

California election could benefit Bush

With Schwarzenegger now the governor of California, Bush's chances at getting re-elected may be greater

By Linda Goldston
Knight Ridder Newspapers (KRT)

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Can Arnold Schwarzenegger help re-elect President Bush next year?

It's still early and there are a lot of ifs about the newly elected Republican governor, who won't assume office for at least a month. But political analysts said Wednesday that Schwarzenegger's resounding defeat of Gov. Gray Davis on Tuesday creates a lot of possibilities for Bush's campaign in 2004 in California — a state he lost before.

He attracted votes from some key De-

mocratic constituencies: women, minorities, union members, even liberals.

"Schwarzenegger's victory provides a road map for the Bush re-election campaign in California next year," said Republican political consultant Dan Schnur, who advised businessman Peter Ueberroth before he withdrew from the recall race. "Their most recent road map was almost a decade old. Schwarzenegger's campaign now gives them guidance. It shows them who to talk to, where to go and what to talk about."

Two of those key groups that could play a role in the presidential campaign in California are the "soccer moms and dads, who are economically successful but socially moderate" and the "NASCAR dads, who are more economically populist and socially conservative," said Schnur, who was press secretary for

former Gov. Pete Wilson.

Bush's 2000 campaign spent a lot of time and money in California but lost the state by a big margin.

Schwarzenegger "can help Bush raise money, and he's trying to raise \$200 million," said Bruce Cain, a University of California-Berkeley political scientist on sabbatical at the Brookings Institution.

"The really critical question is, are there reverse coattails? Does the governor drag the president in his wake? There isn't a lot of historical precedence for that. Too many things have to happen for that to work."

That includes Schwarzenegger being successful in his first 100 days, "and that remains to be seen," Cain said.

"He still has to come up with a budget that has to be produced by January, which is the beginning of the

presidential primaries. He still has to have a budget passed by June, and that's before the general election."

Leon Panetta, former White House budget director and chief of staff to President Clinton, said Schwarzenegger's victory might actually hurt Bush.

He said Tuesday's "protest vote should be of concern to every incumbent, not only in the state but throughout the country and the president, too."

The exit polls after people voted showed "anger about the economy, gridlock in Sacramento and anger about the deficit," Panetta said. "If I were George Bush, I'd be a little more nervous today than I was yesterday."

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DPS

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Candidates for the job are also asked to sign a waiver allowing DPS to do a background check on them. Hicks said DPS conducts telephone interviews with an applicant's family members and previous employers, runs a check on his or her credit history and looks into the applicant's criminal background.

"What we're trying to determine is if the person is being honest and truthful," Hicks said. "That's an important characteristic in an officer."

The whole process usually winnows the applicant pool down to one candidate who is then hired on a one-year probationary period. The potential officer will not be commissioned until he or she completes the DPS Standards and Testing class at the Oregon Police Academy and the DPS Field Training and Evaluation Program.

Lt. Herb Horner said newly hired officers need the trial employment period because the standards and testing class is only offered during the

summer. The class is five weeks long and teaches officers criminal law, procedural law, report writing, how to conduct an investigation and many other skills.

"Most of the training they have is exactly like the police have," Horner said.

Horner said officers also learn defensive tactics such as "take downs" and how to disable someone who is armed with a knife; however, officers are also taught to only use force as a last resort. For example, Horner said that when officers-in-training are taught how to use pepper spray, everyone is sprayed so they know what it feels like and won't be overzealous to use it in the field.

"We really do try through the hiring process to get the best people we can," Horner said.

Training doesn't end after they finish their five weeks at the academy, Lt. Joan Saylor said. New officers must still go through several months of on-the-job learning in the Field Training and Evaluation Program.

Paired with a commissioned DPS officer, new officers learn the ins and



DPS, which has faced criticism lately because of officer misconduct over the summer, has stringent hiring practices and a yearlong introductory period for new officers.

Douglas Hopper
Freelance Photographer

outs of the University community in addition to being inundated with law enforcement-related information, like how to handle a student who is possibly intoxicated.

"It's really a difficult process for folks," Saylor said.

Hicks said the majority of the campus community do not realize how hard DPS officers work and what a demanding job it can be.

For example, Hicks said that for every four people who survive training and become a commissioned

DPS officer, at least one person usually quits shortly afterward.

This can become an expensive loss because it costs roughly \$7,000 to equip and train each individual officer. Hicks said DPS normally has to hire new officers every year and a 25 percent turnover rate is pretty common in most law enforcement agencies.

"We're always going to have turnover," he said.

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SORORITIES

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that all sororities are like that, she said.

"I know that we get a lot of questions about that, since the show's been on," she said.

Winkler said the University's alcohol ban was not a factor in the decline because, as far as she can remember,

sororities have always been dry.

Ava Hirschsohn, vice president of social issues for the Panhellenic Council and a member of Delta Gamma sorority, said she thought increasing the recruitment fee from \$20 to \$30 hurt University sororities. Also, fewer women may have applied this year because the applications were all online and more difficult to access.

Hirschsohn pointed out that the incoming class has the highest average GPA of any class admitted to the University in recent memory. She said she thinks that indicates many women are focusing more on academics and less on extracurricular activities.

Mary Slesman, who is in charge of recruitment for Kappa Kappa Gamma, agreed that the \$30 charge was limiting the number of women

joining; however, it also may filter out all but the devoted members.

"The pledge classes that are coming through right now are just amazing, amazing girls," she said. "Next year, I think we're going to have a wonderful recruitment because of them."

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