

### **Rich Melnick wins in the primary**

**Rich Melnick**, Clark County's newest District Court judge, took more than 50 percent of the total vote in Tuesday's primary election to beat two other contenders and to get himself elected to the job he was appointed to last March. He does not have to run in the Nov. 2 general election, but he will be up for office in 2006, at the time when all county District Court judges run for four-year terms.

Early returns showed Melnick with 57.9 percent of the vote, compared to his opponents, **Janna R. Lovejoy**, 23.9 percent, and **Craig Edward Kennedy**, 18.3 percent of the votes.

Of contested races in Clark County, only two other candidates got more votes than Melnick's 18,087. They were Democrats U.S. Senator **Patty Murray**, 21,687, and U.S. Rep. **Brian Baird**, 20,948.

### **Races tight going into general election**

Washington is a presidential battleground state and, so too, is Clark County a legislative battleground county going into the Nov. 2 general election. Voters in the legislative districts which include Clark County cast ballots as follows:

49th District Senator

**Craig Pridemore (D) 8,086**

**Don Carlson Incumbent (R) 4,930**

49th District Representative Position 1

**Bill Fromhold Incumbent (D) 8056**

**Justin Riley (R) 4,452**

49th District Representative Position 2

**Jim Moeller Incumbent (D) 7,871**

**Mike W. Smith (R) 4,460**

17th District Senator

**Don Benton Incumbent (R) 6,373**

**Paul Waadevig (D) 3,474**

**John T. Davis (D) 3,392**

17th District Representative Position 1

**Jim Dunn (R) 3,591**

**Pat Campbell (D) 3502**

**Ilene Ferrell (D) 3317**

**Paul Harris (R) 3,231**

17th District Representative Position 2

**Deb Wallace Incumbent (D) 6,413**

**Roy Rhine, (R) 6,031**

18th District Senator

**Dave Seabrook (D) 7,886**

**Joe Zarelli Incumbent (R) 7,556**

18th District Representative Position 1

**Pam Brokaw (D) 7463.**

**Richard Curtis (R) 7,180**

18th District Representative Position 2

**Ed Orcutt Incumbent (R) 7,449**

**Brian D. Beecher (D) 7,248**

15th District Representative Position 1

(unopposed)

15th District Representative Position 2

**Dan Newhouse Incumbent (R) 4,779**

**Michael Kepcha (D) 3,397**

### **Harris defeats Hagensen, will face Boldt in November race for county commissioner**

Incomplete but substantive returns from Tuesday's primary election give **Jeanne Harris**, Vancouver City Council member, the Democratic nomination for Clark County commissioner race in District 2. Her opponent is **Marc Boldt**, who is completing a term as 17th District state representative.

Harris is leading Democrat **John Hagensen** 3,730 votes to 3,450 in a tight race to represent the east part of Clark County on the three-member board of county commissioners.

Boldt, who was unopposed, received 5,616 votes.

County commissioner **Betty Sue Morris**, who was unopposed in her District 1 primary reelection bid, received 7,221 votes. Her Republican opponent in November is 17th District state representative **Tom Mielke**, also unopposed in the primary, who got 7,816 votes.

### **WSU enrollment up in Vancouver, Pullman**

Washington State University enrollment has gone up both in Vancouver and at the home campus in Pullman, university officials say. WSU Vancouver reports a headcount enrollment of 1,941 students, up 4.3 percent from the fall of 2003. Sixty-three percent of the WSU Vancouver students are women.

The first-time freshman class on the WSU Pullman campus is 3,108 students, up from 3,032 students who began classes last fall. The grade-point average of incoming freshmen has gone up, too, according to spokesperson **Charlene Jaeger**, from 3.44 grade-point average last year to a 3.46 GPA this year.

### **News briefs**

The Women In Action Emerging Leaders Forum, during which the annual Athena Award will be announced, is at 4 p.m. today in the Red Lion Hotel at the Quay. 📺 A lecture, "Rachael Corrie in Gaza: Her Parents' Perspective," is being presented in room 6 of the Multimedia Classroom Building at the Washington State University Vancouver campus at 2:40 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16. The lecture is sponsored by the WSU Vancouver Center for Social and Environmental Justice. Corrie's parents will also speak at the First Congregational Church in Vancouver at 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 17. For further information, call **Ben Duncan, 546-9490**. 📺 Open houses for teachers, including home school teachers, are at 3:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 16, in the Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center, 12208 SE Evergreen Highway.

### **Wednesday headlines from at home and around the world:**

[Campaign 2004 Results--Columbian](#)

[Pearson's future needs clarification--Columbian, Tom Koeninger](#)

[Opinion - Local View: Cowlitz casino will benefit Clark County--Columbian, John Barnett](#)

[Ridgefield, Camas school measures click--Columbian, Stephanie Rice](#)

[County continues to add jobs--Columbian, Jonathan Nelson](#)

[Health Department adding to new-born screening program--Columbian, Tom Vogt](#)

[Confusion wins in state primary--Columbian, Don Jenkins](#)

[American Indian wants to put run on Lewis and Clark re-enactors--KATU, AP](#)

[Roads clogged as hundreds of thousands on Gulf Coast flee Ivan--USA TODAY, AP](#)

[Martha Stewart asks to begin jail time now--USA TODAY, Greg Farrell](#)

### **Wednesday on the air**

Vancouver Symphony Orchestra Under the Stars—4:00 p.m. CVTV

2004 Primary Election Night—6:30 p.m. CVTV

Anaheim at the Mariners (live)—7 p.m. FSN, KFXN

City Minutes—8:30 p.m. CVTV

Telecommunications Commission (9/1)—9:00 p.m. CVTV

Vancouver Planning Commission (9/14)—11:30 p.m. CVTV

### **Town Tabloids and the weather**

**Ray Barney** taking matters into his own hands, with help. 📺 **Greg Kimsey** letting erudition shine. 📺 **Val Ogden** gently providing counterpoint. 📺 **Donna Mason** smoothing raggedy edges. 📺 **Vern Veysey** finding friends from his own era. 📺 **Wednesday**, gloomy, damp day, 69. **Thursday**, more clouds, precipitation possible, 68. **Friday**, clouds bring rain off and on, 67.