

# Trustee cut sought at Schoolcraft

By TIM RICHARD  
At least one Schoolcraft College trustee may be out of a job after the election of June 1979.

A conference committee of the Michigan Legislature has agreed on a senate version of a bill to reduce Schoolcraft's board from eight trustees to seven.

The house version, favored by a 6-2 majority of the board, would have increased the number of Schoolcraft trustees to nine. Some trustees are bitter.

"THE LEGISLATURE decided again that local autonomy was not of great value," said trustee Gerald Cox. "I will look forward to what the legislature does with Detroit (school) decentralization," added Dr. Cox, an employee of that district.

President C. Nelson Grote reported the conference committee was persuaded by senators that it was more important to bring Schoolcraft's board size in line with other community colleges in the state than to let Schoolcraft have what it wanted.

"I'm very disappointed," said

trustee Rosina Raymond. "This decreases the chances of getting representation from some parts of the district."

When Schoolcraft was organized, it had three trustees elected at large and one from each of the five K-12 districts which make up the college district. Because the K-12 districts were of widely different sizes, a Wayne County Circuit judge in 1971 held that it violated the "one person, one vote" rule of the U.S. Constitution.

Since then, trustees have all been elected at large. The result: Livonia, with about half the population of the Schoolcraft district, has a better chance of electing its residents. Currently six Livonia residents are on the board; Garden City has one; Plymouth-Canton, one (a transplanted Livonian); Northville and Clarenceville, none.

BOARD MEMBERS themselves are a little embarrassed that so many are Livonians. They see a larger board as enabling candidates from the smaller communities to slip in to victory in third place.

The legislative bill—if the house concurs in the conference report and the governor signs it—will take effect with the 1979 biennial election.

The terms of board President Paul Y. Kadish of Livonia, Secretary Nancy Blatt of Livonia and Dr. Coy of Garden City are due to expire. With only two trustees to be elected, one of the three is bound to lose.

Political odds would favor Kadish and Mrs. Blatt, both of whom have had additional public exposure by their 1977 runs for the legislature, assuming name recognition is a factor.

"THEY PAID absolutely no attention to what three-fourths of the board thought was right," Kadish said of the legislative committee.

"We're a charter institution. We were organized under a different law. We're unique."

Kadish said legislators were inconsistent because, while requiring uniform board sizes for community colleges, they talk of diversity of programs.

Kadish and trustee Mark McQuesten blasted the vote of State Sen. R. Robert Geake (R-Northville), a former Schoolcraft board chairman.

"He opposed the wishes of three-quarters of the board," said Kadish.

"He has done himself and the college a disservice," added McQuesten.

Mrs. Blatt praised the efforts of State Rep. Robert Law (R-Livonia), who "stuck his neck out" in urging both houses to give Schoolcraft a nine-member board.

The legislative decision might have been anticipated, however. The senate generally calls the shots on bills and appropriations affecting higher education, while the house originates most legislation affecting K-12 districts.

# Reckless driving charge on Mungons

Thomas Mungons, 16, of 6776 Lelie Court in West Bloomfield, was charged with reckless driving in an October accident which seriously injured his companion, Laurie Wineman, according to Ptl. Dale Richmond.

Reckless driving is punishable by up to 90 days imprisonment and \$100 fine or both for adults. But since Mungons is only 16, he will be referred to juvenile court.

Ms. Wineman, Richmond says, has been transferred to St. Joseph Mercy rehabilitation clinic from Pontiac General Hospital, where she has been since the accident. She may be sent home in about six weeks.

According to police reports, Mungons was driving on Walnut Lake Road west of Drake at 10:45 p.m., Oct. 22, when his car went out of control, spun sideways hitting a stump and flipped over the embankment.

The driver received minor injuries, but Ms. Wineman sustained head injuries when she was pinned in the car which landed on its roof.

Police said Mungons told them he and his friend had been drinking and eating at the Starboard Tack restaurant in Farmington Hills earlier that night.

Charges were delayed pending reports on the girls' condition. A coronal Hospital, where she has been since the accident. She may be sent home in about six weeks.

Against the restaurant for serving liquor to minors. That complaint is still under investigation.

# Oakway maestro appears at sports, variety show

Oakway Symphony leader Francesco DiBlasi will be featured at "All Sports and Variety Show" on Feb. 17 at Harrison High School.

Besides the mastery of the trumpet, DiBlasi carries with him a wealth of credentials. He has been the assistant conductor of the Buffalo Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, conductor of the Detroit Little Symphony, and has been associated with the Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo, Michigan Opera Company and the Pontiac Symphony Orchestra.

He has conducted the Philadelphia Orchestra and the Scandinavian Symphony and the St. Cecilia Orchestra of Rome.

DiBlasi has played the trumpet since the age of three years and when he was 12-years-old he was a featured soloist at the 1939 World's Fair in New York.

The "All Sports and Variety Show," co-sponsored by the Farmington Chamber of Commerce and the New Farmington Community Band, is designed to raise funds for the band.

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For further information call Bill Conroy at 474-3311.



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