

NEW SECTION

WAC 390-05-274 Party affiliation--Party preference. (1)
"Party affiliation" as that term is used in chapter 42.17 RCW and Title 390 WAC means the candidate's party preference as expressed on his or her declaration of candidacy. A candidate's preference does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by that party, or that the party approves of or associates with that candidate.

(2) A reference to "political party affiliation," "political party," or "party" on disclosure forms adopted by the commission and in Title 390 WAC refers to the candidate's self-identified party preference.

A small, handwritten mark, possibly a checkmark or a stylized signature, located in the upper right quadrant of the page.

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Published August 16, 2010

Challengers prepare for a fight

CURT WOODWARD; The Associated Press

Fed up with the results they're getting out of big Democratic majorities in Olympia, labor unions and other traditional Democratic allies are targeting some incumbents this primary season.

The most noticeable example is in Snohomish County's 38th District, which includes Everett and Marysville. Incumbent Sen. Jean Berkey, D-Everett, has faced about \$275,000 in spending by independent committees opposing her and supporting Democratic rival Nick Harper.

Democrats have controlled both chambers of the Legislature for several years, tallying majorities of 61-37 in the House and 31-18 in the Senate in 2010. Berkey is a member of the self-described "Roadkill Caucus," a group of centrist and conservative Democrats who say they often feel run over by the political right and left.

She supported state worker furloughs and opposed a tax increase on banks during this year's session, among other positions. But Berkey also has an 87 percent lifetime record of voting for the State Labor Council's agenda – proof, she says, that the left is just trying to make an example of her.

"I've never seen anything like this. Never," Berkey said.

THE CHALLENGER

Her Democratic opponent is Nick Harper, county conservation director for the Cascade Land Conservancy. Harper is young and has no elective experience, but boasts endorsements from several traditional Democratic allies, including major labor entities and groups that support the environment, and abortion rights.

He wants to help the recession-hobbled budget by focusing on tax reforms, including the proposed state income tax on wealthier residents and a repeal of the bank preference that Berkey supported.

"I thought it was the perfect time to try and challenge the status quo and see if we can come out of this recession stronger than we went into it," Harper said.

He's got plenty of help. The roughly \$275,000 being spent by outside groups to either oppose Berkey or support Harper is an unusually large figure for a state legislative primary.

Much of those donations are coming from labor unions, including the Washington Federation of State Employees and locals of the Service Employees International Union. Trial lawyers also have donated money.

Also in the race is Rod Rieger, who filed as preferring the Conservative Party.

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Published September 02, 2010

Election results same after final vote tally

Brad Shannon, staff writer

Olympia - Nearly 43 percent of Thurston County voters cast ballots in the Aug. 17 primary, according to a final count of votes certified Wednesday by the county Canvassing Board.

The Auditor's Office tallied the final ballots, bringing the total cast to 63,363 out of 147,782 voters registered – or 42.88 percent. Statewide turnout is slightly less than 41 percent, and the Office of the Secretary of State is scheduled to certify statewide results Tuesday.

The outcomes of local races were not changed by the votes counted since election night.

In the race for sheriff, Democrat Debra Mealy expanded her early lead of 37 votes over independent candidate John Snaza, winning by 204 votes at the end.

The race was the closest primary in the county, and both qualify for the Nov. 2 ballot under the top-two format. If they had been vying for the second position on the ballot, a recount would have been needed, county elections manager Steve Homan said.

For county elections results, go to www.thurstonvotes.org. For state results, go to www.vote.wa.gov.

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Published August 19, 2010

GOP licks chops after primary

BRAD SHANNON; Staff writer

Republicans said their hopes for a major political comeback in the state Senate and House were boosted Tuesday as several incumbent Democrats in the two chambers failed to capture half the vote or were trailing their GOP challenger.

"I think we're within striking distance, no question about it," said Senate Republican Leader Mike Hewitt of Walla Walla, who is now in a 31-18 minority. He cited Republicans leading incumbent Democrats, including Sens. Chris Marr in Spokane, Claudia Kauffman in Kent and Eric Oemig in Kirkland.

Elsewhere around the region, Republicans were eyeing gains in the House. Kevin Carns, leader of the House Republican Organizational Committee, said he thinks his party could gain six to 13 seats, reducing if not erasing the Democrats' 61-37 advantage.

But Democrats were not conceding much – even though powerful House Ways and Means chairwoman Kelli Linville, D-Bellingham, was losing to Republican Vincent Buys in Whatcom County's 42nd district and other Democrats, such as Rep. John Driscoll of Spokane, were well below 50 percent of the vote.

"We have about 15 seats that are close seats. That's generally what we have at this stage. Most of them are fairly predictable. I think we'll do fairly well in some of the toss-ups," said Rep. Sam Hunt, an Olympia Democrat who easily outdistanced his closest challenger, Chris Ward.

Hunt is the chairman of the House Democratic Campaign Committee and helps caucus candidates – including Rep. Fred Finn, the Democrat from west Thurston County who had less than 48 percent of the vote in his first re-election run in the 35th district, which runs from west of Olympia to Bremerton.

Finn emerged from the Tuesday's count as the top vote-getter ahead of Republican Linda Simpson of Bremerton, who got roughly 40 percent, and independent Glenn Gaither of Hoodspert, who was much further back.

"I think anytime you have three people running, particularly with a first-term incumbent, it's not unusual to have these kind of numbers," Finn said, adding that he expects a tight race ahead but not a lot of worry. "I think the numbers are good enough they give me encouragement, but not so good I can become complacent."

"I think Fred will be all right. But again, he is in a very tight race," Hunt said, expressing the same hope for 35th district Rep. Kathy Haigh, D-Shelton, who narrowly led Republican Dan Griffey of Allyn in early returns.

Hunt also expects his party to hold both seats in the 22nd district, which serves Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater – including his own. In the other race there, to replace retiring Rep. Brendan Williams, Republican Jason Hearn of Lacey and Democrat Chris Reykdal of Tumwater emerged as the top two vote-getters.

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WA HOUSE Preview: All Eyes On A Single District

August 16, 2010 4:29 PM | [Permalink](#) | [Comments \(1\)](#) | [Share This](#)

By Tim Sahd

With one big exception, the general election fields in WA House contests are basically set. But the machinations of the state's relatively new primary system give tomorrow's election added importance.

The state's all-party, top-two primary system means, theoretically, that two candidates from the same party could match up this fall. But that's not likely to happen in the state's three contested seats.

The race to replace Rep. Brian Baird (D-WA 03) will be the only contest tomorrow that will be in doubt. Ex-state Rep. Denny Heck (D), state Rep. Jaime Herrera (R) and ex-Bush admin. official David Castillo (R) will fight for two spots on the Nov. ballot. But because GOP votes will be split, Heck is virtually assured of a spot. The real fight will be for second.

