MORNING BRIEFING

Monroe fills top probation post

Albany County's deputy probation director has been appointed head of Monroe County's probation department, filling a nearly yearlong void in the department.

Robert Burns, 40, an Albany County native who has worked in that county's probation department for 16 years, will take over the Monroe post next month.

The department's former director, Robert Dunning, was reassigned last May, becoming coordinator of alternatives to incarceration. The change followed Dunning's lawsuit against the county, which he filed over a \$12,000 pay cut. The pay cut was instituted during a departmental reorganization.

Joseph Martucci, a senior probation supervisor, has been acting probation administrator. He will return to his former position, said Clayton Osborne, the county's director of operations.

Burns' salary will be \$53,184, a raise of about \$16,000, according to The Times Union of Albany. He was offered the position last week and was selected out of a final field of four applicants, Osborne said.

City schools budget presentation postponed

Schools Superintendent Peter J. McWalters has postponed plans to present his recommended budget to the Rochester school board.

McWalters originally was scheduled to make the presentation tonight at a regular board meeting, but pushed back the date to April 29 because of state-budget delays and negotiations between the City School District and City Council.

His presentation will be part of a board study session that begins at 7 p.m.

The board plans to begin a series of public hearings on the bud-get proposal in early May.

Penn Yan man arrested on charge of larceny

DUNDEE - A man was arrested yesterday in this Yates County village for allegedly duping a Newark man into giving him \$77,000 for half-ownership of Dundee Raceway Park.

Steven M. Wetmore, of 109 Burns Terrace, Penn Yan, was being held last night in the Yates County Jail on \$5,000 bail, according to a Yates County sheriff's statement.

Wetmore was arraigned before Dundee Village Justice Cleland Allen on a charge of second-degree grand larceny, a Class C felony. He was accused of using "false and fraudulent misrepresentation in promising half-ownership of the auto-racing track to a Newark man in exchange for \$77,000.

The victim's name was not released last night.

Clarification

State Department of Environmental Conservation officials say it will be probably five years or more before the start of a cleanup of the hazardous-waste dump at the end of Dearcop Drive and Varian Lane in Gates. The timing of the cleanup was mischaracterized in a story in yesterday's Democrat and Chronicle.

Correction

Because of incorrect information provided to Our Towns, an incorrect date for a church music celebration at the Irondequoit United Church of Christ appeared in yesterday's editions. The event is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. tomorrow at the church, 644 Titus Ave.

Redistricting plan for city changes little

The boundaries of Rochester's four City Council districts will remain the same over the next decade except for one election district downtown, according to proposed legislation released yesterday.

The district that would change is the Grove Place neighborhood, which would shift from the Northeast to the East council district under the proposed plan. There are 304 residents living in that area.

'To comply with the spirit of the law, we felt this one change was necessary," said City Council President John G. Curran.

The area that would shift districts is bounded by the Inner Loop on the north and east, by Chestnut Street and Liberty Pole Way on the west and by East Avenue to the south.

Voting district lines must be redrawn after every census to reflect the "one person, one vote" rule. Between 1980 and 1990, Rochester's population dropped to 231,636, a decrease of 10,105 residents.

Based on the new population figure, each council district should contain about 57,909 people. Federal law requires that districts not vary by more than 3 percent from that "ideal" num-

A public hearing on the redis-tricting plan will be held April 25 at 5 p.m. in council chambers at City Hall. The full council will vote on the legislation at its meeting on April 30.

Proposed radio-tower plan draws static from residents

mocrat and Chronicle

CANANDAIGUA — Aesthetics are being weighed against economic development as the Canandaigua Town Planning Board considers a local radio station's request to build four 198-foot transmission towers in the midst of cropland.

"Nobody wants radio towers too close to them," says farmer Richard Outhouse, who farms on three sides of the 426-foot-wide strip where WCGR-AM wants to build towers which would allow it to broadcast 24

Jim Herendeen, general manager of WCGR, says the towers would allow the AM station to expand into an around-the-clock format from its current sunrise-to-sunset operation.

The proposed building site, on Buffalo Street Extension and about three-quarters of a mile northeast of the street's intersection with routes 5 and 20, is in an area zoned for agricultural and residential use.

The towers would double on-air time, increase the station's wattage from 250 watts to 1,000 watts and expand its listening radius from 10 miles to 30 miles, Herendeen said.

The station, located on Townline Road in the town of Canandaigua, is owned by Dell Broadcasting Inc. of Canandaigua.

A public hearing on the proposal, which dates to 1988, is scheduled to begin at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Canandaigua Town Hall, 2531

Gross will work on a book tenta-

tively titled Shakespeare and the

Logic of Slander. His research will

focus on Renaissance writings con-cerned with slander, defamation

and libel, how the texts describe the

subjects and what they say about

2 UR professors win fellowships

Democrat and Chronicle

Two faculty members from the University of Rochester's School of Arts and Science are among 143 national winners of 1991 Guggen-

heim fellowships.
Michael Ann Holly, associate professor and chairwoman of the Department of Art and Art History, and Kenneth Gross, associate professor in the Department of English. were among those chosen from a pool of 3,092 applicants nationally. This year's awards totaled \$3.79

Holly will use her fellowship to write a book titled Past Looking. It will be a study of several themes, including the role of linear perspective in the creation of Renaissance art history and the development of iconology as a means of interpreting

GOOD MORNING

"We would like to pay trib-ute to our neighbor, Eleanor Schwind, who has unselfishly cared for my husband and I during our illness and took us in during the ice storm."

> Fran and Ruth Shaughnessy 131 Willowbrook Road

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Gantt, GOP talk county districts

FROM PAGE 18

But the Democratic plan suffered another blow yesterday when the county Conservative Party came out against it, saying it unnecessarily carved up the city and towns and is a step toward a metropolitan form

of government. County Conservative Chairman Thomas D. Cook said he believed ignoring the longstanding borders would diminish the representation

of people in those areas.
"The town of Brighton, the town of Penfield, the city of Rochester have different problems, different hopes, different desires, and they need someone to advance those things," Cook said. "If you have the

undivided attention of a representative, I think that government will do much better.

