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Die strikers ranks reduced

By Craig Piechura
staff writer

Twenty-one out of 42 striking employees at two union tool and die shops in Farmington owned by John Kchikan returned to work Monday after being out for four weeks.

On Monday, 15 out of 16 union die sinkers at Imperial Forge-Die, 42940 Eight Mile Road, returned to work, according to company and union spokesmen, under the condition that contract negotiations would be resumed while workers continue to work under terms of a contract that expired June 30.

Six of the 26 union employees at Forge Die and Tool, 31800 Eight Mile Road, crossed their union's picket line Monday after union members at Kchikan's other shop returned to work.

Company and union officials say the six Forge employees who returned to work agreed to resign from the union, the International Die Sinkers Conference (Lodge 110).

"Six men crossed the picket line and are working," said Linda Early, a com-

pany spokesman. "We may have more — at least one more — soon."

Mark Hoshbach, union steward at Forge Die and Tool, said the employer, Kchikan, is successfully waging "a divide and conquer" war against union employees at two of the three tool shops he owns. Kchikan's Spark Die is a non-union plant that shares a building with Forge Die and Tool.

Hoshbach, of Milford, claims Kchikan would like to see the union out of his plants and is already farming out union die work to non-union firms.

UNDER TERMS of the expired contract, die sinkers at Forge received a base rate of \$10.57 per hour plus \$1.96 per hour in cost of living. In past negotiations the union asked for a 14 percent raise in the first year of a three-year contract and raises of 10 and 8 percent in the final two years.

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In control

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Her job as producer of the "Kelly & Quilty" television show keeps Nancy Lenzen of Farmington Hills quite busy behind the scenes. To find out more about what the job entails, turn to Page 3A of today's Observer.

Mother thanks son's rescuer

By Gary M. Cates
staff writer

A young woman saved a 5-year-old boy from drowning Friday afternoon in Farmington Hills.

The rescuer, whose identity remains unknown to authorities, revived Dia Yamasaki after he was found floating in a pool, according to his mother, Junko.

"He couldn't swim. That day he wanted to go to the pool. I was talking with a friend and in the four or five minutes I didn't see him it happened," said Mrs. Yamasaki, who moved to the Hunter's Ridge Condominiums from Tokyo this month.

"He was floating in the water face up. I called his name, and he couldn't answer. Someone picked him up. I don't remember who," she said, struggling with her English.

"She (the rescuer) put his mouth to her mouth and helped his breathing. After a few minutes he opened his eyes." When Farmington Hills police and

fire officials arrived at the pool, Dia was up and walking around.

Representatives of both departments said witnesses verified that Dia had no vital signs when he was pulled from the pool.

"He was taken to Henry Ford Hospital. He was checked by a doctor and said he was all right," Mrs. Yamasaki said.

Mrs. Yamasaki doesn't know who helped her son, but wishes to find her. She was very scared when the incident happened, and couldn't find the woman afterwards, she said.

Fire Chief Larry Karon said many times a good Samaritan slips away during the excitement and goes unknown in situations like this.

"I don't know about names and faces, only my neighbors. I want to thank the woman that helped. I am very happy for her help," Mrs. Yamasaki said.

The Yamasakis, Junko, her husband, daughter and son, moved to America because of a job transfer with Webb International.

Tiger VIPs teach fielding tips to youngsters

By Craig Piechura
staff writer

A couple of hundred kids turned out Monday afternoon to learn how to turn a double play.

Their tutors on the ball fields behind North Farmington High School were Detroit Tiger shortstop Alan Trammell and second baseman Lou Whitaker, who are well-versed in the art of executing the sport's most exciting defensive play.

Trammell, 23, lives in Redford Township during the baseball season but calls San Diego his home. About half of the crowd went with him to a spot on the infield between second and third base to listen attentively to his baseball tips.

The other half of the contingent crowded around Whitaker at second base. Whitaker is 24, was raised in Martinsville, Va., and now lives with his wife in Detroit.

"OK, we got Dave Winfield running down the first-base line and we're going to get him," Whitaker told 10-year-old Aaron Roehen of Farmington Hills.

Whitaker, who admitted he committed two errors the day before, told Roehen that the most important thing to remember about playing second was to move in a lateral or diagonal position to scoop up a ground ball hit up the

middle.

"Don't charge the ball," Whitaker said and Roehen listened.

"You don't want a short hop, you want the big bounce. If you're rushing yourself and your body is not in control, you can overrun the ball."

"If the ball still squirts through your glove or goes through your legs into the outfield, don't let it destroy your confidence," Whitaker told the youngsters.

A few yards away, Trammell was telling his wide-eyed audience that they too should know when to slow down in the split-second process of making a double play.

IF THE BALL is hit to Whitaker, Trammell says he hustles toward second to cover the base. But, a couple steps before reaching the bag, Trammell says he consciously "chops down" his steps to make sure he is in control of his body to make the pivot and throw to first base for the second out.

