

Team Gorcyca admits old staff

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WRITER

The county's prosecutor-elect has again tapped the staff of outgoing Oakland Prosecutor Richard Thompson for key positions in his new administration.

When David G. Gorcyca succeeds Thompson today, his management team will include four attorneys who have been assistant prosecutors, including some hired by L. Brooks Patterson, the current Oakland County executive who was prosecutor from 1973 to 1988.

Gorcyca announced the

appointments Friday, his second personnel pronouncement in as many weeks. Named to his staff are:

• Joyce Todd of Rochester Hills who will be chief of the Child Sexual Assault Vertical Prosecution Unit.

Todd helped initiate the unit in 1989 and was its first director until 1991. She was head of the Appellate Division under Thompson until Gorcyca appointed Michael J. Modelski to that key position.

Modelski was a key member of Thompson's inner circle until he and his boss had a falling out in

1993 when he went into private practice. He was chief of the Appellate Division for part of the time Gorcyca was an assistant prosecutor.

• Lisa Tomko of Clinton Township in Macomb County will be chief of the prosecutor's Juvenile Court Division. She had worked in the Juvenile Court Division for about six years until 1995 when she was transferred to the Warrants Division.

• John Slavin of Howell will continue as chief of the prosecutor's District Court Division, a post he

has held under the Thompson administration since 1990.

• David Case of Troy will continue as chief of the Family Support Division, a position he has held for 20 years.

Earlier in the month, Gorcyca announced the appointments of John N. O'Brien II as his new chief assistant; Ronald E. Covault, director of litigation; Jim Halushka, director of warrants and investigations; Mary A. Larkin, director of administration; and Modelski, director of appeals, research and training.

Endangered zebra born at Detroit Zoo

The Detroit Zoo is proud to announce the birth of a very endangered Grevy's zebra (Equus grevyi).

This is the first Grevy's zebra birth in 56 years at the Zoo. This foal, a male named Sidonius, was born on Nov. 14 and can be seen, weather permitting, in the African mammals exhibit next to the giraffes at the Zoo.

Sidonius has been making day trips with his mother, Elvira, to their outdoor yard. Currently, he weighs 120 pounds and stands about two feet tall. When fully grown, he will weigh more than 800 pounds and stand 5 feet tall at the shoulder. Sidonius' father, Benjamin, will be kept in a separate area until Sidonius is a little older.

"Anytime we have a birth at the Zoo it's a wonderful event, but welcoming a newborn during the holiday season is even more special," said Ron Kagan, director of the Detroit Zoological Institute (DZI). "Sidonius' arrival is a wonderful holiday gift for everyone who enjoys the Detroit Zoo."

Baby zebras are native to the grasslands of Kenya and Tanzania in eastern Africa. Extensive hunting for their

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hides has drastically reduced their population. There are believed to be only about 5,000 Greys left in the wild.

Grevy's zebras are larger than the more common Plains zebra, and have thinner stripes. Zebras are grazing animals that can run at speeds approaching 40 miles per hour when threatened by predators.

The Detroit Zoo opens at 10 a.m. 362 days a year. It is located at the intersection of Ten Mile Road and Woodward Avenue, just off I-936, in Royal Oak.

Regular admission is \$7.50 for adults; \$5.50 for senior citizens 62 and older and students; \$4.50 for children ages 2 to 12 and free for children under two.

Schindler named OCC Auburn chief

The Oakland Community College Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Diann Schindler president of the Auburn Hills Campus at its regular meeting.

Schindler, who assumes her new post on or before March 1, comes to OCC from Minneapolis Community and Technical College where she has served as president since Sep. 1995. Among other accomplishments during her presidency, she led the process consolidating Minneapolis Technical College with Minneapolis Community College, and set a system in place to redefine the merged institution and its mission.

From 1993 to 1995, Schindler was executive dean, student affairs, at the four-campus Milwaukee Area Technical College. Between 1990 and 1993 she served as vice president, instruc-

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tional services, at Nicolet College in Rhinelander, Wis.

Previously, Schindler had served in a variety of posts, including director of the community education, extensions and community service division at Olympic College, Bremerton, Wash., and acting director of institutional research at Lorain Community College, Elyria, Ohio. She has also taught English at high school and college levels.

Schindler holds a Ph.D. in education (with a certificate in higher education administration)

from the University of Akron, where she also earned an M.A. in English education. She received her A.B. in English from Oberlin College, and has completed postgraduate studies at Harvard and Cleveland State Universities.

Among Schindler's publications are "Conflict Management and the Negotiating Process," published in National Issues in Higher Education and "Alpha Learning," published in The Cleveland Plain Dealer. She has also been a presenter, keynote speaker, and panelist in a wide

variety of workshops, conferences, television and radio programs.

Active in civic, professional and philanthropic groups, Schindler served on the Private Industry Workforce Council in Minneapolis. She chaired the Legislative Committee of the Rhinelander, Wis. Chamber of Commerce and served on that city's Private Industry Council. At Olympic College she was a member of the Kirtland County (Wash.) Commission on Children and Youth.

OCC is the largest of Michigan's 28 community colleges, with five campuses serving 26,000 students during a typical semester.

The Auburn Hills Campus is noted for programs in advanced technologies and other career fields.

'96 goal exceeded by local donators

More than \$5.9 million has been pledged to the United Way of Oakland County 1996 Campaign, exceeding the \$6.75 million goal by more than \$150,000.

The announcement was made at the United Way Board of Directors meeting Monday, Dec. 16 by Ronald B. Borggesser, deputy executive director, Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency.

Board members congratulated campaign chairman Tom Brady of General Motors and his team of volunteers for raising \$5,917,524.

"We owe a great deal of the success to General Motors and Chrysler employees, along with UAW members," said Borggesser.

He reported that a number of organizations were still running United Way drives, such as the City of Pontiac and Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital. Companies with exceptional results include: Great Lakes Bancorp with an increase of 62 percent over last year; The Oakland Press, where employee and corporate giving was up 24 percent; ITT Automotive increased 40 percent; UAW Center for Human Resources increased 59 percent and Hubert Distributors was up 61 percent.

Other local employee groups reporting successful results were: Oakland County, Road Commission for Oakland County, Jenkins, Magnus Volk and Carroll, Dana Corporation, Saturn North and Service Merchandise.

"The community-wide fund drive is not the only way United Way of Oakland County puts money into human services," said Borggesser. "United Way staff and volunteers work hard to attract government and foundation grants to serve the people of North Oakland County."

Borggesser reported that over the past 12 months the organization has helped in securing \$3,633,471 in grant funding.

"This brings United Way's investment in the community to over \$9.5 million, proving that United Way of Oakland County is the best way for people to care for one another."

"Thanks to everyone who gave from their heart this year," he said, "and if you haven't given yet, there's still time to get the tax advantage for 1996. Call (810) 456-8805, ext. 112 for information."

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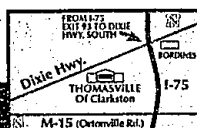
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