

Arraignment from page 1A

eastbound car struck and killed David at 7:24 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25. Stephen was not injured.

David, hit by the right side of the car, was thrown onto the windshield, according to police reports. The driver then fled in the car, police said.

Farmington Hills and Southfield police, using tracking dogs from the Livonia Police Department, later found a black 1983 Ford Thunderbird that had been abandoned on Nine Mile, a quarter mile east of Inkster Road, near the Rouge River.

The dogs lost the scent of the driver near the river, but Hills police later arrested Smith when he emerged from nearby woods about 100 yards from the car.



Christopher Phillip Smith Jr.

Drinking may be a factor

Hills officers took the man to Botsford Hospital where blood samples were obtained to determine his blood alcohol level. A preliminary investigation indicated that drinking and driving were factors in the accident, police said. The car's registered owner is a girlfriend of the suspect.

David Klenke, a seventh-grader at East Middle School, was well-liked by fellow students and staff. "Yes, I knew him," said East Principal Gene Seaborn. "He was a well-liked kid with lots of friends."

Seaborn said that, although the two boys were riding in a safe manner, students are told to be extra careful. There are no sidewalks on 10 Mile Road where the boys were riding.

"We tell them to be aware, even when they're on the sidewalk," he said.

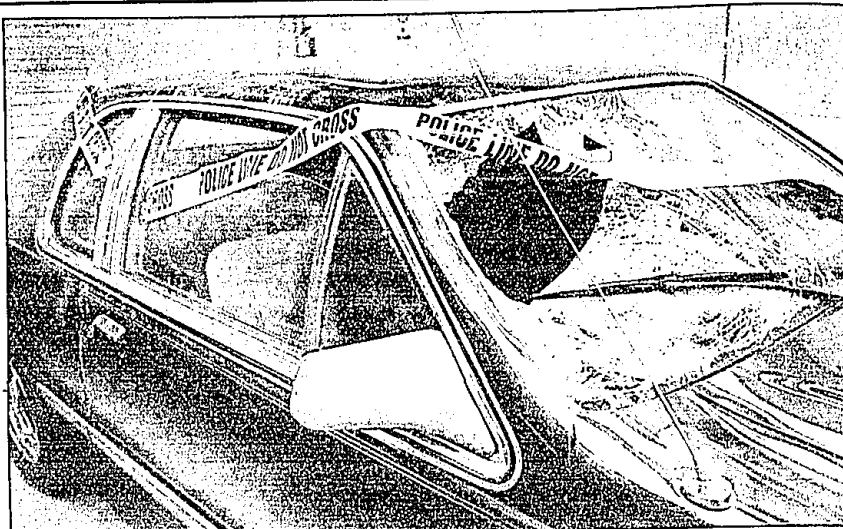
'Quite a kid'

David's mother, Midge Klenke, said her son brought a certain energy to their family.

"He was quite a kid," she said. "He was the zing in our family. He had the pep and he had the energy. He had all the great ideas and then he'd nag us into doing them. He loved baseball... the Tigers were his passion. And he loved riding his bike."

"He had just fixed his bike, it'd been down for awhile, and they were taking it for a test ride," Midge Klenke said. "They went up to East Middle School. They were supposed to be back by 7:30 p.m."

Although it was getting toward dusk at the time of the accident,



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Suspect's auto: A Thunderbird, believed to belong to a suspect in the hit-and-run death of a Farmington Hills boy, was impounded at the Farmington Hills police station Tuesday.

it was still daylight when the car hit the boy, Hills police Lt. Chuck Nebus said the two boys were riding on the shoulder, apparently a safe distance from traffic.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by the Sawyer-Fuller Funeral Home, Berkley.

David Klenke was born May 17, 1982, in Southfield. He is survived by his parents, Paul and Midge; two brothers, Stephen and Andrew; grandparents, George and June Klenke of Osseo, Mich., and C. Ward and Betty Russell of Farmington Hills.

Visitation will be 1-9 p.m. today, Thursday, Sept. 28, at Sawyer-Fuller, 2125 12 Mile Road, between Coolidge and Woodward, Berkley.

Services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 29, at the First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 24201 Coolidge, Oak Park 48237.

lidge, the Rev. Robert Winter officiating. Burial will be in Roseland Park Cemetery, Berkley.

Memorials can be made to the First Baptist Church of Oak Park, 2401 Coolidge, Oak Park 48237.

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