Of the two, Herrera has raised the most cash, but hasn't exactly overwhelmed anyone with her fundraising prowess. In fact, Heck has brought in a total of \$1M (including \$350K out of his own pocket), while Herrera (\$410K) and Castillo (\$257K) have combined for much less than that. But Herrera's raised enough to air cable TV ads, a luxury Castillo has not been able to afford. She's also impressed DC GOPers enough to work her way into the NRCC's "Young Guns" program.

But while Herrera's cash advantage gives her the edge, Castillo is counting on his strong performances on the stump and grassroots supporters to bring him the come-from-behind victory. He also has some establishment support, as the state's popular AG Rob McKenna (R) and other leaders have endorsed him and have held fundraisers for the outsider. He's also won the endorsements of all of the CD's most important newspapers.

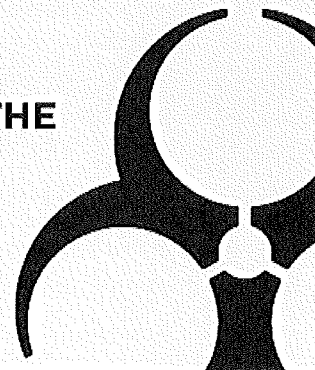
Regardless of the nominee, the general election should be a closely fought race. The *Cook Political Report's* PVI rating for the seat is EVEN, meaning this is a race that is evenly divided between the parties. Heck will run a centrist campaign, and his early TV ads touting his business credentials could easily have been aired by a GOPer. He'll also have the early cash lead, as he has over \$700K in the bank; Herrera and Castillo, meanwhile, will be largely broke after a costly primary.

Considering these advantages, Heck should start the general with the slight advantage. But given the current environment, GOPers should catch up here quickly.

In WA-08, Rep. Dave Reichert (R) and ex-Microsoft exec. Suzan DelBene (D) are virtually guaranteed the top-two slots in the primary, but the winner will certainly trumpet the

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victory as a harbinger of things to come in the fall. But don't believe it.

In '08, ex-Microsoft exec. Darcy Burner (D) and Dems combined for slightly more than Reichert's 48.5% of the vote, and trumpeted the results as a sign that the GOPer was toast in the fall. But after Reichert had a chance to employ a smart general election strategy, he managed to turn it around and defeat Burner 53-47%. Unless one candidate annihilates the other tomorrow, the results will be largely meaningless. But in this Dem-trending CD, expect a close race in the fall.

Finally, keep an eye on Rep. Rick Larsen's (D-WA 02) seat. He took 54% in the '08 primary, but '00 nominee John Koster (R) has been trumpeting an April poll showing him leading Larsen in this marginally Dem-leaning seat. This seat is not on anyone's top-tier of targeted races, but it would certainly move up should Koster turn in an impressive performance.

1 Comments

"In fact, Heck has brought in a total of \$1M (including \$350K out of his own pocket), while Herrera (\$410K) and Castillo (\$257K) have combined for much less than that."

I take issue with this point. Subtract Heck's loan of \$350K and it puts him at about \$650K raised. That's almost exactly what the two main GOP rivals raised (410 + 257 = \$667K). I doubt money will be an issue for whichever Republican survives the primary today. This district is dead even according to Cook's PVI and is definitely a top GOP target.

Coop | August 17, 2010 8:57 AM

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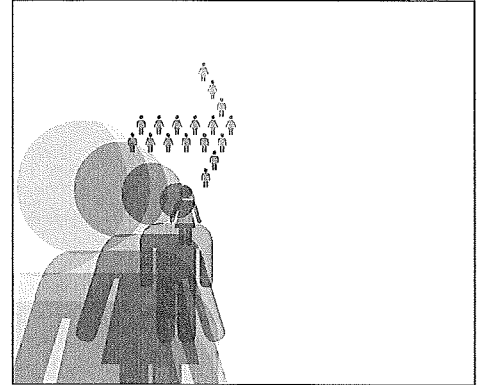
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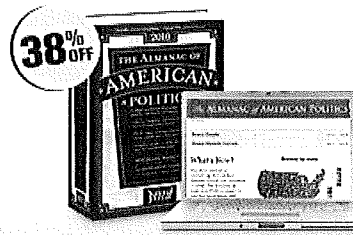
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John White

From: Blinn, Katie [kblinn@secstate.wa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 4:36 PM
To: Gurtler, Debra
Cc: Hamlin, Shane
Subject: RE: Top Two Primary
Attachments: Top Two Primary Emergency Rules.pdf; District Court Order 7-15-05.pdf

Our initial conclusion is that we can implement this by rule. We are going to be talking to the AG's Office more tomorrow and the rest of the week.

In 2005, we adopted emergency rules to implement I-872. I have attached a copy. These emergency rules were only in effect from May until July 2005, when the District Court struck down the initiative.

In the Court's July 2005 ruling, which I have also attached, the Court noted (on pages 8-10) the history of all the primary election legislation in 2004 and 2005. Beginning on page 31, the Court addressed whether I-872 impliedly repealed the minor party nominating system and concluded that the voters' approval of I-872 did impliedly repeal the minor party nominating system.

The Court never addressed the broader issue of implementing by administrative rule since the Court ultimately ruled in favor of the political parties, but our current thinking is that it can be implemented by WAC, just as it was in 2005.

From: Gurtler, Debra [mailto:Gurtler.Debra@leg.wa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 3:10 PM
To: Blinn, Katie
Subject: RE: Top Two Primary

What is your timing for reaching a conclusion whether you think it can be implemented by rule? Have you reached any conclusions so far?

Thanks,

Debra J. Gurtler
Senior Policy Analyst
Democratic Caucus
House of Representatives
310 John L. O'Brien Building
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

360-786-7216
360-786-1283 (fax)
Gurtler.Debra@leg.wa.gov

From: Blinn, Katie [mailto:kblinn@secstate.wa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 9:26 AM
To: Blinn, Katie; Fraser, Kristen; Rowe, Owen; Reilly, Marsha; Taylor, Tracey; Gurtler, Debra; Lund, Jami; Hayward, Allen; Buchholz, Keith; Stender, Michelle; Swanson, Sharon; Calderon, Cindy; cbridston@wacounties.org; Jones, Steve
Cc: Hamlin, Shane

7/9/2008

Subject: RE: Top Two Primary

It really is crazy here. I am trying to write emails and answer the phone at the same time and apparently it isn't working.

I meant to say that the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld the Top Two Primary, disagreeing with the political parties' facial challenge.

Thanks!

