

Minnesota Special Elections; More Talk on Vikings Stadium

By [Christine M. Zimmer](#) on October 19, 2011

Special Elections

Two special elections were held yesterday. In Senate District 46, the special election was held due to the passing of state Senator Linda Scheid who represented the district for the past 15 years. The DFL endorsed candidate Chris Eaton won easily with almost 62% of the vote. Eaton is a registered nurse working in the mental health field. She is also endorsed by labor, Education Minnesota and the Minnesota Nurses Association. She is married to Tim Willson, the Mayor of Brooklyn Center.

In Senate District 61, current state Representative Jeff Hayden will replace Linda Berglin who retired after over 30 years representing the district to take a position with Hennepin County. Hayden received nearly 70% of the vote. Hayden wants to work for, "...a fair tax system, better schools and single-payer health care." A special election will now be called for Hayden's House seat in 61B.

Vikings Week

This week is the week for all things football. Governor Dayton has met with the Minnesota House and Senate Leadership, the National Football League and plans to meet today with representatives of a Block E casino group, as well as representatives of Ramsey County, and Vikings officials. The Governor has indicated a strong desire to hold a special session to act on Minnesota Vikings stadium bill by November 23. Dayton is not pushing a specific site but the Vikings remain committed to a 430-acre site in Arden Hills. The week culminates in the ultimate match up on Sunday afternoon with the Vikings taking on the Packers at Mall of America Field.