

Democrats

Continued from Page 1A

he's gone so far to the right that most of the time when I'm talking to people, they're surprised he's an actual Democrat."

Schrader regularly comes under fire from Democrats and Republicans seeking to unseat him.

They use every argument they can throw at him, from his voting record (it's not unusual for him to go out of lockstep with Democrats to vote against a bill) to campaign contributions (he gets a lot of them).

This time, he's got to convince new voters to choose him.

McLeod-Skinner, who has run for Congress in the second district and Secretary of State in the past four years, points to her success in winning Deschutes County in elections, despite it being a heavily Republican district. But she hasn't been voted into an office in Oregon.

"This district, except for Bend, is entirely new," said Jim Moore, a professor of politics at Pacific University. "They don't know her."

According to the Redistricting Report Card, the district is projected to vote 52% Democratic and 48% Republican, and three forecasters pick the district as likely to go for the Democrat.

The incumbent, Kurt Schrader

If re-elected, he could become the second-longest tenured Representative from Oregon behind Earl Blumenauer. (Peter DeFazio isn't running for re-election). Schrader has represented the fifth district since 2009.

He's won each of those seven elections by at least 5% of the vote, and most times he's won by more than that.

To reach the new voters who don't know him, Schrader said he's made multiple trips to areas of the redrawn district like Linn County, Central Oregon and Portland to meet local leaders and voters.

His detractors often point out his voting record in Congress, especially when he goes against the Democratic Party.

Schrader went against party lines by voting against the first version of the American Rescue Plan, though he later voted for the package after it was approved by the Senate.

He said his Problem Solvers Caucus – a bi-partisan group of moderates in the House – came up with a plan that was adopted by the Senate and eventually signed into law.

Schrader said his priorities if re-elected are to get a long-discussed bill that would cap prescription drug prices passed, work on affordable housing and make investments in climate change.

"Actually develop a vegetative management plan that power companies would

have to be required to take down hazardous trees near their lines. They could not ignore that, and that was a big problem in the Beechie Creek fire. That's the type of stuff I would want to be working on over the next several years."

When it comes to campaign cash, Schralder far outpaces his opponents.

His campaign has raised \$2,120,690 from Jan. 1, 201 to March 31, according to the Federal Elections Commission, to go along with his sizable campaign war chest. His campaign has spent \$1,880,536, but it still had \$2,703,441 on hand.

"He's a classic example of the incumbents get the money because he's not a powerful member of Congress," Moore said.

The challenger, Jamie McLeod-Skinner

McLeod-Skinner is known in Central Oregon from her 2018 run for Congress in which she lost by 17 percentage points to Greg Walden. She's been putting in the effort to introduce herself to the rest of the district.

"It's obviously spending a lot more time in the Willamette Valley and the metro area, south Metro area," McLeod-Skinner said. "To your point, it's really about the fact that folks know Kurt is a plus minus for him. They recognize his name, but especially in the past year, it really hurts him.

"He doesn't seem to get the urgency of now."

McLeod-Skinner said she was born in the Midwest and raised by a single mother, a teacher who also drove the school bus to make ends meet.

"In the summer, she was a farmworker," McLeod-Skinner said. "She picked fruit in the orchards. My advocacy for farmworkers is not theoretical."

When McLeod-Skinner was a child, her mother took a teaching job in Tanzania and she moved to Africa, returning to the United States to live in Ashland.

A standout athlete in high school, she placed third in the OSAA Class 3A state track and field meet in the 800 meters.

McLeod-Skinner spent a year at Lewis & Clark, then transferred to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York, where she earned a bachelor's in civil engineering and then earned a master's from Cornell.

After college, she went to work in Bosnia after the war and worked on projects including a sanitation system in Kosovo.

She spent a few years at a refugee resettlement office in the Bay Area, then got back into planning.

She worked as an environmental planner for the Santa Clara Valley Water District for six years and was elected to the Santa Clara City Council and was on that board from 2004 to 2012.

McLeod-Skinner returned to Oregon in 2014 to attend the University of Oregon's law

position for eight years.

Chavez-DeRemer ran for the state House of Representatives in 2016 and 2018, but lost both times to Janelle Bynum.

She's also the candidate her opponents often point out doesn't live in the district. State law allows candidates to run outside of their district.

"If I turn my camera around, you can see the fifth," she said from her home in Happy Valley. "We know who was in control, and the Democrats for sure did not want me in this district and it's a nice way to just carve out a nice little section. I'm not going to let them dictate where my 22 years has been spent, and it's really been involved in the fifth."

