

# Fate of 101 teachers undecided

By SUSAN AVERILL

FARMINGTON—The millage was passed, and while the dust is settling, the fate of 101 pinkslipped teachers is undecided.

"As of yet, they haven't been called back, and that's a little disturbing to us," said Richard Ringstrom, executive director of the Farmington Education Association (FEA).

The only criticism he has against school officials is that they are too slow in recalling the teachers. He attributes the slowness to the amount of paperwork generated by pinkslipping too many teachers.

"The way they're going about recalling the teachers is the common-sense way to do it. It's just that they're a little slow. But they created the problem themselves simply by laying off too many people."

During a board meeting held the night of the millage election, FEA

president Jerry Kaplan told the board they had pinkslipped many teachers unnecessarily and succeeded only in creating morale problems throughout the teaching staff.

Despite morale problems, both Kaplan and Ringstrom said they understood the board's position on the pinkslipping.

"I can see the reason why they did it. And let's be realistic and give credit where credit is due. It (recalling teachers) is a difficult process to face," Ringstrom said.

EACH BUILDING'S principal must draw up assignments for the 1975-76 school year for all the non-pinkslipped staff.

He must determine the number of positions he will have and where they will be.

Should an excess occur in a particular school, and one or two of the teachers be unnecessary, the principal must inform the district's personnel director, LeRoy Bartman.

"I don't need to know how many teachers they need, but who is in excess," he said. "I have to know who that person is so that I can recall him before I recall any pinkslipped teachers."

If pinkslipped teachers were recalled before those with more seniority were properly positioned, more bumping and disorder would occur before the district could settle down, Bartman said.

BECAUSE the four-mill proposal passed, the number of teaching positions which will be lost next year fell from 41 to eight.

"We have 47 staff members, and the four-mill budget called for 53. That's a net loss of eight staff members," Bartman said.

He said the loss probably would be absorbed by attrition.

Ringstrom was not as optimistic. "It's a seller's market, and I'm concerned that we're going to lose quality educators over the long run," he said. Attrition probably would be less than five per cent. With a smaller staff, that would mean fewer people would leave, he said.

In the meantime, teachers have had varying reactions to their state of suspended animation.

He had been teaching in Royal Oak for six years when he received his first pinkslip.

"My wife and I would kid each other about it, but then it turned out to be permanent. I'd like to go through a summer where I know where I'll be in the fall."

Numbered 41 on the recall list, Chodor said he was practically reassured he would be rehired. "It's still a bad feeling," he said.

JAMES MCKEE, third year social studies teacher at Harrison High School, has been pinkslipped twice in the last three years.

"This time, I got the impression I would go back even if the millage wasn't passed. But I would go to a junior high, not back to Harrison," he said.

He was concerned that his five classes would be broken and reapportioned to other classes, which would make them "outrageously larger."

After giving him his pinkslip, his principal explained the board's position. "He was really fair about the whole thing."

Mary Duffin, a first-year mathematics teacher at Warner Junior High, said she was as worried as the 17 other teachers at Warner who were pinkslipped.

"They were very worried. Job security is hard to come by. It's a little discouraging when you think you won't get another crack (at teaching)," she said.

She hasn't made plans to leave the district until the board notifies her of her status. Until then, she said, she would just sit and wait.

## Hills dumps saturation patrol unit

FARMINGTON HILLS—A police program using officers from Farmington Hills, Farmington and Livonia has ended for the Hills.

The city council voted unanimously Monday night to drop out of the year-old Saturation Patrol, which was 95 per cent funded by the federal government. A federal budget cut, however, required the three cities to pay for the third year of the project.

Beginning next year, Farmington Hills would have had to pay \$14,352 for 14 months of the program. Farmington's share would be \$3,599 and Livonia's \$31,178.

The Farmington City Council already has voted to pay for continuation of the program, which has been praised by its police officials. Livonia police officials also have supported continuing the program.

A MAJOR FACTOR in the council's discussion of the program was public safety director Ronald Holko's recommendation not to continue it. At a previous meeting, city manager George Majors supported the patrol, saying earlier problems with its operation had been lessened by a meeting with other officials.

