



Getting around: Chuck Firmment goes from OCC's B Building to the cafeteria with a friend, Ali Moosavi of Farmington Hills.



Day in class: Chuck Firmment (right) sits in on Jim Cook's class on World Religions at OCC Orchard Ridge.

STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEZMIEUX

Turns

from page 1A

and a part had to be removed. A rod had been inserted to lengthen it to its former size, unsuccessfully, and now a brace that looks like something built with an Erector set, surrounds the leg.

Two more operations and a lot more physical therapy await, but much of the outgoing Firmment's ordeal is behind him. After the accident and during many difficult procedures, Firmment went through a lot of pain medication. Unluckily, he became dependent on that pain medicine and had to eventually beat that habit at the same time he was trying to cope with his loss of mobility and the possible loss of his leg.

"They had a Halloween party (Oct. 31, 1991) at the hospital, and I was in a wheelchair going around (trick or treating) and one of the nurses thought I was pretending. When she said that, it hit me. That was hard to accept."

His family's help has made a big difference. Even younger brother Dennis, 17, has supplied some comic relief.

"The woman who came to help me was gorgeous," he said. "My brother said, 'you'll do anything to meet beautiful women.'"

Firmment, who had been a 4.0 student before the accident, finished his high school career at the alternative school and started in January at the Orchard Ridge campus of OCC.

"Frankly, I'm a better person because of this," he said.

After hundreds of hours with health professionals and physical therapists at Botsford Hospital and Children's Hospital in Detroit where he now receives therapy, Firmment has decided that he'd like a career where he can help people.

But riding his bike is something he still misses. He would ride 100 miles in a week, something he may never do again.

"It was a passion, a spiritual thing," he said. "It was taken away from me."

Firmment said he has forgiven the driver in most respects.

"I can understand that they wouldn't stop and help," he said.

"But even if they went to a phone and called (anonymously), that would be something. But they didn't even do that."

Accepting his fate was not easy, but it was the only way to deal with his situation, Firmment said.

"I think otherwise I would have gone insane."



Relaxing at home: His OCC schedule over for the day, Chuck Firmment takes it easy at his Farmington Hills home.

WIN A FREE CRUISE!

ROYAL CARIBBEAN

Join America's finest cruise expert, Larry Fishkin, a Royal Caribbean Ed. Ed. in an exciting presentation: **EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT CRUISING BUT DIDN'T KNOW WHO TO ASK.**

CRUISE TOPICS:
 (Higher cruise prices means you should know all the tips and tricks to save money)

WHEN: Sunday, April 10, 1994 • 1:00-2:30 p.m.
WHERE: The Townsland Hotel, Regency Room
 100 Townsland Street, Birmingham

COST: \$5.00 Admission * Proceeds donated to Children's Hospital of Michigan

For More Information, Call **THE CRUISE LINE, INC.**
1-800-777-0707



Church of Today
Presents ...

Father Leo Booth

"Creating Positive Lifestyles"

Four consecutive Wednesdays
beginning April 6, 1994
1:00 and 7:30 p.m.

Nationally-acclaimed author and lecturer, Father Leo Booth, will help you create a wonderful life. In this spectacular four-week course, he will discuss how to turn the obstacles in your life into opportunities for success, joy and fulfillment. Don't miss this amazing series!

A Love Offering of \$5 is suggested.

Call Church of Today at (810) 758-3050 for further information.

Church of Today
11200 11 Mile Road East
Warren, MI 48099
(810) 758-3050

Sunday Television 8:00 a.m. • WKBD Channel 50

IN NEED OF A

CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER

LENNOX

FREE ESTIMATES
825-1930
UNITED TEMPERATURE
8919 Macdowell • Livonia

Best Selection of Quality
Wooden Play Structures

GROW GROW GROW
 Summer of healthy play
for your kids!

A NEW OFFER of
modular play systems that
grow grow grow
 (Swingsets start at \$269)

The Doll Hospital & Toy Sallon Shop
 5847 W. 42 Street • Warren
 (810) 825-5112 • 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. • 104

Custom Connect Classifieds

The New Voice in Classified Advertising

New Custom Connect Classifieds extend the range and power of the traditional print ad with voice Classified Service PLUS extended customer access through the Ameritech Pages Plus section of the Yellow Pages phone book.

Custom Connect Classifieds Feature:

- Provide 24-Hour Access and Security, screen responses at your convenience and leave messages or further instructions. There is no need to release your name, phone number or business address.
- Advertise in one newspaper, but reach potential customers throughout the network.
- Promote Employment, Vehicles/Boats and Accessories for Sale and Real Estate classifieds with additional categories on the way.
- Target markets and respondents.

With Custom Connect Classifieds all types of businesses can screen responses faster, at a reduced overhead. You won't tie up phones or valuable personnel waiting for customers to answer your classified ads.

Custom Connect Classified Directory

Real Estate	Vehicles/Boats & Accessories	27 Nissan
0150 Commercial sale	0163 Antique/Classic cars	28 Toyota
0151 Condominiums/ Townhouses	0164 Automobiles for sale	29 Volkswagen
0152 Houses for sale	0165 4-wheel drive	Employment
0153 Houses for sale/ Waterfront	0166 Imported/Sports cars	0175 Domestic
0154 Income property	0167 Motorcycles	0176 General
0155 Industrial property	0168 Trucks	0177 Medical/Dental
0156 Lots/Acreage	0169 Vans	0178 Office/Clerical
0157 Mobile homes	0170 Vehicles wanted	0180 Situations wanted
0158 Out of town property	0171 Boots/Motors/Supplies	Options
0159 Real estate wanted	0172 Dockage/Storage	While You Listen
0160 Resort lake property/ Cottages	0173 Parts & Accessories	Press 2
0162 Rentals	0174 Recreational vehicles	To go back to the previous message
When asked, enter the appropriate two digit code for county:	When asked, enter the appropriate two digit code for automobile make:	Press 3
21 Livingston	21 Chrysler	To go forward to next message
22 Macomb	22 Ford	Press 4
23 Monroe	23 General Motors	To leave a voice mail message
24 Oakland	24 Eagle	Press the *
25 Wayne	25 Geo	To hear information on all items within the category
26 Other counties	26 Honda	

To Place Advertising

- When you place a classified ad for Real Estate, Employment or Vehicles/Boats, tell the representative that you are interested in Custom Connect Classifieds. (29) will appear at the end of your ad, preceded by (810) 433-4800 and followed by two 4-digit extensions.
- Any one with a touch-tone phone throughout the network who responds to your ad will hear your personally recorded message, and can leave a message on your mailbox.
- Call Custom Connect Classifieds from any touch-tone phone 24-hours a day, seven days a week, to check responses to your ad. You will have a personal password to access your messages, your privacy will be protected.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers Inc. assumes no responsibility for accuracy or content of voice recorded messages.

CALL (313) 591-0900
CALL (810) 644-1070

To Respond To Advertising

Call (810) 433-4800, and enter the appropriate four digit codes when prompted. Listen to the easy-to-follow prompts which will enable you to select advertisements based on country, city, vehicle size, pricing, home features, etc.

CALL (810) 433-4800

Observer & Eccentric
 CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

From Ameritech, USA Heritage Information Services Inc.