

'Other Side' of Story Written by Teenager

To the Editor: Last week a citizen of Birmingham...

Requests Help In Battle on Teen Smoking

To the Editor: I am a parent of a teen-ager who smokes. I have fought this smoking with every tool I can use...

IT IS ALSO against Michigan law for minors to smoke in public places...

HOW DOES this line exist? Is it because the teen-agers are childish and deserve to be demoted?

Raps Treatment Of Canines at Animal Shelter

To the Editor: I had the misfortune to visit the Oakland County dog pound the other day...

WHO IS in charge of these men who care for the dogs? If rough treatment is given when the public is present...

Are we not one of the wealthiest communities in Michigan, and do we not have many dog lovers in the area?

Reader Rallies To Sad Plight Of Lost Animals

To the Editor: In the Detroit Free Press of Feb. 16 is described the sad story of the lack of an animal shelter...

ISN'T it time we did something about it? How many have had their lost or injured pet returned to them...

LET US GET BUSY NOW! A CONTRIBUTOR

Bill Bachman Proctor Academy Andover, N. H.

Program

(Continued from 1-B)

Many rewarding volunteer hours are spent by The Eclectic Society membership in the planning and conduct of these activities.

This figure does not include the time that parents, teachers and students likewise put into the many projects.

NONE of the society activities could be the success they are if there were no lack of competitive spirit, the desire for a good education and the desire to be a good citizen...

Very few of the students would find the incentive to respond, without the backing and encouragement given them by their parents...

And now, just for a moment, I must change hats from president of the community to that of the College of Engineering, The University of Michigan...

IN A WORLD where the social, scientific and technological order is changing so rapidly, the man or woman whom you expect to be on this frontier spends not only a large portion of his or her time teaching and directing these incoming students...

Up to this point, one might conclude that my only interests are in those students who are scientifically oriented, or conversely, that they should all lean in this one direction.

QUITE THE contrary is true. A total society must have such a balance that all human interests are served. Many students have interests that contribute to this total society...

Then, why have I spent my time selling in detail about scientifically oriented activity? The best reason I can assign seems to involve a group with whom I am associated who have depth of knowledge in a segment of the need of a total society...

This in no way indicates that this group has only scientific interests. A mechanism, however, is revealed

Discourteous Drivers in This Area?

To the Editor: I would not have believed it if I hadn't seen it with my own eyes. I was waiting to make a left turn onto Hunter from the mid-strip and, when the way was clear, looked expectantly at the car which had pulled up to my right.

The only safe way to make my turn onto Hunter Boulevard or across it is to wait till other cars are off of the midstrip and then proceed cautiously.

THIS LETTER was prompted by your recent article which stated that approximately one-third of the accidents reported during the past year in Birmingham were due to discourtesy on the part of one or more drivers.

One need only drive through the city to believe this. This morning I had to sit and wait while two cars turned around in the middle of a block in the busiest parts of the business district.

THE MAJORITY of teens (notice—not ALL teens) do not "fritter away" their time Woodwarding, mailboxing and shopping.

MY BUSINESS frequently takes me through the poorer sections of the city of Detroit and I have often thought that it is safer and far less difficult to drive among the battered jalopies east of Woodward in the city than to drive through Birmingham.

Unfortunately the victims of this situation are seldom the discourteous drivers. They are the merchants of the community, because that encourages volunteer participation in the education of youth.

It seems logically fair to advance the proposition that there are similar groups in any community that are similarly knowledgeable in order that the total interest of youth may be served.

GLENN V. EDMONSON President The Engineering Society of Detroit

many of us will not drive into Birmingham to get what we need if we can find it in the outlying areas.

MRS. ROBERT DAVIES 296 Harrow Circle Birmingham

Offer Editor 1st-Hand View Of Teen Life

To the Editor: I want to make several points clear before I begin the main part of my letter. First of all, this letter is aimed directly at Ken Weaver. I do not mean to imply, however, that no one else on The Eccentric Staff is worthy of my criticism.

Second of all, after reading my letter, the people who know me could possibly think, "She really can't represent all teen-agers. She studies. She does her homework. She has a B.S. average."

I do feel that I am a representative teen-ager and I am out to prove it.

Since I go to school with teens (as Mr. Weaver chooses to do, not I) I know that a good majority of students are interested in their work and grades. Even the ones who slack off are many times the ones who have a steady job that keeps them busy.

AND, they had better. After all, Mr. Weaver, when you are old, tired, and toothless, who is going to take care of you? Who is going to run the government? Who will be writing articles for The Eccentric? The same people who are now called vandals and hoofs.

Now, after having been seemingly quite superficial with my introductions, I have reached the heart of my letter. Mr. Weaver, you are cordially invited to reside in my home (1853 Shipman) for one week. You may name the week. During such time, you will be entertained by coming with me to school, meeting my classmates and

friends, and attending any activity I go to.

I feel this is the only way you will ever learn the truth. Sure, it is not all rosy red. BUT, it is not the nauseous black you would like to paint it.

WRITING THIS, I can almost be sure you will refuse my invitation. It is my hope, however, that you might be able to work it into your schedule.

NANCY DIAMOND

New Commander

Army Capt. George Snoddy, 26, son of Mrs. Annie B. Snoddy, 128 Hickory Grove Road, Bloomfield Hills, assumed command of Headquarters Company of the 4th Armored Division's 504th Supply and Transport Battalion in Germany.

JOHN BLACKHALL SMITH Superintendent of Schools

Why Information Wasn't Released

To the Editor: The prime reason why the Birmingham Schools did not release information concerning individuals in the recent tragedy was because of a state law which forbids us to do so.

Even if there were no personal opinions to be recognized, school officials could not divulge any facts concerning the students. According to the counsel for the Board of Education, Mr. William Heasley, the state law forbids the release of records or personal information, unless permission is given by the parent concerned, or unless the person is 21; and in that instance, he has the right to make his own decision.

I want you to know that I wish, in every way, to cooperate with our newspapers and I hope that as time goes by, you will find me understanding of your needs and of the valuable services you render to our public.

JOHN BLACKHALL SMITH Superintendent of Schools

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