"I don't think it's necessarily bad to have local representatives. I don't think it's necessarily bad to be parochial because you represent the interests of your community."

Democratic leaders argue that blended districts would reduce parochialism by forcing legislators to think on a communitywide basis.



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City Council OKs redistrict plan

A slightly revised redistricting plan for the four Rochester City Council districts was unanimously approved last night by the City Council.

The new district lines are essentially the same as the old ones, with the exception of a small area of downtown, which is being moved from the Northeast to the East District. Changing that area, which includes the Grove Place neighborhood, will affect 304 people.

The council is required to set new district lines after each census. Based on the city's new population figure of 231,634, each of the four council districts should contain 57,909 people.

The number of people in each district may vary from that "ideal" number by no more than 3 percent.

Redrawing the district lines sets the stage for the district council races this year. All of the incumbent district council members are expected to seek re-election except for Councilman F. Glenn King of the Northeast District, who is retiring at the end of the year.

D and C 1 May 1991, p. 1B



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Newspapers™

CITY COUNCIL/NORTHEAST

Benjamin L. Douglas, Democrat, 45, 135 Rutledge Dr. City school board member since 1986, former board president. Unsuccessful candidate for City Council. 1983. Workplace programs manager, American Red Cross. Master's degree, business administration, University of Pittsburgh, 1974.

Roy E. Hedman Sr., Republican, 42, 6 Manitou St. Unsuccessful candidate for County Legislature, 1985. Planner, Monroe County Department of Planning. Graduate, Franklin High School.

DOUGLAS says it is "almost difficult to know where to start" in listing the needs of the Northeast District. Crime, housing and jobs are all concerns, he says,

Two things are needed to fight crime, he says: better housing, to stabilize neighborhoods,

and a more reassuring police presence, so that people "will know there's a safety force nearby that will protect them." That may mean foot patrols, or satellite precincts where people could go with their con-

Douglas said he will bring to City Council the same advocacy for affordable housing in the Northeast that he brought to the school board for new school buildings and early childhood programs in this district.

Douglas sees three problems with the way civilian review of police is now constituted: 1) citizen members are anonymous, 2) the review panel has no independent investigative power, and 3) its findings seldom reach the public, often appearing as a single line item on a City Council agenda.

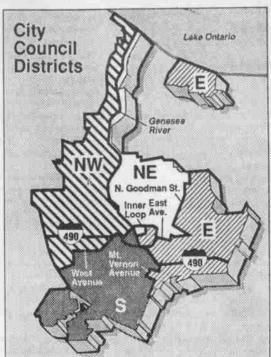
Though he does not yet have all the "nuts and bolts" of a new plan in place, the process must at least be changed to allow the panel to raise issues of police and community relations in public, "so it becomes part of the political agenda."

HEDMAN says the police and the community can succeed in fighting crime when they work together, such as in Fight Village and the School 9 area. "However, the concern is that the increased activity is for a short duration, and when the police go back to their regular patrol routine, the pushers will be back.. Such efforts need to be continued year-round, Hedman says. To encourage greater use - and city response - to the drug hotline, Hedman would require that all elected city officials have published telephone numbers so residents could report to them the location of drug sales.

Hedman says civilian review of the police is necessary; he envisions a panel that would not only include "average citizens" but the police chief and police union representatives. It would not only handle complaints against police, but also look for ways to improve the department.

At a time of tight budgets, areas that should receive highest priority are those "that directly serve the public" such as community development, parks, the

Hedman says he would work to bring more businesses into the community, thereby creating jobs; he also would propose a program to put at-risk high school students to work in the community repairing homes in need.



CITY COUNCIL/EAST

Lois J. Giess, Democrat, 49, 15 East Blvd. Appointed, then elected to council in 1986 and again in 1987. Bachelor's degree, nursing, University of Rochester, 1963.



Giess is unopposed for re-election.

CITY COUNCIL/SOUTH

Maxine Childress Brown, Democrat, 48, of 43 Marsh St. Elected to council in 1983. Adjunct professor, political science, St. John Fisher College. Master's degree. education, University of Massachusetts, 1973. Childress Brown is un-

opposed for re-election.



SALARIES, TERMS

City Council members are paid \$21,840 a

year and serve 4-year terms.

CITY COUNCIL/NORTHWEST

crat-Conservative, 63, 77 Albemarle St. Elected to City Council in 1987. Retired City School District teacher. Master's degree, education, University of Roches-

ter, 1961. Jim Wood, Republican, 53, 320 Beach Ave. County legislator. Franchise owner, ADIA Personnel Services. Bachelor's degree, business administration, Temple University, 1965.

STEVENSON says that "drugs drive prostitution. Solve the drug problem and you clear a large percentage of prostitution in Rochester." He proposes: 1) spending \$6 million to hire 100 more police for the streets "to become proactive, not merely reacting to crimes," 2) increasing court watches by crime victims, 3) expanding a park ranger

program he introduced. 4) pay-



ing PAC-TAC volunteers to increase participation in neighborhood watch programs, 5) using more community sentencing for "those who have trashed a neighborhood by gangs, drugs and prostitution," and 6) licensing landlords and training them in tenant selection. "In the wrong hands a property can ruin a street," he says.

Stevenson wants to look at how civilian review of police works in other cities before rushing "headlong" into changes here.

Fire, police, water, roads and waste pickup mandated by the state - should be trimmed last in lean budget times, Stevenson says. Non-mandated spending on parks, for example, could be trimmed by using volunteers or the sheriff's work-release detail. He also favors allocating a smaller percentage of city tax dollars to the school district; "let the state assume a larger share of the education load.

The key to ensuring a vibrant downtown, he believes, is "People! Something to attract people. Dwellings within the Inner Loop. Movie theaters - perhaps a cluster of four. Include parking in the ticket price."

WOOD says the city needs more police officers on the street, and proposes a new citywide Community Police Section that would provide foot patrols in neighborhoods or business districts for as long as needed, supplementing the other sections. This section would also house the mounted patrol, coordinate PAC-TAC programs, and provide officers for presentations to schools and community groups.

