

Boswell Asks Ouster Of Schoolcraft Board

EDITOR:

Although the coverage given to my position on the Schoolcraft constitutionality issue in your paper has always been enormously prejudiced—for some reason which was never made quite clear to me—I am sending you a press release concerning my feelings on the latest legal pronouncement.

Now that the board has been declared unconstitutional, as I have been stating for the past three years, what would you say about board members who live in Livonia who hadn't tried to protect the voting rights of Livonia citizens?

I think you owe me a small apology for implying that my conduct was irresponsible. Just because the other seven members of that board are unable or unwilling to conceptualize what the law in America is all about does not mean that I have to willingly and knowingly acquiesce to their shortcomings or irresponsibilities. In fact, if you had been behind me, this problem would have been settled a long time ago.

I am asking for your support in my fight to get the last paragraph in the press release put into action.

"The State Legislature should act immediately and under emergency authority

with the help of the judicial branch of the government to put this unconstitutional board out of office once and for all—never to be permitted or anyone on it—the opportunity to do anything else to or for the community college."

How do you think I would feel, insofar as my responsibilities are concerned, letting a known unconstitutional board utilize the same lack of representation dictate the future of the college?

DR. JAMES W. BOSWELL
Schoolcraft College
Trustee from Livonia

EDITOR'S NOTE: Dr. Boswell, who is still legally a trustee although he hasn't attended a college board meeting in more than a year, is entitled to his opinion of the Schoolcraft board and Observer Newspapers, but he is off-base on a number of facts:

1. It is a fact that it has been impossible for us to report his opinion because he has been absent from the best forum for presenting his opinion—the board meetings.

2. It is a fact that we have attempted to call Dr. Boswell, but it is also a fact that his telephone number is unlisted. Even sources at the University of Michigan,

where he studied, had no telephone number for him. Even after we pointed this out in print, Dr. Boswell chose not to have his number listed in the 1971 directory.

3. If Dr. Boswell had wanted to communicate to the public through our news or letters columns, he was free to write a letter to the editor. The fact is that until the above letter was received April 12, he failed to do so.

4. It is a fact that Observer Newspapers, in news columns and editorials, pointed out that the U. S. Supreme Court decision governing apportionment of community college boards could well be applied to Schoolcraft College.

5. It is a fact that a circuit judge ruled the present Schoolcraft apportionment unconstitutional, but he chose NOT to remove the board, as Dr. Boswell suggested.

Instead, he simply called for a new election, and no responsible judicial authority has agreed "to put this unconstitutional board out of office once and for all."

6. Dr. Boswell should have known that his position would never be upheld. It is a fact that no court, in an apportionment case, has ever put a legislative body out of office on the spot, as Dr. Boswell

READERS' FORUM

Letters must be limited to 300 words.

Letters must be signed, with the writer's address. Names will be withheld only at the writer's request and for good cause.

Please type or write plainly.

The editor reserves the right to reject unsuitable letters.

suggests. Thus, Dr. Boswell's decision to boycott Schoolcraft board meetings has received no judicial support whatsoever, and his protest has been completely in vain.

Dr. Boswell may have personal or political reasons for wanting to put the board out of office, but the fact is that there is no legal or constitutional basis for doing so.

Unions Ignore Tech Trainees

EDITOR:

If the statements that Supt. Upton made are true about the school millage election, I think he better re-examine the teaching methods Livonia uses and start teaching the children.

The present set-up is turning out a lot of dummies that can't pass entrance exams when they apply for jobs. I

think there are too many chiefs and not enough Indians in the Livonia schools.

A voc-tech high school is a waste of time for a child. The unions and companies don't accept the training the child would get from voc-tech schools. He still has to pass their entrance exams and take these courses and take courses which pertain to the job he is going into as well as spend about four years or more as an apprentice.

Supt. Upton makes about three or four times as much as an average family makes. The voters have spoken and the millage issue should be forgotten.

This suggestion about police having a college education is a joke too. We don't need police behind desks or making speeches. We need police where the action is and a policeman with a col-

lege education doesn't care for that assignment.

