

The Party Was Small, But Their Man Won

By DAN GILMARTIN

As one of the few well-wishers remaining put it: "Win or lose, Democrats have more fun than Republicans."

The instant analysis was offered at the near empty victory headquarters of U. S. Rep. Jack McDonald (R-Farmington), who had obviously won another term by defeating challenger Fred Harris.

It was about 1 a.m. Wednesday, a good five hours after the polls had closed, and there was no question that McDonald had accumulated the necessary votes.

"WHERE were all the celebrators?" a reporter asked. "You should have been here earlier," one partisan replied. "There were a few more people."

The large headquarters building, once a furniture store, was situated at the V-Intersection of Grand River and 14th in Farmington. The fireplace contained just remnants. If it had been a blazing pyre earlier in the evening, it was now just about out.

Two staff members were on telephones, about four supporters were watching television, there was some noise from upstairs which indicated there may have been more people milling about.

McDonald was reached by telephone, and he allowed as how he was lying in his bed at home and watching television.



JACK H. McDONALD
Republican Incumbent

"I'll be leaving Thursday to prepare for the Nov. 16 'lame-duck' session of Congress. We're simply in recess now," McDonald explained.

"I BELIEVE the House will be taking some action on the crime bill and on welfare reform. We're also waiting for the Senate to release a measure on appropriations," he said.

Reflecting on the campaign, McDonald said:

"This was not a campaign on issues at all. My opponent really didn't have an issue in my voting record. It was obvious, also, that his political philosophy was fairly close to mine."

"He engaged in a little nit-picking," McDonald said. "He also tried to make an issue out of campaign donations and whether or not I

liked the United States Marine Corps. "Harris had to manufacture issues. But I believe that the people who would be making a decision on how they would vote wanted to know how each man reflected their vote. Harris never, never got to that point."

"WHAT we did, was to publish position papers on what we believed to be the issues. We also published my voting record and periodic newsletters indicating how I stood on issues. We'll continue to publish the newsletters, incidentally."

"I believe it is very important that the people know where you stand," he said. "That was the difference in the campaign. We stuck to the issues."

McDonald said he did like to credit publicly the many people who were active and helpful in his campaign. "But there would be too many and I'd hate to leave somebody out."

But he did state that he was grateful to the many who believed in the "behind every man" adage.

"My wife Joyce was wonderful during the campaign," McDonald said.

"She ran the campaign the last eight weeks. She's worked in all my campaigns but this is the first time she took the leadership role, and she performed magnificently."

EARLIER in the day the McDonald staff members had prepared and cleared a victory statement "because we felt we'd win."

In the statement, McDonald said:

"The people of the 19th District have re-elected me to another two-year term as their U. S. representative."

"In the 10 years I have been an elected official, six as Redford Township supervisor and four in Congress, my goal has been to improve the quality of life."

"There is much to be done before our role in the conflict in Indochina is over; before our rivers and streams flow with clear, clean water; before a stroll after dark becomes a pleasure rather than an adventure; and before we can guarantee full educational opportunity to every American."

"THESE are my goals, and because of the support I have received in this election, I am reassured they are the goals of the people in the 19th District as well."

"We have established the direction we must go if we are to upgrade our quality of life. I will continue to work very hard to fulfill the wishes of the people of the 19th District," the statement said.

McDonald and his wife, Joyce, plan on taking a short one-week vacation in the Virginia Islands.

"We've never been there; we're looking forward to it," McDonald said.

"I once caught a nine-foot, 120-pound sailfish off Acapulco. I'm going to try to better that," he said.

McDonald Tops His '68 Margin

U.S. Rep. Jack McDonald (R-19th District), returned to Congress for a third consecutive term Tuesday, gained a slightly larger plurality this year than he mustered in 1968 despite what most observers felt was stronger Democratic party opposition.

McDonald not only made gains in strong Republican ballistics but was one of the few to buck broad Democratic trends. McDonald rolled up nearly a 3-2 victory over Democrat Fred L. Harris, Farmington attorney and union local president, by gaining almost exactly that margin in supposedly Democratic Wayne County.

McDONALD POLLED a total of 91,880 votes to Harris' 63,110, with a 34,001 to 22,415 edge in Wayne County and 57,679 to 40,695 in Oakland.

McDonald got 58 per cent of the vote in 1968 when he beat Gary Frink of Pontiac by 104,667 to 75,250. This time McDonald got a shade better than 59 per cent.

Indicative of his lustre were the returns from his former hometown of Redford

Township, where only he and Gov. William Milliken survived a Democratic sweep. In Redford McDonald got 14,772 votes to 9,640 for Harris.

Farmington city and township returned 11,553 to Mc-

Donald, who now makes his residence there, to 5,885 for Harris.

Livonia, largest single community in McDonald's district, gave him 17,227 to 11,863 by the time 50 of the city's 55 precincts had been counted.

Totals are unavailable because Livonia City Clerk Addison Bacon trotted tally sheets off to county election centers without posting anything for local public or press consumption as late as Thursday dinner time.



CARL PURSELL
Republican

4th Republican Wins In 14th

Hard-charging Carl Pursell of Plymouth blasted right past Paul Kadish of Livonia to retain the 14th District State Senate seat for Republicans.

The pressure was on him after defeating incumbent George Kuhn in the August primary and the district having been a Republican surety since its inception, electing Paul Chandler (1964), Farrell Roberts (1968), and Kuhn (1968) to Lansing in succession.

Pursell rolled up a nearly 5-3 edge in the Wayne-Oakland district, with a 30,491 to 20,555 return north of Eight Mile Road and 24,646 to 17,837 below that divider.

He carried every community in the district which extends along the two western wings of Oakland County along with the Commerce-West Bloomfield-Novi and Farmington block and Livonia, Plymouth and Northville areas in Wayne County.

HIS MARGINS in Plymouth and Plymouth Township

and in Farmington were sizable, as expected - 2-1, 3-1 and 2-1, respectively.

In Livonia he polled 16,228 to 13,696 for Kadish with 50 of 55 precincts counted - which was his largest single chunk of votes but smallest plurality.

The City of Plymouth returned 2,333 to 1,141 tally to Pursell. Plymouth Township game him 3,394 to 1,607 and Farmington City and Township combined went his way 11,230 to 5,975.

Pursell thus fulfills a long-time ambition and avenges his 1966 primary defeat by Kuhn for the same office.

HE STEPS UP from a Wayne County commissioner post representing Livonia, Plymouth and Northville which he sought and captured in 1969 elections of a reorganized county board.

A Democrat, John J. McCann of Livonia, will take over Pursell's county seat, having bested former Livonia mayor Harvey Moelke for the open seat.

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