Prostitution is a big problem for Lyell Avenue merchants and residents. Wood says, but he wants to see more done than just "chasing the prostitutes" to other areas of the city. He urges a renewed effort on trying to prevent prostitution, especially among juveniles, through counseling and other assistance

Wood favors more civilian review of police, and proposes a volunteer commission, appointed by the mayor, of 10-15 members, including two officers. It would have final authority on Police Department disci-

Wood says the highest budget priority should go to police, fire and environmental services. Personnel Civil Service, purchasing, and communications could be consolidated with county government to save costs; others, such as the photo lab, could be con-

tracted out. The city should continue to invest in downtown to keep it an attractive, safe place to work and enjoy. Wood says - but only if it is the kind of investment the community wants and needs, and not if it drains off money better spent in neighborhoods.

Is it working here or not?

School reform:

CITY SCHOOL BOARD

Candidates give their views on improving the schools

ARCHIE C. CURRY, Democrat, 51, 101 Earl St. Elected in 1977, lost re-election, appointed in 1982, re-elected in 1983, and in 1987. Former board presi-

dent. Equal opportunity representative, Monroe County Affirmative Action/Human Relations Department, Bachelor's degree, urban education, Empire State College, 1976.

Curry says that while the millions spent on school reform have had "mixed" results, the reorganization into kindergarten through fifth grade schools, middle schools, and high schools is

beginning to pay off, especially at the middle schools. There, the clustering approach helps youngsters move at their own pace, Curry says.

At a time of lean budgets, Curry says he puts first priority on maintaining programs that affect the early and middle school years.

Curry believes that the district's parent involvement is effective because of parent participation in decision making on school-based planning teams. Continued training of these parents should be a priority, he says

City teacher salaries are about right, Curry says. Teacher accountability will be improved under the new contract, which calls for a clearer definition of job function, and of the kind of evaluation that will be

The schools should not provide condoms to students. Curry says. While schools might eventually be part of such an effort, Curry believes agencies outside of the schools, such as health centers, are more appropriate for this kind of service.

JOHN S. DEL VECCHIO, Republican-Conservative, 44, 97 Isabelle St. Former city school board member, 1980-83. Special agent, Prudential Insurance Co.

Master's degree, political science, State University College at Brockport, 1976.

Del Vecchio says school reform has been a "sham. All that has happened is that salaries have increased for our staff, and administrative positions have been added." The district hasn't controlled violence in schools. he adds. "No programmatic changes can happen in a chaotic Del Vecchio situation.



Del Vecchio says "there's a small group of students that are very disruptive. Those students need to be separated from the main group of students. Until their behavior is appropriate, they should be taken care of in either individual or small group settings.

In addition, the district should provide more jobrelated programs, and train parents better to participate in decision making, Del Vecchio says.

Teachers who perform well should be well-compensated, but salaries should be based on performance, he says. The district has been "fiscally irresponsible" signing contracts it cannot afford; the resulting staff reductions have hurt students.

He opposes having schools provide condoms to students. Instead, "schools should provide education dealing with health issues," Del Vecchio says.

Budget cuts, if needed, should be aimed first at central office administration; instructional programs should be cut only as a last resort, he says.

KAREN M. GRELLA, Democrat, 55, 162 Gregory Hill Road. Three-term board member, first elected in 1979. Former board president. Administrative assis-

tant to County Legislature president. Master's degree, English literature, University of Kansas,

Grella defends the district's reform effort, saying it is far more comprehensive than in other cities because it touches every school, not just a few pilot sites. Though many phases are still in early stages, such as school-based planning, the effort

is showing results, she says. For example, the dropout rate has gone down for the second year in a row; elementary and SAT scores are improving

And structures are in place to bring further improvement, she notes. For example, the new teacher contract improves accountability by spelling out job descriptions, providing for a new appraisal, and giving parents a role in evaluations.

Grella says the board is establishing a commission of outside experts to look for ways to save money: the district must also work with the city, county and other districts on consolidating services such as purchasing to avoid duplication. Top budget priority must be on the early school years, "thus decreasing expensive remediation later on in a child's school career."

She would like more training for parents on school-based planning teams, and a Parent Hotline to "ensure resolution of parent issues and problems." Grella does not favor distributing condoms to students, but wants "quality sex education at an earlier

RACHAEL HEDDING, Democrat, 48, 269 Sherwood Ave. Elected to school board in 1983, former board

president, Bachelor's degree, vocal music, Boston, Conservatory of Music, 1965.

Hedding says the district's reform effort is making progress. But it needs time for such changes as decentralization of schools, and improved staff hiring and accountability to take hold. And it needs more cooperation from the community, which has let social policy "be swept into public education's corner," Hedding says.

age than at present."



notes

The city, state and county, for example, fund housing, or substance abuse, or other programs that impact young people. "What a waste that all these dollars can't be coordinated into a 'delivery system' which actually impacts the most needy children and families," Hedding says. During recessionary times, Hedding says, the dis-

trict must pare down salary settlements "to reflect our ability to pay," put highest priority on pre-kindergarten and elementary programs, and eliminate central and mid-level administration "where prudent."

Hedding says each school should decide whether condoms should be distributed to students.

SALARIES, TERMS

City school board members are paid \$15,000 a year, except the board president, who is paid \$17,500. Board members serve four-year terms.

Hedding says city teachers are not overpaid relative to state and county averages, and to the "mammoth job we've asked them to do." But school district staff must understand that the district "is not recession-proof."

GARY PROUD, Republican-Conservative, 48, 1983 N. Clinton Ave. Former state assemblyman, former county legislator. Monroe County Legislature clerk. Bachelor's degree, accounting,

ogy, 1967. Proud says the district's school reform effort is not working as promised. Staff members haven't lived up to their obligations; violence disrupts the classrooms. Proud says the district must separate chronic disruptive students, and establish

Rochester Institute of Technol-

"a high level of accountability" Proud for teachers, administrators, parents and students. Teachers, for example, must be required to "abide by a policy of pay for performance," and not be allowed to "stymie" progress as they did during their last contract dispute when they refused to participate on school-based planning teams

Proud notes that about 10 percent of students miss class every other day. "If that isn't child neglect, I don't know what is," Proud says, adding that their parents should be pursued under child protective laws. In addition, promotions to the next grade should

be based strictly on performance, he says. Proud wants to hire a professional accountant/ budget officer, most likely an outside person, to work closely with the city and school district budget offices to avoid \$1.8 million budgeting errors and unbalanced

Parents, not school staff and "social planners," should decide if students receive condoms, he says.