From: Blinn, Katie

Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 9:23 AM

To: 'Fraser, Kristen'; 'Owen Rowe (rowe.owen@leg.wa.gov)'; 'Reilly, Marsha'; 'Taylor, Tracey'; 'Gurtler, Debra'; 'Lund, Jami'; Allen Hayward; 'Buchholz, Keith'; 'Stender, Michelle'; 'Sharon Swanson (Swanson.Sharon@leg.wa.gov)'; Cindy Calderon (calderon.cindy@leg.wa.gov); Chris Bridston (cbridston@wacounties.org); 'Steve Jones (jones.steve@leg.wa.gov)'

Cc: Hamlin, Shane

Subject: Top Two Primary

Legislative Staff,

I think that most of you have already heard that the U.S. Supreme Court has upheld the political parties' challenge to the Top Two Primary, I-872. The political parties made a facial challenge.

We plan to implement the Top Two in 2008. We are still digesting the opinion and how best to implement it. I have attached a copy of the opinion in case you are interested in reading it.

Thank you and we will keep you informed.

Katie

(It is a little crazy over here. ☺)

7/9/2008



PDC NEWS

711 Capitol Way, Room 206
Olympia Washington

Public Disclosure Commission

Bill Brumsickle, Chair
Ken Schellberg, Vice-Chair
Dave Seabrook, Secretary
Jane Noland, Member
Jim Clements, Member

May 22, 2008

Volume 8 Issue No 4

Advisory Matters

The Commission discussed how campaign finance laws are impacted by Initiative 872 (Top Two Primary) and the recent U. S. Supreme Court decision upholding the initiative. The discussion focused on three actions the Commission might take to provide guidance in order to avoid uncertainty on the part of those subject to the PDC's jurisdiction during the 2008 election season:

1. At the June 26 meeting, adopt an emergency rule to explain that "party affiliation" in existing rules means "party preference" and to clarify that candidates should indicate "party preference" on any PDC form that asks for "political party affiliation," "party affiliation," "political party," or "party;"
2. Adopt a second emergency rule to preserve Initiative 134's bona fide party limits for any minor party that filed at least one valid certificate of nomination under former RCW 29A.20 in 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, or 2007. Staff identified the parties as: Green Party, Libertarian Party, Progressive Party, Socialist Workers Party, and World Workers Party; and
3. Suspend enforcement of the section of RCW 42.17.510 and WAC 390-18-020 that requires party preference on any political advertisement naming a candidate for partisan office.

The discussion regarding how to implement I-872 will continue at the Commission's June 26, 2008 meeting.

The Commission agreed to stay enforcement of the prohibitions against false claims of incumbency and endorsement found in RCW 42.17.530(1)(b) and (c) until the legislature can address the viability of those sections, in light of the state Supreme Court's analysis of RCW 42.17.531(1)(a) in *Rickert v. PDC*.

Reporting Modifications

The Commission renewed a Personal Financial Affairs Statement reporting modification for **William H. Gates, Sr.**, Regent, University of Washington. A change to the renewal removed the reporting modification previously granted for the United Way of America because Mr. Gates is no longer a board member.

The Personal Financial Affairs Statement reporting modification for **Steven Hill**, Administrator for the Washington Health Care Authority, was renewed and includes a new exemption from reporting the business and governmental customers of the Consumers Union and Leapfrog Group for Patient Safety, entities for which he became a board member during 2007. A final change to the renewal removed the reporting modification previously granted for the Seattle Symphony Orchestra because Mr. Hill is no longer a board member.

The Commission renewed a Personal Financial Affairs Statement reporting modification for **James Rogers**, King County Superior Court Judge, and included a new exemption from disclosing the location of his residence to protect his personal safety based on Judge Rogers' assertions that King County judges have been receiving threats.

The Commission renewed a Personal Financial Affairs Statement reporting modification for **Bruce Heller**, King County Superior Court Judge, which exempts him from disclosing the location of his residence. Commission members agreed to redact Judge Heller's home address from the Candidate Registration he filed in January 2008.

Reporting modifications, with no changes, were renewed for:

- **Kenneth Alhadeff**, Regent, Washington State University
- **Kristianne Blake**, Regent, University of Washington
- **Tamara Conrad**, Commissioner, King County Fire Protection Dist. 41
- **Andrea Darvas**, Judge, King Co. Superior Court
- **Deborah Ehrlichman**, Director, Shoreline School Dist.
- **Jonathon Ferraiuolo**, Commissioner, Spokane County Fire Dist. 8
- **Orlan J. Gessord**, Director, Washougal School Dist.
- **Claire S. Grace**, Commissioner, Washington State Housing Finance Commission
- **Jayasri Guha**, Member, Information Services Board
- **Dory L. Nicpon**, Professional Staff, Washington State Senate Committee Services
- **Kathleen M. O'Sullivan**, Member, Commission on Judicial Conduct
- **Palmer Robinson**, Judge, King Co. Superior Court
- **Dan Schober**, Director, Lopez Island School District
- **Jesse R. Thompson**, Commissioner, Port of Grays Harbor
- **Mark Thompson**, Commissioner, Blank Lake Fire Protection Dist. 5
- **Nancy Whitten**, Council Member, City of Sammamish

The Commission meeting materials can be found at www.pdc.wa.gov under **Commission Meetings**. For additional information concerning these issues contact Lori Anderson, Communications & Training Officer, at (360) 664-2737, toll free 1-877-601-2828 or e-mail at landerson@pdc.wa.gov.

The next meeting of the Public Disclosure Commission is tentatively scheduled for June 26, 2008.

HeraldNet

Everett, Wash.

Published: Wednesday, August 18, 2010

Voters select finalists for Legislature

Herald Staff

1st District

House Position 1

Republican Dennis Richter and Democrat Derek Stanford, both of Bothell, were leading a crowded field of five candidates to fill the seat of longtime representative Al O'Brien, D-Mountlake Terrace, who's retiring from state politics.

Stanford had received 27.8 percent of the vote compared to 23.4 percent for Richter. Their closest challenger, former Bothell Councilwoman Sandy Guinn, 59, trailed with 21.7 percent of votes.

The top two vote-getters advance to the Nov. 2 general election.

Other candidates include Democrat Vince DeMiero and Lynnwood insurance agency owner Dick Lapinski.

The 1st District covers areas of Bothell, Woodinville, Mountlake Terrace and Brier as well as portions of Lynnwood and Edmonds.

House Position 2

Heidi Munson, a Bothell Republican, held a commanding primary election lead late Tuesday in her bid to earn a spot on the Nov. 2 general election ballot.

Munson had received 48.2 percent of votes cast compared with 26.2 percent Luis Moscoso, 60, a Mountlake Terrace Democrat.

David Griffin, 47, an east Snohomish County Democrat, trailed with 25.6 percent of votes.

They vying to win the seat held by Mark Ericks, who's retiring from state politics. He's been nominated to be U.S. Marshal for the Western District.

