

OBSERVATION POINT

Observer Newspapers Adds Editions,
Changes Format To Aid Readers

Come Friday, you'll notice some changes in your familiar Observer Newspaper weekend edition.

First, it will be delivered to your door on Friday afternoon instead of Saturday.

Friday delivery helps you, our reader, because it gets your hometown newspaper into your home before the weekend has started and in plenty of time for you to use the paper as a valuable tool in planning your weekend activities.

In addition to detailed coverage of all the breaking news in your hometown, the weekend paper will carry special features on leisure opportunities for the whole family over the weekend. It will include articles on gardening and home improvement, so you can take advantage of them right away. It will carry a thorough roundup of the local sports calendar, together with interpretative articles explaining the significance of the weekend's games.

The weekend edition will also continue the outstandingly successful "FOCUS: Suburban" feature, containing a detailed essay on a given subject coupled with special ads relating to it.

The weekend edition will have ads from local merchants who have special sales for your shopping convenience over the weekend, together with the area's best and biggest weekend want ad section, so you can find a new home or a used car and bring the whole family along.

ALL THESE SPECIAL weekend features have been put together in a specially designed new format which converts the weekend paper into a weekend news magazine.

The format is called "tabloid" in newspaper parlance; but what it is an easier to read, easier to handle, typographically more pleasing layout. We're

enthused about it, and we hope you like it as much as we do.

In addition to all this, we are this Friday also adding Garden City and Westland weekend editions to those already going to Livonia, Plymouth, Farmington, Southfield and Redford Township.

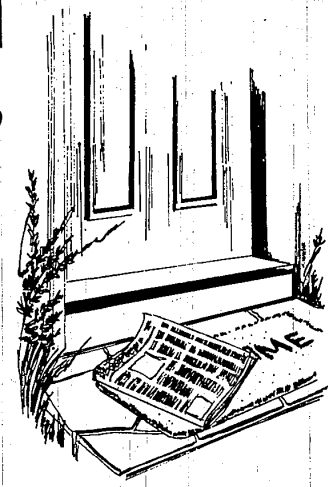
We did so in response to requests from Garden City and Westland readers and merchants, who wanted twice-weekly news and advertising coverage for their cities and who were pleased already with what the Wednesday Observer had done for them.

ALL IN ALL, this will be a big week for us at Observer Newspapers.

A new delivery date for our weekend product. Two new cities - Westland and Garden City - for our weekend edition. And an entirely new news format.

Looking back on the six-year history of Observer Newspapers, what seems to be constant is the quick pace of change and development. Originally, there were five newspapers; now there are seven. Originally, there was only one edition; now there are two. Originally, we had no typesetting equipment or press; now we have both, in one of the most modern buildings in the newspaper industry.

This progress has come because this company is committed to producing newspapers of relevance and quality for our local readers. Our steps forward this week are just the most recent developments in this overall plan.



The shape of things to come...
FRIDAY!

Police Officials Aim Attack
On New Young Group Of Adults

The most dishonest political attack against any underdog group in Michigan is not aimed at blacks, women, Chicanos or bachelors.

The attack is aimed at our new adults - the 18-20-year-olds - and it is being conducted by some of our state and local police officials. It comes in the form of statistics rigged to show the young persons are involved in a growing number of arrests and accidents.

Here are some of the dirty statistical tricks some people are playing:

- They compare figures for 1971, when the age of majority was 21, to 1972, when it was lowered to 18. What they conveniently forget to tell you is that the state changed the legal definition of a drunk driver on March 3, 1972, just two months after the age of majority was lowered.
- Under the old standard, you were DWIL (driving under the influence of liquor) if the alcohol level in your blood was 0.15 per cent. The new standard was lowered to 0.10 per cent. As of today, it's much easier to convict a person of DWIL.
- Police issue statistics comparing drinking-driving records of 1972 or 1973 to 1971, but the truth is that you can't compare anything after February of 1972 to 1971. In this regard, Capt. John C. Ambler, commanding officer of the state police safety and traffic division, deserves a severe reprimand for his thoroughly misleading statistics.
- Police statistics emphasize "drivers who had been drinking." Note the sly innuendo: They don't say the driver was drunk, they don't even say alco-

hol was a factor, they only say the driver had been "drinking" without specifying the amount.

The police are trying to trick us into equating all drinking with DWIL. The statistics about "drinking" are so vague they're absolutely worthless. Yet our police keep issuing them.

- Police reports often start, "Since the teen has been allowed to drink..." The unstated assumption is teens began drinking on Jan. 1, 1972. That's ignorant nonsense, and the police know it. The Age of Majority Commission report pointed out that 18-20 year olds were already drinking - it just wasn't legal until 1972.
- If you read police reports carefully, you'll catch them admitting they have programs aimed at teen drivers. Now, that's not illegal - it's good management. If you have a problem such as burglaries, narcotics or street crime, you devote extra training, resources and men to it.
- Since Jan. 1, 1972, the police have devoted much attention to teen DWILs. Inaccurately, they fail to point out that this is a factor in the greater number of teen DWIL arrests.
- Interestingly, some reports say the problem of teen DWILs has "leveled off" in 1973. Hogwash! The truth is that the rules and enforcement programs had done as much as they could in 1972 to inflate the statistics, and so they couldn't be increased in 1973.
- Those of us with short haircuts and conservative sedans rarely have problems with the police. But if for one moment you begin to understand why so many of our young people snarl, from time to time "Off the pigs!"

Teacher Complains Of Manner
In Which Pact Was Handled

EDITOR:

A reaction to R.T. Thompson's recent comment on teacher strikers. Teachers are growing accustomed to the annual "open season on teachers." After all, it's the communities' right... they pay our salaries and they have a knack of letting us know it.

