## Recall wrong way to oust MSU wrongdoers

football coach George Perles to ath-lettle director-lover the wishes of President John DiBlaggio.

The petitioners say the trustees failed to follow firing guidelines, ig-nored the caripus constituency and, by their own admission, met in viola-tion of the Open Meetings Act.

The underlying issue is that trus-tees contributed to the "Moo U" fock image. MSU has been trying to shake that image ever since it was founded in the 1860s as an agricultural col-lege.

GOOD LUCK, Dennis Martell.
You'll need it if you think you can collect, 800,000 signatures to recall three Michigan State University trustees.
Martell wants to oust trustees Lavrence Owen, Joel Ferguson and Kathy Wilbur. They were part of the majority that voted 53 to promote footbald coach, George Fertes to athelete director, over the wishes of President John Pibliagglo.

The petitioners say the trustees the petition of the Open Meeting, 84, 100 to 100

mage. MSU has been trying to shake hat image ever since it was founded in the 1860s as an agricultural cologe.

I general trying the shake hat image ever since it was founded in the 1860s as an agricultural cologe.

In 1992 trustee Rathy Wilbur is due to face the Republican conventions.



ton. Wilbur, a forme? Birmingham resident, voted for Perles, She works resident, voted for Perles, She works son, William Society, R. East Lancing, who chairs the Senate appropriations subcommittee on higher education.

She's a good worker and a 'genuinely nice person, I like her. But it would be perfectly proper for Republican delegates to ask her to defend her record before routinely granting her renomination.

TYPICALLY, POLITICAL parties ask no substantive questions of candidates for university boards. They

seek enough women, blacks, Hispanics and Upper Peninsula snowpersons to balance their tickets.
Two years ago University of Michigan regents hired a president after

gan regents hired a president after secret meetings. They were hit by a lawsuit that is still in the Court of

Appeals.
Yet not a single word was spoken in either the 1988 Republican or Democratic conventions about this

Then there was the time Gov. James Blanchard was sore at the Coakland University board for raising tuition some 19 percent, double the amount he thought justified. The governor appoints the OU board. Blanchard could have correct his tuition policy by denying reappointment to two trustees whose terms expired that year. Instead, Blanchard gave them new terms.

terms.
And that's why I wish Dennis Mar-

We're only messenger

for trends in business

teil and the Council of Graduate Stu-dents at MSU good luck. Not because I want to have any opinion about George Perles. Rather, it's because they are making an issue of trustees!

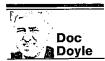
Tim Richard is director of the SCC News Service for the Observ-er & Eccentric Newspapers.

## Future of elementary science bright

Q: I have children in the second and fourth grades. I was a math and science major in college and work as an englacer. Science teaching at the elementary levels seems to be an after thought. Science desert's seem to be a priority. Want's the problem?

A: Probably 98 percent of elementary teachers have had only one college course in teaching science. A course called science methods.

Only 2 percent of all elementary have a major in science. Most clementary teachers took majors in reading, language arts/English or social science.



lary teachers have had only one college course in teaching science. A course called science methods. Only 2 percent of all elementary have a major in science. Most elementary teachers took mojors in reading, language arts/English osciol science. I believe, the majority of elementary teachers were not turned on in their high school higher level science cuirses. Few if any had ambillions of becoming an engineer. Many elementary teachers see uncomfortable, even nervous, in setting up science experiments in their classroom. I've had elementary teachers tell me they are afraid a test tube will break in their hands or worse in the hands of one of their youngsters.

no science labs or even portable labs in elementary classrooms, yet most students enjoy and learn better through related hands-on experiments.

However, there is hope on the horizon. A program called AIMS (Activities in Math and Science) had recognized the "teacher lack of confidence in the teaching of science."

AIMS training deals with helping clamentary teachers overcome any

AIMS training deals with helping claementary teachers overcome any imagined fears in teaching science and how to set up and present science in an exciting fashion.

I see a great break through for elementary selence from those teachers who have received AIMS training. You should suggest this program to the leadership in your school district.

Dr. James Doyle is a former assistant superintendent in the Troy School District. Questions for this column should be sent to Doc Doyle, c/a Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.



Judith Doner

NOT WRITING about it doesn't make it go away.

We got a lot of flack recently for a story on the large number of vacan-cies at the Crosswinds Mall on Orchard Lake and Lone Pine roads at the north end of West Bloomield's shopping district.

The situation isn't much different than when we write about the vacant storefronts in Birmingham or bustnesses moving out of Plymouth or empty offices in Livonia.

We don't have a vendetta against business or the chamber of commerce in our communities, as called the stores of the chamber of commerce in our communities, as called the store of the chamber of commerce in our communities, as called the store of the chamber of commerce in our communities, as called the substances district on what's going in the vittal aspect of a community — its business district — of which we consider ourselves a part.

Do those who complain about these stories think that no one but the press has notified those empty spaces? Or that no one else wonders what the problem is? time the mall management has asked the store to take down the sign, since it won't be leaving right

sign, since it won't be leaving right away.

In its heyday that video store had been one of the main draws to the mail. It was hard to ignore that it is closing. So, strictly as a resident, it wondered what the problem was with the mail despite the facts that it is enclosed, has Krogers and Arbor Drug as anchors that appear to flourish and a Michigan Severlary of State office that even expanded to large quarters.

"Any prospective customer reading this article would be persuaded to stay away from Crosswinds Mailer, wrote Martin Mailer, president of Mailer Furs Inc., of our story.

I CAN understand Malter's con-cern. He moved to the mall fros Southfield last July, and I sincerely hope his will prove to be one of the businesses that can turn this mall around. What Malter probably doesn't know, because he wasn't around, is

that this newspaper has done a num-ber of stories on Crosswinds and its

Do those who complain about these stories think that no one but the press has noticed those empty spaces? Or that no one else wonders what the problem is?

predecessors, some reporting its problems, others reporting on the remodeling and hopes for the future!
One day, perhaps we can report on its success.
The story, which Malter remains the story, which Malter remains the story, which Malter remains and the owner to do a better, doesn't have to be. Perhaps it can serve as a rallying point for mall tenants and the owner to do a better, marketing job, find tenants with a real draw and staying power, study mall hours, reach out further to the community, utilize the West Bloomield Chamber of Commerce. . According to one of the partners, a promotional consultant has been hired to do just this.

As in Birmingham, Livonia and Plymouth, the articles didn't create the situation, that is, after all, our job.

Judith Doner Berne is assistant

Judith Doner Berne is assistant managing editor of the Oakland County editions of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.



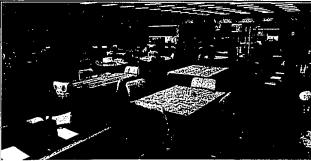




THE STORY on the Crosswinds Mall came about because on a recent Friday night my husband and Igot a quick meal at Merlin's, its coney restourant, then walked the mall to see what was going on. Not much, Some malls are bustling on Friday nights — not this one. The empty corridors and the empty storefronts were hard to miss. But then, as we decided to rent a video at what used to be the main video store in town, we were faced



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