10th District

House Position 1

Incumbent Rep. Norma Smith ran unopposed on the ballot, but was challenged by a late write-in campaign by longtime Stanwood area Democrat Laura Lewis.

Lewis must come away with 1 percent of all the votes cast in order to be listed on the November ballot against Smith. In Snohomish County on Tuesday night, about 4 percent of the vote was for write-in candidates.

Lewis, 71, is the vice chairwoman of the Snohomish County Democratic Party.

Smith, 59, a Clinton Republican, won her last election after originally being appointed to her position in the state House of Representatives.

The 10th District covers the Stanwood area, Island County and southwest Skagit County.

House Position 2

Incumbent Rep. Barbara Bailey held an early lead of about 61.1 percent over Democratic challenger Tom Riggs, who is the park ranger at Camano Island State Park.

The candidates will meet again in the November election. Bailey, 65, an Oak Harbor Republican, is running for a fifth term in the state Legislature. Riggs, with about 38.8 percent of the vote, is a first-time candidate.

21st District

Senate

Veteran Sen. Paull Shin, D-Edmonds, will likely face a challenge from Republican David Preston in November.

Shin received 64.8 percent to 22.6 percent for Preston. Republican Glen Sayes received 12.6 percent.

Shin, 74, was elected to the state Senate in 1998. Preston, 50, of Edmonds, is a newcomer to politics. He is an employee health insurance agent.

House Position 1

Rep. Mary Helen Roberts, D-Lynnwood, faced only one challenger in the primary, Republican Ed Borey of Mukilteo. The two automatically move on to the general election.

Roberts received 9,016 votes, 59 percent, to Borey's 6,229, or 40.8 percent.

Roberts, 62, was elected to the state House of Representatives in 2004. Borey, 60, is making his first try at public office. He is a retired executive for computer technology and security companies.

32nd District

Senate

Incumbent Maralyn Chase, D-Edmonds, and Republican challenger David Baker, Kenmore's mayor, were the top vote-getters in early returns Tuesday.

Chase, 68, received 46.6 percent of the vote compared to 40.6 percent for Baker, 66. They held a commanding lead over Democrat Patty Butler of Shoreline, who had 12.7 percent of the vote.

House Position 1

Former Shoreline Councilwoman Cindy Ryu was the leading vote-getter in early primary election returns late Tuesday.

She received 41.3 percent of the vote. Shoreline physician and Republican Art Coday garnered 38.5 percent.

Democrat Doris Fujioka McConnell was third with 20.2 percent.

House Position 2

Incumbent Ruth Kagi, D-Lake Forest Park, with 55.3 percent of the vote and Republican newcomer Gary Gagliardi, 36.6 percent, were leading a three-person field in early returns Tuesday night. Democrat Stan Lippmann, was trailing with 8.2 percent.

38th District

House Position 1

Representative John McCoy, D-Tulalip, held an early lead over Republican candidate Hugh Fleet of Marysville on Tuesday night in the Legislative District 38, State Representative Position 1 race.

McCoy had 55.3 percent of the vote while Fleet had 44.7 percent.

McCoy, 66, is seeking his fifth term as state representative. He is chairman of the House Technology, Energy, and Communications Committee and also serves on the advisory board for the Cascade Land Conservancy.

McCoy is the retired general manager for Tulalip's Quil Ceda Village.

Fleet, 62, is a Telecom manager for the Marysville School District.

House Position 2

Rep. Mike Sells, D-Everett, a former teacher in the Everett School District, appeared to hold a strong lead over Republican challenger, Iris Lilly of Marysville when the earliest count was released on Tuesday night.

Sells, 65, won 57.6 percent of the vote and Lilly, 48, won 42.4 percent of the vote.

Sells is seeking his fourth term in the State House of Representatives.

Lilly is a training specialist with Service Alternatives, a company that works with people with developmental disabilities.

The 38th Legislative District covers parts of Snohomish County including Everett, Marysville, and the part of the Snohomish Valley west of Highway 9.

39th Legislative District

House Position 1

Incumbent state Rep. Dan Kristiansen, R-Snohomish, was trouncing his Democratic opponent for the 39th Legislative District's Position 1.

Kristiansen won 61.3 percent votes tallied by Tuesday night in Snohomish County, where much of the district lies. Democrat Eleanor Walters had 38.7 percent of the votes there. Both candidates advance to the Nov. 2 election.

The district also includes pieces of Skagit, Whatcom and King counties.

Kristiansen, 47, is seeking a fifth term in office. Walters, 55, of Snohomish, has identified education as the key to the state's health and wants to "stir the pot" for improvements on U.S. 2. Walters has not held elected office.

44th Legislative District

House Position 1

Veteran state Rep. Hans Dunshee's likely challenger in November will be Bob McCaughan.

Dunshee, D-Snohomish, has served eight terms in the Legislature and Tuesday's primary returns shone favorably on his chances for a ninth.

He garnered 50.4 percent of the 17,133 votes. Dunshee's nearest rival was McCaughan, 62. The Republican from Snohomish won 33.2 percent of the vote. If the relative vote tallies hold, Republican Shahram Hadian will not advance to the general election. The 39-year-old pastor from Everett had 16.1 percent of the vote.

House Position 2

State Rep. Mike Hope had a comfortable lead Tuesday night -- though he didn't face much of a formal challenge for the 44th Legislative District's Position 2.

The Lake Stevens Republican had 62.6 percent of the 17,020 votes counted. Democrat John Boerger of Lake Stevens had 37 percent of the vote, even though he announced in June that he intended to exit the race. His name remained on the ballot because the announcement came after the withdrawal deadline. Democrats still ask voters to support Boerger so they can appoint somebody to the seat.

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Exhibit 268

The Seattle Times

Thursday, August 19, 2010 - Page updated at 05:46 PM

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Washington's top-two primary gets voters the better choice

THE top-two voting system worked well in this week's primary election.

By sending to the November ballot the top two vote-getters of whatever party, even the same party, the system gives voters better choices. In key races, it also gives minority-party voters a new influence.

Consider the 38th District, which includes Everett and the Tulalip Reservation. The district is heavily Democratic. The state senator, Democrat Jean Berkey, was challenged by Nick Harper, also a Democrat. Each raised about \$30,000, but organized labor threw in \$188,000 to knock out Berkey with negative ads. Meanwhile, a conservative Republican, Rod Rieger, ran with almost no money.

Primary results: Harper 35 percent, Berkey 33 percent and Rieger 31 percent. In the old way, the November ballot would be Harper, the top Democrat, versus Rieger, the top Republican. Rieger would have made the ballot because of the "R" next to his name, though he was the weakest of the three — and his voters would have no effect on the outcome.

