

# Race

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said. Webb, a Farmington Schools trustee, said that's no excuse. "For him to do that and say it was because he was young is incredible," she said. "My kids are 16 and 14 and I would never excuse them for misrepresenting themselves because of their age."

Rackowski, who owns Mainline Communications, said he has some concerns about Webb's ethics, but had not planned to air them until she questioned

his. Rackowski said Webb, who was named Farmington area's Citizen of the Year last November, had ridden in Saturday's Founder's Festival parade, something previous citizens of the year had not done. "Her supporters had T-shirts and were handing out literature," he said. "For her to complain about anything our people did at the parade is hypocritical."

Linda Jolicoeur had also ridden in a classic car at the parade, representing the business she owns. "They (parade organizers) told me I could not use any campaign reference in the parade," she said, adding that her supporters like others, were handing out literature and only took part in the parade after Rackowski's supporters threw literature at her car.

"There was only a block to go and so my supporters just walked along side of the car to make sure I wasn't bothered," she said.

But Jolicoeur said she would avoid personality conflicts with

the other candidates if possible. "If I can get my message to the voters, then I will be happy," she said.

Terry Sever, who also rode in the parade as a member of the Farmington Hills City Council, said the parade was more tightly controlled when it came to candidates working the crowd.

"When I was festival chairman and served on the committee, we did not allow candidates to even hand out literature," he said. "It makes a spectacle of the parade. People really come to be entertained. Otherwise, it becomes a junk pile."

Sever said Rackowski is not

the only candidate taking advantage of the situation.

Rackowski said he also made a mistake in his literature by referring to an endorsement by the Farmington Hills Firefighters and said he has corrected that misprint.

He said references to him as a lawyer are not correct. He will graduate from the Detroit College of Law in December but does not plan to become an attorney, he said.

Another sore spot for Rackowski has been questions about his military service. Rackowski laid out his military paper work that show him as a member of the Army Reserve for

the past 10 years. He enlisted in 1986 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1990.

Rackowski served on active duty during Operation Desert Storm at Fort Benning, Ga., but was returned to reserve status as the war wound down and did not see action in the Mideast.

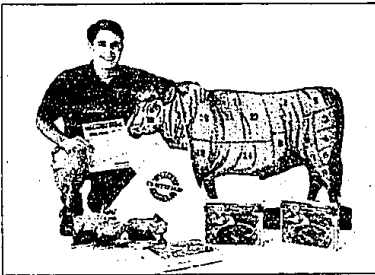
Rackowski also had high marks from his superior officers and said he had been decorated with the status of "Pathfinder," the forward arm of the U.S. Army Airborne.

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NEWSPAPERS

## Ox Roast

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year's ox roast. And while they have put in a purchase bid on a new undisclosed location, he is not certain the ox roast will be moved to the new location as well.

"There is not as much parking there," he said, stressing everything is up to the city council and zoning board of appeals.

"We go through the city every year," he said, adding "they have always supported the Farmington Hills Ox Roast." He has no reason to believe a new location would change that.

That will be good news to the more than 10,000 people who attend the event annually. Many of those attendees are graduates of Farmington high schools looking to see former classmates.

"It's a reunion," said Denise O'Mara, co-chair of the Farmington Hills Elk's Ox Roast. "We had someone call from California, they wanted to know when the ox roast was. People actually plan their vacation around it."

The Farmington Hills Ox Roast is three days of eating, drinking and socializing. The

prices are cheap, the entertainment is live and the money raised goes to charity.

"It's our major fund raiser," said O'Mara, referring to 50 cent drinks, \$3 plates of roast beef and \$1.50 hot dogs.

"A lot of people don't realize how much charity work we do," added Marilyn Smart of Farmington Hills. They contribute to the Scout Troops, the Hoop Shoot, the Salvation Army, the Farmington Founders Festival, the Goodfellows, Veterans groups, the Cystic Fibrosis Foun-

dation, Youth Week, and more.

Traditionally, they split \$45,000 plus between the various groups. They are hoping to raise at least the same amount this year.

"But a lot depends on the weather," said Chavey.

Obviously, Mother Nature wanted them to go with a bang this year. Thanks to the weather, the 538-member group had record numbers Thursday with 1300 people.

## Spend

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school election) where there was a 4,500-voter turnout," Brouillette said. "I wanted to send something to people who voted in the last election, thinking they would vote in this one."

Voter turnout was 1,600 in this election, though. An Oakland Community College bond issue on the ballot is believed to have led to a larger turnout the

previous year. Brouillette's camp sent absentee ballot applications to those who voted AV in the 1995 election. She also mailed \$4,000 brochures.

Bulk mailing alone totaled more than \$700.

A majority of contributions came from people who knew Brouillette through her involve-

ment at Hillside Elementary and O.E. Dunckel Middle schools and First Presbyterian Church.

Former Hillside principal Richard Ruiter and current building chief Jan Colliton contributed. So did O.E. Dunckel principal Pam O'Malley.

A good number of contributors were parents, including some such as Patty Alspach and Kim Dennis — who have been critical of district educational methods in the past.

Officialdom wasn't shy in its support for Brouillette, either. Farmington councilman Arnie Campbell, Hills councilman Aldo Vagnozzi, and retired 47th District Court Judge Margaret Schaeffer supported Brouillette financially.

Campbell and Vagnozzi also contributed to Svokos's campaign, in which the candidate supported by making \$1,200 in loans to himself.

Neither candidate reported receiving financial contributions

from the Farmington Education Association's political action committee. A contribution was offered, Svokos said. But he hasn't decided whether or not to accept it. Brouillette declined the PAC money.

School trustees Linda Enberg, Cathy Webb, and Bobbie Feldman made in-kind contributions or provided financial support to Brouillette.

"I think it helps to be really well-organized," Brouillette said. "I think it helps to have grassroots support in the community."

"When I was at the polls on election day, there were people saying, 'I've already heard from you,' or 'I received a card from you.'"

"If I was to give advice to someone: It would be the people to people recommendations are important."

## Truant

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informed.

Students who get 10 absences of either kind in a class each semester risk losing credit for that class.

On the 10th absence, parents will be notified that credit for the class will be withheld, with the student getting an "F" grade at that point. The redemption process will be explained to parents. Students will be told to continue to attend the class.

Students with excused absences beyond 10 can make up the work missed on Saturday mornings and obtain credit. Students must attend one one-hour session for each hour beyond 10 missed.

Students with unexcused absences beyond 10 can make up the work. They will not get credit for the work, but will get cred-

it for the class.

Students cannot redeem more than six hours in any one class.

The make-up class will run for three hours on nine Saturdays further into each semester. Thus, students will have 27 hours to make up classes missed.

Information on the new attendance policy will be sent home every time report cards go out.

"We'll do the best we can to make it work, but it needs an attitudinal change by students," Tattan said. "Both the principal and his assistant are making a commitment to improve attendance."

Students who rack up more than 10 absences and refuse to attend Saturday morning sessions face disciplinary action, Tattan said.

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