Fallout from Patterson's involvement in commission primaries remains to be seen

Hard feelings linger.
But only time will tell if the
involvement of the Oakland
County executive in last week's
primary election will have any
lasting impact on relations
between L. Brooks Patterson
and his Republican colleagues on
the county heard.

and his Republican colleagues on the county baard.
Patterson openly backed the primary opponents of three incumbent Republican commissioners in Tuesday's primary.
One incumbent — Donna R. Huntoon of Clarkston — was defented by State Rep. David Galloway, who can not return to the state legislature because of term limits.

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Huntoon was philosophical at Thursday's county board meeting. Dave Galloway is a nice person, and he'll bring some expertise to the board. But I've had nine good years as a commissioner, and I'il leave with my head held high.

There was more than a trace of bitterness, however, when fluntoon talked about Patterson's support for her opponent. How was I supposed to know what (Patterson) wanted?" she said.

Huntoon said she had disagreed with the executive on some issues, but agreed on oth-ers. "Isn't that the role of a com-missioner?" she said.

ers. Isn't that the role of a com-missioner? she said.

Patterson had no regrets.

"I didn't recruit anybody," he said. "But I have a right to oppose commissioners who I believe are obstacles to good gov-

believe are obstacles to good government."

The executive said the commissioners he hoped would lose had been unreasonable in their opposition to the policies he wanted. "I don't mind if some-body disagrees with me," he said. "But these commissioners went to far."

Petterses, said he would never

went too far."
Patterson said he would never back a Democrat against a Republican, so the political warfere is over, at least for this election cycle. "But if they want to fight like this two years from now, I'm ready," he said.
Otherwise, the executive said he's looking forward to cordial relations. "I have a working rela-

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tionship with a majority of the commissioners," he said.

Patterson's involvement in the primary was not a formal agenda item Thursday. But commissioners talked about it privately—sometimes in hushed conversations with Huntoon. Some were willing to talk about the executive privately, but they didn't want to be quoted.
"I wouldn't say it was a major topic of discussion," said commissioner Donald W. Jensen, R. Birmingham. But I heard people talking about it before the caucus.

caucus."
Jensen was supported by Patterson, and he said he appreciated the executive's help. But Jensen said he would continue to vote independently. "I've disagreed with the executive

before," he said. "But we've always been able to resolve our differences."

Board chairman John P. McCulloch, R.Royal Oak, said commissioners were very much aware of the executive's views and his involvement in the elections. "But I don't think anybody is going to change. If we disagree with the executive, we'll try to work it out. But disagreements are inevitable.

"I'm hoping there's a cooling down period," said McCulloch. "Wo've got work to do."
Commissioner Shelly Taub, R. Bloomfield Hills, said the executive's involvement in the primary election will, in all likelihood, simply be forgotton – or at least not dwelled upon. "I'm an optimist," she said. "But it's like

teaching – every fall marks a new beginning.
Next year's budget, for exam-ple, must to be approved by Sept. 30, and hearings are already under way. As proposed by the executive, the budget is \$574.7 million.

\$574.7 million.
Furthermore, the Community
Mental Health Authority Task
Force Roport is schoduled to
begin the committee process on

August 24. nmissioner Sue Ann Dou-Commissioner Sue Ann Douglas, chair of the beard's Finance Committee, said she and her colleagues have to much work to be overly concerned about the primary. "We've got a lot of work do," said the Rochester Republican, "and it's going to take cooperation between the board and the executive."

Re-elected county commissioners want an apology from Patterson

Two incumbent Oakland county commissioners were still miffed about fellow Republican L. Brooks Patterson supporting their opponents in last week's

their opponents in last week's primary.

Having survived what they saw as an attempt to oust them from office, each privately voiced heated words at Thursday's county board meeting for the executive they will be dealing with over the next two years.

"I want an apology," said Fran Amos, whose 5th District includes the northern part of West Bloomfield and the eastern part of Waterford. She defeated James G. Keough, Karen E. James and Gene Seets — a personal friend of Patterson's who had his support.

Amos has no Democratic opponent in November.

Patterson was also involved was the 9th District which includes the southern part of Rochester Hills and the northeast part of Troy. The executive openly supported Tom Del Pup against incumbent John P. Garfield.

Garfield said the executive's support for his opponent backfired. "People told me, "We pick our county commissioner, the executive doesn't," he said.

As for future dealings, Garfield said he'd continue working for his district and the county. "But the executive won't bui., me," he said. Garfield's opponent in November is Domorat Tim Dowan.

A third commissioner whose opponent was supported by Patterson lost. Commissioner Donna Huntoon of Clarkston said the executive's endorsement of David Galleway was at lenst partially responsible for his victory.

Calloway is a state representative who can not return to the legislature next year because of term limits. He will face Democrat Michael Kohut in November.

