Rocky's Coattails Longest To Local Republicans

By TIM RICHARD

If Nelson Rockefeller were heading the Republican ticket, he would help "marginal" GOP congressmen--such as Marvin Esch and Jack McDonald--get re-elected better than Richard Nixon.

This conclusion made a great impression on some Observer-land Republicans who are part of the Michigan delegation to the GOP National Convention which opens Aug. 5.

The Michigan group Wednesday held its last pre-convention caucus in a Southfield restaurant, with the main business being the results of a survey made for the Republican State Central Committee by a private polling firm.

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THE FIRM IS Market Opinion Research, Inc., headed by Richard Oudersluys. The firm is probably best known for doing The Detroit News election-year surveys.

The survey matched Nixon and Rockefeller against Vice President Hubert Humphrey, the probable Democratic nominee, in statewide and regional polls.

Statewide, Rockefeller led Humphrey by a scant 1.7 per cent, and Nixon trailed Humphrey by a hairline 0.3 per cent.

"It's fairly obvious Nixon, Rockefeller and Humphrey are running neck-and-neck in the state," said Henry Sladek, Livonia executive who is an alternate delegate-at-large to the national convention.

But to Sladek's mind, an important question is: What can the presidential candidate do for the total slate? And both he and Mrs. Delores Kory, Redfordite who is a delegate from the 19th district, were impressed by Rockefeller's running in the "marginal" congressional districts.

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IN THOSE FIVE districts, Nixon trails Humphrey, 28.8 to 30.8 per cent. But Rockefeller leads Humphrey substantially, 30.8 to 23.1 per cent.

Those five districts, pulled away from the Democrats in 1966, are represented by Esch (2nd, including Plymouth), McDonald (19th, including Redford, Livonia and Farmington), Garry Brown (3rd, Kalamazoo), Donald Riegle (7th, Flint), and Philip Ruppe (11th, Upper Peninsula).

"This is the thing I'm going to be guided by," said Mrs. Kory. She said she would do her own checking among suburbanites before departing for the Miami Beach convention.

Sladek agreed that Rockefeller would have better pulling power for Republicans at the local level than would Nixon.

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"NIXON'S ADVANTAGE is geographical," said Sladek, "but Rockefeller's is evenly spread throughout the state."

The Oudersluys survey showed:

In "safe Republican" areas, Nixon led Humphrey 41.6 to 19.5 per cent, while Rockefeller had a smaller advantage over Humphrey, 34.8 to 17.7.

In "safe Democratic" districts, Nixon trailed Humphrey 18.5 to 43.5 per cent, but Rockefeller's loss margin was smaller, 20.9 to 39.0.

California's Republican Gov. Ronald Reagan and Sen. Eugene McCarthy, D-Minn., were given only light treatment by the pollster. Both Rockefeller and Nixon ran substantially ahead of McCarthy. Reagan ran about the same as McCarthy.

DESPITE ITS scanning of other candidates, the Michigan Republicans reaffirmed their decision to back Gov. George Romney as a favorite son, at least on the third ballot.

In earlier meetings, the 48-vote Michigan delegation had heard both Nixon and Rockefeller, but Reagan declined an invitation on the ground that he is not a presidential candidate.

Wednesday's meeting was the last for the Michigan delegation until the morning of Aug. 5, when it will caucus in Miami Beach.

Overload Can Lead To Accident

The Allstate Motor Club reminds motorists planning their summer vacations that a car heavily loaded with vacation gear demands increased driving care.

In heavily loaded vehicles acceleration is slower, stopping distances are longer, sway on curves is increased and driver fatigue resulting from long drives makes it easier for an accident to happen.

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THE MOTOR CLUB makes the following recommendations for safe vacation travel:

Before starting the vacation, safety check your vehicle's lights, wipers, steering and brakes. Pack a flashlight, emergency flares and first aid kit where you can get at them. Install seat belts for all passengers if you don't already have them and use them.

Take only what you need. Load the car so your rear vision isn't blocked.

Study your route in advance and be ready for turnoffs. Plan a reasonable schedule. Indecision, unexpected maneuvers and sudden braking can cause a pile-up on modern highways. If you miss an expressway exit, keep going to the next one.

Make a rest stop to stretch or change drivers at least every two hours.

Don't get trapped by distractions. Pull off the road and stop if you want to look at scenery, check the map, settle the kids or swat a bee.

McDonald Has New Assistant

Congressman Jack McDonald has a new assistant running his local 19th District headquarters in Farmington and Pontiac.

He is Paul Scupholm, 33, of 15138 Woodworth, Redford Township.

Scupholm replaces Ron Rice, who resigned in order to run for state representative on the Republican ticket in the 34th (Redford) district.

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SCUPHOLM'S JOB is to be an intermediary between local people and the congressman's Washington office.

At the Farmington office, located at 23622 Farmington Rd., south of Grand River, the staff works on the public's governmental problems, such as social security and military matters, obtains copies of bills, answers questions and sets up appointments for McDonald's visits to the district.

PAUL SCUPHOLM

No political campaigning, however, is done at the district office. A special campaign headquarters will be set up later for that purpose.

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SCUPHOLM PREVIOUSLY spent 10 years with Associates Investment Corp., most recently as credit manager of the regional headquarters in Northland.

He had been active in Republican politics in the 19th District for four years, and served two years on the Redford Township Parks and Recreation Commission.

A graduate of Detroit's Cooley High School, Scupholm attended Wayne State University. He and his wife, Lois Jeanne, have four children. At Village Presbyterian Church, he is a member of the church and society committee.

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