Blues refuse payment for bone marrow blood tests

Roadblocks keep getting in the way of little Brandon Welss' struggle for

of little Brandon little.
Hospitals and laboratories in the metropolitan Detroit area and in Lansing were notified last week that blood tests performed to find a possible bone marrow donor are not covered under Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan

contracts.

A bone marrow transplant from a compatible donor is Brandon's single chance to survive. A victim of aphastic anemia, a rare life-threatening blood disease, Brandon's disorder means that his body's production of red and white blood cells and platelets has just about

"He's being transfused, and he's not so good."
Welss subsequently assured hospitals and laboratories that they will be paid from a non-profit "Life for Brandon" fund which has been set up.
At the same time, blood test sessions have been set up every Saturday at

His Immune system is damaged, leaving the Southfield tot no ammonistion against infection while spontane our bleeding saps his strength, limiting recisistance to viruse or infections.

To date, more than 3,000 volunteers are consisted in the loop of finding a donor whose tissues match those of the child.

Brandon's father, Arthur Weiss, and as late as June 3 bis insurance proper dever promised a letter confirming that payment would be child.

Brandon's father, Arthur Weiss, and storney, has spearheaded a campaign both to find donors and to find above the child.

Brandon, whose condition has been attorney, has spearheaded a campaign both to find donors, in time to save the son possible donors, in time to save that the son possible donors, in time to save the son possible donors, in time to save that the son possible donors, in time to save that the son possible donors, in time to save that the son possible donors, in time to save the son to so son the son to son the son to some the son to son the son

"TIS THE only way we can save our own the street of son," said Welss.

Rudy DiFazio, director of media relations at Blue Cross, said that no decision had been made last week. We never have paid for this testing.

"This kind of wholesale screening lan't paid for under our contracts. There never was any coverage."

According to DiFazio the testing the testing up to now include William

borders on research and experimentation. The odds I've heard go from one in
10,000 to one in 40,000.

This is like an artificial heart transplant, historically paid for out of research revenues. Some hospital officath experiments of the solid paid to the
surface contracts are very specific and
such testing has never been covered.

This very specific under our contracts
how funds will be dispersed. Actuarially, that's how we determine the price of
insurance.

"You just can't start in the middle of
a contract to change how funds are
dispersed. Companies buy this insurance which, by it's nature, must be de
fined."

Beaumont in Royal Oak, Harper In De-troit and Sparrow in Lonsing.
Valerie Mahazzek, a spokeswoman at Beaumont, said Friday the hospital would continue to do the testing for Brandon and cooperate with the fami-

Brandon and cooperate with the tarming we are calling those scheduled to be tested and will test those we feel are most beneficial to Brandon, Mahaczek sald. "Since Mr. Wels has indicated there will be funding to cover costs, we are going on as usual."

One of several Southleid labs which have performed the blood tests is the Motrie Lab in the Northland Medical Building.

Building.

Laboratory technicians have voluntarily given up their one-hour lunch to be available to serve volunteers for Brandon, said a Metric spokesperson.

cable connection

COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE Monday, June 10

- Monday, June 10

 12 noon Waterford Oaks Wave Pool.

 12:30 p.m. The Artlst In You.

 1 p.m. The Artlst In You.

 1 p.m. Take 10.

 2 p.m. The Gentle Way, Jude history.

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 2 p.m. Novi Gala Days.

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 3 p.m. Waterford Oaks Wave Pool.

 6 p.m. Waterford Oaks Wave Pool.

 6 p.m. Inherited Wisdom.

 7 p.m. Inherited Wisdom.

 7 p.m. Take 10.

 8 p.m. The Gentle Way, Jude history.

 8 20 p.m. Deal of Knowledge.

 9 30 p.m. Novi Gala Days.

 9 30 p.m. Meet Mouth.

 1 p.m. Waterford Way, Jude history.

 1 p.m. Novi Gala Days.

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 1 p.m. Meet Mouth.

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- Tuesday, June 11 12 noon - Church of Today "The Sweetness in
- on."

 1 p.m. Welcome to My Father's House.

 1:30 p.m. Cablegram.

 2 p.m. White Face. Mime show.

 2:15 p.m. Image is Entertainment and Po-
- etry.

 2:30 p.m. Health Com Health food.

 3 p.m. Due Process. Criminal justice.

 3:30 p.m. Governor's Report. Drawing foreign business to Michigan.

 8 p.m. Church of Today "The Sweetness in Ven".

- s p.in. Customer to My Father's House.
 7:30 p.m. Cablegram.
 8 p.m. White Face. Mime show.
 8:15 p.m. Image is entertainment and poet-
- ry.

 8:30 p.m. Health Com Health Food.
 9 p.m. Due Process. Criminal justice.
 9:30 p.m. Governor's Report. Drawing for-

Wednesday, June 12

- 12 noon Health talks. Fitness conditioning, wing process. 12:30 a.m. Money matters. Dr. Gail Parker. 1 p.m. First Alert. 1:15 p.m. Video Printing. Locating abduct-
- 1:30 p.m. Keeping in Touch. Exercise is for
- seniors.

 2 p.m. Midweek Journal. Hosts: Kathleen Maher and Mark Robinson.

 2:30 p.m. Kevin Keating and his forever lightbulb.

- ghbulb.

 3 p.m. Novi Gala Days.

 3 p.m. Social Security Update.

 6 p.m. Health talks. Fitness conditioning. rieving process.

 6 30 p.m. Money Matters. Dr. Gail Parker.

 7 p.m. First Alert.

 7 15 p.m. Video Printing. Locating abduct-
- 7:30 p.m. Keeping in Touch. Exercise is for — Midweck Journal, Hosts: Kathleen
- seniors.

 8 p.m. Midweek Journal. Hosts: Kathleen Maher and Mark Roblinson.

 8:30 p.m. Kevin Keating and his forever lightbulb.
- gntouib.

 9 p.m. Novi Gala Days.

 9:30 p.m. Social Security Update

Thursday, Jone 13

- 12 noon Community Upbeat.
 12:30 p.m. Take 10.
 1 p.m. Fitness Fever.
 1:45 p.m. Healthy Houseplants.
 2 p.m. Michigan Ballet Presents.
 3 p.m. Life Styles.
 5 p.m. Community Upbeat.
 5:00 p.m. Take 10.
 7 p.m. Cocking with Class. Lean lasagoa.
 7:30 p.m. Shores of Your Mind. Live call in with Diana St. Clair.

JUNE -AUCTION

Friday, June 14, 7:00 P.M. Saturday, June 15, 11:00 A.M., Sunday, June 16, at Noon

Special Preview begins June 7, through the sale dates, 10-5 P.M., Wed., June 17, 10-9 P.M.

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DuMouchelles-