

# Ravitz attacks the problems of heroin

By STEVE BHAERMAN  
"It is in our own interest to declare war on heroin," declares Detroit Recorder's Court Judge Justin Ravitz.

However, Judge Ravitz feels it is difficult to do this effectively because "a whole bunch of folks have made a whole bunch of money on the heroin problem."

Speaking at Oakland University's New Charter College Forum on Heroin and the Police, Ravitz characterized the government solutions — methadone maintenance and imprisonment for the street junkie — as inadequate ways of dealing with the heroin problem.

"Heroin is a profitable problem,"

he said. "At \$5.5 billion a year, it's our largest consumer import. This money isn't made by the street junkies we see being herded through Recorder's Court each day."

"ANYONE who knows anything about the heroin situation in this country knows that the government has long been part of the problem, never part of the solution," he said.

Referring to a book entitled "The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia" by Alfred McCoy, Ravitz claimed that heroin most often finds its way into the country via the Southeast Asia-to-Hong Kong-to-the-West-Coast route on Air America, an airline operated by the Central Intelligence Agency. "This indicates," he said, "how this country will sell out on the

drug issue in order to resist wars of national liberation in Southeast Asia."

"In September of 1972," Ravitz continued, "President Nixon told the nation how proud he is of the methadone maintenance programs which currently serve some 100,000 addicts. He added that he looks forward to the day when a million addicts will be in these programs. This is an interesting aspiration since the Bureau of Narcotics reports only 500,000 addicts," he said.

Ravitz believes that this presidential "slip of the tongue" was no mistake, but instead an indication that methadone maintenance is a way of perpetuating and encouraging addiction, and a way to further

debilitate the black community.

ACTIVIST ATTORNEY Kenneth Cockrel, who also spoke at the forum, called the heroin problem a "control mechanism." He pointed out that in Detroit, where 30,000 to 60,000 addicts steal an estimated \$1 million a day to support drug habits, "an atmosphere of fear and terror serves to immobilize political consciousness in the black community."

"How can you develop a political organization in a community where people are afraid to leave their homes?" he asked.

Referring to the officers indicted in Detroit's 10th Precinct for narcotics

trafficking, Cockrel declared, "A sergeant was the highest-ranking officer indicted, but obviously the corruption doesn't stop there. It couldn't go on without the collusion of the entire police department."



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# Group explains about millage

BIRMINGHAM—An intensive community education program is underway in the Birmingham School District to inform citizens of facts concerning the three millage propositions to appear on the June 10 ballot.

Ralph Sosin, 700 Ardmore, Fairfield Township, and Ken LaMotte, 161 Baldwin, Birmingham, are co-chairmen of the millage campaign

committee, known as Birmingham Citizens for Better Education (BCBE).

Sosin was co-chairman of the 1974 Citizens Millage Advisory Committee and LaMotte was co-chairman of a similar committee in a successful millage campaign two years ago.

Other committee members are Jim Ayers, Gary Paback, Donna Fahlen, Beth Hoffman, Bud Liebler and Jean Colones. PTA Council president.

THE THREE MILLAGE issues to be placed on the ballot are 10.2 mills (\$10.20 per \$1000 equalized valuation) for 10 years renewal; 1.9 mills (\$1.90 per \$1000 equalized valuation) for three years (new) to maintain current programs, and 1.0 mill (\$1 per \$1000 equalized valuation) for three years (new) for new programs.

A general information meeting on the millage, open to the public, will be held at 8 p.m. Thursday (May 23) in the auditorium of Seaholm High School. BCBE members will meet Thursday (May 16) with all candidates for the board of education to brief them regarding the millage propositions and to hear their views.

Public millage discussion meetings also are scheduled at 8 p.m. Monday (May 13) at Beverly School and at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Evergreen School.

Passage of the 10.2 and 1.9 mill levies "is absolutely essential just to keep our schools afloat and operating as they are currently," Sosin said.

PASSAGE OF the 1.0-mill levy for development of new programs "would represent a commitment that Birmingham is not willing to stand still on education," he added.

