

U.S. House race

In the interest of full disclosure: Unlike the Tribune-Eagle, which will actively campaign for passage of the Sixth Penny Sales Tax Referendum (supporting every cent sought) but deny their involvement, I again inform readers of the Cheyenne Herald that I am an active participant in the Winney for Congress '08 campaign. I served as Campaign Manager for the 2006 Winney for Congress endeavor and will do likewise this time around. I may not remind readers every time I write something about a campaign for this seat but I will do so often enough so there should be no confusion. I do have a bias in this pursuit.

Dave Featherly

Because there will be no incumbent in the race for lone Wyoming seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, there is the possibility - no, make that the probability - of a crowded field.

Only Bill Winney had any statewide name recognition of the candidates who filed for the office before Barbara Cubin made her announcement that she would not seek an eighth term - that she would retire at the conclusion of her seventh term in January of 2009.

But an open seat in Congress is a great aphrodisiac and others are likely to join the fray - absent the challenge of a tough campaign to unseat a 14 year incumbent.

So far, the two largest cities in the State have sprouted three Republican candidates. Three are little known outside the borders of their respective cities - Swede Nelson and Dan Zwonitzer in Cheyenne and Kenn Gilchrist in Casper - and others are certain to look at a contest with no incumbent as much easier to challenge and announce their candidacy over the next several months.

Bill Winney challenged Mrs. Cubin in the 2006 Republican primary. He won in Laramie County and Teton County and came very close (49.7%) in Cubin's home county of Natrona. He had lived in Cheyenne but moved to Bondurant in Sublette County as his new house at The Hoback neared completion.

The latest candidate for that House seat has taken an odd position. In spite of 77.2% of Wyoming voters favoring term limits for this office, as well as for the Wyoming House and Senate and the five elected State offices of Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer and Superintendent of Public Instruction, the newest candidate believes all seeking the U.S. House seat should take a blood oath to serve at least seven terms.

That should go over big with the 77.2%.

Of course, this newest Republican candidate was not yet a teenager when that vote was held in 1992 so he may be unaware of Wyoming voters position.

If the other media got it right, and there's no guarantee they did, this newest candidate wants to be elected to a term of from "15 to 20 years." I don't think so.

The position of the Winney campaign will be that each term is two years in length and each campaign will be for the next two year term - not for a score. *That's twenty years for our Nebraska readers.*

To run as a Republican after being a staunch ally of the Democratic governor is going to take a little 'splaining, too.

A letter to the editor from a so-called "humorist" from Rawlins claimed that there were more "likely" candidates for the office. He listed Colin Simpson, Fred Parady, Tom Sansonetti, Cynthia Lummis and Roy Cohee. Simpson, Sansonetti and Lummis have not shown they have the stomach for seeking federal office - just that they'd like to have one but not have to be elected to serve in it. They were among the laundry list of thrill seekers for the Craig Thomas Senate seat.

We'll see how enthusiastic they are about actually campaigning for an office they'd like to have handed to them.

The writer of that letter to the editor showed his ignorance of Wyoming politics by indicating that Bill Winney was a Democrat. Ah, not quite. Bill ran as the only Republican with guts enough to challenge the ineffective and non-performing Barbara Cubin in 2006 and he not only won in the two counties mentioned, including the largest in the state, but he garnered 40% of the vote statewide.

How many of the original 31 who entered the beauty pageant in Casper will take on the challenging - make that, daunting - challenge of presenting themselves to voters across the 97,818 square miles of this expansive state? That calculates to somewhere around one primary election voter per square mile in Wyoming.

Will candidates other than Bill Winney address critical issues such as illegal immigration, secure borders, health care, national security, the war in Iraq, the instability in Iran, social security, veteran's issues, energy sufficiency, the national debt, annual deficits, and other concerns critical to the future of Wyoming and important to Wyoming voters?

Wanting to serve 20 years before serving a single year will not be in the campaign of Bill Winney. Won't happen.

The next election will be to choose a Republican candidate who can best represent Wyoming residents' interests in what could be an expanding Democratic majority in Congress. It will take someone who can gain the respect of colleagues through knowledge, experience, qualifications, commitment and maturity. No candidate can present the resume Bill Winney has built since he graduated from the US Naval Academy in 1972.

But how many will try?

Bonds indictment too late

What a shame.

That cheating creep, Barry Bonds, was allowed to play baseball and hit home runs, albeit at a much slower pace, until he surpassed Hank Aaron's career record of 755.

During the four years he was being investigated before being indicted, he hit 104 home runs to end at 762, where if there is any justice in this world, he will forever reside.

Here's a guy whose defenders are few and not credible.

In 2001, Bonds hit 73 home runs. As the story goes, when Sammy Sosa hit 66 home runs in 1998 and 63 in 1999 and Mark McGwire hit 70 home runs in 1998 and 65 in 1999, Bonds decided he would not be left behind. Juiced like a Jack LaLanne vegamatic, he hit the 73 in one season.

In 14 seasons before he began cheating, he hit 445 home runs, an average of a little less than 32 per year and had a best season of 46 in 1993 when he was 28.

In five seasons, from 2000 - 2004, Bonds hit 255 home runs, an average of 51 per season, with a best of 73 in 2001 at the age of 36. He never had a season with 50-59 home runs nor a season with 60-69 home runs. He magically went from 49 home runs in one season to 73 in the

next, then back down to 46 the following.

Pete Rose gambled on sports, including on his own team, and because of that, he cannot be a part of any events in a major league baseball stadium. Barry Bonds cheated and was allowed to continue his pursuit of a home run record held by one universally held to be a true gentleman and honest ballplayer. A class act.

By allowing the Cheat to continue to hit home runs, a record was set that, no matter how it may be erased, altered or asterisked, will still be considered the record until Alex Rodriguez breaks it by the end of the 2012 season or during the 2013 season. A-Rod should be able to put the record high enough that it won't be broken for several more years, if ever.

Rodriguez has averaged 43 home runs a season in his 12 years. At a reduced pace of even 38 home runs a year, he will hit another 304 home runs by the time he's 40 years old, for a career total of 821. He is in the process of signing a new 10-year contract. If he plays out the contract, he would only have hit an average of 25 home runs a year to break Bonds' record.

While Bonds is only a caretaker of the record, it is disgusting that he will be recognized for the years he had while juiced. Will he be convicted? Does Ricky Williams like pot? Bonds' protestations are phonier than Marion Jones' and weaker than Rafael Palmeiro's finger-pointing.



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1620 Ragtime - This is the home you saw on the cover of Preview Magazine! There are 4 bedrooms & 4 baths with a huge kitchen, large master suite with dual closets and a main floor laundry. There is also a hot tub, kids wooden play set, central air and a full sprinkler system. This home is waiting for a new family! **\$219,900.**



6652 Bison Run Loop - This 3 bedroom/2 bath home has plenty to offer both inside and out! Features include vaulted ceilings, a gas fireplace, all kitchen appliances and a large formal dining area. Outside, there is a full sprinkler system, a 40x48' barn and a large 3 car garage. Price reduced from \$327,000 to **\$311,000.** This home is definitely worth seeing!



5501 Independence - This 4 bedroom, 2 bath home is located in a great subdivision & is close to schools! Features include an enclosed sunroom, all kitchen appliances, a beautiful rock fireplace and a fenced backyard. **\$176,900**



645 Vista Lane - This elegant Western Hills home is huge (4550 sq. ft) and will be great for entertaining! There are 3 bdrms. & 3 baths with an attached 2 car garage. Located close to the base, you are just minutes away from golf, shopping and schools. This is located in a tranquil neighborhood, and won't be available long! **\$299,500**