

Wednesday, October 15, 1969

Both Sides Saw Threat

The 'Why' Behind Weekend Petition Drives

By EMORY DANIELS

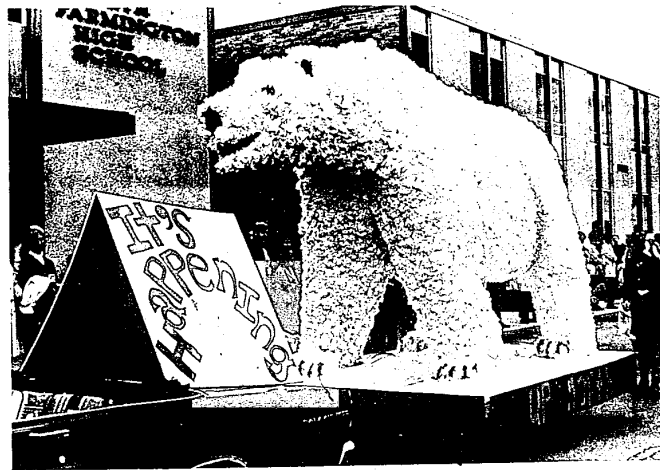
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Who started the race to the courthouse? Which side circulated the first petition? At this point, there is only a cloud of rumors which circulated wildly last Thursday and Friday and claims and counter-claims.

And there are two petitions filed, one for an annexation election and the other for an incorporation vote.

INCORPORATION leaders in the township say they simply reacted to rumors that city residents were preparing annexation petitions for filing in case consolidation failed.

Annexation leaders in the city say they had done nothing until reports were confirmed that incorporation petitions were being circulated.



THE WINNER -- The winning float in Saturday's homecoming parade for North Farmington High was the

polar bear entered by the senior class. The animated bear was constructed with more than 7,000 flowers.



SUSPENSE OVER -- The suspense ends as Barbara Robbins accepts the bouquet of red roses, reserved for the queen. (Evert photo)



CROWNING -- Barbara Robbins wears a pretty smile as the crown is placed atop her head. She is now officially homecoming queen for the 1969 Raiders.

Completes Training

FARMINGTON Airman Apprentice Gary E. Zisch, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Zisch, 32143 Hearstone, Farmington, has completed 28 days of training in the recruit phase of the Navy's "Four to 10-Month" active duty program at the Naval Air Reserve Training Unit in Memphis, Tenn.

He will now attend one of the technical schools at the Naval Air Technical Training Center in Memphis. Upon completion of the school he will return to civilian life and train one weekend a month with a reserve squadron at a Naval Air Reserve facility close to his home.

N.F.H. Elects Officers

A senior at Our Lady of Sorrows High School will be a Torch Drive leader for a day as part of the United Foundation's first Youth Day program Oct. 29.

She is Sue Mather of 34095 Schulte, Farmington. Miss Mather has been chosen the student counterpart to the chairman of the Torch Drive's residential units, Mrs. Vies For Title

William Oldershaw, son of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Oldershaw of 28425 Peppermill, Farmington, was a candidate for the title of 1969 homecoming king at Miami University.

R. Jamison Williams.

The Youth Day program involves 25 representatives from public and parochial high schools in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. They were chosen by their principals on the basis of leadership and civic responsibility.

At the Youth Day luncheon, to be held in the Veterans Memorial Building, the students will join their counterparts in giving campaign progress reports.

The students have already toured three Torch Drive services--the Detroit Orthopaedic Clinic, the Michigan Cancer Foundation and the International

Institute--to get an idea of how Torch Drive funds are spent.

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Leaders of the incorporation drive are in favor of consolidation but were fearful of annexation moves if consolidation is defeated.

The incorporation petition was filed to freeze the township's boundaries to allow residents a chance to decide their future.

The filing was explained as strictly a defensive move to stave off any possible annexation in case consolidation proceedings end.

DICK TUPPER, who filed the annexation petitions, said he acted only after confirming the incorporation petitions were being circulated.

"I did not have any plans to circulate annexation petitions until the incorporation petitions were already in circulation," Tupper explained. He said he did not pick up the petitions until Friday night and circulation petitions had been circulated as early as Thursday.

Tupper said he heard reports the incorporation petitions were picked up as late as two weeks ago. He said the annexation move was started for "self-preservation" of the City of Farmington.

The proposed incorporation, Tupper said, would see the city surrounded on all sides by another city. Reasons behind the annexation request, Tupper said, were to expand the city's tax base and prevent the city from becoming land-locked.

"Our tax base is not stable," Tupper said, "and at present the city has no control over the Grand River corridor. We are trying to improve the image visitors have of Farmington as they enter on Grand River. Improvement of the image on Grand River is vital to the downtown area."

Tupper stressed he is still in favor of consolidation "all the way." He said his action should in no way cloud the consolidation question because it was only a defensive move to keep the city from being land-locked by incorporation of the township.

"Consolidation is the answer to our boundary problems," Tupper said. "Hopefully, a 'yes' vote will be achieved Nov. 4 and neither annexation nor incorporation will have to be considered."

CITY COUNCILMAN John Richardson issued a statement Monday stressing he was not connected with the annexation drive.

"I was aware Tupper was going to circulate peti-

tions, but I never circulated or signed a petition and was not a participant in the move," he said.

The township area requested to be annexed to the city is south of a line which begins at 10 Mile and Inkster, follows Inkster to the Star Cutter plant where it follows the boundary of the cemetery property, continues along the boundary of Quakertown and then continues west on 11 Mile to Haggerty.

Basically, it is the area south of 11 Mile excluding Quakertown and Sections 22, 23 and 24. It includes the Farmington Freeway Industrial Park, the Star Cutter Industrial Park area and the industrial belt along 8 Mile.

The annexation, if realized, would add 12 square miles to the city leaving some 19 square miles left for the township.



HONORED AS ONE of the six "Newsboys Of The Year" for The Observer Newspapers is Kim Jaska, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter F. Jaska Jr., 21243 Robinwood, Farmington. He's shown receiving his awards from Circulation Director Fred Wright. The ceremonies were part of the National Newsboy celebration at the Tel-Twelve Mall. (Observer photo)

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