ENRIQUE RIVERA, Republican-Conservative, 58, 656 Carter St. First run for elected office. Alcohol/ substance abuse program assistant, state Department of Correctional Services. Certificate of human services, Monroe

Community College, 1980. Rivera says three things are needed to improve student achievement, reduce the dropout rate and send better prepared graduates into the community: 1) smaller class sizes.

2) more community-based partnerships in which businesses and churches help students from freshman through senior year.

3) getting parents involved in their children's edu-

To encourage parental involvement, the district must consider language, transportation and other barriers to accessibility, he says

Rivera says top budget priority should be on classroom instruction and special education services. Budget reductions must focus first on "areas of duplication. Central office services and administration may be replicating work already being done at school levels." In addition, Rivera says, purchasing must be done through the most economical suppliers

Rivera believes teacher salaries are reasonable: parents, though, should be more involved in the evaluation of teachers and top administrators.

Rivera would not support providing condoms to students in the schools. That is up to parents to de-

GLENN A. WILLIAMS, Republican, 43, 40 Stratford Park. Unsuccessful candidate for school board in 1985. Systems manager, Rochester New Futures Initiative. Master's degree, public management and policy, Carne-

Williams is critical of the district's progress on improving student achievement. Despite years of reform, the district's Scholastic Aptitude Test scores had been going down until this year, he says.

gie Mellon University, 1982.

And despite some schools' efforts to help parents motivate

their children educationally, not all teachers and administrators relate well to students' families, he says. More training is needed, he says. Williams calls for the school budget to be a three-

year plan, updated annually to account for changes in state aid and tax money. The first year the board would evaluate district programs; the second year it would plan what new programs to include and what old programs to keep or cut; and the third year it would create the next three-year spending plan. Williams said that currently, the budget is planned too quickly and "most of the budget gets rolled over." Williams says teachers must be held accountable

for student performance. "For the last eight years we have been talking about making student performance more clearly linked to assessment of school staff." Williams says. "And eight years later we still don't Williams said all school staff should be instructed

on ways to reach and work with parents and students. FRANK B. WILLIS, Democrat, 44, 67 Elba St. Board

member since 1980. Bachelor's degree, behavioral science/business administration, Dyke College (Cleveland), 1971. Willis concedes that some aspects of the district's reform ef-

fort may have been oversold to the community. "Too many things were put on the plate at once," he says. But he also believes that the district has made progress

Clustering of middle school students into smaller groups has been effective; the district has maintained its strong elementary programs; it has ex-

panded its investment in pre-school education, Willis

"The high schools are a big question mark," he adds. The challenge for the school board, he says, is to

"get ahead of the reform movement," and exert more of a leadership role.

To do that, it must be sure it is getting all the input it needs in making decisions. At the top of his agenda is making sure that the district gets its "instructional house in order," so that

it focuses on the needs of students "as they vary," Willis says. At the high schools, that means getting students more involved in determining what they are taught,

Willis says, "so they do not drop out because they are bored to death."

STATE PROPOSALS

By BETSY KULLER Gannett News Service

PROPOSAL 1 would increase the Job Development Authority's (JDA) limit for issuing bonds from \$600 million to \$900 million. The authority tries to encourage job opportunities by lending the money to businesses at low interest rates.

We need the JDA now to keep our businesses in New York," said George Gatta, president of the Economic Development Council, a private business group. He said New York businesses need low-cost financing more than ever because of recession.

But Thomas Carroll, president of Change-New York, an anti-tax group, said expanding JDA's role would worsen the state's economic problems.

"The way New York approaches economic development is incredibly wasteful," he said. Firms that don't need help often get JDA loans, he said.

PROPOSAL 2 would allow the state to give 50 acres of constitutionally protected forest land to the Town of Arietta in Hamilton County in exchange for 53 acres of non-protected forest land in Lake Pleasant, Hamilton County. The town would use the land to extend the Piseco Airport runway.

The state is prohibited from giving away any land in the Adirondack and Catskill forest preserves without permission of voters. There have been only four exchanges of land since the forest preserve was established in 1894. Arietta supervisor Henry Rogers said that the forest's trees are blocking the approach to the air-

port, making it impossible to extend the landing

strip to handle larger planes. "It's just one-hun-

dred-thirty-some trees," Rogers said said. But a spokesman for an environmental group said trading the land would set a bad precedent.

This is a bad deal for the state and an extremely bad precedent," said Adirondack Council spokesman John Sheehan. He also said the land the town is proposing in the swap isn't as valuable as the parcel being given up. PROPOSAL 3 would allow the state to collect

canal system, lifting a 109-year-old ban. The revenues would be used to maintain and develop the canal for tourists and new businesses The 524-mile Barge Canal is deteriorating from lack of maintenance and development, and it needs to generate its own revenues to supplement

tolls and lease waterfront property along the barge

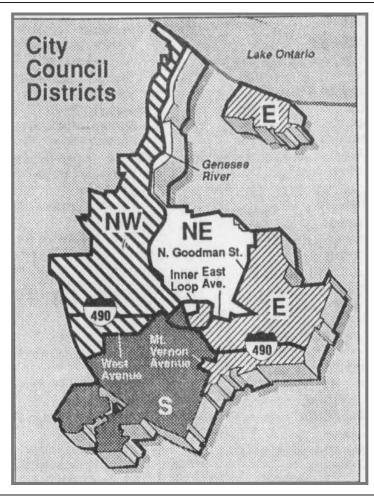
insufficient state funding, said Assemblyman Paul Tonko, D-Amsterdam. With the strain on state budgets, we are seeing hardly any commitment to the canal," he said.

