

Volunteers deliver holiday meals, 1B



Basketball preview, 1D

Gifts of few provide warmth to many, 3A

# Farmington Observer

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## farmington FOCUS

To write the Observer: 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024. To call: news line, 477-3450; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-2600; display ads, 591-2300; fax line, 477-9722.

**HELPING hand.** Farmington's Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce board members will ring the bell at the Farmington Area Salvation Army kettle in front of Damman's Hardware, Grand River in the Downtown Farmington Center, Grand River and Farmington Road, Saturday.

"As usual, the Farmington area people and businesses are there when you need them," said Salvation Army Lt. Jonathan Rich of Farmington Hills.

All donations will go to helping the needy and the homeless in the Farmington area.

To provide time, clothing, food or money to local families, call the Salvation Army, 477-1153, or the Goodfellows, 474-3440, in the Farmington area.

**GOOD idea.** Judith Green of Farmington Hills, a Michigan Employment Security Commission trainee, was awarded \$1,000 for recommending four automated unemployment insurance system modifications that saved the state \$86,222 in their first year.

### Quote of the week

"It's the greatest feeling to know you've helped somebody else."

— Farmington Hills resident Liz LaKritz, whose family planned a Thanksgiving Eve dinner for the less fortunate. (Story on Page 3A).

### what's inside

- Around Farmington . . . 4B
- Business . . . . . C
- Cable connection . . . 15C
- Classifieds. Secs. C,E,G,H
- Index . . . . . 9E
- Auto . . . . . Secs. C,H
- Real estate . . . . . 2E
- Employment . . . . . Secs. G,H
- Creative living . . . . . E
- Crossword puzzle . . . 9E
- Entertainment . . . . 7C
- Opinion . . . . . 14C
- Obituaries . . . . . 18A
- Points of view . . . . . 20A
- Police/fire calls . . . . 7A
- Sports . . . . . D

**SUPER SELECTION**

Millions of fine homes, condominiums, and apartments await you every Monday and Thursday in the **Observer & Eccentric classified ads**

## State football champs

### Harrison students celebrate

More championship coverage, 1D

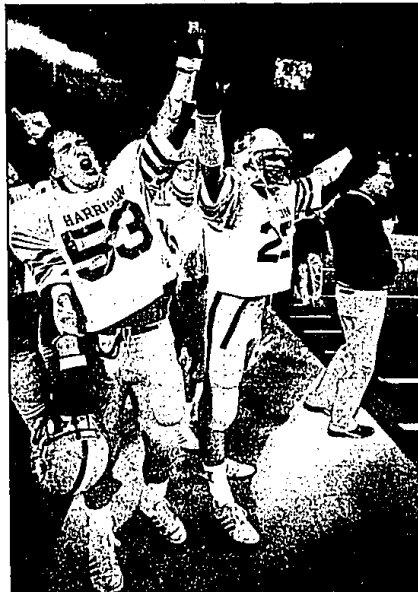
IT WAS a special week for Harrison High in Farmington Hills, as students revelled in the glory of the school's 1988 Class B football championship.

"They did just great," said principal Clayton Graham. A special pep assembly was held Tuesday to honor those responsible — this year's football heroes and coaches.

The Hawks' road to victory was paved first by the team's Western Lakes Activities Association league title. A special ceremony Tuesday included captain Jeff Sklamer accepting the league trophy.

The trip to the championship was made easier by supportive and cheering students. Tuesday, coach John Herrington thanked them for their support throughout the season.

The big trophy — for the Class B football championship — was proudly presented to Harrison by the district's athletic director, Ron Holland.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Harrison teammates Matt Sperry (left) and Matt King cheer on the Hawks during the closing seconds of the Class B championship game played in the Pontiac Silverdome Saturday. Harrison trounced the St. Joseph Bears 44-9 to claim the Class B football title.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Athletic director Ron Holland (left) presents a smiling Harrison football coach John Herrington with the trophy his team earned after winning the state Class B title in the Pontiac Silverdome Saturday. The presentation was part of a special pep assembly held at the school Tuesday.

## Hills forms group to review ethics code

By Joanne Mallazewski staff writer

A committee of two councilmen, the city manager and the city attorney will review a proposed code of ethics for Farmington Hills' elected and appointed officials and employees.

A code was first suggested by former city councilwoman Joan Dudley but the council never acted on the suggestion. After an incident last summer, involving councilman Ben Marks and city manager William

Costick, councilman Aldo Vagnozzi asked Costick to work on a code of ethics.

