

Challengers enter primary-election races

# Candidates campaign for party nomination

By Scott McFetridge  
Of the Emerald

The primary elections are more than three months away, but most candidates expected to be serious challengers for national offices already have committed themselves to a race.

The race for Bob Packwood's U.S. Senate position is sure to be one of the most heated. Packwood is heavily favored against his only challenger, Joe Lutz, but three candidates, state Rep. Rick Baumann, D-Portland; state Sen. Rod Monroe, D-Portland; and U.S. Rep. Jim Weaver, are vying for the Democratic nomination.

Because Weaver has stronger name familiarity with Oregon voters than Baumann and Monroe, it appears that the 12-year veteran of the House has the best chance of receiving the Democratic nomination. But both Baumann and Monroe have strong support in the

Portland metropolitan area, which makes up more than a third of the state's population.

All three Democratic candidates have voiced strong disapproval of Packwood's large campaign fund, estimated to be about \$6 million. Weaver has recently issued the strongest attacks on Packwood, and has called upon the three-term senator to return \$3.5 million of his campaign funds.

Weaver's charges come despite a House investigation into his own campaign finances. After examining records provided by Weaver, the House Standards of Official Conduct Committee concluded Friday that Weaver had not acted improperly in borrowing \$81,900 from his campaign fund.

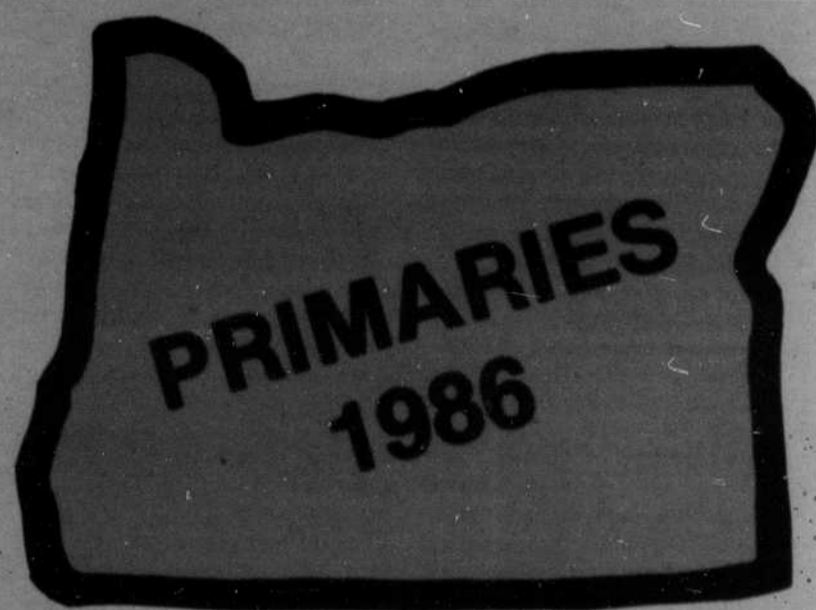
The decision by Weaver not to seek re-election to his 4th District House seat opened the way for a large field of

Democratic challengers. Three candidates, state Sen. Bill Bradbury, D-Bandon; Lane County Commissioner Peter DeFazio; and state Sen. Margie Hendriksen, D-Eugene, have declared their intention to run for the 4th District position.

Bradbury served two terms in the House before being elected to the Senate in 1984. Bradbury, a 36-year-old television producer, was chairman of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee during the 1985 Legislature.

DeFazio, who worked in Weaver's office for five years, won his county position in 1982. DeFazio is 38 years old and lives in Springfield.

Hendriksen was elected to the House in 1981 and won her Senate seat in 1983. Hendriksen, who has one of the most liberal records in the state Legislature, ran against Sen. Mark Hatfield in 1984, losing by



more than a 2-1 margin.

State Rep. Mary Burrows, R-Eugene, Douglas County Commissioner Bruce Long, and retired Goshen businessman

Gene Arvidson are running in the Republican primary.

Burrows was elected to the House in 1971 and is considered to be one of the most liberal Republicans in the state Legislature. Burrows, who represents most of north Eugene, served on the House Revenue Committee in 1985 and helped write the sales-tax measure that voters defeated by a 3-1 margin in September 1985.

After receiving the Republican nomination for the 4th District in 1984, Long lost by a large margin to Weaver in the general election. Long has cited poor funding and a lack of organization as the reason he lost the last election, but he says this year's campaign will be better coordinated.

Arvidson, who owned a Goshen business that sold heavy equipment, ran against and lost to Long in the 1984 4th District Republican primary. Arvidson is enrolled at the University and is seeking a Ph.D. in Political Science.

The primary elections will be held May 20.

## Social Security increase lowers food stamp relief

Oregonians receiving both food stamp and Social Security benefits will lose a portion of food stamp benefits in February due to a January cost-of-living increase in Social Security. Because income is a criteria in determining the amount of food stamps a person may receive, an increase in Social Security income reduces the eligibility for food stamps for people receiving both benefits.

The reductions will affect monthly food stamp benefits starting in February.

Each month, the food stamp program helps approximately 90,000 Oregon households with the purchase of food items. The 3.1 percent cost-of-living increase from Social Security will affect about 27,000 households in Oregon.

Food stamps are a program of the United States Department of Agriculture, administered in Oregon by the Adult and Family Services Division (AFS).

AFS estimates that the reductions in food stamps will be very small. As an example, people who receive a \$10 Social Security increase would see their food stamp benefits decrease by \$3.

Monday, February 17, 1986

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