

Election: For some, it didn't compute

By SHIRLEE IDEN
Less than five miles apart, supporters of State Sen. Daniel Cooper and

challenger Doug Ross played the election night waiting game. Cooper stalwarts gathered where the

Democratic votes are centered, in an apartment complex in Southfield. Friends and veterans of campaigns

who gave him 12 years in Lansing as a powerful senate member were supplied sandwiches and drinks.

The candidate paced and declared it as tough to wait for election results as for the birth of a child.

Ross' boosters, about 250 strong, crowded into the Labor Zionist Institute in Farmington Hills, ate dog dogs with relish, drank soft drinks and digested election results with relish, too.

Election central for Cooper was a small room with a desk and a phone adjoining the party room. With the polls closed nearly two hours and races for the U. S. Senate and governor already called by the media, Cooper-Ross results were skimpy.

At 9:55 p.m. David Fink, attorney and long-standing Cooper campaigner, manned the telephone and answered questions.

"How bad is it? Bad to tight," he admitted.

"What's happening here is a human drama with no meaning. The race ended at 8 o'clock. What we really should do is go home and go to sleep."

TO ANOTHER QUESTION: "...Huntington Woods—discouraging, Oak Park—discouraging, Farmington—not bad. Southfield is the whole election because 30 per cent of the Democratic

votes are there. And it's computerized so the drama will end suddenly when the computer pops out.

What popped out of the computer was a foul-up. By 10:30 p.m. results from Southfield, reporting just 13 out of 50 precincts, were "more negative than we anticipated." Within a few minutes came the news the computers were out.

Until past 2 a.m. Southfield's computers were quiet. Eagerly awaited tabulations were jammed in and locked away from those hungrily waiting for them. They made do with sandwiches and hot dogs, but the writing was already on the wall.

Bob O'Leary, campaign manager for Doug Ross, declared just before 11 p.m. "We may beat 'em in Oak Park and if we do it's over."

When Ross arrived at his election night party just before the 11 o'clock news, one third of the vote was in, and with 56 precincts out of 133 reporting, he was ahead by 774 votes.

By 11:05 p.m. an announcement by Ross: "We're up by 1,300 votes now," and pandemonium reigned at the Labor Zionist Institute.

"It looks very possible, but it's not definite yet," Ross declared at 11:12 p.m. "It looks like people have made a difference, but we need a little more from Oak Park, Southfield and Farmington Hills."

"I'll feel better when we get it all together."

CAMPAIGN workers like Sue and Barry Lepler of Huntington Woods, who had been at the polls at 6:30 a.m. to culminate months of effort, milled around waiting for the good word.

Ross and wife, Karol, were waiting patiently to cut a tape for a radio station and then the moment came. The candidate, not withstanding the defunct Southfield computer, decided it was time to make a victory speech.

Striding to the stage, he motioned for silence, then said: "Well, I want to be the first person to congratulate you."

And the Ross stalwarts responded as one with shouts, cheers and a standing ovation.

"You should know when we first started, the leaders in Lansing, the press and everyone said you can't beat a well entrenched incumbent," he said. "But 2,000 people working with efficiency and doing it together is too much for anyone."

For Doug Ross it was a night of triumph and promise, and a challenge to win the seat in November.

For Daniel Cooper, it was a long night that just didn't compute.



There was no joy in waiting for election results for state Sen. Daniel Cooper (above) who paced a lot and spoke little.



David Fink (above) in Cooper's election central in Southfield took precinct results in a losing cause he called "bad to tight" early on election night. At left, Doug Ross mingles with supporters while his son, Doug, 8, holds up a campaign poster. At right, Karol Luploff Ross, the candidate's wife, and his brother-in-law, Richard L. Roberts, who became a father on election morning, look toward the winner being congratulated on his victory.

Photos
by
Gary
Friedman



THE INSIDE * ANGLE

WE'VE CHANGED OUR mailing address. The new address is Farmington Observer, 22170 W. Nine Mile, Southfield 48034. Mail sent to our old address (P.O. Box 59, Southfield 48037) will be forwarded for one year, but may experience some delay in reaching our offices.

