County mulls over new courthouse location

To build, you need a site.
So county commissioners won't even talk about a new 52nd District Court-Third Division until they're sure where

Hochester officials want the court-room, now located in the municipal building, to stay within the city.

BUT TWO bigger neighbors - Au-

burn Hills which became a city Dec. 31 and Avon Township voting May 22 whether to become one — are also yelling for the facility.

And state law requires a district courhouse be in the largest city within its jurisdiction.

"How can a contractor bid on something when he doesn't know where it's going to be located?" asked County Commissioner George B. Jackson, R-Birmingsham, during discussion before the county board's planning and build-

ing committee.
"I think this is an exercise in futility unless someone is trying to guarantee it (the courthouse) will be in Rochester."

CONCERNED ADOUT crowded courtrooms. Rochester officelas had offered to expand the municipal building at 400 Sixth. Plans for a west wing were completed by local architect John bezirman and submitted to county commissioners. ing committee.

"I think this is an exercise in futility unless someone is trying to guarantee unless someone is trying to guarantee it (the courthouse) will be in Rochester."

CONCERNED ABOUT crowded courtrooms, Rochester officials had offered to expand the municipal building authority which used to expand the municipal building authority which would lease space both to the city and south. The proposed lease would have cost the county \$255,730 to rent 16,500 estate County Sixth. Plans for a west wing were completed by local architect John Dziurman and submitted to county commissioners.

The city planned to turn responsibility and the municipal building over to a three-member building authority which would lease space both to the city and office a submitted for south. The county \$255,730 to rent 16,500 minutes and the county \$255,730 to rent 16,500 minutes an

New Romney stars for GOP

Even without her famous last name, Ronna Romney was a likely winner at last weekend's Republican State Con-

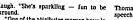
last weekend's Republican State Convention.

'She's an able administrator. You give her a project, and you don't have to keep track of her. It gets done," said Richard Headlee.

The 1982 Republican gubernatorial nominee appliaded the convention's choice of Itona Rommey, 40, as national committeewoman after a spirited three-way light that went to a roll call.

Married to former Gov. George W. Romney's son Scott, Ronna leaped from relative obscurity to one of the top three party posts in GOP politics.

"RONNA WORKED day and night on the campaign, Scott was getting a little worried," Headlee sald with a



laugh. "She's sparkling — fun to be around.
"One of the attributes women have in politics is that they read the manual. There's less talk and more 'do.'
"She gets the people logether. She gets the resources. She's results-oriented. She doesn't care who gets the credit.

"She's almost fearless — not intimi-dated by big shots."

Romney was endorsed by Headlee, nominated by his 1982 running mate

Thomas Brennan and given a seconding speech by Richard Durant Jr.

ROMNEY OF Bloomfield Hills won 1.156 votes before her opponents, Page Yeager of West Bleomfield (255 votes) and Larraine Thomas of Detroit (326) conceded and made the vote unani-

conceded and made the vote unani-mous.

The convention also elected Romney a delegate-at-large to the Aug. 20-23 Republican National Convention in Dallas and made Yeager an alternate at-large.

BUT THEIR concern over the court's location kept commissioners from even discussing the building size. Despite a titedance at the meeting by two Rochester officials, the discussion was delayed until after Amore, county director of public works, advised the group that non-contiguous cities with more than 3,259 residents are entitled to district courts unless they waive that right. So both Auburn Hills with 15,388 residents and Avon with 40,779 could be eligible. Handorf said Oakland County Executive Daniel Murphy favors building just one courtbouse, which would cost less But he urged waiting until after the May election to make a final decision.

If Avon becomes a city, Murphy

would locate a court there. Otherwise, the executive prefers two facilities — a main courthouse in Auburn Hills and a smaller one in Rochester.

"There are so many probabilities here that we can't really make a decision," said Commissioner Alexander Perinoft, D-Southfield, who supported Jackson's motion to postpone discussion on the issue until there is more information.

TWO ROCHESTER commissioners, who both favor a new courthouse, were at odds on how far to push the facility

at ours on now rar to push the rathry now.
"I'm hoping there can be an agree-ment between the municipalities," said Commissioner Roy Rewold.



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