BCBE members have formed a speakers bureau available to civic organizations, Parent Teacher Associations and other groups to explain the millage propositions and the actual cost to individual taxpayers. Interested persons may contact LaMotte.

"Millage issues, especially in today's inflationary environment, tend to frighten voters and to suggest an initial negative reaction," LaMotte said.

"But inflation hits our schools just as hard as it hits our homes and it is hard to get negative on education," he added.

# Circuit jury finds Eisenberg guilty

By SUSAN L. SILK  
Walter A. Eisenberg, 28 Southfield, has been found guilty of felonious assault on a federal officer by an Oakland Circuit Court jury.

Eisenberg remains free on \$50,000 bond until his sentencing at 1:30 p.m. May 23 by Oakland Circuit Court Judge Richard D. Kuhn. The felonious assault conviction carries a maximum term of four years in prison.

The defendant was originally charged with assault with intent to commit murder in the shooting April 13, 1973, of special agent Joseph A. Clapp, of the U.S. Treasury Department's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF).

Clapp was shot as he, other ATF agents and undercover Southfield police officers attempted to execute search and arrest warrants at Eisenberg's apartment in the Diplomat Towers.

Conviction of assault with intent to

commit murder carries a maximum term of life imprisonment.

THE 12-MEMBER jury began deliberations in the case May 3. Copies of individual witness testimony were requested and several questions asked of the judge before a verdict was reached.

The jury foreman announced the panel's decision at approximately 10:30 a.m. Wednesday. Admittedly, special assistant prosecutor Frank Mandelbaum was "disappointed" that Eisenberg was not convicted as charged.

However, both Mandelbaum and defense attorney Bruce Leitman agreed the case was fairly tried.

"I think the jury should be complimented. They worked extremely hard and long to arrive at a just verdict," Leitman said.

He added that Kuhn "was extremely fair."

# Volunteers to march

OAKLAND COUNTY — Volunteers are being sought to conduct a house-to-house solicitation for the Muscular Dystrophy Association on June 4.

The volunteers, ringing doorbells from 3 to 9 p.m., will seek funds to support medical research and patient services for muscular dystrophy victims presently under the care of the Greater Detroit-Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America.


Muscular dystrophy, as yet incurable, primarily attacks children and is nearly always fatal.

The local muscular dystrophy chapter, headed by Mrs. Ira G. Kaufman, provides all essential services to muscular dystrophy patients in the greater Detroit area. Services include physical exams, lab tests, therapists, social workers, braces, wheelchairs, and miscellaneous medical costs.

Area residents wishing to join the June 4 campaign as neighborhood solicitors may volunteer by calling 398-9477.

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# Bargaining hearings set

Six public hearings to discuss collective bargaining legislation for public school teachers will be held throughout the state during May and June by senate and house labor committees.

One of the hearings will be from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday at the City/County Building in Detroit.

The labor committees have listed seven bills which will be considered during these hearings. They include: House Bill 3655 introduced by Rep. Melvin Larsen (R-Oxford) to regulate strikes by public school employees and establish a negotiation timetable; House Bill 5687 introduced by Rep. William Jovett (R-Port Huron) to remove the prohibition against strikes by public school teachers; and House Bill 5247 introduced by Rep. Thaddeus Stopczynski (D-Detroit) to provide for compulsory arbitration for teachers.

Senate bills include Senate Bill 865 introduced by Sen. Harry DeMaso (R-Battle Creek) to establish a deadline for the start of teacher/administration collective bargaining; Senate Bills 1235, 1147 and 1235 introduced by Sen. Gilbert Bursley (R-Ann Arbor) to exempt teachers from the Public Employees Relation Act to provide for a new collective bargaining process and provide for compulsory arbitration for public school employees.

# New congregation

The President of the Michigan Region of the United Synagogue of America, has announced the granting of a Charter of Affiliation to a new congregation in East Lansing.

Myron L. Milgrom, president of the Michigan Region said the new congregation will be called Kehilat Israel.

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