

PRIMARY GAINS

Incumbent Brady, challenger Anderson advance in Kato mayor's race

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MANKATO — Eric Anderson earned a narrow victory over Chris Frederick in a three-way primary for Mankato mayor, setting up a November contest between Anderson and Mayor John Brady, who took by far the most votes.

Anderson beat Frederick 636 votes to 598, a margin of about 1 percent. Brady earned 1,588 votes, or about 56 percent of the total.

After congratulating Frederick on the close race, Anderson said the next few months are going to be about making his case for fiscal discipline.

"It's going to be a battle to take on an incumbent who has been on the council for 14 years," said Anderson, a financial planner.

Frederick was a former president of Minnesota State University's student senate, and this year's early primary may have denied him the votes of students who hadn't yet returned to Mankato.

"It can play a factor ...

probably did play a factor," Frederick said, while noting college students typically don't vote in large numbers regardless.

Brady said his comfortable margin of victory won't put his campaign on autopilot.

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Mankato's mayoral matchup: John Brady (left) and Eric Anderson.

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MAYOR: Brady well in front

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"I'm going to let the people know that I want this job," he said.

Brady said he wants a clean campaign and said he won't criticize his opponent. "If someone wants to know about my opponent, they'll need to talk to my opponent," he said.

Anderson seemed more willing to draw a contrast between himself and Brady.

He said his messages about city government were shared by many of the people he met while campaigning, but not by the current mayor.

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