

Secret Impulse Behind Killing?

Defense Seeks Commitment of Admitted Slayer

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

A "secret impulse" may have been the reason admitted slayer Daniel Lovas, 15, stabbed a Barnum Junior High seventh grader as she walked on Purdy Street Jan. 24.

Daniel's admission of the slaying of Nancy Jean Jones, 14, was brought out Tuesday in testimony at a hearing before Oakland County Probate Judge Norman R. Barnard.

Although the boy has been ordered held as a temporary ward of the court until a disposition of the case can be handed down March 10, defense attorneys have said they have already filed a petition on behalf of the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Lovas, 104 Smith, to have Daniel committed to Pontiac or Northville State Hospital for treatment.

A petition for a mental health commitment from the probate court's mental health division would probably take precedence over further action by him, Barnard said.

DANIEL LOVAS

Boy Killed, Another Hurt On S. Hunter

One boy was killed and another seriously injured Monday night as they were struck by an auto as they crossed S. Hunter near Haynes in Birmingham.

David Miner, 10, of Royal Oak, was pronounced dead on arrival at William Beaumont Hospital.

Stacy Elmer, 15, of 1029 S. Adams, Birmingham, was in fair condition at Beaumont Wednesday morning.

Birmingham Police Sgt. Richard Brown said the accident occurred as the boys crossed Hunter about 225 feet south of Haynes about 8:10 p.m.

The youths, according to two witnesses, stepped into the path of the car driven by Norman Gortstein, 31, of Detroit.

GORTSTEIN TOLD Assistant Prosecutor David F. Brock that he did not see the boys as they crossed the street. Brock ordered Gortstein released pending further investigation.

Both the Misner and Elmer families were at a nearby bowling alley when the accident occurred. The Elmers had recently moved to Birmingham from Royal Oak.

(See BOY, 5-A)

IN FRATERNITY ROW

Parents Criticize School Board

By LARRY EVOE
City Editor

The Birmingham Board of Education Tuesday night drew sharp criticism from a group of parents whose youngsters were suspended from school for taking part in fraternity activities.

The parents' charges against the board ran from "handed pupil" to "we were given the run-around." S. W. Pearn, 1415 Birmingham Blvd., who acted as spokesman for the group, was especially critical of the board's Sunday night meeting on Feb. 1 at which the boys were suspended.

"The Sunday night meeting," Pearn said, "The boys said they had been inactive since November."

He said he could not understand the sudden need for action on the matter.

SCHOOL BOARD President E. Ross Hanson said the meeting was held on Sunday because that was the only time all of the board members could get together.

It was also noted by a school official that if the boys were to be suspended this time of the year it would be less harmful because it was the beginning of a new marking period.

Pearn said he did not think the board used good judgment in suspending the 10 boys. (Eight other boys later admitted to school officials they were active in fraternity activities and were suspended.)

"I THINK you picked the names of fathers who are not General Motors vice presidents," Pearn said. He said he also felt the board should have met with the parents of the boys.

The parents did meet, however, with Superintendent of Schools Dr. John B. Smith and Seasholm Principal Ross Wagner but were not satisfied with the results.

Sights said some of the parents "were led to believe" by school authorities the suspension might be eased.

This is why we took no further action," he said.

HANSON SAID the board had discussed the matter and had come to a decision.

(See PARENTS, 4-A)

Town Hall Speakers for '64-65 Named

Kitty Carlisle
First of 6 in
New Season

Speakers for the 1964-65 season of Birmingham Town Hall were announced today by the sponsoring St. Anne's Guild of St. James Episcopal Church.

The six lecturers are: Kitty Carlisle, Broadway-Hollywood star; Elie Abel, radio-TV news commentator; Edward Weeks, magazine editor; Michael Green, interior decorator; Dr. J. Gaither Pratt, scientist-researcher; and Aline Saarisen, connoisseur of the arts.

Miss Carlisle, who will appear on the Town Hall stage Oct. 8 and 9, is a songstress. She also has gained fame as a permanent panelist on the television show "To Tell the Truth."

She is expected to give a lively and gay recounting of her experiences in the entertainment world in her lecture, "First Person Singular."

ABEL, FOREIGN affairs commentator for NBC, will appear here Nov. 12 and 13. A participant in the Huntley-Brinkley reports, he was a roving overseas correspondent for the New York Times for 10 years.

His subject will be "Strategy for Peace."

