

Student seeks BOE post

By Tom Beer
staff writer

Todd S. Bates, candidate for the Farmington Board of Education, is having a very busy spring.

A 21-year-old college student, Bates is finishing up his undergraduate work in political science and psychology at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He's also participating in the school's spring soccer program.

Add to this a part-time job at a research facility and assistant coaching duties at a local high school, and it becomes evident that most of Bates' waking hours are filled.

And now he'll have to add campaigning to his already hectic schedule.

"I decided to run for the board because I feel it would give me a chance

school board race

to be active in the community," said Bates, the youngest of six candidates vying for one opening in the June 13 election.

"I think it would give me a chance to give something back to the community."

Bates, a 12-year resident of the Farmington area and a 1979 graduate of Farmington High School, said he thinks highly of his alma mater and the school system.

"I had an absolutely outstanding time while I was at Farmington," he said. "I learned a lot from my teachers both in and out of the classroom."

LIKE ALL OF the candidates, Bates is concerned about declining enrollment in the Farmington district.

"I am particularly concerned with maintaining adequate course selection and variety while still upholding the fine standards of education that people in the district have come to accept," said Bates in a prepared statement.

"This variety is important in that the school must be responsive to the indi-

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Farmington Observer

USPS 187-8401

Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 2615 Schroeder Ln., Farmington, MI 48115. Address at mail subscription change of address: Form 3589 to P.O. Box 2428 Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 581-6500.

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Newstand . . . per copy, 25¢
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Mail . . . yearly, \$35.00

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Todd Bates, the soccer player, hopes to become Todd Bates, the board of education trustee.

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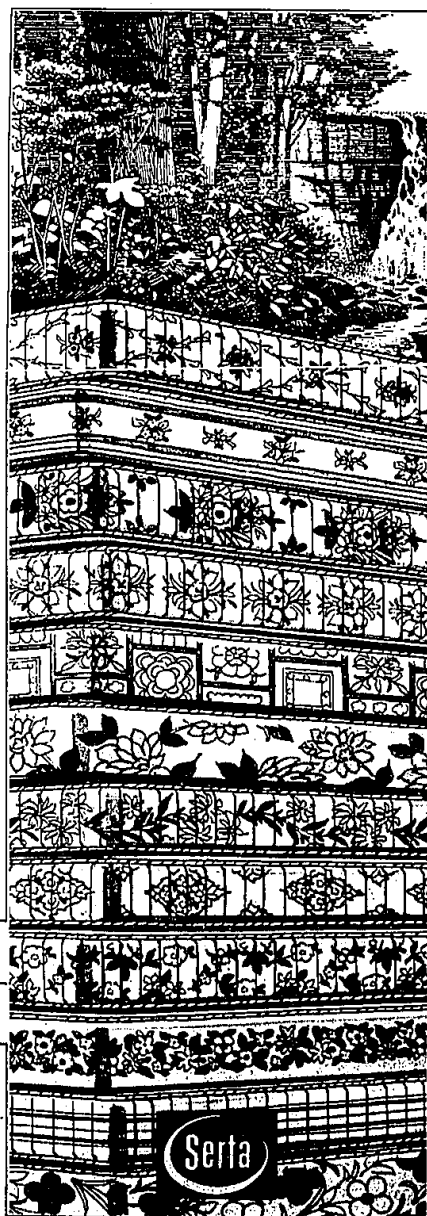
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