

# MHSAA considers new format for prep grid playoffs

A plan for expanding the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Football Playoffs has been developed over the summer and will be presented in detail at the member schools this fall for their approval.

A final vote will be taken by the group's Representative Council at its fall meeting Dec. 2 in Traverse City.

This plan incorporates a number of changes from how the MHSAA Football Playoffs have been conducted in the past, including classification of schools for the tournament and how playoff points are used in the process," said Jack Roberts, Executive Director of the MHSAA. "Many people who opposed previous playoff expansion plans see this as a way of getting quality teams into the tournament, and at the same time, relieving some of the pressure on leagues and conferences, and on schools which historically

have trouble scheduling opponents."

Ideas for playoff expansion were initially reviewed in June by a focus group of coaches and administrators.

A plan was further refined from that meeting, and then reviewed at the summer workshop of the Michigan Interscholastic Athletic Administrators on July 22; the board of directors of the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association; and the summer meeting of the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals on Aug. 4.

Using input from those meetings, the MHSAA staff will present at its annual Update High School Football Coaches Association, and the summer meeting of the Michigan Association of Secondary School Principals on Aug. 4.

A five-week, 256-team playoff of eight divisions, each with an equal number of schools, still ending Thanksgiving weekend;

"No teams with losing records would qualify;

"All teams with six or more wins would qualify. Some teams with two wins may qualify on the basis of their playoff point average, with a nearly equal number of additional qualifiers being selected from Classes A, B, C and D;

"A nearly equal percentage of schools sponsoring football, approximately 40 percent, would qualify from each of the four classes, up from 18 percent in Class A, 17 percent in Class B, 19 percent in Class C, and 38 percent in Class D, when compared to 1997 qualifiers;

"The selection of 256 teams, their classification into eight divisions of 32 schools each, and their assignment into regions and districts would all occur on "Selection Sunday" at the conclusion of the regular season. Playoff point averages, with no changes to the current system,

would be used to seed teams within their geographic district and to determine district pairings and hosts.

"I think it's the best plan we've seen," said Plymouth Salem football coach Tom Mashimer, who is entering his 40th season of coaching. "I'm in favor of it."

"I've always felt in the past that at 6-3 sometimes you don't want to make the playoffs because that would mean you'd play a 9-0 team first. But the benefits are for a team that might have started slow and would be eliminated from the playoffs even if they finished well. A team would lose its first two games and be out of it even if it won its next seven."

Following the presentation of the plan to school administrators at the Update meetings, a mail survey will be sent to football sponsoring schools so that that Representative Council meeting in December, the final plan, its

rationale and its membership's reaction can be used to make a final decision.

The plan would allow, but not require, schools to begin practices and regular-season play a week earlier.

The classification process for teams in the tournament would not occur until Selection Sunday, when all of the six-win teams have been identified and additional teams have been added to fill the bracket. (In the past 10 years, no more than 241 schools had six or more wins during the regular season.)

Schools would become aware of the pairings Sunday night or Monday of the first week of the playoffs, the first three

weeks which would be conducted at host schools based on district and regional alignments and playoff point averages.

The Representative Council voted last May to expand the football playoffs but not to the extent of a six-week, 512-school format.

"Those who have opposed football playoff expansion because it might dilute the playoffs and cause more early-round mismatches may be pleased with this proposal," Roberts said. "Those who didn't want games or practices to start earlier may be less pleased because schools will be able to maintain nine-game regular season schedules only if they start games a week earlier."

## Tennis from page D1

### Farmington High

The Falcons made a big turnaround last year, going from a 2-8-4 record the previous year to 8-4-2, and they hope to continue that under new coach Theresa O'Leary, who takes over from Dennis King.

"We're hoping for a wonderful season, and I think the girls are capable of that," O'Leary said. "We're just going to work toward that to the best of our ability."

Senior and four-year varsity player Fawn O'Leary, the coach's daughter, returns to play No. 1 singles again.

"She played in a lot of tournaments in the last year and has improved her ground strokes," coach O'Leary said. "We're hoping for a good year for her."

Senior Carrie May is back at No. 2 singles, also. Sophomore Lindsey Howard, who played third doubles, and freshman Stephanie Arnold are new to the singles lineup at Nos. 3 and 4, respectively.

