

For Saginaw Valley State College Employees.
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HERE'S ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ABOUT TISCH

In response to numerous questions received about the potential impact of Proposal "D" (Tisch II) on the November 4 ballot, we are listing some answers below. According to both state and college officials, the impact of "D" on SVSC would be devastating. The Department of Management and Budget in Lansing has indicated that it will recommend NO state funds for SVSC's continued operation if "D" passes. Their interpretation is that the amendment would take effect 45 days after the election (on December 20). This would be after the due date for 1980 property taxes, and the actual cut-off of state support would not occur until late next year.

Here are some steps you could take to promote your point of view on Proposal "D":

(1) Make a contribution soon (like today) to the organized effort working on "D". To insure that we are giving you all sides of the issue, here are the places where you could send your check:

PRO: Tisch Coalition, Inc.
Laingsburg, MI 48848
-OR-

CON: Saginaw Valley Faculty Government
Action Committee
If Faculty: c/o Donald F. Novey
Other employees: c/o L. Fitzpatrick

(2) Instructors can inform their students of the probable outcomes of Proposal "D". From a legal standpoint, the important thing is that you NOT urge either a "Yes" or a "No" vote. Stick to the facts. For example, you may explain the likely effects of "D" on SVSC (page 4 of last week's October 14 "Interior" is a good outline). Copies of other information are in the Wickes faculty lounge. We also urge you to ask your students, your friends and your neighbors to tell OTHERS about the ramifications of "D".

Even if everyone on our campus could become fully informed, we are only a very small part of the tri-county population. As an educational institution, we have a duty to inform the rest.

(3) Whether you're a faculty member or not, you can teach the facts about what will happen if "D" is enacted. But do it in your community, your church, your bowling league and your neighborhood. That's where people haven't been informed. Some facts you might want to know are:

(a) You have to vote on ALL THREE tax proposals ("A", "C" and "D") to make your vote count. You must vote against a given proposal to defeat it, not just for another one.

(b) Michigan in 1980 is not California in 1978. They had a \$5 billion surplus in the state budget and a nearly \$3 billion local surplus, two advantages we lack right now. Michigan has already experienced two budget cuts in recent months and our state's unemployment rate is the highest in the nation (and four times the percentage in California two years ago). While our 4.6% state income tax rate affects everyone with the same rate, California's is graduated. A person there with a \$15,500 or higher taxable income pays 11%, not 4.6%. Our sales tax is 4% compared with their 4.75%, but many municipalities there also have a local sales tax of 1% or more. Finally, California in 1978 ranked 4th among states in total taxes paid. Michigan ranked 18th last year and will likely drop considerably lower this year without a tax proposal because of high unemployment.

(c) Proposal "D" would cut funds for state programs like higher education by 55% according to the Department of Management and Budget, not by 14% as Mr. Tisch has stated. The 1978 Headlee amendment HAS limited new taxes, while also bringing a \$3.2 billion reimbursement to local governmental units from the

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state. Factors like this, along with mandated expenditures, mean that there is only \$3.6 billion over which the legislature or governor have control. Proposal "D" would take \$2 billion of that amount (55%) and would leave just \$1.6 billion to fund all state programs. There is no other source of revenue to make up that loss. Proposal "D" would require a 60% majority (not the usual 50%) vote to enact ANY new tax, and then only in a general election (not until late 1982).

(d) We all feel we're paying too many taxes and Proposal "D" is a way to "send government a message". The trade-off as announced by the DMB is that 7,000 of the 9,600 persons currently institutionalized in state mental health facilities would have to be moved immediately into the community. Schools for the blind and deaf would be forced to close. The number of state police would be reduced by 75% and hours would be limited for operations. State aid would be completely eliminated to the more than 220,000 senior citizens whose energy and fuel bills were paid last year through the Home Heating Assistance Program. At least half the 200,000 persons served by Medicaid would be left without help, and federal funds which match the state contribution would be reduced similarly. Local school districts would each lose an average of \$1 million, forcing drastic curtailments of local programs. Special aid, compensatory education, vocational education, transportation and aid for the handicapped and gifted would cease to exist. At least 10 of the 29 community colleges could no longer survive and all aid would be cut off to 12 of the 15 public colleges and universities (including SVSC).

