

The Daily Tar Heel

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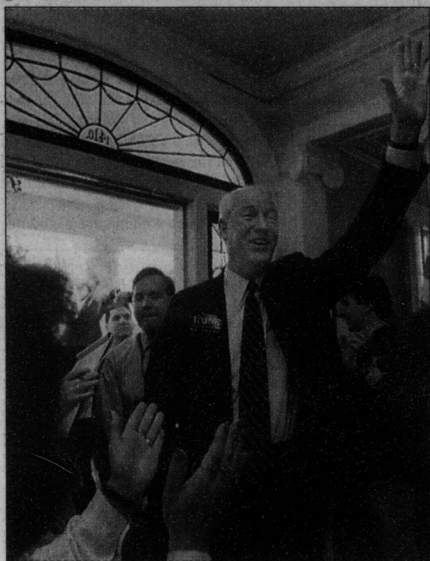
Tuesday, November 7, 2000

Down to the Wire

As N.C. Voters Head to the Polls Today, Candidates Make Last-Minute Campaign Efforts to Gather Support Across the State

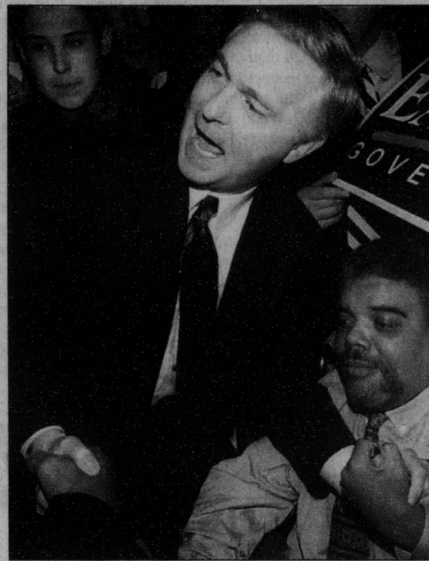
Bush, Gore Push for Last Votes

The presidential candidates visited swing states like Florida, Wisconsin and Iowa before heading home.



DTH/MILLER PEARSALL

Richard Vinroot arrives to an enthusiastic welcome at the GOP headquarters in Raleigh on Monday.



DTH FILE PHOTO

Mike Easley greets supporters after winning the Democratic primary in May.

Easley, Vinroot End Race With Rallies

By **CHERI MELFI** AND **JENNIFER HAGIN**
Staff Writers

RALEIGH-DURHAM – Everyone from N.C. political candidates to higher education bond referendum supporters spent Monday prepping for today's election by using their remaining hours in a last-ditch effort to win.

N.C. gubernatorial candidates spent the last day before the election presenting their platforms to potential voters one last time. Republican gubernatorial candidate Richard Vinroot started his whirlwind tour of the state in Asheville before visiting Greensboro, Raleigh, Greenville and Wilmington. The tour ended in Charlotte, home to Vinroot's campaign headquarters. Democratic candidate Mike Easley

attended a noon-time rally in Raleigh with several other Democratic candidates from across the state before making a number of television appearances in the afternoon.

Vinroot visited N.C. GOP headquarters during his stop in Raleigh, where he promoted the Republican party as a whole and voiced his support for Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush.

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Student Coordinator **Reyna Walters** said the fate of the \$3.1 billion higher education bond rests with the voters.



Republican candidate **George W. Bush** told Florida residents on Monday that he was confident he would clinch victory.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON – George W. Bush and Al Gore campaigned into the final hours in their run for the White House on Monday, seeking last-minute momentum in a costly and exhausting race to become the nation's 43rd president.

The Texas governor said he trusted that Americans had "heard our message" – compassionate conservatism and a less intrusive government. The vice president urged a Democratic vote to maintain the nation's economic prosperity.

Gore anticipated a long count on Election Night, and joked that his first meal as president-elect would probably be breakfast. "But I'm going to make it a Happy Meal from McDonald's," he told an Iowa audience.

In Florida, Bush was confident he would return the Republican party to the presidency lost by his father in 1992. "We've laid the groundwork for victory," he said, "now it's up (to us) to get people to the polls."

Candidates for the 107th Congress went through their final paces, with Republicans and Democrats focusing their energy and money on four or five dozen highly contested races likely to determine control of the House and the Senate.



Democratic candidate **Al Gore** expressed no concern over third-party competition.

The polls gave Bush a small edge in the popular vote, a position he gained after overtaking Gore in public opinion surveys during October. But the decisive Electoral College seemed less predictable. It takes 270 electoral votes, a majority, to win the White House. Key swing states included Florida (25 electoral votes), Pennsylvania (23) and Michigan (18), and an aggressive Bush campaign also looked to win Gore strongholds such as California (54) and Tennessee (11).

Some aides worried that Green Party candidate Ralph Nader would damage

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Poll: Students Support Bond, Democrats

Dubbing education their highest priority, the students polled supported the bond even though many knew little about it.

