

Scott, Simmons, Wiser win OCC trustee berths

BY WAYNE PEARL
STAFF WRITER

Want to learn about the rising electability of women? Just check this year's Oakland County College election.

Voters chose three women — challengers Anne Scott and Janice Simmons, as well as incumbent Judith Wiser — from the 11-candidate field.

Six male contenders, including incumbent Sam Yano, were left trailing in Monday's balloting.

Scott, a Royal Oak business woman, was the leading vote-getter. Wiser of West Bloomfield finished second in gaining a second six-year term on the board.

Simmons, a Rochester Hills resident, finished third in becoming OCC's first black trustee.

"It's not the most important thing — I'm there to represent all people — but I do want to serve as a role model," said Simmons, marketing and public relations director for North Oakland Medical Center, Pontiac.

The race creates a 4-3 female-to-male split on the seven-member OCC board.

Scott is owner of Temps By Scott, a Royal Oak employment firm near the OCC Royal Oak campus.

Wiser is public relations director

ELECTION RESULTS '92

OCC BOARD OF TRUSTEES

THREE SIX-YEAR TERMS

Anne V. Scott	14,408
Judith Wiser	12,364
Janice Simmons	12,274
Paul A. Bailey	8,935
Richard T. Lindgren	7,619
Gary J. Welsh	7,109
D'Aicy A. Gonzales	7,043
Karen K. Apolloni	6,918
Sam Yano	5,938
Jan C. Benzing	5,868
Laurence R. Inerman	4,191

for Omni Dental Group and a former OCC instructor.

Yano, a Northville businessman, couldn't regain the seat to which he was appointed six months ago.

He is chairman of the Children's Federation of America and was recently appointed OCC delegate to the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments.

Winners' vote totals were: Scott, 14,408; Wiser, 12,364; Simmons, 12,274.

Both Simmons and Scott credited their election to the same fact: old-fashioned hard work and a good campaign staff.

"I'm pleased, not surprised," Scott said. "We worked very hard. Anytime I do something I aim to be number one."

Wiser wasn't available for comment.

Candidates appeared on the ballot with local school board hopefuls in Oakland County's public school districts.

Scott was the leading vote-getter in the Rochester and Troy school districts, among Observer & Recenter areas districts. Her biggest total, 3,956, came in Royal Oak.

Wiser was the leading vote-getter in the Farmington, Southfield, Walled Lake and West Bloomfield districts.

Simmons was leading vote-getter in the Avondale and Bloomfield Hills districts.

Lindgren was the leading vote-getter in Farmington.

While percentage turnout figures weren't available, college officials estimated 9,200 voters cast ballots.

"The only time we had as many with this many candidates was in 1988 and, then, only about half as many people voted," college spokesman George Cartsonis said.

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