In the new system, the two strongest candidates, Harper and Berkey, make the November ballot. The district's Republican voters have to accept a Democrat, but they have the deciding vote on which brand of Democrat.

In Yakima, the opposite happened. The 14th District is represented by Republican Rep. Norm Johnson. He got 45 percent of the vote, Republican Michelle Strobel got 34 percent, and Democrat Scott Brumback got 21 percent.

The new system offers November voters two Republicans — the incumbent favoring same-sex civil unions and his challenger opposing them. The district's Democrats will have to accept a Republican, but they will have the deciding vote on which brand of Republican.

That is shared power — and a good thing.

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John White

From: Blinn, Katie [kblinn@secstate.wa.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 3:38 PM
To: Heffernan, Trova; Hamlin, Shane
Cc: Handy, Nick
Subject: RE: The Seattle Times
Attachments: 12 Grange's Reply Brief.pdf; Top Two Primary Emergency Rules.pdf

I figured out what Rob was referring to. In Tom's Reply brief, he provided some suggestions on how this could be implemented. I have attached a .pdf version of the brief. This is also posted at:
<http://www.secstate.wa.gov/documentvault/GrangesReplyBrief-1998.pdf>

But you should be clear with the reporter that this was an idea that was suggested during the litigation. It was not part of our original implementation plans in 2005. I have also attached the emergency WACs that we had adopted back in May 2005 to implement I-872. These were only in place for about a month before I-872 was struck down and we reverted to the pick-a-party primary.

From: Heffernan, Trova
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2008 11:55 AM
To: Hamlin, Shane; Blinn, Katie
Subject: The Seattle Times

Ralph Thomas with The Seattle Times is looking for the research we did showing the impact of a top two primary – he is referring to the handout that showed how often candidates from the same political party advance to the general in a wide open primary. Does this ring a bell?

Trova Heffernan
Communications Director
Washington Secretary of State Sam Reed
Tel: (360) 902-4140
Mobile: (360) 791-7303
Visit us online at www.secstate.wa.gov and www.myspace.com/secstatewa

The Seattle Times

Wednesday, August 18, 2010 - Page updated at 01:46 AM

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Pivotal Senate primary in Washington decided

By CURT WOODWARD
Associated Press Writer

Democratic Sen. Patty Murray and her leading Republican challenger emerged from their primary Tuesday and will face off again in November in a race that could be pivotal in the battle for control of the Senate.

Murray and Republican Dino Rossi already have been campaigning against each other in anticipation of a fall matchup, and President Barack Obama came to the state Tuesday to bolster the Democrat's candidacy. The two had coffee at a bakery with small business owners, and Obama urged Democrats to "send her back to Washington."

Obama's presence shows how high the stakes are in the race. Republicans will likely need to oust Murray if they want take back control of the Senate.

Rossi, a real estate investor who narrowly lost bids for governor in 2004 and 2008, has been attacking Murray over her efforts to bring home federal dollars at a time when the debt is soaring, and over her votes on the financial regulation bill. He declared Tuesday that he would put the nation's capital on "a pork-free diet" if elected.

Murray, who is fourth in Senate Democratic leadership, says her experience and clout make her the right candidate for the job, and she says Rossi's opposition to financial regulation makes him "the best friend Wall Street and big banks can buy."

Washington was one of three states holding elections Tuesday.

Former U.S. Attorney Matt Mead narrowly led state auditor and Sarah Palin-backed Rita Meyer in the GOP gubernatorial primary in Wyoming. The winner will be favored to win in November and help the GOP pick up a governor's seat, with popular Democratic Gov. Dave Freudenthal stepping down after two terms.

A normally quiet special legislative election along the California coast became a more prominent contest because a Democrat victory could have put the party within one vote of a two-thirds majority in the Senate that is needed to approve budgets and tax increases. Obama endorsed the Democrat, but the Republican won.

In Washington, the Senate race was a "top two" primary, meaning the candidates with the highest vote totals move on to November.

With about 59 percent of the expected vote counted, Murray had 46 percent of the vote, compared with Rossi's 34 percent. GOP hopeful Clint Didier, a former tight end and Super Bowl winner for the Washington Redskins who has the backing of tea party activists and Palin, was running a distant third with 12 percent.

The results show how close the race might be for Murray. The fact that an 18-year senator is not able to pull a majority of the vote shows her vulnerability, but she could gain ground in November when the Democratic base is more motivated than in a primary that was essentially a foregone conclusion.

Murray said she has been underestimated "all my life. And that's just fine, thank you." She called the primary "really one step on the road to victory in November."

Murray has built a reputation as an underdog ever since she was told by a politician early in her career she was just "a mom in tennis shoes" who couldn't amount to much. The quote inspired her to get into politics and has been her catch phrase in past campaigns.

In Wyoming, Mead was clinging to a 714-vote lead out of 105,000 votes cast. The winner will face Wyoming Democratic Party chairwoman Leslie Petersen.

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Seattle Post-Intelligencer

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/local/6420ap_wa_eln_wash_primary_glance.html

Last updated August 20, 2008 7:41 p.m. PT

One-party Wash. legislative races at a glance

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A list of Washington state legislative races likely to feature two candidates from the same party in the November general election.

Under the new "top two" primary, the two leading vote-getters advance alone to the November ballot, regardless of their party preference. A candidate must get at least 1 percent of the votes cast in a primary race to qualify as one of the top two finalists.

These listings are based on unofficial results from the secretary of state as of Wednesday evening. Approximate percentage totals are rounded. Incumbents are denoted with (i) where appropriate.

HOUSE

District 7 (Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille and Stevens counties, with parts of Okanogan and Spokane counties):

Sue Lani Madsen, Prefers Republican Party - 27 percent

Shelly Short, Prefers Republican Party - 25 percent

District 8 (Part of Benton County):

Larry Halder (i), Prefers Republican Party - 55 percent

Rob Welch, Prefers Republican Party - 45 percent

District 12 (Chelan and Douglas counties, parts of Grant and Okanogan counties):

Mike Armstrong (i), Prefers Republican Party - 95 percent

Courtney Cox, Prefers Republican Party - 5 percent

District 27 (Part of Pierce County):

Dennis Flannigan (i), Prefers Democratic Party - 46 percent

Jessica Smeall, Prefers Democratic Party - 27 percent

District 36 (Part of King County):

John Burbank, Prefers Democratic Party - 42 percent

Reuven Carlyle, Prefers Democratic Party - 42 percent

District 46 (Part of King County):

Scott White, Prefers Democratic Party - 48 percent

Gerry Pollet, Prefers Democratic Party - 36 percent

SENATE

District 11 (Part of King County):

Margarita Prentice (i), Prefers Democratic Party - 49 percent

Juan Martinez, Prefers Democratic Party - 27 percent

District 22 (Part of Thurston County):

