Donald Smith drawled to the capacty audience. "To my knowledge, no-body in Texas is looking at the Great Lakes. I am at a loss to understand why there is all this hullabaloo."

The Texas geologist trice to quell the hullabaloo last week while speaking at a symposium on Great Lakes water diversion in Ann Arbor and found support from at least one other panelist.

a symposium on Great Lakes water diversion in An Arbor and found support from at least one other panellst. The symposium was sponsored by the University of Michigan Environmental Law Society, Other panelists included: Joseph Sax, U-M law professor, Pamela Wiley, council of Great Lakes Governors; David Miller, Great Lakes United; and Mark Van Putten, National Wildlife Federation.

"We can't afford your water — no way," said the scientist from the Texas Department of Water Resources. "I doubt that anybody would care to move the water here, now or at a time in the future. There are other sources of water a lot closer."

'We can't afford your water — no way. I doubt that anybody would care to move the water here, now or at a time in the future. There are other sources of water a lot closer.'

> - Donald Miller Texas geologist

ronmental expert, discounted the recent threats of western water diversions as media hype, Sax called the
"agreements to cooperate" the real significance of the charter.

Except for two Monroe residents
who favored selling excess Great Lakes
water, the audience was concerned
about a threat that has enraged the
states and provinces surrounding the
Great Lakes Basin. At issue is keeping
the waters of the basin (area drained
by the Great Lakes and their tributartes) out of the thirsty clutches of sunbelt and western states.

Scientists have determined that aquifers (groundwater reservoirs) beneath the Great Plains states are being

neath the Great Plains states are being depleted at alarming rates. Michigan and other Great Lakes governments fear a large-scale water grab as the aquifers decline. In the minds of many, Texas is already in the "bandito" category.

PANELIST David Miller told the audicione that there is no present threat of diverting the Great Lakes, "While I don't think a Texan will be dipping his hat into Great Lakes water right away, there is a need to think ahead," the

## Foundation honors Reickel

R. Eric Reickel, former manager of Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission, has been honored by Oakland Parks Foundation.

Now manager of Mync County Parks and Recreating the non-profit of the County of th Probate Judge John J. O'Brien were Bloomfield Hills residents A. David Troy.

Baumbart, partner in the law firm of May, Gowing, Mosher and Simpson; and Ritta Lindhelm, North American treasurer of D'Arcy, MacManus, Marke acchardiset, Proposition of the Control o

treasurer of D'Arcy, Macmanus, ma-sius advertising.
Other new trustees are Jack Cook of Ortowille, district manager for Michi-gan Bell; and Lorna McEwen of West Bloomfield, public relations consultant with Henry Ford Hospital, Maplegrove.

ELECTED OFFICERS at the meeting were George Googasian of Oakland Township, president for a third term; Jack Cook of Ortonville, vice president;

Donna Bullard of Clarkston, secretary; and Don Van Loo of Bloomfield Hills, treasurer for a third term.

Also recognized at the annual meeting were retiring beard members Godfrey Hopper, West Bloomfield; Maria Runk, Farnington Hills; Marforie Walker, Birmingham; Ruthann Walsh, Independence Oaks County Park.

Other foundation trustees are Bir-mingham residents Barbara (Bunny) Goldman, John Jickling and William Slocum; Bloomfield Hills residents Gertrude (Kitty) Davenport and Pa-trick T. Freydl; Clarkston residents Dan Travis and Lewis Wint; Claude Brittingham, Rochester; and Jane Smith, Waterford.

DURING THE past year, Oakland Parks Foundation has sponsored a number of events including a Winter Family Fun Day that drew 1,200 to Ad-dison Oaks County Park. A similar summer event is planned for June 2 in Waterford Oaks County Park.

Great Lakes United spokesman said.
Miller and other panelists emphasized the importance of the Great
Lakes Charter for protection of the

Basin's water system

Basin's water system.

The charter was signed Feb. 11 by eight Great Lakes states (Michigan, New York, Ohlo, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesola, Indiana and Pennsylvania) and two Canadian provinces (Ontario and Quebec).

The agreement bans diversions from the Great Lakes if the ecosystem is jeopardized. The pact also provides a process for regional cooperation over issues of diversion proposals, water management and environmental and economic data collection.

"THE STATES and provinces have

"THE STATES and provinces have agreed to consult each other about uses of the Lakes," Sax said. The professor had been a member of the task force that developed the charter provisions.

"All the states have interests that are at odds with each other," Sax said. Traditionally, differences have been settled by long court battles involving the Supreme Court. "For Illinois to say we will consult with you" — that is a concession," Sax said.

Sax emphasized that the charter's ban on diverling Great Lakes water is not legally binding. Among other things, diversion would take a compact approved by the U.S. Constitution to legally stop exportation of the basin's water."

Great Lakes down!! Judong the control of the basin's water.

The Great Lakes down!! Judong the control of the basin's water.

ly stop exportation of the basin's wa-ters. The Great Lakes doesn't belong to anybody," said Sax. "The charter puts us in the position to protect and main-tain the waters in the Great Lakes Basin. It is doing the most the states can do it protect the own interests and still have a reasonable chance of being upheld as lawful."

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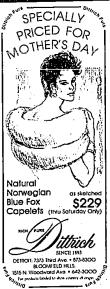
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