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today's hot line

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bulletin

State and local police began the breakup of a widespread auto theft racket with seizure early Tuesday of more than 40 expensive model cars which had been stolen and resold.

Recoveries were made in Southfield, Livonia, Farmington, Westland, Oak Park, Clawson and Sterling Heights, according to Sgt. Leo Heatley of the State Police Organized Crime Division. Six cars were seized in Jackson County and one each in Berrien and Kent counties, he said.

Cars now in custody are valued at nearly \$250,000, "and we may be only at the tip of an iceberg," said Capt. Edward Ritenour of the Southfield police.

No arrests have yet been made but police "have suspects and probably organized crime figures in Detroit are involved," Sgt. Heatley said.

The investigation began about six weeks ago, Capt. Ritenour said, after police realized that the rate of non-recoveries of stolen cars was higher than usual and that the most expensive makes of cars were predominant among them.

what's inside

Bussing

What do the federal court hearings on school integration mean to the suburbs? W. Edward Wendover was in Judge Roth's courtroom Monday and tells what it means to Observerland, and we've made a map of one group's possible integration plan.

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Dinghy's Brigade

Farmington mothers wanting to get involved in Farmington Schools could join a PTA or enlist in the "Bucket Brigade." The Bucket Brigade is a volunteer program now being organized by a volunteer named Dinghy.

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City Plans To Petition State For Rouge Watershed Group

The City of Farmington Monday expressed its willingness to petition for establishment of watershed council to properly manage the Rouge River in Oakland County.

If two other cities join Farmington in petitioning for formation, a Rouge River Watershed Council could be organized to control quality of water in the river.

GENERAL SCOPE of the council would be to control the river flow by operation of dams, reservoirs, conduits and other man-made devices to improve uses of the river for private and public benefits.

The council would be designed to promote cooperation among local

governments in river management among the communities in Oakland County which are affected by the Rouge basin.

The request to form the watershed council was made by Bernard F. Lennon, chairman of the public works committee of Oakland County. Lennon reports Oakland County has appropriated \$15,000, and Wayne County \$20,000, for a study of flooding and pollution of the Rouge.

The county, however, lacks authority to initiate the action needed to form a watershed council. Public Act 253 requires a petition from three cities to the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to form the council.

IF FORMED, City Manager

John Dinan explains, the council would be represented by each local government using the river for water supply or waste disposal.

Each city shall appoint one representative for each 20,000 persons and each county having 15 per cent or more of its area in the watershed will appoint one representative and one additional representative for each 20,000 persons, to be computed from eligible townships not otherwise represented.

"Presently there is very little control of the River Rouge basin because it traverses through the various communities in Oakland County," says Dinan. "It is going to be a continuing effort to improve the quality of water in the Rouge, then we

believe the formation of a watershed council would be in order.

"Certain segments of the stream are much worse than they are in the City of Farmington, and these certainly should be improved if we are going to regain high quality water in our streams."

The council voted 5-0 to favor formation of the watershed council and to advise Lennon the city would sign a petition requesting the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to establish the council. Motion was made by Fred Siebert and supported by John Allen.

SOME OF the activities a watershed council is expected to perform include:

- Making studies of the resources of the watershed, water uses, quality and reliability of the water resource;

- Reporting periodically on trends in water use and availability and emerging water use problems;

- Surveying the watershed to determine minimum levels of stream flow needed for health, welfare and safety;

- Creating a "river management district and sign a petition requesting the Michigan Natural Resources Commission to establish the council. Motion was made by Fred Siebert and supported by John Allen.

- Cooperating with governmental agencies in providing stream gauges, water quality sampling stations or other data-gathering facilities;

- And establishing sub-committees or advisory

committees as needed along with hiring executive secretary and clerical help, including consultants, as needed and allowable in an approved budget.

IN OTHER action, the council passed a resolution urging the Michigan Municipal League to supply concerted opposition from cities in the state to proposed rate hikes asked by Detroit Edison.

The proposed hikes would add \$15,000 annually to the city's budget for street lighting expenses and also increase charges made to individual residential users. The council voted to have an appraisal made on the Dairy Maid property in the Downtown Farmington Center to see if it can be purchased for additional parking.

Under terms of the deal, the city would acquire the property which would be paid for by the Downtown Farmington Center Corp. on a special assessment basis.

A REPORT was given by Dinan to the council on improvements made on the slope behind the First Baptist.

