

By Jude! They did it

Jailbirds raise \$15,000 for world-famous children's hospital

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St. Jude Children's Research Hospital can compete with any police department.

In one day, they had 35 suspects arrested and brought in \$15,000 cash. Unlike a police department, the suspects — participating in "Captured for Kids" — volunteered their time in jail and the loot was raised for the research hospital Thursday at Saturn of Farmington Hills.

"They were just normal everyday people who volunteered their time," said Amy Kalbfleisch, regional representative for St. Jude. "It was an outstanding event."

Kalbfleisch said the \$15,000 raised was an excellent result of the daylong fundraiser at the dealership on Halsted.

"The dealership provided us a location and drivers to pick up the jailbirds," Kalbfleisch said.

Actually, the arrests weren't news to the jailbirds. They had been informed previously of the "Captured for Kids" event, now in its second year at the Saturn dealership.

"The dealership is just outstanding," Kalbfleisch said.

The goal is for the jailbirds to raise

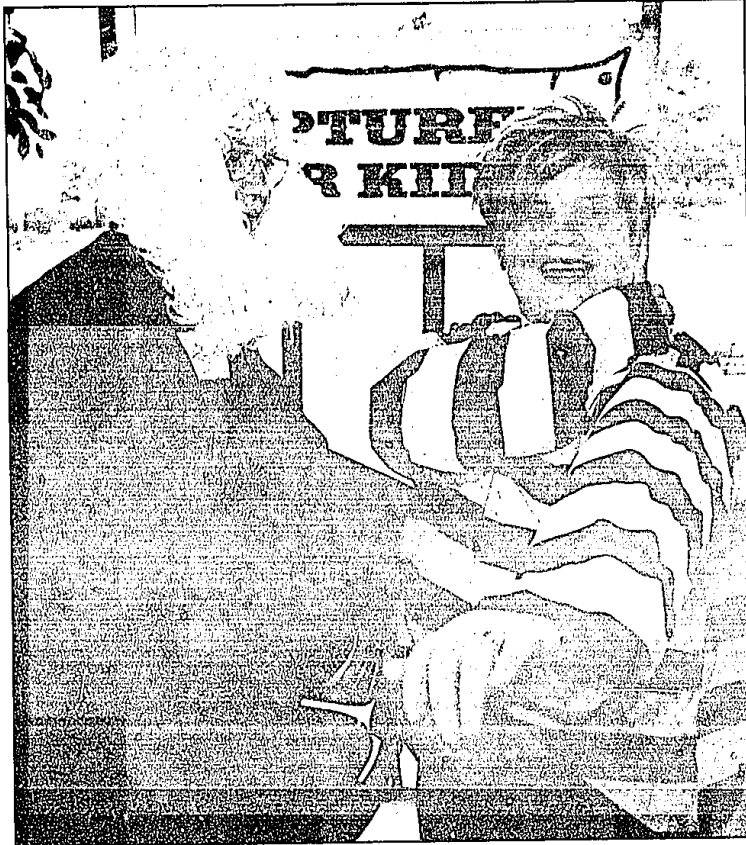
■ Farmington Hills police officer Anthony Gaedcke spent a part of his day also helping the fund-raiser by lending some real life drama.

money from friends and family for St. Jude's, with a minimum \$200 required. But if a jailbird is really down and out, they may pass on that requirement, Kalbfleisch said.

Farmington Hills police officer Anthony Gaedcke spent a part of his day also helping the fund raise by lending some real life drama. "He did an awesome job. He actually drove his patrol car to go get some of the jailbirds," Kalbfleisch said.

To make the arrests even more authentic, St. Jude representatives — helped by five volunteers from Epsilon Sigma Alpha — produced mock arrest warrants and fake hand cuffs.

And who knows, a sale may even have been made by one of the jailbirds. "He was asking all kinds of questions about the cars..." Kalbfleisch said.



HEADY THOUGHT BY ELIZABETH CARNEGIE



Get me out... "Inmates," from left, Jennifer Holt, Annmarie Parker and Ruth Yheuton call on friends and family to raise their bail money.

Processed: "Judge" Kay Mayer helps inmate Allison Smola in to her prison garb at Saturn of Farmington Hills Thursday.



But your honor... Judge Kay Mayer, at right, prepares to sentence two new prisoners brought in by Sheriff Charlotte Williams, at left. The prisoners are Katie Gilkes and Allison Smola



Smile: Amy Kalbfleisch, regional representative for St. Jude, sets her camera to photograph new prisoner Allison Smola.

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