The state spent \$33 million on the canal last year. "It's an excellent proposal," said Assemblyman Ronald Canestrari, D-Cohoes, who wants to see restaurants, hotels, campsites, and other tourist attractions along the canal. But tolls could limit access to the canal, and

overdevelopment could destroy the scenic beauty of the waterway, says the League of Women Voters, which opposes the idea. Glens Falls resident Robert Schulz is suing the state to try to get the barge-canal question off the ballot. He claims that the state has violated the

constitution by using public funds to urge approval. He said that the Legislature sent out a brochure that was "very persuasive in urging voters to approve the proposal." The case is pending.





D and C, 30 October 1991, p. 8S



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OVERVIEW

City challenge: Costs up, tax base down

JEFFREY BLACKWELL and **BREEA WILLINGHAM**

The City School District and Rochester City Council are facing parallel challenges as the cost of providing services increases while traditional revenue streams become increasingly unstable.

The slowing economy, the terrorist attacks on the World

Trade Center and the state's inability to pass a supplemental budget will have an effect on state and local tax revenue. These issues could force legislators to make difficult choices about programs, projects and spending priorities in the com-

In November, voters will pick five of the nine members of City Council and three of seven representatives to the school board.

The winners will help direct

policy and spend millions of because of the needs of New public dollars over the next four

City Council and the administration are facing uncertain financial times.

The tax base is shrinking and the state may not be able to plug gaps in the city budget as it did last year with an infusion of \$15 million.

"Since Sept. 11, everything has changed and we cannot anticipate aid increases from the state

York City, and the loss of revenue coming to the state because of the attack," said City Council President Lois Giess.

Council also is facing the challenge of wading through a new zoning ordinance later this year and into next year that will change land-use regulations in the city.

The biggest challenge facing Rochester Board of Education this school year is

because of the state's bare-bones budget. School administrators and the board will probably be working with at least \$21 million less in state funding than what was budgeted in the 2001-02 school budget.

Board president Bolgen Vargas said an ongoing challenge the board faces is providing resources for students and teachers. The board also has to look for ways to help students

dards. Beginning with this freshman class, all students will be required to graduate with a Regents diploma.

In general, the board needs to get a better handle on financial issues and improve the communication between board members and the administration, said Shirley Thompson, chairwoman of the board's Quality Assurance for Student Achievement Committee.

CITY COUNCIL

Big field gives voters a range of choices

■ Democratic incumbents challenged by two GOP teams and the Green Party.

BY STAFF WRITER

JEFFREY BLACKWELL

City voters will have the task of choosing five at-large members this year to City Council from a diverse field of 14 candi-

City Hall is the fortress of the Democratic Party in Monroe County. A Republican last served on City Council in 1987. A member of the GOP has not served as an at-large council member since 1976 or as mayor since 1973.

The race is among five incumbent Democrats, two separate teams of Republicans and four challengers from the Green Party. The winners will serve a four-year term.

The Democrats

Combined, the length of legislative service among the members of the Democratic slate is nearly 50 years. One has served four terms. Another is seeking a fourth. All have served at least

The incumbents say they, along with their four other colleagues, legislate in an atmosphere of cooperation where members are not afraid to voice their opinions or opposition. Republican and Green Party challengers say the one-party council lacks diversity of ideas.

"I think the system works very well and the proof is what you see: the real record of achievement, the real demonstrable progress, and the real sense of opportunity that remains before us," said Councilman Wade Norwood, who is seeking a fourth term.

■ Brian Curran, 48, who lives in the 19th Ward, is seeking his third term. He is a labor attorney with the Public Employees Federation.

Curran targets fiscal issues and the city's efforts to create jobs through business incentives as his primary issues. He is in the minority on some issues, such as opposing the city's aggressive demolition policy and the funding of programs such as the Easy Rider shuttle service and annual music festival, two of Mayor William A. Johnson Jr.'s pet projects.

"I think I am the most outspoken person on the council in terms of the city's annual budget process, suggesting that we should reduce spending on low priorities so we will be able to have enough funds to pay for things that are higher priority,' he said.

Curran said the city should concentrate resources on basic services and economic development projects that create quality jobs for city residents. He said it is up to the council to make sure the administration stays on course.

'The citizens of Rochester are low- and moderate-income working people for the most part, so the question of what we do with their money becomes a very important issue to us," he



For more election information, click on "Election 2001" at: DemocratandChronicle.com

■ Nancy K. Griswold, 55, a resident of Browncroft, is seeking her second term in office. Griswold is director of Catholic Family Services' STAR (Support To Aged Residents) program. She is also on the board of the county's Council for Elders.

Griswold said one of the city's top priorities should be to stabilize the tax base by encouraging the development of high-end and market-rate housing.

"I will work to make sure we fill vacant properties," she said. "We need to work to encourage people to move into the city."

Griswold said she had to learn the value of fiscal responsibility in her first term in office. She said it is now a top priority. But she said she would continue to support funding for city recreation centers, libraries and neighborhood centers.

'We need to do more to help the elderly stay in the city," she said. "We need to make sure they are safe, that neighbors look in on them and that PAC-TAC is patrolling the street."

Tim O. Mains, 53, who lives in the South Wedge, is seeking his fifth term in office. He is the council's senior member and chairman of its Jobs, Finance and Governance Committee, the body responsible for reviewing the annual budget.

Mains is a counselor at Greece Olympia High School. He is on the boards of directors of Action for a Better Community, Rochester Economics Development Corp., and National League of Cities Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Local Officials organi-

'I'm campaigning on several things, but the head of the hit parade is maintaining the city's fiscal viability," he said.

