

# Dem vets on hand in NYC

By TIM RICHARD

A "more seasoned" Michigan delegation is attending the 1980 Democratic National Convention in New York this week. On that both the Carter and Kennedy camps agree.

But the delegates have less authority and are more like messengers this year, said a Kennedy backer.

"In 1976, the delegates were picked from above," said Aldo Vagnozzi, a Kennedy alternate from Farmington Hills who is attending his third national convention.

Gene Kutly, a Carter alternate from West Bloomfield Township, agreed, attributing the change to the new caucus system.

Here is what caused the change:

IN 1976, Jimmy Carter, then the former governor of Georgia, won the Michigan presidential preference primary in May. The Carter camp knew few big-name Michigan Democrats (with the notable exception of Detroit Mayor Coleman Young).

"Carter wasn't well known," said Kutly. "He didn't operate in a party base. The party people didn't know him or them. The Carter camp tended to pick many more newcomers."

The situation was the same in Rep. Morris Udall's camp. The National Education Association had made an early decision to back Udall. Many teachers with little Democratic Party background joined the ground floor of the Udall campaign. When time came to select national convention delegates, these newcomers were picked by the Udall leaders.

"The control of the picking process," said Kutly, "was at the top."

"THIS TIME," Vagnozzi said, "the people who were interested applied to become delegates. The candidates could reduce the acceptable number to only three times the number of delegate slots to be filled."

From these triple-sized lists, party members in caucuses picked national convention delegates. In that environment, Kutly and Vagnozzi agreed, people who had worked in the party had a better chance at going to the national convention.

"Remember, too, that Carter is the incumbent president now," added Kutly. "He's more of a known quantity than he was in 1976."

He cited the list of delegates from Oakland County: "For Carter you have Gail Nolin (teachers union leader from Waterford), who has been active for years; (state) Sen. Kerry Kammer; myself; for Kennedy, state Rep. Charlie Harrison (of Pontiac); Don Tucker (West Bloomfield attorney), who has been a money-raiser for a long time; in the 18th District, for Carter, (state) Sen. Bill Huffman; Mary Ann Garlack, who pre-dates me; for Kennedy, Morley Winograd (Troy resident and former state party chairperson); Ken Morris (Troy resident and UAW regional director); from up Rochester, Betty Howe."

BUT WHILE the Michigan delegation is more experienced compared to '76, Vagnozzi sees the party as generally weaker after a decade of "reform."

"Delegates used to have a lot more authority," said Vagnozzi. Today the party organization is weaker than it was in the 1960s and earlier. "You see it in Congress, too. There's no loyalty to the party. That's why Carter can't get programs passed."

MICHIGAN'S delegation, staying in the Merril Essex House overlooking Central Park, has 141 delegates — 71 for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, 70 for President Jimmy Carter.

Chairman of the Kennedy caucus is Morley Winograd. Leading the Carter caucus is Detroit Mayor Coleman Young.

Chairwoman of the entire delegation is party Chairwoman Olivia Maynard, Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor in 1978. Ms. Maynard succeeded to the top spot when Winograd resigned as chairman in mid-term to pursue a business opportunity.

The delegation has 71 males and 70 females; 28 blacks, three Hispanics and one "native American" (Indian).

Of the 141 delegates, 96 were elected at district caucuses; 13 are add-on delegates elected by the other national convention delegates; and 32 are at-large delegates, party leaders picked by the Democratic State Central Committee.

There are 33 union officials, 21 elected office holders, 29 other government employees (public school teachers, local officials, legislative staffers), 16 attorneys, five secretaries, five production workers, four retirees, four executives, two lobbyists, two in real estate and two students.

There is one each: bank employee, social worker, nurse, dairy farmer, community organizer, accountant and person on relief.

## Registration on at Mercy

Registration for fall day, evening and weekend college classes will continue through Aug. 27 at Mercy College of Detroit. Classes begin the week of Sept. 2.

The college's admissions, academic counseling, financial aid and registrar's offices will remain open until 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 26, and Wednesday, Aug. 27.

Information about class offerings, registration and fees may be obtained by calling 592-6030 or visiting the admissions office on campus. Mercy College is at 8200 W. Outer Drive in northwest Detroit.

Students who have not previously attended Mercy College must contact the admissions office.

## Super service

Detroit Edison's electric customers in the metropolitan area may now pay their electric bills at their local Farmer Jack Supermarket.

Forty-six of the markets in Detroit and suburbs now will handle utility bill payments at in-store service counter facilities.

Payments for gas and telephone service also may be made at the stores.

## This rink rolls all over

People young and not so young are strapping on roller skates to dance to disco, exercise and even to roll through town to beat high gas prices.

"The kids have more coordination and style now," said Gloria Radkowsky, a program leader with the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission's mobile units.

"They seem to have a natural flair for skating."

THE OAKLAND County Parks skate mobile turns any hard, flat surface in Oakland County into a skating arena.

Participants can use any of the 150 pairs of skates supplied with the unit, and for two hours may skate, dance or race as the sounds of Bob Seger, Pink Floyd and Michael Jackson filter through the air.

Recently the skate mobile visited Birney Middle School in Southfield where the parking lot was taken over by skaters.

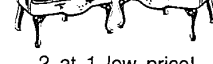
"It's fun. You can learn new tricks," said Ronaldyn Palmer, 13, of

Lathrup Village. Steve Davidson, 14, also of Lathrup Village, said, "The music is nice. It has a good beat so you can dance to it."

THE SKATE mobile is one of seven Oakland County Parks mobile units in operation for the past seven years.

For information on the services, call the parks office at 858-0916.

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