

Feuer best bet for Dems

Among six Democrats vying for the state senate nomination in the new 15th District, Alan Feuer is best equipped to serve voters.

Feuer, former executive director of Michigan Common Cause, has the fullest grasp of the issues now facing Michigan. His concerns closely parallel those of 15th District constituents.

He entered the Senate race believing the Michigan Legislature has shirked its responsibilities and failed to face up to the state's economic crisis. We agree.

While Feuer boldly points to some glaring legislative contradictions, the two incumbents — who left their old districts to battle for this seat — can only share in the guilt of perpetuating them.

- Michigan spends nearly a third of its road budget on new highways, yet lacks funds to repair existing roads.
- Long overdue, the "Say Yes to Michigan" campaign recently began promoting Michigan tourism. The advertising contract went out of state.
- The Single Business Tax compounds the problems small businesses face by burdening profitable and unprofitable companies alike.
- Properly taxes make no distinction between unemployed workers, senior citizens and persons at the peak of their earnings.

FEUER'S RECORD as a consumer advocate shows he can work with legislators. Without holding office, he has had an impact on the state legislation. As an elected official, his positive working relationships will bear more fruit.

While Feuer has demonstrated concern for keeping government open to public scrutiny, the two Democratic incumbents have favored an amendment which would have crippled the Open Meetings Act. Senate Bill 790 would have allowed more closed meetings and secret evaluations of city man-

agers, school superintendents and college presidents.

One incumbent senator supported the bill. The other was absent but frankly said he would have voted for it.

Secret cash contributions to politicians are now illegal in Michigan. That is due in part to Feuer's role in lobbying for the Campaign Finance Reform Act, which limits special-interest influence in politics and requires public disclosure of contributions.

Feuer, 29, also has experience in other political arenas.

A delegate to the Democratic National Convention, Feuer serves on state Sen. Doug Ross' Citizen Advisory Committee on Senior Citizens and the Michigan Advisory Board of the Anti-Defamation League.

He is a former member of the Jewish Community Council Committee on International Concerns and co-chairman of the Jewish Welfare Federation-Junior Division Israel Independence Day Committee.

Endorsed by the National Organization for Women, Feuer served as an aide to former Congressman Allard Lowenstein and is a member of the Southfield Democratic Club.

Despite his affiliations, Feuer has refused campaign contributions of more than \$450.

MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY will not improve unless we go to our strengths. Feuer is one of those strengths. He recognizes that although Michigan may never sell the number of cars it once did, our skilled workers, modern plants, available energy and water remain as resources.

Feuer said we haven't sold Michigan — we've sold it short. He would like to work for Michigan so more people may work in Michigan.

He deserves the chance to aid in showing us the way.

Voter's first decision



Endorsements wrap it up

Signs are sprouting on vacant lots like weeds. Television is bursting with commercials. The daily mail is heavy with literature.

Yes, it's political campaign time. All of the hoopla will climax with Tuesday's primary election.

This election is especially complicated. Recapturement caused by the 1980 census has created many new districts. Also, unusually high numbers of elected officials have retired from county, state and national offices. As a result, it is easy to be confused.

This newspaper has an important function to perform. Editors and reporters have worked diligently for the past few weeks putting together many pre-election stories.

IN TODAY'S ISSUE, we publish our endorsements for local districts for Congress, the Michigan Legislature and county offices. Endorsements are something this newspaper takes seriously.

As a news organization that regularly covers this community, we have an obligation to give leadership, to share our views with you.

The endorsements on this page are the result of much thought. The process of determining an editorial endorsement is long.

Editors and reporters regularly cover this community, so they are familiar with current issues and candidates for office. Candidates are interviewed by newspaper staffers. Leaders in clubs and organizations are often quizzed about candidates. Discussions are held about candidates among the news department management staff.

DURING THE consideration of candidates, em-



Nick Sharkey

phasis is given to a history of local involvement. For example, a person with a record of solid performance on the PTA, city planning board and homeowner association would rate high. A candidate with a degree from a prestigious university but no local participation would rate low.

At the end of this process, we decide our endorsements. We do not expect a reader will blindly accept our reasoning. But we hope the endorsement will clarify thinking and stimulate additional research about a candidate.

If you don't agree with the endorsements on this page, fine. But it's now time to make up your mind about the candidate you support.

EDITORIAL ENDORSEMENTS are only a small part of the pre-election work that has been done by staffers in the past few weeks. When they finish covering the election on Tuesday evening, they can kick off their shoes and take pride in a job well done.

We're interested in any comments you may have about our political coverage. Please address your remarks to either me or the editor named on this page.

Headlee case languishes

It's too bad for the voters that Dick Headlee is running for governor under a legal cloud.

On Nov. 7, 1980 — three months short of two years ago — the state attorney general filed a civil suit asking \$500 damages from Headlee and seven other Oakland University trustees for violation of the state Open Meetings Act. Headlee's involvement is particularly important because he is chairman of the Oakland University board.

Since then, case number 80-214190-AV has been banging around, unresolved, in Oakland Circuit Court. First there was a pretrial hearing. Then there are motions. Then one attorney or another is on vacation, or arguing a case in court somewhere else, or something.

This week Judge Alice Gilbert is scheduled to hear motions, and one can only wonder if the case against the OU board will ever come to trial.

But the guts of the case have yet to be examined. It's delay, delay, delay, and the voters deserve a court ruling prior to the Aug. 10 primary.

