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BY PAT MURPHY STAFF WRITER

BY PAT MURPHY
STAFF WHITE

After trashing each other in campaign ads, the state Republican Party would like voters to believe Jim Nicholson and Ronna Romney are ready to kiss and make-up after Tuesday's primary in the name of party unity.

Republicans have scheduled a "U.S. Senate Unity Breakfast" for 7:30 a.m. Wednesday with the \$25 admission going to the fund to defeat Democrat Carl Levin who is seeking his fourth consecutive term.

Nicholson and Romney have both committed to being there, according to a press advisory distributed by the state Republican Party Friday. If they show, as promised, the party in general and the campaign specifically could get a much-needed boost in civility.

But mustry won't come until

civility.

But unity won't come until Wednesday, if then. The last few days of the campaign promised to be brutal, perhaps brutal enough to throw cold water on

Wednesday's hopes for unity.

A fax to the media from the Romney campaign Friday, for example, said the former talk show host wanted to "alert" were rea and the press in general to a negative phone blitz aimed at her.

"They (Nicholson) supporters are attempting to caming the testing the forms.

her.

"They (Nicholson) supporters are attempting to continue their negative campaign 'under the radar screen' in the hope the press and public work expose these kind of tacties," the Romney elert said.

Nicholson's press secretary, Jonathan M. Baron, acknowledged an 'active effort to remind our voters of Tuesday's election. But she's the one who has been negative."

Baron said Nicholson will have a phone bank over the weekend. But the message will be very positive," he said.

Nicholson and Romney expressed confidence Friday as their heated campaign entered its final days. Earlier in the day Nicholson canceled out of a scheduled taping at WKAR-TV in East Lansing, citing what he

The taping went ahead without Nicholson Romney said Nicholson "didn't have the courage to deal with me one on

said she'd be out looking for a job.

Her press secretary, Trent Wisceup cautioned against misreading her response. Remember, after that bitter campaign in 1994 (against Spencer Abraham) she warmly endorsed Spence and the rast of the ticket.

Both candidates were tapes apparately Friday for a special edition of the "Spotlight" program (WXPZ-TV) scheduled for 6 n.m. Sunday.

Dan Pero, Nicholson's campaign manager, predicted Tuesday's primary would be "verjosse," with the winner to be decided on a number of variance.

called the "victous, personal attack" commercials Romney has run.

The taping went ahead without Nicholson. Romney said Nicholson. Romney said none.

In response to questions, Romney said she'd be at the unity breakfast and would support the Republican ticket. Asked if she'd campaign for Nicholson, Romney said she'd be out looking for a job.

Her press secretary, Trent

lowed by a tour of Farmer's Market.

Sunday Romney's schedule included services at the Bloomfield Hills Christian Church and a GOP Family Fund Day and Rally in Saginaw. Romney was to vote in the 31st Precinct of Bloomfield Township followed by a busy election day.

Her election night party was acheduled for 7:45 p.m. at the Southfield Radisson.

Nicholson's election night "Vic-

southness radisson.
Nicholson's election night "Vic-tory Celebration" was scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Southfield Marriott.

Candidates wait for voters to speak

Nicholson, Romney wrap up hot race

IN NEED OF

There's always last minute details to work out, but as Tues-day's primary election drew clos-er, most county candidates were ready to let the voters make the

"We've done everything we could," said Dave Ichay . "On Tuesday, it's the voters' turn to

Ichay, campaign spokesman for Oakland Prosecutor Richard Thompson, on Friday said the weekend would be filled with lit-

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erature drops, mailings, personal appearances and the usual details associated with a county-

details associated with a county-wide race.
"I really don't know what else we could do to reach the voters," he said. "We've tried to get our message out, and now it's up to them."

message out, and now it's up to them.

The Republican trying to oust Thompson in the GOP primary agrees. David Goreyca had a busy weekend planned with appearances in Farmington Hills and elsewhere.

By the time this is over, I will have done everything possible, the said Thursday as he, wife Carol and their twins attended yet another fund raiser, this one a 'Bolle Bash' for Troy District Judge William E. Bolle.

Thompson and Goreyca have the the primary, with the winner of their race facing Democrat Steve Kaplan, unopposed in his primary, in the November general election.

ry, in the November tion.
There are other races, of course, including contests for

state representative, county commissioners and district and circuit court.

The sheriff's contest features a five-way primary on the Republicant ticket and a two-way contest among Democratis.

Furthermore, Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson faces a primary challenge from Timothy Hughes, who contends the incumbent isn't a "true conservative." Hughes said he's not a member of the Michigan Christian Coalition, but he said he embraces their principles and enjoys their support.

The winner will face Democrat Edward T. Hamilton who is unopposed.

Some people think the Birm-

Edward T. Hamilton who is unopposed.

Some people think the Birmingham based Christian Coalition will play a pivotal role, Tucsday and in November. After neceuraging its members to get active in politics — to the point of running for precinct delegate — the coalition may be ready to flex its political muscles.

"We have the workers, and they have the talkers," the coalition's executive director, Glenn Clark, said last week. "We are committed to Christian values, and we're willing to work."

Democrata, in the meantime are convinced they have the makings of a strong ticket in the fall—the best in decades.

President Clinton is leading in the polla, noted Jerry L. Bixby, himself a candidate for county commission in the 14th District Bloomfield Hills and parts of Troy and Bloomfield Township).

'I don't expect his (Glinton's) edge to hold up.' Bixby said, who usually narrow toward the end. But the President is strong and he should have the best contails in years.

In political circles, a leader with good "controller provides an easier "ride" into public officer for contenders of the same party.

The county wide ticket — headed by Kaplan, Hamilton and, most likely, Hogan — are solid, aggressive candidates, he said. Also encouraging for Democrate, Bixby said, is the number of Democratic candidates.

"We have primary races this time in districts where we could "if field a candidate before," he said. "This is not the same old Democratic Party."

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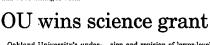
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