



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL ENGELER

Tech room: Dean Cobb and Jonathon Jishra work the control room, combining the work of several camera positions and adding titles to the video.



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Looks good: Camera operators and other backstage workers watch a choir performance on a monitor.

## 24 hours

### Schools host telethon to raise money for foundation

BY TRACEY BIRKENHAUER  
STAFF WRITER

Baton in hand, Dean Cobb directed his orchestra like a maestro.

"Dissolve to camera number one," directed Cobb, Farmington Schools' telecommunications coordinator.

As the Farmington High School saxophone soloist belted the note right on cue, the once-stiff baton loosened to dance with the music. Of course, Cobb's baton was only a cheap pen, but it had much the same effect.

As the solo came to a close, Cobb directed the student camera operators: "Go! Go! Go! Dissolve to number two! Dissolve to number two!" About an hour into the show, Cobb asked, "This is for 24 hours, huh?"

**The telethon featured acts including the East Middle School Choirs, the North Farmington "Grease" cast and the Diamond Back Dancers. Dean Cobb's wife, Sue Cobb, hosted the event.**

On Friday, students from the three Farmington public high schools and many additional volunteers produced the first-ever Farmington Public Schools District-Wide Telethon, benefiting the Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation.

Callers pledged \$10,483 during the 24-hour fund-raiser held at North Farmington High School.

The event featured mostly student talent; all broadcast live on cable access TV 10. It lasted from 3 p.m. Friday to 3 p.m. Saturday. The telethon featured acts including the East Middle School Choirs, the North Farmington "Grease" cast and the Diamond Back Dancers. Dean Cobb's wife, Sue Cobb, hosted the event.

The Farmington Hills/Farmington Community Foundation provides monetary grants to community programs serving area families and children. It's supported solely by private donations, with no governmental

Please see TELETHON, A10



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