When expected financing was delayed and Marks failed to pay a \$17,000 sewer tap-in fee when it fell due, Costick maintained it as a resolvable, with interest and penalties accruing, for more than a year.

Though Costick presented the council with a proposed code Monday, he suggested that a committee review the code and report back to the council. The proposed code is based on a similar one used in Reno,

*'It would be ideal if we elected people with their own code of ethics.'*

— councilwoman Jean Fox

Nov. Vagnozzi and Mayor-elect Terry Veger will serve on the committee.

"We felt this does cover quite a number of areas. This is a beginning," Costick said.

The language of the code needs improving, he said.

ONLY COUNCILWOMAN Jean Fox addressed the concept of having a code of ethics. Other council members suggested additions to the proposed code.

"I have no problem with a code of ethics. It would be ideal if we elected people with their own code of ethics.

## state house 69th district

By Casey Hans staff writer

Republican Jan Dolan has spent more than \$35,000 in her bid for the state House since declaring her candidacy earlier this year.

Her financial support came from a variety of individuals, several large companies and a number of political action committees.

According to pre-General Election campaign statements on file with Oakland County, she spent a little more than \$9,000 from mid-August through mid-October in addition to \$26,000 she spent during the primary race. Final General Election campaign financial statements are due in Lansing Dec. 8.

During the same August-October period, she received more than \$16,000 in cash contributions, and several hundred dollars of in-kind contributions.

JAN DOLAN, a Farmington Hills city councilwoman, defeated Demo-

crat John Dolan, a retired Bingham Farms businessman, for the 69th District state House seat Nov. 8, winning with 32,604 votes to the Democrat's 12,266, according to recently canvassed results from the Oakland County Elections Commission. She will succeed state Rep. Wilbur Brotherton, R-Farmington, who is retiring.

She will take her seat Jan. 1, representing the cities of Farmington Hills and Farmington as well as Southfield Township, which includes the villages of Franklin, Bingham Farms and Beverly Hills.

State elections officials say, to

Please turn to Page 4

We have had the 10 Commandments for a number of years and we still have murders and thefts," Fox said. Having a code doesn't prevent unethical behavior, she said.

THE PROPOSED code begins with a purpose and the public policy that all public officials "must commit themselves to avoid conflicts between their private interests and those of the general public whom they serve."

Please turn to Page 7

## Rape suspect fit for trial — doctor

By Bob Sklar staff writer

*'I still have to rule on competency to stand trial. As far as I can see (Steven A. Szeman, 25) appears awfully remorseful.'*

— Judge James P. Kilbane

The former West Bloomfield resident accused of being Oakland County's serial rapist was sane at the time he allegedly raped a suburban Cleveland woman Nov. 11, an Ohio court psychiatrist has concluded. Judge James P. Kilbane of the Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas in Cleveland Nov. 21 ordered a psychiatric report on Steven A. Szeman Jr., 25, of Rocky River, Ohio.

In a report issued two days later, Dr. Phillip Resnick, chief psychia-

trist of the court's psychiatric clinic, declared that Szeman was sane at the time of the crime he's charged with and is competent to stand trial.

"I still have to rule on competency to stand trial," Kilbane said, adding that he intends to handle the case expeditiously. "As far as I can see," Kilbane said, Szeman "appears awfully remorseful."

A pretrial to formally hear Resnick's report, then hear a plea or set a trial date, was scheduled for Tuesday. But it was canceled. Kilbane still hopes to hold it this week.

IF SZEMAN waives a formal hearing of Resnick's report and no

plea is presented, Kilbane said he'll rule on Szeman's competency to stand trial Tuesday.

Prosecuting the case is Carmen Marino, Cuyahoga County chief assistant prosecutor for major felonies. The defense attorney is James Burke of Fairview Park, Ohio.

Szeman has pleaded not guilty to four counts of rape as well as aggravated robbery, aggravated burglary, felonious assault and possessing criminal tools in connection with the attack of a 24-year-old woman in North Olmsted, Ohio.

Szeman, a Delaware, Ohio, native, is being held in the Cuyahoga County

Jail in lieu of \$250,000 cash bond. He faces up to 25 years in prison if convicted of the rape, robbery, burglary or assault charges and up to five years in prison if convicted of the possession charge.

IN OAKLAND County, he is charged with 49 criminal counts: 36 counts of criminal sexual conduct, nine counts of armed robbery, two counts of breaking and entering and one count each of assault with intent to commit an armed robbery and assault with intent to commit sexual

Please turn to Page 4