Chavez-DeRemer grew up in Hanford, California, south of Fresno. She graduated from Fresno State with a business degree and married her "high school sweetheart" Shawn.

They were both working in health care after college and decided to go to medical school. She stopped medical school to support Shawn, taking jobs such as cooking, babysitting and teaching math and algebra to pay bills.

"It was close to \$400,000 in debt when we moved here at 31 years old," she said. "With credits, with living, with raising babies, we chose to have our children during medical school, and it was expensive."

After moving to Oregon, they started Anesthesia Associates Northwest with five employees, and grew it to 150 employees. Then they started Evolve Health, which focuses on health and wellness.

"I do special projects, kind of in business development and special projects marketing," she said.

Chavez-DeRemer said her experience as a community leader gives her the edge against the other Republican opponents.

"I've had my cell number on my card since day one," she said. "I know that seems silly. That's really all they're asking for is a voice. You're fighting for them, make sure that you do what you say you're going to do.

"Be honest, fight hard and just be who you were when you left. It's not, 'go to Washington, D.C. and be somebody different.' I've never done that, and I don't plan to."

Among the issues she wants to tackle in Congress are water shortages that impact much of the state, funding police departments and closing the country's southern border and fixing the immigration system.

"I am Hispanic," she said. "I understand what it means to come across, not me personally, but my family, legally and what that meant to be an American and why the Hispanic population believes in faith, family and freedom, and they want to be part of that.

"We're hindering these on the back of these drug cartels and these coyotes who

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Web site: www.SilvertonAppeal.com

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News Director
Don Currie
503-399-6655
dcurrie@statesmanjournal.com

Advertising
Westsmb@gannett.com

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school, from where she graduated in 2016.

"I'm an attorney with a focus on natural resources law," she said.

She is on the boards of the Jefferson County Education Service District and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board.

Following the Alameda Wildfire of 2020, she was asked to take the job of interim city manager in Talent in January 2021, a Southern Oregon city that lost half of the town to wildfires.

It had been a few chaotic months with staff in the city, and she focused on hiring the right staff for the city.

McLeod-Skinner said she helped bring in over \$5 million from the state government for recovery and took steps like Spanish translation of city materials to help reach more of the community.

She commuted between her home in Terrebonne and Talent – she lives in the second district – and worked 14-hour days.

"It was very much a labor of love. I remember joking with my wife, 'Don't tell this to the city council, but I would totally do this for free.'"

McLeod-Skinner's campaign has raised \$545,505 as of March 31, according to the FEC. She points out that her campaign doesn't take money from political action

committees. Her campaign has spent \$235,395, but still has \$310,110 on hand.

Does McLeod-Skinner have a shot at pulling off the upset and knocking off one of Oregon's most well-known politicians?

"If it's a low turnout election, I think she does," Moore said. "If it's a regular turnout, I don't think she does."

Kurt Schrader

Residence: Canby
Family: Wife, Susan, and eight children.
Occupation: Congressman
Previous elected offices: 5th District seat since 2009; Oregon Senate, 2003-09; Oregon House, 1997-2003.

Jamie McLeod-Skinner

Residence: Terrebonne
Family: Married
Occupation: Attorney
Previous elected offices: Santa Clara (California) city council member, 2004 to 2012.
Bill Poehler covers Marion County for the Statesman Journal. Contact him at bpoehler@StatesmanJournal.com

Republicans

Continued from Page 1A

on his hands.

"The first thing I did was get involved with Meals on Wheels in the Portland area," he said. "And I started delivering a weekly route. I was then asked to join their board and sat on their board for six years and was really proud of the work we did there."

After volunteering on the board of the Oregon Ballet Theater and helping that organization come back from the brink of bankruptcy, he was asked to join other boards, including the Portland Japanese Gardens.

"I think being on five non-profit boards might have been spreading myself a little thin, but yeah it was really rewarding work," he said.

Crumpacker moved to Bend four years ago; he'd spent time there as a child when his parents bought a farm in the 1970s.

Crumpacker placed fourth in the Republican primary for the Second District in 2020. Now he's one of the frontrunners in the Fifth District.

"This is my full-time job. I shut down my fund. This is the sole focus of my life," Crumpacker said.

He said one of the key issues for Congress is to get inflation under control. He said the country needs to work on its energy policy and cutting federal spending. He said the state needs to do a better job managing forests to prevent wildfires.

"I live in the district, that is something that I think voters care about," Crumpacker said. "They want to be represented by someone who lives in the district. There are numerous areas where I think I have an advantage over my opponents, and I'm willing to fight."

Crumpacker raised \$467,195 as of March 31, according to filings with the Federal Elections Commission, the most among the Republican candidates, but less than either of the Democrats that are running.

