

OBSERVATION POINT

DISSENT

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By PHILIP H. POWER
Publisher

Tuesday at 4 p.m. saw the filing deadline for candidates who want to get into the political races this fall.

This column constitutes a morning line on the congressional races in districts covered by these newspapers.

But first a few remarks on the state of the track.

Incumbents, as usual, will have a big advantage. They have

staff help and the use of the free frank to send mail; that means they have better name recognition than any challengers. In this situation, non-incumbents will have to move to the outside and hope for a good stretch drive.

There are plenty of explosive issues, which can work to destroy an incumbent as well as a challenger: The war. Taxes. Unemployment. Racial tensions. Spiro

T. and the silent majority. New politics and politicians. Student unrest.

You can expect to see some fancy footwork from all parties as they try to deal with this year's bag of issues.

SECOND DISTRICT (including Plymouth and Plymouth Township) — Incumbent Marvin Esch (R-Ann Arbor) has announced and is gearing up for what should be a successful campaign.

Esch has maintained a fairly liberal voting record in Washington, thereby keeping the Ann Arbor voters fairly quiet. He has appeared a lot in the district and kept his fences mended.

Democratic challengers include:

• Bruce Neal of Ann Arbor Township, a research manager for Ford, currently responsible for advertising research.

• R. Michael Stilwagon, also of Ann Arbor, an attorney for Bendix.

• Gerald Faye, an Ann Arbor political scientist who works at Oakland University. He was reported at this writing to be having trouble getting enough signatures on his petitions.

Neal seems to be the current leader, with his research background giving him some means of finding some holes in Esch's armor. Ann Arbor liberals, however, consider Neal too right-wing, and Faye could be a spoiler.

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT (including Westland, Garden City and Canton Township) — If there's an odds-on favorite this fall, it's got to be incumbent Wil-

liam Ford (D-Taylor). Now finishing his third term, Ford has a solid position on his Education and Labor Committee, a good staff, plenty of money, lots of trips home — and a Democratic district.

Republicans have privately written off this race, although Ernest Fackler, 27, of Dearborn Heights, will make the good fight against Ford. Fackler is currently a fulltime staffer for the Republican 15th District organization, and at least he'll make it a race.

If anyone offers you money on Fackler, take it.

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT (including Southfield and Lathrup Village) — William Broomfield (R-Royal Oak) has been sticking to the same strategy for years: Adopt a low profile, don't get anyone mad. Keep those fences mended, take advantage of a bas-

ically GOP district. It's worked well in the past.

Democrats, however, have a big gun going against Broomfield this year: August Scholle, of Royal Oak. For years a mover and shaker behind the scenes in the Democratic Party and still president of the AFL-CIO, is making his first try for elected office.

Running against him in the Democratic primary are Annette Miller, of Huntington Woods, Detroit Americans for Democratic Action chapter chairman, and James Elsmann, a Bloomfield Township attorney who tried to run for U.S. Senate last time out.

Both Mrs. Miller and Elsmann are to the left of Scholle, who will get labor backing, has some money, and a lot of ability.

If Scholle wins the primary, he's got to be regarded as a dark horse possibility at knocking off Broomfield.

All in all, it should be an interesting campaign.

By JAMES CAUDILL
Garden City

Dear Sir:

I am writing to explain the presence of copies of Wayne State University's student newspaper, the "South End," on the approaches to East High during the national student strike, May 7-14.

I was surprised that you allowed the Observer newspaper to print the type of story which they were able to compose from your release concerning the papers. The headline "SDS SEEKS TO ENLIST HERE," was at best, reactionary, and worst of all, highly inflammable in a situation that needs no excessive agitation.

Please allow me to make several comments. First, the paper was not distributed by members of SDS or SMC in an effort to "subvert" the East High students. The police department was informed of our actions, and in fact, a lively debate between Elaine O'Donne and Lt. Higgins ensued when copies were delivered to the midnight shift of our police department. The point is, our actions were direct and not hidden, as the article implies.

Careful examination of the newspaper would have revealed copies of "The Strike News," aimed at keeping the community informed of what was happening in Detroit. Copies were distributed at all area high schools, factories, businesses, and shopping centers. "The South End" was utilized because of its limitless facilities; press runs of 16,000 per day were realized using the newspaper.

Initially, it was hoped to involve the entire metropolitan area, in a demonstration of protest against our involvement in Indo-China, and to register shock at the deaths of the four students at Kent State in Ohio. This explains the appearance of the newspaper in Garden City. There was no attempt by SDS or other radical groups to recruit members from the ranks of East High students.

