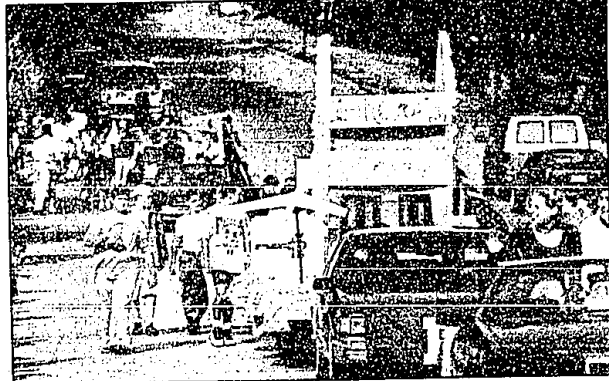


A Falcon kind of Saturday



STAFF PHOTOS BY SHARON LEAFELD

FHS homecoming: Farmington High School's fans took to the streets last Saturday — and its football team took to the gridiron — as the school's homecoming was celebrated in fine fashion. In the photo at far left, FHS seniors (from left) Mike Carolan, Brian Macuas, Kris King, Ken Kopf, Keith Sudheimer, Danet Vacca, Jim Murphy, Phil Smolek stand at the top row of the bleachers, each with a letter painted on his chest spelling "Go Falcons Go!" At lower left, Katie Luhasiah, standing with Phil Smolek, shows her excitement as she discovers she is queen of the homecoming court to reign with John Hoad, homecoming king. In the photo at left, Farmington sophomores represent the 1960s during the parade. The FHS football team contributed to the fun Saturday with a 21-12 victory over backyard rival North Farmington.



Sowerby, Vagnozzi plan to debate at high school

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills mayoral candidates Paul Sowerby and Aldo Vagnozzi agree on one thing — high school debates are a good idea.

The two candidates vying to become Farmington Hills' first directly elected mayor have agreed to debate in one or more of the high schools in Farmington Hills. Vagnozzi would like to have the debate in front of a combined audience of students from the three high schools. Sowerby said he would appear at one or more high schools. No date or school has been set yet for the debate.

Sowerby challenged Vagnozzi to a debate in a letter Sept. 25, which he also sent to the Observer and North Farmington High teacher Edward Davis.

"Please consider this a formal challenge to debate at a local high school," Sowerby wrote.

Sowerby proposed that the debate be broadcast, held during the day, before a panel of students and that questions would be taken from the floor.

Vagnozzi said he welcomed the opportunity.

"I am glad to see that my opponent in the mayor's race has come around to my long-held view that debates are healthy in election



Aldo Vagnozzi



Paul Sowerby

campaigns," Vagnozzi wrote back.

Vagnozzi, who has debated in previous campaigns at high schools, said he has spoken to high school government classes already this year.

"I really think this would be a good experience for the students to have to participate in the real thing," Sowerby said. "I'd like, if I'm elected mayor, to have a city council meeting at one of the high schools. The courts do that."

Vagnozzi said in addition to the three high schools, he would like

alternative education students to participate.

"We had one two years ago at Farmington (High School)," he said. "And I like the idea of taking questions from the floor."

The candidates have already agreed to televised debates on Oct. 12, sponsored by the Democratic Club; Oct. 17, sponsored by the Republican Club; and Oct. 18 sponsored by the Farmington Hills Council of Homeowners Association. They will also appear at an Optimist Club breakfast Oct. 25.

Chamber endorses public service tax

Say yes to the Farmington Hills public service millage, says the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce.

The board of directors of the local chamber voted to endorse the public safety millage that city voters will settle Nov. 7. Directors are urging business owners and residents to vote yes on the issue that will provide one mill for enhanced police and fire departments.

"The business community depends on a well-staffed, well-trained, up-to-date force of public safety officers, both police and fire," Chamber President Jody Soronen said. "As communities grow, so do the chances of a business needing the services," she said. "The reputation of a city's police and fire

The business community depends on a well-staffed, well-trained, up-to-date force of public safety officers, both police and fire.

Jody Soronen
Chamber president

departments are a factor to be considered by a business when moving into a community, expanding there or even staying. It's in the business community's best interest that this millage proposal passes."

The one-mill proposal for 10 years will increase fire and police staffing, equipment and build and operate a central fire station near 11 Mile and Orchard Lake roads. The cost to the owner of a \$100,000 home will be about \$417 per month which will be dedicat-

ed exclusively to the two departments.

In addition to a new station, the fire department will add 10 full-time firefighters, reduce response time, better organize use of volunteers, upgrade technology for better firefighting and medical programs.

The police department will use the millage for 18 new police staff, increase patrol cars per shift, improve "911" operations, improve crime analysis and prevention programs and reduce response time.



TRIM YOUR TREE

The Christmas Trim Shop is now open!

Beautiful ornaments, tree skirts, Santas, angels and other traditional figurines. Holiday motif pillows, throws and table linens. Annual dated ornament collectibles mark the occasion. It's a perfect time to begin planning your holiday decorating!

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