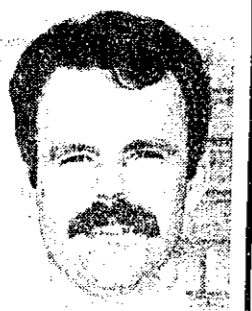


PEDALING AROUND

Right and wrong

By Mike Eliasohn



Compromise to Ronald Reagan, a California conservative, means selecting a Texan from Massachusetts who is conservative moderate (or is it moderate conservative) as his running mate.

I can't be right all the time.

Selection of a vice-presidential running mate was about the only excitement in the entire Republican convention.

Boring though it may have been, I watched. I may be a masochist, but I enjoy -- for lack of a better word -- politics.

The Republicans thought they had a good gimmick to relieve some of the boredom and thus attract some more television watchers, a show Monday night with lots of big name stars.

The show may have been entertaining to those at the convention, but those at home didn't get to watch enough of it to tell.

Susan Anton and Efreim Zimbalist Jr. gave the introduction, Jimmy Stewart gave a little spiel via film, then Donny and Marie Osmond climbed on stage, sang two songs and as Donny was starting his third, it was "... now back to the booth."

Actually, one did not get to see much of the convention in terms of what was going on at the podium. Most of the coverage was of interviews conducted on the convention floor and comments by the supposedly all-knowing observers up in the booth.

There is no doubt conventions political are over-covered. In Detroit, there were something like three or four times as many reporters and technicians associated with the news operations as there were delegates.

One thing mystifies me about political conventions, both Republican and Democratic.

Each political party wants us to believe it is best suited to run the country. How can they run the country when they can't even run their conventions on time?

Although Reagan did compromise on his choice of a running mate, and made a

good choice in doing so, in my opinion, I stand by my conviction that the true-blue conservatives do not like to compromise.

Until Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina squelched the idea, many of the right wingers wanted to nominate him for the vice-presidential nomination in protest of Reagan's selection of the less conservative Bush.

If Reagan and Bush do get elected and Reagan decides four years from now that at age 73 he doesn't want to run for re-election, I predict Bush will have a tough time getting the nomination.

Why? Because for the arch conservatives, Bush won't be conservative enough.

Jack Kemp will be heard from again.

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I would have mentioned this earlier, had I thought of it earlier.

If the one added mill for Cass City schools is turned down Aug. 18, and hopefully it won't be, I think the school board should keep as the girls' sport, basketball instead of volleyball.

With volleyball, that means the only sports during the whole school year will be in winter and with boys' basketball getting most of the attention, girls' volleyball will get short shrift.

The reason the board decided to keep volleyball is because it will lose less money than will girls' basketball.

Since girls' basketball is played in the fall, since there would be no football, there presumably would be more spectators going to the girls' games than they do when football is also being played.

More spectators will mean more money, which presumably will offset the bigger cost of basketball (compared to volleyball), plus Cass City sports fans will have events to watch during two sports seasons instead of only one.

Besides, the Red Hawks girls' basketball team was league and district champion last year. That should count for something.



MISS PIGGY -- This porcine pal of 11-year-old Steve Cooklin will be competing in the Tuscola County Fair as an entry from the CCM&D 4-H club. Steve is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Cooklin, 2061 Dodge Road.

Money flows into Thumb for more CETA jobs

The Thumb Area Consortium has received a windfall of unspent money from elsewhere, which will mean 200 additional jobs created in the upper Thumb.

The jobs, which pay \$3.10 an hour, will only last until the end of September.

As the result of "a little dealing in Lansing," consortium Administrative Executive Director Frank Leonard told the administrative board last Thursday, the agency had picked up \$252,139 that other consortiums in the state were unable to use.

Of that, \$200,000 was in federal Comprehensive Employment and Training Act Title VI funds, \$45,000 in CETA Youth Employment Training Program funds and \$7,139 in state Michigan Youth Program funds.

In order to get the money, Leonard had to give up \$18,500 in CETA Title II-D money. That program funds

various job training and work experience programs.

The Michigan Youth money will be used to offset what otherwise would have been a deficit. The Youth Employment Training funds will be used to enable teenagers hired under the program to work 35-40 hours a week for the rest of the summer instead of the reduced schedule they had been working due to budget limitations.

As a result of the recent Lansing meeting, the consortium got \$200,000 additional in Title VI funds. Last Wednesday, Leonard got a call from the state Bureau of Employment and Training offering still more Title VI funds. An additional \$200,000 has now been accepted.

The total of \$400,000 will create an additional 200 jobs, over the 315 who had been working as of June 30. The new jobs will run only to Sept. 30 when the funding

runs out.

The question was raised that although the money was there, would the jobs be there?

Title VI workers are paid with federal funds, hired by the Tri-County Public Service Agency, and work for local governmental units, doing such tasks as cutting roadside brush and park maintenance.

TCPSA head Leonard Hool told administrative board members that although eventually the saturation point would be reached, he thought the jobs could be found.

