Blanchard sounds like us — GOP leaders

AP — The state Senate's Republican leaders were unusually enthusiastic about Democratic Gov. James Blanchard's State of The State message, and with good reason. They've already endorsed many of the proposals.

At the same time they criticized the lack of detail, particularly when comparing Blanchard's glossy, four-color pamphlet to the detailed discussions of Republican Gov. William G. Milliken.

"Blanchard's is like a comic book next to a textbook," said Sen. Richard Fessler, R-West Bloomfield.

"THAT'S THE first time I've ever heard the prayer contain more specifics than the speech," said Rep. Mat Dunaskiss, R-Lake Orion.

"I think he's definitely trying to position himself as a moderate," said Sen. Rudy Nichols, R-Waterford, "and doing a good job of it."

Democrats also complained about the shortage of detail.

"An attempt to learn from the Reagan success at image and media manipulation, without content," complained Rep. Perry Bullard, D-Ann Arbor.

> *'I think he's definitely trying to position himself as a moderate.'*
> — Sen. Rudy Nichols

"I think the governor's people should have advised him 'to give more substance and less gruel,'" said Sen. John Kelly, D-Detroit.

THE PREVAILING view was that Blanchard was borrowing Republican rhetoric. "We're pleased that the themes this year reflect our priorities," Majority Leader John Engler, R-Mount Pleasant, said after Wednesday's address.

Engler and other GOP lawmakers noted a string of similarities between the governor's outline for 1987 action and past Senate agendas:

- Crime — "The section on crime is right out of our safe streets package last year," said Engler. Blanchard once again favored repealing the Emergency Powers Act, which lets governors release inmates early when prisons become crowded.

He has already pledged never again to use the power to reduce prison sentences, and the state Senate passed three different bills in the last session that would have taken the law off the books. None of those bills cleared the Democrat-dominated House.

- Juveniles — Two proposals backed by the governor in his 58-page message were approved by the state Senate in the 1985-86 session: letting juveniles accused of serious crimes be tried as adults, and letting juvenile offenders be held past age 19.
- Work-learn camps — The governor advocated "work and learn camps for juveniles who refuse to abide by the rules." The Senate added to the current year's budget a pilot program to test a military-style prison for first-time felons.
- Drugs — Blanchard came out in favor of tougher sentences for adults who sell drugs to minors. The Senate in the last session endorsed tougher sentences for all drug dealers.
- Director immunity — Blanchard pledged to "support legislation to assure that our corporations can attract the most capable people" for their boards of directors. That legislation was initiated by Sen. Richard Posthumus, R-Lowell.
- Product liability — Blanchard said the question should be addressed but offered no detail. Senate Republicans started work on such a bill last year.
- Employer costs — Blanchard and Senate Republicans also agree that Michigan must reduce workers' compensation and unemployment compensation costs by slowing benefit increases and narrowing the definition of disability.
- State tax cut — Michigan expects to eventually gain $170 million a year because of changes in the federal tax law. Once again, Blanchard proposed erasing any windfall by slicing the personal income tax from 4.6 percent to 4.4 percent. Engler and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Norman Shinkle, R-Lambertville, said they are now willing to go along with the governor's strategy.

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WSU, U-M await state aid formula

Two state university leaders praised Gov. James J. Blanchard's 1988 budget proposal for boosting aid to higher education by 5.3 percent.

But they also asked for more details on the second-term governor's plan for "formula" funding for the 15 state four-year colleges and universities. Blanchard wants to allocate $15 million through the formula.

"A formula offers higher education administrators a very good planning tool," said Wayne State University President David Adamany, hoping for "a formula which contains the necessary quantitative measures while also appropriately recognizing the unique situations of our 15 campuses."

"WE ARE anxious to learn the details," added Richard L. Kennedy, vice president for government relations at the University of Michigan.

"Over the long run, we believe formula funding can be the key to both the strength and diversity of Michigan's system of higher education. It is also the key to sustaining the University of Michigan as the flagship of public education in this nation."

He added a warning about the state aid increase:

"One has to remember that a 5.3 percent increase shrinks to something just over 2.5 percent, since state funds comprise roughly half of the U-M's total general fund."

Under the governor's budget recommendations, total state general fund spending for 1987-88 would increase by 2.8 percent, or $174.5 million, nearly one-third of which ($51.5 million) would be earmarked for for higher education.

"I CONTINUE to be impressed," said Adamany. "The governor once again has given the current needs of education at all levels a very high priority within his spending plan."

Adamany praised the proposed increase in the Research Excellence Fund. Kennedy agreed, saying the $1.25 million increase would add to Michigan's "intellectual capital."

Adamany also noted Blanchard "increased special maintenance funding for colleges tenfold over the last several years. While these expenditures may not be as exciting as constructing a shiny, attractive new building, what they do is to preserve the state's existing investment in college teaching and research buildings and save us money in the long run."

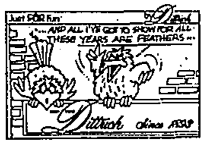
O&E sports... your guide to local scores

Home building course at OCC

A six-week course for people planning to build or remodel a house will begin March 12 on Oakland Community College's Highland Lakes Campus.

The course will cover financing, permits, house plans, excavation and wall and door requirements. Classes run from 7-9:30 p.m.

Fee is $41. Registration information is available at the Highland Lakes Campus, 360-3041. It's at 7350 Cooley Lake Road, Union Lake.



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RECIPE CONTEST!
Let your cooking and baking skills pay off in this exciting competition sponsored by the new Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge and headquartered in Frankenmuth—the city famous for good food and German hospitality. Tiny and Dorothy Zehnder, who established the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Restaurant 37 years ago, will judge your original recipes and family favorites. You could be chosen as a finalist to compete in the Bake Off May 3 and 4 and win the fabulous Grand Prize. The categories are:
• Chicken Dishes • Appetizers • Salads • Desserts
GRAND PRIZE—Deluxe weekend for two at the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge including two nights of lodging, meal allowance and a $300 shopping spree in Frankenmuth.
Category Winners—First prize contestants in each of the four categories will receive a deluxe weekend for two at the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge including two nights of lodging and a meal allowance.
Finalists—Finalists in each category who compete in the Bake Off May 3 and 4 will receive gift certificates from the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn.
Entry Rules—An official entry blank must accompany each entry. Recipes must be typewritten or printed on an 8-1/2 by 11" standard sheet of paper. Be specific and complete. Do not abbreviate. Include the preparation and cooking time. You may enter as many times in as many categories as you like. But a separate entry form must accompany EACH recipe. Use the entry form below or pick one up at the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge or Restaurant. The entry form may be reproduced.
Professional cooks, commercial cooks and employees of the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge and Restaurant are not eligible at this time.
All entries must be postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 10, 1987.
Bake-Off entries will be judged on the basis of originality, flavor, texture and appearance. The decision of the judges is final.
Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Motor Lodge Recipe Contest Official Entry Form
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State ______ Zip ______ Phone ( ) ______
Category: ☐ Chicken Dish ☐ Appetizer ☐ Salad ☐ Dessert
Name of Recipe ______
All entries must be typed or printed and postmarked no later than Tuesday, March 10, 1987. An entry form must be attached to EACH recipe. Entry form may be reproduced.
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