

# Can The Detroit News Defeat Crockett, Simpson, Ravitz, and Del Rio?



KENNETH V. COCKREL

On Wednesday, October 25, 1972, the **Detroit News** published an editorial which was designed to continue their campaign to obstruct the development of our community into an independent political force committed to the betterment of the actual conditions of our lives. The Recorder's Court of the City of Detroit processes our people by the thousands every year, and every effort to make the Court responsive to our needs has been opposed by the **Detroit News**, which has also opposed all candidates for any office who were committed to changing the system that is defended daily by the **Detroit News**.

The **News** attacked Jackie Vaughn when he ran for Common Council, George Crockett when he ran for Common Council, and also when he became a Judge. The **News** drags up Daniel West every few months to suggest that our politicians are hopelessly corrupt. The **News** fans the fire of racism on the busine issue and supports candidates who are committed to the maintenance of the status quo, such as Richard Nixon or Robert Griffin, and even refuses to support our candidate for the Michigan Supreme Court, Judge Robert L. Evans.

The **News** has supported Prosecutor William Cahalan who has justified every police homicide that has occurred in the City. The **News** has continually supported STRESS despite the opposition to its conduct that has united almost our entire community.

The clamor for Judge Crockett's head after the New Bethel Church incident resulted in a community call for a boycott of the **Detroit News**.

These are merely some of the instances in the **Detroit News** that have shown that it is totally opposed to the expressed will of our community.

In the October 25 editorial on the Recorder's Court races, the **Detroit News** suggests that the only candidates in the incumbent race that merit support are an incumbent who is a former Police Commissioner who also formerly headed the Michigan State Police, coupled with a woman who is an Assistant U. S. Attorney who recently graduated from William Cahalan's prosecutorial staff.

On August 8, our community's candidate, Judge George Crockett, was the front runner. He has added Samuel Simpson in an unprecedented move to challenge the present incumbents whose commitment can in no way be shown to be a service to our community. The **News** editorial ignores Simpson's existence.

On November 7, we will support Judge Crockett and Samuel Simpson, and reject the **News'** advice that we "plunk" for their two candidates.

On August 8, James Del Rio and Justin Ravitz ran one - two in our community, and overall, Ravitz was number one in the race for the seven new seats.

An editorial policy such as the **Detroit News** adopts is evidence of the callous disregard for our community's mandate and calls for complete rejection on November 7.

The **News** refusal to endorse Judge Crockett, and its failure to even mention Samuel Simpson's challenge to Judges Leonard, Poindexter, and Maher, must be shown to be without any meaning at all to our community.

The attack of the candidates who ran one and two in the race for seven new judgeships in Recorder's Court must be rejected by giving them our total support on November 7.

The vote in this race on August 8, showed that our community makes up its own mind about who serves its real interests, not just who shows up at election time and announces a candidacy, but could not be reached if you had a problem before the new seats were created. Our community knows its needs in the area of criminal justice and knows who has worked to meet those needs, not for a few days or months, but for years.

On November 7, we can show our awareness of the fact that we can build power for our community and at the same time screen all candidates by their records of service to our community. Those whose records demonstrate concrete concern expressed in work, for real change, have our total support. Nothing less can be tolerated in these times.

On November 7, we have the opportunity to do the following very important things: A.) Remind the **Detroit News** that it does not control or influence our community's strategies for survival and development. B.) Support our candidates even more strongly in November than we did in August, despite attacks by the **Detroit News**. C.) Create a judiciary that answers to the people that we insist it serve.

## Hell No!

The News Says:

Completely ignored by the News.



Samuel **SIMPSON** ☒ 908

We Say:

"Though the **News** ignored him in its editorial, our community knows him and will show it by ignoring the **News**."

The News Says:

"...may have moderated his capricious attitude somewhat... but essentially he looks upon himself as an advocate of causes..."



George **CROCKETT Jr.** ☒ 903

We Say:

"The cause he advocates is a cause we all advocate: freedom, justice and equality in the courts and in the community."

The News Says:

"Ravitz is a radical young lawyer..."



Justin **RAVITZ** ☒ 919

We Say:

"His contributions as a lawyer are common knowledge throughout our community, his work as a Judge will give us the assurance that the police state is not going to overwhelm our efforts to survive and develop our just quest for a humane existence in Detroit."

The News Says:

"His performance as law-maker was atrocious."



James **DEL RIO** ☒ 911

We Say:

"A public official whose concern for our community made him number one in our community on August 8. That's not atrocious is it?"

Don't Forget Erma Henderson ☒ 939 for City Council!