

Taylor makes mark on history

Every quarter of a century or so somewhere in the country a truly outstanding statesman comes along. The last of this breed we have met lives right here in Claremore.

Senator Stratton Taylor is a story worth telling and a politician worth voting for. He is a rural Oklahoman with international influence. He is a well-educated, highly-motivated, mover and shaker. At age 34 he is already one of the most powerful men in the Oklahoma legislature, and has earned respect from other members on both sides of the aisle.

Nearly everyone locally already knows how this bright young man from the tiny community of Alluwe worked his way through Rogers State College and the University of Tulsa by sacking groceries in a local supermarket. Everyone already knows how he won election to the legislature when he was only 22, and what a rocket-like climb to the top he has made.

After just eight years in the State Senate he gained his powerful position as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He has used that position to rattle cages all over the state capitol, and he has left little doubt in the collective minds of Oklahoma City that northeastern Oklahoma is present and darn well accounted for.

Senator Taylor has a discerning and perceptive mind, and combines his perspicacity with the guts it takes to be assertive and effective with his fellow lawmakers. This is not just the opinion of the Claremore Progress. It is the way other legislators see our Senator, and they unhesitatingly give him the respect he has earned.

For a small idea of what Stratton Taylor has done for his home district you only need to glance at the record. The new \$17 million Northeast Oklahoma Veterans Center, the announced improvements of telephone service, the announced improvements of Highways 20 and 169, the continuation of the senior citizen nutrition programs in Rogers and Mayes Counties, and his relentless fight for the continued improvement in our schools.

His list of accomplishments goes on and on, but he has always been courteously accessible to anyone with a reason to contact his office. He can be reached by any constituent, and if he is busy with one of his many duties at the time, he never fails to return the call.

In a word, there is no way we can improve on our representation in the Oklahoma State Senate, and there is no reason to even try.

With absolutely no reflection on his opponent, Stratton Taylor should be given a landslide victory next Tuesday by the 35,000 Democrats registered in the 2nd Senatorial District.