"Carrie had a good season last year, and we're hoping again for the same," O'Leary said. "She's a very smart player and has a

good all-round game.

"Lynsey has improved very much. I think she's going to get better and better as time goes on. Stephanie played in summer tournaments and it shows in her play."

Senior Lauren Picard, who was Howard's doubles partner last season, and junior Annie Gourley, who played No. 4 doubles, comprise the No. 1 doubles team.

O'Leary was uncertain about the other doubles combinations but is considering seniors Melissa Atkins, Sarah Lebeis and Kara Kozlars, juniors Lauren Ruici, Kristen Stegger and Jennifer Weiland, sophomores Angela Zerbosia and Shelle Berkesch and freshman Adriane Grace.

The Falcons were fourth in the Western Lakes Activities Association and third in the regional last year.

### Farmington Harrison

Senior Brittany Maxey moves up from No. 2 singles to the No. 1 spot following the graduation of Carla Shade.

"Brittany is a very solid player," said first-year Harrison coach Waleed El-Ayoubi. "She has a nice forehand and baseline backhand. She has good concentration and doesn't commit a lot of foot faults. She judges the ball coming to her very well."

Junior Kelli Vessell and sophomore Jill Maxey also moved up one notch in the lineup to Nos. 2 and 3 singles, respectively.

"Kelli is a very good player," El-Ayoubi said. "She has good control and plays the baseline very well. Jill has a lot of endurance on the court and hits well."

Junior Angela Zadorozny, who was a doubles player last year, moves into the No. 4 singles position.

The No. 1 doubles team will be sophomores Joanna Konopka and Allison Dranech, and sophomores Amber Bahr and Sara Duffy will play No. 2 doubles.

Jane Kleyman and Karen Knutson comprise the No. 3 doubles combination, and the No. 4 team is Kristen Schrock and Ashley Franco.

"Joanna and Allison are excellent communicators on the court," El-Ayoubi said. "They know who is supposed to be where and when. The same goes for our No. 2 team."

El-Ayoubi, a para-professional at Harrison High School, played tennis for 20 years in his native Lebanon and coached a men's semi-pro team in Saudi Arabia.

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 1998  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

ITEM: Rezoning Request 3-6-98

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills Planning Commission will give formal consideration to a proposed amendment to the official Zoning Map of the City of Farmington Hills by amending Section 34.32 of the City Code by changing the zoning classification of the following parcel of property as follows:

Rezoned from OS-1, Office Service District classification to RA-3, Single-Family Residential District classification:  
Sidwell #23-36-353-001  
A part of the West 1/2 of Section 36 T1N, R9E, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. The property concerned is located on the southeast corner of Middlebelt Road and Scotten, Lot 63 Meadowbrook Heights Subdivision.

The proponent in this matter is Mario O. Dizeo. Any person who is interested in this proposed zoning map amendment is invited to participate in the discussion of the proposed zoning change at the public hearing above mentioned. Copies of the Zoning Text, Zoning Map, and Application for Rezoning may be reviewed at the Planning Office, Farmington Hills City Hall at 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan on any business day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning, Community & Economic Development  
City of Farmington Hills  
Item: ZR 3-6-98  
Phone: (248) 479-9543



Published: August 30, 1998

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE

Notice of Adoption of Ordinance C-19-98, an Ordinance to amend Chapter 30, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, Article II, Division 5, Section 30-429(b), only, of the City Code, to prescribe, permit and penalize drivers overtaking or meeting a school bus under certain circumstances. A full copy of this Ordinance is on file in the Clerk's Office for public review and inspection.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS ORDAINS:

Section 1. Chapter 30, Traffic and Motor Vehicles, Article II, Division 5, Section 30-429(b), School buses; signs, is hereby amended to read as follows:

30-429(b)  
(1) The driver of a vehicle overtaking or meeting a school bus which has stopped and is displaying 2 alternately flashing red lights located at the same level shall bring the vehicle to a full stop not less than 20 feet from the school bus and shall not proceed until the school bus resumes motion or the visual signals are no longer actuated. At an intersection where traffic controlled by an officer or a traffic stop-and-go signal, a vehicle need not be brought to a full stop before passing a stopped school bus, but may proceed past the school bus at a speed not greater than 10 miles an hour and with due caution for the safety of passengers being received or discharged from the school bus. The driver of a vehicle who fails to stop for a school bus as required by this subsection, who passes a school bus in violation of this subsection, or who fails to stop for a school bus in violation of an ordinance that complies with this subsection, is responsible for a civil infraction.