More the matter is delayed, the better it may be for Headlee. Any court appearance makes a candidate-defendant look bad, even if the ruling is in his favor.

In a nutshell, the state attorney says the OU board in fall of 1980 violated the Open Meetings Act by interviewing candidates for the presidency in closed session. The board pretended it wasn't a full board by breaking up into groups, each of which



Tim Richard

constituted less than a quorum, meeting simultaneously to interview candidates. The candidates then were bounced from group to group.

If the board loses, it doesn't mean that President Joseph Champagne will be tossed out of office. But it does mean the board members can be punished.

Attorney General Frank Kelley, a Democrat, can hardly be accused of picking on Republican Headlee because there are prominent Democrats, too, on the OU board. The attorney general's office receives dozens of Open Meetings Act complaints each year, many from our suburban newspapers, but prosecutes only the most major cases where it can establish an attention-getting, statewide precedent.

In short, OU is in court because its board is the worst of a bad lot — or so the attorney general's office says.

What is the truth? Is Headlee such a secretive person that we ought not to trust him to be governor? Unless that case is brought to trial soon, voters must judge Headlee under a political cloud.

Anderson good for GOP

For the Republican 15th District Senate seat, we endorse John Anderson.

Not only does Anderson possess the intelligence, leadership and commitment the job demands, but of the five Republican candidates, he alone merits serious consideration.

The 31-year-old attorney brings to the campaign a strong background and broad experience. Anderson's roots in the 15th District are an added plus, which is in sharp contrast to the incumbent Democratic senators, who, by moving into the 15th District, have attempted to escape defeat in their old districts.

For two years, Anderson has practiced law with a prominent Farmington Hills firm. He formerly was employed by a large manufacturing company, also in Farmington Hills. While gaining business experience, Anderson attended night school — earning his law degree in 1980.

ANDERSON IS an active participant in the Oakland County, Michigan and American bar associations. He has served as the Farmington Area Chamber of Commerce vice president and as an executive board member of Industrial Michigan and IM-PAC, an organization dedicated to improving the business climate in Michigan.

Currently, Anderson is an executive board member of the Detroit Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America and the director of the Boy Scout district serving southeastern Oakland County.

We're not alone in our belief that Anderson is the best choice on the Republican ballot for state senator in the 15th District.

He has received endorsements from the Political Action Committee of the Greater Detroit Chamber of Commerce and the Industrial Michigan Political Action Committee.

UNOFFICIALLY, THE Ferndale Chamber of Commerce, which supported Democratic candidate state Sen. Dana Wilson until he voted for the recent state income tax increase, also embraces Anderson.

As a lawmaker, Anderson pledges to:

- Create jobs by improving Michigan's hostile business environment. He targets the self-defeating single business tax as a priority.
- Help Michigan live within its means by cutting spending.
- Encourage growth in Michigan's food processing industry to take full advantage of our agricultural strength.
- Take precautions to ensure that Michigan benefits by virtue of its fresh water supply.

Anderson is seeking election to the state Senate because he can't sit still with the way things are going in Michigan. Already, his penchant for hard work is evident.

While incumbent senators in the race campaign during the Legislature's summer recess at taxpayers' expense, Anderson has devoted long hours to both his law practice and the campaign.

He contends Lansing needs structural change and a new approach.

We strongly agree. Michigan stands at a juncture in history that demands careful action by our lawmakers. We believe voters can depend on Anderson.

Broomfield also noted that if he is re-elected, he will become chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, as its senior Republican member. That's a position with the potential for considerable influence.

Well aware of the issues, Broomfield said that he doesn't agree with Reagan all the time, such as on the pipeline to supply natural gas from the Soviet Union to Europe.

He knows that his responsibility is to his home turf and hopes during his next term to have the city of Pontiac declared an urban enterprise zone with appropriate local, state and federal tax credits.

If elected for another term, Broomfield must remember that goal and realize that he speaks for his constituents as well as the president.

Broomfield needs to clean up act

WILLIAM BROOMFIELD is an easy choice for the Republican 18th Congressional District nomination.

His opponent, who thought he was running for Jim Blanchard's old district, admits having bitten off too much in challenging the long-time incumbent.

Challenger Roger Hall, who bills himself as The Underdog, is sincere in wanting to do some good. As a businessman, he would make a better first step by, say, working with the Troy Chamber of Commerce, where he lives, rather than tackling a federal race.

Broomfield admitted he hasn't been back to the district as much as he would have liked but added that his responsibilities have increased since President Ronald Reagan took office. He said that he now functions as Reagan's spokesman in the House of Representatives.

and Michigan? Was it a football game they were promoting? By no means — it was the rugby team.

Discover Michigan

by Bill Stockwell

Did you know that back in the 1820s, Jefferson Avenue in Detroit ended in a rail fence at Beaubien Street? By 1850 a toll gate was erected where Baldwin now crosses Jefferson. All tolls went to pay for a plank roadway leading to the old Hamtramck Race track, which was very popular in those days. The toll was five cents.

Did you know that the first issue of the Michigan Daily, the University of Michigan student newspaper, devoted almost its entire first page to a team's preparation for a game in Buffalo between Corneil

and Michigan? Was it a football game they were promoting? By no means — it was the rugby team.

Did you know that in the early 1800s, some choice bargains in houses were offered by Detroiters? For example, one owner advertised his three-story brick home with brick barn, inlaid floors, "all the inside decorated," only 10 minutes from City Hall for \$1,000. Financing terms were not stated, but it certainly must have been a lot different from the 16-18-percent interest rates of today.