In a report to Majors, Holko said, "Our experience with Saturation Patrol performance and availability has improved. But the method of assignments and duration of surveillance has not provided a great amount of results."

The Farmington Hills police's own special patrol program, SPOT, has done a better job, Holko added. He first recommended the Saturation Patrol because it was "better than nothing at all."

"Now, with reorganization and the additional officers hired last year, we can utilize our own unit."

The saturation patrol concept, Holko said, is excellent.

"If they are all working in one town it works. If you split them up it's hard to get results."

The concept calls for all 11 officers in the Saturation Patrol to be used once, but that was never done, Holko said. Eight officers came from Livonia, two from Farmington Hills and one from Farmington.

The difference between SPOT and the Saturation Patrol, Holko said, is that SPOT "stays right in our community."

"CRIME-WISE, protection-wise and money-wise our SPOT patrol is better."

Councilmen had no good words for the patrol. Mrs. Joan Dudley and Robert McConnell questioned statistics which showed that the patrol spent about 250 hours working in Redford Township, which does not contribute to the Saturation Patrol.

The Redford Township assignment, Holko said, came from Livonia police with consultation from him. When McConnell asked why he wasn't notified, Holko said he has been unsuccessful in arranging a meeting among the three chiefs involved in the patrol.

"Do we support a situation where we can't have a say in the matter?" McConnell asked.

Mayor Frederick Lichtman received an affirmative answer from Holko when he asked if the patrol gave a "relatively small percentage of coverage" in Farmington Hills.

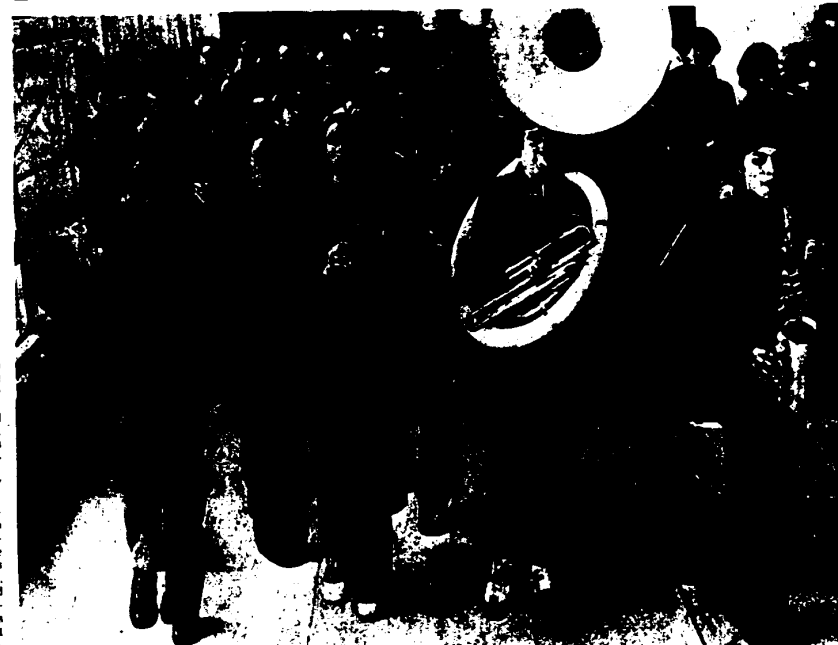
More council comments concerned the division of equipment bought under the program. Holko said guns would be kept but other equipment retained by the Saturation Patrol.

"We didn't contribute that much," Holko said.

A REPORT by James Mogan, Livonia police department captain who directs the project, said that Farmington Hills received more use of the 11 officers than planned. Livonia was to have 72 per cent of the unit's time. Farmington Hills 19 per cent and Farmington nine per cent. In operation, the unit spent 34 per cent of its time in Farmington Hills, 62 per cent in Livonia and four per cent in Farmington.

In March, the unit had 13 cases referred to it, which resulted in 10 persons arrested. Six arrests were in Livonia, and two each were in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The unit handled 18 requests from Farmington Hills, resulting in six arrests.



