

After Lausmann's defeat

Republican group picks up the pieces

By KEVIN HARDEN
Of the Emerald

The general election is now history, but the Republican National Committee in Washington, D.C., is still trying to figure out what happened to Oregon's Fourth Congressional District.

The RNC and the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, which aided GOP challenger Jerry Lausmann during the election, spent the past week counting their victories and losses and compiling information to be used by GOP candidates during the next election, says Chuck

Kline, campaign committee researcher.

Kline says the two groups are now interested in deciding what happened in 1978. Their interest in 1980 elections won't begin until January, he says.

Incumbent congressman Jim Weaver, D.-Ore., defeated Lausmann by a 40,000 vote margin in the election.

The RNC, which helped Lausmann hire a campaign manager from Minnesota and an organizational director from Colorado, was criticized during the campaign by a former staff member. University graduate student Daryl Whitman,

who worked as Lausmann's organizational director until the end of the summer, said last month RNC officials forced Lausmann to change his stand on two important issues in the campaign.

Lausmann, who later called the allegations "damn lies," told a University debate audience last month that the only help he received from the RNC was financial aid.

Kline and Norm Trunnett, an RNC official who aided the Lausmann campaign, say they haven't made plans for the 1980 election.

"I think the Fourth District is still of considerable importance to us

in 1980 or 1982," Trunnett says. "But so far we haven't made any definite plans for the next election."

Kline says the campaign committee is pleased with the overall election results. The committee has yet to make a judgement on the Fourth District race, he says.

Lausmann, who could not be reached for comment, has not made public his plans for the 1980 election. Kline says the campaign committee feels the same way about the district race.

"Obviously we've got a number of cases where people say they're looking ahead to the next campaign," Kline says. "While that's very encouraging, we just haven't made any plans yet."

Will the RNC and the campaign committee try to unseat Weaver again in 1980? It depends on the circumstances, Trunnett says.

"I can't make a statement right now about that," he explains. "Whether we will try or not depends on a myriad of things to be considered, so it's impossible to say right now what we will do."

Panel to discuss aging problems

Why do people lie about their ages? What can be done to emphasize the positive aspects of aging?

These and other questions facing both senior citizens and society will be the topic of a panel discussion on aging Friday evening at 7 p.m. in the EMU. The University's Gerontology Association will sponsor the event, which is expected to last until 9 p.m.

"Part of our idea is to bring the world of gerontology (the science of aging) closer to everyone," says Susan Lanspery, director of the association. "Everyone is

either going to die or get old, so it's something everyone must face."

Seated on the panel will be several members of the American Association of Retired Persons. Not all the members will be seniors, Lanspery says.

"We want to emphasize the idea of communications between generations and we encourage people of all ages to attend the panel discussion." Panel members will range in age from 55 to almost 80, according to Lanspery.

The panel will discuss a variety of topics of interest to seniors, including whether or not aging is

merely a gradual growth process in which the essential ingredient is adaptability to change; the role of "midlife"; improving the interaction between the young and the old; and, financial problems faced by seniors.

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