

State/Local

Local 'elephants' dominate, win all but 2 contested races

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Two weeks before Texas A&M's Elephant Walk, elephants of the Republican party had a walk of their own in Brazos County.

Three of the five Republican candidates in local opposed races followed in the footsteps of George Bush's presidential victory, winning by wide margins and providing good reason to celebrate at their party headquarters — the Cowhopper in Culpepper Plaza.

State Rep. Richard Smith, who was Bush's campaign chairman in Brazos County, predicted early in the evening a decisive Bush victory and said local candidates likely would win as well.

"This provides undeniable proof that Republican values are in tune with the majority of the American people," he said. "This was a campaign based on fundamental values. The Republican party values were accepted and the Democratic party values were rejected."

James Cecit, a senior economics major, said the evening provided "no surprises."

Even if the victories were not surprising, history was made on the Brazos County commissioners court. Republicans Gary Norton and Randy Sims won their races, giving Republicans control of the court for the first time in the county's history.

Rodger Lewis, Republican party county chairman, said the Republican court would provide greater accountability for its actions and closer representation of citizens than the Democratic-controlled court did.

David Horne, running for justice of the peace in Precinct 4, and Hub Kennedy, one of two write-in candidates in the county attorney race, were the only contested Republicans in Brazos Valley to be outvoted Tuesday. Lewis attributed Kennedy's loss to the fact that he was not named as a Republican on the listing of write-in candidates.

"Even though it didn't say so on the ballot, we all know he is a Republican," Lewis said.

Andy Keetch, director of publicity for Victory '88 and a sophomore business administration major, also said Kennedy's loss was due to his party affiliation was not being listed. Victory '88 is a Republican-based organization of A&M students.

Democrat Jim Kuboviak, also a write-in candidate for county attorney, voted in the Republican primary, but because state law says a candidate who votes in one primary cannot run for office in the other, he was removed from the ballot. He declared himself a write-in candidate for the office.

Kennedy, who works at a local law firm, ran for the office saying that if elected, he would merge the position with the district attorney's and resign the office.

Lewis quipped, "It's not easy to get a candidate elected on the platform of quitting."

Five television sets were placed throughout the room, and the crowd cheered every time a Republican lead was announced. Silence or hissing prevailed for the few Democratic leads.

Kennedy received one of the biggest audience responses of the evening as the candidates in attendance were thanked for their efforts during the campaign.

But the most rejoicing occurred when Bush appeared on television to give his acceptance speech.

Ann Anderson, president of Republican Women of Brazos Valley, said she wasn't sure Bush would win, but she was pleased with the evening's results.

Alex Munster, a junior speech communications major and chairman of special events for Victory '88, attributed the Republican victories to a strong conservative-student turnout.

"I think more students became involved this semester and were more involved in the issues of both parties," she said.

John Alvis, a senior political science major, said Tuesday's returns show a shift in Brazos County politics.

Democrats sustain victorious attitude though elections results show defeat

By Sherri Roberts
and
Denise Thompson
Staff writers

Although presidential polls indicated defeat, Brazos Valley Democrats maintained a victorious attitude at an election night party at the Ramada-Aggie land inn.

Darryl Shaper, coordinator for the Democratic Party in Brazos County, summed up the prevailing attitude among crowd members.

"I won tonight," he said. "I hope everybody in this room feels like they won tonight. We worked hard, and we fought a good fight. As long as we fought the good fight, who cares?"

"Oh bull," some said. Comments that

"We may as well go home, according to them, we've already lost," echoed throughout the room upon hearing early television predictions of Bush's victory.

Bill McGuire, a Democratic campaign supporter, said that television predictions were unfair to Dukakis.

"I would rather see no television returns if possible," he said. "It turns the people on the west coast off from voting if they hear that someone has already won."

Reasons for choosing Democratic ideology varied from staunch supporters, known as "yellow-dog Democrats," to those who cited specific party stances.

Tina Garrison, who has campaigned since September, said, "I grew up very

poor. The Democrats are there for the working man and the average man. Republicans are for the rich. Their tax breaks help people with comfortable salaries, and lower income people who don't get the breaks are hurt."

Irwin Tang, a freshman economics major, said his reasons for supporting the Democratic Party went beyond straight-ticket voting.

"People who live on campus only think of the money that's going to be in their pockets or the tax breaks they're going to have," he said. "I think this election is a measure of the selfishness of the American people."

After it became apparent that Bush would win the presidency, several peo-

ple speculated on the effects his administration would have on the country.

McGuire said, "He's going to have a difficult time getting something going in the Congress. Republicans don't care who is in office as long as their interests are served, and that is going to be evident in his administration. I think the weakest part of his term will be the selection of Quayle. The only reason the Republicans could've chosen the guy is because they assumed the American people would be too afraid to impeach Bush if Quayle were going to take office."

Shaper said, "We're living on borrowed time. The Republicans are writing blank checks for millions and millions of dollars. They're smiling now, but it will catch up with us when we have to repay the debt."

State Election Results

U.S. Senator	
Lloyd Bentsen (D)	59 percent
Beau Boulter (R)	40 percent
Jeff Daiell	1 percent
U.S. Rep Dist 6	
Joe Barton (R)	Not Available
Pat Kendrick (D)	Not Available
Railroad Commissioner	
Ed Emmett (R)	41 percent
Jim Nugent (D)	56 percent
Railroad Commissioner (unexpired term)	
Kent Hance (R)	55 percent
Clint Hackney (D)	45 percent
Chief Justice Supreme Court (unexpired term)	
Tom Phillips (R)	57 percent
Ted Robertson (D)	43 percent
Supreme Court Justice Place 1	
Lloyd Doggett (D)	55 percent
Paul Murphy (R)	45 percent
Supreme Court Justice Place 2	
Nathan Hecht (R)	50 percent
Bill Kilgarlin (D)	49 percent
Supreme Court Justice Place 3	
Jack Gonzales (D)	57 percent
Chas Howell (R)	41 percent
Calvin Scholz (L)	1 percent
Supreme Court Justice Place 4	
Jack Hightower (D)	55 percent
Barbara Culver (R)	44 percent
Supreme Court Justice Place 5	
Eugene Cook (R)	51 percent
Karl Bayer (D)	48 percent

Democratic victors declare objectives

By Denise Thompson
and
Sherri Roberts
Staff writers

Reflecting the sparse showing of less than 100 people gathered for the Democratic victory party, attendance by local candidates was less than expected.

Most of the candidates present were victorious in their races. Jim Kuboviak, who defeated Hub Kennedy in a write-in election for county attorney, said he had four goals for his term in office.

Before the end of the year, Kuboviak said, he wants to finish the project against family abuse.

"The project is almost 95 percent completed," he said. "But I want to finalize it."

Developing the mobile unit for videotaping DWI suspects is his main goal for 1989, while initiating a consumer fraud division in his office is a

long-term goal for 1990, he said.

Louis Garcia Jr. won the constable's race in Precinct 4 in a race against Bill Thornall, but said the victory came as no surprise. Thornall was a write-in candidate.

Garcia said he hopes to battle family violence and child abuse while in office.

Bill Turner ran unopposed for the office of district attorney. He said he has developed several goals for his term.

"I want to work on the sexual assault task force for children," he said.

Attracting more career-minded prosecutors to his office by adjusting pay schedules is another of Turner's goals.

Although defeated by Randy Sims in the Precinct 3 race for county commissioner, W.F. "Bubba" Moore said he did not feel that he really lost anything in the election.

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