

Vote Tuesday

Race for representative in voters' hands

By VERONICA MONIER
Rep. John Faber says he thinks he does what's right for the 120th District in the state's House of Representatives.

So far, voters must agree, since he's held the seat for 10 years now, and is finishing his fifth two-year term.

"I represent the consistency," he said. "I bring as much back from the eastern part of the state that I can."

Rep. Faber is the vice chairman of the Transportation Committee and the joint Information Technology Committee and serves on the Education, Agriculture, Insurance and joint Legislative Educational Planning committees.

He said he's been on the Agriculture Committee for 10 years and the Education Committee for eight.

Rep. Faber said if re-elected, he plans to focus on the same issues he has been, those that deal with keeping western Kansas populated and functioning.

For him, he said, school finance is a fairness issue. Rural schools

need support just like those in the cities do.



John Faber

"We need to make sure schools are properly funded out here in western Kansas," he said.

He said it's important to keep low-enrollment weighting, which gives extra money to small schools, in the state finance formula. It's also important to not put a lot of burden on local property taxes, he said.

"The state needs to fund every district equitably," he said.

He said state parks are important, but the Department of Wildlife and Parks needs to work within its budget. Secretary Mike Hayden has asked for a \$5-a-year tax on all vehicle registrations to boost the park fund.

The department should be focusing on the land they have, rather than trying to buy more private land, Mr. Faber said.

"They need to take care of what they have," he said.

Tax cuts, he added, are something he always looks for.

"We need to attract more busi-

ness so we can put more people to work," he said. "Western Kansas has abundant water and a very good work force, which is a good draw for new business."

Rep. Faber said tax breaks might be a way to get the people raised in western Kansas to come back and raise their families, boosting the enrollment base for schools.

A Rawlins County farmer and rancher, Rep. Faber and his wife Renee live on their farm in the southwest corner of the county. Their address is out of Brewster, and he's a former member of the Brester School Board.

The district covers Norton, Decatur, Phillips, Cheyenne and Rawlins counties.

Rep. Faber will be facing Democrat Bob Strevey of Norcatour for the third time in six years in the November general election, but remained unopposed in the Aug. 1 primary.

"I've always been a common-sense conservative," he said. "I think I reflect the district I live in."

"When people vote for me, they're voting for experience. I know the ropes and can get the job done for us out here."

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
A Norcatour man wants another rematch for the 120th District seat in the state House of Representatives.



Bob Strevey

Democrat Bob Strevey ran against the incumbent, Rep. John Faber of Brewster, two years ago and four years ago, losing both races to the Republican. He said he tried to get someone else to run this time, but no one was interested.

There are lots of capable people who hold this position. Mr. Strevey said he isn't saying Mr. Faber isn't one of them, but having two candidates for an office is supposed to be part of the process.

The party system works better too, he said, when there is someone from both main parties running. If there is only one person running for re-election then the process doesn't work.

"The third time's a charm," said Mr. Strevey, a Norcatour farmer, former teacher and retired Army Reserve officer, with a smile.

He said he visited with his opponent recently and they are friendly and open with each other.

Mr. Strevey said they can debate each other in a friendly way.

He said there are five issues he feels passionate about, in no particular order.

• The state needs to support state lakes and parks, he said. The lake in Norton, with its state park and state wildlife area, is short on money and it doesn't seem that the facility has legislative support at all to help keep it going.

• Rep. Faber, said Mr. Strevey, voted for the private prisons bill. A former employee at the prison in Norton, Mr. Strevey said he opposes the private prisons bill. This was a provision to a bill for stricter rules for sex offenders. There are a lot of jobs connected with the prison in Norton, he said, and if the state goes to private prisons, then those jobs go away.

• On school finance, said Mr. Strevey, the state Supreme Court should only serve as a referee. The court overstepped its bounds when it said how much money should be spent on the schools, he said. The legislators responded with more money and now the court needs to back off, he said.

