Stabbing from page A1

"When you think about the situation," said Goss on Monday, "we have a 16-year-old in the hospital for nothing. If, at any time, the parties (would have) walked away and let it go, nothing would have happened." The person who allegedly stabbed him with a butterfly a previous incident involving a knife, according to police was subsequently arrested on the M-5 bridge over Farmington Road,

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rom page A1

with the help of Farmington
Hills police.
William Marshall Ford was
arraigned later Saturday in 47th
District Court, on one count of
assault with intent to murch.
According to police reports, to
victim and four other tecnagers
were in a car near Farmington.
Nine Mile when one of them
yelled obscenities at Ford, one of
two men walking alongside the
road. The name-caller, a teenage
girl, yelled at Ford, because she
thought he was the same guy

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who earlier beat up another male friend – someone else who was riding in the car, not the eventual stabbing victim. The occupants of the car included students from Farmington High School and the Farmington Alternative Academy.

Mistaken identity

Mistaken identity

But when Ford walked up to the car, the girl realized she was targeting the wrong person. However, the continued to be irate," police reports continued, despite antempted apology from the girl, and then scraped the side of the car with his knife before he and the other man crossed Nine Mile.



to the Clark station.
At that point, the car followed the two men, instead of leaving the area. A second vehicle, a pickup truck with two males who knew the students in the car, also pulled into the station's parking lot.
The victim was among several youths who got out of their vehi-

The victim was among several youths who got out of their vehicles to confront Ford. Ensuing was an angry verbal confrontation, laced with profanities, and a potential fight, police reports continued. But then, the knife was pulled and the teen was stabbed.

The bleeding teen was rushed to Botsford while the assailant left the weapon behind and ran up the M-5 embankment. The man who was with Ford ran away from the area.

away from the area.

"Any of them could have walked away at any time," Goss said. "And that probably would have been the amartest thing to do." Shock waves from the stabbing incident were filling the air at Farmington High School on Monday, Soverol students who also were at the gas station when the stabbing occurred met Monday with the high school's student assistance team "to deal with their concerns and emotions," explained FHS principal John Barrett.
"We're dealing with this as a crisis," Barrett said, adding that counselors want to "allay some of the exaggerations that took place."
No bond

No bond

Ford faces a hearing in 47th

District Court at 8:30 c.m. Friday, Nov. 20. Because of his history, a request for bond was denied at the arraignment, and howas sent to the County Jail.

Michael Wiggins, deputy district for the Farmington Public Safety Department, said Ford did time and is on parole' for a previous incident, also apparently involving a knife, at Twolve Oaks Mall in Novi.

If convicted of the latest charge, Ford could face any number of years up to life in prison.

Goss said he could not answer whether Ford violated the terms of his parole.

"But, had we encountered William Ford for any other reason and found a knife, we would have reported it to his parole agent."

Sever from page A1

"Frankly, I thought I could best serve the public by spending the next six to eight weeks to become familiar how the county works," Sever said. "I can do my homework and be prepared, so I can go in there and pound the table and be the best county commissioner our city has ever had."

commissioner our city into sever said the decision is not casy. He loves the city where he was first elected in 1985 at age 35 after three unsuccessful bids. One of those resulted in highly publicized voter recount in 1984, which put Ben Marks on the council by one vote over Sever in 1984. An Oakland County Circuit judge upheld the recount decision. Sever was elected the following year. Ironically, Sever beat Marks earlier this year in the GOP pri-

mary for county commission.

Though he joined the council in the previous decade, Sever termed the 1990s as the most pivotal in Farmington Hills.

As a councilman, he championed building the Farmington Hills of the Arena, buying the Mercy Center and having a directly elected mayor. The city also acquired more parkland and expanded public safety services due to a voter supported millage—during that time.

When compared to other cities, the accomplishments are tremendous, Sever said. He credited city staff for its work and support.

"I know a lot of people by their first name. A lot of them sent me little notes during the tougher times," Sever said.

He also termed the current

council the beat the city's ever had.

"They don't do things behind the scenes," Sever said. "The clumsiness you sometimes see is because nobody else knows what the other person is going to say green.

That wasn't always the case in local government."

He also thanked the residents, who have supported public safety, parks and library millages. Sever pledged to make Farmington area concerns first and foremost at the county level.

The city will-hold a yet-to-be announced public recognition cremony for Sever, Mayor Aldo Vagnozzi said.

"We haye a full agenda for the next county commission," Vagnozzi added.

Said Sever: "I'm ready."

Court from page A1

case filings through October compared to 1,870 the previous year.

"These are the types of cases that only a district judge can handle," said Walsh, noting those types of civil case are more complex than small claims. "That's all judge work."

As of January 1999, the threshold for felony cases in district courts will increase \$100 to \$1,000 on property crimes. The threshold for financial transaction crimes will increase \$50 to

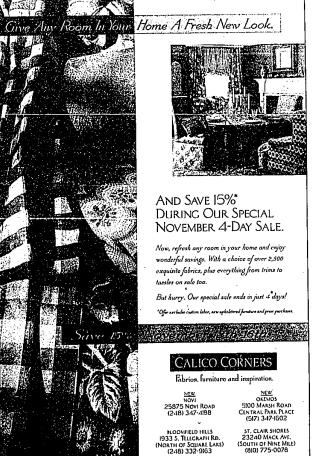
S500. That means property crimes involving under \$1,000 will be misdemeanors and handled solely at the district level instead of being tried in Oakland County Circuit Court. Of property crimes cases, anywhere from 60 to 80 percent probably fall within the \$100.81,000 range, Walsh said.

We think this is going to have a substantial increase in our workload come Jan. 1st," Walsh said.

a substantial increase in our workload come Jan. 1st," Walsh asid.

State Rep. Andrew RaczkowsState Rep. Andrew Raczkows-

ki., R-Farmington Hills, and state Sen. Bill Bullard. R-Mil-ford, introduced separate bills authorizing a third judge for a term to start in 2011. Both bills are expected to be reintroduced in January. The Oakland County Bar Association and the state Bar Judicial Conference are also backing the legislation, Walsh said.



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