

NEWS

FARMINGTON NOTES

Parade of players

About 600 players and coaches will march into the South Farmington baseball season during a parade through downtown Farmington on Saturday, May 1.

The parade will start at 10 a.m. at the Farmington City Hall. The route will be on Farmington Road to Shiloh and on to City Park where the games will be played.

Amber Joy Arbuckle, the reigning Miss Farmington, will be on hand for the parade. She and her court from the last Founders Festival will help operate the concession stand at the park.

Some 1,200 youngsters participate on the 85 teams of the South Farmington Baseball League.

To raise funds for the tournament teams, the league will hold a spaghetti dinner and auction on at 7 p.m. Saturday, May 15, at Mercy Center, 11 Mile Road east of Middlebelt, Farmington Hills. Cost is \$25 for couple, \$15 for singles and \$7 for youngsters 18 and under. People needing more information or wanting to donate something for auction should call Cheryl Berling at 478-6161.

Work in Washington

Rhonda Troutman, a Farmington Hills resident, is a spring intern in the press office of U.S. Sen. Donald Riegle, D-Mich.

"I am delighted to have Rhonda as a member of my press team," Riegle said. "Even though she will be here only a short time, I'm sure it will be a worthwhile experience for her."

Troutman, a graduate of Farmington High School and a junior at the University of Texas at Austin, is spending four months in Washington, D.C. through the American University's Washington Semester Program.

While in Washington, she spends two days a week assisting Riegle's press staff and learning how the Congress operates. The rest of the week she attends seminar classes and lectures. The seminars concentrate on the different branches of government as well as the lobbyists and other less formal powers in Washington.

"I am very excited to be in Washington at such a fascinating time," Troutman said. "I fall the experience I am gaining from my internship and all of my other activities here will prove to be invaluable, no matter what path I take in the future."

Faith and philosophy

College combines religion, learning

"Even Christian students can be happy," says James McHann, president of William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills. He believes that a spiritual lifestyle has a place in education.

BY LARRY O'CONNOR  
STAFF WRITER



In the courtyard, loud voices from an assembly of students pierce the otherwise tranquil setting at William Tyndale College.

President James McHann glances over. His concern turns to a smile as he finds the uprising to be an uplifting one.

The group is entertaining itself with an impromptu singing of the Gospel.

"Even Christian students can be happy," said McHann.

People don't always associate faces — let alone smiling ones — with the small non-profit Christian college in Farmington Hills.

Some might be quick to dismiss a Christian school as a closed society of Bible-thumping, hardline fundamentalists churning out dour-faced members of the clergy.

To others, William Tyndale College is just a sign on I-696 and a campus on 12 Mile and Drake roads. Many don't even know it exists.

McHann dispels those notions.

William Tyndale 'facts'

The trim, suited president rattles off a litany of facts. He'll tell how the Liberal Arts College is grounded in Christian theology.

He'll recite the background on the school's namesake, a 16th century biblical scholar who was martyred.



SHARON LEMIEUX/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Top man on campus: James McHann, president of William Tyndale College in Farmington Hills, says he learned to read with the help of a Bible and a dictionary.

The school has a dorm and, yes, even a basketball team.

Some 430 students attend William Tyndale, representing a variety of mainline Protestant denominations and some Catholics. The school is not tied to any particular church or sect.

The student profile is as diverse. The male and female ratio is nearly equal. Some 65 percent are white; 43 percent are black.

They may be like freshman Neena Wilkerson, a graduate of Cass Tech

in Detroit.

Wilkerson's mother attended Tyndale. On her mom's advice, she wanted to go to a small, Christian-centered college.

Her goal is to transfer to the University of Michigan and major in political science and performing arts.

"I was afraid to leap out into the big major-university world," Wilkerson said. "I thought it would be better for me to go to a smaller school for the first year."

Some late bloomers

Sometimes, students come in with less than sterling academic credentials. They may be a late bloomer, a person who with the proper guidance could hunker down and become a high achiever.

In other words, someone like McHann.

The native of Jackson, Miss., de-

See COLLEGE, 16A

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