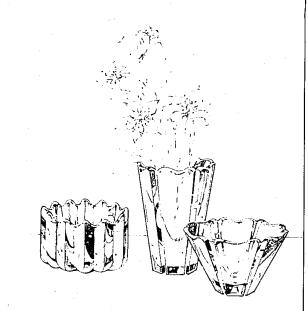
Farmington Area Jaycees after gift-wrapping services at the Village Commons from 1-5 pm. Dec. 1, 8, 15 and 22. Proceeds go, respectively; to the U-M Hospital Burn Center, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Mus-cular Dystrophy Association and St. Jude Children's Research.

Jude Children's Research.

• Iting a non-perishable (ood item or unwrapped new toy to a Satstation Army cantern in the fountain area — where the hollday tree is set up — and receive a map of doentown with various promotions and coupons and a sing a-long sheet for the 5:30 pm tree-lighting program. Donations go to the Farmington Area Goodfellows

◆ The Civic Theatre will show the G-rated movie "Prancer" free at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. The Mer-cyaires will perform at 4 p.m.

• Free, old-fashioned trolley car rides will occur in 20-minute cycles from 1-7 p.m. throughout nine stops in the downtown area. Each stop will be clearly marked.



## GIVE THE BEAUTY OF CRYSTAL

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OUR HOUDAY HOURS:

Shop until 9 p.m. Monday through Friday Until 6 p.m. on Saturday Noon to 5 p.m. on Sanday

