

Of Candidates' Viewpoints

# Charlotte League Of Women Voters Kept Public Abreast

By Karen Parker  
Post Staff Writer

With only five days left until the state primary, the candidates for Congress are campaigning in full gear.

On the Democratic ticket Susan Green, D.G. Martin and Ben Tison are expected to run a close race. There are two names on the Republican ticket which are expected to pull a close tally, Carl Horn and Alex McMillan.

If the top candidate from each Party doesn't win the majority of votes by at least 50 percent, a runoff will be conducted June 5. All the candidates have large followings; a runoff is foreseeable.

While mere popularity is a determining factor in some voters' selection, the number of forums sponsored by organizations and groups indicates more voters are becoming interested in the opinions candidates hold for the issues.

One organization which has certainly kept the public abreast of the candidates' viewpoints is the Charlotte-Mecklenburg League of Women Voters. The League recently presented the Congressional candidate with a questionnaire. The response to one of the questions are printed below:

**QUESTION:** What legislative solutions to environmental problems would you support?

**GREEN:** "I put high priority on control of toxic pollutants. Six of the seven major pollution laws are up for reauthorization - including the Clean Air Act and the Clean Water Act. Irreversibility must be the first measure of environmental action. Everything is renewable on a geologic time scale, but we're operating on a human calendar."

**MARTIN:** "In the short run we must reaffirm our existing commitments to the environment by 1) ensuring enforcement of existing laws, 2) conduct-

ing directed research with respect to conservation and clean-up, 3) renewing clean air and clean water legislation, and 4) developing practical programs to address the problems of acid rain and hazardous waste disposal. Longer term, we must replace the patchwork approach to water and air quality problems with a system that allocates the cost of pollution to all polluters and one that provides market incentives to decrease pollution dis-

charges to the greatest extent practicable."

**TISON:** "Four legislative acts are top priorities. A) Renewal of the Clean Water Act, B) Renewal of the Clean Air Act (especially to deal with acid rain). C) Enactment of the Eastern Wilderness Bill to preserve our endangered beaches, forest lands, swamps, rivers, and streams, and D) Provide enforcement teeth for and ensure extension of the Superfund Act.

"Where fiscally feasible, I support legislation which places responsibility for clean-up on the polluter. Finally, we may need to

restore some EPA funding to increase enforcement of environmental protection regulations."

**HORN:** "If enforced, current law is sufficient. Needless bureaucracy and red tape should not be mistaken for progress or reform, however. Clean air and clean water are important public concerns, but as much cooperation and responsibility should be sought on the part of state and local governments. National bureaucracies become a part of the problem."

**MCMILLAN:** "One of my top environmental priorities as a congress-

man would be support for rapid clean-up of hazardous waste dump sites. I would work hard for swift clean-up of local sites - such as the PCB spills in northeastern North Carolina - as well as adequate funding for the task.

"I would also support effective and balanced legislation to continue our progress toward clean water and clean air.

As new environmental laws are examined by the next Congress, the goals should not only be a cleaner environment but a set of regulations that is less cumbersome and arbitrary, as well as econo-

mically realistic."

All five candidates appear well-informed and have made some intelligent remarks before the public about the various issues.

Susan Green's greatest concern as a county commissioner has always been neighborhood preservation. Her concerns have broadened as a candidate for the 9th District seat. She speaks out more about the federal budget, and the responsibilities of the state and local governments.

D.G. Martin, the political newcomer, has progressed well on the campaign trail. His biggest issue which has probably at-

tracted the most attention for him is the pay-as-you-go plan which he feels should be adopted by the U.S. legislature.

Ben Tison appears knowledgeable in areas centered around business growth and the budget deficit. Most of his support is drawn from the business sector.

GOP candidate Carl Horn's silence about President Reagan's build-down policy has been interpreted by some people as nonsupport of the issue. But the candidate assured he does support build-down.

Sarah Stevenson, a dedicated public servant, is running for re-election to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education. She has earned the support of the citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Sarah Stevenson understands the importance of public education. She has been an active and visible supporter of the public schools for 30 years. She has been a PTA leader at the local, district and state levels. She has been an advocate for schools through her church, the Quality Education Committee and her many civic affiliations.

As a member of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education for the past four years, Sarah Stevenson has been a strong voice in support of improved curriculum, better salaries and working conditions for teachers and responsible citizen involvement with schools.

Sarah Stevenson is a hard-working school board member. She does her homework. She asks tough questions and is supportive of the school administration as it works to provide rich educational opportunities for all students.

Public education is in need of strong leaders and enlightened public support more than ever before in history. Sarah Stevenson has been there. She understands the needs and will continue to support policies which will ensure excellent schools for the students of Mecklenburg County.

**JOIN US! RE-ELECT SARAH STEVENSON TO THE CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

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