



Farmington High School junior Amber Arbuckle, 17, on the set of Kelly & Co. John Kelly is at right. This scene is before the start of the show Monday, when Kelly was warming up the audience.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Farmington students discuss crime, drugs on Kelly & Co.

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Students are helping each other fight drug addiction, and the ills that are associated with it, by talking. Some student drug problems are caused by bad role models — parents who drink or use drugs, they say. Students want to put pressure on these parents and the community to make the situation better.

"These parents do it," said one teenager on a recent talk show. "Coke, smoking pot. Their parents do it, what are they supposed to do?" "I don't think it makes a difference what kind of drug it is," said another. "It's easy to get. I really think something should be done. Things are a little too lenient."

Students from Power Middle School, Farmington High School, and secondary schools in Southfield, Detroit and the rural Richmond district were invited to be in a live studio audience Monday to discuss crime and drugs on the Channel 7 talk show, Kelly & Co.

DISCUSSING ISSUES with students were panelists Sgt. Chuck Nebus of the Farmington Hills Police Department; Betty Nicolay, chairwoman of Farmington Families in Action; Clementine Barfield, founder of the Detroit parent group, Save Our Sons and Daughters; Curtis Silwa, founder of the Guardian Angels, a vigilante group; and Bonnie Swan, a former gang member from Philadelphia.

"We blind young people with sex, drugs and violence," said Silwa. "You've got to balance that out. Give

our American kids some honest role models."

Parents and other members of the community also have to understand there is a problem, said Nebus, a detective who works closely with the Farmington Hills community on drug awareness issues.

"I'd say a lot of parents have their heads in the sand," he said. "Many people who live in the suburbs have a very false sense of security — people still haven't even learned to lock their doors."

"We see an alarming rate of suburban teenagers going into the city to buy crack cocaine. A lot of them would bow to peer pressure before they would have a fear of being arrested."

Nicolay encourages parents to communicate as well as their children. "Kids have a tremendous network," she said. "They all know where the parties are and what's going on. Parents need that same network."

SWAN URGED students to take charge of their own lives, and not rely on help from others. "Young people have got to feel good about themselves, regardless of what their parents do," he said.

When it comes to drugs, and drug networks, "our school have become like beehives, like nests," Silwa added.

A majority of students in the Kelly & Co. audience said they have seen drugs in and around their schools. A large number said they have tried to get help and were unsuccessful.

One Power student said he has noticed an increase in drug-related ac-

tivity at the middle school, which educates students in grades 6-8.

"Just over the last two years in our school, we've had people get busted for drugs," he said. "It's been happening more and more. They had it in their locker and the police came in and busted them."

Southfield attorney Stephen Korn, who coordinated the talk show effort through his contacts on a radio talk show, called the student drug and crime problem "a gruesome story."

Korn had sponsored a writing contest, asking students to address the crime issue and was asked by Kelly & Co. producers to get students for the show audience.

"Five years ago, I was asked to represent a 10-year-old in Ulca charged with selling," he said. "I'm very pleased we're dealing with the issue this morning."

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

MAN ROBBED

A 24-year-old Rochester Hills man was assaulted and his leather jacket and wallet were taken during a fight outside Mr. Sports, 30800 Orchard Lake, at 1:45 a.m. April 30. The man told officers he was walking in the parking lot when a man in his 30s punched him in the face, knocking him to the ground unconscious, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

TICKETS ISSUED

A 24-year-old Windsor man was ticketed for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle when beer was found in his car during a traffic stop at Power Middle School, 34700 Rhinwood, at 9:45 p.m. April 26, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

Two 18-year-olds from Farmington Hills were ticketed for loitering on school property when trash was seen, thrown from their car at Lakeshore Elementary School, 23800 Tuck, at 11:45 p.m. April 26, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 17-year-old Southfield man was ticketed for possessing marijuana when a baggie of it was found in a car at Shawassaw and Inker during a traffic stop at 3:40 p.m. April 29, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 23-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle when beer was found in a parked car at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 23897 11 Mile, at 1:15 a.m. April 30, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 29-year-old North Carolina man was ticketed for possessing marijuana when a baggie of it was found in a car behind the 7-Eleven convenience store, 29318 Orchard Lake, at 12:10 a.m. May 1, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

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Two 17-year-olds from Farmington Hills were ticketed for loitering on school property when they were seen on the basketball court at East Middle School, 25000 Middlebelt, at 1:20 a.m. May 1, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 17-year-old Detroit girl was ticketed for possessing alcohol (a bottle of malt liquor) in the lobby at the Dillon Inn, 30715 12 Mile, at 3:20 a.m. May 1, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 65-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for open burning when grass clippings were burned in a back yard on High Valley May 1, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

A 18-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for possessing narcotics paraphernalia when a marijuana pipe was found in a car during a traffic stop on Middlebelt near 13 Mile at 1:30 a.m. May 2, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

THEFTS REPORTED

Tools valued at \$1,000 were reported stolen from a car parked on Eastfield April 24.

A tailgate valued at \$800 was reported stolen from a 1988 Ranger at Tom Holzer Ford, 34300 10 Mile, April 27.

A bicycle valued at \$264 was reported stolen from outside Power Middle School, 34740 Rhinwood, April 28.

A Wall Street journal newsbox valued at \$200 was reported stolen from outside Mama Loeprich's Family Dining Restaurant, 30855 12 Mile, April 28.

A 1988 Buick Park Avenue valued at \$450 was reported stolen from a house on Greening April 28-29. It was recovered in Auburn Hills.

A radar detector valued at \$200 was reported stolen from a car parked at Elias Brothers Big Boy, 27810 Grand River, April 29.

A radar detector valued at \$50 was reported stolen from a car parked at Harrison High School, 29995 12 Mile, April 29.

A VCR valued at \$250 was reported stolen from a house on Caryn April 29.

A porcelain jewelry box was reported stolen from a house on Old Homestead Court April 29.

A VCR valued at \$450 was reported stolen from a house on Haggerty near Nine Mile April 29.

Cash was reported stolen from the dietary department safe at Botsford General Hospital, 28050 Grand River, April 29-30.

Tools valued at \$699 were reported stolen from a pickup parked at Mulrwood Apartments April 29-30.

A 1988 Pontiac Firebird was reported stolen from Woodhewer Apartments April 29-30. It was recovered in Detroit.

A microwave oven valued at \$150 was reported stolen from Foxpointe Townhomes, April 29-30.

A scooter valued at \$51 was reported stolen from a back yard on Albion between April 30 and May 1.

A 1985 Pontiac Firebird valued at \$8,000 was reported stolen from Cedaridge Apartments April 30. It was recovered in Detroit.

Tools valued at \$300 were reported stolen from a garage on Lamar between April 30 and May 1.

A lawnmower valued at \$1,000 was reported stolen from a shed at a house on Glenmore Heights between April 30 and May 1.

Two VCRs, a video laser disc player, a telescope and a speaker valued at \$1,600 were reported stolen from a house on Collingham May 1-2.

A cash register and cash were reported stolen from Ellie Auto, 22777 Orchard Lake, May 1-2.

A radar detector valued at \$150 was reported stolen from a car parked on Ontario May 2.

DAMAGE REPORTED

Damage was estimated at \$700 during the attempted theft of a 1988 Ford parked at Cedarbrooke Apartments April 27-28.

Damage was estimated at \$1,000 during the attempted theft of a 1988 Pontiac Grand-Am from Timberidge Apartments April 29-30.

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