

# 'Empty chair' debates:

## Senate candidates spar over forums called by Dunn, boycotted by Lousma

By Kathy Parrish  
staff writer

It's become a routine. Jim Dunn announces he's debating Jack Loumsa, rents a podium and is the only Senate hopeful to show.

Then the former congressman attacks the former assistant attorney general for not debating the issues. But the "empty chair" was filled Tuesday when a third contender appeared. And Dunn caught

some of his own slack by walking away from the debate.

"I think this is a media event," charged Jerry Cox, a Garden City resident, also vying to be Sen. Carl Levin's Republican opponent in November.

"You're buying the press. I detect that. It doesn't go anyplace." "You're attacking me," shot back the East Lansing builder, quickly leaving the Michigan Inn room. "Any time you want to debate me on the issues, I'll

debate you — and I'll pay for the room."

"I think it's tragic neither candidate will debate the issues," Cox retorted. "This is a phony debate."

DUNN, WHO STILL uses the title "congressman" although he lost his U.S. House of Representatives seat to Bob Carr, made his third attempt to debate Loumsa this week in Southfield. Previous "empty chair" debates

were March 13 in St. Joseph and March 27 in Lansing.

In a prepared statement, Dunn called Loumsa's no-show "unfair to the voters of Michigan."

He said people who seek public office have an obligation to state publicly where they stand on issues. "I don't think it's fair. I don't think it's right, and I plan to pursue this matter every day until Jack Loumsa agrees that he owes it to the people to

stand before them in a debate to state his views and explain how he came to arrive at them."

But Loumsa's press secretary said there will be a television debate between the two Aug. 1. Denying Dunn's charges that his candidate put conditions on the appearance, Burke Holly said questions will be posed by reporters and answered by both men.

"We accepted the show's format. There were no conditions of our own," explained Holly, who said Loumsa prefers third-party invitations.

"This is one of a series of so-called debates; they're Dunn's meetings," he added, calling the "empty chair" format "an old political ploy."

"A third-party invitation has more substance. And we haven't turned any of those down."

COX, WHO was not invited to debate, sat in the back of the room and asked questions during the press conference. Only a half-dozen reporters showed up and there were no television

cameras.

"Jerry, how about letting the press take the questions?" said Dunn, offering the area residents a podium after he finished.

"Even though as Ronald Reagan said, 'I paid for this table, I'll be glad to share it with you.'"

When Cox stood at his podium, Dunn began exiting the room. "I'm not Jack Loumsa, I'm Jerry Cox," said the contender, calling the debate a "media event. If you want to run, run."

"I was courteous. I rented the room and the podium," countered Dunn.

"You're buying the press. I detect that. It doesn't go anyplace," Cox added. Left with three reporters, Cox said he will invite both Dunn and Loumsa to debate him April 19 before the Wayne County Republican State Issue Committee. The former Schoolcraft College board member said he has been active with the group several years.

## WOODWORKS FOR ROOFS

• Asphalt • Fiberglass • Slate  
• Cedar • Tear-Offs • Gutters  
• Flashing • General Repair  
LICENSED BUILDER

Serving All Suburbs **477-5537**

## OCC holds trustee election

Oakland Community College will hold its regular election for trustees Monday, June 11, the date of the annual school election. Since two of the present terms will expire June 30, two members will be elected for six-year terms.

Terms are expiring for trustees David Preston and Sandra Ritter.

Nominating petitions containing the signatures of

not less than 50 and not more than 200 registered qualified voters residing within the Oakland Community College district must be filed with administrative assistant Sylvia Pasconan on or before 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 24, in the Bee Administrative Center, 2480 Opdyke, Bloomfield Hills 48013.

Nominating petition forms may be obtained from the Office of College Communications at the same address or telephone 948-1540.

## THE CALLING SERVICE THAT'S BEST FOR YOU? JUST PUT YOUR FINGER ON IT.

That's right. You can still put your finger on the calling service you need or want just as easily as before, even though many changes have taken place in the communications industry. Michigan Bell continues to make a wide range of calling services and plans available to you.

A glance at the service options listed below will help you determine if you now have the service and calling plans that best fit your individual needs and budget. As always, reliable Michigan Bell telephone service comes with whatever option you select.

### Local Service Options:

**Measured Service\*** — allows up to 50 local calls per month for a small monthly charge. Calls above that limit would be billed to you on a per call basis. If you place few local calls per day, Measured Service could be the most economical choice for you.

