

# Blanchard ducks issues — Engler

## GOP senate leader delivers state of state speech 'rejoinder'

By Tim Richard  
staff writer

State Senate Republicans are painting a picture of Democrat James Blanchard as a "good news" governor who's afraid to take stands on tough state issues.

"Michigan simply has to be able to compete," Senate Majority Leader John Engler of Mt. Pleasant said repeatedly Monday in a Southfield speech.

"Blanchard focuses on the good news of the past three years. Republicans talk specifically on the future," Engler, 37, told the American Society for Public Administration, a group of academic and governmental administrators.

ASPA billed Engler's remarks as a "loyal opposition" response to Blanchard's state of the state address today.

The Michigan Legislature's top opposition leader said Michigan will remain in a weak position to weather another national economic blizzard until it makes itself more competitive in a number of markets.

ENGLER POINTED to four markets where he said Republicans have taken initiatives to make the state more competitive while Blanchard has held back:

- **Business** — In the Finance Committee, Senate Republicans propose a tax credit for small business with low profits similar to the homestead property tax rebate program.

*'Blanchard focuses on the good news of the past three years. Republicans talk specifically on the future.'*

Sen. John Engler  
Senate majority leader



Blanchard ducks long-term issues, Engler said he would convene a group of state leaders in the fall to discuss the Hudson Institute report, "Michigan Beyond 2000," and propose specific legislation to meet future challenges.

OF BLANCHARD'S \$5.99-billion state general fund budget, unveiled last week, Engler said Republicans would have "no major quarrels. We'll take the lead in holding down the budget."

"Some priorities in education are a little lower than we'd like," he told newsmen after the speech.

He predicted Senate Republicans would "split the difference" with Blanchard and House Democrats on a date to roll back the state personal income tax to 4.6 percent — predicting Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, as the rollback date. The original GOP target was last November. Blanchard says it should be March 31.

"The income tax debate is nearly over. Then we'll move on to the property tax debate," Engler said.

Engler accused House Speaker Gary Owen, D-Ypsilanti, of "attempting to bring race into the Republican primary" for governor by saying Wayne County Executive William Lucas would run into trouble because he is black.

"It's an attempt to shortcut Lucas — mischievous," Engler said, contending Lucas has a strong record and would attract blacks to the Republican column.

also wants to eliminate school operating property taxes for senior citizens to discourage their moving to low-tax states.

- **Tourism** — A \$12 billion industry could be even bigger if it were promoted by a state Department of Tourism, as proposed by Sen. Harry DeMaso, R-Battle Creek.

State Commerce Director Doug Ross said the Blanchard Administration opposes a new department because it would require a costly new bureaucracy.

- **Farm products** — Such products as cherries and beans should be promoted in international trade, Engler said.

To underscore his charge that

## Property tax relief is GOP issue for '86

Senate Majority Leader John Engler, R-Mt. Pleasant, is making property tax relief an issue with Democratic Gov. James J. Blanchard in 1986.

The plan has been introduced by Finance Chairman Norm Shinkle, R-Monroe County. Key elements:

- Republicans would drop their demand to roll back the income tax to Jan. 1 if Blanchard

will drop his opposition to cutting it to 4.6 percent before March 31. Proposed compromise date: Feb. 14.

- Eliminate school operating property taxes for persons 65 and older on homes up to \$65,000 in value. Cost to state: \$325 million.

- Add \$10 million in property tax relief for the "working poor."

- Provide \$40 million in property tax re-

lief to business by rebating up to \$1,200 where a firm's property tax liability exceeds 2 percent of profits. Engler estimated the average rebate would be \$1,000 and that 40,000 small firms would be eligible.

Blanchard in mid-1985 offered his own plan for general property tax relief, but tied it to several business tax increases. Republicans found it unacceptable.

Thursday, January 30, 1986 6:06E (R6-SAYD7A)

CUT-OUT ON DOTTED LINE - SAVE!

• Rosewood  
• Teak  
• Leather

**FURNITURE**

scandinavian/u.s. trading company

**WINTER CLEARANCE**

Save Now On All Items In Stock

• FREE DELIVERY Over 1500 - Up To 25 Miles

LAYAWAY PLAN AVAILABLE

**WAREHOUSE OUTLET**

33% Discount year-round plus 10% on special orders

Call PAUL BRASCH (former Brasch Imports) 543-5410

Mon. thru Sat. 10-6; Sun. 12-5 720 W. Eight Mile Ferndale

**The Time Shop**  
of Birmingham

**FREE ESTIMATES**

The Time Shop is an authorized agent to repair the following clocks:

SETH THOMAS ANSONIA NEW ENGLAND SEIKO LINDEN LANDMARK HERSCHEL COLONIAL

HOWARD MILLER TREND ATMOS CHELSEA BOSTON WUERSCH VERICHRON RIDGEWAY

Free Estimates on all clock & watch repairs, while you wait. Service technicians available to make house calls if necessary.