DONALD DEMAN
Livonia

Bishop Is Disappointment

EDITOR:

The New York Times of March 7 carried a three-quarter page advertisement of a "people's peace plan" which was sponsored by the National Student Association and endorsed by many prominent individuals.

The U. S. State Department has been quoted as stating that this peace plan is essentially "the same as has been advocated over the past two years by the Communist delegates in Paris" and that these proposals "have not proved acceptable to any political group in South Vietnam except the Viet Cong."

Among the list of endorsers from Michigan was the Rev. Thomas J. Gumbleton, auxiliary bishop and vicar general of the Archdiocese of Detroit.

I do not take issue with the Bishop's anti-war stand. However, as a Catholic, it grieves me to learn of my own bishop's endorsement of a position which has been advocated by the Communists and the Viet Cong. The same VC and Communies which have driven out of North Vietnam over one million Vietnamese brother Catholics.

Pope Paul VI also has proposed a peace plan for Vietnam. As yet, I have not seen an ad in any of the local or Catholic publications endorsing the pope's plan with a list of endorsers, among whom prominently should be the Apostles of the church, namely the bishops.

Viet Cong—sil! Pope Paul—nyet?

CASIMER J. KANIA
Redford Township

Parkland Desecrated

EDITOR:

Last spring a construction company occupied a number of acres of Livonia's park land for storing fill dirt, tile, cement, field-office, etc. The council, which is the only authority to issue such permission, did not grant this authority, nor did they condone it or attempt to vacate the violators.

The mayor, who has not the authority, gave them permission and did not condone the squatters. While using the park lands, they saved many thousands of dollars (the construction company, not the taxpayers) and you and I paid the shot.

After many months of "free rent," the ugly mess was mostly cleaned up and the land leveled and seeded in the fall. It became a lush green meadow by snowfall. This spring it has become part of a trail for the use of heavy equipment and a parking area of these city trucks now starting to develop the park.

The eventual entrance route to the park is being ignored. For the City of Livonia, it's "seed in the fall, drive on it in the spring." I, for one, will be heartsick to see this area at Six Mile and Hubbard turned into another ugly mess this year too.

Now that the city has come to use slogans like "Keep Livonia Beautiful," and words like "ecology" and "conservation," it's high time they learned to practice what they preach.

ALFRED D. YOUNG
Livonia

Fun Films For Children

EDITOR:

Some weeks ago a letter appeared in your column

regarding the payment of \$9,000 by Skipper's Table restaurant to Mai-Kai Theatre for special showings of children's films on Saturday mornings at 11 a.m.

There is such a scarcity of movies that are suitable for young children in our area that my children had forgotten what a big movie screen looked like, but I took them to the Skipper's Table theater party last Saturday and the movie, "The Magic Sword," was most entertaining.

Unfortunately, not too many Observerland people know of this fine program

and there were many unoccupied seats.

Please, everyone, take advantage of their interest in our community and also give your children a chance to enjoy a "fun" morning.

MRS. GORDON W. DAVIS
Westland

Farmingtonite

Nancy Kourjian, author of a letter in last week's Readers' Forum on Farmington school question, is a Farmington resident, not a Livonian as listed under her signature.



Thomas F. Rost, manager of the beautiful new Harris Funeral Home in Garden City, combines youth with the practical know-how and the wisdom that comes from being brought up in the Harris tradition. Tom's grandfather and great-grandfather were founders of the firm.

"I learned early," says Tom, "that funeral direction requires ability as well as a kind heart. People who experience a death in the family need more than understanding, they need someone they can rely upon to handle the many details. That's why we strive to be sympathetic professionals."

David Whitney is a Harris professional whose thoughtful service has been appreciated by thousands of people. David is manager of the superbly appointed Harris Funeral Home in Livonia.

Each of these top Harris directors reflects the helpful concern for people which has been a Harris hallmark for over half a century. There are five Harris Funeral Homes conveniently located to serve the metropolitan area.

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IS
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Performance
at the

LIVONIA MALL
Friday, April 16

7:00 p.m., Crowley Court

A Henry K. Martin Production



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