

GOP's rising star aimed at Austin

Larsen keen for combat

By MICHAEL MATUSZEWSKI

For months, State Rep. Mel Larsen (R-Oxford) has been straining to take on Democratic Secretary of State Richard Austin one on one.

Michigan Republicans made it official last weekend, naming the rising Oakland County Republican star their candidate by acclamation.

Larsen was off and running even before his comrades cloaked him with the nomination at the state convention in Detroit. Even before Republicans met in district caucuses, "Elect Michigan's Mel Larsen Secretary of State" signs dotted metropolitan freeways.

It didn't take Larsen long to fire the opening salvo of his official campaign. "Speaking before the Michigan AFL-CIO convention in Dearborn, Dick Austin said as long as he's secretary of state, voter registration will be his highest priority," Larsen said.

"If Mel Larsen is elected secretary of state, he'll give the saving of lives—especially teenage lives—on the highways of Michigan the highest priority."

TRAFFIC SAFETY has been long overlooked, Larsen contends. Since 1972, he said, the number of teen fatalities has doubled and the number of accidents has increased significantly.

"We have to have an overall policy to reduce the fatalities, the accidents and save Michigan's drivers money," he says.

"We have got to take a look at driver education. There has to be greater attention to programs. There has to be work on skills and attitude."



Adding an Oakland County flavor to the top of the Republican fall ticket is secretary of state candidate Mel Larsen (center), a three-term state representative, with running mates Sen. Robert Griffin (left) and Gov. William G. Milliken, both of Traverse City. (staff photo)

The secretary of state, Larsen said, is in the best position to effectuate change. The secretary of state chairs a special safety commission whose membership is drawn from the office of education, the highway commission and the state police.

HIS EMPHASIS ON traffic safety and a no-nonsense acceptance speech struck a responsive chord with his supporters. Those supporters—black, white, young, old, metro Detroiters and outstates—rallied and demonstrated for 15 minutes, giving an orderly Republican State Convention its only hoopla.

Larsen, 41, with touches of gray hair lending to an already distinguished appearance, is regarded as one of the party's most charismatic figures. He and Silvernia Q. Kanoyton, who won a nomination for the State Board of Education, captured the hearts of delegates.

A former principal and football coach at Pontiac Catholic High School, Larsen has been able to excite and involve newly-enfranchised voters and pre-voting teens.

"He's very open and sincere," said 18-year-old Carol Ann Michel of Birmingham, explaining her support for Larsen. "Whatever he says you can take in full belief. He doesn't beat around the bush like most politicians do."

"His sincerity comes through in whatever he's doing," said Republican delegate Jo Anne Van Tassel, an Orion Township trustee who delivered one of Larsen's seconding speeches.

"He just has unusual rapport with people," she said.

SOME PEOPLE have questioned his decision to scrap with the established Dick Austin. Some have tabbed him a sacrificial lamb.

Larsen's supporters, however, argue he is hardly a lamb and is anything but sacrificial.

"Dick Austin can be beaten," Larsen says confidently. "It's going to take organization, effort and ability to provide alternative."

Of his decision to tangle with Austin, he said, "I wanted to see if I can be a statewide candidate. This is an opportunity for me to put it together for myself."

You Don't Want To Miss This One!
THE 1978

Billiard News National Open Pocket Billiard Championships

Labor Day Weekend, Sept. 1,2,3,4, 1978

STARRING SOME OF THE GREATEST POOL PLAYERS IN THE WORLD IN MICHIGAN'S GREATEST POOL TOURNAMENTS



1976 A.B.C. SUPER STAR, JEAN BALUKAS



WILLIE MUNSON IRVING CRANE
MIKE CARELLA STEVE MIZERAK MARK BEILFUSS DALLAS WEST

ALMOST 9000.00 in prizes
SANCTIONED BY P.P.P.A. & W.P.B.A.

TRICK SHOT EXHIBITION
MONDAY, SEPT. 4, 7:30 P.M.

