

# Schlanger not a run-of-the-mill candidate

By Karen Wallace  
Staff Writer

Harley Schlanger is not your ordinary candidate for the U. S. Senate and he's the first one to admit it. "I tend to be controversial and stir things up," said Schlanger. "But that's exactly what politics needs."

Schlanger is a LaRouche Democrat — a Democrat who follows the beliefs of Lyndon H.

LaRouche, the Democratic presidential candidate who established the National Democratic Policy Committee when he was 'disowned' by the Democratic party. The NDPC claims to be a wing of the Democratic party, but a local Democratic party official said they are not recognized by the state or national Democratic party.

"We don't go through the official channels so the Demo-

cratic leadership is mad," Schlanger said.

Schlanger, who was in town Thursday to speak to the Optimist Club, said his opponents in the Senate race are ignoring the real issue of the campaign — which he said is monetary reorganization through lowered interest rates.

"We have too many candidates who try to sell themselves like toothpaste," Schlanger said. "All the Republicans care about

is who is closer to President Reagan and all the Democrats care about is who's known Barbara Jordan the longest."

LaRouche Democrats, Schlanger said, are real candidates even though they are not considered real Democrats. John F. Kennedy would not be considered a real Democrat because he wanted to fight against the Soviets, and he supported nuclear power and NASA space exploration, Schlanger said. All

these things are Republican issues, he said.

Schlanger said the main problem with the country today is high interest rates.

"The idea that high interest rates are good for the economy is false," he said.

Interest rates should be lowered, allowing people to invest so the money could stay in circulation. Then, the solution is to channel the money into real

production and defense spending, he said.

"We need \$50 million to \$70 million to have the system operational in three to five years," he said. "Especially since the Russians are acting so recklessly."

Another area that needs the invested money is the steel industry, he said. The steel industry needs to be modernized be-

cause steel is needed to build defense equipment, he said.

Schlanger said he is the best candidate for two reasons.

"I am far better in form and I'm not a coward," he said. "I won't make promises that will bind me in Congress."

Schlanger said that with John Kennedy, the United States had a president with guts.

## Company charged with illegal rate hike

United Press International  
WASHINGTON — A group of large Midwest natural gas users has asked the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to force a major pipeline supplier of natural gas to five states to refund as much as \$100 million to its customers.

The Midwest Users Association, composed of industries that use large volumes of natural gas, contends the Cities Service Gas Co., a pipeline firm now called the Northwest Central Pipeline Co., in 1981 illegally agreed to more than dou-

ble the prices it was paying for natural gas from a Wyoming producer.

The price agreements were a result of "fraud, abuse or similar grounds," the group said in its complaint filed with the commission. The group also seeks "full refunds" for consumers who it contends were overcharged because of the contract amendments.

The Wyoming gas producer was a sister company of Cities Service at the time the agreement was made — which according to the group means

the firm was allowed to buy from itself at increased prices and pass the higher costs on to consumers.

The pipeline supplies natural gas to customers in Texas, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

If the allegations made by Midwest Users — a group of 170 large natural gas users in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma — are true, all residential and industrial customers using gas from the pipeline

have been paying unnecessarily high prices.

Furthermore, the 1981 price contracts are still in effect.

"For the period March 17, 1981, through December 31, 1982, Northwest Central's gas costs increased by at least \$71,666,430 as a result of the contract amendments, and Northwest Central recovered the increased costs from its customers through its rates," the complaint said.

The group is challenging the legality of amendments made to

natural gas supply contracts March 17, 1981, by the then Cities Service Gas Co., and one of its suppliers, a partnership of the Cities Service Gas Exploration Co., and the Amoco Production Co.

In 1982, Cities Service Gas Co. was acquired by the Northwest Energy Co. and renamed the Northwest Central Pipeline Corp. Late last year Northwest Central and its pipeline subsidiary were acquired by the Williams Cos.

## Businessmen stage professional rodeo

United Press International  
LUBBOCK — Dozens of businessmen leave their offices for a few days every March to saddle bucking broncos and sell tickets, among other volunteer duties, at the ABC Rodeo.

The downtown chapter of the American Business Club has conducted the annual rodeo since 1943 to raise money for three boys clubs in Lubbock. More than \$500,000 has been donated for the clubs' capital construction projects.

"This is the only rodeo put on 100 percent by volunteers," said assistant rodeo chairman Buddy Reger of Texas Battery Co.

Gasoline distributor Earl Inec, 65, is one of a handful of members who can recall putting on the first rodeo.

"That time we had it at the old fairgrounds," Inec said. "The members of the club went down to the bank. We had to sign a \$5,100 note as guarantee for people to bring the (rodeo) animals."

The 115-member organization now has an ample treasury so members did not have to sign a note for the 42nd annual rodeo, which will cost about \$75,000. It opened Wednesday at the Municipal Coliseum and runs through Saturday.

"We have never gone in the hole," Inec said proudly of the rodeo sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association.

ABC members say most of the revenue is generated by businesses buying advertising space in the rodeo program and banner ads hung about the coliseum.

About 260 cowboys — in-

cluding national champions from the last two years — will participate this year. The two-hour nightly shows are expected to draw a total of 30,000 spectators.

Doctors, lawyers, oilmen and others use vacation time to shovel dirt, work as ushers and handle animals. A few ABC members were in college rodeo clubs, but most had no prior working knowledge of the sport.

ABC members joke that the member selected as rodeo chairman loses an average of 40 pounds worrying during the month of March. State district construction engineer James Johnston is running the show this year.

"The weight that James doesn't lose, I will," club president Jimmy Gibbs joked. "It's truly a community project," he said of the rodeo.

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