161 Townsend • Birmingham • 646-7377

Hours: Mon. thru Sat. 9-5:30, Fri. til 8:30 p.m.

**The next frontier: Peace**

This booklet challenges the inevitability of conflict. It shows how peace can be waged and won in individual lives. In your life.

Read Waging peace: the spiritual basis. It asks you to consider peace and your role in it from a new perspective. A perspective that includes all mankind.

Explore the next frontier: Peace. This booklet is available for sale at your local Christian Science Reading Room.

Christian Science Reading Rooms In This Area:

BIRMINGHAM 335 East Maple 644-7935

WEST BLOOMFIELD Pine Lake Mall Corner of Orchard Lake and Pine Lake Roads 851-7740

ROCHESTER 416 Main Street 651-1881

**NEW HOURS!**  
WE BUY AND SELL  
Mon., Tues., Fri., Sat. 1-6 p.m.  
Wed. & Thurs. 10-8 p.m.

Stamps • Coins • Gold • Silver  
Jewelry • Diamonds

**BIRMINGHAM STAMPS & COINS, INC.**  
1287 S. Woodward • Birmingham  
6 blocks N. of 14 Mile • E. side of Woodward  
"Buying or Selling — We Can Help You"

**SAVE NOW!**  
Cut "HI" Heating Bills  
up to **45%**

**SUPER SALE**  
on the  
**LENNOX Pulse Furnace**  
You can be sure with  
**KAST**

PONTIAC 338-9256 BIRMINGHAM 642-7150 ROYAL OAK 842-3650

Form 1040-2

Let us help you with your taxes. We'll take care of everything for you. No need to worry about the IRS.

Call 591-0500 to find out all about it.

**We need you!**

We need carriers for Observer & Eccentric routes. Call 591-0500 to find out all about it.

**SAVE 30%**  
ON ALL PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE FURNITURE

Now at  
**Stewart-Glass**  
of Bloomfield Hills  
2600 N. Woodward • 332-8348

**ALL IN-STOCK VASES 1/2 OFF**

**Palm Beach**  
Patio Furniture  
7350 Highland Rd.  
(N-59) at Williams Lk. Rd.  
4 1/2 Miles West of Telegraph  
668-2880

**Frank H. Boos Gallery**

1137 South Adams  
Birmingham, MI 48011  
644-1633

Since 1937

**Smiley Brothers**

"A TRUSTED NAME IN MUSIC"

**FINAL DAYS!! CLEARANCE SALE!**

- New Console Pianos From **\$1290<sup>00</sup>**
- New Baby Grands From **\$3995<sup>00</sup>**

Birmingham • 647-1177 • Detroit • 875-7100

Single Parents

DR. SWITH

DR. JONES

Divorced and separated parents can find helpful, practical, step-by-step advice for their children. Order free 1985 Publication 500 using post card package.

A public service program from the IRS

**FOUR GREAT DAYS TO SAVE**  
**JANUARY 30th**  
— thru —  
**FEBRUARY 2nd**

**SAVE 35-50% OFF**

- Our wonderfully comforting 100% Merino Wool Pads
- Down-filled Robes - small, medium, large
- Combination Caressa® comforter and featherbed

**HUNTERS SQUARE**  
Overland Dr. Rd. at 14 Mile  
Farmington Hills  
(313) 855-5720  
Mon.-Sat. 10-6  
Wed. & Fri. 10-6

**Scandia Down Shops**

**BIRMINGHAM PARK PLAZA**  
253 S. Woodward (A Brown)  
Birmingham  
(313) 258-6670  
Mon.-Sat. 10-6  
Thurs. 10-9

**Wiggs**

THIS SEASON'S BEST SAVINGS, IF YOU HAVE A TASTE FOR FINE 18th CENTURY

**CHERRY**

AT

**50% OFF**

THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY ONLY

EXAMPLES OF FINE CHERRIES AVAILABLE:

**DINING ROOM** — China Buffet & Hutch, Oval Extension Table, 2 Arm Chairs & 4 Side Chairs **NOW \$2498**

**BEDROOM** — Triple Dresser, Pediment Mirror, Full or Queen Bed, Chest on Chest **NOW \$1628**

**OCCASIONAL** — Cocktail Tables, End Lamp Sofa, Nesting Tables and MANY, MANY MORE **FROM \$68**

OPEN MONDAY THRU THURSDAY AND SATURDAY 9:30-5:30 FRIDAY 9:30-9

4080 S. Telegraph Road at Long Lake Road • 644-7370