

Candidates look to unseat Wyden

Three candidates are running for the GOP nomination for the U.S. Senate seat

By Jesse Sowa
Community Reporter

Three candidates with diverse backgrounds and platforms are attempting to win the Republican nomination in the May 19 primary for Ron Wyden's U.S. Senate seat, which is to be decided in November.

John Lim, a current state senator from Gresham, said education should be a priority among government officials and other people who care about Oregon's children.

"A strong education is necessary for our children to be able to compete in the global marketplace of the 21st century," Lim said in a letter submitted for the 1998 Oregon Voters' Pamphlet. "Every child has special gifts and talents. It is our responsibility as educators and parents to help them develop these skills to their fullest potential."

"Whatever success we achieve economically will be the result of well-educated citizens."

Lim, 62, said he believes education should be controlled more by teachers and parents and less by the state. He said in an interview Thursday that children need "real-life, technical, vocational training," as well as more computers and information in order to succeed in today's society.

Lim said gambling in the state is a detriment to society and should be outlawed because it hurts those who can't help themselves.

"The dependence on lottery revenue is sending the wrong message to our children," he said. "The social costs related to gambling will far outweigh the economic gains. It is not ethical for the state government to prey upon the most vulnerable in our society in order to fund state programs."

Lim criticizes the federal government for increasing taxes and spending while still being unable to balance the national budget.

"It's not a tax problem, it's a spending problem," he said. "Why do we take the future away from the younger generation?"

Lim said government officials are attempting to use the nation's Social Security budget to balance the national budget. That is unfair to those who deserve to retire and be treated well, he said.

He has received endorsements from former Oregon Gov. Vic Atiyeh, U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, Congressman Bob Smith and state Senate President Brady Adams.

Lim, who has the most experience in government out of the candidates, is challenged by Valentine Christian, a 75-year-old retired mathematics professor, and John Michael Fitzpatrick, 34, who supports free trade and fewer laws for small businesses in the state.

Christian supports local control of education and a voucher system to pay for half the cost of private-school tuition.

In a letter in the voters' pamphlet titled "Save Our Sovereignty," Christian wrote: "We should allow no non-elected, pip-squeak from an insignificant country smaller than many Oregon cities meeting in secret with no appeal dictate what laws we can or can-

not pass or do within our borders. We should not be a flunky for the United Nations nor use it to bully sovereign nations for the ambitions of a few globalists."

Christian, a mathematician and scientist among other occupations, proposes a plan he calls National Electronic Mathematical Employment System, which he said "could help all people secure satisfactory jobs, and many other problems will cease to exist."

Christian was unavailable for further comment.

Fitzpatrick, the creator of "Orgy TV," an anti-pornography show on Portland public access television, proposes a \$500 tax credit for cable-television subscribers.

He said this would encourage government spending on education, which would include the ability to help people take college courses.

Fitzpatrick, a Lake Oswego resident, believes the country's environment could be protected by moving heavy industry to Third World countries. He also advocates a federal ban on interstate commerce in drugs, gambling, prostitution and pornography.

He said important legislation has been blocked by Senate Democrats, and he believes filibustering should be eliminated through the election of six additional Republican senators.

Fitzpatrick proposes the spending of more money on the Human Genome Project, which could help identify a possible genetic cause of homosexuality and the development of a cure.

He was unavailable for further comment.

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NEWS BRIEFS

EPD seeks info on hate-crime activity

The Eugene Police Department is seeking information leading to the identification of any individuals involved in the recent string of neo-Nazi and other hate-related displays of graffiti throughout the community.

Those with information that could aid the investigation can contact Detective Terry Willis at 346-5868.

Xicana symposium occurs Saturday

The Xicana symposium and banquet will take place Saturday on campus. The Xicana movement explores the institutional barriers of race, class and gender, which have excluded indigenous women from political, social and economic areas of power.

The symposium will showcase three workshops: Joanie Patrick will present "Reconstructing the Concept of Race;" Carmen Bauer will give a lecture titled "Levels of Classism;" and Guadalupe Quinn will present "Making our Place," which will focus on the experiences of Xicanas and Latinas within the feminist and Xicana movements.

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