

Forecast  
Lows in mid  
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Variable winds 10  
m.p.h., 20% chance of  
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## Mrs. Saunders to face Newton in 5th District runoff

By PATRICK McMAHON  
St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

Orlando businesswoman-housewife JoAnn Saunders and Pasco County Circuit Court Clerk Miller Newton will face each other in a runoff election Sept. 28 for the Democratic nomination for the District 5 U.S. House seat, according to final vote tallies computed Thursday.

MRS. SAUNDERS NEARLY avoided a runoff, capturing 49.84 per cent of the votes Tuesday in the sprawling



JoANN SAUNDERS



MILLER NEWTON

eight-county district that includes part of northern Pinellas County and all of Pasco County.

The winner of the runoff will face U.S. Rep. Richard Kelly, R-Port Richey, in November.

The outcome was in doubt until Thursday as the last absentee votes were counted. If 116 voters had selected Mrs. Saunders rather than one of her opponents, she would have won a majority and no run-off election necessary.. Newton won 21.44 per cent of the votes cast.

"I'm extremely pleased," said Mrs. Saunders. "Apparently there will be a runoff, but I would like to see all the Democrats unite behind me so we could once again have representation for all in Washington."

SHE POINTED OUT that she was strong in Pasco County — only 150 votes behind Newton — and in Seminole County where two other opponents in Tuesday's primary reside. "I think this should spell it out pretty plain," she said.

Newton was not talking unity. "Mrs. Saunders is not going to be the nominee," he declared confidently. "Looking at voting patterns," he said Mrs. Saunders had "peaked." He said her views are out of step with the people of the 5th Congressional District.

"We are going to hold her accountable for her record or lack of record on the issues," he said. "When this is all over three weeks from now, she is still going to be a housewife, and I am going to be the nominee."

AS OBTAINED BY The St. Petersburg Times from elections offices in all eight counties, here are final vote tallies:

Mrs. Saunders, 34,982 votes, 49.8 per cent.

Newton, 15,053 votes, 21.4 per cent.

Sid Vihlen Jr., 9,536 votes, 13.6 per cent.

Don T. Reynolds, 7,529 votes, 10.7 per cent.

James Sursely, 3,094 votes, 4.4 per cent.