



Mocking it up: Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates didn't really have an injured leg, but Dr. Laurie Wallace (right) and nurse Debbie Prater were on hand to help out had there been a real disaster.

## Local celebrities flock to new emergency wing

BY BILL COUTANT  
STAFF WRITER

It looked worse than it really was for several local celebrities who ended up in Botsford General Hospital's new emergency department.

The hospital celebrated the completion of the new wing by giving the staff a "dry run" at the expense of the mayor of Farmington Hills, famous former professional athletes, local business owners and celebrities from the area's media on Friday during a special 9-1-1 event.

"It's wonderful," said Dr. Ron Lagerfeld, head of the new emergency department. "This is so much bigger. The old ED was really tiny."

The celebrities were wheeled in with their mock injuries, cared for and then treated to a tour and refreshments by many of the department's staff, including doctors, administrators and nurses.

Former Detroit Lions great Terry Barr came in with injuries suffered during an old-timers' game at the Silverdome; State Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, was treated for injuries from a rock thrown by an angered voter; police Chief Bill Dwyer recovered nicely from an arrhythmic heart suffered over

lunch at the Rotary Club; Bob Heinrich, president of Metropolitan Bank, was treated for acute paralysis caused by his reaction to a plunge in the futures market, and county commissioner David Moffitt survived a fall down the stairs.

WKQI-FM morning show host Dick Purtan came in with injuries caused by a turntable thrown at him during an argument with his Purtan's People.

"Can you fix my sport coat too?" he said during treatment for facial injuries.

The popular radio personality noticed that the new trauma room in the emergency department had not been used.

"There's no blood on the floor," he said.

Purtan then admitted that his crew had not injured him.

"It's one of those things when you get an irate listener that can't take a joke."

Purtan also said he'd been previously admitted to Botsford — "for food poisoning."

Botsford Chief Executive Officer Gerson Cooper was quick to point out that "it wasn't from our food."

Patients with real injuries will be treated in the new 92,000-square-foot wing beginning Nov. 9. The wing is part of a \$36 million project to expand and improve Botsford services. Because of its proximity to major highways and a population movement to the northwest suburbs, emergency room visits have jumped from 23,000 in 1987 to a projected 42,000-43,000 in 1994.

## Hills man's car phone cuts off gunman

A car phone may have saved the life of a Farmington Hills man Sunday in Livonia.

While in the drive-through line at McDonald's on Farmington Road, a 36-year-old man ex-

changed obscene gestures with the driver of another car in line. The other driver got out of his car and withdrew a black handgun.

The Farmington Hills man drove off down Farmington to

westbound Six Mile Road. When he noticed the other man in pursuit, he called the police from his car phone. Seeing the car phone, the other man abandoned the chase.

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