He will be followed on Dec. 3 and 4 by Weeks in a talk entitled "In the Editor's Chair." Weeks is editor of America's oldest literary magazine, The Atlantic Monthly.

Author and discoverer of authors here and abroad, he was one of the four writer delegates sent to Russia in the U.S. Cultural Exchange program.

"INSIDE DESIGN" will be Greer's topic on Jan. 7 and 8, 1965. He will illustrate his lecture with colored slides.

Greer has a roster of clients that includes both crowned and elected heads of state. He is known as "The House Painter."

A RESIDENT of Lone Pine Court.

"Generally, I'm against three stories. We have cities on both sides and I want to keep Birmingham Hills the way it is. The city's center is a hodge-podge of buildings. It should be better with so much architectural talent."

Other comments: "We don't want skyscrapers. It's nice to look out and feel we're in the country."

"I don't like their appearance. (See HOUSES, 2-A)

Optimist Club Slates Annual Fund Drive

The Birmingham Optimist Club will conduct its annual fund-raising drive throughout the month of March.

General chairman Robert Johnson, 1210 Washington, Birmingham, said the Optimists will sell household products made by the blind and sold by the Michigan Blind Sales.

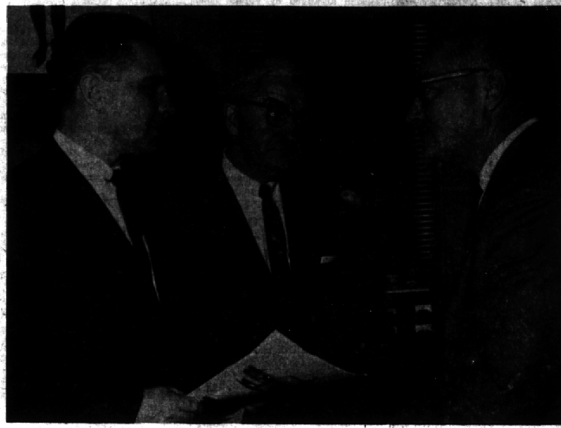
Door-to-door solicitation will be made from 7 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday beginning March 3 and continuing through March 31. The sellers will be identified by their Optimist Club badges.

On Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Optimists will be stationed in four downtown locations to sell their wares: Lake Jewelers, Stone's Standard Sales; Demery's and Wrigley's.

THE CLUB calls its project the "March Clean-up, Fund Raising Campaign."

Funds from the sales will be used for boy's work projects in keeping with the Optimist slogan: "Friend of the Boy."

The Optimist Club is a service club that meets for a weekly breakfast.



BIRMINGHAM CHAMBER of Commerce President William E. Roberts (left) confers with Knowles B. Smith, newly named executive director of the chamber and Virgil LaMarre, (right), chairman of the director selection committee. Smith, 49, replaces Charles Mortensen who resigned last December. He will take over his new duties Monday.

B'ham Chamber of Commerce Hires New Executive Director

Knowles B. Smith has been named executive director of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce.

The announcement was made Wednesday by William E. Roberts, chamber president. Smith, 49, fills the post vacated with the resignation of Charles Mortensen last December.

Roberts said the appointment is effective March 1.

Smith is a former vice president and general manager of Dix Engineering Co., Lincoln Park, a firm specializing in metallizing, welding and process engineering.

For the past three years he has operated his own management and marketing business in Dearborn.

IN ANNOUNCING the appoint-

ment, Roberts said: "We are extremely pleased that a man of Mr. Smith's caliber is available to us at this important period in the expansion of our Birmingham chamber."

"I am confident that he will give all segments of our membership and our community the outstanding leadership we need and expect."

The appointment ended a six-week search by the chamber's selection committee of William Burum, Mrs. G. Howard Willett, Jr., Dr. John B. Smith, Wilbur Mason and chairman Virgil E. LaMarre.

LaMarre said the final decision was a difficult one due to the large number of applicants for the position.

A Dearborn resident, Smith is married and has three children. The family plans to move to Birmingham at the close of the current school term.

"IT IS A FINE tribute to our



ALEX V. WITBECK OF BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE A novel ride to work for a modern commuter.

TORE TALLROTH, CONSUL GENERAL OF SWEDEN He wanted to see Cranbrook from the air.

It Was a Day for 'Free Rides'

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

Alex Witbeck walked to the window, peered out for a moment, then turned and took a sip of coffee.

