

Handwriting expert spells out candidates' characteristics

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

Both candidates for Oakland County prosecutor are determined, yet very human, according to a Bloomfield Hills analyst who believes handwriting may be the key to the soul.

At the request of The Eccentric Newspapers, analyst Ruth Holmes looked at the writing of Democrat Steven Kaplan and Republican David Gorcyca to see what, if anything, their handwriting reveals.

"I've never met either man," said Holmes, who earlier this year at the request of "George" magazine examined and analyzed signatures of the presidential candidates, including Bob Dole and Bill Clinton. "But I know something about them now."

Holmes, who classifies herself as a political independent, declined to say which candidate she preferred, or which would likely win her vote. Nevertheless,



Ruth Holmes

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less, the writing of Kaplan and Gorcyca was revealing, she said. Kaplan, for example, is persistent and scholarly, according to Holmes. But he also craves attention and recognition, she said. Gorcyca is aggressive and dynamic, according to Holmes. But he's opinionated and stubborn, she added.

Holmes — who advises corporate clients on personnel decisions based on handwriting analysis — also consults attorneys during jury selection. While Holmes has consulted on a number of multimillion dollar civil cases, her most high-profile criminal cases were the last two trials of Dr. Jack Kevorkian in Oakland Circuit Court.

But in the prosecutor's race, the two candidates have different — almost contrasting — styles, according to Holmes. Gorcyca's style is moving, active and somewhat impulsive, she said. Kaplan is logical and likes to review and analyze information first, Holmes said.

Here's what Holmes said about the respective handwriting samples of the two candidates for Oakland County prosecutor (parenthesis indicate the handwriting trait leading to

Steven Kaplan is determined and persistent. He moves deliberately toward pragmatic goals. He works at his own pace and would like more attention and recognition than he has had until now.

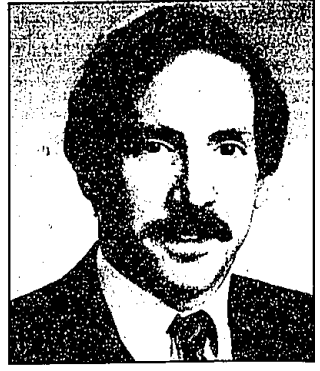
her observations): David Gorcyca is proud (large capital letters), aggressive (angles and points in letters such as "M") and determined (strong down stroke in "y"). This candidate possesses clever marketing skills (heavy pressure with forward slant) and a desire to win (end strokes larger on terminal strokes). He does not like criticism (looped "c"s) and will strive hard (heavy pressure and rightward movements) to avoid it.

Gorcyca resents the feeling of being imposed upon (rigid entry strokes before "f"s), but uses the strength (powerful upstrokes) as an incentive to take on challenges to prove himself (large capital letters of signature). Dynamic, result oriented, (forward slant with heavy pressure) and resourceful at getting what he wants (neglected letter forms), this man likes to be in charge and will thrive if he wins.

This candidate is garrulous (open communication), opinionated (narrow "e") and stubborn (triangle shape of "n"). Impatient with incompetence (speed of writing and dashed "i"s), he is intense (rigid entry strokes), moody (variable baseline and pressure) and has his own ideas. He needs healthy out-



David Gorcyca



Steven Kaplan

lets for his energy and a place to use his speaking ability. This man is able to handle a heavy workload (heavy rightward writing) and he enjoys variety. He knows how to work with and apply pressure (downward crossed "t"s). Competitive (power and writing speed) and capable, he wants to make a difference (bold signature) and win this election.

Steven Kaplan is determined (strong down strokes) and persistent (knotted loop in "r" crossings). He moves deliberately toward pragmatic goals (height of "r" crossings). Pleased in different directions to accommodate the demands made upon him

(variable slant and awkward writing style), this candidate thinks in a careful, logical way (rounded quality of letters, especially "m"s and "h"s). He works at his own pace and would like more attention and recognition (large capital letters) than he has had until now. "Being elected would help!" she noted.

A man of letters (lyrical "d") and chosen words, he is articulate (original letter forms in "of") and appreciates a clever joke. Selective in the company he keeps (narrow spacing between certain letters), he prefers maintaining a safe emotional distance (wide spacing between words) from these around him. Appre-

ciative of clarity and quality (legibility and simplicity), this candidate believes conflict should be resolved without confrontation (soft quality of writing connections).

Sensitive to both personal and professional criticism (looped "d"s and "t"s), this candidate tries often to please everyone which slows his pace, but his strong will power (long "l" bars) keeps him motivated. Under-achieving (changeable letter size and loose writing style) but dogged in the pursuit of his beliefs (good down strokes), this man is dedicated, hard working and would relish an election victory (large signature).

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