OAK HILL NURSING Home will hold an open house from 2-5 p.m. on Aug. 20. Interested persons are invited to drop in, say hello, have a dish of ice cream and visit the residents. Richard Pitcher, assistant director of the home, said, "Bring the kids, and bring the neighbors. We need your friendly faces." The Oak Hill Nursing Home is at Grand River and Gill Road.

AFTER A SUMMER recess, the Farmington Area Commission on Aging begins its fall sessions on the fourth Tuesday of each month, with the opening meeting set for 7:30 p.m. Aug. 29 in the Farmington City Hall, Grand River and Liberty. Commission meetings are open to all area residents who want to air problems, make petitions or suggestions.

IF YOU'VE NEVER BEEN to a comic book convention, you'll have your chance from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Aug. 20 at Sans Souci Hall on Nine Mile, one block west of Middlebelt. More than 50 dealers are expected to show their wares. General admission is \$1. For information on dealers' tables, please call 569-1580.

CALLING ALL 1973 graduates of Farmington Harrison High School. A five-year reunion party has been planned for 8 p.m. this Friday at the Boksford Inn, Grand River between Eight Mile and Middlebelt. Activities include a barbecue in the courtyard and a dance in the ballroom. Harrison grads from 1972 and '74 also are invited. Tickets at \$8 per person may be purchased at the door. Additional information may be obtained by calling Donna Krasnewich at 474-8955.

THOMAS L. WOLF of Farmington Hills has been promoted to property underwriting manager for the Detroit Region of Employers Insurance of Wausau. A native of Texas, Wolf moved to regional headquarters in Southfield from Dallas, where he had been a senior property underwriter for Employers of Wausau's southwestern region. He earned his professional designation as a Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter in 1976. He is a member of the Society of Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters.

THE FARMINGTON HILLS Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a sports

equipment sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Aug. 19 at the Farmington High School cafeteria. You may buy or sell used sports equipment of all types. Items to be sold will be accepted at the Farmington High cafeteria from 6-9 p.m. on Aug. 18, and from 8:30-10:30 a.m. on Aug. 19. There will be a 15 per cent service charge on all items sold, and all sales are final. For additional information, call the parks and recreation department at 474-6115.

YOUNG CHESS ENTHUSIASTS were given the chance to enhance their skills at the nation's first chess camp held at Michigan State University recently. Terence Tchen of Farmington Hills was among the 57 participants, aged 9 to 18, from 12 states, attending the camp which featured instruction by international grand master William Lombardy. Housed in the MSU residence halls, the participants received instruction in both basic and advanced chess techniques. They tested their skills in tournaments and in contests with instructors and university computers. Tchen is a student at Farmington Harrison High School, where he is a member of the German Club. The camp was sponsored by the Michigan Chess Association and the American Chess Foundation in cooperation with MSU's Continuing Education Service.

ANTIQUÉ BUFF'S take note. The Twelve Mile antique show will run through Aug. 13 with more than 40 dealers from eastern and midwestern states participating. Thousands of items will be featured. Personal antiques may be appraised for \$1. Demonstrations will include furniture stripping and restoration of old picture frames, oil paintings and old prints. There is no admission charge. The mall is at Twelve Mile and Telegraph in Southfield.

STEPHEN ABOWD of Farmington Hills is in the running for Junior Achievement's National Officer of the Year award. Abowd, a bank manager for Junior Achievement, was named Bank Executive of the Year by Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan recently. He will represent the district at the 34th annual National Junior Achievers Conference at Indiana University in Bloomington, Ind. later this month.

DEADLINE
Material submitted for The Inside Angle (22170 W. Nine Mile, Southfield 48034) should be typewritten and include the name and phone number of the sender. Items must be received at least one week before publication. Do not send photographs. All materials received become the property of the Farmington Observer.

HOME SHOW



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Reg. 17.50 to \$85, handcrafted sculptures from international delight young and old alike.

Each piece is cast and hand-finished by skilled craftsmen. Mostly 2 and 3 inches high, each bears the signature and touchmark of the artist. Perfect collection for little ones. Watch their enjoyment and the collection's value grow through the years. We show only a few from our wide assortment in Hudson's Holloware.

A. Chores, 98 units, reg. \$35, sale 20.99
B. Helping Hands, 98 units, reg. \$65, sale 38.99
C. Forty Love, 98 units, reg. 17.50, sale 10.49

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