

Elections '90

Contradictions still theme of Helms, Gantt Senate race

By WENDY BOUNDS

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It has been a campaign of contradictions for Jesse Helms and Harvey Gantt.

Issues on which the two disagree, polls predicting Helms the winner one day, Gantt victor the next and commercials with accusations the other candidate denies: this has been Senate Election 1990 for the incumbent, his challenger and their constituents.

Gantt predicted in mid-October that students would be the deciding factor in the election. He has repeatedly stressed the need for federal investment in education while Helms argues each state should be responsible for its schools.

"It's time we spent less money on B-52 bombers and more on the students," Gantt said at a UNC rally Oct. 15. "If you can qualify to get into a four-year college like this one... you ought not be denied that opportunity simply because your parents can't afford to send you."

Both candidates have received criticism for the use of negative television commercials.

"It's so negative, it's sickening," said

John Sherman, 62, a Chapel Hill resident.

But despite voters' complaints about these campaign tactics, the large number of new, negative commercials introduced during the last week of the campaign indicates that the candidates feel such tactics are influential.

If issues took a back seat to these tactics, there are several high-visibility debates the candidates addressed and on which they disagreed.

Gantt steadfastly supports legalized abortion while Helms does not. Helms strongly advocates the death penalty while Gantt is against such punishment. Both issues provoke emotional as well as intellectual responses from voters, and Helms and Gantt have played upon these reactions in their commercials.

In addition, pro-choice and pro-life organizations have run advertisements supporting the candidate of their choice. Even discounting these outside sources of paid political advertisements, the Gantt-Helms race is the most expensive campaign in Senate history and is drawing national contributions and media attention.

Gantt has stressed the need to end

divisiveness and said the election should not be a tool to ostracize homosexuals.

"This election is not about... trying to make gays and lesbians in our country into boogymen and boogeywomen," Gantt said at the rally.

Helms has tried to tie Gantt to homosexuals via television advertising.

"... Gantt's friends with the liberal newspapers don't want you to know about his secret campaign—that he has raised thousands of dollars in gay and lesbian bars in San Francisco and New York and Washington, that Gantt has run fund-raising ads in gay newspapers..." one of Helms' commercials broadcasts.

Helms has been unflinchingly critical of homosexuals during his Senate tenure and throughout the election. He has made several requests that funding for AIDS research be severely cut, saying the syndrome is a "plague on gays and lesbians," who have formed political organizations to pressure for AIDS funding.

Helms has also attacked Gantt for running advertisements on radio stations

with predominantly African-American audiences, encouraging people in the listening area to vote Nov. 6.

"The liberal newspapers also won't tell you about Harvey Gantt's secret campaign running radio ads that play only on black radio stations," a Helms commercial says. "Why doesn't Harvey Gantt run his ad on all radio stations?"

And while Gantt denies he supports racial quotas, Helms has repeatedly linked Gantt's support of the 1990 equal rights bill, which President Bush vetoed, as an indication of Gantt's desire to use race as a determining factor in employment.

While the issue of race has crept slowly into the last days of the campaign, Gantt and Helms are also at odds over almost every other issue facing the nation.

One of Helms' issues in the Senate this year was to restrict funding for the National Endowment for the Arts, charging that the NEA had used taxpayers' dollars to fund what he considered obscene art. Gantt opposes any restrictions on the NEA and has accused



Harvey Gantt



Jesse Helms

Helms of blowing the dispute out of proportion for political reasons.

Helms has repeatedly told supporters that he would rather lose his Senate seat than gain the support of Gantt's "special interest groups," including liberals, art-

ists, blacks and homosexuals.

These vast contradictions between each candidate's ethical views may result in a numerically narrow decision among voters for either the values of the Old South or the New South.

HARVEY GANTT — Democrat ISSUES:

Education:

Believes that we must ensure access to quality education for all children and young adults.

Believes in the importance of teaching young adults the skills they need to succeed in the workplace and to keep America on top.

Environment:

Believes it is the responsibility of citizens and the government to ensure a clean, environmentally safe world.

Believes those who damage the environment should bear the burden of cleaning it up.

Abortion:

Pro-choice. Believes that no choice is more individual or more personal than a woman's decision whether to conceive and bear a child.

1990 Official Ballot for United States Senator, Member of Congress and State Officer of the General Court of Justice - Appellate Division (Supreme Court and Court of Appeals)

4th (Fourth Congressional District) 4th

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

- To vote for all candidates of one party (a straight ticket), make a cross ☐ mark in the circle of the party for those candidates you wish to vote.
- You may vote split tickets by making a cross ☐ mark in the party circle and then making a cross ☐ mark in the square opposite the name of the candidate(s) of the different party for whom you wish to vote.
- You may also vote a split ticket by not marking a cross ☐ mark in the party circle, but by making a cross ☐ mark in the square opposite the name of each candidate for whom you wish to vote.
- If you do not deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it and get another.

