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Harris 1st Ward victor

Jackson loses council primary

By MIKE SHAPIRO
Press Staff Writer

Incumbent 4th Ward Ypsilanti City Council member Eric Jackson lost by 27 votes to Ronald J. Frederick and former Ypsilanti School Board member Douglas J. Harris won easily in the 1st Ward in Monday's Democratic primary.

Those were the only two primary races Monday in preparation for the April 3 election to fill five council seats. No votes were taken in uncontested districts.

Harris beat former city council member Mattie L. Dorsey 233 to 118 with Jerome A. Strong running third with 57 votes.

In the 4th Ward, Frederick beat Jackson 138 to 111, with all of his winning margin coming from the Eastern Michigan University dormitories in Precinct 1.

James H. Wagner ran a distant third in the 4th Ward Democratic race with 28 votes. Come April 3, Frederick will face Republican Floyd A. Hiler, a local independent insurance agent. Hiler was unopposed in the Republican primary.

The primary victory virtually assured the 50-year-old Harris would fill the council seat of retiring Mayor Pro Tem Paul Clay Jr. since there is no Republican candidate in the solidly Democratic 1st Ward.

Harris, 322 First St., a skilled tradesman at General Motors' Detroit Diesel-Allison division, said he would try to build a sense of togetherness in the 1st Ward and throughout the city to help solve its problems.

It is all right to point at problems in the city, he said. "But along with our criticism we have to offer solutions."

A member of the school board from 1972 to 1976, Harris also served in a number of appointed positions including as co-chairman of the Urban Redevelopment Commission and the Charter Revision Study Commission.

He graduated from EMU with a degree in chemistry.

There may be some fireworks in the 4th Ward.

Frederick, 329 Jarvis, Apt. 10, an account executive for WSDS radio, said he wished Jackson the best and hoped there were no hard feelings.



HILER



FREDERICK

4th Ward candidates



HARBISON



MILFORD

2nd Ward candidates



KEEGAN



MURDOCK

5th Ward candidates



HARRIS



BAIZE

Uncontested candidates

Unofficial primary election results

Candidate	Precincts					Totals
	1	2	3	absentee		
WARD 1						
Douglas J. Harris (D)	58	131	23	15		227
Mattie L. Dorsey (D)	64	43	4	7		118
Jerome A. Strong (D)	23	19	13	2		57
WARD 4						
Ronald J. Frederick (D)	98	22	7	11		138
Eric Jackson (D)	16	45	49	1		111
James H. Wagner (D)	1	18	4	5		28
Floyd A. Hiler (R)	3	5	3	9		20

Jackson, a council member since 1974, said he will not support Frederick in the April election and must confer with his campaign workers before deciding if he will mount a write-in campaign.

Jackson accused Frederick of running "the dirtiest campaign in a while," including circulating false accounts of Jackson's 1971 misdemeanor arrest during an anti-

war protest.

Although the Democratic Socialist Caucus, formerly the Human Rights Party, now is affiliated with the city Democratic Party, Jackson, a DSc member, said "I'm not that uncritical of the Democrats."

Also it was Frederick's affiliation with "the Bob Cherris machine" (a reference to 3rd Ward Democratic Council Member Robert Cherris)

that gave Frederick access to EMU dormitories, Jackson said.

Jackson beat Frederick 45-22 and 49-7 in Precincts 2 and 3, but was trounced 98-16 in Precinct 1 which is mostly EMU dormitories.

Jackson said he was barred from campaigning in EMU dorms, but Cherris supporters helped campaign for Frederick in the dorms.

Frederick said Cherris is a friend "but that's where it stops."

He said his belief was radicalism is not an approach to local government. "It is important to focus on reachable goals," the 22-year-old Frederick said.

For example, Frederick said, he has always been opposed to rent control. But he would support a program in which renters would get a rent rebate if they paid for repairs on their apartment.

Frederick has a bachelor of science degree from EMU with a major in communications and a minor in political science.

Frederick's Republican opponent in April, Hiler, will be trying again for a council seat after being

defeated last year.

Hiler, 61 of 115 College Place, has served on a number of committees and community organizations including the American Lutheran Church and American Legion Post 282 for more than 25 years.

The other races in the April 3 election include:

2nd Ward - Democrat Stan Harbison faces Republican John Milford.

3rd Ward - Democratic incumbent Harold R. Baize Jr. is running unopposed.

5th Ward - Incumbent Republican James Keegan will face Democrat Peter Murdock.

Voter turnout Monday was light in both wards.

In the 1st Ward 408 out of 2,727 registered voters cast ballots for a 14.9 percent turnout. About 22 percent of Ward 1 voters turned out in February 1977.

Of 2,831 registered voters in the 4th Ward, only 297 voted for a 10.5 percent turnout, up slightly from a 7.7 percent turnout in the February 1977 primary.