Marching south

Clarenceville High School's marching band rehearses before leaving this week for Mexico City to take part in international competition. The band, the only from Michigan, left

Tuesday and will return Monday. The musicians and the Clarenceville Band Parents raised nearly \$40,000 over the past few months to pay for the trip. (Staff photo by Art Emanuel)

## Farmington tastes grape controversy

FARMINGTON—Once used as an underground railway for escaping slaves, Freedom Road became an avenue to another kind of freedom Friday as 30 United Farm Workers marched down the road en route to Detroit.

The march along Freedom was only a small portion of the United Farm Worker's week-long trek from the Lan-

cing State Capitol to Detroit to dramatize their plight.

Several Farmington residents joined the marchers during the last 10-mile leg of their journey to Detroit's Blessed Sacrament Cathedral.

Paula Tobocman, president of the Farmington-West Bloomfield League

of Women Voters, said 15 area residents marched with the workers and that not one of them dropped out.

"WE HAD sponsors and for each mile we walked, we'd get a certain amount of money for the United Farm Workers." With \$130 contingent upon her completion of the journey,

she said she couldn't afford not to walk.

On Saturday, the group walked from Christ the King Church at Six Mile Road and Grand River, and completed the six-day, 25-mile march.

Friday night, marchers stayed overnight at Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Farmington and were served a potluck dinner, breakfast and a bag lunch for the following day.

Mrs. Pat Schwartz, daughters Mary and Diane, son Michael and his wife, Felipe, were among those who helped settle the marchers at the church and

took part in the Saturday march.

"Together with those who brought food and helped with the serving and cleanup, there were about 35 families from the area who pitched in," Mrs. Schwartz said.

Other Farmington area residents who participated were Irene Andersen, Amy Brager, Maria Runk and Aldo Vaguzzi, president of the Farmington Democratic Club.

Mrs. Tobocman said more than 1,000 people joined the original marchers in Detroit in support of the workers' right to choose their own union.

## Great Lake State has its week

The cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills will join those throughout the state in the celebration of Michigan Week, May 17-24.

It couldn't come during better weather—the City of Farmington and Farmington Hills are aglow with color. The fruit trees are coming into blossom, the forsythias glow in full holding and the tulips and wildflower colors have never been lovelier.

The Farmington Beautification Committee under chairman Charlotte Bruce is concentrating its efforts on the picture contest for youngsters age 14, rather than on Community Pride Day, Saturday, May 17.

That day is the deadline for entries of the "before" and "after" pictures submitted to the committee. The idea is to have the young artists draw a picture of something the way it looks now and then how it could look with some community pride added to it.

The winners will be awarded prizes on Youth Day, Saturday, May 24. The chairman says those prizes donated by local merchants are well worth the efforts.

Harry Wingerter of Farmington, chairman of his city's Michigan Week celebration, says Rev. E. E. Perrault is contacting local religious leaders reminding them that Sunday, May 18, is Heritage Day. Church goers will doubtless hear a reference to their home state in the Sunday sermon and receive a copy of the "Michigan Facts" brochure.

Bob Rowe of Farmington, also working on the Heritage Day plans, is waiting for the completion of an historic brochure which will be distributed through the local libraries and both city halls. It will depict an incident in local history.

All organizations and private individuals are urged to fly flags on Heritage Day.

Monday, May 19, Government Day, is the traditional time of the Mayor's Exchange program.

This year Farmington Hills will exchange visits with Lincoln Park and Farmington will host a visit with Met-

ropolitan Detroit. Local residents are being encouraged to patronize their favorite restaurant and the local businesses are planning on reciprocating with a special welcome to all persons.

Wingerter says he hopes everyone will cooperate to make Michigan Week in the Farmington area a time for appreciating the state as well as the local community.

On World Trade Day, Tuesday, May 20, local businesses will display the

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### What's a volunteer?

The Junior women's club is serious about helping others. For a report on what they've done and how they think, turn to page 1-C.

### The winner

To find out who, turn to this issue's sports section. For the results, begin at page 1-B.

### Listening to art

Farmington area artists are a hard working bunch. The Farmington Artists Club got out of bed early Saturday morning to learn a little bit more. To meet the man the club members met, turn to page 16-A.



HARRY WINGERTER