His campaign had spent \$29,226 and had \$437,968 on hand.

Most of his donors were individuals from out of state, including Olympic rowers – and founders of Facebook forerunner HarvardConnection – Tyler and Cameron Winklevoss.

Crumpacker has been endorsed by Oregon Right to Life.

Lori Chavez-DeReamer

Chavez-DeReamer is the most political-experienced candidate in the field.

She was elected to the Happy Valley City Council in 2004 and served in that position for six years. She was elected mayor, the first female in the position, and was in that

are taking true advantage of the Hispanic culture, and I would like to be a voice for that."

Chavez-DeRemer's campaign raised \$455,930 as of March 31, and spent \$247,415 of that. It had \$208,515 remaining.

Most of her campaign cash has come from individual donors from Oregon, including over \$30,000 of her own money.

Chavez-DeReamer has been endorsed by Congresswoman Elise Stefanik, State Senator Chuck Thomsen, former State Representative Bill Post, Linn County Commissioner Roger Nyquist and State Representatives Shelly Boshart Davis and Jessica George among others.

John Di Paola

Di Paola grew up in a working-class Italian-American family in New Jersey in the 1950s. He started college in the early 1970s, but dropped out after his father grew ill and he had to support his family.

He had various jobs including as a truck driver and as an orderly at a hospital. Di Paola said that job ignited his interest in medicine and took a job as an X-Ray technician while finishing his pre-med degree.

While attending medical school at Rutgers, he started a contracting business doing remodels to pay his way through school.

He came to Portland in 1982 and trained as an orthopedic surgeon at OHSU.

He started a practice in Tualatin to exclusively treat injured workers. After decades building up the practice, Occupational Orthopedics, he sold it and retired in 2020.

"When I was a college dropout driving a truck in New Jersey, you could just ask anybody if I would ever be a doctor and they could tell you unequivocally no, this guy doesn't have anything he needs to be a doctor," he said. "The thing I do have is I've been blessed with intelligence and my culture has been hard work and I'm generally an optimistic person."

Di Paola opted to run in the fifth district where he lives in Wilsonville.

"I really wanted to flip a seat," Di Paola said. "I really feel that where an opportunity exists, it would be really important to move a Democrat out of a seat and move a conservative into the seat."

He said his priorities if elected are securing the border with Mexico, protecting the American way of life and how the United States handled the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We were all denied our rights through arbitrary mandates that were implementing procedures of it already proven to be ineffective," he said.

"We already knew that lockdowns, quarantining people, wearing masks and past exposures to infectious disease, it was pretty clear that was not an effective strategy. And yet they implemented it not only in our country, but around the world. De-

stroyed our economy, destroyed our ability to feed poor people that were on the edge of starvation and poverty."

DiPaola's campaign raised \$53,125 as of March 31 and spent \$23,996 of that.

Madison Oatman

Madison Oatman wasn't a bad student at West Salem High School, he just didn't show up much. He was more fond of spending time outside than in a classroom.

He played football for years growing up and admits he wasn't great at it.

"Around the same time as Brett Smith," Oatman said. "I played football with him a little bit as well. He was a little bit younger than me, but I was on the team when he was coming up, so to speak.

"I was pretty small in high school, so I played mostly wide receiver and defensive back."

Oatman said he would have graduated in 2010, but was kicked out his senior year because he skipped class too much. A few years later he took his remaining classes at night at Chemeketa Community College and attained his high school diploma.

"So how it kind of all got started for me is everybody's done dumb things throughout their lives like me," he said.

He lives in Bend and works in the construction industry, doing demolition on water and fire-damaged buildings.

Oatman said every time he and his family get together, the conversations go to politics. That's what made him want to run.

Oatman said there aren't many people of his generation – he is 30 years old – who are serving in Congress.

"My generation, we are not prepared to take over and run a country," he said. "My generation specifically sits back and we really don't do anything about it."

He said his priorities in Congress are ensuring people's individual freedoms, opening up federal forests for logging and cleaning up of lands, and instituting term limits on Senators and Congressmen.

"We have term limits for presidents, why are we allowing people to serve in Congress and Senate for 40 years?" Oatman said. "It was never meant to be a career."

Oatman hasn't reported any campaign finance activity.

Laurel Roses

Laurel Roses was born and raised in Boring. In the summer between her junior and senior years at Barlow High School, she met and later married Dave Roses.

"I'm going to have my family now, and then I'm going to do my stuff," she recalls of thinking at the time. "By the time I was 30, I

See REPUBLICANS, Page 3B