

Engler to announce bid for governor



John Engler
GOP candidate

By Tim Richard
staff writer

John Engler will make it official this afternoon in front of the City-County Building in Detroit.

After touring all 83 of Michigan's counties to round up support for his Republican bid for governor, Engler is flying to five county buildings today to announce he intends to end Democrat James Blanchard's hold on the governor's office.

"New priorities, not new taxes," will be Engler's theme. He will make pouring more money from the state's general fund into public education his priority.

A second theme will be business — not playing favorites with state investment money and an end to political use of the Commerce Department.

"THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN De-

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troit will underscore that John has visited every county in the state," said an aide.

So far, Engler has an unopposed shot at the Republican nomination. In the last year, he has been touring the state to build his support committee and mend fences. He was

guest speaker at most of the GOP Lincoln Day banquets, including those in Oakland and western Wayne counties.

Engler, 41, of Mount Pleasant, has been majority leader of the state Senate since Republicans took control in 1983 after two Democratic

senators were recalled in a taxpayers' rebellion.

SUPPORTERS, such as Sen. Robert Geake of Northville, see Engler as a tireless worker who can weld together the disparate elements of the Republican Party — from suburban moderates to farm-belt conservatives.

The opposition sees him as a partisan conniver who's not above helping his central Michigan district ahead of other regions.

A farm boy who learned his politics in the local 4-H club, Engler has been a legislator virtually all his adult life. After graduating from Michigan State University, he defeated an incumbent Republican state representative to win the first of four two-year terms in the House. In 1978 he won the first of three Senate terms.

Along the way, he earned a juris doctor degree from Cooley Law School in Lansing.

clarification

MEAP scores			
Grade	4/5	7/8	10/11
Avondale			
Math	93.1	86.2	86.6
Reading	42.6	38.3	36.3
Science	77.4	53.5	52.6

A story on Michigan Educational Assessment Program scores in last Thursday's Observer & Eccentric should have reported seventh grade math and reading scores for Avondale School District as 86.2 and 38.3, respectively.

Both MEAP scores are above statewide averages which are 74.0 in math and 33.1 in reading.

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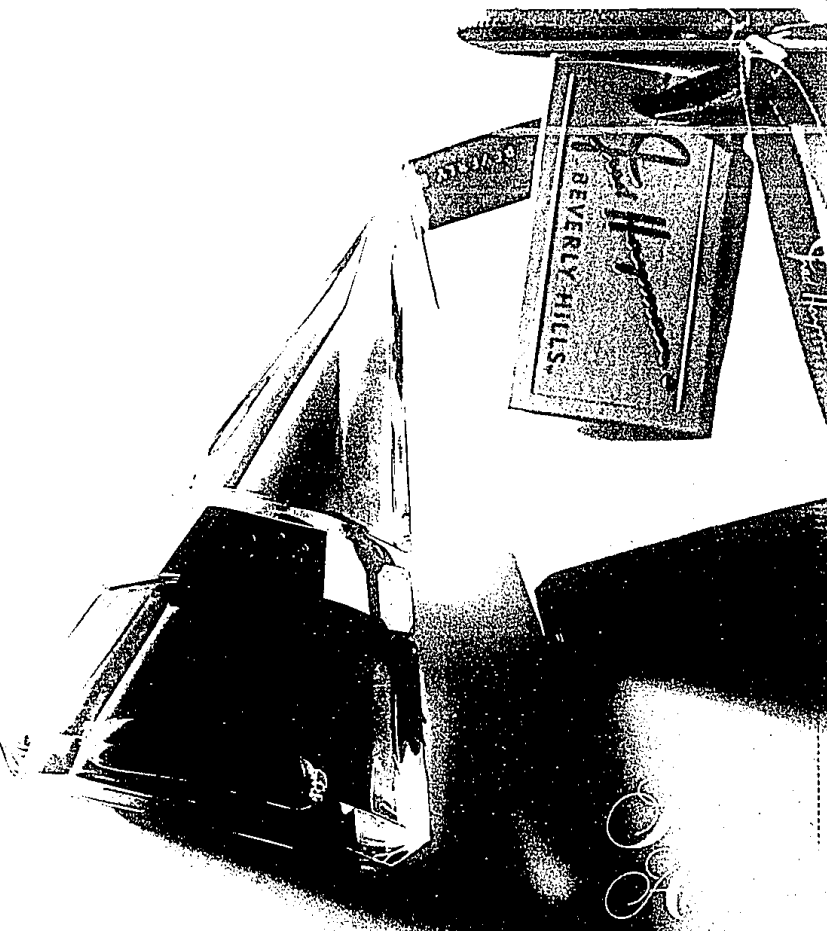
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