(e) While a myriad of organizations from the UAW and AFL-CIO to the MEA, NAACP, League of Women Voters and numerous chambers of commerce have stated their opposition to "D", only the Michigan Association of Realtors has come out in support. While that seems unusual, it is a fact that persons with substantial land holdings such as landlords and property investors would benefit the most directly if "D" passes. To them, it appears that the promise of tax savings may mean more than the loss of vital and necessary state services, even though large numbers of persons are affected by "D".

THREE TO DISCUSS KEY ELECTION ISSUES

If all the talk about alphabet ballot proposals, tax cuts and coalitions has left you puzzled, you'll be able to learn some answers from a panel of area authorities at 3:30 p.m. next Thursday, October 30 in the Wickes lecture hall.

John Palen, editor of the Midland Daily News; John Puravs, chief editorial writer for the Saginaw News and Allan Schmid, president of Taxpayers Federation United will share the platform. Sponsoring organization is the SVSC honors program.

Each speaker will address the key issues in this year's election, with particular emphasis on the Tisch proposal ("D"). Before fielding questions from the audience, the panelists will each outline the position held by their organizations. Contrasting viewpoints and judgments on the possible effects of various choices confronting voters will be presented. All students, faculty members and staff are encouraged to attend.

ARE CREDIT CARDS THE ROOT OF ALL EVIL?

Do credit cards really fuel inflation by encouraging consumers to spend? After all, it's easy to rationalize a purchase when the salesperson is willing - perhaps eager - to accept a charge card instead of cash. And you're sure the necessary funds will arrive before the statement reaches you.

Dr. Richard A. Feinberg, a psychologist in the department of consumer sciences at Purdue University, will discuss various aspects of the "plastic economy" when he lectures at SVSC on Thursday, October 30. Set for 2:30 p.m. in 314 Wickes hall, his talk is titled "The Credit Card Effect: Credit Cards as Spending-Eliciting Stimuli."

The meeting is free and open to the public. It should be of special interest to students and faculty in business and the social sciences, according to assistant professor of sociology Dr. Alex Ross.

MIDLAND HORN GROUP TO GIVE A TOOT

The breadth and range of the French horn will be demonstrated this Friday, October 24 at 12:30 p.m. in the SVSC theatre, when the Midland Horn Society comes to campus for a public performance. Led by Mary Hart, the group will present a

varied program of classical and popular music, demonstrating how the French horn is noted for a subtle, haunting quality and the musicianship required to master it.

Admission is free and open to the campus community, according to assistant professor of music Dr. Eric Nisula. For more information, contact him at ext. 4307.

SVSC TO CO-SPONSOR REGIONAL ART COMPETITION

Hampton Square Mall of Essexville, Peoples National Bank and Trust Company of Bay City and SVSC will co-sponsor the 1981 Scholastic Art Awards Central Eastern Michigan Regional Exhibition January 31-February 8. Students from grades seven through 12 attending both public and non-public schools in Arenac, Bay, Huron, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac and Tuscola counties are eligible to participate. Entries will be on display at Hampton Square Mall beginning January 31, but must be sent or brought to the Mall between noon and 5:00 p.m. on Saturday or Sunday, January 17-18.

Art classifications will include oils, acrylics, water colors, pencil drawings, ink drawings, pastels, crayon and charcoal, mixed media, printmaking, graphic design, textile design, sculpture, pottery, jewelry, two and three dimensional design and photography. Regional prizes will include a \$100 Hallmark honor prize, gold achievement keys and certificates of merit. From key-winning entries, the judges will select "blue ribbon" finalists who will go on to the national competition. A regional Kodak medallion of excellence winner will also be chosen from this region.

Chairing the regional advisory committee is associate professor of art Matthew Zivich, with other members representing area intermediate and high schools. For information about how children may enter, please contact Zivich at ext. 4390.

POLISH STUDIES ENTHUSIASM NO SURPRISE

Many Americans in recent years have sought to learn more about their ethnic "roots." Thus it was no surprise to visiting instructor Eugeniusz (Eugene) Siedliski that students in his "Elementary Polish" class were ready and eager to learn the language of his country.

