

GOP still holds Senate majority

United Press International
 Democrats dominated off-year elections, but Republicans captured the Washington state seat they needed to keep control of the Senate.

In Washington, GOP Sen. Daniel Evans won the remaining five years of the late Henry Jackson's term, despite the fact that liberal Democratic Rep. Mike Lowry tried to paint him as a mouthpiece of Reagan's policies in Grenada and Lebanon. However, the victory probably was testimony to Evans' popularity as a former governor rather than a referendum on Reagan's policies.

The Republican capture of the historically Democratic Senate seat means the Democrats will now have to gain six seats in next year's elections to regain control of the Senate.

History was made in Kentucky, where the state elected its first woman governor, and in Philadelphia, which elected its first black mayor.

Strong victories in gubernatorial elections by Democrats Martha Layne Collins in Kentucky and Attorney General Bill Allain in Mississippi, along with the earlier defeat of GOP Gov. David Treen in Louisiana, slowed Republican inroads into the traditionally Democratic South.

This trend could hurt Reagan's hopes of picking up key southern states in the presidential race next year, particularly if the Democratic candidate chooses a Southerner such as Sen. Ernest Hollings of South Carolina or Sen. Lloyd Bentsen of Texas as his running mate.

After beating Sen. Jim Bunning in the gubernatorial election by 100,000 votes, Collins said she was ready to get to work.

"We said during the campaign that the next governor had better be ready to hit the ground running and that's what we're doing," she said.

As the nation's only woman governor and the Democrats' highest elected woman official, Collins' name has automatically been added to the party's list of vice presidential prospects.

In Mississippi, Allain over-

came charges he had homosexual relations with black "drag queens" and criticism for being a divorced Catholic to win a convincing victory over Republican Leon Bramlett.

While there were few surprises in the voting, Georgia Democrats ignored the tradition of electing the wife of a dead congressman to fill his seat. State Rep. George "Buddy" Darden, a mainstream Democrat, easily defeated Kathryn McDonald, who wanted to take the place of her conservative husband, Democratic Rep. Larry McDonald. McDonald was killed when the Soviets shot down Korean Flight 007.

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Voters also expressed their opinions about a variety of policies, including:

- A proposal to ban hunting of Maine's state animal, the moose, in the state. The proposal was defeated.
- A referendum outlawing nuclear research in Cambridge, Mass. Results are still uncertain due to slow counting of ballots.
- A restriction on smoking in San Francisco. Results are also uncertain in that election.
- Proposals to raise the minimum drinking age in Ohio from 19 to 21 and to repeal a 90 percent increase in the state income tax approved by the legislature. Both propositions were defeated by the voters.
- An initiative in Seattle calling for withdrawal of U.S. military aid to El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and guerillas battling Nicaragua's Sandinista government. The initiative passed.

Over 50? Check for cancer

United Press International
NEW YORK — People over 50 years old should ask their doctors for examinations to detect early signs of colon and rectal cancer, the president of the American Cancer Society says.

Ninety-three percent of such cancers occur in the over-50 group, but only 12 percent of the cases are detected by regular examinations.

Dr. Willis J. Taylor, of Seat-

le, Wash., said Wednesday that getting people to pressure doctors for the examinations is part of a new three-year campaign to reduce the bowel cancer toll.

In 1983, bowel cancer will strike an estimated 126,000 adults and result in about 58,100 deaths, the ACS said.

The ACS also will step up its education program for physicians, telling them that doctors play a key role in the early detec-

tion of colon and rectal cancer. That campaign will be aimed at 200,000 physicians.

Taylor and other doctors spoke about the new campaign at a press conference attended by cancer victim Phyllis Kiniry of West Islip, N.Y.

She is 63 and had bowel cancer successfully treated 11 years ago. She later was treated successfully for lung cancer and now "does everything any re-

tired person does."

However, Kiniry said she must see her doctor twice a year for a colon and rectal cancer examination.

The doctors emphasized that examinations are less uncomfortable than they were a few years ago. A newer instrument, a thin, flexible tube illuminated by fiber optics, replaces a 10-inch non-flexible device once

used.

Dr. Paul Sherlock, chairman of the department of medicine, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Society, told of such surgical advances as the use of staples that sharply reduce the incidence of colostomies. He and other doctors estimated that permanent colostomies are needed in only 15 percent of cases.

