

Teens arraigned, charged with robbing Hills jeweler

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Two teens were arraigned Thursday on armed robbery charges in connection with the hold-up of a Farmington Hills jewelry store.

Leonard Jerald Loving, 16, and Howard LaQuinn Hunt, 15, appeared before Magistrate James Brady at 47th District Court. Both were arraigned on two counts of armed robbery and two counts assault to rob while armed. Not guilty pleas were entered.

The two teens will be tried as adults.

In a separate action, petition for felony firearm charges has been filed against Loving in Oakland Probate Court.

A \$50,000 cash bond was set. Preliminary examinations to see if there's evidence to try the two teens is set for June 18.

The charges stem from

Wednesday's armed robbery at Emery's Creative Jewelry on Orchard Lake, near 14 Mile.

According to police reports, three males entered the store at 10:30 a.m. One showed a gun, announcing a hold-up. Two female employees were taken to a back room where they were handcuffed together and had duct tape placed over their mouths.

Two customers, a mother and a daughter from Toledo, Ohio, walked in while the robbery was in progress. They also were bound with duct tape.

No one was injured.

An employee managed to trip a silent 911 alarm. Farmington Hills police arrived when the three were leaving the building.

When confronted by an officer holding a gun, the three fled in different directions.

Loving was taken into custody near The Gap on Orchard Lake Road. Hunt was apprehended 25

minutes later on Muirland after a brief chase.

An undetermined amount of jewelry and money were recovered. A third person eluded police.

One fleeing robber dropped a .25-caliber automatic pistol in the parking lot before being captured by police.

"It was certainly near the potential of fatal (gun) fire (by the police)," said Sgt. Charles Nebus. "The big factor here was the weapon was not pointed."

Officer David Glowacki was one of the first to arrive at the scene. He parked the patrol car around the corner away from the store and approached the building on foot.

Had the robbers seen the police, Nebus said, they might have stayed inside, which could've created a hostage situation.

"He (Glowacki) used good judgment," Nebus said.



Arraigned: Farmington Hills police detective Bert Cook escorts Howard LaQuinn Hunt, 15, and Leonard Jerald Loving, 16, out of 47th District Court Thursday after they were arraigned on charges of armed robbery and assault to rob while armed in connection with Wednesday's armed robbery of Emery's Creative Jewelry.

Hills budget calls for more cops

By SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

Two additional road sergeants and another EMS Specialist are planned in the 1993-94 budget year.

"There's definitely a need," said Farmington Hills police chief William Dwyer. "This means that two new cadets will be hired."

Police and fire are just part of the \$31.5 million budget approved June 7 by the Farmington Hills City Council.

Farmington Hills has gone through a cyclical period of growth.

Construction slowed because of limited amount of space for commercial and residential sites.

In mid-1980s, 1,100 multiple family permits were issued a year along with 500 single-family residential permits per year, said Charles Rosch, Hills finance director.

"These have declined to a slight upturn of 300 single-family permits and 150 multiple-family permits," he said.

The value of construction has

declined dramatically in the last three years, Rosch said. "We are experiencing less new tax revenues," he said. "Now there is \$300,000 of new tax revenues for construction. This is approximately 25 percent of the new tax revenues for 1987 and 1988."

City manager Bill Costick said that while city projects have led to a better quality of life, few administrators have been added.

"Additional responsibilities have been added without additional staff," Costick said. "We cannot look to the future to expect the same unprecedented growth of the past."

Farmington Hills city tax rate is 8.87 mills. Municipalities with lower tax rates include West Bloomfield Township at 7.33 mills, which does not include refuse collection, Bloomfield Hills at 6.40 and Bloomfield Township at 6.16.

Although the library has one of the largest circulation in the area, the library budget does not press for new personnel, Costick said.

The 1993-94 general fund budget includes:

■ Revenues: property tax revenue, \$19.0 million; grants, \$18,000; state shared revenue, \$5.17 million; licenses and permits, \$810,000; charges for service, \$2.34 million; interest income, \$750,000; recreation fees, \$835,000; other, \$1.23 million;

■ Expenditures are: general government and administration, \$4.45 million; boards and commissions, \$401,000; 47th District Court, \$1.49 million; library, \$1.94 million; police department, \$9.87 million; fire department, \$2.38 million; special services, \$2.08 million; public services, \$7.12 million; and debt service, \$1.63 million.

Coyotes from page 1A

"People in the city are generally uneducated about the ways of nature," Derek said. "When they see anything other than a squirrel, they panic."

Goss contacted Derek and the Department of Natural Resources. A person at the DNR told him coyotes are usually not a danger to household pets, though they're known to eat small animals such as rabbits.

One recent report included a sighting of a pair of coyotes. That's not unusual, Goss said.

He speculates the pair may have a den in a ravine nearby and could possibly have pups.

Some people in the neighborhood have left bread out for birds, which the coyotes may be eating,

Goss said. But leaving food out for coyotes will only keep them around, Derek said.

Turner, who has a cat and a Shih Tzu dog, is still worried. She said her dog will chase it if he sees it.

"Everybody says don't be afraid," Turner said. "I have a fear because of my animals and my neighbors have small children ..."

There have been coyote sightings in Farmington Hills and other areas in southeast Michigan. Coyotes are nomadic animals that generally live in remote areas.

■ 'People in the city are generally uneducated about the ways of nature. When they see anything other than a squirrel, they panic.'

Naturalist Joe Derek Farmington Hills resident

Said Goss, "I guess they're here. Word to the wise: Leave them alone and they probably won't bother you."

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