

Voters to decide on 25 races

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Of the Emerald

Board of commissioners will expand

Early in November Oregon voters will be going to the polls to elect their next governor, a U.S. Senator, a superintendent of public instruction and a commissioner of the Bureau of Labor.

More than 140,000 Lane County voters will be asked to vote on 22 additional races involving 35 candidates.

Three positions on an expanded, five-member Lane County Board of Commissioners need to be filled along with the Lane County Assessor's position, eight state legislature seats, a 4th District Congressional seat and several judicial positions.

Not all Lane County voters will be voting on every race.

The following is a list of the races to be decided and a brief introduction to each of the candidates involved.

- Incumbent Bob Straub faces challenger Victor Atiyeh in a rematch in the race for governor. In 1974, Straub upset Atiyeh by 120,000 votes.

Challenged by half a dozen political novices seeking the democratic nomination, Straub won in every county in the May 23 primary. He is a former state treasurer (1965-73); state senator from Lane County (1959-63); and Lane County Commissioner (1954-59).

Atiyeh, a state senator from Beaverton, took 46.1 percent of the vote in the primaries to gain the Republican gubernatorial nomination. The 55-year-old senate minority leader beat ex-Gov. Tom McCall, one of Oregon's political heroes, by about 30,000 votes. Atiyeh has described himself as "balanced" and is confident he can beat Straub.

Atiyeh was an Oregon state representative from 1959-63 and he has served in the Senate since 1965.

- East Lane, West Lane and Springfield voters will elect three county commissioners to join Jerry Rust and Archie Weinstein

on the board of commissioners in January. The board will expand from three to five commissioners in January and it is the first time the commissioners will be elected by district.

In the Springfield district, former Springfield mayor Vance Freeman, a conservative, will run against high school teacher Bill Morrisette, a liberal.

Morrisette, 46, is concerned about Lane County livability and says new industry and growth are issues that need to be addressed. Morrisette's philosophy of growth accommodates zero population growth for the area.

Freeman, 58, favors a strong county administrator and would like to see more citizen participation in county government.

East Lane voters will choose between Otto t'Hooft of Creswell, a Lane County personnel analyst and Robert Smith, the mayor of Lowell and a supervisor at Agripac Inc. in Eugene.

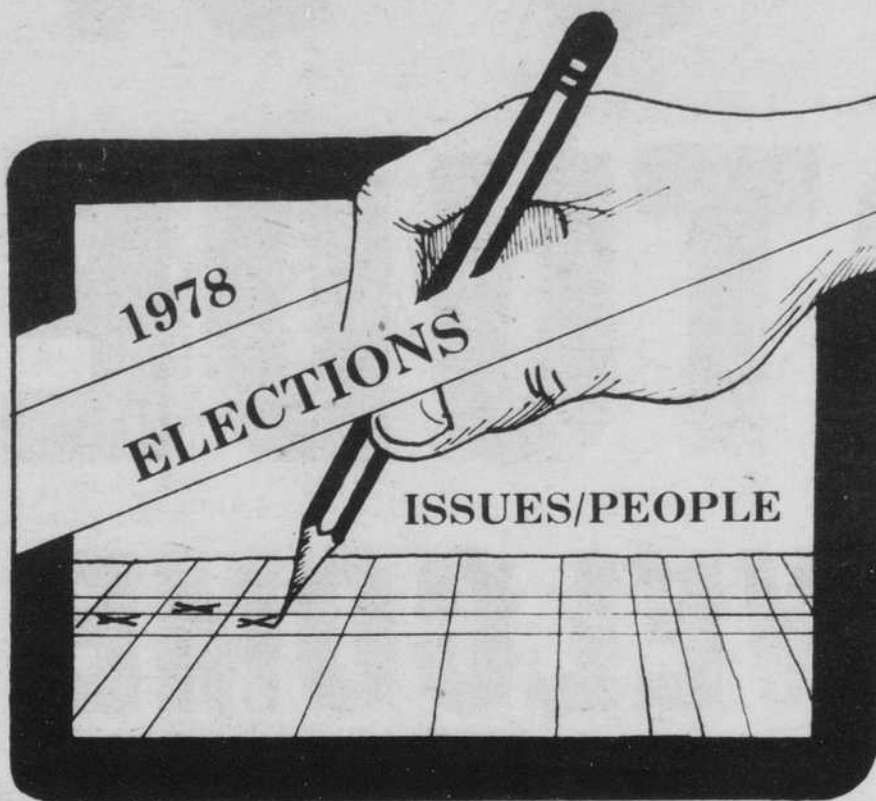
t'Hooft, a conservative, is supported by Commissioner Archie Weinstein. He wants to cut back on Lane Council of Government's (L-COG) powers and favors more land-use planning, but would challenge the state Lane Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC).

