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Sunday, June 6, 2004

Democrats choose teacher to face off against DeWine

By Cindi Andrews
The Cincinnati Enquirer

A schoolteacher and former Hamilton County recorder was nominated Saturday as the Democrats' pick to run for county commissioner against GOP candidate Pat DeWine.

The party nominating committee voted to have Eve Bolton of College Hill - who's currently running to reclaim her recorder's seat - instead switch to the commissioner's race, County Democratic Co-Chairman Tim Burke said.

Aside from Todd Portune, who is running for re-election, the Democrats have struggled for months to find another candidate for the two commission seats up for election this year. Cincinnati Councilmen John Cranley and David Crowley and Forest Park Mayor Stephanie Dumas are among those who opted not to run.

Bolton's suburban credentials - she teaches in Wyoming and used to be a Mount Healthy councilwoman - make her a good choice, Burke said. "We're going to take seriously whoever runs against us," DeWine said Saturday after learning of Bolton's selection.

Still, she faces an uphill climb against the Cincinnati councilman's name recognition and Republicans' traditional dominance of county politics.

Also Saturday, Ed Large withdrew his candidacy for court clerk.

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