

Dems consider candidates to oppose Engler

By TIM RICHARD
STAFF WRITER

As surveys go, the 13th District Democrats have as good a handle on the 1994 gubernatorial sweepstakes as anyone.

Chairman Dick McKnight said 20 delegates (40 percent) prefer state Sen. Debbie Stabenow of Lansing as their candidate for governor.

Another 17 (34 percent) favor former U.S. Rep. Howard Wolpe,

also of Lansing. McKnight conducted the survey among delegates from western Washtenaw and Washtenaw counties attending last weekend's Democratic State Convention in Detroit.

Two delegates liked state Rep. Lyn Jondahl of Okemos. One delegate liked former U.S. Rep. William Broadhead of Southfield, though Broadhead says he's not interested. One vote went to U.S. Rep. Sander Levin of Southfield, former Commerce Director

Doug Ross and Michigan State University trustee Joel Fogusson. And eight delegates checked "none of the above."

Stabenow: 'wrong'

Declaring their interest in challenging Republican Gov. John Engler, Stabenow and Wolpe both addressed the convention. Delegates' applause reflected the 13th District poll.

"I've been beating Republicans

for 18 years, and I can beat John Engler," said Stabenow, in her first Senate term after service in the House and the Ingham County board.

Stabenow stuck to bread-and-butter state issues to disengage Engler "wrong."

"When GM was closing the Ypsilanti plant, John Engler didn't even pick up the phone. Gov. Anne Richards (of Texas) said she'd support me because she

wants a little more competition for jobs."

Stabenow said Engler's proposed 20 percent property tax cut "will devastate our schools, creating a \$1.4 billion loss by the fourth year." She blistered mental health cuts and \$100 million in state fee increases.

Stabenow hit Engler's efforts at privatizing governmental functions. "They're rushing to make contracts with their friends. They

believe government is inherently wrong, and that people don't deserve a living wage."

Wolpe: 'manipulated'

Wolpe was a state representative and Kalamazoo city commissioner before serving 14 years in Congress. He criticized President Bill Clinton's efforts to seek racial harmony.

"John Engler is a grand master of the George Bush school of divide and rule," Wolpe said, accusing Engler of trying to pit labor against business, environmentalists against industry, teachers against parents, Detroit versus outstate and the Upper Peninsula versus lower Michigan.

"People feel manipulated. John Engler, your days are numbered," Wolpe said.

Democrats decorated the hall with posters of Republican President Abraham Lincoln and the acronym "A.B.E." It stands for "Anybody but Engler."

That led one veteran Democrat to shake his head and say, "They're just advertising his name."

OCC sets film, video festival

"Michigan Update '93," a film and video festival featuring screenings of works by Michigan artists, will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 13, at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College (O.C.C.) in Farmington Hills.

The day-long event will include short feature films, documentaries, guest speakers, Michigan music videos, animation and script writing software demonstrations, running concurrently in four rooms.

Among the guest speakers will be award-winning documentary producer Gary Glaser, producer Gary and Nanette Sorensen, filmmakers John Prusak, Tom Ludwig, and David Stern, and writer Dick Rockwell.

Regional productions will include "Reggae: The New Sound" by Yasmin Green of Detroit Black Journal; "Close To Home: The Tammy Becomino Story" by Harvey Ovshinsky; "The Journey of the Chandler-Port Collection" by Sue Marx Films; "Lessons, winner of the American Film Institute's New York Award, "Herby's," which premiered in January at the Redford Theatre, and over two dozen other independent productions.

Also featured will be Academy Award-winning college films, selections from Michigan universities, the best of the Michigan Student Film & Video Festival, Michigan music videos, and animation.

"Michigan Update '93" is the 24th annual festival presented by Detroit Area Film & Television (DAFT), a nonprofit educational association whose mission is to promote literacy in the moving visual arts.

Tickets at the door are \$15 for DAFT and DPA members, \$18 for the general public and \$9 for students and seniors. Pre-transaction discount tickets and pre-paid lunches are available. For more information, call DAFT at (313)557-3133.

The Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College is located at I-696 and Orchard Lake Road. "Michigan Update '93" will be held in Tirrel Hall (Building J).

Builder talks on energy saving

Builder Gary Sabo will make a presentation on putting up affordable energy-efficient houses from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 13, at Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills campus. Admission is free.

Sponsored by OCC's Environmental Systems Technology Program and ENACT, an environmental student association, the program will cover designing, building and financing new super-insulated houses.

Topics will include energy-efficient construction techniques, zero percent down-payment options, air quality control, affordable solar energy applications and owner/builder opportunities.



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