

# EDITORIAL

## Ryan designs nameplate

Just before school started this fall, the newspaper staff and the faculty advisor met in the Polemic office to talk about forthcoming issues. The publications board had just approved our proposal to publish every two weeks. Analysis of the newspaper last spring had prompted this request, and now, we discussed the possibility of other changes.

We went through stacks of college papers looking for ideas and decided that the format needed overhauling, four columns instead of three, less white space and composed headlines. The old "heads"

lurched across the paper like befuddled drunks. We also needed more photos, more art work, in other words, a new, updated image, and, ——— a new name.

Because we believe in "by the student, for the student", we approached Ron Hamilton, head of the art department, with the suggestion that the design class help us with the art work for the new nameplate. Hamilton outlined the project to his students and three weeks later we received several excellent designs.

The staff chose Kathy Ryan's trim, contemporary sketch because it embodies the spirit and concept we want the newspaper to present.

We wish to thank Hamilton and the students of Design I and II; Margie Alexander, Michael Budreau, Kim Janci, Dawn Muringer, Christopher Pemberton and Dwayne

Zgorski, for working on the Campus Update project.

Our special thanks and congratulations to Ryan for her outstanding design. We hope our readers like it too.

## Prohibition

### 1978-style

Proposal D is a proposal to prohibit alcoholic beverages from being sold to, or possessed for purposes of personal consumption by, a person under the age of 21. This proposal, if passed, will certainly effect the colleges' activities with their beverage policies. What was done in the colleges before the 18 year old

person was granted the full rights and responsibilities of adults, in 1972? Apparently, law makers feel they made a mistake when they granted 18 year olds the right to drink. They feel that 18-year-olds are not responsible enough for thier actions. According to the statistics, the lowering of the drinking age has resulted in a considerable increase in the amount of automobile ac- In a sense, prohibiting 18-year-olds to drink alcoholic beverages resembles the Prohibition in the 1920's; citizens were given the taste of the "fire waters" and later were prohibited to consume it legally. The results of the passing of the proposal will not be clear until it is proved that the consumption fo liquor is decreased. Will this issue of the drinking age attract more yōunger voters to the polls?

(ISSUES, continued from page 1)

Specifically, this proposal would limit state taxes (and thus, spending), excluding federal aid, to the current ratio of total state personal income (approximately 9.4 percent). It would further limit the taxing powers of local units of government by requiring that all new requests for taxes be submitted to the voters for approval. In addition, it would require the state to back up with financial support any state-mandated programs.

Currently, our State Constitution prohibits deficit spending, thus limiting expenditures to the total amount of revenue generated by various state taxes. It contains no link, however, between the personal income of Michigan residents and the state's capability for generating revenue.

#### G: STATE POLICE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

At Issue: Whether State Police troopers should be granted the right to bargain collectively.

Explanation: This proposal won a spot on the ballot through an initiative petition drive spearheaded by the Michigan State Police Troopers Association. It would amend the State Constitution by giving troopers and sergeants collective bargaining rights on compensation, hours, working conditions, retirement, pension, and all other aspects of employment, except promotions and performance. It would further require compulsory arbitration of any disputes not resolved within 30 days after collective bargaining begins. The State Constitution currently prohibits collective bargaining for all state employees and gives the State Civil Service Commission the authority to set conditions of employment.

#### H: THE VOUCHER PLAN

At Issue: Whether public education funds should go directly to parents for the purpose of enrolling their children in the public, private or parochial school of their choice.

Explanation: Proposal H would dramatically change the present system of funding education in Michigan via an amendment to our State Constitution. This plan would

give parents a voucher to pay for their children's enrollment at either a public, private or parochial school anywhere in the state. Property taxes as a means of financing schools would be eliminated. It is not specified in the Proposal exactly how this lost revenue would be replaced, but it is likely that the Legislature would act to raise the state personal income tax, perhaps by about 2.5 percent, and increase the Single Business Tax as well.

#### J: THE TISCH PROPOSAL

At Issue: Whether the ceiling on the state equalized value of property, which is the base of the property tax, should be reduced form 50 to 25 percent.

Explanation: The Tisch Proposal, which also resulted from an initiative petition drive, would amend the State Constitution by reducing the present constitutional ceiling on property tax assessments from 50 percent to 25 percent of true cash value. It would further limit annual property tax increases to 2.5 percent, impose a 5.6 percent ceiling on the state income tax rate, and permit the Legislature to authorize school districts to impose

up to a one percent income tax with approval of the voters. It would also require the state to back up with financial support all state-mandated new or expanded activities or expenditures.

#### K: LIMITED BAIL

At Issue: Whether career criminals should be denied bail.

Explanation: Under this proposal, which was placed on the November ballot by the Legislature, the present constitutional right to bail (currently assured except in the cases of murder and treason) could be revoked for violent and habitual criminals.

Specifically, this proposed constitutional amendment would allow judges to deny bail to anyone convicted of at least two violent felonies, and facing a third such charge, within a period of 15 years. It would further permit judges to refuse bail for those who are arrested for a violent felony while out on bail, probation or parole granted for an earlier arrest or conviction for a violent felony, and to those arrested for first-degree criminal sexual conduct, armed robbery, or kidnapping for extortion, unless a

trial was not underway within 90 days of the bail denial.

#### M: TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

At Issue: Whether a formula for allocating transportation funds should be prescribed in the State Constitution.

Explanation: This proposal is another which was placed on the ballot by legislative action. It would amend the State Constitution by establishing a formula for allocating transportation funds on roads and mass transportation needs in Michigan. Under this formula, no less than 90 percent of all monies collected through gas and weight taxes could go for road construction and improvements. The remaining 10 percent of gas and weight taxes, combined with no more than 25 percent of auto-related sales taxes, could then be spent on public transportation. Approximately 4 percent of transportation funds are currently allocated for mass transportation.

#### R: RAILROAD REDEVELOPMENT

At Issue: Whether loans should be made available for upgrading of railroad services in Michigan.

Explanation: Proposal R also reached the ballot as the result of leglative action. It, too, would amend the State Constitution by creating a Railroad Redevelopment Authority which could sell up to \$175 million in bonds and make loans to railroads. The railroads could then use these funds to upgrade track, buy equipment, or make other capital improvement.

The names of the offices and the candidates running for them are on the ballots that you will vote from. If you want to pick out your candidates ahead of time, you can go to the County Clerk's office at the Court House on Chisholm Street and look at the instruction ballot

Resident voters in the County of Alpena must be a registered voter before being allowed to perform the act of voting. Out-of-town voters who registered in Alpena can vote in Alpena using an absentee ballot.

Questions concerning the location of the nearest voting precinct should be directed to the township's clerk or the Alpena Court House.

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