

# Driver pleads guilty in boy's death



Christopher Smith

A Detroit man will be sentenced March 29 in Oakland Circuit Court after pleading guilty to manslaughter in the hit-and-run death of a Farmington Hills boy.

Christopher Phillip Smith Jr., 22, pleaded guilty before Judge Rudy Nichols Friday. David Klenke, 13, was killed in the Sept. 25, 1995 accident on 10 Mile near Middlebelt. Klenke, 13, and his brother Stephen, 11, were riding bikes at about 7:30 p.m. when a black Ford Thunderbird driven by Smith hit the older boy, killing him.

Witnesses testified at Smith's

preliminary examination in 47th District Court that he had been drinking heavily and had stormed out of a party and drove off in the car minutes before the accident. Other witnesses testified that they saw Smith driving the car away from the scene.

Police found the car later abandoned on Nine Mile east of Inkster near some woods. They also saw Smith emerged from the woods. He was arrested and found to be legally drunk.

Smith, who remains in the Oakland County Jail, faces up to 15 years in prison.



David Klenke

## Accident from page 1A

Visitation for Armen Papagianian is Monday from 6-9 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:30 p.m. at St. John's Armenian Church, 22001 Northwest Highway, Southfield. The funeral service is 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church, with burial in the Woodmere Cemetery in Detroit.

Simon Javizian Funeral Home in Detroit is handling the arrangements.

Papagianian is survived by

his parents Victor V. and Arbi; brother, Haig; sister, Lisa; grandmother, Puput; and many other relatives and friends. Memorial contributions can be made to St. John's Armenia Relief Fund c/o Simon Javizian Funeral Directors, 467 Wendell Road, West Bloomfield, Mich. 48323 in order to rebuild the democratic, independent country of Armenia, which recently freed itself from Russian Soviet rule.

## Police from page 4A

### DRUGS

Farmington Hills police arrested a Hills man, 24, for alleged possession of a marijuana pipe with residue March 5 in a black 1987 BMW westbound on 1-696 west of Halsted in Farmington Hills. The car was traveling at 80 mph in a 55 mph zone when officers pulled it over, police report.

### AUTO THEFTS

A green 1985 Buick Limited worth \$2,500 was stolen from the side of 1-696 at Inkster in Farmington Hills between 6:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m. March 5.

Farmington police arrested a Detroit woman, 40, after she was found driving a 1992 green Saturn that was reported stolen in Detroit 2 p.m. March 5. Police questioned the woman after she was seen slumped down in the driver's seat while the vehicle was parked in front of Cowley's Old Village Inn on Grand River with the emergency lights on at 2:24 a.m. March 6. When questioned, the woman gave a false name.

### FIRES

Farmington Hills firefighters from Stations 3 and 4 put out a stove fire at a house on Haynes at 9:45 a.m. March 6. The fire started when a pan of grease ignited. Damage of \$1,000 was confined to the stove and nearby ceiling.

Farmington Hills firefighters from Station 1 put out a fire at a house under construction on Pennington at 5:51 a.m. March 6. The fire was in the first and second stories and the windows had already been broken out. A strong north wind aided the fire. One firefighter fell through the ground floor due to extensive fire damage but was not injured. Damage was estimated at \$70,000 and the cause of the fire is under investigation.

### CONCEALED WEAPON

Farmington Hills police arrested a Southfield woman, 27, for carrying a concealed steak knife while driving a gray Ford Mustang east on M-5 east of Halsted at 10:05 a.m. March 6. The car was going 37 mph in a 55 mph zone when officers pulled it over. The woman said she needed the knife for protection.

### EMBEZZLEMENT

A \$2,500 computer was taken from the Office Max on Grand River in Farmington Hills March 6. An employee and another man were seen loading the computer into a car behind the store.

### DRUNKEN DRIVING

Farmington Hills police arrested a Hills man, 42, for driving a brown 1990 Cadillac Deville while allegedly drunk at the Twelfth Estate Condos on 12 Mile in

Farmington Hills at 1:27 a.m. March 7. An officer had seen the car alighting sideways from the condo entrance on 12 Mile and then saw the car back into the complex and park in a handicapped parking spot. The driver was staggering to an entrance when the officer questioned him. He had a blood alcohol level of .13 percent, police said. A level of .1 percent is considered too drunk to drive in Michigan.

Farmington Hills police arrested a Livonia man, 45, for driving a red 1989 Mckur east on Grand River at Colgate in Farmington Hills at 1:47 a.m. March 8 while allegedly drunk. The car was reportedly weaving and accelerating up to 105 mph in a 55 mph zone. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .19 percent, police said.

Farmington police arrested a Garden City male, 18, for alleged drunken driving on eastbound Grand River and Mayfield at 2:41 a.m. March 8. Police stopped the 1991 Dodge Spirit after it ran a stop light on Grand River and Farmington Road. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .17 percent, police said. A passenger, a Garden City man, 19, was also taken into custody after it was found he had outstanding warrants — including one for breaking and entering.

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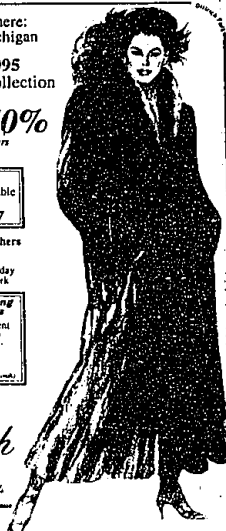
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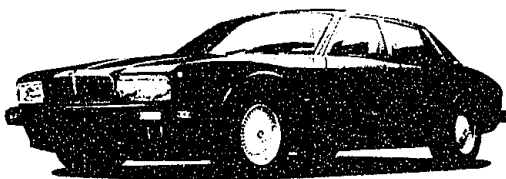
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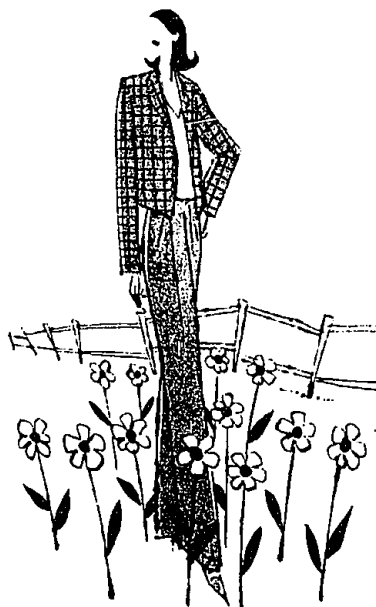
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