

Pettyjohn challenges Bilbray for House seat

The U.S. House of Representatives is one half of the Congress, the other half being the Senate. The House is similar to the senate in its duties, the only exception being the Senate has to aprove any treaties the country might enter into as well as any presidential appointees.

A lot of attention is being focused on the chance of a high turnover in the House

Because the possible fallout from the House banking and post office scandals as well as general voter disgust with the political status quo.

Much has been made of this change by the presidential candidates—especially President George Bush—all of whom claim a change in Congress would prevent the government gridlock they are blaming for the national debt, the weak economy and a variety of the country's problems.

Democratic incumbent James Bilbray is expected to be the winner in this race because he has the edge in registered voters—51,581 more people in his district are registered Democrats, and in money—as of the September filing period he had raised \$400,000 compared to challenger Coy Pettyjohn's \$83,000 for the same period.

The anti-incumbent trend is playing a part in this race as well with Pettyjohn accusing Bilbray of being a moderate in Nevada and the stereotypical big spender when he is Washington.

Bilbray counters the charge by saying his seniority in Congress insures that Nevadan's concerns are heard.

The third candidate in the race is Libertarian Scott Kjar. The Libertarians hold that the government is an enemy of the people and should limit its intrusion into peoples' private lives.

Elections to the House of Representatives occur every four years and members of the House serve a two-year term with no limit on the amount of terms they can serve.



James Bilbray Democrat

"One of the few members of Congress that didn't bounce a check."

Age: 54

Occupation: U.S. Con-

Political past: State senator, state assemblyman, U.S. congressman

Objective: improving the quality of life for Nevadans

How would you improve the economy?

"By targeting specific problems. For example, the \$780 million dollars approved for highways and roads will provide improved transportation, jobs as well as bringing in more commerce."

What is your stance on education?

"Supporting the National College Trust Fund in the Clinton plan that allows access to financial aid to everyone with academic potential rather than just academic need."

What about Yucca Mountain?

"I strongly oppose the nuclear dump site."



Coy Pettyjohn Republican

"I'm tired of seeing more incumbents die in office than get defeated in the election process."

Age: 59

Occupation: private consultant

Political past: State assemblyman

Objective: reform congress How would you improve the economy?

"By cutting spending and providing a balanced budget with teeth."

What is your stance on education?

"Education is key. We must find a way to help students through more loans and scholarships. We certainly don't want to make it more difficult."

What about Yucca Mountain?

"We must have faith in the scientific community by allowing them to conduct the test they need to make to see if Yucca Mountain is safe. If they find out it is not a safe place then I oppose it. If it is safe then we

Scott Kajar Libertarian

"I want to be known as the constipated candidate. When I go to Washington I'm going to be a real a—hole. When they try to pass sh— through I'm going to squeeze real tight and not let it through."

Age: 32

Occupation: Academic director of Stanley H. Kaplan Educational Center

Political past: State chair for Libertarian Party of Iowa, chair for Clark County Libertarian Party

Objective: return to constitution

How would you improve the economy?

"By not allowing the Federal Reserve System to bastardize the principles of the constitution."

What is your stance on education?

"Education is too important to be left in the hands of the government."

What about Yucca Mountain?

"If the casks are so safe, keep them where they are. If they start to decay put the first cask into a bigger one. The problem of burying them in Yucca Mountain is we won't know they're a problem until people start having three-armed babies."



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Local offices important too

by Tricia Ciaravino

While Bush, Clinton and Perot may be grabbing all the headlines student voters should consider the other offices they'll be voting for on Tuesday.

While it may take a long time for federal policies to trickle down to our level, decisions made at the state and local levels effect us more directly and much sooner.

The county commission deals with our air, water, transportation and sanitation ordinances among other things. These are issues that can effects your city life a lot sooner and more directly than many congressional actions could.

One example might be the Americans with Disabilities Act passed by congress. The act was written to insure that disabled people are not discriminated against and have proper access to the same things non-disabled people have accesses to.

Before the act can have any effect it must first be given to a government agency who then must translate the law into specific regulations before they can explain and enforce

see LOCAL page 5

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