



Best of the class
Deborah Waller, a 1989 graduate of North Farmington High, is one of 180 students featured in the "Best of the Class" public service campaign co-sponsored by WXYZ Channel 7, Elias Brothers and First of America. The series will air on WXYZ throughout the summer.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
Council Chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m., Monday, June 26

The council will consider enactment of a rezoning request from RA-1, one-family residential, to IRO, industrial research office, at 27415 Halstead.

The council will receive a report assessing flooding after the June 21 downpour. A request from the Farmington Community Library Board of Trustees to place a bond and operating levy proposition on the Nov. 7 general election ballot will be considered.

As requested by Mayor Terry Sever, the council is expected to discuss or schedule for future discussion an evaluation on the mayor's term of office. Commissioner Paul Sowerby has also requested consideration and evaluation of modifying the number of consecutive terms for hold city council office officers.

The council will also consider appointment to the planning commission to replace Jonathan Grant, who resigned to seek election to the council.

Also to be considered is a resolution approving a plan for financing and awarding the sale of bonds for the first phase of construction of the Evergreen-Farmington sewage disposal and pollution control facilities program.

Council also will receive a report on the status of cablecasting city council meetings.

The consent agenda includes:
• Approval of amendment to 47th District Court's budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 1989.
• Approval of one-year lease for senior adult offices at Mercy Center.
• Award of bid for Grand River sidewalk repair.

In addition to the new board, there are also openings on the Board of Zoning Appeals and the Beautification Committee.

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Judge to rule on rape tests

Continued from Page 1

Prosecution witnesses are the only ones scheduled so far to testify. Szeeman's attorney, Lawrence Kaluzny of Bingham Farms, is not expected to present witnesses. "In advance of trial, we wanted to determine if we can use DNA as evidence," Oakland County assistant prosecutor Brian Zubeid said.

IF TEMPLIN allows the DNA tests as evidence in the three cases, it will be the second such decision in Michigan. On April 19, 1989, 46th District Judge Susan Moisevic allowed the genetic tests as evidence in a case against Michael Perkins, charged in a Southfield murder. Perkins' case is one of the three combined for the evidentiary hearing. Moisevic's decision was the first in the state but she did not write an opinion. Florida is the only state where the admissibility of DNA testing has reached the appellate court. "A ruling of a circuit court is not binding on other courts," Zubeid said.

Templin must determine the degree of accuracy of the DNA test, as well as determine whether the

tests can be established as reliable and whether they are competently performed, Zubeid said. Szeeman awaits trial on 49 counts of rape, robbery and burglary involving 10 victims, ages 12-81, in Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Birmingham, Bloomfield Township and Independence Township in late 1987 and spring 1988.

At least 20 samples were taken for DNA testing from assault scenes involving the 10 Oakland County victims of the six-male rape. The average cost of DNA testing per sample is about \$200, Blomberg said.

DNA IS an organic substance used by investigators to analyze body tissues, such as semen, which can provide a genetic fingerprint, distinguishing one individual from another.

One of the newest procedures available to law enforcement and forensic science,

the test allows identification of a person based on blood, hair, semen or other body tissue. DNA is found in every living cell, except red blood cells because they do not have a nucleus, Blomberg said.

The prosecution would use the test results "as one more piece of incriminating evidence to prove he (Szeeman) did it (sexual assault)," Zubeid said. Other types of evidence, such as eyewitness testimony, will be used in the case against Szeeman, Zubeid added.

Tissue samples relating to the serial rapist case were flown to Cellmark Diagnostics, Germantown, Md., one of three laboratories doing DNA tests, for analysis. Blomberg testified that she is familiar with the laboratory's work and had reviewed the results in the Szeeman case.

Blomberg told reporters Friday there isn't much objection to the techniques of genetic testing. There is concern, however, about how well individual tests are conducted. "There is a possibility always of human error," she said.

SZEEMAN is still undergoing psychiatric examinations at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in Ypsilanti. An independent psychiatrist, Dr. Sol Forman of Southfield, has concluded his tests on Szeeman, Kaluzny said. Templin ordered the psychiatric evaluations in early May to determine Szeeman's criminal responsibility.

"I anticipate filing a motion for neurological testing," Kaluzny said. The attorney has asked for medical records from Szeeman's physician in Ohio, particularly regarding a head injury and subsequent treatment after Szeeman's car left a West Virginia mountain road in 1984.

Szeeman pleaded guilty Jan. 4 to raping a suburban Cleveland woman in November. He was sentenced to a 58-140-year prison term.

In April, Szeeman waived his right to preliminary exams in three Oakland County district courts, including 47th District Court in Farmington. He is being held in a one-man isolation cell in the Oakland County jail in lieu of a \$7.9 million cash bond.

Board OKs school bus driver pact

By Casey Huns
Staff writer

School bus drivers have finally obtained a new contract with the Farmington Public Schools after more than one year of working without one.

Meanwhile, the district began this month what could be a long summer of negotiating with the three bargaining units representing teachers, cafeteria and maintenance workers, and secretaries and paraprofessionals.

Approved unanimously Tuesday night by the Farmington Board of Education, the new two-year pact for the Farmington Transportation Association calls for annual wage increases, some needed language changes and improvements in insurance coverage, according to Zan Alley.

Alley is the chief negotiator for the Michigan Education Association affiliate units, which includes the FTA and the three units currently bargaining.

"I want to... congratulate both sides for wrapping up what has been a tedious and difficult assignment,"

said board president Jack Colton as the contract was ratified.

The 76-member bargaining unit voted 63-12 on June 6 to ratify the agreement, with one member abstaining. The pact will be retroactive to July 1, 1988 and run through June 30, 1990, Alley said.

SOME CONTRACT highlights:

• Retroactive pay for the 1988-89 school year will bring drivers a 7 percent pay increase, while this year's wage increase will be tied to whatever teachers receive in their new contract.

• Language changes will impact the general running of the transportation department, including how bus runs are chosen and when meetings will be held.

• Alley said the drivers received "a significant improvement" in health insurance including dental and vision coverage comparable to what teachers, and secretaries and paraprofessionals receive.

Increased costs for special driver's licenses will be picked up by the district.

The contract guarantees paid annual medical examinations, as required by a new state law.

District personnel director Robert Coleman said the district and FTA negotiated for some 14 months before reaching an impasse last October. The association applied for fact-finding, which expedited the process and brought the two together in an agreement. In recommending the contract to the school board, Coleman said: "I think it's a fair one for both sides."

In on-going negotiations with other MEA-affiliates, initial proposals were placed on the table June 14, with the district scheduled to present their initial proposal last week, Alley said.

AS OF June 30, the following MEA affiliates were without contracts with the district: the Farmington Education Association, which represents teachers; the Farmington Custodial, Maintenance and Cafeteria unit, which represents employees in those areas; and the Farmington Educational Support Personnel unit, which includes secretaries and paraprofessionals.

Also to be negotiated is the contract with school administrators, a separate bargaining group.

Complicating the issue is the June 20 resignation of superintendent Graham Lewis, suddenly leaving deputy superintendent Michael Flanagan in charge of day-to-day operations. The day after Lewis' departure, Flanagan said he was preparing for already scheduled negotiation sessions with the unions.

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