

THE CALL

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KANSAS CITY, MO. WEEK OF MARCH 28 TO APRIL 3, 2003

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Barnes Re-Elected, Weaver Wins

By Tracy Allen

Kansas City Mayor Kay Barnes waded through a barrage of verbal attacks by opponent and businessman Stanford Glazer the past month en route to a convincing re-election as Mayor in Tuesday's General Election.

Mayor Barnes handily defeated Glazer 60 to 40 percent, or for a total of 31,441 to 21,053.

Mayor Barnes and the new Kansas City Council will be sworn-in on Thursday, April 10.

Despite the negativity that surrounded the mayoral campaign, Mayor Barnes wasted little time looking toward the next four years of office.

Meeting with her new City Council during a luncheon at the Peachtree Restaurant in the 18th and Vine District on Wednesday, the Mayor shared her visions during a press gathering prior to the luncheon. She stated the next four years, Kansas Citians will see the fruits of what she called aggressive

re-development in the city's downtown area, as well as answers to questions regarding a new sports arena, concerns over the city's infrastructure and issues regarding better basic services.

The Mayor stated that her goals for the city wouldn't change in her second term. She says she'll continue improving affordable housing and building new housing in the downtown area, as well as work toward other projects such as a new Performing Arts Center which is already in an engineering phase, and renovations and additions to Bartle Hall. She also talked about the renovations that will be made in other downtown facilities such as the old Federal Courthouse and expansion of the city's library.

"We're moving ahead," said Mayor Barnes. "There's momentum we have in housing, there's momentum we have in development."

"We're on a fast track. We need to be on a fast track," the Mayor said.

Although faced with numerous

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THUMBS UP . . . Mayor Pro-Tem Alvin Brooks gives Mayor Barnes the thumbs up at her victory party on Tuesday, March 25, at the Westin Crown Center hotel. Mayor Barnes defeated local businessman, Stanford Glazer. For more election photos, visit www.kccall.com and click on to 'web photos'. — CALL photo by Rex Purefoy



THE SMILES SAY IT ALL . . . Re-elected Mayor Kay Barnes and newly elected City Councilwoman Rev. Sandra McFadden-Weaver are all smiles as they celebrate their election victories. The celebration took place on Tuesday, March 25, election night, at the Westin Crown Center Hotel. — CALL photo by George Murphy

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issues including a budget deficit that looks to dominate the new council's focus in the upcoming months, Mayor Barnes is aware of the growing concerns about issues like whether to build a new sports arena.

Mayor Barnes says Kansas Citians will know by this time in 2004 whether or not the city decides to pursue a newer arena.

"Issues such as recycling and a newer arena, there is not adequate information in my mind to build a consensus," said Mayor Barnes. Mayor Barnes is aware of the opposition that exist regarding an arena but says, "Those who voice opposition are basing it on inadequate information."

"If we do move forward (on an arena), everyone will understand how it will work and the benefits it will bring," said the Mayor.

Mayor Barnes said she will wait before announcing committee assignments and naming a Mayor Pro Tem. But she didn't hesitate during the press gathering to state that current Mayor Pro Tem Alvin Brooks is a very strong candidate to remain in that position.

"I think he is definitely in the hunt, if there is a hunt," said Mayor Barnes.

Mayor Barnes also believes that the new council members as well as soon-to-be City Manager Wayne Cauthen, Kansas City's first black City Manager, will catch on to what needs to be done for the city.

"I feel confident when he comes on board, Wayne will come on board quickly," said Mayor Barnes. "He's lead similar efforts in Denver that we're trying to lead here."

As for the low turnout in Tuesday's election, including the low margin for the mayor's race, Mayor Barnes stated that the numbers indicate apathy that has become a nationwide problem.

"It doesn't say much about my victory but in general, there is apathy around the country," the Mayor said. "We're spoiled in this country. We take our government and voting for granted."

Mayor Barnes isn't taking her second term lightly. She says she committed to continuing what she started and that is moving Kansas City forward and making it a Midwestern city that its citizens can be proud of.

"The biggest difference between my first term and this one is where we are now, the goals are clearer to me. . . We've got our priorities in place. So much has happened now that wasn't there four years ago," she said.

Besides the mayoral election, Kansas City voters chose new council members in six councilmanic districts.

The 3rd District race saw fiery minister, the Rev. Saundra McFadden-Weaver, convincingly beat attorney and Jackson County Legislator Ron Finley. The campaign had been one of the most heated, and often, controversial races around.

In unofficial returns, the vote in the 3rd district was:

Saundra Weaver . . . 3,957
Ron Finley 2,760

"After a difficult campaign, this made me thankful and it reassured my faith," said Rev. Weaver, pastor of the Community Fellowship

Church of Jesus Christ. "I've learned, if you do the right thing, do good things, it will all work out for you."

"I don't have any animosity toward my opponent. We just have different ways of campaigning," she said.

Even during the mudslinging that occurred regularly in the 3rd district campaign, Rev. Weaver says she will not focus on the past but what needs to be done to improve the 3rd district.

"Even when everything was happening, I never felt like giving up at any point," said Rev. Weaver. "When things started getting dirty, I would just laugh."

Rev. Weaver says she is looking forward to working alongside current 3rd district Council member Troy Nash. The two ran against each other for the 3rd district position in the 1999 election, with Nash winning handily.