CO-SPONSORED BY
H.W.T. MALI CO., NEW YORK, N.Y.
Tri-County Easter Seal Soc. for Crippled Children

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| BANNER AMUSEMENT CO.
Southfield | IVORY PALACE
Waterford Twp. |
| CUSHION 'N CUE RECREATION CENTERS
Allen Park/Livonia/Oak Park | SAFFRON BILLIARD SUPPLIES
Royal Oak |
| FRASER CUE CLUB
Farm | TOP-NOTCH VENDING CO.
Detroit |

TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE DOOR
—OR AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS—
Prior to Start of Tournament

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CUSHION 'N CUE
27630 Schoolcraft
Livonia 422-9510 | CUSHION 'N CUE
23137 Coolidge
Oak Park 641-1608 | CUSHION 'N CUE
4200 Allen Rd.
Allen Park 365-9787 |
| FRASER 'Q' CLUB
16555 14 Mile Rd.
Farm 293-9722 | IVORY PALACE
5943 Highland Rd.
Waterford Twp. 673-9389 | Q MASTER BILLIARD
SALES & SERVICE
3297 12 Mile Rd., Berkey |

WE'LL SEE YOU THERE
MATCHES START 7 P.M. FRIDAY SEPT. 1st

CUSHION 'N CUE

27630 SCHOOLCRAFT LIVONIA
at Inster in Buckingham Center
Call 422-9510 for Information
Photos Courtesy of National Billiard News

General Properties Corporation
280 N. Woodward Avenue
Birmingham, Michigan (313) 645-2122

INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE

Raymond K. Rubiner, President
Senior Member
American Society of Real Estate Appraisers

THE BOARDROOM

For the most interesting ways to keep up appearances.

Somerset Mall • Fairlane Towne Center
(Inside Hughes & Malone)

THE PERFECT SCHOOL DESK COMPANION

CROSS
SINCE 1848
Illustrated Set \$55.00
Engraver Plaque Included
Other Cross Pens from \$7.50

- Free Engraving
- Free Gift Wrapping

George Ohrenstein Jewelers Ltd.
Creative Jeweler—Precision pieces
Diamonds—Precious Stones
HARVARD ROW MALL
11 Mile & Lahar 353-3146

THE CLASSIC CASHMERE SWEATER

This exceptionally soft and light-weight sweater was woven in Scotland of the finest two-ply cashmere. Fully fashioned, v-neck styling. 38-46

\$120.00

Copper & Copper
CHICAGO • DETROIT

WOODWARD AVE • SOMERSET MALL
1571 Woodward Ave. Phone 964-9481 Detroit, 48226

Whoever said you couldn't afford an interior decorator?
Now there is . . .

MARGOLIS INTERIOR DESIGNS

- FREE CUSTOM DECORATOR SERVICE
- QUALITY BRAND-NAME MERCHANDISE
- SUBSTANTIAL DISCOUNT PRICES

GET YOUR BEST DEAL—
... THEN CALL US LAST!

FOR FREE HOME CONSULTATION, CALL
559-4796

GREAT SKI SALE NOW!!

ALPINE
SKI & TENNIS

4702 N. Woodward Ave.
Royal Oak, Mich. 48072
(313) 549-7474

The Racquet Room at
Franklin Racquet Club
(313) 358-8420

Back to the Books . . .

Specials at
Silver's

Step to the Head of the Class.
With **Pentel**

Regular 89¢
at Silver's **69¢**

SMOOTH! EXPRESSIVE!
Rolling Writer

- Liquid ink rolls on for expressive writing
- Harder—more durable—than a fiber tip
- Smoother than a ball-point and makes carbons, too!

While quantities last

Texas Instrument TI 30 Student Math Kit
Regular \$21.95
at Silver's **\$17.95**
for high school & beyond

Silver's

We make business look better.
Tel Twelve Mall
Southfield
883-4410

CALL US BEFORE YOU BUY!

Attention Homeowners!

8 Self-storing, storm and screen combination aluminum windows.

\$259.95
INSTALLED (No Hidden Charges)
(Up to 80 united inches)

We custom design, manufacture, install, service and guarantee all of our products.

2 1/2" operation in custom made porch enclosures, awnings, storm windows and screens, storm doors and replacement windows of all types.
Expert replacement of Thermo Pane window and doors—all glass.

Expert Quality & Workmanship Since 1947

State Wide Aluminum Products
25550 Grand River—Redford Twp.
535-0300 License #47730

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:30-5:30
Sat. 8 a.m.-3:30

100% Bank Financing, Mastercharge, Visa

"Visit our Modern Showroom or we will visit with you in your home"