

Dems push public works; GOP eyes tax cuts

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

Legislative Democrats will push a public works program, financed by bonds, to jumpstart the Michigan economy.

Republicans will offer property tax cuts, tort reform and deregulation of business.

All have high new year's hopes for a session that will begin Jan. 26 with Gov. John Engler's state of the state address, followed in early February by a possible two-year budget.

"I hope to see an easing of the combative and counterproductive partisan politics that caused gridlock on many issues in the past," said Sen. Mat Dunaskis, R-Lake Orion, issuing a 90-day agenda.

"With Bill Clinton in the White House," said House Democratic leaders, "we're beginning a new era of governmental investment to produce good paying employment."

Rep. Kirk Profit, D-Ypsilanti, emerged as one of the House Democratic leaders pushing a

LANSING

plan to use \$1 billion in state bonds to create 70,000 jobs. The money would be used on roads, bridges, airports, harbors, rail lines, environmental technology, waste management processes, sewer systems, university and college renovation and maintenance.

"Right now, Michigan universities have about \$500 million worth of unmet maintenance and renovation needs, with \$200 million worth considered 'critical,'" said Profit, whose district includes Eastern Michigan University.

Republicans called the plan "sponsoring" not "investment," and said there was no state money to pay for it. Democrats said \$1.2 billion in federal transportation money will be available plus revenues from job creation.

Glut of tax bills

The GOP theme was that Michigan needs less government, not more, and relief for business

as well as homeowners.

First to drop a bill in the hopper was Sen. Gil DiNello, R-Macomb County. His SB 1 would roll back the state equalized valuation (SEV), on which property taxes are based, from 50 percent of market value to 40 percent by 1994.

Senators, with four-year terms, weren't slowed their first day by the reorganization process. They managed to introduce 139 bills the first day (Jan. 13) — 47 by DiNello and 13 by David Honigman, R-West Bloomfield.

Honigman's measures covered regionalizing the Detroit water

department, pet cemeteries, worker disabilities and occupational safety.

Sen. Robert Geake, R-Northville, said he was preparing 16 bills covering worker training, creating trailways and fighting "sexual predators" such as serial rapists and child molesters.

Sen. Dunaskis announced "my legislative agenda for the first 90 days" as including property tax reform, budget reform, a federal balanced budget amendment, energy policy, affordable health care, tort reform and auto insurance reform.

None of those, however, was in-

troduced the first day. Dunaskis co-sponsored a capital outlay bill for the Department of Natural Resources and sponsored an amendment to the 1978 Solid Waste Act.

Only one Democrat, Michael O'Brien of northwest Detroit, introduced a first day bill.

Calendar change

The biggest single change may be in the calendar. Senate majority leader Dick Posthumus, R-Alto, issued a cal-

endar calling for two-week Easter break and adjournment by the end of May.

Rep. Jan Dolan, R-Farmington Hills, ranks as No. 3 in her party in the House — co-associate speaker pro tempore.

No. 1 is Hillemonds; 2, Frank Fitzgerald of Grand Ledge, speaker pro tem.

It means Dolan is likely to preside frequently, though not necessarily during the heaviest debates.

CHIMNEYS

- Cleaned
- Screened
- Repaired
- New

ROOFS

- Repaired
- Re-Roofed
- New
- Leaks Stopped



Karney Denderlan's
CROWN CONTRACTING, INC.

