

# Capps, Seastrand in million-dollar fight

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By NORA K. WALLACE  
NEWS-PRESS STAFF WRITER

The two top contenders in the hotly contested 22nd Congressional District race have jointly raised more than \$1.1 million in contributions, the latest financial forms show.

Rep. Andrea Seastrand, the Republican seeking a second term, has raised \$594,198 this year, according to the Federal Elections Commission filing. Seastrand's Democratic challenger, UCSB religious studies professor Wal-

ter Capps, raised \$521,454 in the same period.

The report includes donations and expenses from the start of this year through Sept. 30. Candidates next week must submit an updated compilation covering October contributions.

In their previous encounter in 1994, the duo spent a combined \$1.2 million, with Seastrand winning that election by a scant 1,563 votes out of 204,411 ballots cast.

The race isn't likely to break the

SEE 22ND

## Send Seastrand back home

Santa Maria Times OCT. 23 1996  
To the Editor:

Unions-Schmunions! All the ranting and raving about the union ads against Rep. Andrea Seastrand are but a blatant smokescreen attempting to gloss over her abysmal voting record.

That record includes her votes to overturn the Brady Bill, repeal the assault weapons ban, against an increase in the minimum wage, and, of course, her complicity in the two shutdowns of the government. These, with many others, are proof enough of her right-wing Christian Coalition, NRA connections. She is in no way capable or worthy of being called "representative." Send that carpetbagger back to Salinas where she came from.

Sandra Weed  
Santa Maria

## 22ND

Continued

spending record set by millionaire Michael Huffington in his successful 1992 congressional campaign. Using a war chest of \$5.4 million — \$5.1 million of which was his own money — the former Montecito resident unseated longtime Republican Rep. Robert J. Lagomarsino in the primary, then beat Democrat Gloria Ochoa for the post.

Seastrand said last summer that she expected to spend \$1 million on the campaign, but so far she has spent \$450,189.

Capps' expenses thus far have totaled \$324,798.

The funds detailed in the FEC statements do not include the more than \$1 million spent in the 22nd District for television and radio ads and mailers by special interest groups, such as the AFL-CIO, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Sierra Club.

The district has been targeted by both political parties as a key race in the Nov. 5 general election.

According to her statements, Seastrand has received \$223,427, or 37 percent of her contributions, from political action committees, or PACs, during the calendar year.

Capps, who has been accused by Seastrand of having his campaign run by organized labor and special interests, received \$137,160, or 26 percent, from PACs.

Among Seastrand's larger PAC donations, the freshman Republican

received \$5,000 from the Harrah's Entertainment Employees; \$4,000 from the National Republican Congressional group; \$2,000 from Exxon; \$1,000 each from the California Right to Life Council and the Republican National Coalition for Life; and \$1,000 each from groups representing Brown and Williamson Tobacco Corp. and Philip Morris Co.

Capps' larger PAC contributions include a total of \$10,000 from the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; \$9,000 from the National Committee for an Effective Congress; \$8,000 from GreenVote, an environmental group; \$7,500 from the Hollywood Women's Political Committee, and \$5,000 from Voters for Choice.

National political party committees also funded their candidates — Seastrand received \$528 from Republicans and Capps logged \$13,200 from Democratic committees.

Former race car owner and Montecito resident Anthony Granatelli gave Seastrand \$1,750 this year, and she also received \$1,000 each from Fidelity National Title Chief Executive Officer William P. Foley and his wife, Carol, who are Santa Barbara residents.

The congresswoman was the recipient of \$1,000 from Santa Barbara Republican activist Marian Koonce, and she received \$600 from Lagomarsino.

Among his individual contributors, Capps cites \$1,000 from television producer Norman Lear, a little more than \$2,000 from two members of the

Pulitzer publishing family, \$1,000 from Santa Barbara developer Jack Theimer and \$850 from former Santa Barbara mayor Shella Lodge.

"Media buys," purchases typically made to pay for television advertisements, cost Seastrand a total of \$147,773, and she also spent \$17,589 in consulting fees with the Eddie Mahe Co. in Washington, D.C.

She spent a total of \$8,000 on surveys through the Tarrance Group in Alexandria, Va., and an additional \$19,170 with Starboard Response in San Luis Obispo for consulting.

The Capps campaign also spent \$54,600 on advertising, and \$10,000 for polling by Peter D. Hart Research of Washington, D.C.

While Seastrand and Capps are considered the race's top contenders, there are four other people seeking the post.

Steve Wheeler, running as an independent, lists total contributions of \$35,629, including \$4,673 from individuals.

He lists operating expenditures of \$54,758, and has received no contributions from political action committees or political parties.

Reform Party candidate Dick Porter, an educational consultant in San Simeon, has loaned himself about \$100,000 for his campaign.

Libertarian David Bersohn said he plans to spend about \$500 on his campaign, while Natural Law Party candidate Dawn Tomastik has not raised any funds.

## Capps failed to stand up for his conviction:

SLO Telegram Tribune OCT. 22 1996

To the editor: On Oct. 11, I was listening to a national talk radio program hosted by Gary Nolan and my interest peaked when it was announced that Professor Capps would be a guest during the 8 a.m. hour.

Professor Capps was introduced as a "liberal Democrat," which Professor Capps denies, saying that he was an "independent thinker." I thought that Steve Wheeler was the independent.

Professor Capps would not answer the first question asked of him and then hung up on the host when asked about the tremendous amount of AFL-CIO funds spent in our district, on his behalf, to defeat Seastrand.

With a national audience listening, it seemed too bad that Professor Capps would not stand up for his convictions. What are Professor Capps' convictions?

Those of us who believe in a woman's right to choose would be better served by Steve Wheeler. I have yet to hear him duck the issues or questions.

Greg Brown  
Grover Beach

## Seastrand's commercial establishes a new low

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Those of us watching the national news before the last presidential debate were amazed to see Ted Koppel conclude his broadcast with a reference to Santa Barbara. Koppel regretted the low level of campaign advertising and that he had picked the sleaziest of the season. It was, not surprisingly, Andrea Seastrand's "Polly Klaas" attack on Capps.

When Republican strategist Lee Atwater was in the hospital dying of cancer, he apologized for his infamous Willy Horton attack ad. Atwater called it as "malignant" as the tumor destroying his body.

Those of us who honor the political process hope that Atwater's deathbed conversion signaled a turning point, that the level of vileness in cam-

paigns would diminish. Now, comes Seastrand's commercial, establishing a new low.

Seastrand's roll in the muck is disgusting on two counts. First, it is untrue, and she knows it is untrue. It is a complete misrepresentation of Walter Capps' position, and he has told her this publicly. Despite this, she continues to run it and libel the name of this good and honorable man.

But even more reprehensible is Seastrand's exploitation

of the personal tragedy of the Klaas family for her private gain. Has Seastrand never loved a child? Has her win-at-any-cost mentality completely blinded her to the needless pain she's inflicting? Is she so desperate to retain political office that she'll trade on the memory of this poor little girl?

Seastrand owes Capps an apology. She also needs to examine her conscience and beg forgiveness from Polly Klaas' family.

Robert Hamilton  
Santa Barbara