

Sixth-graders Julie Jones (left), Amanda Warner and Stephanie Zameck liston

closely to Bruce Coville at Warner Mid-dle School.

# It's cosmic feast as author entertains

THE ALIENS have landed.
And they've brought food and a favorite author. Bruce Coville, an internationally-known children's author, arrived Twesday at Farmington's Warner Middle School for a cosmic feast.
Young people know Coville as the author of the popular book "My Teacher Is an Allen," which has sold a million ceptes. Warner's gifted bright of the popular book "My Teacher Is an Allen," which has old a million ceptes. Warner's gifted bright of the Coving The December of the Popular Flower of the Coving The December of the Coving The December of the Coving The December of the Coving Teacher of the Coving Tea

the advanced language arts classes grades 6-8. "The best writing comes from in-side yourself," Coville told students

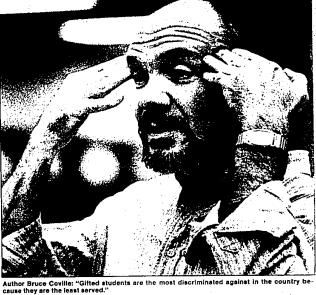
in Fern Onickel's and Bette Buckler's classes. "The most important thing in the story are the characters. How can you care about what happens if you don't care about who it happens to? Write about what you care about and what matters to you."

COVILLE'S characters span the spectrum of unicorus, glants, ghosts, monsters and, of course, a teacher who is an alien. Coville, a New York City resident who has written 27 books, plans to release two more student scintillations this year —"My Teacher Fried My Teacher Tried My Teacher Glows in the Dark."

While Coville admits that he fre-

quently writes about welrd situa-tions at school, he doesn't "use an awful lot" from his own home life,"

Before becoming a writer, Co-ville worked as a toymaker, a gra-vedigger, a cookware salesman and on an assembly line. He even-tually became an elementary teacher and worked with second and fourth graders. Coville, 41, has three children. While Coville admits that he fre-



'The best writing comes from inside yourself. The most important thing in the story are the characters. How can you care about what happens if you don't care about who it happens to? '

- Bruce Coville children's author

Orion, 21, Cara, 16 and Adam, 10.

Warmer's Delta students honored their guest with allen skits, appiermache allens and a buffet which included items students named: galaxy glop (green rice crispie aquares), extra-terrestrial eyes (hardbolled eggs), martian moid

(green jello), exotic ectoplasm (green jello with gummy worms), shouting stars (peanut butter jelly sandwiches with star-shaped bread), moon munchies (chocolate chip squares), milky way muck (cake) and crater crunchies (vegetable sticks).

DELTA COORDINATORS are Bob Prior — who handles East and Dunktel Middle schools — and Bart Rebbeck — assigned to Power and Warner Middle schools. Prior and Rebbeck write curriculum and team-teach in the advanced language arts classes. As part of the Delta program, Rebbeck selects an author and writes a unit for one of his or her novels Then the author is invited to spend one day in Farmington at all four middle schools.

Coville called the alien luncheon, the "delight of his day" and "a real hoot."

"Gifted students are the most discriminated against kids in the country because they are the least served." Caville said. "I like to work with those kids."

Dean Cobb from TV-10 helpedilm and edit the alien skits and they were the entertainment during the alien luncheon. Coville wagiven a copy of the alien skits as a sift.

"Bruce Coville told me he wa-delighted that his novel was heru-used as such a springboard for wonderful activities," Rebbes-said. "He's terrific advocate fra gitted kids, and his visit was c-tainly the highlight of my fe-years as a gifted coordinator."

### police/fire calls

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

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• THEFTS REPORTED

An AM/FM radio, equalizer, speakers and amplifier valued at \$2.100 were reported stolen from a 1979 Ford on Trenton Court, May 22.

A sarophone and two tensis rackets valued at \$1,700 were reported stolen from a 1979 Ford on Trenton Court, May 22.

A sarophone and two tensis rackets valued at \$1,700 were reported tolen from Earl \$400 was reported stolen from near the gatehouse of Muirwood Apartments at Grand River and Drake roads, May 22.

Jewelry valued at \$650 and \$50 cash were reported stolen from and \$50 cash were reported stolen from a unit at Indian Creek Drive, May 22.

A weight set valued at \$500 was reported stolen from \$1.000 was r

MENTICKETED
Farmington police issued trespassing tickets to two men for trespassing on school property early Thursday morning.
Officers observed the two men — a Farmington resident and a Livonia resident — run cast on the Flanders Elementary school roof and then imported the consumption of the property of the propert



## Dousing the blaze

Farmington Hills firefighter Bob Rebtoy douses a fire in the kitchen of a house on Rhonswood at approximately 1:37 a.m. Wednesday. No one was injured in the fire that caused an estimated \$40,000 damage. The homeowner said he saw a "ball of fisme" from under the sink and promptly evecuated his family. As they were leaving, the "amoke alarm activated, according to fire officials: A cause for the fire has not yet been determined.

# Racial epithet on garage stuns couple

through shock, disbellef and anger when they found the garage door of their Birmingham home spray painted with the message "No niggers in Bibingham."

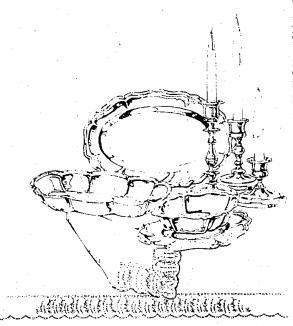
"Our first reaction was to laugh because the person misspelled Birmingham," and Perkins. a WIBK (Channel 2) reporter who has lived in the city for a year and a hair.

The reactions that followed were not as light or humorous.

A neighbor walking his dog

PERKINS AND Police Command-er Donald Studt both agree that it will be difficult to find the person who scrawled the message. "We don't know if it was someone mad at the man personally or if it was a nut," Studt said. "I've never seen anything like this happen in Bir-mingham for as long as I've been here."

Perkins said he has never been bothered by his neighbors or members of the community because he is black.



### CLASSIC BRIDAL GIFTS...

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