

Broomfield sides with Reagan veto

Here's how area members of Congress were recorded on major roll call votes March 22-24.

HOUSE
Veto: By a vote of 309-81, the House overrode President Reagan's veto of a bill authorizing \$189 million over five years for water research projects conducted at land-grant institutions in each state.

This followed a similar Senate vote and enacted the legislation, which the president had denounced as an inappropriate federal activity. Four of Reagan's 23 vetoes now have been overridden. The bill extends a Great Society program launched in 1964.

Supporter Jim Moody, D-Wisc., said, "These monies are rather minor relative to the vast benefits which accrue from the water research institutes and their programs."

Opponent Henry Hyde, R-Ill., said, "There is an element of hypocrisy, not to say intellectual dishonesty, in continuing to complain about the deficit and refusing to support the president in this veto."

Members voting yes wanted to override the president's veto.

Voting yes: Dennis Hertel, D-Detroit, and Sander Levin, D-Southfield.

Voting no: William Broomfield, R-Birmingham.

SENATE
Oil Hergers: By a vote of 39-57, the Senate sidetracked an amendment to

roll call report

ban for 11 months any mergers involving the 50 largest oil companies. The vote preserved language calling only for a committee study of the merger activity now spreading throughout the industry.

The moratorium was to have taken effect April 1 and would have exempted Standard Oil Co. of California's recent acquisition of the Gulf Corp. Any anti-merger legislation arising from the study will be retroactive to March 28. The vote occurred during debate on an appropriations bill (H.R. 492) that was headed for final passage.

Moratorium advocates said oil mergers discourage exploration, drive up interest rates by soaking up capital, and diminish competition that benefits consumers.

Opponent Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, called it "ill-advised to single out one specific sector of our national economy and impose rigid constraints on the free market system."

Senators voting yes favored an 11-month moratorium on mergers involving the 50 largest oil companies.

Carl Levin, D, and Donald Riegle, D, both voted yes.

Farm Bill: The Senate passed 78-10 against, a bill to cut surpluses of several crops and expand credit programs that subsidize domestic farm operations and spur agricultural exports. The measure (HR 4072) was sent to conference with the House.

The bill freezes 1985 "target prices" for corn, cotton and rice at 1984 levels,

and lowers 1984-85 targets for wheat while paying wheat farmers to idle land. Under the target price system, taxpayers make up to farmers the difference between market prices and the target level set by Congress.

While those provisions of the bill are aimed at cutting the budget deficit by at least \$3 billion during fiscal 1984-87, the credit side of the measure increases spending by more than \$1.5 billion in fiscal 1984-85.

Senators voting yes supported the farm bill.

Levin and Riegle both voted yes.

O&E reaps awards

Seven staff member of Observer & Eccentric Newspapers this week were honored by Suburban Newspapers of America for excellence in their work.

They competed with other writers, photographers and editors from across the nation in all categories of newspaper production. Awards were presented in a "Best of SNA" luncheon in San Antonio, Texas.

"It's significant that our people won not only individual awards for personal achievement but editing awards for packaging their work and the work of other team members," said Nick Sharkey, managing editor of the 12 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Mindy Saunders, Southfield Eccentric photographer, won a first place in feature photography.

Brad Emmons, sports editor of the Livonia Observer, won first place for producing the best sports section. In the same category, Jim Hughes of the Troy Eccentric took a third place.

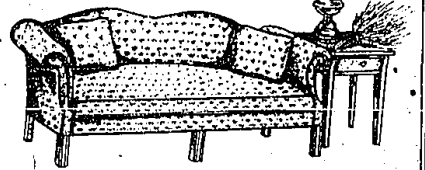
Steve Barnaby, editor of the Farmington Observer, won second place in column writing for his "Cracker Barrel."

Sandra Armbruster, editor of the Westland Observer, won second place with a series of editorial pages featuring her editorials and other staff members' signed columns.

Marie McGee, Suburban Life section editor for the Livonia, Redford, Garden City and Westland Observers, received second place for lifestyle sections.

Tom Henderson of the West Bloomfield Eccentric received a second place for sports writing.

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