Nolen Running Hard

DR. PEARSON MAKES FINAL BID TO RETAIN COMMISSION

SEAT

Ward 3 remains the only one of four wards within the city of Las Vegas to have a runoff contest at the June 7 general election for the City Commission post.

Dr. William U. Pearson, 63, a dentist, the first black in the 77-year history of Las Vegas to serve on the commission, was selected by the other commissioners from 22 ap-



DR. PEARSON

plicants - including Sarann Knight Preddy and Bob Nolen - who sought the job when Roy Woofter resigned to become city attorney in North Las Vegas. Nolen, a North Las Vegas court bailiff, is in the runoff against Pearson.

Pearson, while in office, has proven to be a hard worker at the city post and is on the job at City Hall early each morning. Nolen, 41, a long-time resident of Las Vegas, was a North Las Vegas policeman and later a polygraph examiner. He was chief investigator to Woofter when Woofter was district attorney.

Pearson holds a doctor of dental science degree from Meharry Medical College in Nashville in 1945, a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Alabama A&M University in 1942, and has done post graduate work in dentistry at UCLA, Loma Linda and University of

He was an Army Captain for three years, worked as a dentist in Birmingham and other Alabama cities, and came to Las Vegas to work as a personnel recruiter at the Nevada Test Site for EG&G in 1965. He started his local dentistry practice in 1970.

Pearson called for creation of an industrial park in his ward to stimulate economic growth. He is also in favor of more police on the streets, street im-

provements for various neighborhoods, better bus service and fair utility rates.

Nolen calls for better public transportation, a higher standard of living for senior citizens, fair public utility rates, providing incentives for small business growth, and protecting the rights of mobile home park residents. He has also stressed putting more policemen on the streets.

It is reported that there is a total of approximately 8,000 black residents in Ward 3 out of which are about 2,700 registered voters. Ward 3 now has a total of 9,264 registered voters, an increase of 105 since the primary.

The entire city of Las Vegas has 46,430 registered voters, up 327 since the primary.

Only 43.5 percent of Las Vegas voters turned out for the primary, and it is predicted an even lower percentage for the general election due to the fact there are only 4 questions on the ballot.

Sarann Knight Throws Support To Pearson

Les Vegas Rusinesswoman Sarann Knight, who finished third in the three-way primary for Ward 3 city commissioner, said she is supporting runnerup William Pearson in the

June 7 general election.

"I'll be supporting him whenever I can, whether it's financial, talking to people or walking," Knight said, adding that Pearson is "a person who can work well with the other city commissioners to get the job done.

"And I think that's important," she said.

Pearson, a dentist who was appointed to the Ward 3 seat last year, polled 1,171 votes or 27.9 percent of the total ballots cast in the May 3 primary. He came in second behind North Las Vegas court marshal Bob Nolen, who grabbed 1,897 votes or 45.2 percent.

Knight, owner of the People's Choice cocktaile lounge who came within an eyelash of unseating former Commissioner Roy Woofter in 1979, mustered 996 votes for 23.7 percent. Another 131 votes went to Larry Martin, a carpenter who

moved out of the city shortly after filling for of fice and failed to campaign.

Knight said she was grateful to all the people who supported her in her bid to become the first black and the first woman to be elected commissioner and asked her backers to now stand behind Pearson.

"He's the incumbent, but he really hasn't had time to prove himself," Knight said, "I think if he's given the chance he'd make a very reliable city commissioner."

Knight acknowledged that Pearson's campaign platform is very similar to Nolan's in the areas of crime, streets, mass transportation, economic development and jobs, but she indicated the incumbent would be a better representative for the entire district.

THE LAS VEGAS

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Published every Thursday by the Brown Publishing Co., 1201 So. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, Nevada 89104, Telephone: 363-4030

Ed Brown, President & Advertising Sales Manager; Betty Brown, Vice President, Publisher-Editor; Comilla Johnson, Business Manager.

Subscription payable
in advance
Six months \$15.00
Twelve months \$25.00
The rates apply to
Continental United States
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