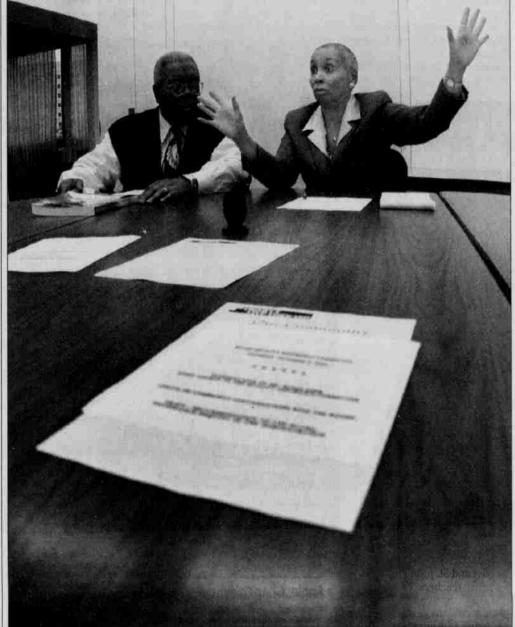
Other issues central to his campaign are housing and economic development. Mains said he would push, as he has in the past, for the development of new housing downtown and throughout the city. He said he would also work to create quality jobs by supporting job training and economic incentives for companies creating well-paying jobs for city residents.

■ Wade Norwood, 36, a resident of the 19th Ward, is legislative analyst for Assemblyman David Gantt, D-Rochester, and is seeking his fourth term.

Norwood is chairman of council's Housing and Community Development Committee. Creating fair and affordable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods are his top priorities, he said. Supporting and promoting programs for new housing, new commercial development and restoration of

COUNCIL, PAGE 5B

CIVICS LESSON



CARLOS ORTIZ staff photographer

Dr. Dwight Cook from the Rochester Board of Education, left, and Dr. Susan R. Dyer, the chief academic officer, make their points Tuesday during a meeting of the board's Quality Assurance Committee.

What you should know about council, school board

on any issue beginning at 7

meeting begins at 8 p.m. Citi-

p.m. The actual council

zens must call 428-6519

meeting day to address

Phone: 428-7538.

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elections/

election.htm

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ny.us/election.htm

before 6 p.m. of the council

E-mail: crcouncl@mcls.ro-

Online resources

■ www.co.monroe.ny.us/

www.co.genesee.ny.us/

www.co.livingston.state.

www.co.ontario.ny.us/

■ http://orleansny.com/

www.elections.state.ny.us

www.dnet.org/ny

■ www.ggw.org/lwv

Web site: www.cityofroches-

Board of Education

Duties: The school board is charged with setting district policy, appointing and evaluating the superintendent and hiring most district staff. Board members serve four-year

District budget: \$516.2 million for 2001-02.

Board members: The board comprises seven individuals. Three are up for election this

Political makeup: All board members are Democrats. The last time a Republican served on the board was in 1982. Salary: \$15,000 annually;

\$17,500 for the board president.

Meetings: The board meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of each month at the district office, 131 W. Broad St. Anyone wishing to address the board must call ahead to be put on the agenda.

Phone: 262-8525 or 262-8339. E-mail: rcsd@rcsd-k12.org. Web site: www.rochester.k-12.ny.us.

City Council

Duties: Council sets fiscal policies, approves all spending, regulates land use and passes legislation. One of council's main functions is to enact the annual budget. Members serve four-year terms.

City budget: \$349.8 million

for 2001-02. Council members: Council comprises nine individuals four represent regions of the city and five are at-large members. The five at-large members are up for election

this year. Political makeup: All council members are Democrats. The last time a Republican served on council was in 1987. Salary: \$27,182 annually.

Meetings: Council meets at 7 p.m. one Tuesday each month at City Hall, 30 Church St. Citizens can address council

City council districts Four council members represent specific city districts. Five members are elected atlarge. The at-large members are up for election this year. Here's a look at the districts: Northeast Clifford Ave Northwest Lyell Ave South

About this series

This report is part of the Democrat and Chronicle's ongoing coverage of the campaign: Monday: Genesee County.

Tuesday: Livingston County. Wednesday: Ontario County. Thursday: Orleans County. Friday: Wayne County. Next Saturday: Monroe County Legislature.

Oct. 27: Judicial races. Candidate profiles for Rochester mayor, Monroe County sheriff and Monroe County clerk will appear later this month.

Nov. 4: Voter Guide. To share ideas and comments, contact Rick Armon, public

affairs editor Phone: 258-2275. Fax: 258-2237.

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SCHOOL BOARD

Election focus: student, teacher needs

BY STAFF WRITER **BREEA WILLINGHAM**

The Rochester Board of Education has been filled with Democrats for nearly 30 years, but three Republicans and a Green Party candidate are hoping to break that impressive streak this year.

Seven candidates, including incumbent Democrats Rob Brown and Darryl Porter, are competing for three of the seven seats on the board.

The Republican candidates are running as a slate and have developed a common platform, which includes their view that political diversity is needed on the board.

"We want to be able to give people a choice," said Peter Shaw, who is teamed with fellow Republicans Eugene Van Voorhis and Delores Forest. "We want to bring in ideas that haven't been talked about to move the board along."

David Hursh, the Green candidate and associate professor of education at the University of Rochester, also believes he will bring critical thinking to the board

In addition to Brown, the board vice president, and Porter, who has been on the board for eight years, the Democratic ticket includes James Bowers, a political science professor at St. John Fisher College. Board member Willa Powell decided not to defend her seat after the Monroe County Democratic Committee didn't support her

The Democrats

Brown, 56, an attorney and partner with Boylan, Brown, Code, Vigdor & Wilson law firm, said he is committed to bringing social and health services to all students so everyone is equally prepared for learning.

The problems facing the City School District are environmental, not instructional, Brown said. Some students have social and learning deficiencies because of the abject poverty in which they live, he said.

"The problem is many children come in so far behind the eight ball ... that no instructional program can overcome" the problem, said Brown, who lives in the Park Avenue neighborhood.

Porter's priority is to make sure the district's 600 new teachers have the proper mentoring resources so they don't leave after their first year in the profession.

Another one of Porter's goals is to make the parents and citizens more aware of what is going on in the district and what they can do to make children more successful.

Porter, 53, who is seeking his third term on the board, is also pledging to make sure students and the community understand the district's new Code of Conduct implemented last month; and he wants the district to do a better job of tracking what standards students are and aren't

"Nobody's monitoring that. We can't wait until kids graduate to find out what they don't

SCHOOL BOARD, PAGE 5B

YOUR GUIDE TO THE ELECTIONS

ROCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD



CARLOS ORTIZ staff photographer

Dr. Dwight Cook and Dr. Susan R. Dyer participate in a meeting of the board's Quality Assurance Committee.

