

today's  
hot line

Volume 83, Number 68

what's inside

### Top Prep Trackmen

It's in today's sport section...the '72 All Area track squad as selected by area coaches and Sports Editor Tom Donoghue. For the squads and pictures, see today's sport section.

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### The OCC Race

There's a hot race going on for two trustee posts at Oakland Community College. Here's a rundown on the active candidates that ought to help you make up your mind.

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### C'ville Speakout

Clarenceville school board candidates got their first chance to meet on the same stump Monday, and we were there to get their views. (Watch the weekend edition for our endorsements.)

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### Monday's Election

Monday is election day and Farmington residents must choose from a field of 12 candidates the two they want to serve four-year terms on the Farmington Board of Education. The League of Women Voters has provided a guide on the candidates and on the same page is a school precinct map for your convenience. Also inside is an announcement of views from one of the 12 hopefuls and a letter to the editor about the election.

Pages 3A, 5A, 6A

### Another Triumph

Art students of Sister Mary Ignatius of Our Lady of Mercy High School in Farmington have again swept the field in a national art contest. She has been teaching at Mercy for 50 years now and is proud of all six of this year's national winners.

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A small investment  
gets the job done



When a small boy's sweet tooth starts to demand satisfaction, you might think it would take much more than an investment in a penny gum machine to solve his problem. It's hard to believe that a penny can still buy so much pleasure. But the truth is, there are still a number of things which cost little and deliver much. Observer Want Ads are a good example. They cost little but will sell, buy, hire, rent or find. Call 522-0800 for friendly assistance in placing your ad.

WANT ADS GET THE JOB DONE!

# 7 Injured When Plane Crashes Into Supermarket

(Observer Staff Roundup)

Seven persons were injured, but miraculously none was killed, when a twin engine plane crashed into the roof of the Farmer Jack supermarket Tuesday night in downtown Farmington.

A possible disaster was averted when police worked quickly to prevent the possibility of a fire from starting which could have set off a series of explosions and damaged surrounding buildings and persons.

Fortunately, few were in the supermarket when the plane crashed into the bread department near the front of the store located on Farmington Road just south of Grand River.

Injured were: a customer, two teenaged employees, and four passengers in the plane.

Those injured were: Mike Markovich, 30, of 29285 Point of Woods, Southfield; Bernard

Sloane, 24, of 10127 Eckles, Plymouth; Donald J. Vassel, of 3255 St. Martins, Livonia; David Dalpina, of 36632 Richland, Livonia; Carl Roberts, 29, of 22508 Longacre, Farmington; Frank Staron, 16, of 28492 Shady Lane, Farmington; and Mark Yegerlawer, 17, of 34012 Moore Drive, Farmington.

Riding in the plane were: Markovich, Sloane, Vassel and Dalpina. Roberts was shopping in the store and Staron and Yegerlawer are Farmer Jack employees, believed to be stock boys.

Four persons taken to emergency at Botsford General Hospital in Farmington included two passengers, one employee and Roberts.

THE OTHER three injured were taken to emergency at St. Mary Hospital in Livonia.

Lieut. Daniel Byrnes, acting public safety director, City of Farmington, described the injuries two hours after the incident as being limited and apparently not critical.

It was anticipated all the victims would live. "The danger of fire and explosion was a real one," adds Byrnes, "because aviation fuel had spilled all over the store floor."

Ambulances evacuated the injured and firefighters from the city, and Farmington Township, moved quickly to keep the fuel from igniting.

The biggest immediate problem, after removal of victims, was handling the large crowd that assembled and in controlling traffic.

The area surrounding the store was roped off.

THE CRASH occurred at 7:22 p.m. and was witnessed by Sgt. Richard Miller, director of the city's traffic safety division. Miller said he saw the plane coming down and heard its engines sputtering on and off.

"The plane went into a tailspin and crashed nose first," Miller stated, adding that "it was flying from the southwest."

Another witness reports having seen the twin-engine Beech-Craft Baron flying at a low altitude over Novi, leading to speculation that the aircraft had departed from Mettetal airport at Lilly and Joy Roads in Plymouth.

Don McGregor, a resident in Bel-Aire subdivision in the city, about a mile from the supermarket, reports seeing the plane flying low and dropping.

A strange sidelight to the incident was that employees in the Farmington Public Library, which is immediately south of the supermarket, failed to hear any noise from the crash and were unaware of what happened next door until another library employee phoned in the news.

The impact of the crash broke all the glass windows in the building. There was glass and debris seen near the store but nothing had been thrown onto Farmington Road.

Farmington police called Motor Crane at Eight Mile and Lahser in Southfield to furnish a crane to remove the wrecked plane from the store.

AT PRESS TIME, Byrnes said he was sure there was no one lodged underneath the plane.

