

Dems pick 2 new names in 18th District

By Tim Richard
staff writer

Two relative newcomers and three familiar names will carry 18th Congressional District's banner at the Democratic National Convention in the Atlanta heat of mid-July.

"I'm going to take the family," grinned Barry Howard, 40-year-old lawyer from West Bloomfield and prominent fund-raiser in Gov. James J. Blanchard's circles. The Howard boys, ranging from 8-12, lagged along and helped dad as he won election Saturday as a Dukakis delegate in a two-hour district convention in Pontiac.

It will be Howard's first national convention. "I was involved in the Dukakis campaign, raising money, making use of my office and helping coordinate the 18th Congressional District," he said.

Though not a household word in Oakland County, Howard is known in the party as finance director in the 18th District, and Blanchard has appointed him a trustee of Western Michigan University.

SOME 130 party members and precinct delegates dragged themselves to the County Board of Commissioners' auditorium on a sunny afternoon to pick three delegates for Massachusetts Gov.



Louis L. Miller Jr.
Jackson delegate

Michael Dukakis, one delegate for the Rev. Jesse Jackson and one alternate for Dukakis. The allocation was based on voting in the March 26 caucuses.

Louis L. Miller Jr., 48-year-old Farmington Hills businessman, will be the 18th's voice for Jackson in At-

lanta. He has been Oakland County Democratic chairman for almost four years, was the party's candidate for treasurer in 1984 and was party treasurer before that, but it will be his first trip as a national delegate.

"I'd like to serve on any type of negotiating team for the Jackson candidacy," said Miller after his 34-12 victory over Alex Williamson in the Jackson caucus.

A cautious talker, Miller won't venture an opinion on whether Jackson, running a strong second behind Dukakis, should bargain for a spot on the ticket as vice president or for a cabinet post.

"That is a decision Dukakis has to make himself," said Miller, a former postal employee and manager who is now president of Financial Data Systems, Inc. in Detroit's Renaissance Center.

ROUNDING OUT the 18th's five-member slate will be:

- Ron Thayer of West Bloomfield — Dukakis male delegate.
- Gail Nolin of Sylvan Lake — Dukakis female delegate.
- Don Tucker of Birmingham — Dukakis alternate.

Results were hardly in doubt. The Dukakis leadership — "people who were very active in the campaign," in Nolin's words — put together a

"unity team" which captured 80-95 percent of the votes.

Although Gov. Blanchard has yet to declare for a presidential candidacy, the hands of close team members were much in evidence in the Dukakis camp in the choice of Howard and Thayer.

THAYER IS Blanchard's executive secretary — a loosely defined job that includes chairing a study of the lottery, coordinating reception activities and handling arrangements for the National Governors' Conference in Traverse City that Blanchard hosted last year.

A West Bloomfield resident for a year, Thayer has a long resume in newspapering and fund-raising.

"I was city editor of the Hillsdale Daily News — quite a conservative Protestant area for an Irish Catholic boy," said Thayer of his early experience.

For five years he was at the University of Detroit in alumni relations and fund-raising, followed by a year with Chrysler Corp.

In the administration of Detroit Mayor Roman S. Gribbs (1969-73), Thayer had four jobs in four years — in the board of health, hospital board and bus system, winding up as Gribbs' executive assistant.

After a year in the SEMTA office, Thayer in 1974 went to work on the

congressional campaign of a hitherto obscure assistant attorney general named Blanchard. Blanchard won, and Thayer served on the congressman's staff for eight years.

"The first year I worked out of Washington, but I got homesick and missed too many U-D basketball games," Thayer quipped, "so I spent the next six years in his Royal Oak office. I was the first person to leave his government payroll in September of '81 and start on the gubernatorial campaign."

Thayer was a Mondale alternate at-large in the 1984 convention. This will be his first convention from his new home in the 18th District.

"I chaired a fund-raiser for Dukakis the day before the Michigan caucus (March 26)," he said. "At \$500 a head, we raised \$100,000."

TUCKER, a Birmingham lawyer and chairman of the 16th Congressional District organization, will be going to his fifth national convention.

