



PHOTO BY RANDY BORST/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Clark Durant, center, joins hands with Ollie North and his wife, Susan, in a victory salute. Durant characterized the rally as "old fashioned," with a heavy emphasis on traditional values such as patriotism, freedom and a strong family.

Schuetz busy Saturday, too

While his opponent in the Republican primary election was busy Saturday with retired Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, U.S. Rep. Bill Schuetz was doing some campaigning of his own.

Schuetz gave the eulogy at the funeral of L. Nicholas Ruwe, former ambassador to Iceland, who died

Wednesday at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Ruwe, 56, a native of Grose Pointe, served four U.S. presidents — Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan — in a variety of capacities and helped make funeral arrangements for Presidents Harry S. Truman and Dwight D. Eisenhower.

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'Ollie, Ollie'

Ex-Marine stumps for Clark Durant

By Pat Murphy
Staff writer

America, patriotism, Ollie North and Clark Durant.

There was plenty of each Saturday morning at the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills where an estimated 1,000 people turned out for a rally advertised to "Celebrate America."

The rally was one of five scheduled by Durant, a Detroit lawyer seeking the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate.

Conventional wisdom has Durant trailing his GOP opponent, U.S. Rep. Bill Schuetz of Midland, in the polls. Durant dismisses that, however, insisting it doesn't accurately reflect support of voters fed up with government.

ANYWAY, HE insists, North's appearance will propel him into public consciousness and help him win the Aug. 7 primary. North's endorsement will give him momentum against Democratic incumbent Carl Levin in the fall campaign, he said.

"This rally is an important snap shot of the campaign," Durant said at a press conference prior to the rally. "But it's part of a broader plan."

"Ollie North is an American hero. People will see that he and I share the same values... less government, more freedom and stronger families. I want to get that message to the grass roots."

A giant American flag draped the stage. John Durant, 7, one of the Durants' four children, lead the pledge of allegiance.

AFTER A brief introduction, North marched to the stage as loud speakers played the Marine Corps Hymn and the crowd roared.

North was a lieutenant colonel in the Marines before joining the White House staff and subsequently becoming a major figure in the Iran-Contra affair.

"I could never regret what I've done," North told the cheering audience, referring to his role in the scandal. He, and eventually Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger, were convicted of obstructing Congress.

"I'm pleased to be here. I enjoy speaking without a subpoena."

"Clark Durant asked me to help him 16 months ago. He's the kind of man we desperately need in Washington, D.C., to help turn things around."

NORTH REFERRED to the nation's capital as "a sick swamp" that has become a "retirement home for incumbent politicians."

The country needs people like Durant, North said, because "we have the wrong people in Congress. America doesn't want more government. America wants better government."

At his press conference, Durant said he is confident people who support North will see the similarity and jump on his bandwagon to win the GOP nomination.

Asked about the expense of getting

North — reportedly \$25,000 — and the cost of taking him around to rallies in Flint, Lansing, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, Durant said, "What ever it costs will be worth it."

THE RALLY had raised \$238,000 already, he said, including proceeds from a \$1,000-per-couple rally in Dearborn Friday. "And we've had hundreds of people sign up as volunteers and campaign workers."

Mary Ann Baughman Biltner, a 1965 graduate of Bloomfield High School who now lives in Wayne County, was one of those who saw — and liked — the similarity between North and Durant.

"I'm a BIG Ollie North fan," she said. "I contributed to his defense fund. And I like Durant, too, especially his pro-family stance."

Ollie North was treated unfairly by congressional investigators and the press, said Ann Kelley of Berkeley. "The wrong people were on trial. It should have been Congress."

BOB STRAITH of Royal Oak said he enjoyed North's appearance, mainly because he has always been a fan. Asked if he supported Durant, Straith said, "I do now."



Not everyone welcomed North, as indicated by this picket. Protests were mild, however, with most of an estimated 1,000 people cheering the Iran-Contra figure.

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PEGGY PELLOSKE RN, currently working in the Medical Intensive Care Unit of local hospital. A nurse for 14 years, 10 with METROSTAFF, she views her current assignment to be stressful, yet rewarding. Married and mother of 3 boys, she has sought flexibility in her career, yet always with the goal of "maintaining professionalism."



PAULA JONES LPN likes variety in her assignments, either in a Hospital or Home Care setting. An LPN for 5 years, 2 with METROSTAFF. She was previously a Lab Technician who "missed patient contact," resulting in her going back to school for nursing training. She enjoys working with "skilled caring people" at all levels.

GERRY SKELL RN, received his nursing degree from Wayne State Univ. Father of six, with a wife who is a nurse, he has been in Health Care for 20 years, 7 with METROSTAFF. He prides home care where he "can be creative" in challenging patients "to not give up and start living." A Certified Child Birth Educator, he has also worked as a Respiratory Therapist and IV Technician.



SARAH DOKES, Home Health Aide, has worked in her chosen field for 22 years, 12 with METROSTAFF. She took her training at Long Beach Memorial Hosp. (HIV) and has made a lifetime career of "taking care of sick people." She stresses "putting her personal life aside, so she can concentrate on taking care of the other person's needs by putting herself in the patient's place."

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