

Surprised Cruce in U.S. Senate gossip

By Tim Richard
staff writer

Doug Cruce looked a trifle surprised when he was beckoned from his seat on the state Senate floor and asked to stop at the press box.

"I didn't even know my name was mentioned," said the second-term senator from Troy. "I have not made any plans to run for the U.S. Senate."

But his name has popped up in Republican speculation over a candidate to challenge Democratic U.S. Sen. Donald Riegle, who will seek a third term next year.

NOT THAT Cruce is a front runner. Four names rank ahead of him, though only one has been a successful officeholder.

He is a conservative on economics who swings to the moderate position on such issues as opposing the death penalty.

Cruce has had his share of the limelight on speed limit, commercial and library regulation bills. He has been even more visible in 1987.

"It's not deliberately calculated that I'm more visible. I'm just doing what I think is right," he said. "You guys report what's going on."

Cruce, who will be 40 on July 1, was first elected to the House in 1980 and won the Senate seat after defeating a primary donnybrook in 1982. His re-election to a second four-year Senate term in 1986 was a relatively easy affair.

He has degrees from Wayne State and Villanova universities, a wife and three children and memberships in the American Legion and Marine Corps League.

He isn't scheduled to face voters again until 1990. Thus, he could make a U.S. Senate race without giving up his seat in Lansing.

PARTY SPECULATION centers on E. Spencer Abraham, the attorney-politician state chairman now in his third two-year term.

Abraham, brought in by 1982 gubernatorial nominee Richard Headlee, has managed to keep on good terms with all factions of the Grand Old Party. His speeches are

down-the-line party doctrine: Reagan is good, Riegle isn't.

The Political Report, a weekly newsletter published by the non-partisan Institute for Government and Politics in Washington, tossed five names into the pot of possible Republican challengers to Riegle. It said Abraham "receives high marks from political observers for being an intelligent and articulate politician."

Besides Abraham and Cruce, the Political Report listed:

• Jack Louma, a former astronaut who failed in a 1984 bid to defeat Michigan's other senator, Carl Levin, in part because voters perceived him as being soft on the Japanese. Louma settled in Ann Arbor after retiring from the Marine Corps.

• Richard Chrysler, a Brighton businessman, who lost the Republican nomination for governor last year amid controversy over his business practices and propensity to be a defendant in lawsuits.

• State Sen. Dick Posthumus of Lowell, assistant majority leader. Close associates say the 36-year-old farmer and second-term senator is an excellent administrator who would make good gubernatorial material by 1990.



U.S. Sen. Don Riegle (left) has \$1.4 million in the bank and is already at work seeking a third term in Washington.

State Sen. Doug Cruce (right) 'didn't even know my name was mentioned' as a Republican U.S. Senate contender.



administration's economic programs and support for action to protect the auto industry from the Japanese competition.

Riegle campaigns against the Japanese as much as against Republicans.

A bid to unseat Riegle would come after years of sinking political fortunes for the GOP statewide. It has lost the governorship twice and the last four U.S. Senate elections.

The Iran-Contra affair, the Reagan administration's tangled arms dealing with Iran and the Nicaraguan rebels, aren't helping.

The early warning signs of an end to the present cycle of prosperity — slowly rising interest rates and plant

closings by General Motors Corp. — could spell the end of the nation's conservative phase, meaning votes for the liberal Riegle.

RIEGLER "is running in 1987 as if it is already next year," his administrative assistant, Kevin Gottlieb, told The Political Report.

The senator's campaign budget likely will be in the \$4 million to \$5 million range, and the senator has some \$1.4 million in the bank, according to Gottlieb.

Riegle has been paying close attention in recent months to back-home issues. He helped negotiate a \$3.8 million federal grant to help with development in downtown Pon-

tac and more recently has been pushing for funding for the \$2 million proposed purchase of the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, which is threatened by development.

He has continued his campaign against the Japanese automakers, accusing them of dumping pickup trucks and possibly other vehicles in the United States at below-cost prices.

Whatever the issues and whenever the Republicans choose as their candidate, however, Riegle's main asset is that while others talk, he is in a position to act.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

Congressmen list investments

AP — An investment portfolio, as much as a tie or a car, may tell a lot about the owner and his goals.

Michigan's 20-man congressional delegation, in disclosing 1986 finances last week, proved to have as many investment differences as they have over such issues as Star Wars, Nicaragua and tax reform.

Their resources ranged from Rep. Paul Henry's checking account — the Grand Rapids Republican listed it as his only asset, with a value of \$5,000 or less — to the elaborate tapestry of investments worth, perhaps, more than \$1 million, that made Rep. Fred Upton, a St. Joseph Republican, the wealthiest Michiganian in Congress in terms of reported assets.

