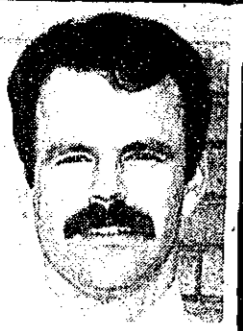


PEDALING AROUND

The right to choose

By Mike Eliasohn



The U. S. Supreme Court's decision last week that Congress need not fund abortions for poor women was an unfortunate one. More unfortunate was our national legislators' decision, now upheld by the high court, that poor women should not have the same right to a legal operation that women with money do have.

The pandering of members of Congress to those who do not feel women should have a legal right to an abortion is unfortunate because public opinion polls have consistently shown that a majority of Americans feel a woman should have the right to terminate a pregnancy under certain circumstances.

A 1979 nationwide Gallup poll, for instance, showed only 19 percent feel abortion should be illegal under all circumstances. Twenty-two percent supported abortion on request. A minimum of 53 percent said it should be allowed if the woman's life or mental health is endangered or if she was a victim of rape or incest.

Unfortunately, it is a silent majority that supports the right to abortion. Congress, as it so often does, is listening to a vocal minority. I doubt that body would have approved Prohibition in 1917 had it been listening to the majority.

The key argument used against abortion is that it is immoral.

Congress and those who would ban it choose to ignore

O-G senior citizens meet in Gagetown

Owen-Gage Senior Citizens met at the Gagetown fire hall July 3.

The meeting was called to order by Mable Ondrajka by saying the Pledge to the Flag and Lord's Prayer.

Forty members attended and 33 blood pressure checks were taken.

Winners of the door prizes were Arthur Thomas and Mrs. Cecil Loomis.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Thomas joined the club.

A get-well card was sent to Mrs. Eugene Comment.

The next meeting will be a potluck dinner at the Municipal building in Owendale July 17.

the fact that there is no universal definition of morality in such instances.

Churches or church groups on record as supporting the legal right to abortion, under at least some circumstances, include United Methodist, Presbyterian, American Jewish Congress, Episcopal Church, National Council of Churches, Unitarian Universalist Association, and United Church of Christ (1978 listing).

Are the leaders and members of those churches immoral because of that position?

That is not to say that all persons affiliated with those denominations or groups support the right to choose, but, all persons belonging to churches that are opposed don't necessarily share that point of view either.

According to the aforementioned Gallup Poll, for instance, 17 percent of Catholics believe abortion should be legal under all circumstances, 52 percent under certain circumstances, and 25 percent illegal under all circumstances, with 6 percent undecided.

Is abortion medically wrong? The American Medical Association and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists are among medical groups that say it isn't.

The Hyde Amendment upheld by the Supreme Court allows Medicaid-paid abortions only when the mother's life is in danger if she gives birth, or in cases of promptly reported rape or incest.

What the anti-abortion position means is that once a woman becomes pregnant, even if she has been raped, she has no rights. (A woman who has been raped has about the same chance of becoming pregnant as a woman not using birth control engaging in sex in a voluntary situation.)

Modern medical techniques allow pre-natal testing for birth defects. Should a woman be FORCED to give birth to an incurably ill or severely retarded baby?

There is, I might add, no 100 percent effective means of birth control except abstinence, which has certain other disadvantages.

The "right to lifers," who don't seem to have much respect for the life of pregnant women -- at least one woman has already died from an illegal abortion because Medicaid wouldn't pay for a legal one -- wish to purvey their version of morality on everyone whether they share that belief or not.

If abortion is a sin, and I don't believe it is, let God punish the sinners, not those who think they are acting in his behalf.



FACE OF THE CROWD—The passing July 4th parade drew varying responses from this group of onlookers. One tyke to the right with his back turned presumably preferred to be elsewhere.

2 persons hospitalized in area accidents

Accidents in the Cass City area during the past week sent two persons to Hills and Dales General Hospital. Both were treated and released.

Injured in a 6:50 p.m.

LETTER TO EDITOR

July 4 breakfast praised

Dear Editor, I felt the need to write this letter for all the early risers who attended the pancake breakfast at the park on the 4th.

Not only was the food good, but what a pleasant sound of organ music was heard by all, as we ate our breakfast. Peter Kessler of 6681 Huron Street played beautiful soft, relaxing music on his organ that filled the early morning air.

What a very pleasant and wonderful way to start out the festivities at the park.

Sincerely, Grateful Citizens of Cass City

mishap Friday was Robert Van Holik, 17, of 7600 Reed Road.

Sheriff's deputies reported William C. Eberline, 35, of Cornwall Bridge, Conn., was southbound on Schwegler Road, south of Milligan Road, when his car went out of control and collided with the northbound Holik auto.

Eberline was ticketed on a charge of careless driving. Injured in the second accident was Beverly Ann Louks, 36, of 6632 Pine Street.

According to deputies, she was westbound on M-81, east of Spence Road, at 6:30 a.m. Monday when she slowed to turn left into a driveway.

As she started to turn, she collided with a truck attempting to pass her, driven by Jeffrey L. Spencer, 27, of 4353 Dale Street.

Ms. Louks told officers she had her turn signal on; Spencer said she didn't.

A similar accident took place at 4 p.m. Wednesday, July 2, on M-81, west of Cedar Run Road. No one was injured.

