NEWS

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dous waste, and improved education.

Stanford is the son of Patricia Hunt, former state representative for the old 17th, now 24th district.

Blue, also an attorney, said education is the number one issue in his senatorial campaign.

Blue also said utilities should not be allowed to pass the costs of construction projects to customers, a cost he said should be borne by investors.

With the ERA tabled in the Senate, making it almost impossible to ratify it before the June 30 deadline, Blue said the state should put its own equal rights amendment into the state constitution.

County Sheriff

All six of the candidates for county sheriff are Democrats, so the winner of the June 29 primary will effectively be elected.

The six candidates are Burch C. Compton of Hillsborough, Jake Hardee of Carrboro, David E. Hughes of Chapel Hill, Eugene R. Mauer of Chapel Hill, Bobby McCullock of Cedar Grove, and Lindy Pendergrass of Chapel Hill.

Hardee, one of the two majors in the sheriff's department now, has run the most visible campaign thus far and has been named by some observers as the current frontrunner.

Hardee will stress continued recruitment of female officers, more up-to-date equipment for the department, fairer prosecution of youthful offenders and a change in the department's promotion system to promote incentive among deputies, he said.

Compton, a former officer in the sheriff's department, has been head of the county

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Alcoholic Beverage Control board for 22 years. Compton said he would stress better means of handling youthful offenders, speedier and more consistent prosecutions and an active citizen-participation crime control program.

Hughes has spent the last six years as a deputy in the sheriff's department in crime prevention and investigation. He said he would stress better administrative and organization in the department, better protection and coverage of the entire county and better handling of transportation of mental patients and prisoners.

Mauer, a supervisor with Robert H. Pinnix Inc., a Gastonia construction firm with Triangle-based offices, said he wants to be "a plain old country sheriff." Mauer is a lifelong Orange County resident and was critical of response time to calls in the current department. He has no law enforce-

ment experience.

Pendergrass, current captain of detectives in the Chapel Hill Police Department, has spent 15 years in CHPD and has 25 years of law enforcement experience. Pendergrass was the most critical of current patrol coverage and response time in the sheriff's department. Pendergrass also said he favors a districting plan to keep more cars on patrol and increase response time.

County Commissioner

Three of the five seats on the Orange Board of Commissioners will be filled in the November general election.

There will be no Republican primary, as only three Republicans — Josephine Barbour of Hillsborough, Raymond Montgomery of Hillsborough and Joseph G. Griffin of Chapel Hill — have filed.

The Democratic slate includes a full complement of eight candidates for the three nominations, however. The candidates are incumbents Norman F. Gustaveson of Efland, Shirley E. Marshall of Chapel Hill and Norman Walker of Rougemont. Challengers are Sam Gattis of Hillsborough, Ben Lloyd of Efland, James M. Murfree of Hillsborough, Victor Carl Walters Jr., of Efland and Hugh Wilson of Hillsborough.

Orange County has maintained one of the highest county property tax rates in the state in recent years, due at least in part to the high demand for county services of the booming southern half of Orange, which includes Chapel Hill and Carrboro. Several candidates said alternative means of raising tax revenue — such as attracting valuable industry and exploring alternatives to taxing property — should be explored.



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