Neither see that experience as a threat. Both said they are looking forward to working together for the 3rd district.

"Troy and I have talked and we're excited," said Rev. Weaver. "We're going to work well as a team."

Councilman Nash echoed the sentiment.

"Even since that last election, Saundra and I have both been friends and worked closely together," said Nash. "Even despite the results of that (1999) election, it goes to show you that politics doesn't have to be dirty."

5th District At-Large

Becky Nace had no trouble dispatching attorney Wesley Fields. Ms. Nace easily won, defeating Fields 59 percent to 41 percent.

The unofficial returns for the 5th district at-large was:

Becky Nace 30,088
Wesley Fields . . . 20,631

Ms. Nace says she's excited and hopeful about the new council, which she believes will work to insure a tighter budget and more wise business.

"I'm very hopeful we'll move forward as a team," said Ms. Nace. "One thing you won't find with this council is special interest. We won't have those who are swayed by special interests groups."

4th District At-Large

In the 4th district at-large seat, businessman Jim Glover, who was a city councilman in the 1990s, beat out former Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance president, Colleen Hernandez.

In unofficial returns, the vote in the 4th district was:

Jim Glover 27,928
Colleen Hernandez . . . 22,507

Glover was instrumental in developing what was called the "Glover Plan" which focused on redeveloping areas within the urban core, particularly around the Linwood and Main area. It was through that plan that a successful Home Depot and Costco stores were built and placed on vacant property near the corners of Linwood and Main.

"I think the task of redeveloping

cores of the city is everyone's concern," said Glover. "We have to continue to work on areas like around Troost and further east."

1st District At-Large

The 1st district saw two new faces take council seats.

The 1st district at-large seat was won by neighborhood activist Deb Hermann, who defeated former fireman Joe Galetti. Hermann won the election by a count of 52 percent to 41 percent.

The unofficial returns in votes for the 1st district at-large seat was:

Deb Hermann . . . 26,236
Joe Galetti 24,038

Ms. Hermann said her goal will be to improve infrastructure both north and south of the Missouri River as well as eliminate excess waste in the city's budget which is facing close to a \$55 million shortfall.

"We need to eliminate the excess amount of overtime. We're spending \$20 million in overtime alone and that just doesn't work," said Ms. Hermann.

1st District

Winning in the 1st district was former State Representative Bill Skaggs, who easily upended Andrew Inzerillo. Skaggs carried 71 percent of the vote to Inzerillo's 29 percent.

The unofficial returns in votes for the 1st district was:

Bill Skaggs 5,039
Andrew Inzerillo . . . 2,044

2nd District

Also winning election to the Kansas City Council were John Fairfield of the 2nd district and Charles Eddy of the 6th district. Fairfield defeated Terry Ward as he carried 54 percent of the vote to Ward's 46 percent. Eddy, who won re-election, easily won over R. David Gladwell.

In unofficial returns, the vote in the 2nd district was:

John Fairfield 4,322
Terry Ward 3,699

6th District

In unofficial returns, the vote in the 6th district was:

Charles Eddy 6,736
R. David Gladwell . . . 2,195

Other council members who ran unopposed and were re-elected were Bonnie Sue Cooper (2nd district at large), Troy Nash (3rd district), Jim Rowland (4th district), Terry Riley (5th district) and Alvin Brooks (6th district).

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GREETING YOUNG SUPPORTERS . . . Mayor Kay Barnes is shown greeting 10-year-old, Tyler Haney, at her victory party on Tuesday, March 25, at the Westin Crown Center hotel. -- CALL photo by Rex

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Kansas City, Mo. General Election

Results For Mayor

	<u>Glazer</u>	<u>Barnes</u>
1	501	848
•2	585	626
•3	689	876
4	584	835
5	645	1,037
6	659	1,727
•7	510	724
8	734	2,148
9	840	1,357
10	829	1,314
11	357	403
12	432	387
13	384	262
•14	605	679
•15	576	678
•16	604	847
•17	665	975
•18	611	805
19	498	440
20	679	900
22	843	1,628
23	654	750
24	848	1,311
25	616	614
26	<u>637</u>	<u>811</u>
Totals	15,585	22,982
Clay County	4,023	5,902
Platte County	<u>1,445</u>	<u>2,557</u>
Totals	21,053	31,441

Results From:

Kansas City Board of Elections
Platte County Election Board
Clay County Election Board
•Indicates Black Wards

Kansas City, Mo. General Election

Results For 5th District At-Large

	<u>Nace</u>	<u>Fields</u>
1	855	384
•2	253	901
•3	264	1,176
4	902	441
5	1,217	375
6	1,754	537
7	226	956
8	2,156	672
9	1,550	579
10	1,423	669
11	544	177
12	560	219
13	418	196
•14	229	988
•15	255	952
•16	239	1,172
•17	450	1,184
•18	273	1,123
19	464	455
20	952	592
22	1,751	667
23	832	538
24	1,342	789
25	633	570
26	<u>724</u>	<u>674</u>
Totals	16,986	20,266
Clay County	6,903	2,693
Platte County	<u>2,919</u>	<u>952</u>
Totals	30,088	20,631

Results From:

Kansas City Board of Election
Platte County Election Board
Clay County Election Board
•Indicates Black Wards