

## Patterson attacks alleged leniency

**OAKLAND COUNTY**—The reactions by the county prosecutor's office to two separate events this week had a sense of *deja vu* about them.

A man, who had been parolled early, was charged with the felony murder of the owner of a Northville party store—unleashing renewed attacks on the leniency of the state parole board by County Prosecutor I. Brooks Patterson.

In an unrelated event, Southfield District Court Judge S. James Clarkson dismissed charges against two suspected drug dealers—setting off a new

Neither the fight against the parole board nor the fight with Judge Clarkson represented new battles for Patterson's office. At issue in both cases, in the prosecutor's eyes, is unwarranted leniency.

**PATTERSON** HAS long advocated that tougher parole standards should be established in the state.

Patterson called for the state legislature to require a minimum 25-year prison term for any parolee who commits a crime of violence (other than murder) while on parole for an earlier crime of violence.

He also asked that prisoners serving time for violent crimes not be permitted good time benefits, which allow early release for good behavior. Also, a minimum mandatory sentence for crimes of violence should be established, the prosecutor said.

**COLIN HAD** convictions for two armed robberies on his record and was once wanted by the Dearborn police for assault with intent to commit murder on a Dearborn police officer.

Patterson filed suit last fall against the parole board, challenging that the state statute governing paroles is unconstitutional because it fails to provide adequate guidelines to the parole board. That suit will be heard before Circuit Court Judge William P. Hampton near the end of February.

PATTERSON SAID he feels the public, and to a growing extent state lawmakers, are becoming increasingly aware of the dangers of parole practices.

"I never get tired of saying the same things," Patterson said. "And I won't get tired until we bring about the necessary changes."

Patterson added that he's also deter-

The Continuum Center for Adult Counseling and Leadership training offers a variety of workshops for men.

The programs provide learning experiences in self-development and growth for individuals and couples interested in careers, communication, improved human relationships and the creative use of leisure.

February sessions also include an Introduction to Transactional Analysis Feb. 1, Persons Alone Feb. 13, March 20, Creative Use of Leisure Feb. 15, all at Oakland University and a program in Beginning Personal Growth for Men and Women Monday evening Feb. 10 through Mar. 24 in West Bloomfield.

Beginning Personal Growth for Women will be offered again at Oakland University, March 4 through 23. This program is an outgrowth of the original women's program founded by Kellogg Foundations grants in 1966 and adapted to changing times. Center programs are also partially funded by the National Institute for Mental Health. Minimal fees are charged for workshops.

Center programs which will run through June and July for the first time this year, also include career programs such as Careers in Transition for Men and Women and Alternative Career Options for Teachers, Communications programs such as Marriage

"We've set Judge Clarkson straight in the past, and I have no hesitation in doing it again," Patterson said.

**LAST OCTOBER** Patterson went to court to successfully overturn Clarkson's dismissal of five other suspected drug dealers.

Clarkson has argued that entrapment exists when government agents

Although Clarkson's definition was disputed last year by the circuit court rulings, the judge applied the same definition recently when charges were

Judge Clarkson ruled that the al-

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