(2) The driver of a vehicle upon a highway which has been divided into 2 roadways by leaving an intervening space or by a physical barrier, or clearly indicated dividing sections so constructed as to impede vehicular traffic, need not stop upon meeting a school bus which has stopped across the dividing space, barrier or section.

(3) In addition to the civil fine and costs provided for a civil infraction, the judge, district court referee or district court magistrate may order a person who violates this section to perform not to exceed 100 hours of community service at a school.

Section 2. Repealed.  
Section 3. Severability.  
Section 4. Savings.  
Section 5. Effective Date.  
Section 6. Enactment.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk  
City of Farmington Hills

Published: August 30, 1998

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN PLANNING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZONING MAP AMENDMENT

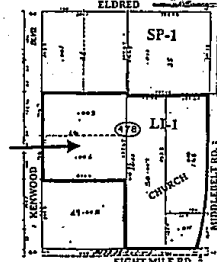
DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 1998  
TIME: 7:30 P.M.  
PLACE: Farmington Hills City Hall  
31555 Eleven Mile Road  
Farmington Hills, MI 48336

ITEM: Planning Commission Rezoning Request 6-7-98

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Farmington Hills Planning Commission will give formal consideration to a proposed amendment to the official Zoning Map of the City of Farmington Hills by amending Section 34.32 of the City Code by changing the zoning classification of the following parcel of property as follows:

Rezoned from LI-1, Light-Industrial District classification to RA-1, RA-2, RA-3, or RA-4, Single-Family Residential District classification:  
Sidwell #23-36-478-003, 004, 007, 010, 011

A part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 36, T1N, R9E, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. The property concerned is commonly known as 20805 Middlebelt Road, located on the northwest corner of Eight Mile and Middlebelt Roads.



The proponent in this matter is the Farmington Hills Planning Commission.

Any person who is interested in this proposed zoning map amendment is invited to participate in the discussion of the proposed zoning change at the public hearing above mentioned. Copies of the Zoning Text, Zoning Map, and Application for Rezoning may be reviewed at the Planning Office, Farmington Hills City Hall at 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan on any business day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

DALE A. COUNTEGAN, Director  
Planning, Community & Economic Development  
City of Farmington Hills  
Item: PCZR 6-7-98  
Phone: (248) 473-8543

Published: August 30, 1998

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 24, 1998

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Vagnozzi at 7:30 p.m.  
Council Present: Bates, Ellis, Grant, Oliverio, Sever and Vagnozzi.  
Council Absent: Barnett.  
Others Present: City Manager Brock, City Clerk Dornan, Directors Blaisell, Countegnan, Whinnery, and Attorney Donohue.

#### CITY COUNCIL TOOK THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS:

- Received contribution from Foundation for Children, Youth and Families for Children, Youth and Families programs.
- Recognized summer interns Natalie Ann and Stephanie Boales.
- Denied rezoning request for property located north of 12 Mile, west of Orchard Lake Road.
- Introduced ordinance to rezone property at 12 Mile from SP-3, Special Purpose District to RC-2, Multiple-Family Residential; Postponed to September 14, 1998, consideration of F.U.D. qualification for same property.
- Enacted Ordinance to prescribe, permit and penalize drivers overtaking or meeting a school bus under certain circumstances.
- Designated City Manager Steve Brock as City Street Administrator.
- Set September 14, 1998 for 11 study session to consider cellular tower site proposals for city-owned properties; 2) tree planting ceremony in honor of City's 25th anniversary.
- Postponed consideration of right-of-way agreement for Level 3 Communication to September 14, 1998.