By **TYLER MALAND**
Staff Writer

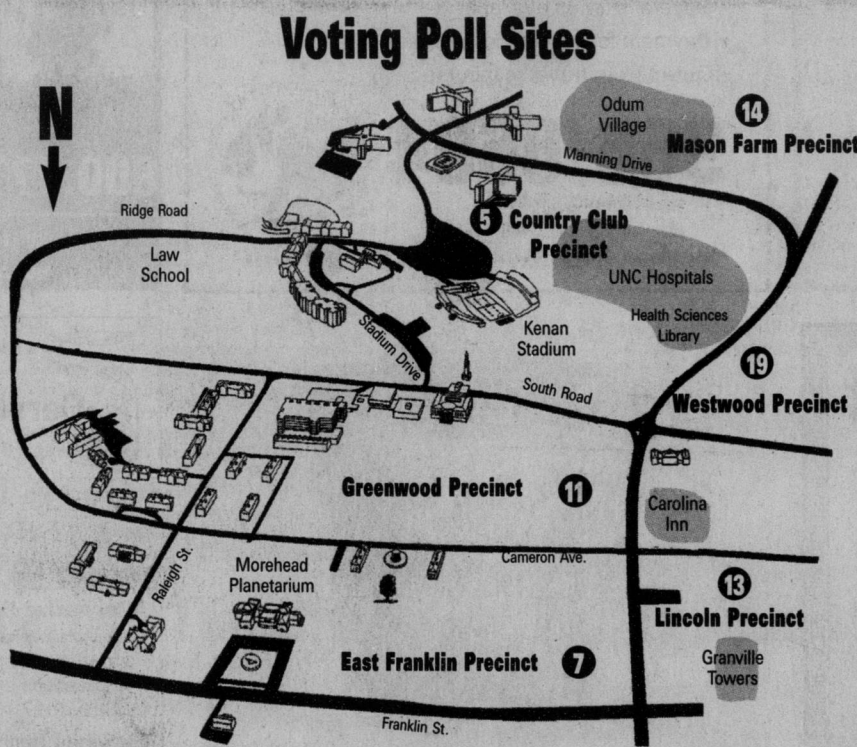
Democrats appear to have the UNC campus vote, according to a recent student survey conducted by The Daily Tar Heel.

The DTH conducted a written survey of 270 students in late October which shows that Democratic presidential candidate Al Gore has the majority of the student vote.

The survey, distributed mainly in the Pit, included questions about candidates for president, N.C. governor, lieutenant governor and the 4th Congressional District and questions about the state lottery and the \$3.1 billion higher education bond.

Out of 270 completed surveys, 150 students responded in favor of Gore. Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush tallied 75 votes. The remaining 45 votes were divided between other candidates, undecided or a lack of interest.

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SOURCE: UNC STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Voting Info

- (5) Country Club
- Fetzer Gym
- (11) Greenwood
- UNC General Administration
- (14) Mason Farm
- Chapel Hill Bible Church
- (13) Lincoln (Granville)
- Lincoln Center Administration
- (19) Westwood
- Frank Porter Graham Elementary School
- (7) East Franklin
- Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

- Polls open at 6:30 a.m. and close at 7:30 p.m.
- Shuttles will be available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every 40 minutes beginning at 8 a.m.
- A Point-to-Point shuttle will pick up passengers who present a UNC ONE Card behind the Davis Library at the ATM site and drive a route to local polling places.

Memorial Service Held for Sole Victim of Fire

Officials are trying to rule out arson as a cause of the blaze that took the life of Roger Vanden Dorpel.

By **LEIGH JOSEY**
Staff Writer

A small group of family and friends gathered Monday to remember Roger Vanden Dorpel, who died in a fire Halloween night at Brookstone Apartments.

The memorial was held at United Church of Chapel Hill UCC for Dorpel,

51, who worked at UNC Hospitals as an X-ray technician. Alyson Jackson-Snavely, emergency services director for the Orange County American Red Cross, characterized the service as a private affair.

"Quite a few people were there, but he was not the sort of person who would have wanted a big deal anyway," she said.

Officials still have not released the cause of the blaze that took Dorpel's life, but investigative teams continue working to find the origin.

"They have concluded the site work but are still trying to compile all the

information," said Chapel Hill Deputy Fire Chief Robert Bosworth. "They have nothing to pinpoint the cause or point of origin."

With a fire causing intense building damage, investigators first must prove what didn't happen, he said.

That is, they have to disprove arson, Bosworth said.

In the meantime, efforts are being made to accommodate all of the victims left homeless as a result of the blaze.

The American Red Cross has provided emergency relief and resources like shelter and clothing to those affected. By cooperating with apartment com-

plex officials, nearly all of the victims have been housed.

"We've had fairly extensive contact with the clients, and the apartment complex has been extremely helpful, really accommodating," Jackson-Snavely said.

Since the building where the fire occurred has been condemned, victims have sought alternative housing.

Many of the victims looked to Brookstone for a new apartment, and the complex has assisted some in finding housing in other apartment communities, leaving only two former residents

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DTH/BRENT CLARK

Officials are still investigating the Halloween night fire that killed Roger Vanden Dorpel, 51, at Brookstone Apartments.

To succeed in politics it is often necessary to rise above your principles.

Anonymous