SENS, Carl Levin and Sen. Donald Riegle, both Democrats, showed themselves to be similar in their cautious investment tastes.

Levin puts his trust in the tangible security of land, with broad land holdings in Livingston County and a lot in Oakland County, in addition to his house in Washington. The portion of his reported assets in liquid assets is minuscule, consisting only of Individual Retirement Accounts for himself and his wife.

Riegle reports a healthy component of real estate, such as his home in McLean, Va.; a three-unit apartment in Flint; and a house in Traverse City. But he also keeps a healthy chunk of his resources in liquid instruments, such as his \$125,000 in Treasury notes and his \$108,015 in certificates of deposit and money-market accounts.

Riegle also has a smattering of blue-chip stocks, in K mart Corp.

and International Business Machines Corp.

MICHIGANIANS in the U.S. House of Representatives are more eclectic. Here's how Observer & Eccentric members invested:

Rep. William Broomfield, R-Birmingham, has a mixed portfolio. It's heavy on Florida real estate and blue-chip common stocks, with substantial holdings in corporate bonds issued by utilities, including Detroit Edison Co.

Rep. William Ford, D-Taylor, seeks the security of land, including a rental property in Washington. So does Rep. Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods, who splits his resources between a condominium unit in Haslett and a credit union account.

Rep. Sander Levin, D-Southfield, heavily into rural parcels of Michigan land and also has invested in an oil well and a condominium in La Jolla, Calif. He sold the condominium last year.

Rep. Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth, has tied up all his reportable assets in a home and six acres of land in his township home, a holding worth more than \$250,000.

Other portfolios: Rep. David Bonior, D-Mount Clemens, keeps all of his reported assets in bank and credit union accounts, perhaps the most liquid and safest investments of all.

Rep. John Dingell, D-Trenton, also has invested heavily in stocks, although most are in his wife's name. He also has a few corporate and municipal bonds and has part of his money in mutual funds investing in high-yield bonds.

What they earned

AP — Here is a summary of 1986 financial information disclosed by Michigan members of the House of Representatives from the Observer & Eccentric area:

William Broomfield, R-Birmingham; 18th District includes Rochester, West Bloomfield and Farmington areas.

Outside income: \$10,015 to \$36,500.

Honoraria: None.

Assets: \$285,028 to \$915,000.

Liabilities: \$15,001 to \$50,000.

Broomfield's assets include half interest in an unimproved lot in Florida, valued at \$100,001 to \$250,000.

William Ford, D-Taylor; 15th District includes southern Livonia, Garden City and Westland.

Outside income: \$5,002 to \$16,000.

Honoraria: \$28,500.

Assets: \$180,032 to \$400,000.

Liabilities: \$115,003 to \$250,000.

Ford was reimbursed for trips to Miami, Williamsburg, Va.; New York; Cambridge, Mass.; and Palm Springs, Calif.

Dennis Hertel, D-Harper Woods;

14th District includes part of Troy.

Outside income: \$1,001 to \$2,500.

Honoraria: \$5,500.

Assets: \$30,000 to \$100,000.

Liabilities: \$15,001 to \$50,000.

Hertel was reimbursed for a trip to Florida by United Technologies-Pratt & Whitney, and received free passes for himself, his wife and four children to Walt Disney World.

Sander Levin, D-Southfield; 17th District includes Redford Township.

Outside income: \$5,004 to \$12,000.

Honoraria: None.

Assets: \$97,753 to \$207,748.

Liabilities: \$5,001 to \$15,000.

Levin also reported earned income of \$100,000 as a fee for legal services performed from 1973 through 1977, before he became a congressman.

Carl Pursell, R-Plymouth; 2nd District includes most of Livonia.

Outside income: None.

Honoraria: \$5,700.

Assets: \$250,000 up.

Liabilities: None.

Pursell's assets include his home, valued on more than \$250,000, on six acres of land in Plymouth Township.

More buses in Oakland

SEMTA this week added service from the Farmington Hills and Southfield area, according to Albert Martin, general manager of the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority.

New Route 480 trips will leave Orchard Lake Mall at 9:30 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. respectively. They will arrive at Northland at 10:09 a.m. and

3:24 p.m., respectively, with stops at 14 Mile and Middlebelt, 12 Mile and Telegraph, and 10 Mile and Lahser.

The new Route 485 trip will leave Orchard Lake Mall at 4:15 p.m. and arrive at Northland at 5:01 p.m., with the same stops along the way as the 480. Route 485 then will proceed to downtown Detroit, arriving at the Renaissance Center at 6 p.m.



Divers' Watches. ■ Lately we've been spotting them a long ways inland. Why save yours for the beach?



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