"He'll be here any minute, now," he said.

From another room came the strains of a song that had been played by a disc jockey three times during the 10-minute ride to the Bloomfield Village home.

"Yah... yah... yah... yah," he wined.

Witbeck explained that his 15-year-old daughter, Susanne, was a Beatles fan.

but suddenly there came a steady drone which soon turned into an insistent flapping as the helicopter flew over the house.

We went outside. The copier circled the house once, hovered over the front lawn, then descended slowly to the ground.

The turbulence created by the rotor and blades blew gusts of cold air into our faces and whipped the new-fallen snow into little furies.

Witbeck waved goodbye, climbed into the helicopter and fastened the seatbelt. The pilot revved up the engine and soon the "whirlybird" was airborne again.

THE STREET outside was quiet,

THE SCENE just described has

been enacted several times within the past two months—to the amazement of Witbeck's neighbors on N. Cranbrook Road.

It all started when Larry Nelson of Birmingham, a friend of Witbeck's, received a helicopter franchise from Hughes Aircraft.

Nelson, who also owns a bike dealership in Royal Oak, decided to give Witbeck a respite from a 20-minute drive to his appliance store in Ferndale.

AFTER THAT first ride (it takes only three minutes from Birmingham) Witbeck was held on the idea of commuting by air and now he doesn't pass up any opportunities to ride in the helicopter.

The air route takes the copter down Woodward Ave. and this is where Witbeck received his most memorable sensation.

"As I looked down on the cars, they would stop for a red light and we would keep going," said Witbeck. "It took a while to get used to this."

THE CHILDREN in the neighborhood have grown somewhat accustomed to seeing the machine land on Witbeck's front lawn. It wasn't always so.

"The first time the helicopter picked me up, I think every child was tarry for school," he said.

The Witbecks have four children.

(See RIDES, 5-A)

First Teen of Week

Marguerite Hyde, 17, of 963 S. Reading, Birmingham, is the Eccentric's first Teen of the Week.

A senior at Bloomfield Hills High School, she was selected by Dave Zimmer, Seasholm senior serving as teen consultant to The Eccentric, with the assistance of school officials.

Marguerite is a member of the Student Council, American Field Service, Pep Club (president) and the National Honor Society.

SHE WAS A finalist in National Merit Scholarship

competition and recently was honored by the D.A.R. She served on the homecoming court and is a member of the All-League Choir, a group comprised of students from the various schools in the athletic league.

Marguerite plans to enter the University of Michigan and major in psychology. After graduation, she hopes to work with mentally-handicapped children.

An exchange student is staying in the Hyde home, and Marguerite finds this "a wonderful and valuable experience."

IN ECCENTRIC POLL

60% Are Opposed To Town Houses

By DAVE PHILPO
Township Editor

In a telephone poll last week The Eccentric learned there is widespread opposition to three-story apartments in Bloomfield Hills.

The question was: "Do you favor three-story town houses in Bloomfield Hills as proposed in the new zoning ordinance?"

Of those polled, 60 per cent said "no." 29 per cent indicated they were in favor of the increase from two stories to three; and 11 per cent had no opinion.

The poll, conducted throughout the city, was taken to crystallize public opinion before the commission makes its final decision on the new zoning ordinance on March 6.

SINCE THE Eccentric poll was made, an organization called the Citizens Committee of Bloomfield Hills has undertaken a direct mail campaign to determine the opinions of residential property owners on the town house proposal.

The committee, headed by E. R. Davies, 1670 Hammond Court, has sent out cards on which residents are asked to indicate whether they favor a limit of two-story apartments, three-story apartments or no preference.

The cards will be returned to the city commission.

MOST OF the opposition to higher apartments in The Eccentric poll came from those who want

Index

Amusements	4-E
Art for Art's Sake	1-D
Arts of Living Page	1-D
Ask the Doctor	5-CC
Bridge Column	2-D
Business News	2-D
Calendar of Cultural Events	5-E
Church	6, 7-B
City Beat	1-B
Classified Ads	8-E
Collage News	6, 7-B
Down to Earth	5-D
Eccentricities	1-B
Editorial	1-B
Nature Now	1-B
Obituaries	4-A
Pollpouri	8-D
Real Estate	C, CC
Society	1, 2, 3-E
Sports	4-A
Theaters	1-B
This & That	4-A
Yesterday Happenings	4-B