

# 3 Democrats take aim at Defebaugh

Three Democrats will be vying in the Aug. 6 primary for the right to oppose incumbent Republican James E. Defebaugh in the November general election for 65th district state representative.

Dorothea Becker, Ernest I. Gifford and Harry M. Moss are the Democratic contenders.

The district includes Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Bloomfield Hills, Franklin, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake and parts of the city of Southfield; and Bloomfield, West Bloomfield and Southfield townships.

Candidates for the 65th State Representative District race were asked three questions:

1. The state legislature has been criticized for failing to enact campaign finance reform this year. Do you support any reform proposal under consideration? If not, what type of legislation would you propose?

2. List in order of priority your three most imperative legislative concerns.

3. What role should the state play in creating land use policy? Has legislation been proposed that you support? If so, explain why. If not, what type of legislation would you propose as an alternative?

Following are their verbatim answers and a short biography.

**DOROTHEA BECKER, 48**, of 25 Judy Lane, Birmingham, is a teacher in the Pontiac school system. She received a B.S. in business administration from Wayne State University in 1948 and a masters in history from the same school in 1969. The mother of two is a member of the Fresh Air Society, director of the Rouge Manor Association and is on the education committee of Temple Emanuel.

1. I support the finance-reform proposals endorsed by the League of Women Voters, but I would go further. In the interests of a more equitable use of campaign funds, I feel that the challenger at the time of election should have access to the built-in subsidy of the incumbent. This need not be a fixed amount, but should be based on the amount of money the incumbent has previously spent on mailings and the number of registered voters in his constituency.

2. Among the most crucial needs of the people of Michigan are:

• Education: We must realize each child's reading and comprehension potential in order to maximize his vocational and social possibilities.

• Taxes: A more equitable tax structure should be adopted which considers the needs of people on fixed incomes, encourages business enterprises and takes into account inflationary spirals.

• Efficiency: There must be greater operational efficiency of the legislature in order to translate appropriations into quality. Budget bills should not be rushed through during the last week of a session. It may be even necessary to encourage a bi-annual budget plan in order to provide time for more thoughtful consideration and greater attention to detail.

3. Rep. Bill Martin's Bill 5055 which provides for the protection and conservation of natural resources is one with which I wholeheartedly concur. But I wonder about disputes between local appeal boards and property owners with deed restrictions. These cases are frequently settled through the courts. I'm not clear as to the scope or power that state land boards would have.

**ERNEST I. GIFFORD, 40**, of 3210 Kingsgate Way, Bloomfield Hills, received his bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and his doctor of laws degree from Wayne State University. He and his wife Janet and their two children moved to the area in October 1973. Gifford, a patent lawyer, is a member of the American Bar Association; has served as the treasurer of the Elks in 1970 and was vice-chairman of the patent, trademark, copyright section of the Michigan Bar Association in 1973-74. He ran unsuccessfully for the Warren City Council.

1. I support campaign reform that would require complete disclosure of contributions and expenditures and limit on expenditures. I would limit expenditures to an amount not exceeding the annual salary of the job the candidate is seeking.

2. Campaign reform, inflation, mass transportation.

3. I think the state must take the lead in land use policy. This is, however, a difficult problem and not one which can be solved by a simplistic approach. It is very easy for one group of property owners to dictate what another property owner should do with his land, but this may be totally unfair to the property owner seeking the best use for his land.

**HARRY M. MOSS, 55**, of 18601 E. Chelton Drive, Birmingham, is the president of Center Agency, Inc., an insurance company. He

city's eighth traffic fatality this year.

Brian Alan Sarafian, 27751 E. California, Lathrup Village, was dead on arrival at 8:30 p.m. Sunday after his motorcycle was in a collision with a car driven by Mrs. Anne Burkow, 63, of 30410 Southfield Road, Southfield, according to police.

The accident occurred at the intersection of Addison and Fairfax roads. Police investigation indicated the victim was in violation of the speed limit and failed to yield the right of way. Mrs. Burkow was not apprehended.

The Southfield Fire Department Life Support Unit administered first aid to Sarafian.

Police said eight accidents occurred in 1973.

has three years of liberal arts training at Wayne State University, from 1936-38. He has served as a precinct delegate and was the democratic nominee for the 1972 state representative race. The father of four also is a member of the Oakland County Democratic Party executive committee; the National Association of Mutual Insurance Agents; chairman of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Democratic Club and the past president of the Morgenthau Lodge, B'nai B'rith.

1. I do support the proposed legislation as a beginning. I would like to see it eventually to provide for financing of campaigns only by the government and campaign periods limited to six weeks.

2. Priorities are:

• Elimination of hand guns for everyone but law officers.

• Free college tuition for all qualified graduates of Michigan high schools.

• Help reduce crime by taking the profit out of the drug traffic by making hard drugs available to addicts under state supervision.

3. I believe the state definitely has a responsibility in safeguarding the land and water for the generations to come. I am not aware of any suitable proposals under consideration at this time. Before making any proposals of my own, I feel I should make a more detailed study.

**JAMES E. DEFEBAUGH, 47**, of 580 Lahser Road, Birmingham, was first elected to the state legislature in 1970. He received a B.A. degree in 1950 from Knox College in Galesburg, Ill. He was appointed to the Oakland County Mental Health Board in 1970 and served on the Michigan Bicentennial Commission from 1972-74. From 1968-70 he served as the Oakland County Republican chairman. His civic activities include managing a Birmingham Little League team for six years and serving on the board of the Community Action Council.

1. I am a co-author of the original Senate Bill 1016 and its House counterpart, House Bill 5436. I introduced House Bill 6077. These bills require total disclosure of all contributions and expenditures on a pre-filed basis and include all in-kind contributions. I voted for the open meetings bill and will vote for the lobbyist regulation bill.

2. Priorities are:

• Equitable property taxation

— Property taxes have risen to the breaking point; many fixed-income people have been forced from their homes. I co-sponsored House Bill 5504 which lowers assessment from 50 percent of fair market value down to 46 percent. Assessment practices must be re-evaluated.

• Despite progress toward equal educational opportunity,

state aid to public schools must be funded on a program of unit base rather than a per pupil count, so that school districts of all types share in state aid.

• Election reform legislation is a must to increase confidence in government by giving the voting public a better insight into the various candidates and by disclosing the special interest nature of some candidates.

3. Michigan's counties and local

units of government must have a land use policy and the means to implement that policy. The state should be available as a resource and to mandate land use policies for those local units who refuse to comply. I support legislation that mandates that local units provide a land use program under guidelines by the state; a specific definition of "critical areas" must be provided; the local property owner must be guaranteed due process.

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