Patterson said he won't offer any apologies. But he said he is leaving the door open for a better working relationship in the future.

six of the 25 county commission races, including three with no

incumbents.

In the 1st District (Oxford,
Brandon, Groveland, Holly and
Ruse townships), Patterson supported Steve Tolliver in the primary with William R. Patterson
Lymn Anno Huff.
Patterson, the rotired owner of
Patterson's Pharmacy in Oxford
and a friend of the executives,
won that election, He will run
won that election. He will run

won that election. He will run against Democrat Tom Athans in November.
In the 10 District (Highland, Milford and Lyon townships), Patterson supported Ron Colasanti in a four-way GOP primary with Joff Potter, Thomas P. Dunleavy and Mario Facione. He will run against Democrat Doug Crump in November.
In the 19th District (Farmington and south Farmington Hills), the executive supported Ben

ton and south Farmington Inter, the executive supported Ben Marks in a three-way primary with Terry Sever and Joanne F. Molin. Sever won and will face Democrat Deborah J. Goldberg

OAKLAND DIGEST

Oakland Digest provides a summary of headline stories from around the county during the week leading up to Aug. 8. Here's a look back at some of last week's key primary election

BIRMINGHAM
Godchaux wins: First-term
incumbent Patricia "Pan" Godchaux defeated Republican
challenger Vincent Lorelli
5,827-2,943 in the 40th state
House District primary. Geoffrey Roberts, who earlier with
drew from the race, received
745 votes. The district includes
Birmingham, Bloomfield Township, Beverly Hills, Birgham
Farms and Franklin Village.
Godchaux will meet Democrat
Michael Coleman in the fall.

CLARKSTON
Upset: In a GOP primary
upset, incumbent Oakland
County Commissioner Donna
Huntoon lost her District 2 sent
to David Galloway, a state Legislator who had to give up his
House seat due to term limits.
Galloway outpolled the 9-year
incumbent 3,027-1,692 in the
district, which includes Clarkston, as well as Independence
and Springfield townships. He
will face Democrat Michael
Kohut in the fall.

FARMINGTON
Read up: Farmington and
Farmington Hills voters
approved a 0.6-mill library tax
11,886-3,777. The miliage will
renovate and expand the
library"s three branches.

LAKE ORION

LAKE ORION
To the Mat: Incumbent state
Sen. Mat Dunaskiss topped former state representative Tom
Middleton 16,079-10,001 in the
GOP 16th District state Senate
primary. He will face Michael
Odette in the fall. Odette
defeated fellow Democrat Dave
Lillis 8,319-3,567 is his party's
primary. The district includes
Lake Orion, Clarkston,
Rochester, Rochester Hills,
Auburn Hills, Leonard and
Lake Angelus, as well as Addison, Independence, Oakland,
Orion, Springfield, Waterford
and White Lake townships.

ROCHESTER
Son rise: Michael Bishop of Rochester Hills energed as the victor in the crowded Republican primary for the 45th District state House seat. Bishop, son of former Rochester-area state Senator Don Bishop, defeated former Orion Township Supervisor JoAnn Van Tassel, former Oakland Sheriffs commander Gerard Carlin and former Rochester Schools trustee Irene Connors, as well as Mark Boegehold and Delores Ouroll-Myalakowski, for the nomination. He will face Democrat Margaret Zando of Lake Orion in the fall. The district includes part of Rochester, Oxford, Lake Orion and Leonard. It also includes Addison, Oakland, Orion and Oxford townships.

ROUTHETELD

SOUTHFIELD
Fieger time: Attorney Geoffrey
Fieger maintains a Southfield
office, Doug Ross once represented Southfield in the state
House. Who came out tops with
Southfield voters in Tucsday's southfield voters in Lucasiny a gubernatorial primary? It was Fieger by a 4,605-3,448 count.' Larry Owen, who finished sec-ond to Fieger overall, received 3,414 Southfield votes.

ROY
Golden Gosselin: Former Troy
councilman Bob Gosselin was
tops with voters in the GOP
42nd District state House primary with 4,079 votes, defeating former Avondale school
board member Don Ingersoll,
who had 1,939 votes, and
Rochester school board member
Durlene Janulis, who had
1,421. He will face Democrat
Jacquelyn Moore in the fall.
The district includes Troy and
part of Rochester Hills.

WEST BLOOMFIELD

WEST BLOOKS IND
Name battle: Incumbent state
Sen. Bill Bullard topped Barbara Dobb in the 15th District
GOP state Senate primary.
Bullard outpolled Dobb 13,513
11,074 to earn the nomination.
He will face Democrat S. Ruth
Fuller in the fall. The district
includes West Bloomfield,
Seminaton Farmington Hills,





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