42910 W. 10 Mile, Novi
427-3981
SINCE 1952

- LICENSED
- INSURED
- GUARANTEED

• Senior Citizen Discount

Blanchard SIXTY

◆ 1933 - 1993 ◆

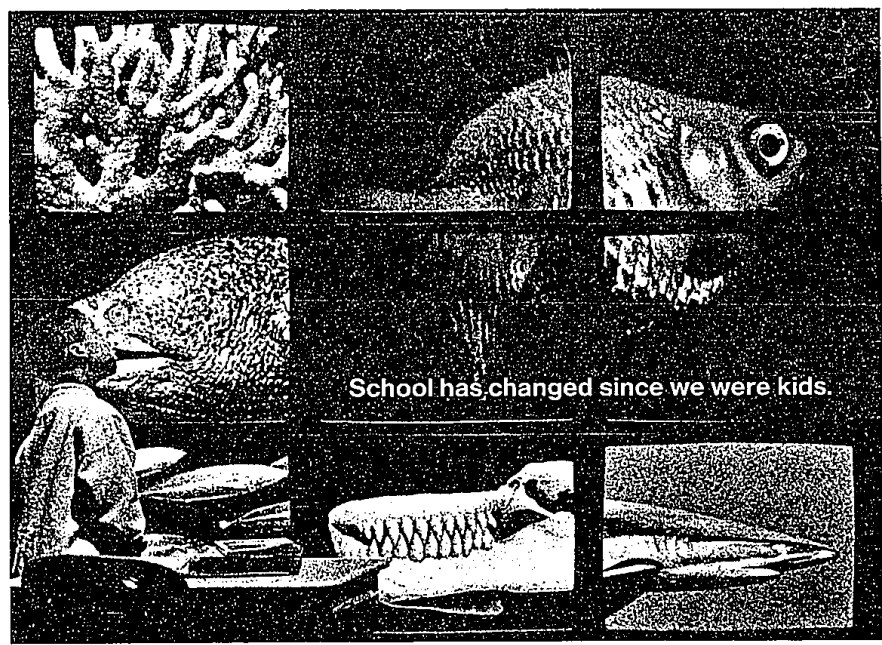
ALASKA BOUND
ALASKA TRAVEL SPECIALIST
Introduction to Cruises & Tours
January 27th, 7:30 P.M.
ALASKA BOUND, LTD.
23006 N. Woodward at I-96
Pleasant Ridge, MI 48068
RSVP 313-548-2420
1-800-ALASKA-7

Largest Selection in Michigan
Dittrich
Since 1839
Detroit Bloomfield Hills
873-8300 642-3000

BEDSPREADS
CUSTOM-MADE
fabrique
DECORATIVE FABRIC & WALLPAPER
750 S. Woodward
Birmingham
644-6505

\$1 MILLION TO SPEND
U.S. PROOF SETS • MINT SETS
GOVT BOX "C.C. \$1"
U.S. Gold Coins
"Sell Where the Dealers Sell!"
BARNETT RARITIES
124 N. W. 10th St., Birmingham, AL 35203
Phone: (205) 644-1124
Since 1971

Eton Academy for students with learning disabilities presents a college night
'Life After High School'
featuring
Oakland Community College
Macomb Community College
Schoolcraft College
Washtenaw College
U.S. Army
Michigan Rehabilitation Services
New Outlooks in Vocational Awareness (NOVA)
DeSisto College and others.
Thursday January 28
7:15 'til 9 PM
Public Invited
Eton Academy, 1775 Melton Birmingham, 48009, 642-1150
Near 14 Mile + 1 Block East of Eton Rd.



School has changed since we were kids.

The traditional classroom we once knew is a thing of the past. In its place are classrooms without walls, where information from all over the globe is accessible at the touch of a finger.

Ameritech, partnering with educators, is proud to be leading the way in making learning more involving and interactive.

In Detroit's Mumford High School, for example, students learn math, science and English through computers, laser discs and other advanced systems in a special Technology Center, which is linked to classrooms, teachers' offices and the library by an Ameritech-designed network.

In the eastern Upper Peninsula, a distance learning network connects teachers and students in eight schools and colleges, allowing them to offer specialized courses that couldn't be justified individually.

Ameritech is committed to helping educators improve the quality of education while energizing students, teachers and parents alike.

These are truly exciting times for the field of education. And the best is yet to come.

To learn more about how Ameritech's vision is benefiting education in Michigan, call 1-800-786-LINK. (For TDD/ITV access, call 1-800-242-9393.)

AMERITECH

Your link to a better life.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| The Ameritech Companies in Michigan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> © Michigan Bell Ameritech Mobile Communications Ameritech Information Systems Ameritech Publishing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ameritech Services Ameritech Development Ameritech Credit Ameritech Audiotex Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ameritech International Knowledge Data Systems NOTIS Systems Dynix |
|--|---|--|---|