Karen Fraser (i), Prefers Democratic Party - 76 percent

Erik Lee, Prefers Democratic Party - 24 percent



State of Washington
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION

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9:00 a.m.
May 22, 2008

MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

John A. Cherberg Bldg, Conference Rooms A & B
304 15th Avenue SW
Olympia, Washington

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Brumsickle, Chair
Ken Schellberg, Vice Chair
David Seabrook, Secretary
Jim Clements, Member
Jane Noland, Member

STAFF PRESENT

Vicki Rippie, Executive Director
Doug Ellis, Assistant Director
Michael Smith, Chief Technology Officer
Nancy Krier, General Counsel
Linda Dalton, Sr. Asst. Attorney General
Kami Madsen, Secretary

The regular meeting of the Public Disclosure Commission was called to order by Commission Chair Bill Brumsickle at 9:00 a.m. at John A. Cherberg Bldg, Conference Rooms A & B, 304 15th Avenue SW, Olympia, Washington.

Advisory Matters/Rule Making

Commissioner Noland recused herself from the Top Two Primary discussion and was not in attendance for this portion of the meeting.

Initiative 872 (Top Two Primary) and its impact on implementation of campaign finance law provisions in 2008.

Vicki Rippie discussed the impact of statutory changes made by Initiative 872 (Top Two Primary) on the following campaign finance provisions: party preference, party identification, and bona fide political parties.

Katie Blinn, Assistant Director of Elections with the Office of the Secretary of State, was present to share views of that office with respect of I-872 to the extent

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For May 22, 2008
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that it is relevant to the Commission's jurisdiction.

Troy Smith of the Green Party had requested to participate via teleconference, however, he was unable to be reached.

Motion 08-44

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission temporarily suspends enforcement of RCW 42.17.510(1) with respect to party preference identification in electioneering communications, independent expenditures, and other political advertising pending legislative action during the 2009 Legislative session.

The motion passed unanimously.

[This motion was reconsidered and held over for possible action at the June Commission meeting, in Motion 08-51.]

Commissioner Noland joined the meeting at 9:56 a.m.

Commissioner Comments

No Commissioner comments or concerns were expressed.

Citizen Comments

No public comments or concerns were expressed.

Minutes

Motion 08-45

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Brumsickle:

The Commission approves the minutes of April 16, 2008 and April 17, 2008, as written.

Voting For: Commissioners Brumsickle, Schellberg, Noland and Clements.

Absent: Commissioner Seabrook.

The motion passed.

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For May 22, 2008
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Executive Session

The Commission went into Executive Session at 10:14 a.m. to discuss potential litigation with legal counsel.

Public Session

The Commission returned to public session at 10:29 a.m.

Advisory Matters/Rule Making –
Continued

*Rickert v. Public Disclosure
Commission* and RCW
42.17.530(1)(b) & (1)(c)

Linda Dalton provided her interpretation of and recommendation concerning the enforceability of RCW 42.17.530(1)(b) & (1)(c) following the *Rickert* Washington Supreme Court decision.

Motion 08-46

Moved by Commissioner Noland, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission suspends enforcement of RCW 42.17.530(1)(b) & (1)(c) through the end of the 2009 Legislative session and will revisit the matter after that time.

The motion passed unanimously.

Consider language for “member” rule
(WAC 390-05-515)

Nancy Krier presented language to amend WAC 390-05-515 and provided a timeline of events if the Commission chooses to adopt the language.

Motion 08-47

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook:

The Commission directs staff to proceed with the presented emergency amendments of WAC 390-05-515 and begin the permanent rule making process.

Voting For: Commissioners Brumsickle, Schellberg and Seabrook.

Voting Against: Commissioners Noland and Clements.

The motion passed.

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Motion 08-48

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook:

The Commission directs staff to add additional factors to determine membership by adding voting rights in WAC 390-15-515 and to present the amendments at the June meeting for consideration of an emergency rule.

Voting For: Commissioners Brumsickle, Schellberg and Seabrook.

Voting Against: Commissioners Noland and Clements.

The motion passed.

Motion 08-49

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook:

The Commission also directs staff to initiate the steps to schedule a hearing for possible permanent adoption of the amendments to WAC 390-05-515 to make the rule amendments effective after the November 2008 election.

Voting For: Commissioners Brumsickle, Schellberg and Seabrook.

Voting Against: Commissioners Noland and Clements.

The motion passed.

Draft 2009-11 Strategic Plan

Vicki Rippie presented the Commission with a draft version of the 2009-11 Strategic Plan that was compiled from the April 16, 2008 work session.

Motion 08-50

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Noland:

The Commission adopts the draft 2009-11 Strategic Plan as final, amending the vision statement so it reads as follows, "We are

Commission Meeting Minutes
For May 22, 2008
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dedicated to building public confidence in the political process and government.”

The motion passed unanimously.

Results of the F-1 Review Project

Doug Ellis presented the results of the Personal Financial Affairs Review Project stating the sample population consisted of 459 filers, 10% of all persons who had filed on or before April 28, 2008. Mr. Ellis further stated that 90% of the sample population appeared to be in full compliance. He identified the criteria used to determine whether filers had properly completed the form and explained the exceptions to full compliance.

Executive Session

The Commission went into Executive Session at 11:59 a.m. to discuss pending and potential litigation with legal counsel.

Public Session

The Commission returned to public session at 1:55 p.m.

Nancy Krier addressed the Commission regarding the first item on the agenda, Initiative 872 (Top Two Primary), stating that there was some apparent confusion regarding the timing of the Commission consideration of the three matters affected by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling, and whether all three matters were not going to be decided until the June Commission meeting.

Motion 08-51

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook:

The Commission reconsiders Motion 08-44 and will hold over all three matters regarding the Top Two Primary until the June meeting.

Voting For: Commissioners Brumsickle, Schellberg, Seabrook and Clements.

Recused: Commissioner Noland.

The motion passed.

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Advisory Matters/Rule Making –
Continued

Reporting Modification History

Nancy Krier provided the Commission an overview of current modification procedures, history of modification procedures from 1972-2007, and provided possible steps for the Commission should they decide to update or incorporate into rules the modification Interpretations.

The Commission agreed to revisit this matter at a future time to see how the modification requests evolve during that period, possibly in a year.

Reporting Modifications

Renewals (with change)

*Bruce Heller, King County Superior
Court Judge*

Kurt Young stated that Bruce Heller requests a modification that would exempt him from disclosing: 1) the address of his personal residence, which is also his spouse's business address, and another home they own in Washington State; and 2) the business and other governmental customers that paid \$10,000 or more in 2007 to Garvey Schubert Barer, a law firm in which he had been a partner. Judge Heller also requested his personal residence address be redacted from his candidate registration statement filed on January 25, 2008, and his personal financial affairs statement filed on April 14, 2008.