We will continue to involve this community to the best of our ability in the various issues confronting this nation today. While not necessarily agreeing with the methods of the various groups you have mentioned, I feel that, in this case, the end may justify the means.

ALL THE GROUPS are really asking for is that America should be what it purports to be: in the Declaration of Independence (a revolutionary document, it should be remembered), the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

We are living in a time of turmoil, and change, and I feel that a fundamental change is developing in the role that the young must play, in today's world. The various issues affect the lives of not only you and I, but the high school students which you seem to hope to protect.

I personally will do all I can to bring the real world, with all of its ugliness, as well as the finer parts of it, to the students here in Garden City. They must be made aware that they do have an effective voice if they only use it through hard work, for instance, in this fall's elections, electing representatives that reflect views similar to our own.

"The infiltration of materials has come entirely from outside sources and no messenger has ever been seen," Dr. Shader, Supt. of Schools, pointed out. No, Dr. Shader, the materials have been distributed by graduates of Garden City High School, class of 1968, and we have been seen.

We stand up now to be counted among those who are striving to make our country live up to its own promises and among those who are striving to make this a "livable" world.

MUDDY TRACK



R.T. Thompson writes

New Law Crimps Style Of Motorcyclists

Michigan's motorcyclists are expected to slow down, drive like any auto owner and obey the rules and regulations of the new motorcycle law which became effective two weeks ago.

Gone are the days, when a motorbike can zoom by with the cyclist riding with his helmet on the handlebars. Gone are the times when they can speed through cities and villages without regard to the limits of that particular community.

Gone are the times when cycle riders could move along the highways without drivers' permits.

Matter of fact, it appears as if a new era has arrived, one that will make driving along the highways more enjoyable and less

dangerous than for a long period of time.

THE NEW LAW, effective on June 1, makes it mandatory for cyclists to have a valid driver or chauffeur license. They do not have to qualify until their driver licenses come up routinely for renewal.

The law provides that motorcycle riders must wear approved helmets on their heads at all times when on public streets and highways, and law enforcement officials emphasize "This means on their heads."

Other provisions of the act are:

Handlebars on cycles must not be higher than 15 inches from the lowest point of the empty seat

to the highest point of the handle-grip.

Each cycle must have both front and rear brakes. That could be quite a novelty, for many of the bikes that have passed us at high rates of speed didn't appear to have any brakes.

Cyclists must ride on and astride regular and permanent seats. No motorcycle shall be used to carry more persons than the number for which it was designed and equipped to handle.

Drivers are forbidden to carry any package, bundle or other article that prevents keeping both hands on the handlebars.

Each rider must wear some form of effective shatterproof eye protection when operating at 35 miles per hour or faster.

AND HERE IS another regulation which is sad news to motorcyclists: It is unlawful to operate a motor-driven cycle at night

without written permission from the chief law enforcement officer of the city, township or county in which the operator lives.

We can just imagine a motorcycle gang roaring down the highway late at night asking permission to pass through a day or two in advance. Or, motorcyclists gathering at the home of an individual getting permission to stop off and then roar away in the middle of the night.

It appears as if sad days have fallen on many of the motorcyclists and happy days for those who have had to endure the noise and racket for many moons in communities on the outskirts of metropolitan Detroit.

It is the actions of some motorcycle gangs that brought a demand for a strict motorcycle law, and word from law enforcement officers is that the regulations will be enforced to the letter.

Should We Pay To Be Vilified?

Vice President Spiro T. Agnew, as everyone knows, has left no stone unturned in denouncing the nation's news media when it reports information unfavorable to his administration. On numerous occasions, far and wide, he has vilified TV, radio and the press for what he claims are their biased reports on actions and speeches of his boss, President Nixon, who inspires the Agnew anti-news media oratory.

Although conscientious news-men are used to this kind of abuse, and usually dismiss it as part of the job, one wonders how many would take money out of their own pocket to listen to it.

We may soon find out.

A recent release from the Republican State Central Committee informs Michigan newsmen they had to shell out \$10 apiece to pay for their dinner before Agnew's June 15 address in Detroit's Cobo Hall.

Ten dollars for dinner and Agnew a la carte may be too much.

But they should realize that the \$10 is strictly for dinner—that Agnew's words won't cost them a thin dime.

And that's only reasonable. Spiro wouldn't think of paying for some of the things the news media has been saying about him, either.

Bob McClellan

Editorial & Opinion

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