

Union picketers don't deter shoppers

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The ABC Warehouse in Farmington Hills was targeted by union picketers Friday, traditionally the biggest shopping day of the year.

"We're just handing out leaflets to let people know that we need their support against the papers," said Karl Pall, one of eight picketers at the Orchard Lake site north of 13 Mile.

Farmington Hills police said there were no problems with

strikers at the store and Pall confirmed that police had asked them not to block access to the store.

"The state police and Farmington Hills police asked us to stay on the sidewalk and not block the entrance," Pall said. "And we're being cooperative."

ABC Warehouse Regional Manager Randy Novenski said there had not been any problems at the store.

"We had a lot of shoppers in

early this morning," he said. "I think they'll be back this afternoon. They're just getting their second wind."

Shoppers didn't appear to be deterred as some of them accepted the leaflets but went into the store.

The picketers were members of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees and were picketing the store because it is advertising in the Detroit News and Detroit Free

Press.

Those newspapers are struck by newspaper unions including the Teamsters, Guild, Graphic Communications, Typographical and Millers unions of Detroit.

Farmington Hills police beefed up its contingent at the Detroit Newspapers Agency's distribution center on Creatview Court in Farmington Hills Wednesday night before Thanksgiving in anticipation of possible problems. There were no incidents.

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

BREAK-INS
Farmington Hills police arrested two Detroit men, 28 and 32, for breaking into the Grand Haggerty Used Auto Parts on Haggerty in Farmington Hills at 12:09 a.m. and stealing tires and other items. Officers saw a brown 1978 Chevy pickup enter the business and leave with the items in the truck bed. The chain link fence had been cut.

The passenger window was broken (\$200) on a black 1995 Chevy Camaro parked on Gettysburg in Farmington Hills Nov. 21 and a \$225 AM/FM stereo and \$500 radar detector were stolen.

A lock was cut (\$20) on a construction trailer at Edwards Glass on Country Club in Farmington Hills Nov. 21 and a \$1,000 Coleman gas generator was stolen.

The rear window of a 1989 Honda Prelude parked on Congress in Farmington Hills was broken (\$200) Nov. 21-22 and a \$250 pair of purple and green men's Rollerblades was stolen.

A rock was thrown through the rear window of a black 1994 Pontiac Grand Am (\$200) parked at Michael's on Orchard Lake in

Farmington Hills Nov. 22 and a \$200 CD player was stolen.

The passenger window was broken out (\$150) of a white 1990 Ford van parked on 12 Mile in Farmington Hills Nov. 22 and power tools, hand tools and a wallet (\$800) were stolen.

DOMESTIC ASSAULT
Farmington Hills police arrested a Hills man, 37, for choking and threatening a Hills man, 18, at their Section 33 home at 1 a.m. Nov. 20.

THEFTS
A \$2,700 Toshiba laptop computer, \$300 Mitsubishi VCR and a \$100 brief case were stolen from a brown 1994 Mazda 626 parked on Greening in Farmington Hills Nov. 19-20.

A \$2,500 Craftsman tool box with tools and an \$800 semi-automatic pistol were stolen from a residence on Herndonwood in Farmington Hills Nov. 20.

A \$300 Motorola cellular phone was stolen from a red 1996 Chevy pickup parked at Applied Concrete on Hathaway in Farmington Hills Nov. 20.

Two rings, one with 19 diamonds and one with a blue sapphire, worth \$25,000 were stolen from a residence on Jefferson in Farmington Hills Nov. 13.

A \$500 brown, black and tan German shepherd was stolen from Dog Gone Acres on Middlebelt in Farmington Hills Nov. 19.

A \$359 cellular phone was stolen from a back office at the Pediatric Association of Farmington on Orchard Lake Road Nov. 20-21.

A \$3,500 IBM Think Pad computer was stolen from Alexander Hamilton Insurance on Hamilton Court in Farmington Hills Nov. 20.

VANDALISM
The tires were punctured on a green 1992 Lincoln Continental parked on Shiawassee in Farmington Hills Nov. 19-20 causing \$400 in damage.

A chair was thrown into a wall and ceiling at Warner Middle School on 14 Mile in Farmington Hills Nov. 15 by a student, 13, causing \$200 in damage.

CHILD ABANDONMENT
Farmington Hills police ticketed a Southfield woman, 40, for leaving her daughter, 21 months, in her gray 1992 Toyota van in the lot of Dian and Co. on 12 Mile from 12:30-1:40 p.m. The child was strapped into a car seat and the van was locked. She had a winter coat on. The temperature was 41 degrees and sunny at the

time. The child appeared to be unharmed.

ASSAULT
A Detroit man, 17, told Farmington Hills police that two men, 17 and 20, attacked him while he was working at his job at Botsford General Hospital on Grand River in Farmington Hills at 4:25 p.m. Nov. 20.

A Farmington Hills man, 19, told Hills police that his car was sidwiped by a white van on westbound 12 Mile east of Haggerty Nov. 21. The man confronted the van driver who hit him.

A Hills man, 41, said that one of his students, 14, at Warner Middle School hit him twice while he was being taken to the office for disciplinary action Nov. 15.


FIRES
Farmington Hills firefighters put out an engine fire in a 1987 Toyota Camry on eastbound I-696 west of Middlebelt in Farmington Hills at 8:25 a.m. Nov. 21. The driver pulled over when he heard a pop in the engine and then saw flames coming out of the engine, he told firefighters. The car was totaled (\$2,000) and there was \$200 in damage to contents.

See **POLICE CALLS**, 6A

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Dr. Smereck is a graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry. Prior to completing the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery, Dr. Smereck was the dental hygienist at this office. She is also a graduate of the University of Michigan School of Dental Hygiene.

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