

Rapist's trail of terror

Rapes or attempted rapes in Farmington Hills, Bloomfield Township, Birmingham and West Bloomfield Township that may have been the work of Oakland County's serial rapists:

- **FARMINGTON HILLS**
On Nov. 26, 1987 two women in their 20s were raped at 10:15 p.m. in a house near 13 Mile and Farmington Road. The rapist had broken into the house earlier that night, lying in wait. After raping the women, he stole \$275 and a Casio musical keyboard.
- On March 31, 1988 a woman in her 30s was raped at 9 p.m. in a house near 13 Mile and Orchard Lake Road. The rapist was walking inside when she arrived home. He left with a diamond ring, a stereo cassette recorder and a purse.

● **BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP**
On April 8, 1987 a woman in her 40s was raped in a house near Lahser and Maple about 1:30 a.m. On April 24, 1987, in the same house, another woman in her 40s was raped about 10 a.m. On Sept. 19, 1987 a baby-sitter in her early teens was raped in a house near Lincoln and Lahser about midnight. The rapist robbed each residence.

● **BIRMINGHAM**
On Jan. 28, 1988 a would-be friend of his 17-year-old victim paid a visit to a house near Puritan and Maple about 9 p.m. The residence was robbed. On April 15, 1987 a would-be rapist was scared off when his hand

slipped and he cut a woman in her 40s, prompting her to scream, after he demanded sex in a house near Lincoln and Cranbrook about 10 p.m. Each victim first was confronted in a garage.

● **WEST BLOOMFIELD**
On May 9, 1987 a woman in her 40s was met by a man in the garage of a condominium where she was staying near 14 Mile and Orchard Lake Road, led upstairs, raped and robbed of jewelry and a camera.

On Oct. 15, 1987 a woman in her 40s was grabbed off behind in her garage near Maple and Inkster. She resisted, screamed and tripped her assailant. Her screams were heard by her 16-year-old daughter, who opened the garage door and ran to a neighbor for help.

Detectives investigate leads

Oakland County Sheriff's Department. Dwyer believes the rapist his department is seeking stalks potential victims for up to two months, studying habits and routines. "He knows where they work, shop, dine, even exercise," Dwyer said. "He knows when they're alone."

According to an FBI psychological profile, the rapist probably is of above-average intelligence and may have been a "mama's boy" or a "Peeping Tom" who graduated to violence. His motive may be anger or a yearning for power. His actions are well-planned, not spontaneous. He is described as soft-spoken, even apologetic, to his victims. And he hasn't slashed anyone — yet. "If a victim puts up a battle, he could slash her throat. It's hard to say," Dwyer said.

No ties have been found between the rapist and his victims — not in age, employment or social life. The rapist often robbed his victims — perhaps to gather souvenirs of his act, police said.

DESPITE HEAVY news media coverage, Dwyer warns women not to be lulled into thinking the rapist has been scared off. "I don't think it'll prevent him from attacking again."

Dwyer warns women to be observant while driving and to vary routes. He advises them to lock their car, house and garage doors. He urges them to notify police immediately when anyone suspicious is seen.

"Don't even," he said, "enter a dark house alone."
The rapist is described as white, 20-30 years old, 5 feet 8 inches tall and 150 pounds, with a slim build.

Drug abuse merits yearlong campaign: chief

For a related editorial comment: 14A

By Mary Rodrigue staff writer

As commander of the Detroit Police Department narcotics division's 180-member force in the late '70s, William Dwyer presided over "seven

or eight (drug) raids a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year." Though the statistics aren't as staggering in Farmington Hills, where Dwyer is now chief of police, the situation is bad enough to merit an intensified yearlong campaign against drug abuse.

"Drugs are destroying families as they penetrate every community in our country," Dwyer said. "Through

education, we hope we can cut the demand, which will cut the supply."

"SAY NO TO DRUGS" begins with a special week, April 17-23. During this week all city vehicles will display theme bumper stickers, businesses will carry posters in windows, and city and school personnel as well as students and parents will wear red ribbons to draw attention to the

anti-drug campaign. The campaign features a 19-point action plan to combat substance abuse and misuse (see related story). Drug awareness and crime prevention is the theme of the first annual police department open house Sunday, June 5.

BEHIND THE visual fanfare, the Farmington Hills Police Department's Citizens Crime Prevention Advisory Committee will meet regularly to set the agenda for a year's worth of activity focused on bringing the problem under control.

"This will be a priority. We are totally committed," Dwyer said. "A lot of the work will be done in cooperation with parents and the schools." Dwyer called the effort "the most aggressive program in the state. It could serve as a model for other communities."

THE FIRST major project will be more drug awareness, particularly among parents.

"Substance abuse has proliferated so much in this country. It has reached every socioeconomic level. At the elementary level, kids are aware of what drugs are on the market," Dwyer said.

"We feel our whole thrust is in the area of education, starting with second and third graders."

19-point drug plan unveiled

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- Enforcing targeted at narcotics dealers and distributors at all levels.
- Establishing an anonymous drug analysis program run by the police department.
- Increased government grant requests for drug education programs, specifically for Farmington Hills.
- Increased promotion of local treatment and rehabilitation programs, such as the Farmington Area Advisory Council, Farmington Youth Assistance and Henry Ford Medical Center's Maplegrove Chemical Dependency.
- Emphasizing through the news media hot line numbers for local and national assistance.
- Developing educational programs for students in elementary, middle and high schools (public and private) on substance abuse.
- Developing long-range drug education programs for parents and adults in Farmington Hills (how to recognize symptoms of drug abuse, how to recognize current illegal drugs and paraphernalia, how parents effectively can teach their kids

of public service announcements on substance abuse.

● Initiating presentations and drug education programs for school administrators and teachers, both public and private.

● Establishing training programs for school athletic coaches, focusing on drug abuse by athletes.

● Supporting and assisting the Farmington Families in Action "BABES" program, which emphasizes drug education at the elementary level. These segments also offer programs on positive self-esteem.

● Developing programs targeted at both the adolescent and adult populations on the abuse of prescription drugs.

● Planning more awareness programs targeted at adolescents on the abuse of legal drugs, specifically alcohol and the correlation it has with illegal drugs.

● Developing educational programs on substance abuse for employers and employees in the work place.

● Producing videotapes on substance abuse to be made available to Farmington Hills residents at the schools, the library, the police department and video stores.

● Distributing a year-long series

of public service announcements on substance abuse.

● Coordinating efforts with religious leaders by initiating and supporting educational programs through movies, lectures and printed material for their congregations.

● Establishing meetings and presentations to be developed for local judges and prosecutors on drug awareness and substance abuse.

● Organizing various panels of experts on substance abuse to inform citizens on the cause and effect of narcotics on the individual, family and community.

● Providing in-depth training for police officers on enforcement, education, and referral programs.

Combating substance abuse

Provide enforcement targeted at narcotics dealers and distributors at all levels.

Establish an anonymous drug analysis program run by the police department.

Develop educational programs relating to substance abuse for students in the elementary, middle and high schools.

Establish training programs for school athletic coaches, focusing on drug abuse by athletes.

Organize panels of drug abuse experts to inform residents about the cause and effect of narcotics on the individual, family and community.

Provide in-depth training for police officers on drug enforcement, education and referral programs.

ability to put forth these programs. "That's what Detroit should be doing," Dwyer said.

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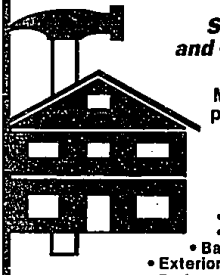
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