

# Armed robber hits cafeteria office at Botsford Hospital

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER  
ppace@oe.homecomm.net

Farmington Hills Police are investigating an armed robbery that occurred at a Botsford Hospital cafeteria office Saturday evening.

According to a Hills police report, a 49-year-old Detroit woman who worked in the basement cafeteria walked into the office room that contained a safe to get keys to lock up around 7:25 p.m. Saturday.

The woman told police an unknown male walked up behind her, put a silver gun to her head and said, "Don't look at me, give me the money. I don't want the checks."

He then put duct tape

around the woman's eyes and mouth, tied her legs and hands to a chair and left with \$3,000 in cash.

The woman, a cafeteria supervisor, told police that the man said, "I will be back in 10 minutes," then shut off the light and closed the door.

The woman managed to drag herself to a phone in the room, dialed a three-digit number for security, but was only able to bang the phone on the table since her mouth was taped.

Soon co-workers arrived to free the woman. Police said she could only describe the man as a light-skinned black male.

Police believe the man escaped through an electrical and mechanical hall in the

basement. Evidence found in the building was a nylon stocking, a black-knit cap and broken sunglasses.

"We're looking at the possibility an ex-employee may be involved," said Chuck Nebus, assistant police chief.

"This was not an outside robbery," he said. "This was someone who had knowledge of the interior workings of the hospital and knew about the money in the office."

Botsford spokeswoman Nancy Dumas said the hospital's cafeteria, food services and housekeeping is contracted out to Sodexo Marriott Services.

A Sodexo spokeswoman could not be reached.

# Teens arraigned in hold-up

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER  
ppace@oe.homecomm.net

An alert citizen helped Farmington Hills police capture two young men accused of robbing a Hills gas station Monday night.

Police say around 9:15 p.m., a Farmington man observed a man wearing a ski mask run out of the Speedway gas station on 10 Mile and Middlebelt and enter a Chevrolet Malibu. The witness followed the car until he could obtain a license plate number and called police.

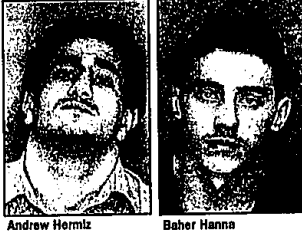
Hills patrol officers observed the Malibu at 12 Mile and Inkster, where it was stopped with assistance from Southfield officers. Police arrested the single suspect.

Officers found latex gloves and cloth from a ski mask in the car.

As a result of that arrest, the South Oakland Narcotics Intelligence Consortium surveyed a home on Westcott Crescent Circle in Farmington Hills to capture two other suspects believed involved in the robbery.

A Ford Explorer driven from the home was pulled over and the two passengers were arrested within one hour of the hold

■ The motive for the robbery may have been gambling debts, police said.



Andrew Hermiz Baher Hanna

up, police said.

Officers executed a search warrant of the home and found a box of rubber gloves, cash, marijuana, and a latex glove on the curb outside.

Andrew N. Hermiz, 18, of Farmington Hills and Baher B. Hanna, 17, of Southfield were each arraigned on a single count of armed robbery before 47th District Court Judge Frederick Harris Tuesday.

A not-guilty plea was entered on their behalf.

Each charge carries a maximum sentence of life in prison. Both were ordered jailed in Oakland County until each can post a \$50,000 cash or surety bond.

Their preliminary exam is set at 8:30 a.m. Feb. 11 before Harris.

The third suspect in the case, a 17-year-old Oak Park boy, may still face charges, said assistant police chief Chuck Nebus.

Police said through interviews of the suspects, the motive for the robbery was to repay a football gambling debt.

The Farmington witness who helped police capture the one suspect will be nominated to the department's Citation and Awards Committee to receive a civilian citation.

E-mail story ideas and letters to the Farmington Observer:  
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## POLICE CALLS

The following reports were filed recently with the Farmington Hills Police Department:

**RINO MISSING**  
A woman in the 37000 block of Avon Lane said her \$2,500 gold ring was discovered missing from a room on Friday morning. She said her maid, who was in the home at the time, hadn't seen the ring.

**LAPTOP STOLEN**  
An employee of Computer Decisions International on Haggerty said someone stole a \$2,500 laptop from an office Thursday night. There were no signs of forced entry.

**STOLEN MOWER**  
In the 21000 block of Rockwell Street, during Friday night, someone stole a \$1,600 lawn mower and a \$500 trailer from a driveway.

**STOLEN FOOD**  
On Friday afternoon, a 68-year-old Milford man loaded a cart with a bag of cashews, a gallon of milk and five cases of beer and left the Farmer Jack store at 12 Mile and Farmington Road without paying. He told police he lost his job and had no money.

**CREDIT CARD FRAUD**  
A Farmington Hills woman told police someone used her Bank One credit card from Monday to Thursday to purchase \$2,000 worth of goods at the local Kohl's store and \$2,500 at another location.

**GRILL STOLEN**  
A \$900 gas grill was stolen from a back deck of a home in the 37000 block of Chesapeake during the evening hours on Friday.

**PARTY BUSTERS**  
Around 5 a.m. Saturday, police were called to a fight at the Holiday Inn on 10 Mile and Grand River. Hotel security evicted people from two rooms, including some who were underage. One of the guests, a 19-year-old Fowlerville man, was demanding his money returned. Police arrested him for minor in possession when he registered a 0.9 blood/alcohol level. Police also arrested him for having marijuana in his possession.

**POSSESSION WITH INTENT**  
A 42-year-old Idlewild, Mich., man was arrested with possession of cocaine with intent to deliver around 10:15 p.m. Saturday. He was pulled over in his vehicle for having a cracked windshield and unreadable license plate. Police found two baggies of cocaine, 14 new baggies and marijuana.

**DRUNKEN DRIVING**  
A cell-phone user alerted police to a car being driven erratically around 8:30 p.m. Sunday. Police pulled over the driver, a 59-year-old Novi woman, along Nine Mile and Grand River. She registered a 0.15 blood/alcohol level.

Compiled by Paul R. Pace

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