Needed, he said, which his agency has already been doing, is to make local governmental units -- townships, villages, etc. -- aware that the laborers are available for jobs that need doing.

After the meeting, Hool said, finding the jobs would require "hustling" by his agency.

He added that some persons who have been laid off from jobs and exhausted their unemployment benefits are starting to show up on CETA payrolls.

Persons interested in applying for the new Title VI CETA jobs should apply at their county Michigan Employment and Security Commission office.

WORK FOR WELFARE

A program inaugurated two weeks earlier appears off to a good start, Hool reported.

The Departments of Social Services in Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac counties are now requiring physically able general assistance recipients to earn the welfare they receive, based on a rate of \$3.10 an hour.

If a person received \$310 for the month, for instance, he would have to work 100 hours. (A general assistance grant for a family of four is \$520-\$550 a month.)

The jobs are the same as those performed by CETA Title VI recipients and are being supervised by the TCPSA.

In some instances, the general assistance recipients are doing such a good job that once they pay off their benefits, they are being switched to the CETA payroll. That means they get off welfare and enables them to work 40 hours per week instead of the amount needed to pay off their benefits.

"You'd be surprised how many want to work," Hool commented. That didn't mean all want

99th annual

Tuscola County Fair begins Sunday

The 99th annual Tuscola County Fair kicks off a week of events Sunday.

Despite plans to further rebuild the grandstands destroyed June 18 last year by fire, seating will be the same as last year.

There will be enough seats for 2,000 people, according to Fair President Walter Jackson.

"There are plans, but we're just at a standstill," Jackson said.

He cited economic woes as one of the major obstacles in the completion of the new grandstands.

There were 1,200 aluminum bleacher seats built last year after the fire, with the rest of the seats being ones not damaged in the fire (also aluminum) and borrowed portable bleachers.

The plan had been to add more seats this year and next, plus possibly a roof over the seats next year, the 100th anniversary of the fair.

Seating this year should be adequate, according to Jackson.

Fair officials are hoping to top last year's attendance of 17,682, which was down from previous fairs due to poor weather.

Although it technically begins Sunday, only one event is scheduled for that day. The 4-H variety talent show begins at 7 p.m. in front of the grandstands.

The fair starts in earnest Monday when the gates open at 8 a.m. and close at 10 p.m. They will follow that schedule through the week. The midway opens each day at noon.

Events for each day are as follows:

Monday -- The 4-H Horse Show begins at 9 a.m. By noon all entries and exhibits must be set up. Harness racing begins at the grandstands at 8 p.m.

Tuesday -- The third day of the fair is aimed at the younger set with a variety of opportunities on Kid's Day. The 4-H Horse Show gets underway again at 9 a.m. and at 11 a.m. games begin for the kids. Prizes for contests that include bicycle races will be awarded.

In addition, there will be reduced rates on all midway rides. During the entire fair, children under 12 will be admitted free.

Harness racing is again at 8 p.m.

Wednesday -- Horses are an integral part of any county fair and this day is geared toward recognition of those animals. Horseman's Day begins with an open horse show at 9 a.m. and a pony-pulling contest at 1 p.m. The Sheriff's Posse mounted drill team will put on an exhibition at 7:45 p.m. to be followed by harness racing at 8 p.m.

In addition to other events, a band and singer will be entertaining people on the fairgrounds Tuesday and

Wednesday, Jackson said. Thursday -- This is Farmers and Senior Citizens Day. All senior citizens will be admitted free to the grounds and afternoon grandstand shows until 6 p.m.

Events for the day include the 4-H and Future Farmers of America Livestock Sale which begins at 1:30 p.m. and harness racing at 2 p.m.

Tractor pulling begins at 7 p.m. in front of the grandstands and will be interrupted for the crowning of the Tuscola County Bean Queen at 8 p.m.

Friday -- At 10 a.m. the American Quarter Horse Association will have its horse show. Tractor pulling will resume at 12:30 p.m.

The demolition derby will get underway at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday -- The final day of the fair promises a full line-up of activities. The American Palomino Horse Association will hold its show at 10 a.m. simultaneously with the lightweight competition of the horse pulling contest. The heavy-weight competition starts at 1 p.m. Horseshoe pitching contest also will take place beginning at 1 p.m.

That evening, the final event will take place with the motorcycle races sponsored by the Flint Motorcycle Club.

Practice and time trials will take place at 6 p.m. and the racing, in front of the grandstands, will be at 7:30 p.m.

Advertisement for CASS CITY featuring 'THE BLACK STALLION' and 'COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER' with showtimes and prices.

Caro Drive-In advertisement for 'The Island' and 'The Legacy' movies, including showtimes and phone numbers.

Advertisement for 'Urban Cowboy' featuring John Travolta, including showtimes and ticket prices.

Advertisement for Stanley Henry, Republican Primary candidate for Tuscola County Drain Commissioner, August 5.