New 'sponge' pulls oxygen from water

United Press International
BEAUFORT, N.C. — An "artificial gill" process which produces oxygen from water, theoretically permitting humans to stay under water indefinitely, has been developed at Duke University.

Joseph Bonaventura, director of the Duke Marine Biomedical Center, and his wife, Celia, said they have developed a "hemosponge" that could replace current methods of providing oxygen to people underwater.

Bonaventura said the hemosponge uses hemoglobin, the blood component in humans that carries oxygen.

The hemoglobin is combined with a prepolymer — a substance with the consistency and color of golden honey — to form a sponge substance.

The hemosponge is placed in

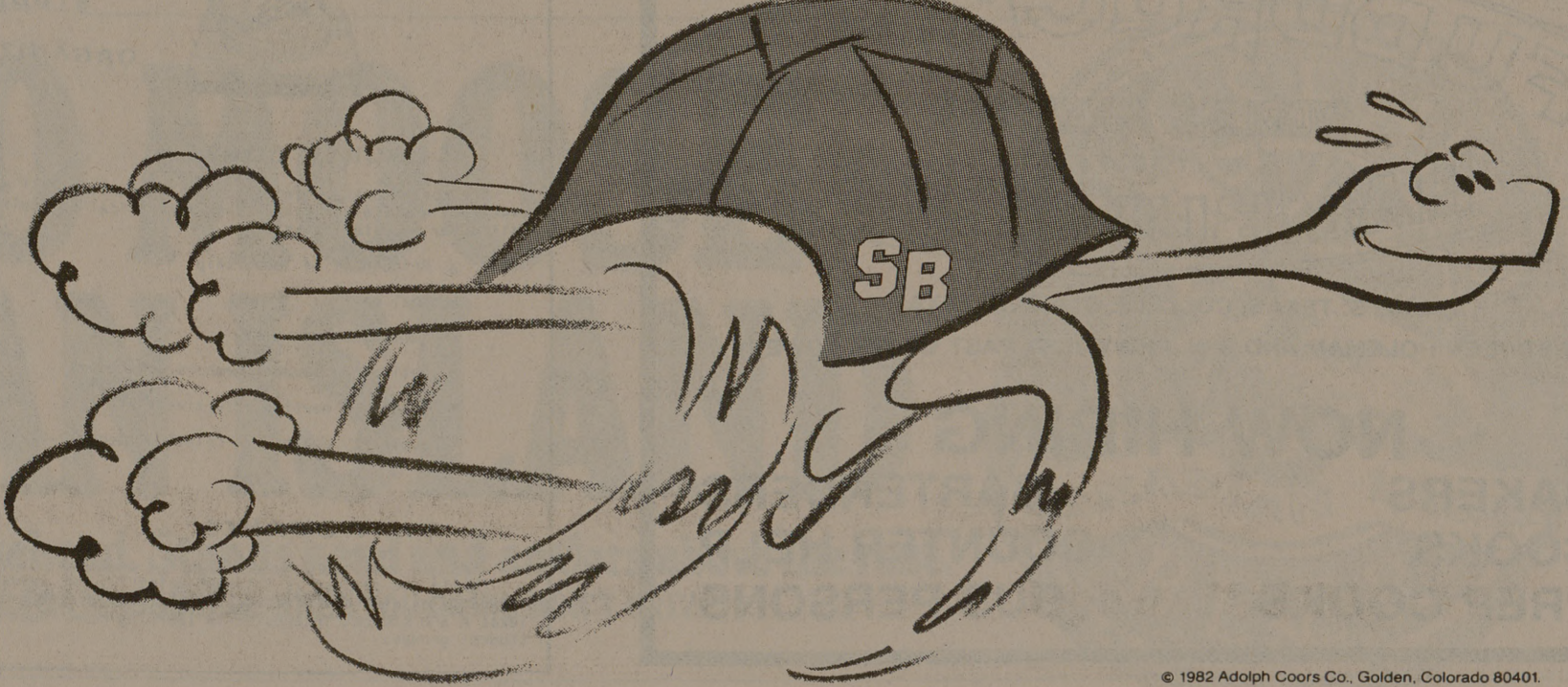
Oxygen can then be siphoned off by drawing a vacuum over the container or it can be released by hitting the sponge with a weak electrical charge, Bonaventura said.

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