#### APPROVED:

- Special assessment roll/costs for Springbrook watermain improvements.
- Cellular towers for AT&T Wireless at 29820 Eight Mile.
- Grant applications to Department of Natural Resources for: 1) acquisition of land in southeast section of City; 2) playground equipment and pavilion at Founders Sports Park.
- Resolution for transfer of employment for Hella North America.
- Various appointments to Boards and Commissions.
- Serenity garden construction at Heritage Park Visitors Center.
- Public hearing date of September 14, 1998 for Brachway Ridge area for consideration of watermain and sanitary sewer improvements.
- Dond resolution for \$2,860,000 City of Farmington Hills Public Improvement Special Assessment Bonds, Series 1998.

#### AWARDED PURCHASE ORDERS FOR:

- Springbrook watermain project to Macomb Pipeline and Utilities Company in the amount of \$320,484.00.
- 1998/99 Pavement Marking Program to P.K. Contracting in the amount of \$67,784.00.
- Shiawassee watermain project to D'Angelo Brothers in the amount of \$25,095.00.
- Repairs to fire truck to International Paint & Body in the amount of \$4,278.79.
- Asphalt Removal and Replacement Program to Best Asphalt in the amount of \$152,871; Concrete Removal and Replacement Program to Hard Rock Concrete in the amount of \$208,497.00.

MAYOR ALDO VAGNOZZI  
KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

Published: August 30, 1998

## TENNIS RESULTS

### BLOOMFIELD HILLS ANDOVER 8 NORTH FARMINGTON 2

Aug. 28 at North Farmington  
No. 1 singles: Dina Covelli (A) defeated Dethary Nester, 6-2, 6-1; No. 2: Sara Kay (HF) def. Joyce Wiatninski, 6-2, 6-0; No. 3: Liz Schwan (HF) def. Erica Rubenstein, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Renee Rubenstein (A) def. Natalie Myre, 6-0, 6-0.

No. 1 doubles: Brooke Buchanan-Joann Nier (A) def. Laura Dean-Veronica (A) 6-2, 6-0; No. 2: Holly Hoffman-Nicole Osawa (A) def. Joyce Chung-Julia Shindler, 6-4, 6-2; No. 3: Dayna Yeats-Meryl Goldstein (A) def. Stacy Shah-Julie Maltzman, 6-4, 6-3; No. 4: Alyssa Grant-Lauren Victor (A) def. Allison Kay-Jenna Street, 6-4, 6-0.

### BIRMINGHAM GROVES 8 NORTH FARMINGTON 0

Aug. 28 at North Farmington  
No. 1 singles: Lindsay Williams (O) defeated Dethary Nester, 6-2, 6-0; No. 2: Julie Van-Helder (O) def. Sarah Kay, 7-6, 6-2; No. 3: Rosebush (O) def. Liz Schwan, 2-6, 7-5, 6-4; No. 4: Stacy Hartnagge (O) def. Natalie Myre, 7-6, 6-4.

No. 1 doubles: Jamie Trango-Stephanie Deason (O) def. Marissa Sloan-Julie Maltzman, 6-4, 6-0; No. 2: Pam Bogoras-Jackie Rott (O) def. Joyce Chung-Shirley Shah, 6-2, 6-0; No. 3: Emily Wiatninski-Barrett (O) def. Julie Shindler-Jane Garmen, 6-3, 6-2; No. 4: Mami Rosenthal-Katy Cusan (O) def. Laura Dean-Elena Pilitis, 6-3, 6-3.

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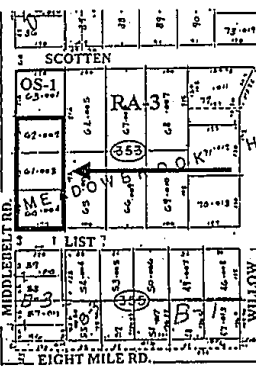
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Sidwell #23-36-353-002, 003, 006  
A part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 36 T1N, R9E, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan. The property concerned is commonly known as 200825, 200835 and 200840 Middlebelt Road, Lots 60, 61, 62 of Meadowbrook Heights Subdivision.

The proponent in this matter is the Farmington Hills Planning Commission. Any person who is interested in this proposed zoning map amendment is invited to participate in the discussion of the proposed zoning change at the public hearing above mentioned. Copies of the Zoning Text, Zoning Map, and Application for Rezoning may be reviewed at the Planning Office, Farmington Hills City Hall at 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan on any business day between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

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