School Democrats face opposition

BY STAFF WRITER **BREEA WILLINGHAM**

The Rochester Board of Education has been filled with Democrats for nearly 30 years, but three Republicans and a Green Party candidate are hoping to break that impressive Avenue neighborhood.

streak this year. Seven candidates, including incumbent Democrats Rob Brown and Darryl Porter, are competing for three of the seven seats on the board.

The Republican candidates are running as a slate and have developed a common platform, which includes their view that political diversity is needed on the board.

The Green candidate believes he would bring critical thinking to the board.

Here's a look at the candidates:

attorney and partner with Boylan, Brown, Code, Vigdor & Wilson law firm, said he is committed to bringing social and health services to all students so everyone is equally prepared for learning. He lives in the Park

■ Democrat Darryl Porter, 53, who works in Eastman Kodak Co.'s recovery department, said his priority is to make sure the district's 600 new teachers have the proper mentoring resources so they don't leave after their first year in the profession. He lives in the 14621 neighborhood.

■ Democrat James Bowers, 46, who lives in the Northland-Lyceum neighborhood, said he believes schools should represent the racial, ethnic and socioeconomic integration of the city; education should be centered on students and teachers,

■ Democrat Rob Brown, 56, an not administrators; and test three-quarters can't pass miniscores should not be a sole in- mum state standards in English dicator of student achievement. or math. He is a political science professor at St. John Fisher College.

■ Republicans Peter Shaw, Eugene Van Voorhis and Delores Forest are running as a slate and have published a common plat-

Forest, 32, is a manager at Pactiv Corp. and lives in the Northeast neighborhood. Shaw, 39, lives in the Northeast neighborhood and is coordinator of the Urban League of Rochester's juvenile mentoring program. Van Voorhis, 67, lives in the Upper Falls neighborhood and is an attorney with the Harris, Chesworth & O'Brien law firm.

The Republican candidates said Rochester's educational system needs a serious overhaul because it spends a half-billion dollars on students, and yet standards.

They also believe the school day should be extended to 5 p.m., classes should be held on Saturday and summer vacation should be shortened. The longer school day would allow for significant changes to the curriculum; for example, the addition of

intramural sports programs.

■ David Hursh, 53, the Green candidate, is an associate professor of education at the University of Rochester. He lives in the 19th Ward. He said one of his major issues is what he calls the unfair criticism that teachers face for not meeting state standards. He said teachers tend to oversimplify the curriculum because they receive a lot of pressure from administrators to have their students meet

ROCHESTER COUNCIL

14 seeking 5 seats on City Council

JEFFREY BLACKWELL

City voters will have the task this year of choosing five atlarge members to City Council ager, cutting back the county's from a diverse field of 14 candiplan to expand the Seneca Park

Democratic Party in Monroe County.

A Republican last served on the nine-member City Council in 1987. A member of the GOP has not served as an at-large consultant to nonprofit organicouncil member since 1976 or zations. Mihalyi said she would as mayor since 1973. The race work to require landlords to is among five incumbent test for lead, for the city to in-Democrats, five Republicans spect homes for lead and to creand four challengers from the ate a registry of homes cleared Green Party. The winners will of lead. serve a four-year term.

along with their four other colleagues, legislate in an atmos- She said her main concern is phere of cooperation where the sour relationship between members are not afraid to voice the city and county. She said their opinions or opposition. she would push the city to hire Republican and Green Party challengers say the one-party council lacks a diversity of ideas.

Here's a look at the candidates:

■ Green Party candidate Bonnie G. Cannan, 56, lives in Assemblyman David Gantt, D-the 14621 neighborhood. She is a Rochester, and is seeking his social worker who counsels people with disabilities at Monroe Developmental Disabilities. She said addressing priorities, he said. the problem of predatory lend-

ing would be her first priority. ■ Democrat Brian Curran, 48, who lives in the 19th Ward, is seeking his third term. He is a labor attorney with the Public Employees Federation. Curran tional defense budget and cites fiscal issues and the city's efforts to create jobs through business incentives as his primary issues.

■ Democrat Nancy the city's top priorities should be to stabilize the tax base by encouraging development of high-end and market-rate hous-

14621 neighborhood, is a manufacturing engineer for Xerox race to put a voice behind issues that are not being disparties, such as the merit of providing economic development incentives to large corporations.

■ Democrat Tim O. Mains, 3, who lives in the South term. He is a counselor at Greece Olympia High School. affordable housing. He said fiscal issues are his top priority. Mains said he would push for the development of new housing.

 Republican Michael McManus, 46, who lives in the Maplewood neighborhood, is a ation, supporting the fast-ferry retired federal employee who served in the Air Force for 10 years, and for the past 14 years Council.

as a claims representative for the Social Security Admin-istration. He and Marion Miles are running on a similar platform of reinstating a city man-Zoo and increasing police pres-City Hall is the fortress of the ence on the street and resources in the battle against

■ Green Party candidate Susan E. Mihalyi, 46, a South Wedge resident, is a private

■ Republican Marion L. The incumbents say they, Miles, 70, of the Maplewood area, is a retired postal worker. a city manager and cull the powers of the mayor. She and McManus were not endorsed by the Republican Party.

■ Democrat Wade Norwood, 36, a resident of the 19th Ward, legislative analyst for fourth term. Creating fair and affordable housing and revitalizing neighborhoods are his top

■ Green Party candidate Ronald R. Ring, 57, who lives in the Edgerton area, said he has a part-time job cleaning houses. His priorities include support for the poor, cutting the nachanging the focus of the drug policy. He said he suffers from memory loss and other psychological problems.

■ Democrat Gladys Santiago, Griswold, 55, a resident of the 54, lives in the Beechwood area Browncroft area, is seeking her and is seeking her second full second term. She is director of term. She is vice president with Catholic Family Services' the Ibero-American Action Support To Aged Residents League. She has focused many program. Griswold said one of of her efforts on the redevelopment of Hispanic neighborhoods and ensuring city government is accessible to Spanish-speaking people.

