

Democrat program 'echoes' GOP's

By ROBERT KIPPER

OAKLAND COUNTY—Charging that the past two years have produced "much talk but seen little action" on the board of county commissioners, the Democrats Thursday put forth their legislative agenda for the next two years.

Delivered by Democratic caucus chairman Bernard Lennon (D-18), of Ferndale, the address called for immediate attention to fighting unemployment in the county, decentralizing and streamlining certain county services, approving a solid waste plan and exploring better funding methods for the county road commission.

Although designed to provide an alternate message to the one delivered by Republican County Executive Daniel Murphy in January, the Democratic address called for many of the same programs and priorities.

Like Murphy's address, the Democratic message was short on specific remedies as it listed many long-standing county concerns.

COMMENTING ON the speech later, Murphy said he was pleased to see Lennon "echoing" many of his sentiments and glad "both sides of the aisle are thinking along the same lines."

Lennon, speaking for the 12 Democratic commissioners who are in the minority on the county board, called for the reorganization of the economic coordinator position to help provide economic diversity in the county.

The concentration of workers in a single industry—the automobile industry—has helped create the current high rate of unemployment in the county, Lennon said.

LENNON URGED that the county play a leadership role in formulating a solid waste disposal plan for the county—a measure that county officials have been studying and reworking for many months.

The Democratic proposal endorsed

the development of the Madison Heights's Red Run Drain area into a county park. This proposal is currently under study. If completed, the Red Run park would be the only county park in the southern, more developed regions of the county.

Advocating the decentralization of county services, Lennon called for the

creation of county service centers in the southern and western parts of the county. More conveniently located county headquarters would assist the aged, the poor and the young who often find it difficult to travel to Pontiac for county services, Lennon said.

As a measure to streamline county operations, Lennon supported the pro-

posal currently under study to consolidate the like-functioning offices of the public works director and the drain commissioner into a single public works office.

LENNON DEMANDED the restructuring of the state weight and gas tax formula to insure that the county road

commission gets a fairer share of gas revenue for county roads.

The Democratic proposal also called for consolidating the now independent county road commission under the authority of the board of county commissioners—a move County Executive Murphy said he agrees with.

Among less specific recommendations by the Democrats were calls for increased senior citizens programs and an immediate study to determine if the functions of various county boards and commissioners would be improved under direct control of the board of county commissioners.

Campus News

IN THE NEWS

Maureen Darin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter C. Darin Jr., of Bloomfield Hills, has become a member of the news staff and is a disc jockey at WDET, a student-run campus radio station at Denison University in Ohio.

Miss Darin, a senior, is a graduate of the Academy of the Sacred Heart.

CADET PROMOTED

Air Force Cadet Steve Lynch of West Bloomfield was promoted to the cadet grade of airman in the Air Force ROTC program at Michigan State University. Upon completion of his degree and AFJOTC training requirements, he will be commissioned as a second lieutenant and enter the Air Force.

Lynch, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Lynch of MacNicol Trail, is an MSU freshman majoring in mechanical engineering and a 1974 graduate of Andover High School.

SYMPHONY MEMBERS

Deborah Scott, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Scott of West Bloomfield, performed in the Western Michigan University symphony on Feb. 16 in Miller Auditorium. Andy Bloor, a senior from Birmingham, performed solo on the baritone saxophone.

The concert was open to the public and included works by H. Owen Reed, Charles Ives and Robert Russell Bennett.

HONOR SOCIETY MEMBER

Mark Olesavage, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Olesavage of Carsonville, was inducted into the national honor society, Delta Mu Delta, on Feb. 10. A graduate of Brother Rice High School, he is a senior at Grand Valley State College in Allendale.

ARTIST EXHIBITS

Pam Gates, daughter of Mrs. Barbara Walker of Birmingham, was one of 13 Hope College students exhibiting work at the Adrian college art gallery.

The works, which include drawings, paintings, ceramics and sculpture, will be on exhibit until Feb. 21 as part of the Adrian College Invitational undergraduate art show.

SNOW-QUEEN CANDIDATES

Two Troy area girls and one from Birmingham were among 18 candidates for Snow-Queen at Northern Michigan University's Winterfest '75.

They were Patty Carroll, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Carroll of Birmingham; Georgina Regina, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Regina of Troy; and Sue Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Harrison of Troy.

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Raymond B. Went II, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond B. Went of Southfield, was graduated magna cum laude from Albion College at mid-year.

A physical education and English major, Went also received a teaching certificate.



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