

State Assembly

District 15

Bob Wong-R
Lou Toomin-D

District 16

Rick Bennett-D
John Bayley-R

District 41

Don Leonard Base-R
Larry Spitler-D

Candidates vie for State Assembly districts 15, 16, 41

by Donna Bates

The State assembly is redistricted every ten years after the national census according to Tony Weis the precinct draftsman for the Elections Department. This year's redistricting

will face incumbents' Rick Bennett and John Bayley to run against each other. Clark County is made up of 26 districts. The Rebel Yell profiled the candidates running in districts near the university. Those districts include: 15, 16, and 41.

REID

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affordable.

In 1990, Reid got legislation unanimously passed which ended the 80-year-old "Water Wars," in Southern Nevada and he also got legislation passed to preserve Red Rock Canyon.

Reid is a supporter of nuclear testing. "The problem is not nuclear testing, it is nuclear weapons," he said.

To stop nuclear testing would be bad, Reid said, because there is still much that is unknown about nuclear weapons.

Reid feels imposing term limits in Congress is a bad idea because the resulting lack of experience negatively effects small states like Nevada.

"Currently, there is a tremendous turnover in Congress. I am 67th in seniority (out of 100) and I have only been there 6 years," Reid said.

"Nevada has been good to me," he said. "My role as a public servant is an honorable role and I feel that as a senator, I have been part of the solution and not the problem."

Reid is currently supporting legislation to end domestic violence. One of his campaign brochures states that America has more shelters for dogs than for battered women. And that he says, must change.

Also included on the ballot are: Lois Avery, Natural Law Party; Kent Cromwell, Libertarian; Joe Garcia Jr., Independent American Party; and Harry Tootle, Populous Party.

DAHL

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UNLV political science major. "I was really impressed Dahl's stand on PAC money, he won't except any money from special interest groups."

"Dahl is a man of fine character and great integrity who deeply cares about the land of Nevada," said Betty Folton, his Las Vegas campaign office manager.

"He believes in bringing accountability and responsibility to the U.S. Senate," said Gerrie Blue, a campaign volunteer.

One of Dahl's campaign brochures states Dahl's stance on several important issues in comparison to his opponent's political record.

According to the brochure, the only issue Dahl and Reid agree on is abortion. They are both pro-life.

District 15

Bob Wong, Republican
District: Assembly District

15
Age: 51
Occupation: Worker's compensation administrator

Why are you running?

"I am trying to bring affordable health care to the people of Nevada. I sponsored the only cost-containment health care plan of Nevada that was viable. Unfortunately, special interest groups put that bill to sleep."

If re-elected what is your main goal?

"I have already drafted a new health bill that I will push if I am re-elected."

Lou Toomin, Democrat
District: Assembly District

15
Age: 57
Occupation: Owner of Monterey Pools

Why are you running?

"I feel that I am a successful businessman and I would like to lend my business experience to the government of the state of Nevada."

If elected, What is your main goal?

"I feel strongly about balancing the budget, crime and the environment but if I am elected, I would like to give the Contractor's Board citing and enforcement powers. Right now the board has no way of enforcing it's rules."

District 16

John Bayley, Republican
Occupation: Assembly

District 16
Age:

Why are you are running?

"I am running to put the intensive supervision community-based corrections program that I developed into being."

If re-elected, what is your main goal?

"I would like to see true educational reform. In the past few years, the things that have benefited the Teacher's Union haven't always benefited the kids."

Rick Bennett, Democrat
District: Assembly District

16
Age: 44
Occupation: Chief financial officer of Charleston Home Health Care and the executive director of the Clark County Medical Society

Why are you running?

"In completing my first term, I feel that I have contributed positively to the decisions made by the state government."

If re-elected, what is your main goal?

"We still have major concerns in the areas of health care and insurance. I would like to insure that all children have health care insurance and access to preventative health care."

District 41

Don Leonard Base, Republican
District: Assembly District

41
Age: 69
Occupation: Paralegal for Nevada Legal Services

Why are you running?

"Currently, the assembly is disregarding its constituents by not voting with the consensus."

If elected, what is your main goal?

"If I am elected, I would like to give access to all low-income and indigent people."

Larry Spitler, Democrat
District: Assembly District

41
Age: 49
Occupation: District manager of public relations and training for Central Telephone Company.

Why are you running?

"I have been very active in party politics and have lived in my district for eight years. There are many changes that need to be made in my district and I feel that I am a formidable candidate."

If re-elected, what is your main goal?

"One of the hottest things on the burner is stabilizing the budget. If I am re-elected, I will try very hard to do just that."

Faculty and CSUN find benefits from lobbyists

by Sabrina Spinali

He knows both sides of the story but he can't take a side. He can influence governmental decisions and change their vote. He is known as a lobbyist, two of which were hired by UNLV to support the university's causes in the Nevada state legislature in Carson City next year.

Gary Milliken, a professional lobbyist who was hired by CSUN to cut down on fees and keep student expenses low, if not affordable, was selected to represent the students.

"Gary is our extended voice in Carson City," said Joel Kostman, student body president. "Gary basically tells us the pros and cons, and asks us what action we want to take. He has shown up for every Student Government function. He cares."

"When I was asked why I wanted to be student body president, I told them, 'Because I can make a difference.' Gary Milliken has that same exact attitude," Kostman said.

"He's a good choice," said

Dina Titus, political science professor. "He's been in the democratic system. He knows a lot of contacts and people in the legislature."

According to Kostman, Milliken has saved students \$2.8 million in fees and expenses.

"Take the books at the bookstore," Kostman said. "Is there any tax on them? Thank Gary."

The Nevada legislative session period is from January to May, but sometimes extends to June or July. The flat fee for Milliken's services per session is \$5,000. That includes gas, food and flight trips to Carson City.

"He won't accept that he's giving us a cut rate," Kostman said. "We're really getting the bargain basement. We're getting so much more for our money." "We definitely need a lobbyist," Titus said, to "patch up bad feelings between the legislature and UNLV."

Buster Neel, vice president for finance and administration, is designated as UNLV's official lobbyist. His goals for the upcoming legislative session are those objectives set by Maxson and the Board of Regents. According to Maxson, UNLV's first priority is to obtain state monies

for "much needed raises for faculty and staff."

"They (faculty) didn't get a raise this past year," Maxson said. "They voted to give up their raise so more classes would be offered to students."

"Our second priority is to restore faculty positions we gave up during budget cuts," Maxson added. "Our third priority is getting funding for a new library. We're not asking the legislature for funding money right now, we're asking for planning money. Two years from now we will ask for funding."

The proposed new \$40 million library slated for construction in 1994 will cost \$3 million in planning alone. The money will allow UNLV to get together with architects to discuss work of the building and draw plans of the library.

"There is some concern on how much money will be available. I'm optimistic about getting the money for these priorities," Maxson said.

"There are a lot more needs," Neel said, "but right now we're trying to address the basic needs."