

The spring racing season has just finished, so what better way to look forward to this Saturday's state election than with a candidate form guide? Special comments have been added by our experts who have been studying the hopefuls for some weeks. Candidates are in barrier (ballot) paper order. The track opens at 8am and closes at 6pm

MONASH JOURNAL
20 NOV 2006

THE MT WAVERLEY STAKES



Kali Padnos, People Power: Involved in mental health advocacy and carer issues for over 20 years. A well-respected speaker and carer-consultant, she advocates for 690,000 carers in Victoria.



Michael Gidley, Liberal: "We will eliminate the education maintenance backlog in Waverley schools, reduce the record high levels of stamp duty and land tax, reinstate pensioner motor vehicle concessions, and support self-funded retirees."



Maxine Morand, ALP: "Working with a great diversity of organisations and individuals over four years to achieve a range of improvements has been a privilege. My priorities, if re-elected, include further improvements for schools, health services and support for seniors."



John Boland, Family First: "I'm calling for the abolishment of [public transport] zones two and three, removing stamp duty for first homebuyers, increased funding for respite and health carers, a cap of 8 cents a litre of petrol tax, and being tough on drugs."



John Poppins, Greens: "I've been privileged to enjoy a long and varied life, have broad experience, too many interests and involvements. So I have great difficulty in [making a precis of] very few words."



Neil Smith, independent right-wing: "My political objectives are to cancel Tenix's contract and transfer speed camera operations into the direct control of Victoria Police; for governments to restrict future immigration to people of white, European and Christian backgrounds."



Matthew Billman, Greens: "Oakleigh needs a more active local member, someone who will take on important community concerns like saving our local swimming pool, and tackling problem gambling, inadequate public transport and rundown schools. I will work hard to fix these local issues."



Ann Barker, ALP: "We're continuing to invest in health, education, jobs, transport and safety and facing challenges, including climate change and water. As a long-term local resident, I look forward to continuing to achieve results for our community."

HOW WE SEE IT: A classic two-horse race between the incumbent Maxine Morand and the debutant Michael Gidley could produce a grandstand finish. Preference support from other runners could be the key to victory.

THE CLAYTON CUP



Slobhan Isherwood, Greens: I will work for a public transport overhaul, including a rail extension from Huntingdale to Rowville and reduced fares for students, renewable energy objectives throughout Victoria, and an immediate ban on dual citizenship.



Simon Hall, Citizens Electoral Council: The CEC works at a local level and internationally with American economist Lyndon LaRouche, who has called for the dumping of free trade. He wants to rebuild the world economy with major projects in rail, water and coal seam gas.



Michael Carty, Liberal: I am ready to get on with the job and get things done — on time and on budget. I am committed to improving local services. Party policies include free public transport for children and students, kindergarten relief, and



Emyr Aditya, Family First: Family First stands for policies which are good for families. Policies such as restricting poker to the casino and selected regional areas, rewarding teachers, and a free, medical scholarship scheme to solve our



Hong Lim, Clayton: As your Labor MP for the past 10 years, I have worked to transform Clayton from a suburb of factories and tips to a vibrant, high-tech community. I will continue working to make Clayton a great place to live and raise a

HOW WE SEE IT: King of the track Hong Lim had a healthy 23 per cent break on his rivals in the last race. Despite a nasty preselection row within his stables and rivals expecting a closer race, Mr Lim should win by several lengths.



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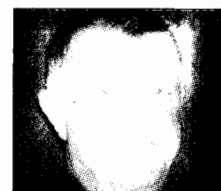
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Colin Dixon, Liberal: I am prepared to stand up for the Oakleigh electorate. Moving around it, I have found police numbers down, traffic congestion everywhere, backlogs on school maintenance, tragic hospital waiting lists, poker machine headache with revenues not coming back into Oakleigh, and not one major project provided in the last seven years.

THE REST OF THE CARD

Scoresby: Peter Lake, Family First. John Tibble, People Power. Kim Wells, Liberal. Rex Thompson, Greens. Gery Raleigh, ALP.

How we see it: Technically, a marginal seat for incumbent Kim Wells, but he is expected to widen his margin. Wells's Labor rival looks under-prepared, starting pre-race training two weeks ago. Local track conditions (the neighbouring Eastlink) should take their toll.

Forest Hill: Stella Collins, Family First. Kirstie Marshall, ALP. Mick Kir, Greens. Neil Angus, Liberal.

How we see it: The champion mare Kirstie Marshall looks to have a battle on her hands. Rarely sighted in the off-season and having won her last race with a little help from the Scoresby Freeway promise, she'll need favourable conditions to hold her seat from Neil Angus.

Mulgrave: Daniel Andrews, ALP. Ashton Ashokkumar, Liberal. Penny Badwal, Family First. Jon Owen, Greens.

How we see it: Touted as a rising star in his stable and riding a 16 per cent buffer, Daniel Andrews should win a non-contest in a canter.

Burwood: John Presley, Greens. John Gerard Caravan, Family First. Bob Stensholt, ALP. Graham Bailey, Liberal.

How we see it: Late-bloomer Bob Stensholt has been working hard to protect a 5 per cent lead over his opponents. In a sprint to the line, he's expected to pip his main rival Graham Bailey, who has been largely unsighted in Monash.

HOW WE SEE IT: *Defending champion Ann Barker begins with a sizeable start of more than 15 per cent over her rivals and her handicap may have lightened after resolving the Oakleigh courthouse issue. Although Colin Dixon and Matthew Billman have battled hard, Ms Barker should hold on for a comfortable victory.*



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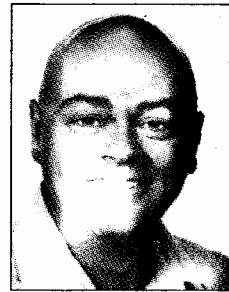


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