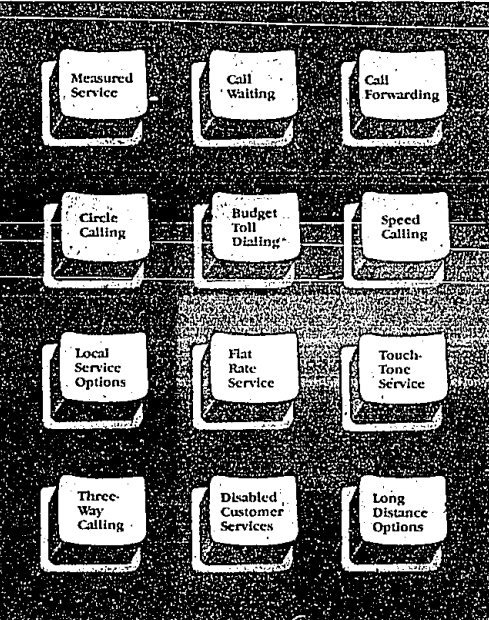
**Flat Rate Service** — gives you unlimited local calls for a single monthly charge. Frequent telephone users may benefit from this service.

\*Not available in all areas.

### Long Distance Options:

**Circle Calling** — gives you a 30% discount on direct-dialed long distance calls placed within a 30-mile radius within your LATA\* except calls placed from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. The discount applies even when regular long distance discounts are in effect.

**Budget Toll Dialing** — provides a 30% discount on long distance calls anywhere within your LATA between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m. Sunday



evening through Friday morning and from 5 p.m. Friday through 5 p.m. Sunday. Like Circle Calling, the Budget Toll Dialing discount applies even when regular long distance discounts are in effect.

\*LATA is a new term that describes a Michigan Bell calling service area. It stands for Local Access and Transport Area.

### Custom Calling Services:

**Call Waiting** — when you're on the phone, the Call Waiting signal

alerts you someone else is calling. You can alternate conversation between both parties.

**Call Forwarding** — lets you program your phone so that incoming calls are automatically forwarded to any other telephone you desire.

**Speed Calling** — allows you to program your phone to dial up to eight or 30 frequently called numbers with simple one- or two-digit entries.

**Three-Way Calling** — lets you add a third party to a two-party conversation, instead of making separate calls.

(Custom Calling Services are not currently available in all calling areas.)

### Dialing Options:

Through Michigan Bell, you have a choice of Rotary Service or Touch-Tone Service.

**Rotary Service** is pulse dialing. With this service, you need a pulse dialing phone with either a rotary dial or a push-button dial.

**Touch-Tone Service** is tone dialing. It is the most modern form of dialing. With Touch-Tone Service, you can use either tone dialing or pulse dialing telephones. However, to get the benefits of Touch-Tone Service (such as fast, accurate dialing), be sure to use a push-button phone made for tone dialing, which you can also use to access certain long distance and at-home banking services.

(Touch-Tone Service is not available in all areas.)

### Disabled Customer Services:

**Special Services and Equipment** for disabled customers are available through the Michigan Bell Telecommunications Center for Disabled Customers. Voice customers call 1 800 482-8254. Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) customers call 1 800 482-3141. Customers are welcome to visit the Center at 26200 Greenfield, Room 43, Oak Park, Michigan 48237.

We hope this information is useful to you and that you will make the most of whatever Michigan Bell services are right for you.

## IT'S AT&T WE'VE SEPARATED FROM... NOT YOU.



**Michigan Bell**  
AN AMERITECH COMPANY

**Facts down the line.** We suggest that you watch for further informational messages in your newspaper, and in your monthly telephone bills. Because your telephone business office is busily engaged in normal day-to-day telephone service matters, we are providing this toll-free number as a source for answers to the questions you may have about your changing telephone company.

1 800 555-5000.

## Remember Your YFU Exchange?



Those are memories that may never fade away—and in fact, that curiosity about other countries and cultures often lasts a lifetime too. That is why YFU is actively searching for its alumni—former exchange students who want to get back in touch and form alumni groups across the country.

Because we share a unique experience, we could also share in activities, events and discussions as wide as the world itself. In many cases however, we have outdated addresses. So if you've been overseas with YFU, or know someone who has, get back in touch by sending current name and address to:

Alumni Affairs Office  
Youth for Understanding  
3501 Newark St., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016

AVAILABLE FOR  
THE FIRST TIME  
\$79500



Dark Dyed Condé Ranch  
MINK JACKET  
(LIMITED QUANTITIES)

RICH FURS

**Dittrich**

DETROIT: 7215 THIRD AVE. • 475-5500  
BLOOMFIELD HILLS: 1516 E. WOODWARD AVE. • 948-5000  
OFFER: Mon. - Sat. 9:30 - 5 p.m.  
Sales limited to stock on hand at participating locations.