

Tom Riordan

When love turns out to be highlight



Hirsch (80), Milton Xarthens (88), Greg Jefferson (24) and Alex Clark (42). (Staff photo by Dick Kelley)

Her honor Hilda R. Gage, judge of the Oakland County Circuit Court, looked at the case number.

It was 79-194491.

Toss aside the 79, the year, and there were six digits which read the same from either direction.

That sort of set the tone of the situation before Judge Gage. It could be regarded from either end and make sense each way.

THIS WAS A SHOW-CAUSE hearing Friday con-cerned with the transfer of seven students from Pontiac into the Bloomfield Hills School District.

Coming in late summer, the transfers were prompted by a string of unsuccessful votes on property taxes in the Pontiac School District which signaled the end of extra curricular activites, including football, in its high schools.

Spotlighted in the court action were a half dozen ck athletes, all presently students at Bloomfield

black attnetes, an presently squeme at Bosonics.

As it turned out, after some enlightening testimony Friday, Judge Gage decided that more time was
needed to study all the ramifications.

She set Oct. 22 for a full hearing on the matter.

HER PRELIMINARY RULING allows the ransfer students to continue attending classes at

Lahser and participating in sports.
Focusing attention on these young people had another effect. It triggered an intensive examination by officials of the Bloomfield Hills district into its tranfer polices and practices. The study showed that, in recent years, some 55 students have been welcomed into the district as transfers.

But that's a situation of major proportions, and this column will not be dealing with that "big pic-

Instead, my attention this week is directed at the "people" element.

For example, there is the Segula family, residents of Bloomfield Hills.

gents of Bioomnied Hills.

Son John is a student at Lahser, He asked his folks if a black friend of his from Pontiac and that friend's brother could reside with the Segulas so the two youths could attend Lahsher.

John's folks, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Segula, immediately agreed. Later they met with the Pontiac youths and their parents. All agreed to the plan.

Necessary paperwork was done with the school district, and the Segulas assumed temporary guardianship of Joey and Martin Levier.

AT THE SAME TIME, other Bloomfield Hills families were doing the identical thing for other Pontiac youths.

Remember, they weren't doing it to exploit the young people in any way. They weren't hoodwinking Bloomfield Hills school administrators. Nor were they trying to recruit gridiron talent for the Lahser team.

These Bloomfield Hills School District families were acting out of the highest motivations — to offer help to fellow human beings.

And that's my point.

We often hear from psuedo-liberals who look with a jaundiced eye at the well-to-do, comfortable suburban resident. They freely pass out labels of "bigot," resil-centered", "refusing to deal with the real world."

These same self-ordained experts love to paint all offspring of suburbanites as irresponsible and selfish.

SUCH NEGATIVE COMMENTS pale when bathed in the light of actual acts of kindness as performed by the Segulas and the other families in the Bloomfield Hills School District.

John Segula and Joep Levier told Barbara Underwood, our reporter on the story, that the situation at Lalser was "just terrific, fine, no problems."

Then John added, "We are getting along well. A lot of people have made new friends.

And that's what love is all about.

JA: Business' baptism of fire and cash

We've heard kids who participated in a parks clean up swear they would never, ever litter again.

clean up swear ney wound never, ever nice, again.

The same principle might hold true for young teenagers who had a taste of business. Once having been through the mill of organizing a company, raising capital, working, managing and selling, they are less likely ever to take business for granted or to look on corporations as some colossal dairy herd that can be milked for benefits forever.

In Oakland County, eighth and ninth graders will have a chance to get that taste of business begin-ning Oct. 15. That's when Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan centers will be opened so

that groups of 15 to 20 youngsters can organize their own companies.

IT'S MORE THAN a game.

JA members make up the boards of directors. They elect a president, corporate secretary, VP for manufacturing, treasurer, purchasing manager, VP of sales, safety director and VP for personnel. These aren't mere parliamentary exercises. Those elected are operating officers.

The companies sell stock at \$1 a share. They select products, set up production lines, plan distribution.

They advertise, promote and sell their companies products. They keep books and, if possible, pay dividends.

dividends.

In one of the more realistic exercises, they pay taxes. That's as realistic as one can get.

Their own financial rewards are modest but real.

And there are chances for JA scholarships.

THIS YEAR, JA launches its 60th season. In Oakland County, JA centers are located at:
- Fourth and Wilcox in Rochester.
- 4250 N. Woodward, Royal Oak.
- Nearby at 28905 Grand River, just south of Eight Mile in Redford.

Adults can help.

If your son or daughter — or both — show some interest in JA business, encourage them to attend

If you have a chance to be an adviser, or if your firm has a chance to be a sponsor, do it.
When you see a JA company selling a worthy product at your local shopping center, listen to the kids' sales pitch.

They will be working for and ultimately running your company some day. If they learn young, they won't take business, jobs and sales for granted.

— Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

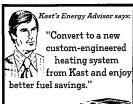


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