It's always easy to write off teacher wage demands as excessive. Yet, we too, must compete for goods and services.

Isn't it enough that we are handicapped? We offer no material product, consequently we can't raise prices at will. We can be forced back to the classroom by court order, forced to endure another Trenton, and people view children out of

classrooms as a moral question.

All we ask are the rights accorded the majority of society.

What happened to all the editorials about the UAW settlement? What a rip off. Who besides you and me will pay for this welfare package? What capital investment does the production worker have in his occupation - a \$5 lunch box compared to today's graduate teacher's \$35,000 investment.

How long does it take the average production worker to reach his maximum wage - a few years. It takes a teacher upwards of 11 years and another degree to reach maximum.

Consider the recent inflationary period during which time teachers lost an average of \$3 pay while a UAW worker gained \$15 pay. You state taxpayers who pay high taxes will stand for no more. Haven't you bought a car lately? Automobile prices have skyrocketed, with little or no public outcry. Average the cost of a car over three years and it's less than most people pay for the education of their children. Where are our priorities?

All we ask is for you to look at the entire picture before condemning us. It's difficult to keep the public's interest in mind when the guy in front and behind you at the checkout are members of the UAW.

READERS' FORUM

Please type (or write clearly) and limit letters to 300 words.

- Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.
- The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

It was a very significant step for our community to take and it could not have been accomplished without your help.

Thank you again for your help when it was truly needed.

J.J. RZEPKA
Supt. of Schools
South Redford

2 Resolutions
Gain Support

EDITOR:

Many Americans are greatly concerned with abuse of the presidential authority to sign executive agreements. Others are concerned about the destruction of American sovereignty resulting from various treaty commitments which run contrary to the spirit of our constitution.

Still others are angered over our involvement in "treaty wars" (such as Vietnam) which, instead of being authorized by Congress as provided in the constitution, are fought under the authority of treaties.

Reps. John Ashbrook (R-Ohio) and Steve Symms (R-Idaho) have introduced identical joint resolutions (H.R. Res. 364 and H.R. Res. 704) calling for a constitutional amendment which would reaffirm the supremacy of the constitution over treaties and executive agreements.

We, as concerned citizens, should support their efforts.

GEORGE MEARS
Livonia

Aid Was There
When Needed

EDITOR:

We recently requested a shipment of school clothes from Mr. and Mrs. Hank Chrusciel of Livonia for the Indian children in our area. We were taken care of immediately with a shipment of clothing, shoes, notebooks and outdoor playground toys.

We would appreciate it very much if you would print something in the Observer to thank all those involved, including Mr. and Mrs. Hank Chrusciel, the Western Association and others who wish to remain anonymous. Please let them know that it was very much needed and gratefully appreciated.

DOUGLAS PIERSON
Coordinator
Indian Enterprises, Inc.
Rothbury, Mich.

Now Board Plans To Defy Court

People and institutions on opposite sides of an issue can sometimes find themselves fighting for the same causes.

This was true in the past week with the Wayne-Westland school board and striking Detroit teachers promising to defy a court order (in the board's case) and actually defying a court order (in the Detroit situation).

The conflict raises the question first made by civil rights activists and anti-war marchers in the 1960s when they deliberately disobeyed specific laws to prove their defiance of the court order concerning the rehiring, the Detroit teachers' made it clear that they would do the same thing in the name of justice.

They stressed that they gave up pay raises for two years to help the financially distressed Detroit school board continue to keep schools open.

But this year, the teachers' union wants its due - in teachers' pay checks.

It should be noted that teachers' strikes are technically illegal in Michigan but the law doesn't contain any penalty for striking teachers.

But a Wayne-Westland board member commented in private last week that if teachers can break the law without punishment, then why should the board members be jailed for disobeying a court order?

If this question is easy to put but the answers are harder to come by.

At the same time, the Detroit-suburban legal issue proves the axiom that politics makes strange bed fellows.

Faster Service
Would Ease
Buyers' Pains

By ELINOR GRAHAM

Shopping for groceries has become a worrisome chore. Spiraling food prices cause rising tempers and blood pressure in almost a direct ratio.

The shopper keeps telling himself the store manager and the clerks are not responsible, but he is always in a low mood when he finally arrives at the checkout aisle.

Now here is where the supermarket management could lessen the blow. Here is where a little psychology could brighten one's day.

Fast, courteous service at the cash register area would speed you on your way. A long line, with only two checkout girls on desultory duty gives the customer more time to sulk.

It's like a long, slow tooth extraction, without anesthesia. This time it's your money

that is being extracted, and a good quick yank is less painful.

The stores do not absorb the rise in the grocery bill. The consumer bears the full brunt.

And he bears the brunt of lackadaisical service.

If you are the victim of this type of treatment, make the store manager aware of your resentment and/or go to another store.

It will help your disposition even if it doesn't do much for your pocketbook.

Our office was besieged with press releases recently for a thing known as the "Exploring Grand National Safe - Driving Road Rally" held in our area recently by

the Boy Scouts and a major auto company.

The releases explained how a rally isn't a race and how it stresses safe driving.

But we noticed one of the rally cars being pulled over in a speed trap by the Livonia police on Plymouth Road.

Maybe the "safe-driving" rallyist had missed a turn and was trying to make up a few lost seconds?

Sense And Nonsense

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Editorial & Opinion

OBSERVER NEWSPAPERS, INC.

Philip H. Pauer, Publisher

The Livonia Observer - The Redford Observer
The Westland Observer - The Garden City Observer
The Plymouth Mail & Observer - The Southfield News & Observer
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Southfield, Lathrup Village, Bingham Farms