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## Rec leaders see trouble

## Federal cuts fought; DNR shakeup worrisome

Professionals say public recreation is in deep trouble with the fed-

rotessionals say public recreation is in deep trouble with the federal and state governments.

Not only are Oakland County parks and other solurban projects and other solurban projects solution in section of the solution in supprise deteriorating.

"I was supprise deteriorating, "and Keily Kendall, attending her first Michiga Recreation conference in Dearborn this superioration on the solution of the solution o

specific problems.

THE EXCHANGE occurred during a daylong meeting of the Governor's Recreation Advisory Committee, a 17-member panel headed by outspoken Harriet Saperstein of Detroit. It held its quarterly meeting in the MRPA convention hotel to meet with the professionals. A chief worry, said Saperstein, is that the Reagan Administration wants to rescind federal aid, collected from offshore oil drilling revenues, for recreation projects. Michigan counties, cities and townships had lined up for \$2.4 million of that money this year, planning to match it with local funds.

Examples: Oakland County sought \$130,000 for 48 modern campattes at Groveland Oaks Park Farmington Hills wanted \$80,000 for Heritage Park plenic facilities and a basketball court; Pontiac wanted \$125,000 for Galloway Lake Park access road, parking aras and child play slite; the suburban Wayne cities of Inkster, Taylor and Wyandotte sought money for everything from tot lots to a bandshell. Congress has 45 days, starting Jan. 5, to concur. The governor's advisory panel agreed to ask the congressional delegation to flight the cut.

OTHER WORRIES listed during the public comments portion of the

the public comments portion of the meeting:

• The state Department of Natorial Resources has been reorganized with the previous Recreation Services Division being lumped into a new division being lumped into a new division with Waterways and Engineering.

"We are positively paranoid about the recreation division," said John Greenslit, executive director of MRPA. "It's going to disappear like the buffalo."

• Recreation services chief Jo-

Recreation services chief Joseph Scavey is retiring this month

seph Seavey is retiring this month after 37 year.

"Nobody in the history of the state has had more impact on local recreation," said Wayne County's Reickel, adding he hoped DNR would look outside its own ranks for a successor because no one on the internal horizon is up to it.

• Recreation was excluded from



REric Reickel speaking out

the Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism, Releckel said.

• Kerry Kammer and Thomas J. Anderson, two former legislators serving on the Natural Resources Commission, upset recreation people by saying money from the land trust approved by voters in 1984 would go increasingly for land acquisition and less for development.

"That really bothers citles which don't have any more land," Greensilt said.

said.

• The state Legislature falled to act on, and Gov. James J. Blanchard falled to support, a 1986 bil by Sen. Harry DeMaso, R-Battle Creek, to create a 20th department of state government devoted to Tourism, Recreation and Culture.

"Recreation should be the 20th de-

partment," said Reickel, "and if it shouldn't, maybe it should be under Commerce, which recognizes its im-

portance."
Relekel was alluding to a speech MRPA heard the previous evening by commerce director Doug Ross. A key economic strategist in the Blanchard Administration, Ross delighted MRPA by saying that a superior quality of life, enhanced by recrational opportunities, helps business attract brainpower.

reational opportunities, helps business attract brainpower.

SAPERSTEIN prodded the governor's advisory committee to take a total and a several issues.

One is to seek a bigger portion of the committee of the c

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1100 Sale Sale priced placets and vests, Value 580 to 5150, Now 540 to 5120.
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| Sale priced now at \$15.
| 30 Calvin Klein boxer shorts. Value 99.
| Sale priced now at \$15.
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| 585. Sale priced now at \$39.
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| Sale priced now at \$29.
| 31 Freenan shoes. Value \$75. Now \$35.
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| Now \$59.
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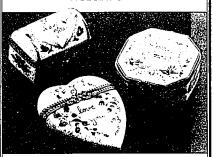


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