In 1972 he was on Sen. George McGovern's national staff. In 1976 he was a delegate for Arizona Congressman Stewart Udall, who split the Michigan vote with Jimmy Carter. In 1980 Tucker was a delegate for Sen. Ted Kennedy and in 1984 a delegate for Walter Mondale, his first candidate to win a nomination.

Nolin, who teaches fifth grade in Della Lutes Elementary School in Waterford, is a veteran in both Democratic and Michigan Education Association camps. She was a Udall delegate in 1976, a Carter delegate in '80 and a Mondale at-large delegate in '84.

"I worked for Dukakis in both the 6th and 18th Districts," she said. "I was instrumental in putting him and Kitty into a junior high where he gave a speech on drugs. I've done mailings, set up phone banks, made calls for him, hauled stuff in my car from Lansing and Detroit."

NOLIN WILL have a second shot at choosing Michigan's delegation to the national convention.

She will give up next Saturday afternoon to attend a Democratic State Central Committee meeting at Jackson Community College where the 35 at-large delegates will be selected. Many slots will go to elected officials such as the governor and congressmen, and others will go to party officials, but a few could be contested.

Altogether, Michigan will send 138 pledged delegates to the Democratic National Convention — 77 for Jackson, 52 for Dukakis and 9 for Missouri Congressman Richard Gephardt.

Both camps' slates win easily in 17th District

By Jackie Klein
staff writer

A slate of candidates prepared by party and union leaders will go to the National Democratic Convention in July after an easy win Saturday in the 17th Congressional District delegate race in Southfield.

On the Action Jackson United slate, Southfielders Arnette D. Evans and Anne Harp were picked by the majority of the 75 voters for the Rev. Jesse Jackson during a quiet caucus.

Male delegates Larry Lewis of Detroit and Wayne County Deputy Sheriff Hilliard Hampton also were favorites of Jackson supporters. Freeman Hendrix, head appraiser in the Detroit city assessor's office, is alternate delegate.

The 17th was allotted two delegates for Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis and four for Jackson.

WITH 121 Dukakis voters, state Rep. Maxine Berman, D-Southfield, and Paul Massaron of Oak Park were the choices for delegates. UAW official John Dewan was alternate delegate. The three were on the Dukakis Unity Team slate.

Eliel Schwartz, who's on the board of the Southfield Democratic Club, said she was running independently for Jackson delegate in keeping with the "Rainbow Coalition"



Maxine Berman
off to Atlanta

espoused by Jackson.

Ben Moner of Inkster, second vice chairman of the 17th District, was one of 53 who filed as a Jackson delegate candidate.

"The union put the slate together and scared off everyone else," he said. "I just found out about it, and I'm running anyway."

Southfield councilwoman Vicki Goldbaum, Lathrup Village Mayor Peggy Dickens, and Annette Miller, a member of the state board of education, were among those who

backed out of the race in favor of Berman. Miller, however, challenged Dewan for Dukakis alternate.

JACKSON DELEGATE Evans was a delegate for Walter Mondale in 1984. She's a trustee of the Southfield Democratic Club and a member of the executive committee of the 17th District and Oakland County Democratic Club. She serves on the Democratic State Central Committee and is an elected precinct delegate.

She was manager of the AFSCME site for the March 26 Democratic

caucus, which drew the most voters in Oakland County.

Harp is manager of the Jesse Jackson 1988 Southfield headquarters, treasurer of the Southfield Democratic Club and a precinct delegate. She was named Southfield Democrat of the Year in 1987. She was a caucus worker for Jackson in 1984 and a campaign worker for Gov. James Blanchard.

The delegate is past president of the Women's Conference of Concerns and has been a campaign worker for a number of Southfield officials.

LEWIS HAS been active in the

Democratic Party for 20 years. He was on the executive board of the 1st District and a member of the state central committee.

Hampton is president of the Inkster Democratic Club, on the executive board of the 17th District and an AFL-CIO union official.

Berman has represented Southfield in the 64th House District since 1982. A former teacher, she has been active in Democratic Party politics.

Massaron is an officer at large of the Democratic State Central Committee and has been active for 24 years.

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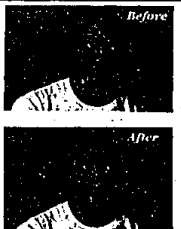
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