

Primary update

State GOP votes on 'open' primary tonight

By Tim Richard
staff writer

Voters in the March 17 Republican primary won't have to declare a party preference if the party changes its rules tonight, as scheduled.

State GOP chair Dave Doyle called a special meeting of the Republican State Committee (RSC) at 6:30 p.m. in the Lansing Civic Center to try to make a rules change allowing an "open" primary.

Under it, voters would be asked at the polls, "In which primary do you wish to vote?" said party spokesman Bryan Flood.

Those who answer "Republican" will either be given a party ballot or directed to a Republican voting machine, he said.

The fact that they vote would be recorded, as usual, but not the fact that they chose the Republican ballot.

The RSC is the governing body of the party between conventions. It is composed of members from each congressional district and 13 at-large officers.

DEMOCRATS still must declare a Democratic affiliation at the polls before being given a ballot. National Democratic rules require a "closed" system in which only declared Democrats may take part in picking the presidential nominee.

"We had hoped they would join us in an open primary," said the GOP's Flood.

With both parties changing their rules, a state law requiring voters to

declare a party affiliation by Feb. 18 is superceded.

Attorney General Frank Kelley ruled that a U.S. Supreme Court decision allows party rules to take precedence over state law because a political party is a "voluntary association."

IT'S STILL possible to figure out who voted in the Republican primary.

One could compile a list of those who vote March 17, delete the declared Democrats and conclude everyone else voted Republican.

Republican candidates are incumb-

ent George Bush, columnist Pat Buchanan and state Rep. David Duke of Louisiana.

Democratic candidates are former Gov. Edmund (Jerry) Brown of California, Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas, Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, Sen. Bob Kerry of Nebraska, former Sen. Paul Tsongas of Massachusetts and the imprisoned Lyndon LaRouche.

Voters will not see the names of potential national convention delegates. The parties will apportion delegates on the basis of the candidate's voting strength.

SUMMER CAMP at echo park school

Since 1961



ENROLL NOW.

FOR

1992 SUMMER CAMP PROGRAM

Pre-School & Children Entering Kindergarten

7273 WING LAKE ROAD
Just north of 14 Mile Road
851-1866

Echo Park School admits students of any race, color, religion and national or ethnic origin.

Roll Call Report

Here's how Observer & Eccentric-area senators were recorded on major roll call votes in the week ending Jan. 31. There were no House votes.

TO REGULATE CABLE — By a vote of 73 for and 18 against, the Senate passed a bill (S 12) requiring the Federal Communications Commission to begin full-scale regulation of cable television, including rate control.

The bill, awaiting House action, is backed by commercial broadcasters and the consumer lobby and opposed by the cable industry.

It directs the FCC to regulate rates charged by the nation's 11,000 cable systems, ensure good customer service, and require cable to carry a minimal number of local broadcast stations and leading stations. It protects competitors, such as backyard dish systems, against predatory policies by the satellite and programming companies that cable dominates.

"These cable rates are going to continue to go up, unless (the bill) passes," said Al Gore, D-Tenn.

Opponent Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., said the bill "raises basic constitutional issues" in determining to whom cable companies must sell programs they originate.

A yes vote was to pass the bill. Michigan Sen. Carl Levin, D, voted yes. Sen. Donald Riegle, D, did not vote.

TO DEFEAT SUBSTITUTE — By a vote of 35 for and 54 against, the Senate rejected a substitute to S 12 (above) that was advocated by the cable TV industry. It sought to keep the FCC from regulating the way cable companies price and sell their self-originated programming to competitors.

Another key feature was to remove FCC limits on the number of television and radio stations a single company can own, so as to enable large broadcasters to better compete with cable television.

Supporter John Kerry, D-Mass., complained "we're now having Uncle Sam step in and say 'here's Big Brother government telling you you're paying too much for entertainment and we're going to regulate it'."

Opponents argued cable companies currently set prices and terms for their programs in a way that undercuts their video competitors and denies basic programming to millions of rural viewers.

A yes vote supported the cable industry's substitute. Levin voted no. Riegle did not vote.

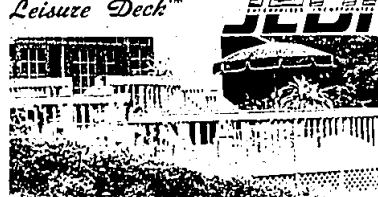
TO PASS SCHOOLS BILL — By a vote of 92 for and six against, the Senate sent the House a bill (S 2) providing \$550 million annually in education grants to spur a major restructuring and upgrading of public school education.

The money would go primarily to local districts that develop effective ways of improving academic performance, with innovative inner city schools receiving special attention.

A yes vote was to pass the bill. Levin and Riegle voted yes.

GET YOUR DECK BEFORE SPRING

DECKS
Leisure Deck™



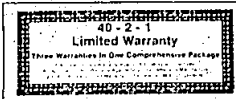
Behind Every Great Home Is a Great Deck

Call Today for Your

FREE

In-Home Design
Consultation &
Estimate at
No Obligation

**SAVE
10%**



Call 24 Hours
1-800-359-DECK (3325)

CONVENIENT CREDIT PLANS AVAILABLE

No Payments Until Spring to
Qualified Purchasers

All Work Backed
by Written
Warranty

Top Quality
Materials
Installed by
Professionals

100% American
Made
Buy
American



Small in size,
big in reach.

O & E CLASSIFIEDS

Foland's
IS BACK BETTER THAN EVER
JUST IN TIME FOR

Valentine's Day

**OUR NEED FOR CASH MEANS
HUGE SAVINGS ON
JEWELRY ♥ WATCHES ♥ GIFTWARE
TABLETOP ♥ CLOCKS**

« Bridal Registry Special »

Starting today, the first 300 Brides to Register
will receive a **FREE** Pair of Toasting Goblets
(A \$25 Value)

✓ BRIDAL REGISTRY

✓ GIFT WRAPPING

✓ LUXURY-Free 6 mos. for jewelry. Convenience plan for merchandise.

✓ PHONE ORDERS-Cut FOL-ANOS for home delivery.

✓ BEST QUALITY, LOWEST PRICE GUARANTEE*

✓ ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

Master Card

VISA

Discover

• LIVONIA

• SOUTHFIELD

• CLINTON TWP.

• ROCHESTER

• DEARBORN

• WARREN

Foland's
THE ALTERNATIVE

STORE HOURS: LIVONIA: 10am to 5pm M-S, 12 to 5pm Sun.

SOUTHFIELD, CLINTON TWP., ROCHESTER, WARREN, DEARBORN: 10am to 5pm M-T, 12 to 5pm Sun. (Dearborn is Closed on Sunday)

MUFFY VANDERBEAR

for your VALENTINE

Muffy & Happy
Vanderbear
Cuddly animals
for all ages
Stiff & Flakes
animals

Special gift ideas for Valentine's Day!

The Doll Hospital
& Toy Soldier Shop

3121 W. 12 Mile (between) 343-3115

HAVE YOU PLACED
YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
TODAY?

A Get Away
That's Not Far Away

LAPEER INN

Rooms
from
\$49

YOUR CHOICE OF:

Full & Half - Sun. Free

Sat. - Sun. to 15 Price

Best Western
20% OFF
ROOMS

667-9444

(313) 667-9444