## Candidates pledge to boost morale

Both say there will be an almost overnight boost in Sheriff's Depart-

overnight boost in outside a particular ment morale.

Both came up through the ranks to become police administrators.

Both see the Oakland County sheriff as a service agency for local police rather than as a countywide police

rather than as a countywide police force.
But only one — either Republican John Nichols or Democrat Henry I. Hanssa — will be sheriff after Jan. I. Winner of the Nov. 8 election will succeed Sherilf Johannes Spream, and the John State of Sherilf Johannes Spream, and the John State of Sherilf Johannes Spream, and the John Sherilf John Sherilf

countywide public safety director," said Hansen, 53, a lieutenant in charge of the criminal investigation division. "Oakland County has 42 police departments, 42 balliweise. Everyone feels threatened. They felt Spreen was threatening them."

Hansen sees two chief roles for the sheriff – running the jail and serving as an agent for such supportive services as a crime lab, tactical mobile unit, chemical analysis, arson unit, marine division and mounted posse for parks patrolling.

Hansen is conducting an aggressive campaign, talking to any group which will invite him and listen to him. "I tell them I have no ego to satisfy except may own self-respect. I want to serve the county and the police departments," he said. "And I want to have a good working relationship with the Board of Commissioners."

### election '84

within the department, which Spreen has shaken up several times with staff firings, demotions and replacements. "If I win, "Hansen said, "we start with day one. We start anew and afresh. Well bury the hatchets and work togeber in harmony.

"If my opponent wins, those splits will still be there."

AT 65, NICHOLS could be thinking of retirement after a career that took hin from rookle cop to Detroit police commissioner, candidate for mayor of Deroit (1973), undersherlif of Onkind County and currently Farmington Hills police chief.

I'm a glutton for punishment," said

Nichols. Bristling at talk he might be a one-term sherilf, he said, "I'll run just as long as I darm well please."

He thinks the Sherilf's Department needs to be allowed to be lussif. "Those people haven't sold their souls. People in that department have faith — they have guts, expertise.

"If I am elected, you will see a turnover in attitude in three weeks. I'll let them perform. They know what to do. They haven't been allowed to do it."

NICHOLS SERVED under Spreen in both the Detroit Police Department and Oakland Sheriff's Department. He refrains from direct criticism of his former boss, who has been em-

broiled in budget battles with the executive and commissioners and charges of "polities" vs. "professionalism" among police chiefs. Spreen gained much publicity— and much derision—for such ideas as a motor scooter patrol, a crime dog called McGruff (extually a deputy in costume) and efforts to organize volunteer aids.

But in a sideways jibe, Nichols said be would "remove unfunded programs paid in overtime, control overtime" and "reassess" the need for a jail administrator whom Spreen appointed.

Although like Spreen he has taught at the college level, Nichols speaks blumly and insists there's nothing subtle about himself. "What you see is what you get." the veteran police administrator said.

HANSEN JOINED the Sheriff's De-

ator said. HANSEN JOINED the Sheriff's De-

HANSEN JOINED the Sheriff's De-partment 27 years ago after serving in the Navy and attending Henry Ford Trade School. At 25, he had a good job as foreman in a job shop in Plymouth and was living in Novi. "But I hated it. I applied for a job in

the Sherill's Department, and one day Frank frons hired me," he recalled. "I took a pay cut. We had no milous in those days. We bought our own guns and uniforms and testified in court on our own time.

in inose days. We stognic our own guide and uniforms and testified in court on our own time.

"Many of the men lacked higher extraction but they made up for it with concling it, but today source getting a different kind of people, with different goals. Many have teaching degrees but found that police work pays more than teaching."

Hansen was a road patrolman nine years, a scub diver, head of the marine division—and so on up the ranks. He, too, does not attack Spreen directly. Asked to name his ideal cop, Hansen cited William Leas, Wayne County executive, former sheriff and former Fili agent.

"He had to fight a tot of biases. He's smooth, has good common sense, is well-educated, well-liked by his staff. He moved up the ranks. I have to admire a person of that caliber."

# Row over campaign donations heats up quiet prosecutor race

Until two weeks ago, the Oakland County prosecutor race was quieter than any L. Brooks Patterson had been involved in. But charges of political maneuvering are rampant as Tuesday's election draws near.

