



Newly sworn in

City clerk JoAnne Reynolds (right) swears in newly elected Farmington Hills City Council members (from left) Aldo Vagnozzi, Jean Fox, Joe Alkateeb and Terry Sever at the start of Monday night's city council meeting. Alka-

teeb, the top vote-getter, is an eight-year council veteran. Sever just finished his first two-year term. Both Vagnozzi and Fox are new council members.

BOB SKLAR/staff photographer

Election

Cable access coverage applauded

By Joanne Maliszewski
Staff writer

The three Farmington City Council candidates and one of nine Farmington Hills candidates were interviewed during cable television's coverage of local elections.

Though cable staff expected a few more Farmington Hills candidates to participate in the live coverage on election night Nov. 3, their absence didn't greatly affect the show's success, said Todd Whitman, Southwest Oakland Cable Commission production specialist.

"When we talked to all three cities, they were pretty much decided everyone would be there," he said. "But we had a pretty good cross-section anyway."

The two-hour show provided up-to-the-minute coverage of city council elections in Farmington Hills, Farmington and Novi. Farmington victors Ralph Yoder, Richard Tupper and William Hartssock participated as planned. Farmington Hills victor Aldo Vagnozzi also arrived in time to be interviewed by cable host and Farmington Hills city councilwoman Jan Dolan.

Though attempts were made to locate the other eight Farmington Hills candidates, most already were positioned in city hall or at their individual campaign parties.

SWOCC EXECUTIVE director Lark Samouelian Reid moderated the program, which allowed viewers to receive updated returns from each city. Remote equipment and staff were in the three city halls collecting returns as they were available and phoning them in to the cable studio. The results served as a backdrop for candidate interviews and conversations about each city. This was the first time cable staff covered the election from the cable access studio at MetroVision of Oakland County, Farmington Hills. Two

years ago, the first time an election was covered by cable staff, election night returns and interviews were conducted from the individual city halls, Whitman said.

"We had some technical problems with the signal from Novi and some from Farmington. But it was cleared up," Whitman said.

The SWOCC executive director credited Kenneth Glenn Reid with clearing up the technical problems Nov. 3.

Whitman said viewers have been calling the SWOCC office in Farmington city hall to commend cable staff for the program. "People have responded well. All in all it was well-received. This is one of the things

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