

Stallings sees victory with moderate voters

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Richard M. Stallings, Rexburg, Ricks College instructor, said in his formal announcing for the 2nd District Congress race here Friday that he is depending largely on capturing the middle-of-road voters to beat Republican Rep. George V. Hansen.

Stalling said he will shun personalities but instead concentrate on what he considers viable issues.

He added that people well know Hansen and the electorate is fairly evenly split with the hard conservatives solidly in the Hansen corner while the Democrats and more moderates against him — and presumably for Stallings.

"There is a middle group of independents, moderates and others who can judge for themselves who they think can best represent them," he said, obviously bidding for their support in an election would could go down to the wire.



Richard H. Stallings

Stallings said Democrats were bucking a Reagan Republican landslide in 1980 in Idaho, but the situation could be different this year and any change can be considered a Democratic trend.

Stallings sought to portray a conservative image, agreeing some government cuts are needed. He said those of Reagan are slanted for the rich and against the lower economy group, adding they should be fair for all segments of society.

"I believe government deficits contribute substantially to high interest rates," he said, adding that Reagan has not solved the economic problems by a record military spending increase.

"Until interest rates come down there will be no economic turn-around," he said. "With the present high cost of money, small businesses and farmers are being driven to the wall. The American dream of home ownership may not be possible for our children."

The said there is need for a broader and more equitable cuts but none that would hamper the heart of the Social Security program for the retired elderly.

"Only by bringing people together and working for the common good can we resolve the problems of jobs, agriculture and get this country moving in the direction that you and I desire."