Bonneville votes GOP in most races

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Bonneville County voted an almost straight Republican ticket in Tuesday's general election, maintaining a trend it had established two years ago.

On the basis of unofficial returns of all of the 48 precincts, every Republican except Democrat State Treasurer Marjorie Ruth Moon captured the county, although by comparatively small margins in three legislative and one county contest.

70 percent voted

Nearly 70 percent of the county's eligible voters went to the polls, somewhat more than election officials had predicted.

On the legislative level all of the Republican incumbemts were returned to office.

In the wide open contest for the District 30 "A" seat vacated by retiring Republican State Rep. Elaine Kearnes, Republican J.F. "Chad" Chadband defeated Democrat Anne Voilleque by a fairly decisive margin, 5,148 to 3,729, in a contest which was expected to be close. Including the west half of Shelley which is also in the district, Chadband won 5,789 to 4,025.

In another featured contest, Republican Assessor John J. Wasden was re-elected comfortably with 12,359 votes over Democrat Aaron L. Robinson with 8,980. An independent write-in, Sherman Norris, who was narrowly beaten by Wasden in the May Republican primary, garnered 953 write-in votes.

Another tight contest saw Republican Kimball W. Mason narrowly defeat Democrat William Combo 11,414 to 10,179 for prosecuting attorney to replace Jerry Woolf, who did not seek re-election.

In one of the tightest races, Republican State Rep. Martin B. Trillhaase edged out Democrat C. Wendell Miller, who he had unseated two years ago, 4,037 to 3,587, in District 29. Republican State Sen. Dane Watkins beat back the challenge of Democrat John X. Combo 4,746 to 4,252 in District 30 and Republican State Sen. William L. Floyd nudged out Democrat W. A. "Bill" Storer 3,131 to 2,780 in District 31.

District 29 also includes Butte County, District 30 also embraces the west half of Shelley, and District 31 encompasses Tetom County, three precincts in Madison and the Heise precinct in Jefferson, but the Republican winners also were generally led in these areas.

Including these, Watkins won over Combo 5,431 to 4,507, and Floyd drubbed Storer 4,374 to 3,601.

Republican State Rep. Linden B. Bateman, R-Idaho Falls, also handily defeated Democrat W.D. "Woody" Woodbury 4,107 to 1,547 in Bonneville and also led in the three precincts in Madison and one Heise precinct in Jefferson that make up part of District 31. Including the entire district, Bateman won easily 5,660 to 2,020.

Also including Butte County's five precincts as well as Bonneville, Republican State Sen.. J. Marsden Williams, Idaho Falls, beat Democrat Larry Reynolds, Moore, 5,505 to 3,700, including 4,833 to 2,855 in Bonneville and 672 to 845 in Butte.

Republican State Rep. Martin Trillhaase rolled up at 4,037 to 3,587 margin over Democrat C. Wendell Miller in Bonneville and trailed 415 to 441 in Butte, but won the district 4,748 to 4,319.

Also Republican State Rep. Kurt L. Johnson easily defeated Democrat Rue T. Stears in District 29, 5,195 to 2,442 in Bonneville and 855 to 574 in Butte for the district total of 6,050 to 3,016.

Other county races were decided by comfortable margins.

Magistrate Grant L. Young, Rigby, also led Blackfoot attorney Reid K. Larsen 11,580 to 9,096 in Bonneville to help win for him the 7th Judicial District judgeship to replace retiring Judge Willard C. Burton. Including all 10 counties in the district, Young won 27,741 to 23,696

Following a statewide trend, Bonneville voters favored all the three initiatives and eight constitutional amendments on the ballot.

In the Bonneville County vote for top state races, Rep. George Hansen, Republican, led Democrat Richard Stallings 13,061 to 9,760, while Republican Lt. Gov. Philip E. Batt carried the county over Democrat Gov. John V. Evans 12,627 to 10,154.

Mrs. Moon outdistanced Republican Doyle Miner 11,856 to 10,840 to be the only Democratic leader in the county.

The vote turnout reached 23,297, or 69.7 percent of the 33,526 registered, which was even better then the non-presidential election of four years ago when 21,172 cast ballots, or 67.5 percent of the 32,188 registered voters.

East Idaho tally

County	Governor		U.S. Rep. 2nd District	
	Evans (D)	Batt (R)	Hansen (R)	Stallings (D)
BINGHAM	5,879	5,961	6,285	5,543
BONNEVILLE	10,154	12,674	13,061	9,760
BUTTE	855	711	720	779
CLARK	177	280	277	154
CUSTER	741	1,090	1,029	672
FREMONT	1,662	2,464	2,510	1,387
JEFFERSON	1,896	3,346	3,733	1,487
LEMHI	997	1,716	1,557	1,057
MADISON	1,359	3,687	3,535	1,507
TETON	575	823	823	453
AREA TOTAL	24,295	32,672	33,530	22,799