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A close race in Springfield's Dist. 42

By Dave Fogerson

Democratic candidate Larry Hill is driving hard to unseat freshman Rep. Vern Meyer, Rep.—Springfield in district 42.

The race is a close one for the district that includes most of Springfield, and the two candidates are showing distinctly different campaign postures and proposals.

Meyer, a 71-year-old insurance agent and former mayor of Springfield, has maintained a low profile, refusing to publicly debate Hill, and offered his past voting record as evidence of his views on current issues.

He is well-connected to the Springfield business community and said that Oregon needs to change its "anti-business

image." Meyer said that state and local governments need to be streamlined to eliminate waste and that money should not be spent attempting to attract business into the state until studies are completed showing why they have stayed out.

He has accused Hill of promoting ideas that are politically palatable to get elected, but impractical.

The 32-year-old Hill, a Springfield millworker with labor connections, has never before held an elective office. He has campaigned energetically over the last year and has been more vocal about specific issues than Meyer.

He has castigated Meyer for being inactive in the legislature and for not sponsoring any bills on his own.

To generate more revenue, Hill suggests that

Oregon "recapture part of the Reagan tax breaks going to the wealthy."

"People at the top aren't paying their fair share," he says.

Hill has come out against ballot measure 3, which would limit property taxes, calling it a "wolf in sheep's clothing." The measure arose from a general distrust of government, he says, and can be overcome through better communication.

He is also opposed to Measure 6, which

Representative's Race

would end the state's authority in land use planning. According to Hill, the measure would make it difficult to stop development.

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ROSS ANTHONY

The Sunday Oregonian

Editorials

OCTOBER 3, 1982

Anthony class in 4th District

Ross Anthony, the Republican nominee in the 4th District congressional race, fits his Southwest Oregon district like a glove. He understands its dynamic economy and its voters' deep concerns for producing more jobs and stronger and more diversified industries.

At the same time, Anthony would resist any rollback of environmental gains that would destroy the quality of life in the state. His balanced approach to business vs. environmental issues contrasts markedly to the narrow philosophies of recent Republican challengers to incumbent Rep. Jim Weaver.

Not since Democrat Bob Duncan and Republican John Dellenback served the region has a candidate shown so much competence and offered so many bright prospects for restoring the region's once widely respected and influential voice in Washington.

In Weaver's four terms he has proved a poor listener, a ranting and often uninformed critic who discourages even those who might support him. No one should require his congressman to be timid, but Weaver has not used his powerful position as chairman of the House Agriculture forestry subcommittee to take the lead in devising ways to ease the disaster in the woods products industry. Others, like Sen. Mark Hatfield, R-Ore., have exhibited more leadership in helping the industry.

Weaver sometimes appears to promise much and deliver little. He is often more sound and fury than substance, leaving little more than his fingerprints on issues he has promoted as his own. Weaver had engaging qualities that do not seem, for reasons beyond our comprehension, to get translated into effective actions.

At age 36, Anthony has achieved a doctorate in economics, served in the Peace Corps and directed a large, private community health program. He has worked as an agriculture extension agent abroad and served on numerous boards and commissions. He presently is on leave from the University of Oregon, where he teaches economics.

Anthony has more than just a suitable background and a good education. He has some workable ideas that include ways to balance the federal budget, to cut back on military spending, to reduce the nuclear threat, to preserve Social Security benefits, to simplify the tax system, to promote environmental improvements and to restore the housing industry in Oregon.

He agrees with the Reagan administration that the federal government is overextended. But his economic solutions, based on stimulating savings as a way to bring down interest rates, are not in lock step with Reaganomics, which he believes has suffered from poor timing. He particularly disapproves of its focus on general consumer tax cuts rather than on tax cutting to encourage savings. He would stop taxing small savings, thereby stimulating growth in loanable funds to make more and cheaper housing money available to create jobs.

Anthony is not your usual kind of Republican. For example: He declared that Secretary of the Interior James Watt is "not my favorite public servant." Further, he said, "I don't feel uncomfortable with the Sierra Club," a group which traditionally has supported Weaver.

Considering Weaver's contentious proclivities and the low esteem with which many of his colleagues hold him, his eight years in Congress have been far too long.

In the past, Weaver has been opposed by poorly qualified, weak or special interest candidates. This year it is different. The voters, whether Democrats or Republicans, can cast their votes for Ross Anthony, confident they have made a wise choice that will enhance the entire state's congressional image.



Dist. 39 offers a choice

By Dave Fogerson

The state representative race for district 39 offers voters the chance to choose between candidates who differ in their philosophical approaches to good government.

The Democratic incumbent in this race, Grattan Kerans, 41, is being challenged by the 40-year-old Republican Jerry Riley for the district that includes the Bethel-Danebo and Santa Clara-River Road area of Eugene.

Riley, at the Political Faire held in the University's EMU last week, said he was running for office as a result of his awareness of the impact state government has on the economy and the need to "shape government into a servant role."

Both candidates agree that the economy and unemployment is the number one issue in this campaign.

"State government should be an advocate of private business," Riley says. "The political environment will determine economic development."

Along with opening the political climate for economic growth, Riley says that the tax structure and land use planning laws need to be re-examined.

Kerans, who has served four terms, has had his chance to help solve the state's problems and has failed, Riley says. Oregon has had more than its share of recession and needs new leadership, he says.

Kerans, who admits he is unpopular with certain corporate interests within the state,

defended his record by saying he is "an effective people-oriented legislator."

His votes for increased cigarette and liquor taxes, the surtax on income taxes and the corporate graduated income tax were necessary for saving social services, Kerans says, adding that Riley would have been less willing to make those votes. "When the good times come we'll lower taxes," he says.

The Kerans program for sparking the economy features restructuring industrial development bonds, a "buy Oregon" program, increased national and international trade and financial support for education that promotes "sunrise industries."

Both candidates are opposed to ballot measure 3, which would limit property taxes. Kerans calls it "a thoroughly disruptive measure" and Riley says it would do more harm than good and would be restrictive on the function of state government.

Both candidates also say they are committed to protecting higher education from further budget cuts. They agree that if the cuts have to be made, school closures would have to be considered.

Kerans warns that if measure 3 passes, the state will have to look at school shutdowns and that "you don't close an institution temporarily, you close it forever."

The nuclear weapons freeze initiative, measure 5, has the support of both candidates.

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