"I just love these students," says the 38-year-old professor from the English Institute at the University of Poznan, Poland. "They work very hard and are doing beautifully... and I am impressed with this because Polish is a difficult language to learn."

Siedliski sees a number of factors contributing to a growing interest in Poland and Polish culture among Americans. Poland has been very much in the news, especially from the time President Carter visited that nation in 1977 up through the recent labor strife there. Perhaps the most important event attracting the attention of Americans has been the election of Pope John Paul II.

Because Poland is 95% Catholic, John Paul's election stirred great feelings of pride in his homeland. He has also had a tremendous influence on making Americans of Polish descent more interested in learning about Poland. According to Siedliski, "He made my job much easier."

Siedliski's class at SVSC has 31 students and meets once a week for four hours. Many of the students come from Polish backgrounds and homes where some "old world" traditions are still maintained. "I expected they would learn willingly and eagerly," the professor observed. "Many of them are interested in visiting Poland some day."

Indeed four SVSC students have been in Poland this past summer as part of the exchange program between the University of Poznan and SVSC which brought Siedliski to Saginaw.

"I'm very proud to be part of the Institute of Polish Studies," he says. He credits Dr. Anna Dadlez, institute head, with much of the success the program has enjoyed.

Dadlez visited Poznan in 1977 to discuss the possibility of an exchange program with Poznan. Final arrangements were made last October when the university's chancellor, vice chancellor and English Institute chairman visited SVSC at the invitation of President Jack Ryder.

The current exchange program followed that visit and Siedliski feels that "thanks to professor Dadlez and the SVSC administration and faculty, this will be a tremendously

beneficial program to both institutions."

Siedliski arrived in the tri-cities on September 8 and was greeted at the airport by Dadlez and a contingent of students. "It was very nice to receive such a warm reception. It was also gratifying to be cordially welcomed by various members of the SVSC administration and faculty," he says.

The professor soon observed a striking similarity between the physical characteristics of the Saginaw valley and his native Poznan area. Both regions are quite flat and green with "a lot of lakes and farms."

But he also quickly noticed one very striking difference. "Here a car is an absolute necessity. In Poland there are busses and streetcars to take you anywhere."

Siedliski points out that even in rural areas of Poland, "public transportation is frequent and punctual." He admitted that public means of conveyance may not always be the most convenient or comfortable, because some of the vehicles are quite old. But according to him, "they still run and are extremely cheap. Just a few pennies will get you almost anywhere."

Thus he understands the frustration Americans feel over the ever-rising cost of fuel here. "In Poland we have a cheap alternative to the automobile which you don't. So when the price of gasoline keeps rising, you become upset. That's only natural, because for you it is a necessity and you have no alternative."

He explains that, like the Americans, the Poles are very much in love with the automobile. However, for most of them it remains a luxury and not a necessity.

Siedliski will remain here for the current academic year, doing research work for his doctorate in linguistics. In addition to his current class, he plans an intermediate Polish class for winter semester. He will also be starting a Polish language and culture class this month in Flint and a Polish music and dance class locally.

CAMPUS NOTES

-- Representing SVSC at the Michigan Housing and Food Service Officers Conference recently were

Denise Ottinger, coordinator for residential life, and assistant coordinator Brian Gano. The conference was held at EMU in Ypsilanti on October 8-9. A series of round table discussions was used to exchange information and ideas. SVSC will be hosting this conference in 1982.

-- Gregory E. Borgerson has been named a temporary instructor of psychology for the 1980-81 academic year. He has a B.A. degree from Miami University (Ohio) and an M.A. earned last year from Central Michigan University. He is a social worker and formerly was director of the alcohol abuse program in Midland county; his most recent appointment was as a consultant for Personal Growth, Inc. of Saginaw. He has previously been a part-time instructor here and has also taught at Delta community college.

-- Information services director John Rummel won third place in the state in feature pictures for a photo published last year in his brother's Pigeon Progress-Advance newspaper. The prize, from the Michigan Press Association in its 1980 photo competition, was for the only photo he took this past year specifically for a newspaper assignment.

-- Don't forget to tell us about newsworthy events involving you or other members of the SVSC community. We'd like to put your name in print, so please phone us anytime you think an item may be worth mentioning. Simply phone ext. 4054 any hour of the day or night.