The court needs to give the process some time to work, Mr. Strevey added, saying that he doesn't favor punishing the court in any way.

• Mr. Strevey said he is unhappy that the state is borrowing huge sums of money, piling up the state debt. The Republican party continues to push for tax cuts, he said, and that is putting a tremendous burden on grandkids. This needs to stop.

The last tax cuts were for businesses buying machinery or buildings. Part of the reason this wasn't in the best interest of the state is that most of that money was then going to urban areas.

He said he has talked with the county commissioners in his dis-

trict, and they have said that the counties are constantly losing money because of something the state does. The counties are being squeezed, he said. This is just a precursor to the state government saying that counties aren't doing the job and so they need to consolidate, which isn't a good idea.

• Economic development, said Mr. Strevey, is important. Progress is being made across the district, he said. As the representative for this area, Mr. Strevey said, he can help with economic development, especially when a prospect needs a multi-county approach.

A good representative, he said, could be a good facilitator for economic development.

Mr. Strevey was born on a farm near Norcatour and has lived south of Norcatour all his life. He taught fifth through eighth grade for 31 years.

He and his wife Kay have three daughters. Trudi, who is married to John McCollum, lives in Missouri and has a daughter Elyssa.

Wendy, married to Laure Tien, lives in Andover and has a daughter Ivalea. Hollie is married to Justen Ricke, and they have a son Jared.

Mr. Strevey now has a farm and grows field corn, wheat, milo and has cattle.

He is a director of the U.S. 36 Highway Association, president of the Norcatour Citizens Alliance, and a member of the Norcatour United Methodist Church and the Oberlin-Decatur County Economic Development Corp. board.

Although he and Rep. Faber differ on economic issues, he said, they usually agree on social issues. Both are pro-life, said Mr. Strevey, and both are against gay marriage.

Mr. Strevey said he thinks it will be a close race this time, though it has been a long time since a Democrat has sat in that seat. The candidate said he gained 900 votes between 2002 and 2004, and if he gains 900 again, the outcome could be different.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

NORTON

Senior High:

Saturday — KMEA Jazz Band, FHSU; KSHSAA Buffer Week — Nov. 6 through 12

Monday — North MCL Vocal Clinic in Norton: Clinic at 2:00 p.m.; Concert at 7:00 p.m.; Scholar's Bowl at Hill City, 4 p.m.; Dance Team Practice, 8 p.m.; Cheerleader Practice, 8 p.m.

Tuesday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; Scholar's Bowl at Oberlin, 4 p.m.; Cheerleader Meeting, a.p.

Wednesday — KAY Regional Conference, Smith Center, 8 a.m.

Thursday — Jay Singers, 7:30 a.m.; FCCLA, a.p.; Scholars Bowl at Stockton, 4 p.m.

Friday — Jazz Band, a.p.

Saturday — FFA Leadership/Greenhand Conference, Hays, 9 a.m.; Fall Play, East Campus Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday — Fall Play, Matinee, East Campus Auditorium, 2:30 p.m.

Next Monday — Winter Sports Practices Begin; Jay Singers, a.p.; FFA PALS Party, 7 p.m.; FCCLA Bingo at Norton Manor, 7 p.m.

Junior High:

Monday — Stuco, a.p.

Tuesday — KAY Board, a.p.; Basketball vs. Smith Center (H), 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday — Faculty Meeting, 7:45 a.m.; KAY Regional Conference, Smith Center, 8 a.m.

Thursday — Basketball vs. Plainville (H), 5:30 p.m.

Next Tuesday — KAYS, a.p.; Basketball vs. Phillipsburg (T), 5 p.m.

Eisenhower:

Wednesday — Faculty Meeting, 3:40 p.m.

Thursday — IEP Day, All Day; Third and Fourth Grade Level Meeting, 3:40 p.m.

All Schools:

Wednesday — Admin Team Meeting, 9:30 a.m.

