

Oakland court candidates hit campaign trail

By Pat Murphy
staff writer

As the campaign for two positions on the Oakland County Circuit Court enters the final month, candidates are more and more identifying with David H. Souter, the New Hampshire jurist nominated for the U.S. Supreme Court.

Just as senators at confirmation hearings questioned Souter about his views on issues like abortion or capital punishment, so too voters want to know how the Oakland candidates feel about certain issues.

Just as Souter declined to answer senators, under the Canons of Ethics governing judges, Oakland candidates can not give specific answers, if they answer at all.

"People think we're dodging the issues," said one of the candidates. "But we can't answer. To answer might be grounds to disqualify us from a case at a later date."

Running for two positions created by the expansion of Oakland's circuit court are Thomas Brennan, Rudy Nichols, James Sheehy and Deborah Tyner.

The top vote-getter in the Nov. 6 election will win a 10-year term and the runner-up will get a 6-year term.

The third and fourth place finishers win nothing... except, maybe, the consolation they would likely have greater name recognition if they decide to run again in 1992, when Oakland will elect two more circuit judges to newly created positions.

CAMPAIGNING, HOWEVER, is busy. And sometimes it isn't fun. "It's hectic," said Sheehy, a district judge in Rochester Hills. "It's not uncommon to make two, three or even four campaign stops a night. It takes a toll."

Being a candidate means a seemingly endless array of meetings and campaign stops... be it a candidate's night in Troy, a senior citizens group in Rochester Hills or a Repub-

lican Club in Farmington Hills. Some are relatively simple events at which the candidates simply shake hands and pass out literature. These are "grip and grin" appearances — so named because the candidate grips the hand of prospective voters hoping a smile and friendly appearance will leave a lasting appearance.

At meet-the-candidate sessions, the would-be judges are generally asked to talk about themselves and their qualifications.

"People want to know as much about you as they can," said Tyner, a partner with Sommers, Schwartz,

Silver & Schwartz in Southfield. "Once they accept the idea we can't say how we feel about specific issues, they want to know our background and why we want to be judges."

WITHIN THE NEXT seven days — a week candidates regard as "typical" — the circuit court hopefuls have at least three joint appearances. They will share the stage at 6:30 p.m. today at the Elks Club in Rochester Hills and at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday they will appear before the Farmington Area Republican Club at the Farmington Public Library.

Friday night, the candidates will tape a television interview sponsored by the Oakland County Bar Association. It will be televised several times on cable stations at a later date, said Kathryn G. Sirovey, executive director.

The Troy League of Women Voters will sponsor a televised meet-the-candidate session, tentatively on Oct. 23, also for cable channels. "There's more than enough opportunity for voters to see the candidates" and evaluate them, said Brennan, a lawyer who lives in Troy and is a partner with Brennan, Matrangola, Cross and Carmody in Utica.

The campaigns of Sheehy and Nichols got a boost this week when the Oakland County Chamber of Commerce endorsed them.

"It's nice to get any endorsement," said Nichols, a state senator who is giving up his seat in the Legislature to run for circuit judge. "Every one helps."

Nichols was equally philosophical about an endorsement he didn't get... from the Women's Bar Association, the Oakland County Region of the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan.

Nichols said he was hopeful of the group's endorsement because,

among other things, "I supported a number of women's issues in the legislature."

"But they endorsed somebody else," Nichols said, "that's the way it goes."

THE WOMEN'S BAR, with about 320 lawyers living or practicing in Oakland County, endorsed only one candidate, Sheehy.

Sheehy, of course, appreciated the endorsement. "But there's still a long way to go before Nov. 6."

Tyner said she was "shocked, to say the least" about not getting the endorsement.

Henredon.
Custom Folia Collection
Contemporary sofa
Retail \$1999.
NOW \$999

Serendipitous Savings from Scott Shuptrine

Unexpected good fortune awaits you.

At our metropolitan CLEARANCE CENTER you'll find the perfect piece at the perfect price

SAVE AT LEAST 35% AS MUCH AS 60%, 70% & MORE

Henredon. Thomasville. Hickory White, Sherrill. Thayer-Coggin. Selig. Bradington-Young and more.

These are one of a kind pieces—and our selection is ever-changing. Come in often. Discover. Explore. You never know what you'll find!

CLEARANCE CENTER • MADISON HEIGHTS
Whitcomb, E. of Stephenson
between 13 & 14 Mile • 589-1100

Hancock & Moore.
Leather Contemporary sofa & loveseat
Retail \$6340.
NOW \$2599

Thomasville.
5 piece transitional modular
Retail \$6990.
NOW \$3465.

Scott Shuptrine
Fine Furniture Since 1927

BLOOMFIELD HILLS 4110 Telegraph Road just north of Long Lake Road 642-0070 • Novi 43806 W. Onks Drive across from Twelve Oaks Mile 349-0044
GROSSE POINTE FARMS 10850 Mack Avenue just south of Moross 886-5200 • THOMASVILLE GALLERY GROSSE POINTE WOODS 19435 Mack Avenue just north of Moross 881-9390
STERLING HEIGHTS 12200 Hot Road between Van Dyke & Lakeside Mall 739-5100 • CLEARANCE CENTER, MADISON HEIGHTS Whitcomb, E. of Stephenson between 13 & 14 Mile 589-1100

DOTING GRANDPARENTS SALE

Show your A.A.R.P. or other Senior Citizen Card.

20% OFF

Practically everything storewide!

Start Now for The Holiday's ENDS OCT. 31

The Doll Hospital & Toy Soldier Shop
2847 W. 12 Mile Rd., Berkley
M-F 10-5, Fri 10-8 542-2113

River Bend APARTMENTS

Located adjacent to naturally wooded hills, Park, economical, 1 and 2 bedroom apartments and townhouses. Comfortable living with air conditioning, private balconies, huge closets, heat included. Also cable TV, 2 swimming pools and aerobics fitness center. SMART stop at the front entrance.

3000 West Warren between Middlebelt and Merriman Roads

CALL TODAY 800-997-4444

EVELANDER

HURD is the window to buy WOOD, ALUMINUM CLAD with Exclusive Heat Mirror®

Quality is equal or better than Polite, Andersen or Marvin, yet priced way below.

EXTRA \$100.00 OFF on presentation of this ad on purchase of six or more windows. FREE DELIVERY in tri-county area. One coupon per customer. Limited time offer. Place order now.

- Triple Weatherstripping.
- Heat Mirror insulates twice as well as ordinary double pane
- Solid wood interior for painting or staining

Remodeling? Replacement Sizes available

Also, we carry a FULL LINE OF DOORS AND SKYLIGHTS

(313) 398-4560

HERALD SALEM & DOOR CO