

RO Youth Admits Beating B'ham Boy

A Royal Oak youth pleaded guilty to assault and battery May 24 in the beating of Gary Kaiser, 17, of 709 Sheppard, Birmingham. Edward Vartabedian, 18, was fined \$50 by Royal Oak associate Municipal Judge Elmer E. Hartwig.

Two Oak Park youths, Jack Lahtinen and Raymond J. Buchanan, both 18, entered pleas of innocent and were released on \$100 bond for trial at 1:30 p.m. June 2. According to Kaiser, he was parked with a 16-year-old Royal Oak girl in front of 3333 Coolidge, at about 2 a.m. Wednesday, when the three youths pulled up in another car.

KAISER SAID Lahtinen, a former boy friend of the girl, forced her into the other car while the other two beat him. The girl said Lahtinen slapped her and drove away with her. Police said neither Kaiser nor the girl were seriously hurt.

The girl, who had been missing from home since Saturday, is being held at the Oakland County Juvenile Home as a ward of the court, according to police. She told police she had been living with a girl friend at the Coolidge address since she left home.



Bicycle Inspection Time Here

This was the scene as Birmingham bicycle owners lined up May 27 for the Birmingham Police Dept. and Kiwanis club bicycle safety check.



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Balloonist Ross Drops On B'ham—for Office

The man in the balloon who recently made a record altitude flight, Navy Cmdr. Malcolm D. Ross, has descended on Birmingham.

Ross is working from the Gleaner Building, 1600 N. Woodward, and seeking permanent residence nearby for his wife, Marjorie, and two children, Jane, 6, and John, 3, of Washington, D. C.

Ross, 41, became head of the Environmental Sciences Section, Biological Sciences and Systems Department of General Motors Corp's Defense Systems Division on May 22.

ROSS' WORK will continue in the same field as it was in the Navy. He will direct a study of the effect of artificial surroundings and natural environment, like the ocean and atmosphere, on humans. The ultimate aim is the protection of people.

Ross said that GM has no government contract, but that the tests are of interest to defense efforts. Lt. Cmdr. Victor Prathers, head of the altitude record in a balloon over the Gulf of Mexico. Prathers was killed in an accident after the flight was completed.

ROSS SAID that he decided to take the GM job before the historical flight.

"It is incorrect that I resigned my Navy commission," the 10-year Navy man emphasized. He retains it though in a civil position.

Although his balloon flight may have been overshadowed by the first United States manned rocket flight, Ross said the two are closely related.

"There is more comparison between the two than people realize," he said.

"Both flights essentially are steps in learning about things which are crude steps toward space, but essential."

"WE ACCOMPLISHED our general objective to demonstrate the Navy's capability of providing satisfactory environment. It was the first time humans remained aloft for any length of time in full oxygen-circulated pressure suits."

The minor objectives of the flight, including man's physiological reactions to the balloon flight, are yet to be completely analyzed, Ross said.

MSUO Offers New Course

American life and national responsibilities will be examined by citizens in a unique course being offered this summer by the Michigan State University Oakland Continuing Education Department.

Considering this course one of the most important it ever has offered, the Continuing Education Department is including two books in the regular course fee in an effort to make all necessary material available.

"Leading critics of the American way charge us for having almost no sense of direction and purpose," said Dr. William E. Rhode, assistant director of Continuing Education, in announcing the course.

"WE HAVE NO clear idea, these critics say of where we want to go or what we want to achieve as a nation," Rhode said.

This can lead one to a haphazard and daily reaction to events and problems rather than what is needed: purposeful control over such happenings."

Taught by Dr. Melvin Chernov, MSUO assistant professor of history, the eight-week summer seminar in American Values and Goals will meet on campus from 7 to 10 p.m., each Wednesday, beginning June 21.

Two basic books are used. One is the well-known report of the President's Commission on National Goals—"Goals for Americans."

A COMPLETION of political thoughts and beliefs of an American statesman, the second book, Jefferson's "Political Writings."

Designed, Rhode said, to provide Oakland-Mason citizens with the opportunity for "grass-roots" debate, the seminar will examine American attitudes toward education, civil rights, economic growth, and foreign affairs.

Reservations are being accepted at the Continuing Education office.

W. H. Thomas In Race for Con-Con Seat

William H. (Bill) Thomas, former township editor of The Birmingham Eccentric, has announced that he will file petitions as a candidate for Constitutional Convention delegate from the fifth representative district this week.

Thomas, a former resident of Franklin, worked at The Eccentric from 1955 to 1957. His wife, Olivia, is the former director of the Birmingham Branch of the Oakland Child Guidance Clinic.

NOW A RESIDENT of Clawson, Thomas is a veteran of World War II and the Korean War and is a graduate of Michigan State University.

He also was employed on Pontiac and Grand Rapids newspapers. For the past two years he has been editor of a state-wide food trade publication, the Michigan Food News. Thomas said he is now devoting full time to the election campaign.

"I hope that my many friends and acquaintances in the Birmingham area will recommend me to their friends in the area in which I am seeking election—Pleasant Ridge, Clawson, Huntington Woods and Royal Oak.

"THIS, My initial attempt at politics, I consider to be my contribution to a better state. Those Eccentric readers who know my qualifications will, I am sure, be able to recommend me without reservations."

The former Eccentric writer was cited by the Laithrup City Council for outstanding work in reporting of public affairs by council proclamation when it was learned that he was leaving The Eccentric.

Exhibit Shows Da Vinci's 'Other Side'

An exhibit of over 30 works by Leonardo da Vinci is on display at Cranbrook Institute of Science and will remain throughout the summer.

Known best as the artist who painted the "Mona Lisa" and "The Last Supper," his less familiar side—as the most prolific inventor the world has ever known—is portrayed in a series of models made from his scientific drawings.

Prior to coming to the Institute of Science, the show has visited the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, Boston Museum of Science and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The models come from the Fine Arts Department of International Business Machines Corp. and were constructed by Dr. Roberto Gutierrez, a foremost Leonardo authority.

AMONG THE EXHIBITS are a steam gun, which some experts said fired a projectile two miles; a parachute, a pyramid-shaped "tent of linen" as Leonardo called it; and an excavating machine.

Cranbrook Institute of Science begins its summer hours on June 15 which will be from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 2 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free weekdays only. Summer hours end Sept. 15.



Rally 'Round the Rocket

Michigan safety patrol leaders join U.S. Senator Patrick V. McNamara of Michigan in examining a scale-model of the Michigan-built Chrysler Redstone missile during their four-day trip to Washington as guests of the Automobile Club of Michigan for the 25th AAA National Safety Patrol rally. Patrol leaders are (from left) Donald Brown,

Stiles School, Rochester; Gary Richardson, Baldwin Elementary, Pontiac; Stephen Farr, Baldwin School, Birmingham; and William Merz, Schoolcraft School, Waterford Township. The actual rocket served as the booster for the May 5 space flight of America's first astronaut, Cdr. Alan B. Shepard, Jr., and is Michigan's honorary "product of the year."

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