Judge Heller participated via teleconference and concurred with Mr. Young's presentation of the request.

Motion 08-52

Moved by Commissioner Noland, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants the partial modification as requested regarding the personal financial affairs statement and the January 25, 2008 candidate registration statement.

The Commission finds that literal application

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would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion 08-53

Moved by Commissioner Noland, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants William H. Gates, Sr., Andrea Darvas, Orlan J. Gessford, Jayasri Guha, Dory L. Nicpon, Kathleen M. O'Sullivan, Dan Schober, Mark Thompson and Nancy Whitten partial reporting modifications as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicants and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Stephen R. Hill, Administrator,
Washington State Health Care
Authority*

Kurt Young stated that Stephen Hill requests a renewal of his reporting modification with the following changes: 1) he was appointed a board member for the Consumers Union and Leapfrog in 2007, and 2) he is no longer a board member for the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.

Motion 08-54

Moved by Commissioner Schellberg, seconded by Commissioner Seabrook:

The Commission grants Stephen R. Hill a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*James Rogers, King County
Superior Court Judge*

Kurt Young reported that James Rogers requests an exemption from 1) listing the business customers that paid the University Heights Community Center

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\$7,500 or more in 2006 and \$10,000 or more in 2007, and 2) disclosing the address of his personal residence.

Motion 08-55

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants James Rogers a partial reporting modification as requested covering calendar years 2006 and 2007.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

Renewals (no change)

*Kenneth Alhadeff, Regent,
Washington State University*

Kurt Young reported that Kenneth Alhadeff requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-56

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Kenneth Alhadeff a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Kristianne Blake, Regent, University
of Washington*

Kurt Young reported that Kristianne Blake requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-57

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Kristianne Blake a partial reporting modification as requested.

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The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Tamara Conrad, Commissioner,
King County Fire Protection District
41*

Kurt Young reported that Tamara Conrad requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-58

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Tamara Conrad a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Deborah Ehrlichman, School
Director, Shoreline School District*

Kurt Young reported that Deborah Ehrlichman requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-59

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Deborah Ehrlichman a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Jonathon Ferraiulo, Commissioner,
Spokane County Fire District 8*

Mr. Ferraiulo's request was held over to the June meeting.

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*Claire S. Grace, Commissioner,
Washington State Housing Finance
Commission*

Kurt Young reported that Claire Grace requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-60

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Claire S. Grace a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Palmer Robinson, King County
Superior Court Judge*

Kurt Young reported that Palmer Robinson requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-61

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Palmer Robinson a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Jesse R. Thompson, Commissioner,
Port of Grays Harbor*

Kurt Young reported that Jesse Thompson requests a modification renewal with no change.

Motion 08-62

Moved by Commissioner Seabrook, seconded by Commissioner Schellberg:

The Commission grants Jesse R. Thompson a partial reporting modification as requested.

The Commission finds that literal application would cause a manifestly unreasonable hardship on the applicant and that a limited modification

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would not frustrate the purposes of the act.

The motion passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Executive Director

Vicki Rippie commented on the status of the FY08 budget.

Assistant Director

Doug Ellis did not supplement his written report.

Chief Technology Officer

Michael Smith thanked the commissioners for supporting his attendance at the National Institute on Money in State Politics conference where he was a panelist. Mr. Smith said he gained considerable knowledge from the other attendees.

General Counsel

Nancy Krier did not supplement her written report.

Adjournment

Chair Brumsickle adjourned the meeting at 3:11 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 26, 2008.

Approved by the Commission on 6/26/2008.

The Seattle Times

Wednesday, August 18, 2010 - Page updated at 05:01 PM

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Primary results in 3rd show early GOP advantage

By RACHEL LA CORTE
Associated Press Writer

Democrat Denny Heck may have been the top individual vote getter in the primary race for the 3rd Congressional District, but Republicans showed a collective strength in turnout.

However, Heck says a motivated conservative base was drawn to the polls by competitive races in the U.S. Senate and the open seat left by retiring U.S. Rep. Brian Baird, a Democrat who held the seat for 12 years.

"I've said from Day 1 this is going to be a highly competitive race," Heck said, but said that his standing in the primary is still a "good launch pad to the general."

Heck, a businessman and former state legislator, advanced to the November ballot along with Republican state Rep. Jaime Herrera in Tuesday's "top two" primary. Heck got 32 percent of the vote, compared to Herrera's 27 percent.

The combined vote for Heck and another Democrat in the race totaled about 43 percent. Adding Herrera's take with the two other Republicans in Tuesday's primary gives a combined GOP vote of about 53 percent.

Republican strategist Chris Vance said that the primary results show that there is Republican momentum in an election that he says is part of a national referendum on the first two years of President Barack Obama's administration.

"Denny Heck is a very impressive candidate," Vance said, but "in politics, timing is everything. And he's running in the wrong year."

University of Washington political science professor Matt Barreto said that while the primary isn't a certain predictor for the general election, the primary results "suggest there was a little more Republican enthusiasm, or the Republican candidates there did a better job getting out the vote."

"That's a good warmup for them for the general election," he said.

The race has been closely watched by national Republicans, who hope to make gains in Congress this year.

And national conservative groups wasted no time in attacking Heck.

In a TV ad that started running on cable Wednesday, Heck is called a "30-year political insider and a career politician." The ad is worded in such a way that implies Heck is already in Congress, stating he supported the federal stimulus package and refused to oppose new energy taxes, clearly playing to the perceived anti-incumbent mood. Also, the initial YouTube page was headlined "Tell Congressman Denny Heck we need leadership!" though it was later changed to remove the word congressman.

The \$180,000 ad buy by the Arlington, Va.-based Americans for Prosperity will continue through next Wednesday.

National Democrats are expected to get heavily involved in the race as well.

"It's a Democratic district and we're going to keep it Democratic," said Andy Stone, a spokesman with the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

Barreto said there is certain to be a significant amount of national money poured into the race, which will increase voter attention on the candidates. Also, turnout in November will be at least double that of the primary, which as of Wednesday was only 27 percent.

"It could shape up to be one of the most competitive House races in the entire country," he said.

Herrera, meanwhile, needs to reach out to Republicans who voted for her two main GOP rivals, both of whom received tea party support and didn't bow out of the primary after she got early national buzz. Herrera, of Camas, is a former aide to GOP Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers, and she quickly won support from several Republican heavyweights, including McMorris Rodgers and former U.S. Sen. Slade Gorton.

Republican David Hedrick, who captured 14 percent of the vote, said Wednesday he was throwing his full support to Herrera because "we have to stop Denny Heck."