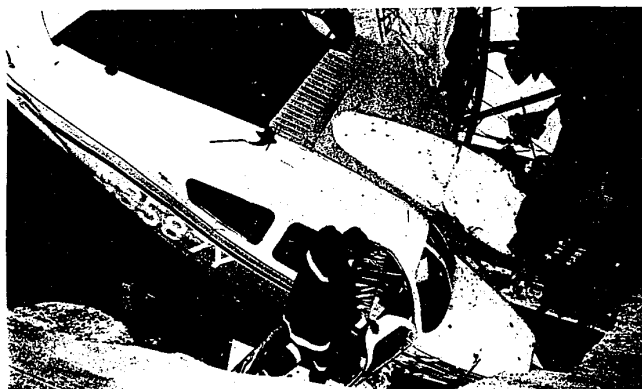
The city had sent all its police cars to the scene and Farmington Township dispatched five squad cars. Also present were State Police and about four fire trucks from city and township departments.

An hour after the crash, police were still digging through debris to make certain there were no persons remaining inside and were still trying to keep in hand the leaking gasoline.

By 9:30 p.m. the threat of fire or explosions had ended, and police were assured all injured persons had been found.

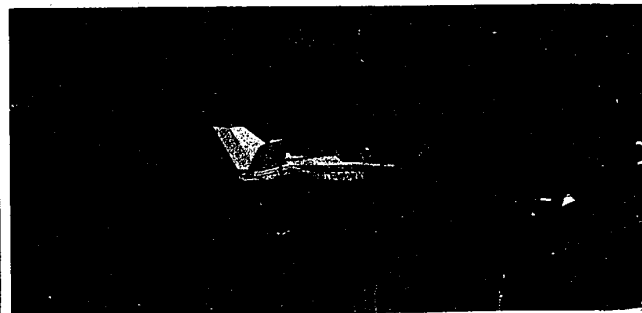
Description of the injuries and cause of the crash were unknown at press time. It is known the plane had gasoline and so it suspected an engine failure caused the crash.

One report was heard that the plane had been last inspected in March.



PHOTOGRAPHER NICK MERRICK climbed atop the roof to take this picture of firemen checking the wrecked plane for gasoline

leaks. This shows how the twin-engine plane dove into the supermarket but was still some four feet above the store floor.



PHOTOGRAPHER RALPH EVERT was on the spot in the right place when a huge crane

from a Southfield firm arrived to pull the plane out of the supermarket.

## Deadman Okayed As City Manager

Robert Deadman has been appointed permanent city manager for the City of Farmington, and the transition from professional cop to professional municipal administrator has been completed.

Deadman's permanent appointment was made at Monday night's council meeting which also involved the reappointment of a number of persons to city commissions and committees.

DEADMAN'S appointment ended a 90-day "probationary" period as acting manager.

Deadman had accepted the "acting" status to make sure he wanted the position permanently and to give the council the opportunity to decide whether he could make it as city manager.

After John Dinan resigned as city manager, effective Feb. 1, the city received more than 75 applications for the job and interviewed several candidates.

After the lengthy screening process and three months of watching Deadman perform on the job, however, councilmen decided the former public

safety director was the best candidate to become permanent city manager.

Dinan resigned to pursue a private business career, selling mobile homes in the Taylor - Romulus area in western Wayne County. He has since accepted a position on the Farmington Public Library's board of directors and maintains residence in the city.

DEADMAN, 36, started police work in the City of Farmington 14 years ago and has been public safety director since 1966.

Before being named director, he was in charge of the traffic safety division and served as shift commander, public safety officer, and juvenile officer.

He was born in Boyne City and moved to Detroit at age five, eventually to graduate from Cooley High School. Deadman graduated from the police administration program at Oakland Community College, has taken accounting courses, and management oriented courses.

Deadman has or does belong to the following community groups: Farmington Youth

Assistance: Farmington YMCA board; Farmington Area Advisory Council (FAAC) board; Rotary Club of Farmington; and member of Family Life Education committee on substance abuse for Farmington Public Schools.

He is married, has three children, and lives on Maple St. in the city. His wife, Virginia, is about to graduate from Eastern Michigan University with a business education major.

REAPPOINTED to the city's planning commission for three year terms were Don Stoddard, Dennis Pheneay, and Councilman John Allen.

Stoddard and Bayard Tupper were reappointed to three-year terms to the zoning board of appeals.

Reappointed to two-year terms on the beautification committee were Mrs. Carol Kurth, Mrs. Joan Barbrick, Mrs. Dorothy Cassell, Mrs. Shirley Richardson and Walter Sundquist.

The votes to appoint Deadman permanent city manager, and all reappointments, were all unanimous.