Northwest
Lewiston Morning Tribune/Wednesday, November 9, 1988
C
Nez Perce County
Koeper and Tobiason win
By Laurel Darrow
of the Tribune
Nez Perce County Sheriff Ronald F. Koeper and Prosecutor Steven J. Tobiason retained their positions in Tuesday's election in Nez Perce County.
Koeper, a Democrat, beat Republican challenger Thomas E. Lee 8,891 to 6,000. Tobiason, also a Democrat, had 9,415 votes to Republican challenger James W. Grow Jr.'s 5,281.
"I appreciate the support out there," Tobiason said. "I think people voted on the fact that they believed our record and not some of the distortions that were being put out."
He compared the campaign to a jury trial: "You put on your case and you hope people believe what you're putting out there, and they did," he said. "A lot of good Democrats worked hard ... but they spent a lot of money."
Ronald Koeper
Steven Tobiason
The votes are in
Election 1988
It's still a Democratic county."
Democrats also won in the two commission races.
Koeper said he is "tickled" to win. "I'm glad it's over. Now it's time to get back to work," he said.
The people of the county appeared to realize "we've got a good sheriff's office," he said. "I lost some Democratic votes, there's no question about that,
Grow and Lee said they felt they were at a disadvantage running as Republicans in traditionally Democratic Nez Perce County.
"It's doubly hard running as a Republican in Nez Perce County," Lee said. "You know from the beginning it's going to be a hard row to hoe."
However, he said strong campaigning by the Republican party helped. "I think it made the Republican party in Nez Perce County more credible than it's ever been in the past. People know that there's Republicans in Nez Perce County, there's a con-
See Koeper, Page 6C
Hill, Williams defeat GOP
By Michael R. Wickline and Joan Abrams
of the Tribune
Republican challengers failed to break the Democratic stranglehold on Nez Perce County government in Tuesday's election as Democrats Ervin W. Hill and Leonard E. Williams were declared winners in the race for County Commission posts.
District 3 Incumbent Williams defeated Republican challenger Earl J. Ferguson by only 150 votes. The tally was 7,142-6,992 for Williams.
Hill grabbed a larger margin in his District 1 victory over Republican Richard W. Law. The vote for Hill was 7,506 votes, while Law received 6,879.
Robert L. Huddleston, the Democratic incumbent in District 1, didn't seek re-election.
No Republican has been elect-
Ervin Hill
Leonard Williams
ed to a partisan office in Nez Perce County since 1976, when Charles A. Cline won a County Commision seat. Cline was defeated by a Democrat two years later.
During their campaign, Hill, a 53-year-old real estate agent, and Law, a 61-year-old real estate broker, both sold themselves as fiscal conservatives and promised to be full-time county commissioners.
The campaign between Ferguson and Williams was more rancorous.
Ferguson, a 51-year-old private contractor, blamed Williams for what he claimed was a 50 percent increase in the county budget in the past two years, while Williams countered that Ferguson was lying and the county budget only increased by 14.7 percent in the past two years.
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The Idaho Statesman
Revue editor, Amy Stahl: 377-6400
Blasting rockers
Cinderella, AC/DC set to sound off
Veteran wall-rattlers AC/DC will join the popular '80s heavy metal band Cinderella in concert Wednesday at the Boise State University Pavilion.
Powered by raw vocals and simple, driving riffs, Australian band AC/DC has been a strong presence in heavy metal since its U.S. debut in 1976 with "High Voltage," a compilation of the
THE VOTE
43 of 44 counties reporting
Lottery
Yes 210,532
No 196,268
Lottery
Measure appears to have passed after heated fight
By Andrew Garber
The Idaho Statesman
It looks like Idaho may have a lottery within a few months.
A constitutional amendment allowing a lottery appeared to have won approval Tuesday, based on results obtained early this morning.
If the amendment is approved, the state could have a lottery running by June if everything goes smoothly, said Larry La Rocco, head of Idahoans for the Lottery.
Abortion pill may close abortion clinics
Ellen Goodman
Commentary
In my town, there is a women's health clinic. To go there, whether you need a pap smear or pregnancy counseling, you have to run a gauntlet of anti-abortion picketers.
I have something in common with that crew. I would also like to close down the abortion business of that clinic, send their vacuum aspirators and surgical tools to some museum of medical history.
In my fantasy, the abortions would be phased out because every pregnancy was a welcome one. But in the real world of imperfect and sometimes desperate human experience, I put my hopes on a new pill to replace the surgery. The pill called RU-486.
These are two distinct ways to close an abortion clinic. Make it illegal or make it unnecessary. And right now they are in a conflict that is generating extraordinary heat.
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Voters kill fee for roads
By Betsy Z. Russell
The Idaho Statesman
Herb Elliott, Idaho City, gets ready to place his ballot in one of the boxes at the Boise County Courthouse. Seated at the table are election clerks Kate Nelson, left and Helen Tenant, both of whom put in a long Ele
Lottery wins support in Idaho
By Tim Woodward
The Idaho Statesman
Voter turn-out up slightly
Lottery debate moves to illegal raffles, bingo
The Associated Press
REXBURG — The heated debate over next week's vote on whether Idaho should legalize a state-run lottery has all but ignored the fact that scores of illegal games of chance have been a part of Idaho life for years.
Under the current Idaho constitution and state law, fund-raising raffles, bingo, the ever popular football and baseball pools and other seemingly harmless gambling games are patently illegal.
Still, those games go on in every community in the state, and there has been no attempt to cite violators for the misdemeanor violations.
Attorney General Jim Jones and prosecutors conceded that since most of the gaming involves community groups no crackdown has been launched by county prosecutors responsible for enforcing the anti-gambling statute.
"There are certain aspects of human behavior you're not going to change with a law on the books," Jones said. "If the law was strictly enforced, they'd probably arrest everybody in the state."
"If it's a misdemeanor and if it's not causing problems, you let sleeping dogs lie," he said.
But Jones has also come out against the pending state lottery proposition on the general election ballot because of its provisions to legalize those kinds of so-called charitable gaming.
He admitted that in traveling around the state, people for the most part would like to see those games legalized, but he claims the wording of the ballot provision goes too far. That contention has been vigorously disputed by pro-lottery forces, who accused Jones of raising an eleventh-hour red herring to defeat the amendment.
Jones also maintained that even though the current law is generally scoffed at throughout the state, it serves a purpose.
"The biggest benefit of having it against the law is that we can keep it within limits," Jones said. "It's easier to keep it at a small level. But if it gets out of hand, the law is there to enforce."
Madison County Prosecutor Dale Thomson said if the game is run by a non-profit or religious group he ignores it.
"It's so widespread, and the harm is minimal," Thomson said. "It's a matter of balance. It's a matter where you have to weigh common sense and practicality versus the letter of the law."
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