

# Hank Hogan arrested on check charge

By Philip A. Sherman  
staff writer

Henry M. Hogan Jr., whose Eccentric Newspapers reached national prominence in the mid '70s, was arrested Saturday on a bad check charge and taken to Genesee County Jail where he was later released by 67th District Judge Harlan Caswell.

City Police about noon Saturday in front of his peers at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids, where Hogan was participating in a Michigan Press Association convention. Hogan is scheduled to appear in to appear Tuesday in 67th District Court.

Warren Hoyt, MPA executive director, said "I always had the highest regard for Hank. I felt so bad. I'd hate to have it happen to anybody."

"It just seemed an unreasonable thing to have a guy picked up like he was, in front of his peers," Hoyt said. WRITING: A check with insufficient funds legally is termed uttering and publishing, in this case a felony punishable by up to 13 months in jail and/or a \$500 fine.

Published reports in The Flint Journal said Hogan wrote a check for \$5,145 to Morton Stebbins, whose Grand Blanc company formerly handled printing for Hogan's newspaper

group, the Flint Area Newspapers. Stebbins complaint of insufficient funds to cover the check resulted in a warrant for Hogan's arrest. Grand Rapids City Police found Hogan at the newspaper conference as he was checking out of the hotel. Witnesses saw police escort Hogan, a past-president of the MPA, outside the hotel, frisk him and drive him away. He was taken to the Genesee County Jail because the investigation was conducted by the Grand Blanc Township Police.

Hogan continued as a co-owner of the Observer & Eccentric papers for a few years, but today Power is sole owner of the newspaper group. Hogan, a Clarkston resident, is a member of the Cranbrook Educational Community Board of Trustees. His newspaper group publishes the Grand Blanc News, Fenton Independent, Flushing Observer, The

West Valley News, Davison Flag, staff, Clio Messenger and The Suburban News.

John Reddy, editorial vice president of Suburban Communications Corp., which owns the Observer & Eccentric, was concerned about the allegations against Hogan.

"I'm saddened to hear the allegations and would withhold any specific comments. Any conclusion on my part would be withheld until the process of adjudication is completed," Reddy said.

"As an editor, he was a good community newspaper person," Reddy added.

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