

# **OUR ENDORSEMENT: Travis Tranel for Dist. 49**

## **A Wisconsin State Journal endorsement**

October 24, 2008

With a competent, thoughtful incumbent running for re-election in the 49th Assembly District, a challenger must present an extraordinarily compelling case to earn our endorsement.

Republican Travis Tranel does just that.

First, consider the remarkable resume of this 23-year-old farmer from Cuba City.

With his father suffering from cancer, Tranel began running the family dairy farm when he was still in high school. He continued to run the farm as he earned degrees in finance and economics from nearby Loras College.

While attending college, he expanded the farm. Now, at age 23, he runs Tranel Farms USA, which employs five, and he co-owns Fleege Tranel LLC, a hay baling business.

Second, consider how his political priorities match the challenges the state confronts. He wants to bring his business sense and experience to the Legislature to work on "pocketbook" issues: making the state attractive to job-generating businesses and reining in the tax-and-spend approach at the Capitol.

He also shows an articulate command of school funding issues and state limits on local property tax levies.

Tranel is challenging incumbent Democrat Phil Garthwaite, 36, who has represented the district well for two years. But Tranel's talent, discipline, energy and good judgment make him the better choice for the future.