

Students expelled after drug bust at Walled Lake junior high school

By Philip Jerome
Novi-Walled Lake News

Six Walled Lake Junior High School students were expelled for the remainder of the spring term in the wake of alleged drug sales at the school last month. Principal Roy Danley confirmed that expulsion recommendations for the six students were approved by the Walled Lake Board of Education.

The action comes after school administrators discovered a group of students selling what they alleged to be "speed" on March 10. Subsequent investigation revealed that the pills were some sort of caffeine-based diet pills, not speed.

The pills apparently were brought to the school by three boys who sought the help of three others in selling them for 50 cents each, Danley said.

Students who bought the pills received suspensions, while the more-serious expulsion action was taken against the alleged sellers of the pills.

"THE FACT THAT they were selling diet pills was immaterial," said Danley. "The point was that several students were selling pills they alleged to be 'speed' and that other students were buying what they believed to be 'speed'."

Walled Lake police also are taking action against the students, said Sgt. Roger Cote. Juvenile petitions are being requested against about a half-dozen students, while police are seeking help through the Youth Assistance program for six other students, Cote said.

Reaction from staff and students to the expulsions has been positive, Danley said. "In accepting our expulsion recommendations, the school board directed Dr. (Donald) Chalkley (secondary education director) to set up alternative education programs for the youngsters," said Danley.

"The program will cover their academic requirements for the remainder of the term so that they conceivably can pass to the next grade next year."

"Students will be coming in after school

to get their assignments and they'll take a final exam at the conclusion of the term. If they pass the exam, they'll be promoted with the rest of their class, although it might be necessary for some of them to take additional classes during summer school."

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS were very concerned about "cutting 12- and 13-year-olds adrift for the remainder of the spring term without an educational program," Danley said.

Danley was pleased with the board's support.

"It was a difficult decision for them to make. These are nice kids — they could be your neighbors or mine. They made a mistake, but a serious mistake."

"I believe we've taken the proper action. I think we have dealt effectively with a potentially serious problem and still demonstrated that we have the interest of the students at heart."

Trophy town

LIT students use old trophies to build miniature city

By Sharon Dargay
staff writer

An inscription on the silver bowl dedicated it to the winners of the 1977 "outstanding chapter" competition of Michigan Theta.

A statuette, given in honor of some long-forgotten "winterfest," anchors a quartet of smaller monuments. The trophy and statuette were two of the buildings in a miniature "city" built by Lawrence Institute of Technology architecture students.

Last week, the students built the city with 162 trophy buildings and told pupils per roads to show what happens when designers let art supplant function.

"WHEN YOU DESIGN buildings to fill entire city blocks, you end up with trophies to your clients and yourself."

said Jean LaMarche, architecture professor.

"In the past, a building was designed to fit in with the needs of the community. But that doesn't always happen today."

From an architect's viewpoint, trophies are the closest things to buildings, making them ideal for studying the effects of the city on design.

"It doesn't seem difficult to imagine a superscale figure of a running back or bowler atop the Renaissance Center," LaMarche said. "The Fischer Building might be the most complete trophy in Detroit."

"Not only is it a beautiful building, but it satisfies some basic requirements similar to those of the trophy. It satisfies our need for the expression of noble power."

"THE TOWN CENTER in Southfield is a trophy. It's gold; it says 'I'm wealthy. If you have money, you can rent space here, and your self-esteem will go up.'"

Buildings should be designed with a more people-oriented environment, he said. He named the Renaissance Center in Detroit as an example of planning with its users in mind.

"Southfield is a bedroom community. One of its biggest problems is envisioning a future that has meaningful people-oriented places. There should be several evolving and interspersed throughout the community."

It wasn't until designers began creating King Kong-sized buildings to fill entire city blocks that contemporary architecture took on a monumental appearance.

LaMarche's students built two trophy towns in out-moded patterns before attempting the modern "grid" layout found in most American cities. Paris still retains remnants of the "free flowing" street system common to early European villages and of the wide, unbroken lines of roads, which developed in the 1800s to help control rioting.

FOUNDING FATHERS developed the grid pattern of perpendicular and intersecting streets to more easily subdivide land.

"Michigan is laid out and divided based on a grid system. Southfield is based on lines created by subdividing the land."

Suburban subdivisions were an attempt to "enrich and complicate" the traditional pattern of intersecting roads, he said.

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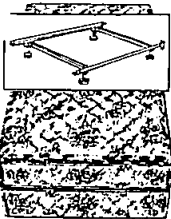
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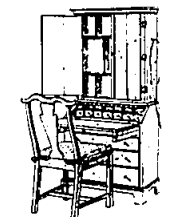
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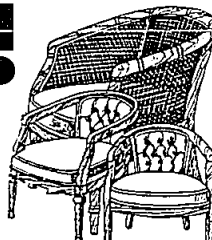


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