

Grid gloating: Friendly wager on the line for Canton, Van Buren supervisors



Canton Township Supervisor Pat Williams and Van Buren Township Supervisor Kevin McNamara are willing to put their reputations where their mouths are when it comes to Friday's prep football district final between the Canton Chiefs and the Belleville Tigers.

Williams and McNamara have agreed to a "friendly bet" on the outcome of the game, set for 7 p.m. Friday at Belleville High School. The winner earns a berth in the Division 1 regional.

McNamara and Williams agreed to the friendly wager as a show of support for their respective school districts, whose teams have worked hard to get to this stage in postseason play.

The [Chiefs reached the final](#) with a pre-district win over Saline. Belleville reached the final by knocking out the Salem Rocks.

The two men have agreed the loser will wear the jersey of the winning team at its next game and will have his picture taken in the shirt in front of the winner's township sign.

McNamara is confident enough that he's already getting ready.

"I'm buying Pat Williams a shirt and it's going to be too small for me, so he's going to have to wear it," McNamara said. "We have a special team, but it's a young team and I'm sure we'll give it everything we've got."

Williams, despite some Facebook prognostications and rankings he's seen saying otherwise, is confident the Chiefs will prevail. He also knows he had a better-than-average shot to begin with.

"I don't normally make a bet unless I'm sure I'm going to win," Williams said. "We have three great football programs at The Park and he's got just the one high school, so I've got three shots at making it to the next level."

As a sign of good sportsmanship, the winner will also buy lunch at his favorite local restaurant. Williams already has his places picked out.

"It'll be either Canton Szechuan (on Ford Road) or Rose's," Williams said. "Those are two of my favorites."