THUCK from page A9

should.

"Drivers have to eyeball what's going into their truck," Gourlay said. "If there's too nuch weight, the axles can collapse."

One of the biggest mesanges truckers want to get across to motorists is that trucks, when packed, creep along while building up apeed. Gourlay has a 10-speed transmission, and it takes quite a distance for him to get from one to 10.

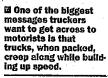
In fact, on turns, it seems Gourlay's truck, with a 53-foot trailer packed with a duminum wheel drums and his cab pushed by a 425 H.P. engine, struggles and strains a lot, yet barely budges.

"People get mad if vow're not

and strains a lot, you wanted, budges.
"People get mad if you're not going fast enough," Gourlay said.
"But it takes a long time to get going, as well as it takes a long time to stop."

Fighting fatigue

Fighting fatigue
One of the biggest battles
Gourlay said long-distance
truckers have to fight is fatigue.
By law, truckers can't drive more
than 10 hours a day. But at the
end of their 10 hours, they often
can't find a safe place to stop.
"If they don't get into a spot
early enough, they won't get in,"
Gourlay said. "So they keep driv-



ing. That's our biggest reasen for having accidents."

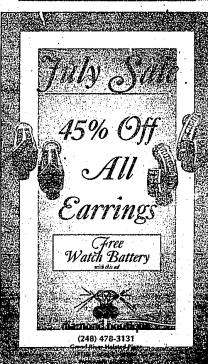
With his daycab driving job, Gourlay doesn't have to deal with finding a place to stop at night. But he understands how "performance can drop" after eight or so hours on the road. For truckers, despite all the dangers, freeway driving is a breeze compared to the hassless they deal with once they turn off the freeway onto main or residential roads.

Headaches here include frequent stapping because of traffic lights, low-hanging tree branches and wires, low bridges, navigating tight corners and watching out for people getting out of parked cars.

"Freeways are safer than surface streets," Gourlay said.







POLICE AND FIRE NEWS

The following are police and fire incidents that occurred in Farmington and Farmington Hills during the post week.

HOISE COMPLAINTS

HOISE COMPLAINTS

In Farmington Hilles
Police ticketoit a garbage hauler under the city's londing and rolliance after he was picking up trash behind the Merchant of Vinn ou Middlabelt and 12 Mile at 6:30 a.m. July 16. Police received numeron's complaints from nearby readicits about the noise. The driver, who didn't want to accept the ticket, and he was unavare of the city law prohibiting leading and unloading between the hours of 8 p.m.

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CHILD ADAMDONMENT

CHILD ADAMPONMENT
In Formington Hillis:
Police ticketed a Farmington
Hillis mother, 30, for leaving
four children agea 8, 6, 4 and 2
unattended in a 1996 Ford
Windstar outside Target on
Grand Kiver around 1:25 p.m.
July 16. The engine was running with the air-conditioning,
n, police reports said. The 8year-old boy said his mother
said she'd only be a few minutes: She told police she was in
the atorio between 15-20 minutes. It's illogal to leave a childunattended under 11 years old.

HEFF

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole a stump grinder worth \$12,000 from Trees-R-Us on Eight Mile Road

between July 14-15.

A woman said someone stole a check from her purue and cushed it for 5685 between July 15-16. The woman, who is handienpied, receives home care, another check had been written for \$2,000, which the victim said shed have cauceled.

A \$400 air compressor was reported stolen from a llunnymede residence between July 17-18.

Auto Hieri
In Farmington Hills:
A black 1987 Pontiac Grand
Prix was atolen from the Botsford Hospital parking lot July
18

RECKLESS DRIVING

RECIGIESS DRIVING
In Furnington Hills:
Police ticketed a Hills man,
31, for recidess driving after a
man on a bike had to swerve
onto Eight Mile Road to avoid
being hit by a 1997 Dodge
Dakota exiting Little Valley
Trailer Park on July 16. The
bicyclist lost control of his bike
and fell; cutting both hands
from a glass bottle he'd been
carrying. A witness said the
driver didn't look when he
pulled out of the drivoway,
police reports stated.

MARIJUANA ARREST

MARIDANA ARREST
In Farmington Hills:
Police arrested two males, ages 20 and 17, after finding 3 grams of marijuana Inside a plastic bag in the center console of the 1999 Chevrolet Cavalier

CRACK ARREST

CHACK ARREST

In Farmington Hills:
Police arrested two males for sale and manufacturing of crack occasion after a SONIC undercover officer made two buys at Guteway Apartments July 17-18. Patrol units stopped the 1988 Magdan on 12 Mile and Middlebelt shortly after the second buy took place around 1:30 a.m. A Novi officer recovered: 5200 used in the recent buy onwell se \$103 from a purchase carlier that night. Police later conducted a search of a Gateway Apartment residence where investigators believed each was manufactured. Officers found a digital seale and packaging material.

ACCIBENT

ACCIDENT

Accident.

In Farmington Hills:
Police believe a driver who left the scene of an accident at Haggerty and 14 Mile was on a heroin high at the time. An Oakland County Sheriff found the 1984 Buick Regal on Welch. Road and Pontice Trail infar it. left the scene. Hills police later interviewed the driver, who admitted she panticed and left the scene. She also said she used heroin six hours before the accident. Police also found 3.5 grams of marijuann in the woman's pouch. She was arrested and taken to Botsford Hospital to have her blood

purked at Forest Elementary drawn, which will be sent to the School shortly after midnight Michigan State Police crime lab for analysis,

ABRAULT

for analysis.

AREAINT

In Farmington Millier

A stiff over a CD 18d to an arguingst at Little Capesars on 12 Mile where a manager had to an arguingst at Little Capesars on 12 Mile where a manager had to subdue in a employee who, tried to lunge at another, toemage with a pitze cutter duly 17. The omployee said the teen and two friends came to the pitza place, demanding he return a CD he owns. When the amployee refused, the teen punched him. The teen, who is black, said the employee used a pacial silur, which the employee denied. A manager said he didn't see who hit who first but intervened when the amployee grabed the pizza cutter knife. Later, police arrested a girl wheid accompanied the teen after finding she had the employees pager.

SHOPLIFING

SHOPLIFTING ...

SHOPLIFING

In Farmington Hills:
Police arrested a Dotroit man,
46. after someone ran out without paying for a \$90 pair of
Rockports at Famous Footwear
on Orchard Lake July 17. Police
stopped a U-Haul truck that the
man left in. Three people were
inside, including a man with a
now pair of Rockports! Police
also found several bings of morchaudiac, including clothes and
cameras, that didn't have any
receipts. Police arrested the
driver, a Detreit woman, 37, for
driving on a suspended ligense.

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