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PICKET LINES sprouted early Monday morning on Oakland Community College's Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington after faculty members walked off their jobs for the second time in a month. After failing to reach agreement on a one-year faculty contract despite round-the-clock bargaining, Chief Faculty Negotiator Rod Chase announced that the faculty would resume their boycott

of classes. The 300 faculty members from OCC's three campuses first walked out on Sept. 10 over a contract dispute but went back to work Sept. 17 under a court injunction. The injunction expired late Thursday, Sept. 30, and further attempts at a settlement failed. (Evert photo)

300 On Strike At College Here

By KATHY MORAN

Officially, classes on the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington were never canceled Monday, but faculty members were not meeting with classes.

The 300 members of the OCC Faculty Association resumed their strike on the college's three campuses Monday after failing to reach a contract agreement with administrative bargainers.

The faculty had boycotted classes for a week beginning Sept. 10 but returned to the classrooms under a court injunction on Sept. 17.

For two weeks, faculty and administration negotiators met with a state mediator in bargaining until the injunction expired on Thursday and Oakland County Circuit Judge Robert Templin ordered round-the-clock bargaining.

THE FACULTY chief negotiator, Rod Chase, said OCCFA members met on Sunday to consider proposals offered by the administration and the faculty. They voted to reject the administration's proposal for a two-year contract, but approved a faculty proposal for a one-year agreement.

The only statement from the college's administration on the strike said that the campuses remained open on Monday and facilities were open for use. It added that due to the strike, faculty members were not meeting with classes.

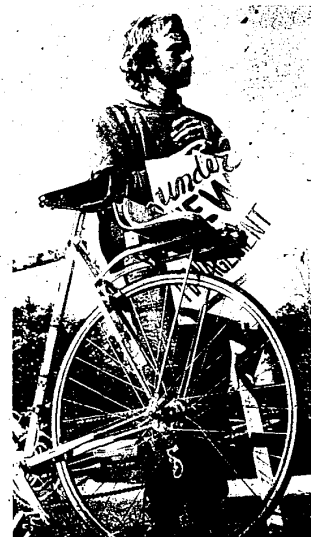
The strike affects the college's Highland Lakes and Auburn Hills campuses, besides Orchard Ridge, for a total of 15,000 students.

The administration also announced that the Board of Trustees would meet Monday evening to consider the situation.

THE APPROVED faculty proposal is "basically the same as the first year of the administration's offer," Chase said.

He said the faculty dispute centers on the proposals for the second year in the administration's offer.

Late Monday afternoon Chase said he had not been requested to meet with the board, though he knew a meeting was scheduled. He added that he had not had any responses from the administration regarding the faculty proposal on Monday. Classes began on the campus on Sept. 8 but were closed two days later because



GEORGE LEINONEN, Orchard Ridge student, joined faculty members on the picket line on the campus Monday. Few students showed up for classes Monday after hearing reports late Sunday and early Monday that faculty members would resume their strike after failing to reach a contract agreement despite two weeks of negotiations with a state mediator. (Evert photo)

Walkout Chances Remain

Farmington teachers have voted to go to fact-finding to settle the salary dispute and give 48-hours strike notice if the board of education declines agreement with the fact-finder's report.

The vote was taken Friday night at a meeting attended by 700 of the 750 members of the Farmington Education Association (FEA), sole bargaining agent for Farmington teachers.

THREE MOTIONS approved by teachers were: to request appointment of a fact-finder to make a recommendation on salary; to go on record now as accepting whatever recommendation the fact-finder makes; and to give a 48-hour strike notice should the school board decline acceptance of the findings.

The action means it will not be necessary for teachers to assemble again for another vote because a strike will automatically follow if the school board doesn't accept the fact-finder's recommendation, says Roger Allen, FEA executive secretary. The steps approved by teachers were advised by the Michigan Education Association (MEA) investigating team assisting local teachers in current negotiations, says Allen, with one exception.

THE MEA team said it would "strongly recommend" a strike vote if the board didn't accept the fact-finder report, but the teachers voted Friday to strike if the report isn't accepted without another vote.

In the meantime, the FEA and school board negotiators will continue bargaining with the aid of a state mediator. The petition to the Michigan Employment Relations Commission was to have been filed by today (Wednesday), Allen said Monday.

Allen added that he hoped the board would join the FEA

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