

Problem Teenage Drivers Discussed by MSU Official

"Teenagers want to be considered adults and the use of the family automobile is an important symbol of 'growing up' and 'acquiring independence,'" according to Dr. William A. Mann, associate professor of teacher education at Michigan State University and a member of the university's Highway Traffic Safety center.

Teenagers in Birmingham and elsewhere in the USA, like power speed and freedom. They enjoy the prestige of driving the family car. "Most teenagers control their natural impulses to speed and drive recklessly," he commented. Their home training and concern for the possible loss of driving privileges influence them to control their driving."

"HOWEVER, a relatively small group of teenage drivers presents special problems," says Dr. Mann. "Their unstable personalities, desire for recognition, hostility toward authority and refusal to accept responsibility combine to make them a problem for human beings as well as problem drivers." It is this group that has the most traffic accidents, the most violation tickets and, gives teenage drivers in general a bad reputation, Dr. Mann points out. "Dealing with this problem group is one of the responsibilities

of the driver education teachers in Michigan's high schools. Driver education teachers must not only be skilled in teaching good driving technique and developing physical skills necessary to good driving but also must be skilled in the dynamics of human behavior, if they are to teach the importance of good attitudes," Dr. Mann explains.

IN RESEARCHING these problem teenage drivers, 100 Michigan driver education teachers under Dr. Mann's direction, selected their worst student driver in each of their respective schools for study.

The study revealed some interesting data: 24 came from broken homes 44 came from homes with serious interpersonal problems 41 had both parents working and/or had little supervision 14 came from over-authoritarian homes 22 appeared to have too many

material things and not enough personal attention

18 had fathers who also were unsafe drivers with bad attitudes toward law enforcement and safe driving practices

52 were described as "show-offs" 16 showed evidence of frequent tickets

40 had had at least one traffic ticket

15 had had their licenses suspended

41 were reported as being seen driving recklessly

56 regularly exceeded safe speeds

(Only two of these drivers were girls.)

DR. MANN reported there were other indications that these teenage problem drivers were not fitting into their life situations effectively. Many were school disciplinarians, a majority were working below the level of their ability and most were not getting along with their teachers.

"Parents, naturally, have a prime responsibility in helping these youngsters adjust to the proper attitudes," Dr. Mann said, but, unfortunately, the teenagers who need the most help apparently do not get much from home."

Through effective teaching, special instruction, individual conferences and cooperative efforts between school and parents, youngsters can be taught the importance of proper attitudes in attaining maturity, which will make them not only better drivers but better citizens, Dr. Mann concluded.

Queen Marcia Lawton Honored at Southfield

By BARBARA TROY, JOHN COUP and JEFF ZATELL

Although Principal Robert Hall teased her about "stepping forward to receive the queen's robes Saturday evening, Marcia Lawton says she was the most surprised girl among the queen candidates when the royal robes were placed around her shoulders.

With great suspense and ceremony, the Southfield high principal walked behind a row of queen candidates and hung the royal robes around Marcia's shoulders, the girl selected by the vote of the students. The balance of the girls became honor attendants and court.

Marcia is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lawton of Magnolia. A junior, she will celebrate her 17th birthday in January. Marcia says she loves ice skating, swimming and has studied ballet for 14 years. She is a member of the Southfield French club, the Sorority and a varsity cheerleader.

Marcia's proud escort to the Homecoming was Joel Darby, president of H-Y. Marcia was H-Y's queen candidate.

Last year's Homecoming queen Susan Deem was at hand to crown the new queen. Senior Cliff Solberg, representing the varsity football team, presented the new queen with an orchid, two-dozen red roses and a congratulatory kiss. Marcia and Cliff led the grand march after the ceremony.

Forming the queen's court were Pat Fiedler, Janice Christensen, Janet Gogberg, Judy Gogberg and Shirley McQuady.

Two Homecoming queens were Pat Graves, 1956; Maya Rittins, 1951; Shirley Stevens, 1953; Lou Wilson, 1953; Rosemarie Berns, 1954; Marilyn Starkey, 1955; Sue Westergaard, 1956 and Sue Deem, 1957.

Marilyn Starkey, Southfield's queen of 1955 was recently voted Homecoming Queen at Central Michigan College. She will reign over Central's dance this weekend.

Each year the number of floats in the Homecoming parade grows greater. This year seven floats added color to Southfield's first night game under the new field lights.

The parade was held during the halftime of the Southfield-Van Dyke football game along with a performance by the Varsity band.

The senior class float featured a large football player and was trimmed in mint green and white, senior class colors.

"Club 'Em Jays'" was the theme of the Pep club float. It featured a blue jay holding a great

theme of the Future Teacher's club float. The Student Council featured two large papier-mache blue jays, one queen and one a quarterback, in honor of the "Queens and Quarterbacks" homecoming dance they sponsored.

Prizes of \$10 were given for beauty and originality. The Varsity float won for beauty and the Pep club float for originality. Judges were instructors Sanford Barr, Richard Fishbeck and Robert Neff assisted by students Charlotte Kloian, Bob Alexander and Priscilla Johnson.

Seniors Sandra Niemi, Carol Domke, Kathy Berberich, Joanne McAleer and Shawnee Smith are auditioning for the Michigan Youth chorus. Students chosen for the chorus will tour Europe during the summer of 1959, giving concerts in England, Ireland, Denmark, Germany and Holland.

By adding a little ginger ale

Derby JHS U.F. Drive Plans Begin

By SUE BREEDLOVE

Derby's goal for the United Foundation drive this year is \$1,500. Mr. De Quis and Mr. Taylor,

to a shrinking supply of cider and then a little 7-U.P. guests at a party at Judy Delaney's believe they invented a new drink. No fatalities yet.

A victory birthday party for Karen Hrdlicka was held at her home following the Southfield-Van Dyke football game Friday.

two eighth grade teachers, are in charge of the drive. The staff and faculty hope for 100 per cent participation from the student body. Activities to help promote enthusiasm are bake sales, slave auctions, crossword contests, book sales, music in the cafeteria, ghost houses with admission fees, and fairs and carnivals in the rooms. A few teachers have volunteered their services for auction. The highest bidders may find a teacher cooking their dinner or raking their lawn. Students and parents are being reminded that the United Fund benefits everyone and are asked to contribute generously.

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Cranbrook Corridor

By TOM RUTH

Leslie Hudson, congressional Democratic candidate from the eighteenth district, spoke Oct. 15 to the student body on the coming elections.

Speaking to a highly partisan audience, Hudson briefly outlined his party's position in three fields. He stated that if elected he would do all in his power to lower the voting age from 21 to 18, saying that by that time teenagers are responsible enough to vote.

Then he went on to say that he is for reappointment in the Congressional Districts in the state so that heavily populated districts would have more representation than they do now.

The last point that Hudson made was that Michigan's taxes are not too high when one considers what this state gets in return. He pointed out that taxes may be lower in Ohio, but schools are more crowded and teachers are paid less.

Cranbrook's skating rink recently replaced an ice resurfacer which will be used this winter, replacing the slow manual care of the ice which was the previous way. The machine shaves off projections in the ice, picks up the loose ice and then casts the ice with hot water, lending a smooth surface.

One man can do the whole rink in fifteen minutes with this machine.

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