Republican Christopher ■ Green Party candidate Jesse Tillett, 39, lives in the Lenney, 26, a resident of the Maplewood area and is a residential real estate appraiser. Tillett said that if the city does Corp. Lenney said he is in the not address communitywide problems such as schools and crime which drive people out of cussed by the major political the city, the task of stabilizing the tax base would become increasingly difficult.

 Republican Jerome Wilson, 45, is a Maplewood area resident and a diversity coordinator for Eastman Kodak Co. He said Wedge, is seeking his fifth he supports strong neighborhoods, open government and

■ Republican Luis Zamot, 51. who lives in the 19th Ward, is a financial planner with Zamot & Zamot Associates. He said his primary goals include the revitalization of downtown, job creproject and representing an alternative political voice on City

ROCHESTER CITY COURT

astro has no opposition for judge race

BY STAFF WRITER LARA BECKER LIU

Melchor E. Castro, 53, is one of four Latinos who currently hold elected office in Monroe County. He is running unopposed for City Court judge.

Castro, a Democrat, said he participation by support person- 1976 to 1984; an assistant U.S. atwill continue to work to combat domestic violence.

"I hope to work on ways to make City Court more responfamily violence," he said. "In particular, I would like to see more assistant district attorney from year term is \$113,900.

nel from agencies dealing with these issues.'

Castro was appointed to City Court in January 1991 and won sive to the issues surrounding election to a 10-year term in the fall of the same year. He was an

torney from 1984 to 1986; and a private-practice lawyer from 1986 to 1990. He was appointed in 1990 to the Crime Victims Board.

The annual salary for the 10-

Mayor

FROM PAGE 21A

become the city's first Latino mayor and first Republican in the office since 1973.

"This race is about the status quo, and (the mayor) not wanting to change," Perez said. Perez said the key to sta-

bilizing the city's economy, tax base and fiscal problems is controlling taxes and expenses. He said rising taxes drive out both businesses and homeowners, and that causes property values to

"One of the first things we can control is our spending and our tax rate, so people are not ditching the city," Perez said.

Johnson said the city has problems, but he has a strong record of success. He said he has kept tax increases below 1 or 2 percent a year, reinvigorated parts of downtown and city neighborhoods, and involved residents in the rebirth of the city.

'Yes, we still have problems. . We still have drug houses, we still have crime," Johnson said. "But I want you to think about how much worse it would have been if we did not do the things

we did." Johnson's proposals to revitalize Charlotte and establish a fast ferry between Rochester and Toronto seek to bring economic prosperity to one part of the city in hopes that those projects will boost sections ravaged by drugs

and crime. He also continues to advocate his theories about regionalism the idea that municipalities should share resources and ser-

Here's a look at some of the key issues:



Republican Luis Perez, left, will challenge Democratic Mayor William A. Johnson Jr. in Tuesday's election. Johnson is the city's first African-American mayor. Perez hopes to become the city's first Latino mayor.

Economy

The city has tried to promote economic development through several initiatives, Johnson said.

Those include constructing new homes; demolishing vacant properties; focusing on waterfront, downtown and neighborhood commercial development; supporting charter schools; and keeping spending and tax increases to a minimum.

Perez said the city needs to refocus priorities and lower city debt, spending and taxes — to encourage people to remain in the city. He said he would concentrate his economic development efforts downtown.

Both candidates said a fast ferry between Rochester and Toronto would be the most beneficial project for the city.

Crime

Questions about crime in the city have prompted lively exchanges. The homicide rate in Rochester is higher than in Albany, Buffalo and Syracuse. Last year, the total number of homicides committed in the city was

Perez said the city is not giving enough financial support to police and is not focusing enough attention on drugs and crime.

Johnson said the homicide rate isn't as high as it was in 1994. And the city has increased its police budget by about \$15 million and increased the size of the force by 34 police officers.

He said the city has limited resources and must balance spending with other city ser-

City School District

Johnson said the city is working with the school district on issues it faces, including its current budget crisis.

To close a possible budget shortfall, the city is allowing the district to tap its cash capital account. But Johnson said funding is a long-term problem and the city is working with the district to stabilize its budget so it does not have to depend on state funding.

Perez said the school district has to control spending, and the city should make sure that the district is focused on providing services for students, parents and teachers. He said he also would work to create a relationship between the district and faith-based organizations that could help the district address problems.

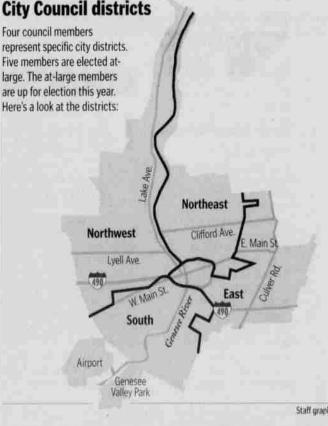
City-county relations

Rocky relations between the city and Monroe County Jack Doyle, Executive Republican, are a key issue for Perez and Johnson.

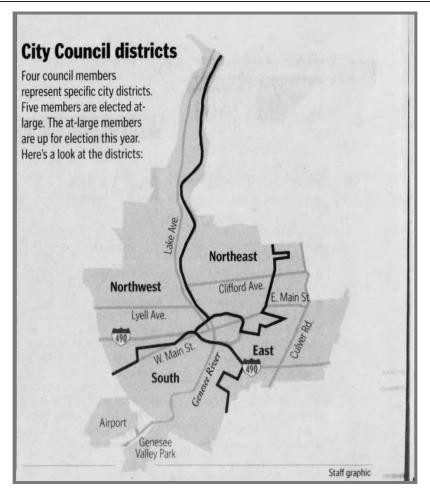
Perez said the rift is having an effect on the city and he would reach out to the county and all area municipalities to mend relationships.

Johnson said the city and county do cooperate on projects and programs, but they do not always agree on issues. The two governments have worked together to build Anthony Square, have cooperated on job and economic development projects, and have contracts for the 911 communication center and the library system. The real danger would be Mr.

Perez putting city issues in the hands of Mr. Doyle, who has not had much sympathy for city problems," Johnson said. 🗆



Staff graphic



D and C 4 November 2001, p. 22A



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