Fellow Republican David Castillo, who came in fourth with 12 percent of the vote, wasn't quite ready to offer his support, saying Tuesday night that "I'll address those issues later."

The politically diverse 3rd District spans southwest Washington from Olympia south to Vancouver and from the Cascade Mountains to the Pacific Ocean.

President George Bush won the district in both 2000 and 2004. President Barack Obama won it in 2008 with 53 percent of the vote. Unsuccessful Republican gubernatorial candidate Dino Rossi won it in 2004 and 2008.

The only Republican to hold the 3rd District seat since 1960 was Linda Smith, who won a write-in campaign during the 1994 GOP takeover of Congress. Baird was elected after Smith gave up her seat for an unsuccessful run for the U.S. Senate.

Democratic strategist Christian Sinderman said that in an evenly divided district like the 3rd, "self-described independents always hold the key."

"The challenge for Denny is to keep the race focused on local issues and priorities," he said.

Both Heck and Herrera have stressed the need to create jobs, something that resonates in a district that has been hit especially hard by the recession. Six of the district's seven counties have an unemployment rate between 10 and 13.3 percent. The only exception is Thurston County, home of the state capital.

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Voters advance candidates in statehouse races

http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_washington_legislature.html

Last updated August 18, 2009 10:41 p.m. PT

Voters advance candidates in statehouse races

By RACHEL LA CORTE
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

OLYMPIA, Wash. -- Appointed state Rep. Laura Grant will get a chance to carry on her late father's status as the only Democrat in the Legislature from rural Eastern Washington.

Grant easily advanced to the November ballot on Tuesday in the race for the 16th District, which includes Pasco and Walla Walla, getting 46 percent of the vote in early returns. An elementary school teacher from Walla Walla, she was appointed earlier this year after the death of her father, Bill Grant, who held the seat for more than 20 years.

Also advanced to the Nov. 3 election was Republican Terry Nealey, a former Columbia County prosecutor, who captured nearly 38 percent. The race was one of three open seats in the Legislature on the ballot.

"It looks very good for me going forward," Nealey said Tuesday night. Grant did not immediately return a phone call seeking comment.

Republican Kevin Young, a farmer and state Transportation Department employee, received just 10 percent of the vote, and prison guard David Roberts, running as a "Reagan Independent," received 6 percent.

Under the state's primary system, the two top finishers in each primary race face off in November general elections.

The race was one of three open seats for the Legislature on Tuesday's ballot.

In the 15th District, which includes Sunnyside and Goldendale, voters advanced Republican Rep. David Taylor of Moxee after early returns show him winning the primary election in that race with more than 65 percent of the vote in early returns.

Taylor was appointed to fill the seat of Dan Newhouse, who was appointed Gov. Chris Gregoire's agriculture director earlier this year.

Taylor said that he was surprised by the overwhelming margin.

"I felt pretty confident going into the primary, but definitely not that confident," he said.

Still undecided was the second advancement in that race. Democrat John "Jobs" Gotts had nearly 19 percent of the vote even though he had abandoned his bid to work on business ventures in California. Democrat Donicio Marichalar, a consultant and former state social worker, had more than 16 percent of the vote under early returns.

Also undecided Tuesday night was the race in the 9th District, which includes Pullman and Cheney. The open contest for that race is for the unexpired term of the late Rep. Steve Hailey, R-Mesa, who died in December of colon cancer. Appointed replacement Rep. Don Cox, R-Colfax, had previously retired from the Legislature and is not running to keep the seat.

Four Republicans are in the running: Susan Fagan, a former aide to three U.S. senators from Idaho and public affairs director for a Pullman manufacturer; Pat Hailey, a farmer-rancher and school board member who is the widow of Steve

http://www.seattlepi.com/printer2/index.asp?ploc=t&refer=http://www.seattlepi.com/local/6420ap_wa_w... 8/25/2009

Voters advance candidates in statehouse races

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Hailey; TV news reporter and school board member Darin Watkins; and farmer and former school board member Art Swannack. The lone Democrat in the race is business owner Glen Stockwell.

Early returns showed Fagan winning with nearly 29 percent of the vote, followed closely by Hailey, who had 25.6 percent. Close behind Hailey was Stockwell, with 25.2 percent. Swannack had 12 percent of the vote, and Watkins had just 8 percent.

On the Net:

Washington state Legislature, <http://www.leg.wa.gov>



http://www.seattlepi.com/local/366154_filings07.html

Rossi not exactly on ballot as Republican

In new primary, candidates can pick party name

Last updated June 6, 2008 11:50 p.m. PT

By GREGORY ROBERTS
P-I REPORTER

Voters expecting to see Republican Dino Rossi matching up again with Democratic Gov. Chris Gregoire might be a little surprised when they check out the ballots for the August vote.

That's because Rossi, strictly speaking, won't be listed as a Republican. Instead, he's running under the "G.O.P." label.

Welcome to the brave new world of the "top two" primary, the overhaul of the state's election system taking effect this year. No longer will the primary determine the official candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties for the November election: The Aug. 19 vote will simply narrow the all-inclusive field to the first- and second-place finishers, who will meet in November no matter what party they identify with.

And it is up to the candidates to decide which party to pick: Rossi, who under the old system was the official Republican candidate for governor in 2004, could just as easily declare that he's a Democrat on this year's primary ballot.

GOP is a long-standing nickname for the Republican Party, derived from "Grand Old Party." In the 2004 election, which Rossi lost by 133 votes, his TV commercials, bumper stickers and yard signs identified him as "Rossi for governor -- GOP," Rossi spokeswoman Jill Strait said Friday, the last day of the five-day period for candidates to file for office.

"We've found that voters know GOP means Republican," Strait said. "It's just something we've always done."

In state Senate District 40, Timothy "Cleaver" Stoddard of Anacortes will be stamped as "Prefers SalmonYoga Party."

"This top two has opened up lots of creative opportunities," said state Republican Party Chairman Luke Esser.

A candidate may also run with "States no party preference" by his or her name. That's how state insurance commissioner candidate Curtis Fackler filed -- which wouldn't be so unusual if he weren't the Spokane County Republican Party chairman.

Fackler said that in his 2004 try for the office, he lost in the GOP primary to a candidate with the historically resonant name of John Adams. With Adams' filing again as a Republican, Fackler shed his partisan identity.

"I see no advantage in having an "R" behind your name in a statewide race for insurance commissioner," he said.

Some legislative races attracted only one candidate. Others drew several, but all claiming the same party affiliation.

Neither Esser nor his Democratic counterpart, Dwight Pelz, likes the top two primary. Their parties sued to overturn the 2004 statewide initiative that enacted it, and they succeeded in putting it on hold until the U.S. Supreme Court

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approved the system in March.

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