

Faxon wins handily

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Faxon charged that his opponent distributed misleading literature which unfairly criticized his effectiveness and attendance in Lansing.

ACCORDING TO Faxon, Brock literature painted district increases in crime and drug use as being the direct result of his ineffective tenure, and that he was "absent or late" from 1985 Senate sessions 70 percent of the time.

The latter claim was untrue, said Faxon, who stressed earlier that his record has been better than "99.5 percent" of his colleagues.

Brock said his literature was based totally on Faxon's "public record" and not intended as a personal attack.

Despite Faxon's claims, Brock was diplomatic in defeat at his Southfield headquarters early Wednesday morning.

As his campaign headquarters emptied, Brock said the final tally won't stop him from remaining active in the Republican Party and taking another run at Faxon in four years.

"Anytime you run against someone who has been in office as long as Faxon, it's a tremendous uphill challenge just to get name recognition on a par with his," Brock admitted. "Now the idea is to remain active and involved, and I intend to continue to speak out on the issues in this district."

BROCK'S DECISION to run for the state House, however, cost him his seat on Lathrup Village's council. Outside of his vow to remain an active Republican, he was noncommittal about his political future.

He preferred to label his campaign "contrasting" and not negative.

"All we tried to do was let them decide based on his record," Brock said. "I didn't consider it a negative campaign — it would have been if I was attacking him personally."

"But to hold up a person's record, and say 'here is how he voted on these issues, and here in contrast is what I'd do,' is a comparison campaign."

The defeated Republican said all of his campaign literature was well-researched and public record. "Every piece of literature had roll-call votes, bill numbers and time references."

FAXON SAID the key to his reelection was his visibility and accessibility to the public, which also had been criticized by Brock during the campaign.

"I have always communicated with the people in my district in a direct and personal way about my views on public issues."

"I think I've developed the support of the people. They know how I feel

about things, it's no news to them," Faxon said.

He added that his strong allegiance to education was a factor, with 80 percent of school board members in the district supporting him. In Novi, a largely Republican city, the entire school board backed him, Faxon said.

A member of the powerful Senate

appropriations committee, Faxon is concerned about roads.

"I represent the most congested road system in the state," said Faxon. "It's the number one problem we have here, because of our growth."

"What we need in Oakland County is roads, roads, roads and better roads."



JERRY ZOLYNSKY/staff photographer
Frank Brock, who took on incumbent state Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, rests his hands on the shoulders of Tom Farley of Farmington Hills as they wait for election returns. The news was not good for the Lathrup Village Republican.

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