Duane E. Rushlo, 48, of Cedar Run Road, who was eastbound, started to turn left into a driveway while Archie F. McWilliams, 66, of Bad Axe, was attempting to pass him.

When McWilliams realized Rushlo was starting to turn, he attempted to pull back into the eastbound lane but ran into the rear of the Rushlo vehicle.

The latter driver told officers he had his turn signal on; McWilliams said

he didn't see it.

Jonathan K. Brokaw, 38, of Davison, sought his own treatment after an accident at 3:30 p.m. Monday.

According to deputies, he was southbound on Hurds Corner Road, south of Little Road, when he lost control of his motorcycle on the gravel surface.

He was cited on a charge of speed too fast for conditions.

Violet Schollaert, 33, of Cass City, was released, June 30 from Scheurer Hospital in Pigeon, two days after the car she was driving collided with a train in that community.

According to Pigeon police, she was northbound on Caseville Road, stopped at the crossing at M-142 but didn't notice the train and drove into its path. The impact spun her car around in a full circle.

OTHER ACCIDENTS

Kurt A. Urban, 18, of

Mayville, was cited by deputies on a charge of careless driving after a 3 a.m. accident Saturday in Ellington township.

Officers reported he was westbound on Deckerville Road, west of Orr Road, when a passenger grabbed the steering wheel, causing his car to hit a bridge guard rail.

At 10:05 a.m. Friday, according to Cass City police, Denice Russell, 25, of Owendale, ran into the rear of the car of Maurice C. Winchester, 30, of 5745 Walsh Road, Gagetown, which was in a line of traffic. The two vehicles were eastbound on Garfield Street, east of Doerr Road.

Caro state police reported that Dennis F. Nelson, 30, of 6617 Harris Road, Kingston, collided with a deer at 5:15 a.m. Wednesday, July 2, while he was northbound on Cemetery Road, south of Cartwright Road.

County board ok's court split - again

For the second time, the Tuscola County Board of Commissioners has voted to split from Lapeer county in order to form a separate circuit court district with its own judge.

The board voted the first time, 7-0, to approve the split on June 10, only to learn later the legislation authorizing the division required the approval by May 27.

Sen. Alvin DeGrow, R-Pigeon, sponsor of the original legislation, then introduced an amendment to extend the deadline to Aug. 1. It was approved by the Senate and House of Representatives, then signed by Gov. Milliken, Tuesday, after which the Tuscola board voted.

Its vote this time was 6-0, the difference being the absence of Ben Collon of Caro.

The Lapeer county board has also approved the split a second time.

Judge Patrick R. Joslyn will become the lone circuit judge of Tuscola county as of Jan. 1.

In other action, the board voted to become part of the Greater Saginaw Bay Fishing Consortium and appointed three representatives and two alternates to the group. No county funds will be involved.

Bridge bid opening set July 16

The Michigan Department of Transportation will be opening bids July 16 for construction of three single-span prestressed concrete box-beam bridges and approaches in Tuscola county.

The bridges are Decker-ville Road over Mud Creek, just east of Cemetery Road in Novesta township, Millington Road over Perry Creek and Vassar Road over Perry Creek, both west of Millington.

Total cost of the three is estimated at \$350,000 with completion dated scheduled in July, 1981.

July 4th Festival

Continued from page one

prices had not increased greatly since the last festival.

Towards late afternoon, 93 runners gathered at the grandstand for the second annual Pacesetters Run. It got underway at 5:30 p.m. following the tot run for kids 12 and under that wound its way through the woods.

As the last runners were coming in people began congregating from other areas of the park for the talent show which started at 6:30.

Although three of the acts scheduled to perform dropped out at the last minute, 10 acts remained, according to Geraldine Tibbitts, chairwoman of the event.

She felt that the crowd may have been a little larger than the estimated 700 that turned out last year.

Contestants were not judged but everyone was awarded a \$10 gift certificate, good in stores belonging to the chamber.

As the day wound down, it appeared that everyone had behaved themselves.

Village Superintendent Lou LaPonsie said later that clean-up was no problem.

"Last year we thought it went well and the same with this year," he said.

He added he will sit down and discuss possible solutions to traffic problems for future festivals with Police Chief Wilson and Department of Public Works Superintendent Frank Guilds.

The festival was primarily a day-time activity with the only night-time plans at the beer tent behind the Charmont, and a couple dances in the park.

Revelers could rock to the tunes of Windfall at the beer tent or dance to pop music records on the tennis courts. A square dance at the pavillion was also in progress until around midnight.

Winter found guilty of drunk driving

A Circuit Court jury last Thursday found Larry E. Winter guilty of a charge of driving under the influence of liquor (3rd offense).

Judge Norman A. Baguley, who presided over the two-day trial, continued bond until sentencing Aug. 18.

Winter, 30, of 704 S. Eighth Street, Sebawaing, was arrested on the charge Sept. 8, 1979, in Indianfields township by Caro state police.

Caro Drive-In advertisement for Coal Miner's Daughter, featuring a PG rating and promotional text.

Cass City Theatre advertisement for Madcaps of Mr. Toad and Hero at Large, including showtimes and prices.

The weather table showing high, low, and precip for Wednesday through Tuesday.

Strande Caro advertisement for Sassy Cops and Robbers Romp, including showtimes and prices.

The Caro Arts Society advertisement for Classes in Dance and Mime, including enrollment details and contact information.