

Charges from page A1

since had his license to practice suspended.

A 27-year-old woman claimed in an earlier court hearing that Quinn kept her drugged in his Hills apartment for a month and brought rape claims against the man to police. She threatened to

kill herself with a shotgun last Wednesday at a Hills motel.

After a nearly eight-hour negotiation, she agreed to give up the gun. The married woman is currently hospitalized, but expected to be released soon, Dwyer said.

Plan from page A1

The amount of the incentive increases with the number of teachers who want to take advantage of the plan. With 21-25 participants, the incentive is \$20,000; 26-35, \$25,000; 36-45, \$30,000 and 46 or more, \$35,000.

The district expects about 20 retirements anyway and budgeted accordingly. "Anything after that becomes a real incentive," Zurvalec said.

Teachers must meet specific retirement prerequisites. If they are close to retirement, the plan also allows them, if they qualify, to use the plan to purchase additional retirement years.

For instance, someone with 27 years of service could use the money to purchase up to three years of credit, allowing them to retire early, Chrzanowski said.

He estimated about 100-120 of the district's 950 teachers would be eligible to retire.

"In accordance with legal requirements, each teacher will have at least a 45-day window period, Feb. 8 to March 28, in which to elect the plan and at least a seven-day waiting period, March 29 to April 9, following the selection of the plan to revoke their request," Zurvalec said.

Harrison cheerleaders confess to thefts

BY SUE BUCK

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Three Harrison High School cheerleaders — two 16 and one 15 — face a hearing in Family Court following thefts that occurred at Farmington High School during a cheerleading competition Feb. 2.

About \$2,600 in items were recovered, according to Farmington Public Safety Director Gary Goss. They included makeup, cell phones, compact discs and team T-shirts.

The junior varsity and varsity competition drew 12 schools.

"Space was at a priority and many of the young ladies left their purses, back packs and duffel bags in the girls' locker room," Goss said. "When the items were discovered missing, the coaches took the cheerleaders into the gymnasium and began to ask questions of the squads. These young ladies admitted to the larcenies."

The items taken were owned by 20 girls, Goss said. "None of the items in the lockers were touched."

He believes the incident was simply a poor decision on their part and there's no information to indicate any prior arrests, he said. "This is not typical of the Farmington Schools in particular."

The girls were released to their parents at the scene. They were suspended from Farmington Public Schools pending an investigation, according to Farmington Superintendent Bob Maxfield.

"The coach was mortified that it happened," Maxfield said. "You can imagine how badly

their families feel. There's legal and school consequences."

"The fact that the articles were left in the locker room unattended speaks to the level of trust and camaraderie that exists between the cheerleaders, coaches and teachers present at the time," Goss said. "It was a violation of trust."

Larceny is a felony offense for adults, punishable by four years in prison. Family Court will decide the penalty for these juveniles, he said.

Gasso brothers show Chaldean pride

BY KEVIN BROWN

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Brother Rice High School senior "Salim - the Chaldean Dream" Gasso has a sense of humor, as revealed by that slogan scrawled in white on his black school backpack.

But Gasso and his brothers, of Farmington Hills, also show a particular sense of tradition and family pride.

Four Gasso brothers followed an uncle and two cousins to the private Bloomfield Township school - Salim: Tommy, a junior, Andrew, a sophomore, and freshman Steven. They get up at 6:30 a.m. and compete for bathroom space before Salim drives them to school in a patriot-blue Dodge Durango.

There are two younger brothers in middle school, Patrick and Jonathan.

The boys are first-generation Americans. Their father Thamer,



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL DEKLEER

Brothers: The Gasso brothers, Salim, Steven, Andrew and Tommy stopped moving long enough to be photographed in the hallways of Birmingham Brother Rice High School.

a hotel owner-manager, and mother Lamia, were born in

Iraq. The brothers say they embrace their heritage and the notion of close family ties.

"We know we have to look out for each other," Salim said. "We try to live our lives around our ethnicity, the language and the customs."

He recalled the time someone was giving his younger brother Steven a hard time at the movies. Salim approached the youth: "I just pulled him aside and said, 'Why are you messing with my brother? I can be intim-

idating sometimes,'" he said, smiling.

But those who know Salim at Brother Rice say he projects a warm, fun presence - and so do his brothers.

"We had a pep rally and Salim was out on the floor, leading the crowd," recalled Aimee Northrup, school director of media relations.

The Sept. 11 tragedy did spark one negative comment directed to the boys. "There's always one in the crowd," Salim said. "It wasn't too bad. We were at the movies and someone said 'Go back to your own country.'"

Friends at school are curious about the brothers' heritage.

"They talk about the (Middle Eastern) food; they love it," their classmates are also curious when the Gassos speak their native language among themselves. "They always ask me, 'Say something in Chaldean,'" Salim said.

The older brothers help the younger ones with homework. The brothers all participate in intramural sports, and Andrew plays junior varsity basketball. They all work Saturdays at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Novi.

"What's toughest about school?" "Physics," said Salim, adding the school dress code is demanding.

But when it's time for his two youngest brothers to attend high school, "They'll go here," he said.

CLARIFICATION

The Governor Warner Mansion, which is normally open every Wednesday from 1-5 p.m., will be closed to the public through the month of February.

In a story profiling Caveni's Pizza, the location of the store was misstated. It is near the intersection of Farmington and Eight Mile Roads.

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