# Levin calls for renewed love affair with American car

Big industry and big government have kissed and made up.
"It's a now era of cooperation,"
sid liberal Democrat Sander
Levin, U.S. representative from
Southfield for a decade, former
legislator, and former county and

atate chair of a party usually at odds with business.

But scratch President-elect Bill Clinton's Idea for a corporate payroll tax, Levin said last weekend in an interlyew. The plan was to require business to "invest" 1 to 1.5 percent of payroll in employee skills upgrading, or pay the feder-

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mittee.

President Bush had charged the \$150 billion tax increase would criple economic recovery.

#### Love 'rekindled'

Love 'rekindled'
Under Bush and Reagan, Levin said, "this country lost its understanding of the importance of autors to the overall economy. Also, the Big Three were not working toward the same objective."
Lost week the chairs of General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, along with the United Auto Workers president, visited Clinton in Little Rock. Then John Smith, Harolid Poling and Robert Eaton took the same message to the Economic Club of Detroit. Finally, they

met with the Michigan congressional delegation.

"The nation hes to once again have a love affair with the American automobile, and I think that love affair is being rekindled," said Lovin.
"Genoral Motors said at the Economic Club, 'Look, there has to be a partnership on health care. We can't gain control of health care coast by ourselves."

"When I first came to Congress, the Big Three weren't operating at all in the same direction. They dissgreed whether government had any role at all in the industry."

Big issues are 1) health costs and care, 2) Japan's closed market and 3) federal regulations. "Health care costs add about \$600 to an American-made vehicle over a transplant or one made in Japan or Europe," Levin said.

"Red Poling (of Ford) was mili-tant that this country must have trade policies that give our manu-facturers an equal shot at mar-kets. This one-way street in trade just isn't workable," said Levin, whose trade bill was threatened for yet by Bush.

whose trade bill was threatened for veto by Bush.
"I've known Clinton for a number of years when he was with the Governors' Association, working on issues of health, training and retraining. He was an unusually creative governor—a mainstream person who wants change. He knows revolution doesn't work in

Dems gear up

Dems gent up
Levin was the only federal,
state or county office-holder to attend the Oakland County Demogratic convention Saturday in
Pontiac.
Local delegates elected state
convention delegates and learned,
to no one's surprise, that state
chair Gary Corbin will seek a new
two-year term.
The state convention will be
Feb. 6 and 7 in Detroit's Cobo
Center.

Michael J. Federman, M.D.

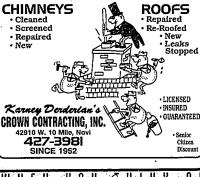
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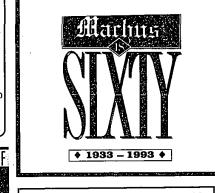
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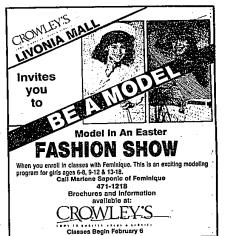
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