

Detroit Lions player arrested for drunken driving

BY JONI HUBBARD
STAFF WRITER
jhubbard@oe.homescomm.net

A Farmington Hills police officer who stopped to check on a motorist he suspected might be intoxicated got a little more than he bargained for when he checked the driver's identification.

Media spotlights fired firmly on the Hills Police Department Tuesday after word got out that a 25-year-old Detroit Lions defensive back had been arrested on a drunken driving charge.

According to Police Chief Bill Dwyer, a higher level crime operating under the influence of liquor II - would be pursued because the man had been arrested on the same charge a year ago in California.

If convicted, the suspect could face up to a year in jail. Dwyer also noted National Football League officials had contacted him for a copy of the report.

Detroit Lions officials were unavailable for comment.

The officer stopped the suspect's 2000 Mercedes at 2:40 a.m. Monday, on Grand River near Middlebelt. Or, more accurately, the car was already stopped, at the Grand River/M-5 intersection.

"Cars were having to drive around him, and that obviously drew the attention of the officer," Dwyer said.

"Police said the driver admitted to having had four drinks after the officer noticed a strong odor of liquor. He volunteered to take

FARMINGTON HILLS

two preliminary breath tests, both of which registered a .15 blood alcohol level, Dwyer said.

The man was arrested and held in the Hills lock-up until he was released on bond around 6:20 a.m.

"He was very cooperative and

polite through the whole thing," Dwyer said.

If convicted, the defensive back could be off the playing field for quite some time. According to Oakland County Assistant Prosecutor Jim Halushka, a second offense carries a maximum sentence of a year in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine and a year-long driver's license suspension. He could also face 90 days of community service.

"He's on probation for the prior

offense, so he's going to be in violation of that as soon as he's convicted here," Halushka said.

As for whether the player's relative fame will play a part to say, Halushka had only this to say: "Anyone with any priors won't get any bargains at all. That's just how we do business here. Since he did this just a year ago, he's obviously got a problem."

At press time, the suspect had not been arraigned.

Incumbent Davis and newcomer Wangler take top votes in race

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER
pmurphy@oe.homescomm.net

OCC

Was it the endorsement from the Teamsters Union or the lowest voter turnout on record? Anyway, the chair of the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees has been ousted.

While both were undoubtedly factors in Monday's OCC election, the top vote-getters attributed their success to campaign organization and networking, respectively.

"I had a lot of people who worked very hard," John A. Wangler said Wednesday, after uncertified election results showed him the top vote-getter



John A. Wangler

endorsement of Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson, who also endorsed Crew.

Thus, when viewed through the perspective of endorsements, the teamsters and the executive were tied with one victory each.

"We don't see it as us against Mt. Patterson," teamster business agent Sheryl L. Langdon said Wednesday. "But we're very happy about electing Mr. Wangler, although we'd like to have elected both our candidates."

"But you can bet we'll be more involved in future OCC elections," said Langdon, herself a former OCC student.



Pamela Davis

Patterson was unavailable for comment Wednesday. Earlier in the week, however, the executive said he too would be "more involved" in future OCC elections.

The executive said he had no argument, particularly, with the teamsters. But he had endorsed Davis and Crew because, based on his information, they had worked well on the board and deserved re-election.

Patterson considers OCC to be an important asset - particularly in providing skilled workers for the high-tech companies that make up "Automation Alley."

Wangler will assume his

duties as trustee at the board July organization meeting. He said he will also cancel plans to teach part time at OCC. Wangler taught psychology and philosophy at the college for 24 years before retiring.

"I don't see any conflict of interest in my continuing to teach (at OCC) part-time," he said. "But I simply won't have time."

Theresa Wangler, his wife, plans to continue at OCC, where she teaches medical classes and psychology.

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Davis pulled 242 votes more than fellow board incumbent Carol L. Crew of Waterford, who finished third with 6,725 votes.

Candidate Richard J. Akhurst of Royal Oak was fourth with 3,950 votes, while Athena Dumas-Lawrence of Pontiac and Marjorie Nantian Mugerian of Farmington Hills, finished fifth and sixth, with 2,504 and 2,227 votes, respectively.

All totals are unofficial until certified by the Oakland County Board of Canvassers, possibly Friday or early next week. Once the totals are certified, candidates have six days to file for any recount.

The 31,392 votes cast in Monday's election - in a county with 850,000 registered voters - is believed to be the lowest turnout in OCC history, according to unofficial records.

The election of Wangler and Davis will undoubtedly have analysts shaking their heads and mulling over voting tallies. Wangler, along with Akhurst, had been endorsed by Teamsters Local 214, one of five collective bargaining units at OCC, representing about 110 administrators and managers.

The teamsters had also "targeted" Davis for defeat.

Davis, however, had the

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