

Having some pull



On the ropes: Russ Gregory (right) of Farmington puts some effort in the tug of war at the Corporate Sports Battle held recently at the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills. Gregory was part of the Compuware Corp. and participated in the event in support of the Special Olympics.

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

MAN CHARGED

A 38-year-old West Bloomfield man faces charges in connection with a traffic stop in which he reportedly resisted arrest and attempted to thrash a police officer, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

An officer was on patrol near Inkster and 13 Mile when he saw a 1985 Volkswagen traveling southbound on Inkster at a high rate of speed. Using radar the officer clocked the driver going 65 mph in a 35 mph zone.

The officer tried to stop the car when the driver turned onto 13 Mile, almost causing an accident when he failed to wait for traffic to clear. While on eastbound 13 Mile, the driver made a quick turn onto Woodcrest Court. The officer meanwhile maneuvered his car to get behind the Volkswagen. The officer activated his siren and lights when the driver ran a red light on southbound Inkster. Despite the officer

changing his siren tone, the man refused to stop.

Finally, the driver made a sharp turn — hitting the curb in the process — into a house on Inkster. When the car came to a stop, the driver got out and began approaching the police patrol car. The officer told him to get back into his own car. The man refused and said he could refuse because he was no longer in Farmington Hills.

The man consistently refused to do as the officer asked, such as providing identification, insurance proof and registration. After several attempts the man provided some information. When the officer asked him to whom the car belonged, the man told the officer it wasn't his business.

The officer also saw a bag containing a bottle, which later he discovered was peppermint schnapps. When the officer asked about it the man refused to respond, saying he was no longer in Farmington Hills.

The officer then called for more police assistance. When the officer put his hand on the man's elbow gesturing for him to move toward the patrol car, the man thrust his

arm casting off the officer's hand. The man pushed the officer in the shoulder.

The officer then arrested the man, who again pushed the officer away. The officer grabbed the man and got him on the ground. While waiting for assistance, the man continued to use his arms and legs to try to thrash the officer.

"My family is going to kill you," the man reportedly told the officer while the officer restrained him on the ground.

SMOKE INVESTIGATION

Farmington Hills firefighters responded to an odor problem on Springvale Friday and found smoke due to paper and other combustibles on top of a hot water heater, according to a fire report.

Firefighters found envelopes on top of a temperature control motor mounted on the hot water unit. A small amount of one of the envelopes was burned. They also found that the plastic fan blades inside of the motor were completely melted.

Smoke detectors are essential in promoting safety

It's a myth, say fire officials, that smoke from a house fire will awaken sleeping people.

"Smoke will actually put sleeping people into a deeper sleep, not awaken them," said Meri-K Appy of the National Fire Protection Association. "That's why smoke detectors are so very important. They provide an early audible warning of a fire and can provide extra time to escape safely."

The week of Oct. 4 is Fire Prevention Week throughout the country, designed to bring attention to fire safety issues. This year's theme is "Test Your Detector, It's Sound Advice."

The Farmington Hills Fire Department will host its annual open house on Sunday noon to 5 p.m. at fire headquarters, on Drake between 12 Mile and 13 Mile. For additional information, call 553-0740.

Also in the Farmington area, "fire marshals" Dash Dakota is searching for the Battery Bandit at Farmington-area elementary schools this fall.

The new Farmington Hills Fire Department program featuring the Dash Dakota character is designed to teach children about fire safety through skits. Children will be "deputized" so they can check batteries

in smoke detectors at their own homes.

The program started Sept. 21 and runs through the end of this week.

Officers from the Farmington Department of Public Safety also will visit schools in coming weeks to stress the fire safety theme.

The greatest number of fatal house fires occur between midnight and 4 a.m. when most people are asleep. Having adequate smoke detector protection in the home is key to fire survival, officials said.

The group recommends a smoke detector be placed on each level of a house, including basements, and that there should be a smoke detector outside each sleeping area. Replace the batteries at least once each year or when the detector makes a noise signaling low battery power.

The Farmington Hills City Council declared Oct. 4-10 Fire Prevention Week in the city, noting that 80 percent of all U.S. fire deaths occur in the home and encouraging the use of smoke detectors. The proclamation also commemorates the great Chicago fire of 1871, which killed 250 people, left 100,000 homeless and destroyed more than 17,400 buildings.

Firefighters disconnected the motor cord and removed all combustibles from the unit.

THEFTS REPORTED

A 1992 Mercury valued at \$24,000 was reported stolen from the Radisson Suites Hotel, 37529 Grand River, Sept. 24-25.

An AM/FM cassette stereo valued at \$700 was reported stolen from a 1988 Ford at Farmington Square Condominiums on 12 Mile, Sept. 23-24.

A telephone valued at \$800 was reported stolen from a 1992 Cadillac at Max & Erma's, 31205 Orchard Lake Road, Sept. 22.

Twenty-three aluminum planks valued at \$1,725 were reported stolen from a business on Research Drive, Sept. 25-26.

Approximately \$2,000-\$2,500 in cash and coins were reported stolen from San Marino Golf Course, 26634 Halsted, Sept. 26-27.

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