

OCC ex-trustee tells of board disagreements

By TIM RICHARD

Lila Johnson, who resigned last Friday as a member of the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees, revealed in a weekend interview there had been "disagreements" between the board and President Robert F. Roelofs over the board's policy-making role.

"He feels almost anything is administrative," said Mrs. Johnson in her Huntington Woods home. "At times, the board policy has been ignored."

But she didn't blame those disagreements for her decision to quit after 16 years on the board and with four years of her term to go. She had been a trustee since the college was founded in 1964.

"It's something I had been considering a long time," she said. "I almost didn't run last time (1978)."

"I HAD A couple of unfinished goals and decided I would go ahead and try to finish them before I got off the board."

"One was to get assurance the southeast section of the county would receive proper services from the community college." The board last spring authorized a major building contract in downtown Royal Oak, and a technical health programs building is under construction in Southfield.

"The other thing was I decided I had been doing that (serving as trustee) long enough and wanted to pursue some personal interests that had been postponed a long time," she said.

One is doing publicity on a film directed by Hyar Toukhanian of Huntington Woods called "Assignment Berlin." A spy story set in the 1920s, it couldn't be filmed in Berlin because the former German capital's 1920s-era buildings had been bombed out in World War II. Instead, it was filmed in Detroit, where its premiere will be held in fall.

The other personal interest is painting.

MRS. JOHNSON voted on the short end of a 5-2 split over two board elections last week, including the election of Earl Anderson as new board chairman.

She said the board has "always appointed the runner-up in the election" to a vacancy. If board policy is followed, it would mean Barbara Jane Willing, defeated for re-election as trustee June 9, would be appointed to replace her.

Asked if Ms. Willing has the clout to



LILA JOHNSON

win board approval for appointment as trustee, Mrs. Johnson said. "That remains to be seen."

ABOUT THE disagreements with Roelofs over the board's role, Mrs. Johnson said:

"I feel the board needs to be fully informed at all times, that they are the representatives of the public and certainly should make all public policy decisions."

"At times, the board policy has been ignored, and the amount of information has been reduced."

"According to Roelofs' interpretation, he feels almost anything is an administrative matter, and that board policy should not be too specific."

She said that for awhile after Roelofs became president in September 1978, some personnel matters weren't brought to the board for approval.

"It's his position they should not be brought to the board, although once it was firmly stated we want them brought, they were brought," she said.

IN FACT, there is a proposal (from Roelofs) that would allow the administration to hire attorneys, architects and auditors.

"I have always maintained the auditors report to the board," she said, citing the example of the Michigan Legis-

lature's appointment of the state auditor general and of state audits of OCC going to the board.

"That was another area where the board would have been bypassed if the board had not taken a firm position. The administration replied (to the state auditors) without consultation with the board and, in fact, discouraged further discussion of the state auditors' report by the board."

ONE PET project, however, he will not see to fruition.

As board chairman from July 1978 to the end of June 1980, Mrs. Johnson had appointed a three-member committee to discuss the process by which the board evaluates the president's performance.

She had named herself to the committee and planned that it would do some heavy reading into how a board should conduct the president's annual review.

With her departure, she said, "I'm very skeptical any genuine effort will be made in that direction."

Roelofs' contract runs until September 1981. Mrs. Johnson had "no preconceived notions" about whether it should be renewed, but pointed out the evaluation process should be used to discuss an administrator's strengths and weaknesses, and to look at his aspirations. Roelofs is 62.

WSU sets registration

Registration for the fall semester at Wayne State University will continue through Aug. 8 in the Administrative Services Building, Cass and Antoinette, Detroit.

Classes begin Sept. 2. WSU is shifting from a quarter system to semesters this school year.

Students may register in alphabetical order from 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30-6:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays and 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:30-5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The alphabetical system will be waived during the final week of registration beginning Aug. 4.

New students who have not attended WSU before must contact the admissions office.

For registration information, call 577-3611.



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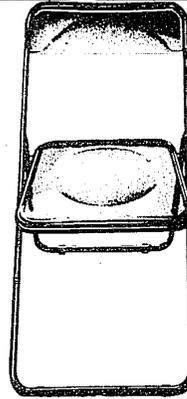
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PBB, PCB

Here today, gone when?

A researcher from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences said that PCB and PBB enter the body more easily than they are removed from it.

"These are not the most carcinogenic nor are they the most toxic substances. However, we are concerned with how long the substances stay in the body and the long-term effects," said Dr. H.B. "Skip" Matthews.

Speaking at a two-day Michigan State University workshop on enhancing the excretion of PBB, Matthews pointed out that PCB and PBB have similar chemical characteristics, including insolubility in water.

"Since animals' excretory systems are based on water, compounds not water-soluble will not be readily excreted," he said.

THE RESEARCHER summarized the results of a study conducted at the North Carolina-based institute, where a series of PCBs — chlorobiphenyl, dichlorobiphenyl, pentachlorobiphenyl and hexachlorobiphenyl — were ingested by rats.

The researchers charted the chemical amounts in the animals' muscle, skin and fat and found that the "penta"

and "hexa" forms were much more persistent, especially in the oily fat tissue.

Less than 20 percent of the hexachlorobiphenyl dose would have been eliminated during the animal's lifetime," Matthews said, adding that 60-70 percent of the dose was evident in the fat tissue six weeks after ingestion. He attributed the slower excretion of the two PBB forms to a slightly different molecular structure.

In a similar study of PBB's metabolic capacity, the researchers found that, like the PCBs, it was slowly excreted by the rats. Less than 10 percent of the total dose was excreted during the animals' lifetime.

THE MAJOR concentration of the chemical was in fat tissue, with 70 percent of the total dose still evident six weeks after it had been administered.

He summarized the results of the study by noting that xenobiotics such as PCB and PBB are concentrated in the body's oily parts because they can't be excreted in water.

"Oil and water don't mix," Matthews said. These compounds need to be made water soluble before excretion will be increased and they can be eliminated from the body, he said.



William Milliken and chairman of ERAmerica.

The power outage at motels near Metro Airport, the temporary home for Michigan Republican delegates, created a lot of problems for the motel employees, TV crews and newspaper reporters.

The hotel employees were busy mopping up wet spots caused by the torrential rains inside the buildings.

An under-construction two-story addition at the Hilton Inn caved in, causing about \$1 million in damages.

Restaurants were not serving hot meals, since there was no electricity with which to heat them. Cold sandwiches and salads were served.

TV crews had no electricity to turn on their camera lights.

Telephones were out of use. Newspaper reporters had trouble taking notes in the dark while interviewing delegates.



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