

Readers Give Views On College, Other Problems

A Councilman Loses A Backer
EDITOR:
The following is a copy of the letter I have sent to Councilman Ed Milligan. You have shown poor judgment by including in your newsletter (which is supposedly a report to the people on your conduct as a city councilman) comments on the current council election.

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ment by including in your newsletter (which is supposedly a report to the people on your conduct as a city councilman) comments on the current council election.

It is this habit of councilmen not to up for re-election to attack the opposition that has created the buddy-buddy system we now have in our city council where two present candidates, Mr. Nash and Mr. Raymond, were never initially elected by voters but appointed by their buddies on the council.

Since you chose to do this, I am amazed that you did not mention the fact that another candidate for council, Mr. McCann, is the brother of the present municipal judge. As a councilman, he would be setting the salary of the judge, his brother. This is clearly a conflict of interest.

As a woman I most heartily support Mrs. Mary Dumas whom you criticized. She is a capable intelligent person and has had more experience in city government than either Mr. Nash or Mr. Raymond at the time their buddies appointed them to the council. They have never improved.

We women are more involved in the community and are more aware of Livonia's problems than our husbands who must leave this city for the greater part of every day. There very definitely is a "women's point of view" and it deserves recognition—not the sneering attitude you display.

As a former supporter I no longer feel that you represent me and I would prefer not to be on your mailing list. We certainly need a fresh approach in our inept and tricky city council. You seem to have lost all approach and council buddies running for retention never had it. GLORIA SLADEK 17410 Loveland Livonia

'Misappropriation' Of Public Funds
EDITOR:
(mis) appropriation of public funds for private schools is not in the best public interest; it encourages splinter and multiple school systems which in other countries (and inevitably) are to the detriment of the public school system.

Can you imagine the administrative problems, to say nothing of the quality of education which would exist, if we had separate state-financed major systems sponsored by Catholics, Baptists, Black Nationalists, Buddhists, Catholics, Democrats, Four Square Gospelists, hippies, Jews, Mormons, Nazis, nudists, Presbyterians, Republicans, socialists, Unitarians, Yang Ties, etc., etc.?

State support encourages creation of such private school systems. Give independent groups the right to conduct state-inspected and approved private schools, but not support or encouragement to do so. J.W. ALSTROM Farmington

Racism, Ghetto?
EDITOR:
I was very pleased to see Philip Power's editorial (March 6, 1968) criticizing TV 2's censorship of Pete Seeger on the Smothers Brothers Show. Let such attempts at silencing opinion be forever exposed, especially the sneaky attempts. I kept on thinking "Bravo!" until I read the headline on the back of the editorial page—"Kerner Conclusion: Ghetto Is To Blame." Anyone who took time to read the following article would see that the essential cause of riots, according to the Kerner Report, was white racism.

In view of the commission's findings, isn't the headline, "Ghetto Is To Blame" a bit misleading? Not to me, because I read the article. But what about the reader who likes his information in big, bold letters and stops reading with the headline. Might such a reader not be led to erroneous conclusions as to the cause of riots, especially when the erroneous conclusion is more comfortable? Perhaps the headline was an unintentional oversight. Perhaps, on the other hand, it was an intentional attempt to mislead the not too careful reader. I hope it was the former. I hope it was the latter. The Observer would be guilty of the same sneakiness it condemns TV 2 for. BARBARA MASTERS Plymouth

An Ambulance Call Proves Very Costly
EDITOR:
What forms of emergency services and to what extent does the City of Livonia provide for its citizens? I made this question a topic of conversation and it has not been clarified.

Recently, my wife fell down the basement stairs. My son summoned a neighbor, who called the police. When the police arrived they called for an ambulance. My wife was rushed to the hospital.

I received a bill for the amount of \$35, of which \$5 was for the five miles involved and the balance for 30 minutes labor. Do not misunderstand me, as any price at times like this would not be too great. What I wish to know is whether or not this is typical. If so, how much will it cost should I ever have the need for the fire department or the police department in an emergency? Perhaps the method of having to call a private contractor is because the city cannot afford to provide this ambulance service or the city does not have qualified personnel. Should this be the case I would not mind paying more money for taxes to obtain this service.

Should this form of emergency service by private business be more efficient and a saving to the city why do we not have a private business take over the fire and police? Why not hire a private organization to run city hall? My opinion is that all fire, police and ambulance service should be free to the citizens of Livonia. CHARLES R. DOWNS

College Student Backs Administration
EDITOR:
I would like to reply to your recent editorial as an individual student, who also happens to be a Student Senator and a member of the Student Investigating Committee. These are my own personal views.

First of all, the Investigating Committee has been somewhat lax in informing the public since its meeting with the Administration at Schoolcraft. This does not mean that

there is no turmoil. While the accreditation team was visiting, several students, faculty members and administrators met with them and expressed their views on evaluation procedures.

Secondly, when the Student Senate and the Investigating Committee met with the Administration, they did not find the animosity expected by some. Although the Administration expressed their position with candor, I believe the general consensus of the students was that, in some cases, evaluation was very subjective.

In two or three cases the sole evaluation of the judgment of one of the Deans. Our Deans are very capable men but they are human and therefore not infallible.

In some fields judgment is the only means of evaluation. My position, and I believe the rest of the Committee's is that the more people involved in this judgment the less subjective the evaluation becomes. This is one of the reasons students should participate in evaluating instructors.

Some people have asked what right students have to be heard. After all, much of the college's expenses are paid by taxpayers. What these people don't seem to realize is what students have at stake. First of all, there is lost income while attending school (I was holding a job which paid over \$6,000 per year).

Next there is tuition (mine for two semesters was almost \$250). Just to round it off, I'll limit the rest of the expenses to books, around \$80 per year. This is what the student is investing in his future, nearly \$6,500 per year. Now shouldn't the student have a voice in quality education for himself?

Work is continuing in this area. The Student Investigating Committee has been put on the agenda to present its views to the Faculty in the Faculty Forum. There is still a lot of work to be done in order to establish an equitable evaluation procedure. I hope this can be done with as little noise as possible. But I'm sure we will try to keep you informed.


As a sidelight to this issue, I would like to say I'm proud to be a student at Schoolcraft. We have a conscientious Administration, a fairly well

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