

Superintendent leaves C'ville district

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to raise a family. And he also had a wonderful relationship with his high school coach.

But it was watching troubled young men, nearly boys themselves, struggle with the trauma of being away from home during the war that swayed him toward working with youth, he said.

"THE CONCLUSION was that it was the right decision for me," he said. "I've enjoyed my work and feel I have made contributions to the welfare of many youngsters."

Today, McDowell hesitates to find one time in his long career here that was a particular highlight.

"I take life pretty much as I get it," he said. "No one year could be singled out as more or less precious. Each one has had a unique characteristic."

What he does say, however, is that years of growth and development have been more pleasant to him than those years when decisions were made to reduce staffs and cut programs.

And the learning experience has been a two-way street.

"I'm living the job, still learning about people and life and that each person I've touched I've learned something from that person. My father conveyed that to me — that life is always learning more of human beings."

One of the most influential periods in his life was during the protests of the Vietnam War, he said.

"THOSE of us who felt that government was infallible had more to learn. It was a painful but good learning experience. We learned a great deal of the rights of individuals to speak out against what was wrong. That, I think, was the greatest learning experience of my life."

Out of that I became liberal in my thinking of human rights and dignity."

McDowell, praised for his even temperament and reasoned logic, said his basic values in life have been his faith in God, his belief in the basic welfare of youth as the basis for any decision in education and a total commitment to truth.

Among the Dave McDowell fan club members over the years has been longtime school board trustee Sam Prisk,

who today counts McDowell among his closest friends.

"I helped hire Dave," Prisk recalled. "I drove to his home in Comstock 23 years ago to have him sign his contract. It was his warm personality that came

across. That's what I was looking for in someone to deal with our children."

Prisk thinks McDowell's magic — his popularity in the district — could be attributed to his openness and the time he takes with people, especially in

explaining decisions that are unpopular.

"If you take the time, they might not like your decision but they won't dislike you for making it," Prisk said.

Aside from that, he pointed to his

sense of humor that draws people to him.

"There are people who have a way of sharing that — of not only laughing at something but making others see the humor in it, too. Dave has that unique ability," Prisk said.

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By Lark Samcoellans special writer

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COMMUNITY ACCESS PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

June 25
• 6-6:30 p.m. — Duel of Knowledge #3 North Farmington vs. Mercy.
• 6:30-7 p.m. — Cooking with Class #3 Judy Antikainen.
• 7-7:30 p.m. — Ukrainian egg decorating.

• 7:30-8 p.m. — Michigan full songs.

June 26

• 6-6:30 p.m. — Duel of Knowledge #6 Novi vs. Farmington.
• 6:30-7:40 p.m. — Show of the stars special children.
• 7:40-8:05 p.m. — Farmington baseball parade.

June 27

• 6-6:30 p.m. — Duel of Knowledge #7 Harrison vs. Farmington.

recreation news

Each week the Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation Department will present a synopsis of upcoming activities in this column. For further information regarding our programs, contact our office at 474-1115.

INSTRUCTIONAL SPORTS CAMP — Instructional Sports Camp will be offered this summer by Farmington Hills Parks & Recreation and Oakland Community College. The camps will be held at the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills. The purpose of the Instructional Sports Camps will be to provide a personal approach to the development of skills and techniques particular to each sport. Camp enrollment will be geared to a small student to instructor ratio, and will be available for both boys and girls of middle-school age and above. Each individual will receive instruction in a natural progression suited to their needs. Attention will be paid to all aspects of each activity.

DAY CAMPS — Our day camp is designed for children 6-12 years of age and provides both educational and recreational programs. Campers will be involved in animal study, insects, fishing, archery, field trips and more. The camp is at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus. Camp runs five days a week and the first session begins June 25. Registration fee is \$30.

YOUTH SWIM LESSONS — Registration is now being accepted on a first-come first-served basis for youth swim lessons. Instructions for beginner and advanced skill levels will be offered at Farmington and North Farmington High Schools for a two-week period, Monday-Thursday, beginning June 25. Children must be 36 inches at the chin in order to participate. Preregistration is necessary and can be made at the Parks & Recreation office. Registration fee is \$16.

SUMMER FUN CENTERS — We will be opening six community playground sites beginning Monday, June 25 through Thursday, August 2. Supervised activities will include a variety of games, sports activities, arts and crafts and special events. All activities will include boys and girls 6-13 years of age (children must have completed first grade). The morning sites will be Kenbrook, Lakeshire and Longacre Elementary schools from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The afternoon sites will be Flanders, William Grace and Wooddale Elementary schools 1-3 p.m. There is no fee for this activity.

CAMP RAINBOW — Camp Rainbow is a summer day camp designed for mentally and physically impaired individuals ages 8 years old and over. The program operates Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., and offers a variety of recreational activities. Daily activities will incorporate socialization skills, gross and fine motor coordination and self awareness. The first session will begin July 2 to July 6 (no camp July 4) and take place at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus. The camp registration fee is \$30 per person.

JUNIOR GOLF LEAGUE — A junior golf league has been structured for boys and girls ages 12-16 to participate in a five match league schedule with guidelines that will allow each member to compete with each league participant. League play will be on Mondays and Fridays, beginning Friday, July 13. League members will also be eligible to participate in the Northwest Parks and Recreation golf tournament. Players will be arranged by the following age divisions: Boys 12-14 and 15, girls 12-14-15 and 16. A first-come first-served registration will be held with a deadline of Friday, July 6. Registration fee is \$18 and includes all green fees.

Donn Wolf named to campaign post

Councilman Donn Wolf of Farmington Hills has been appointed Oakland County chairman and 18th district chairman of the Reagan-Bush re-election committee by Paul Gadola, chairman of the Michigan Reagan-Bush '84 Committee.

In addition to these two posts, Wolf will serve as co-chairman and co-ordinate election activities in the Oakland

portion of the 6th, 7th, 14th and 17th Districts.

Wolf, a longtime Reagan-Bush supporter, is a precinct delegate and has served the Oakland County Republican committee in a number of capacities including county campaign chairman.

He was Oakland County campaign chairman for gubernatorial candidate Richard Headlee's 1982 primary race.



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