Eisenhower Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Strawberries, bagel with cream cheese, milk; Lunch: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, baby carrots, pineapple chunks, dinner roll, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Shipwreck, orange juice, milk; Lunch: Lasagna, tossed salad, peaches, garlic bread, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Sausage pancake stick, strawberry fruit cup, milk; Lunch: Roast beef, whipped potatoes, gravy, corn, pepper strips, banana bread, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Apple wedge, banana spears, oatmeal muffin square, toast with peanut butter, milk; Lunch: Ike burger, homemade bun, French fries, dill spear, pears, no bake cookies, milk

Friday — Breakfast: Ham slice, hashbrown patty, peaches, apple juice, milk; Lunch: Baked chicken, whipped potatoes, gravy, green beans, strawberry fruit cup, French bread, milk

High School Menus:

Monday — Breakfast: Chocolate muffin square, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch:

Chicken and noodles, whipped potatoes, broccoli/cauliflower salad, hot roll, peaches, chef salad, milk

Tuesday — Breakfast: Ham slice, hashbrown patty, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Chicken wrap, green pepper, lettuce and chopped tomato, hot rolls, peach crisp, or chef salad, milk

Wednesday — Breakfast: Cinnamon bun, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Macaroni and cheese, green beans, combo salad, hot roll, pineapple or chef salad, milk

Thursday — Breakfast: Breakfast burrito, potato puffs, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Burrito, shredded cheese, lettuce and shredded tomato, corn, hot roll, mandarin oranges, chef salad, milk

Friday — Breakfast: Granola snack bar, fruit or juice or cereal, toast, milk; Lunch: Pigs in a blanket, baked beans, coleslaw with carrots, pears or chef salad, milk

NORTHERN VALLEY

Monday — I.T.B.S. Test Week in Grade School; KASSP Fall Conference at Wichita; Western KS Math Academy at Hays; High School Dance Team Practice; ITBS Test for Freshmen in High School Auditorium; Science Day at FHSU in Hays, 11 a.m.-3:15 p.m.

p.m.

Tuesday — I.T.B.S. Test Week in Grade School; KASSP Fall Conference at Wichita; Western KS Math Academy at Hays; High School Cheerleading Practice; I.T.B.S. Test for Freshmen in High School Auditorium

Wednesday — I.T.B.S. Test Week in Grade School; KAY Regional Conference at Smith Center High School, 8:15 a.m.-2 p.m.; KASFAA Meeting at F.H.S.U., 9 a.m.

Thursday — I.T.B.S. Test Week in Grade School; High School Dance Team Practice

Friday — I.T.B.S. Test Week in Grade School; High School Cheerleading Practice; High School Football Sub-State, TBA; Veteran's Day program in the big gym at Almena, 8:30 a.m.

Saturday — FFA District Greenhand Conference at Hays; Band to play at Veterans Day Parade in Norton, 2 p.m.

Breakfast/Lunch Menus

Monday — Breakfast: Cherry coffeecake, sausage links, apple juice, cereal assortment; Lunch: Cheeseburger on a bun, French fries, mixed vegetables, peach half, no bake cookie

Tuesday — Breakfast: Monkey bread, ham, hashbrowns, cereal assortment; Lunch: Parmesan chicken, tossed salad with dress-



Jennifer, Marvin, Karl & Jared Rack, Dan & Sue Skrdlant holding Colby Kayla Douglas, Mark & Leanne Rack and Katelyn Skrdlant

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ing, French bread, green beans, chocolate pudding

Wednesday — Breakfast: French toast stix, ham, fruit punch, cereal assortment; Lunch: Roast beef, whole wheel roll, mashed potatoes, gravy, broccoli, fruity Jell-O

Thursday — Breakfast: Egg/cheese biscuit, hashbrowns, applesauce, cereal assortment; Lunch: Bierocks, tri-tators, beets, brownies

Friday — Breakfast: Third Grade Menu — Breakfast: Ham/cheese bagel, pineapple chunks, cereal assortment; Lunch: Macaroni n cheese, Little Smokies, garlic twist, peas, fruit cup


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