

4th Congressional District Candidates set to face off

By: Taylor Herring, Staff Reporter

Steven Palazzo

Republican

Palazzo hails from Gulfport, Mississippi, where he attended Saint John's High School. Following his high school years, he earned degrees at the University of Southern Mississippi, served in the United States Marine Corps, established his own accounting firm: Palazzo and Company, and served in the Mississippi State Senate.



Who
are
they?

Economy

Palazzo believes that politicians have lost control of fiscal responsibility and restraint. His promise is to decrease regulation, lower taxes, increase incentives to benefit small businesses, stop big government spending, and return to free market economic principles in an effort to stimulate economic prosperity.

Defense

Palazzo draws his views on defense policy from his time spent in the U.S. military. As he views the matter, Islamic militants cannot peacefully coexist with Americans, and as such, the U.S. must take proactive steps toward eradicating terrorist organizations around the globe in order to preserve American security. Palazzo also believes in restoring honor to military service by providing support to war veterans and service members.

Health Care Reform

Palazzo has a strong distaste for the latest reforms made to the healthcare industry under the blanket of ObamaCare. If elected, Palazzo promises to fight for the act's repeal and the return of healthcare to the hands of private industry.

THE RUNDOWN

The Palazzo campaign has become a major challenge to 21 year incumbent Gene Taylor. By feeding off of the anti-incumbent sentiments of the second most conservative district in the country, Palazzo hopes to succeed in his ultimate goals: Firing Pelosi and returning Mississippi values to U.S. Congress.

Gene Taylor

Democrat



Taylor is a resident of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. Prior to his election to U.S. Congress in 1989, he practiced law along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, worked as a member of the Bay St. Louis City Council and Mississippi State Senate, and served for 13 years in the United States Coast Guard. Taylor currently serves on two major committees in the U.S. House of Representatives: the House Armed Services Committee, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Economy

Taylor, a member of the fiscally-conservative Blue Dog Democrat coalition, does not support many taxpayer-funded initiatives like the latest government bailouts and stimulus packages. Taylor serves on the platform of job creation and industry regulation in South Mississippi. During his time in office, Taylor has championed insurance regulation, worked to earmark over \$10 billion in government spending for infrastructure projects along the Gulf Coast, and negotiated defense-related contracts that have provided thousands of regional jobs.

Defense

Taylor, like Palazzo, supports a strong, expanding military and generous veterans' benefits. He has given particular focus to supporting regional military posts of Keesler Air Force base, Ingalls Ship Yard, and Camp Shelby, in addition to fulfilling lifetime veterans' promises.

Health Care Reform

Taylor also opposed the latest federal reforms made to the healthcare industry on the basis of costliness. In the future, Taylor hopes to revise provisions of ObamaCare, make improvements to existing government healthcare projects of Medicare and Medicaid, and bolster regulations of the health insurance industry.

THE RUNDOWN

For the first time in a long time, Taylor faces a reasonable opponent in the race for Mississippi's 4th district. Taylor's campaign has recognized that his best prospects lie in his experienced record in "representing South Mississippi." Taylor hopes to navigate the rough seas of anti-establishment in this race for conservatism by November 2 and return to serve yet another term for the citizens of South Mississippi.



By: Taylor Rigney
Staff Reporter

Oak Grove High School graduate Lindsey Lee always knew she wanted to be a singer. "One time when I was ten years old, I was riding in the car with my mom, dad, and grandmother. LeAnn Rimes was on the radio. I was singing along, and at one point, I belted it out just like she did. My parents and grandmother all turned and stared at me for like a whole minute.... My dad goes, 'Lindsey... where did you learn to do that?' At that moment, I knew I had something special," Lee recalls.

Since then, Lee has continued to pursue her musical career, and she has not only turned into a Youtube sensation (her cover of "Airplanes" with views well into the hundreds of thousands), but her original song "Fall Out" is also now played regularly on SL100.

When American Idol winner Kris Allen played at the Hunt Club in Hattiesburg in June, SL100 held a contest for viewers to send videos of themselves singing the chorus of Allen's song "Live Like We're Dying." Lindsey and her younger sister, Julianna, won the contest and front row

Lindsey Lee: "I'm fearless and nothing can stop me."

tickets and backstage passes to Kris Allen's show. "Lindsey's mom gave me her demo at the concert, and I absolutely loved it! I played 'Fall Out' on the radio the next day, and the response was incredible. We've continued to play the song ever since," SL100 D.J. and avid Lindsey Lee fan, Don King said of the singer.

Just weeks after Lee's song debuted on the radio station, "Fall Out" made it as number three on the "Freak Show's Five Most Wanted," a regular radio program that chronicles Mississippi's most requested songs.

"The first time I heard myself on the radio, I cried! It was so surreal. I was alone in my car, and heard myself on the radio. It was weird with no one there to freak out with me. It's like, it was just me... in my car... listening to myself on the radio... so I just cried," Lee said. "It's still really surreal every time I hear it. It still hasn't really hit me yet," she said.

This past March Lindsey set off for Nashville, Tennessee, where she has been working as a live-in nanny.

Currently, Lee has been touring across the United States and Canada since September 13 as a back-up singer for Stephen Jerzak, one of the opening bands on the Mike "Cooler than Me" Posner tour. "It's amazing being on tour with Mike Posner. I don't get to hang out with him much because he's 'cooler than me,'" Lindsey joked. "But really, he is very professional, and he's always off warming up somewhere or doing sound checks or in his tour bus. It's rare that he's around everyone," she said.

Lee says her dreams for the near future include her getting a record deal and becoming a "respected, established songwriter." She offers this advice for other

young people thinking about pursuing their dreams: "When you feel like giving up, don't. Push through every tough situation. Have confidence! Love yourself and believe in yourself. You can't rely on the approval of others. People will bring you down. It's just the way it is. You have to love yourself so you can trust yourself with decisions. That's the biggest thing: developing inner-strength and confidence that comes from within, not from other people."

Although she draws a lot of her strength from herself, Lee has many other people whom to thank for her success. "So many people have helped me along the way.

I can't give all the credit to one person. First of all, God gave me this gift; that is without a doubt. I owe every bit of my life, my talent, my everything to Him. All of the glory goes to Him. But He placed people in my life such as family and friends who have helped push me when I wanted to quit or have believed in me when no one else did," Lee said.

Her single "Fall Out" can be purchased on iTunes, and, with talent like hers, it shouldn't be long before this Oak Grove alum is touring across the country in her own show.



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