

Murphy, Spreen take off gloves on economy

By Kathy Parrish
staff writer

With just three weeks to go before voting day, candidates for Oakland County executive are getting testy. At a debate sponsored by six South Oakland County Chambers of Commerce, both Republican incumbent Daniel Murphy and Democratic challenger Johannes F. Spreen were urged not to "hold any punches."

Both rose to the challenge, attacking each other with a vehemence not shown in their only other debate. The two are scheduled to face off for the last time Sunday during a 9:30 a.m. debate in Adair Shalom, Farmington Hills.

"It is just Mickey Mouse trying to explain these kinds of things," said the usually cool Murphy after Spreen accused him of raising taxes.

"There are no tax increases. Absolutely not."

DESPITE MANY run-ins over the years, Murphy, who has been county executive since voters created the office 10 years ago, and Spreen, who has been sheriff 12 years, pledged themselves to conduct "gentlemanly" campaigns.

And the race has been a quiet one, with tempers just starting to flare a bit.

Murphy is running on his record as a cost-conscious manager who holds down taxes and provides services. He also emphasizes his efforts to help communities bring new industry to Oakland.

"This county needs a leader, and I am that leader," Murphy firmly told 106 listeners Tuesday in Stephenson Club, Hazel Park.

TOUTING HIS public administration degree, Spreen contended his education and law enforcement experience qualify him to become county executive.

"It is just Mickey Mouse trying to explain these kinds of things," said the usually cool Murphy after Spreen accused him of raising taxes. "There are no tax increases. Absolutely not."



Daniel T. Murphy
Republican incumbent



Johannes Spreen
Democratic challenger

But his main issue is crime, which he believes must be fought harder if Oakland County is to attract more businesses and residents. For years he has charged the executive with denying him money to do his work.

"If people are not safe where they work and shop, they will find other places to work and shop," Spreen said.

STRESSING THEIR own accomplishments in office, each candidate took potshots at his opponent.

Murphy stressed his success in balancing the county budget. "The sheriff has the only department that's not balanced," he said.

Acknowledging that economic development is important to Oakland, Spreen knocked the executive for not getting into it sooner.

"I think we should stop this planning and studying and do something about solving things," he said. "But we won't have economic development without safety and security. The two are inseparable, and I don't think we need all this studying."

ASKED WHY two law enforcement unions supported Murphy, Spreen said only 10 percent of his deputies took part in the "rump session."

"I'm glad the others stayed professional and cool and out of these politics," he said.

Waving newspaper editorials critical of Spreen, Murphy discredited the sheriff's statement that the American Federation of State, County and Municipal

Employees support the challenger. "I don't know what union in county government endorsed the sheriff. I don't know of one," he said.

The executive said Spreen "condemns" south Oakland police departments. "You do have good police departments, do have good law enforcement, and your crime is going down."

Denying the charge, the sheriff said local police departments can't fight ar-

son, homicide and "terrorism — it will come."

DISCUSSING THE role of county government over the next five to 10 years, Murphy predicted tremendous growth, growth in service organizations and jobs, and more high tech industries. He would like to see more cooperation with local communities, especially in the area of economic development.

"It's going to be a good five to 10 years, and you'll all be part of it. The quality of life will improve."

To Spreen, the two big challenges of the future are public safety and economic development.

WHILE BOTH are concerned about cutbacks which would result from the passage of Proposal C, they took different positions on supporting the plan to roll back taxes to end-of-1981 levels.

Although concerned about taxes, Spreen opposes Proposal C. "I think we're turning around and shouldn't let that go," he said.

Murphy would not like to see services cut because of Proposal C. But he won't oppose it because he believes taxpayers should determine whether or not they want the taxes.

"If it (Proposal C) passes, Oakland County will make it work," he said, firmly.

"If people are not safe where they work and shop, they will find other places to work and shop,"

— Johannes F. Spreen

Brooks Brothers

Our timeless camel hair Polo

Not since Brooks Brothers introduced the Polo coat to America has there been a more classic coat. Here, exclusively and impeccably tailored for the Brooks Brothers woman. Traditional details include flap pockets and a closed back vent. In luxurious, pure camel hair; fully lined. Sizes 4 to 16 regular; 6 to 14 petite. \$525.

Wool here, \$14.

Use your Brooks Brothers card, American Express or Diners Club

645 GRISWOLD, PENOBSCOT BLDG., DETROIT • SOMERSET MALL, TROY

The Harris Tweed Story

Harris Tweed is today still woven only by hand, only from pure Scottish wool and only in the Outer Hebrides of Scotland, just as it has been for centuries.

Handwoven 100% wool sport coat with all the hardy qualities that make Harris Tweed world famous. Available in many patterns. Regulars, Shorts, Longs, Extra Longs.

Featured: Taupe Shade Herringbone with Char Grey Windoupane. Reg. \$195.

Now \$156 Save \$39

Gwynn's

112 S. Woodward • Birmingham • 644-7060
Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30 Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9:00

Rena's
FLOWERS

Flowers, gifts, balloons and fruit baskets. For all occasions

626-3306

local and nationwide delivery service

ORCHARD MALL
6389 Orchard Lake Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI 48033

BONNIE PRUDDEN
(Author of Pain Erasure)

Will autograph her new book

MYOTHERAPY
BONNIE PRUDDEN'S COMPLETE GUIDE TO PAIN-FREE LIVING

The Handbook of Her Celebrated Technique for Relieving and Preventing Chronic and Acute Pain-Complete with the Latest Breakthroughs

100 MINUTE AUDIO & VIDEO TAPE
THINKING FOR PAIN
RETURN OF PAIN FREE
AUTHOR OF THE PAIN FREE

bookpeople.

Orchard Mall: 651-9150

Monday-Friday 10-9
Saturday 10-6 Sunday 12-5

drapery boutique

WALLPAPER 45% OFF

40% off 180 selected Special Order Books. 40% off all other Special Order books. By our library. Coupons must be presented at time of order only. No charge for shipping. Min. \$50 at sale price. Offer while quantity is 50%. Prices and shipping subject to change.

Custom Vertical Blinds 50% off plus 35% off that

Selected: • Decorator Cloths • Aluminum • P.V.C. • Luce

Other Custom Sizes at Extra Savings

1" Horizontal Blinds Bali 50% off plus 25% off that

Concord - Heavy Duty

50% off plus 40% off that

custom draperies 40-60% OFF

ON IN STOCK FABRICS

Styling With Imagination

HALSTED & GRAND RIVER
37841 Grand River
Farmington Hills
(313) 478-1132

ORCHARD & 14 MILE CENTER
38858 Orchard Lake Rd.
Farmington Hills
(313) 628-4111

drapery boutique

The ANNEX RESTAURANT

SPECIALS THIS WEEK

Served Daily 11 a.m. 'til closing

BOWL of SOUP and 1/3-lb. or *HAMBURGER

TUNAFISH SALAD CROISSANT SANDWICH

295

APPLE DUMPLING WITH VANILLA SAUCE

115

FOR LUNCH OR DINNER

Breakfast Served 8 A.M. to 11 A.M.

BREAKFAST SPECIAL

• Two Eggs (Any Style)
• Sausage, Bacon, or Ham
• Toast & Jelly

\$1.29

Open Daily 8 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Thurs. - Fri. 10 & P.M.

223 W. Maple Birmingham

Offer Ends Oct. 24, 1984