Smith, 39, disagrees with t'Hooft. He supports L-COG and also favors more land-use planning, but says it can be done through LCDC.

Two conservatives will compete for West Lane district commissioner. Ed Reindl, a wholesale nurseryman from Florence will run against Harold Rutherford, a building contractor from the Junction City area.

Rutherford, 47, supports reducing needs for new development in urban areas, curtailing growth and he says the county can operate without an administrator.

Reindl, 55, like Rutherford, says L-COG is too big and should be



trimmed. He supports a strong county administrator and would eliminate county agencies such as the Office of Appropriate Technology.

- Ruth McFarland of Gresham will contend against Verne Duncan, State Superintendent of public instruction, for the position he has held since 1974.

The winner of this race will direct the State Department of Education and control is two-year budget of close to \$9 million.

McFarland, a 53-year-old biology instructor at Mt. Hood Community College, has 16 years teaching experience at the elementary, junior high, high school and community college levels.

She was named Mt. Hood Community College's outstanding teaching in 1971.

McFarland says the measurement of student competencies should start in kindergarten and that good teachers are the key to education.

McFarland has a Ph.D. in genetics, a master's degree in biology, a bachelor's degree in science

education and a bachelor's degree in botany. She has no administrative experience.

Duncan, 44, of Milwaukie, has teaching experience at the elementary, junior high and high school levels.

He favors the demonstration of minimum academic competencies by students for graduation.

Duncan holds a Ph.D. in public school administration, a master's degree in business administration, a M.Ed. degree in public school administration, and a bachelor's degree in social science and education.

- William Bain, a political newcomer, will challenge incumbent Ken Bylund for the Lane County Assessor's position. The non-partisan post has been held by Bylund since 1975.

In a close primary election, Bain took 32 percent of the vote to Bylund's 37 percent.

Bain, 40, works for himself as a private real estate appraiser.

Bylund, 35, is seeking his second term as county assessor.

- In another rematch, Democrat

incumbent Congressman Jim Weaver will vie against GOP candidate Jerry Lausmann for the 4th District congressional seat. Weaver took 50 percent of the vote to Lausmann's 35 percent in the 1976 general election.

Lausmann, a 47-year-old Medford plywood plant owner, says the key campaign topic this year is the jobs issues.

Weaver, 50, is seeking his third term in Congress.

- Incumbent Republican Mark Hatfield will seek his third term as a U.S. senator this November. Hatfield will face Portland Democrat Vern Cook, a state senator since 1961.

- Mary (Wendy) Roberts and John Smets will compete for Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor, an office which enforces civil rights laws, wage-and-hour laws and the state's employee apprenticeship and training program.

The \$41,461-a-year position is being vacated by Democrat Bill Stevens.

Roberts, 33, won a seat in the state senate in 1974 and has served on labor, business and consumer committees and the Joint Ways and Means Committee.

Smets, 50, is the Owner of Smets Machinery Co. Inc. in Lake Oswego, a manufacturer of material handling machinery for the Wood Products industry.

He served on the Edmonds, Wash. city council from 1961-63.

State Senatorial districts 20, 21, 22 and House Districts 39, 40, 41, 42, 43 and 44 comprise the Lane County voting district.

- George Wingard, 42, is seeking his third two-year term in an uncontested race for state senator, District 20. The district encompasses the River Road, Santa Clara and Bethel-Danebo areas and South Eugene.

Wingard, a republican, served on the city council from 1966-69, was in the Oregon House for one term and has been in the state senate since 1970.

- In the 21st Senatorial District, Charles Palmers will challenge State Sen. Edward Fadeley for his

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