

Judge upholds ex-banker's suit

Former banker Stanford C. Stoddard of Birmingham may be on his way to collecting some of the \$720,000 he says Michigan National Corp. owes him for defending himself on federal charges.

Oakland Circuit Judge Steven M. Andrews set March 29 for a trial to determine the amount after ruling summarily in favor of Stoddard on legal principle.

Stoddard was chairman of Michigan National, a bank holding corporation, from 1971 until he was forced out in 1984. He successfully fought federal charges of misapplication of funds and insisted the corporation should have paid for his defense.

"It is my understanding that Michigan National's directors have not personally paid for

any of the huge legal costs which have been incurred to defend themselves against my lawsuits, both in their capacity as individual directors and as to the corporation," Stoddard said in a statement. In that suit, Stoddard is seeking exemplary damages from the directors in addition to his legal costs.

Andrews' order leaves open the possibility that Stoddard and the bank could agree on a sum before he must try the case.

Stoddard, who now operates a financial services company in Southfield, said he has spent \$2 million altogether on defense counsel in all the cases. Stoddard won, on appeal, against a Federal Reserve Board order barring him from banking.

Perot group hosts TV town hall

United We Stand America and Ross Perot will host its first electronic town hall at 8 p.m. Sunday on NBC-TV Channel 4 and NBC Mutual Radio Network.

The topic is government reform and Perot will guide viewers through a ballot that outlines 17 reform issues. Ballots also have

been distributed in TV guide.

Those seeking more information can call Diane MacShara at, 313-363-1649.

Civil rights group in Lathrup

The Michigan Civil Rights Commission is expected to select a new director at its Monday, March 22, public meeting in Lathrup Village.

The meeting begins at 10 a.m. in the Lathrup Village Municipal Building, 27400 Southfield Road. The five finalists for the director's position are Carl Breeding, state NAACP president and chief administrative officer; William Lucas, former U.S. Justice Department Community Relations Services acting director; Louis Martin, Connecticut Human Rights and Opportunities Department director; Dr. Nanette Lee

Reynolds, Michigan Department of Civil Rights Community Services Bureau director; Lawrence R. Meyn, Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission director, did not appear for finalist interviews Feb. 15.

Other agenda items include a report on the joint study on equal opportunities in state government and public comment.

People who have civil rights problems or concerns in employment, education, housing, places of public accommodation or public service and law enforcement may address the commission during public comment.

Area TV audiences sought

Audience members are being sought by Channel 60 for upcoming editions of the TV show called "Straight Talk."

For reservations, call Jim Giroux at 355-7089. There is no fee.

The shows are taped almost every Friday at 6 p.m. in the

Channel 60 studios, 26905 W. 11 Mile Road in Southfield. The shows air the following day at 10:30 p.m.

On Friday, March 19, they're taping an episode on cult influences. On Friday, March 26, the topic is understanding attention deficit disorder.

OU announces promotions

Nine Oakland University faculty members have been promoted to the rank of professor by the school's board of trustees.

The new professors are economics teacher Augustin Fouu of Auburn Hills, computer science and engineering teacher Subramanian Ganesan of Rochester Hills, biomedical science teachers Frank Giblin of Rochester and Barry Winkler of Southfield, biological science teacher Paul

Ketchum of Rochester, Chinese teacher John Marney of Rochester Hills, counseling teacher Mary Otto of Rochester, math teacher Mel Shillor of Rochester Hills and English teacher Mark Workman of Rochester Hills.

The increased rank goes into effect Aug. 15.

Also, retired teacher Jack Moeller of Rochester was named Distinguished Emeritus Professor of German.

Editor speaks to GOP women

The next Bloomfield Republican Women's Club meeting will occur at 11 a.m. Tuesday, March 23, at the Kingsley Inn, 1476 N. Woodward in Bloomfield Hills.

Newspaperman Joe Stroud will speak following lunch. His speech is called, "Children First: Our First Priority."

For reservations, call Pat Hardy at 642-6923.

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