Getting the first out is the first concern, he said. "If your partner gives you a little bit of a bad feed you can't be lying over the bag and still make the play," Trammell said. Practice is the only way to perfect the play, he said.

"Lou and I have put in so much time and ground balls together we know ahead of time where each is going to be."

Before and after the ballplayers demonstrated proper fielding techniques they fielded questions from the young fans.

Q. How do you like playing in the major leagues?

A. "It's a dream," said Whitaker. "A dream you might have come true some day."

Q. Do you like it when fans yell out your name and do you hear it?

A. "It's not like you focusing in on anybody (who is yelling)," Trammell said. "It's a blur. You know they're there making noise but you're thinking about what's on the field."

A GIRL in a baseball uniform threw the big leaguers a curve ball by asking them if they thought a woman would ever play in the majors.

"I got a sister," said Whitaker. "She can play but I don't think she could hit the ball. But they've got girls who play on pro softball teams."

Trammell took a more diplomatic approach.

"The ball comes in pretty fast but you never know," said the shortstop. "I don't want to discourage anyone. There's always that one-in-a-million chance."

The kids asked their baseball heroes who their heroes were when they were

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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Autographer seekers Tracy (left) and Kelly Gutowski wait while Brian Thomas gets his picture taken with

Lou Whitaker before they ask the second baseman for his autograph.

Troy attorney quits, joins Hills city law firm

By Suzie Rollins Singer
staff writer

William Wolanin, Troy's city attorney, has resigned from municipal legal work to join a private firm.

Wolanin, 42, is joining the Farmington Hills firm of Brennan, Bibeau & Poeschlman on Oct. 18.

"This is an opportunity for me to go into private practice that specializes in

municipal work, but gives me more freedom," Wolanin said.

The firm represents Farmington Hills, Walled Lake and Bloomfield Township.

Wolanin was hired as Troy's city attorney in 1976, after being chosen from a field of 38 candidates. Before joining Troy, he served as assistant city attorney in Warren for 3 1/2 years and has

been a partner in the Warren firm of Perica, Brethart, Wolanin and Carmody for four years.

Wolanin said he first considered leaving Troy in July when the opportunity arose to join the Farmington Hills firm. Until he leaves Troy, he said the City Council will allow him to work part-time for his new employer as long as it doesn't interfere with his Troy job.

"I'll probably be sitting with some of the ZBA (zoning board of appeals) members, giving them advice," he said.

LOOKING BACK at his five-year career in Troy, Wolanin said he is grateful for the "low-key political feeling of the council," which made his job easier.

"The job, which is inherently difficult, is eased by the low-key political association. There is not a lot of inter-

ference on a political basis," he said. "The council does a good job monitoring decisions but lets the department operate on its own."

Wolanin said his most difficult task in Troy involved writing guidelines for entertainment permits. The request which prompted writing of the guidelines was initiated by Alfred Loewenstein, who wanted to receive a permit to sell alcoholic beverages at Somerset Dinner Theatre.

Loewenstein's request prompted a five-year battle which ended when the state Legislature passed a law separating entertainment permits from Class C (liquor-by-the-glass) licenses. That

law makes it easier for a city to revoke an entertainment permit from a licensee it believes violates the guidelines.

"That was a case of attempting to allow qualifying and good operators to have permits while restricting transfers and unfavorable operators," he said.

Wolanin earned his law degree from Detroit College of Law in 1967. While attending law school at night, he worked for the City of Detroit as an accountant and governmental analyst.

He is a 1961 graduate of the University of Detroit and a 1956 graduate of Detroit Catholic Central High School.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Librarian lauded for programs

Jill Locke, Farmington Community Library's children's library specialist, has been presented an Alumni Distinguished Service Award by Brigham Young University.

The award honors Ms. Locke for her creativity in developing programs to teach children and their parents how to use public library resources.

The award was presented recently by Nancy Roeker, president of the BYU Alumni Association, at a reunion of the Library School Association.

Ms. Locke graduated from BYU in 1970 with a bachelor of arts degree in humanities. A year later she received a master's degree in library sciences.

Since graduation she has been coordinator of children's service and senior librarian in charge of the Farmington Hills Community Library, where she

The award honors Ms. Locke for creativity in developing programs to teach children and parents how to use resources.

developed skills in puppetry, storytelling, theater arts programs and a tree house she designed for children's area.

The Michigan Library Association selected her as the 1977 recipient of the Loleta D. Fyan Award for her work in developing a program to teach parents how to utilize public library resources.

She also has worked on a variety of American Library Association committees including the prestigious Caldecott Awards Committee.

This summer Ms. Locke directed a show and tell exhibit on the use of toys and games for child development at the ALA conference.

She also has conducted workshops for professional librarians in various parts of the United States. She is listed in the "Outstanding Young Women of America" and served as a delegate to the Michigan Pre-White House Conference on library and information services.



Jill Locke

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