A series of events last week focused attention on the low-key race between Republican L. Brooks Patterson, seeking his fourth term, and Democratic challenger Robert Gagaiuk.

The campaign became a political hot

challenger Robert Gagniuk.
The campaign became a political hot potato when the prosecutor went twice to Oakland County Circuit Court, once to fend off a grand jury investigation and the other time to sue a Southield

charges.

As of press time, the judges had not decided on the request.

In a report Oct. 17, TV reporter Vince Wate linked campaign contributions to Patterson by area auto dealers with the prosecutor's decision not to charge car dealers suspected of tampering with utility meters to reduce energy costs.

Sides Oldsmobile in Farmington Hills.
But Patterson denied the gifts were related to dropping of the cases. Two of his aides — chief assistant Richard Tompson and Michael Izzo, head of the warrants division — took lie detector tests to prove that there was no link bitween the contributions and the decision.

between the contributions and the decision.

AFTER CHALLENGING Patterson to also take a lie detector test, Gagniuk Wednesday filed a petition asking for a gand jury investigation of the danglog of the utility fraud cases.

Charging the Troy attorney with "political manuvering," Patterson Thursday filed his own petition calling the

Gagniuk request "legally ineffective" and asking it be dismissed. Assigned first to Circuit Judge Fred Mester, the petitions were referred to Chief Judge Francis X. O'Brien. Court rules require that petitions for grand jury go to the chief Judge and then receive a majority vote of the judges. That same day the prosecutor also fitled a slander suit against Channel? and Wade. "It is the only avenue! have available to vindicate myself," said Patterson, who previously offered to take a polygraph if the reporter would publicly apologize to him afterward. The station has said it stands behind the 12-minute prime time story.

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## ering with utility meters to reduce energy costs. Of 81 state utility fraud cases being investigated by the state police, 32 involve Oakland County businesses. Nine involve auto dealers. The prosecutor said he received \$5,000 from the Detroit. Auto Dealers Association for his 1982 attorney general campaign and \$640 this year from Robert (Saks) Mechigian, owner of Bob and the other time to sue a Southfield television station. "It just reeks of politics," Patterson said of the controversy. "The political stench is unbearable." County clerk, challenger vie

NOVEMBER IS BAUME & MERCIER MONTH

in nearly 'invisible' campaign

To Lynn Allen, being Oakland County clerk means implementing the first on-line computer system for the Circuit Court.

To challenger Linda Lash, it means being "more visible" and promoting bilingual ballots in areas of Oakland County with many Hispanies.

In a nearly invisible campaign, they will face off Nov. 6 for a four-year term as county clerk and register of deeds. (Oakland combines the two posts.) Also on the ballot is Libertarian J. Stephen Bilinitzer of Farmington Hills, a copywriter for League Services Corp.

ALLEN, A Republican from Drayton Plains, is seeking a fifth term as clerk-register. Once a doctor of optometry, he was appointed to the county job when the clerk died.

The move was a narral one for Allen, whose father Lynn Sr. was county clerk 1932-1958.

"We were the transport of the Stephen St. Was a County of have and develop an on-line compared court system," said Allen, who has meter a practice on the task for professional Switch and the county with the c

groups.
"It's money savings in many ways — employee
time and filling space," he explained. "The computer is a modern tool that's really been beneficial to
government."

As the years have rolled by, Allen has taken a greater interest in state elections laws and affairs

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of the Michigan Clerks Association (he is past president) and the International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers.

Allen served during the early '70s as a member of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission and was active in the expansion of Oatland Pontiac Airport. He owns and flies his own place.

LASH IS into politics by vay of the Rochester Democratic Club, of which are is president, and the United Auto Workers. She also is a member of the American Civil Libertles Unite.

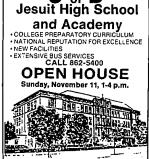
The Avon Township resident works as an accounting clerk in the book store of Oakland University, where she is on the UAV bargataling committee for 250 technical-clerical imployees.

"My job involves dealing with publishers. I can deal with business," she said in an interview with the Oakland Citizens Learne.

"My Job invosed deal with business," she gaid in an innes, ... the Oakland Gilizens League.

Lash sees a need for bilingual ballots in Pontiac, where "35 percent of the 1,000 Hispanic voters can't read English."

She said she has "not much" experience in computers but would be "real vilble in voter registration" by speaking at high schools.



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