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Local Governor Candidates Run Gamut

Ten San Diegans Running For Governor

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SAN DIEGO -- An Iranian immigrant, a Dutch immigrant, an anti-immigrant, an author of parenting books, a golf club pro and the son of former basketball star Bill Walton are among 10 local residents running for governor. They are among 135 candidates statewide who have been certified for the Oct. 7 recall election.

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The state Secretary of State's Office said another 112 candidates who filed papers to run were disqualified.

Badi Badiozamani, an independent from Rancho Penasquitos, moved to California from Tehran, Iran, 22 years ago.

"It was three days before Saddam Hussein attacked Iran," Badiozamani said. "The people of United States and California welcomed us with open arms."

Now running an insurance company and translation service, he raised two daughters who graduated from Stanford and Syracuse.

"It's only fair and appropriate to repay my debt to Californians," Badiozamani said.

Badiozamani has been on two Los Angeles television stations and plans to campaign a lot.

He also has challenged Schwarzenegger, who "is taller than me, and has twice as muscle as I do," to a debate.

Another immigrant, University City Republican Carl Mehr, is a grandfather who was born in Denmark. With tongue in cheek, he called the election a race between his native country and Austria, where actor Arnold Schwarzenegger was born.

"People must speak out against the abuses of government," Mehr said.

Legislative Republicans spoke out against overspending as early as 2000, he said,



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but the warnings were ignored.

Mehr said he will do little campaigning beyond his Web site.

Like Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, La Jolla Democrat Eric Korevaar said he is running for governor even though he is against the recall.

"I think Davis has carried out his job to the best of his abilities," Korevaar said. "I was opposed to how the recall initiative got on the ballot with the paid signature gatherers."

The high-tech consultant said he thinks campaign contribution limits should also apply to funding recall signature drives.

Also in the race is Nathan Whitecloud Walton, who is running as an independent. Walton is the son of former UCLA and NBA basketball star Bill Walton and the brother of Los Angeles Lakers rookie Luke Walton, and San Diego State player Chris Walton.

According to *The San Diego Union-Tribune*, Walton, who will attend graduate school at Stanford this fall, plans to stress student issues.

Dr. Warren Farrell, a Carlsbad Democrat, blamed social ills for the budgetary problems in Sacramento.

An author of books on family issues, Farrell said getting fathers more involved in their children's lives after a divorce would save child support enforcement money. That, he said, would require a change in a judicial system that hinders a father's involvement.

After 30 years of research, the governor's race is the "first time in my life I've had a chance to walk my talk," Farrell said.

Management consultant Brian Tracy of Solana Beach is running as an independent with a pro-business stance.

His platform "is to make California the most jobs-friendly, business-friendly and family-friendly state in the union, which it once was," Tracy said.

As an independent, Tracy could work with both Democrats and Republicans on a solution to the state fiscal crisis, he said.

Paul "Chip" Mailander, a golf professional at a private club in Rancho Santa Fe, said fellow members suggested he run and contributed to his \$3,500 filing fee.

"But it was tough to get signatures," Mailander said, since he was running as a Democrat and most club members are Republicans.

Mailander said Davis should be recalled, but he does not plan to actively campaign.

Diane Beall Templin of Escondido is running as a member of the anti-immigrant American Independent Party "to give California a choice and to honor God."

Templin was in a Bible class when the 1992 gubernatorial results were announced, and she made a commitment to run if the chance ever came, she said.

She's running on an agenda that is pro-life, anti-NAFTA and anti-World Trade Organization. She also wants to stop illegal immigration, limit legal immigration, and get rid of the income tax.

She has a fund-raiser scheduled in Carlsbad on Aug. 25.

Rounding out the local candidates are Democrat Darren Scheidle of El Cajon and George Schwartzman, an Independent from Carlsbad.

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