DEMOCRATIC FOR A STRAIGHT TICKET

MARK WITHIN THIS CIRCLE

- ☐ For United States Senator
☐ HARVEY B. GANTT
- ☐ For Member of Congress
☐ DAVID E. PRICE
- ☐ For Chief Justice of Supreme Court
☐ JAMES G. EXUM, JR.
- ☐ For Associate Justice of Supreme Court
☐ JOHN WEBB
- ☐ For Associate Justice of Supreme Court
☐ WILLIS P. WHICHARD
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ HUGH A. WELLS
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ EUGENE H. (Gene) PHILLIPS
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ CLIFTON E. JOHNSON
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ SARAH PARKER
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ SIDNEY S. EAGLES, JR.
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ K. EDWARD GREENE
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
(Unexpired term ending 12/31/92)
☐ JAMES A. WYNN, JR.

State of North Carolina
General Election
November 6, 1990

REPUBLICAN FOR A STRAIGHT TICKET

MARK WITHIN THIS CIRCLE

- ☐ For United States Senator
☐ JESSE A. HELMS
- ☐ For Member of Congress
☐ JOHN CARRINGTON
- ☐ For Chief Justice of Supreme Court
☐ HOWARD E. MANNING, JR.
- ☐ For Associate Justice of Supreme Court
☐ I. BEVERLY LAKE, JR.
- ☐ For Associate Justice of Supreme Court
☐ SAMUEL T. CURRIN
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ J. RANDOLPH (Randy) WARD
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ RALPH A. WALKER
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ CARTER T. LAMBETH
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ DENA S. LINGLE
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ WILLIAM M. NEELY
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
☐ SHERRY FOWLER ALLOWAY
- ☐ For Judge of Court of Appeals
(Unexpired term ending 12/31/92)
☐ ALLYSON K. DUNCAN

Chairman, State Board of Elections

JESSE HELMS-Republican ISSUES:

Education:

Believes federal aid in education leads to federal control.

Environment:

Supported the Safe Drinking Water Act. Voted against Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act as too costly to business and too dangerous to job security.

Abortion:

Anti-abortion. Sponsored numerous bills that would create a constitutional amendment to make abortion illegal.

The Arts:

Has spearheaded a battle to cut back and closely monitor the funding of the National Endowment for the Arts, pointing to "pornographic and Godless" art supported by the foundation.

Senate candidates fight tight race for 16th District seats

Editor's note: This story is reprinted from the Oct. 23 edition of The Daily Tar Heel.

By DOUG HATCH

Staff Writer

Four candidates are fighting a tight battle for Orange County votes as they vie for the two 16th District N.C. Senate seats open in the Nov. 6 election.

Republicans Bill Boyd and Max Reece are grappling for the seats of Democrats Russell Walker, a 16-year incumbent, and Howard Lee, a one-term incumbent. The 16th District includes Person, Granville, Durham and northern Orange counties. Candidates do not run for a specific seat, but all four are in contention for the two general seats.

Reece, who lost the 1988 election by 215 votes, said his platform basically consisted of the same five issues of the earlier race, including finding a solution to the drug problem, implementing prison reform, compensating state-employed retail merchants who lose money on sales tax, limiting the length of the legislative session and granting veto power to the governor.

"We can't continue to throw money at education," Reece said. He also said he supported more local and parental involvement in the educational process. Reece said he was opposed to oil drilling off the N.C. coast and supported voluntary recycling so that it would not become federally mandated due to overflowing landfills.

Walker, an Asheboro resident, differed from Reece on education. Walker said he wanted to get the Basic Education Plan back on track.

"I believe we need to restore budget cuts in higher education," Walker said. He said he was interested in mental health care reform, subsidized state aid for day care, adult day care for senior citizens and reduction of the N.C. infant mortality rate, one of the highest in the nation.

Walker is chairman of the N.C. Senate Appropriations Committee on Human Services and co-chairman of the legislature's Environmental Review Commission. Boyd, who served three terms in the N.C. House of Representatives, said he wanted stiffer drug and criminal laws, including mandatory service of full sentences for drug convictions.

The first bill Boyd said he planned to introduce would expand the Open Meetings Law to include the state legislature. The Open Meetings Law requires that local government meetings be accessible to the public. Boyd also supports giving the governor veto power.

"It's ridiculous the governor of this state doesn't have veto power," he said.

"We can't continue to throw money at education."

— incumbent
Russell Walker

"We need to get education back to the classrooms," Boyd added, placing emphasis on the value of the Basic Education Plan and more local control of schools.

He also said that there was a balance between growth and conservatism and that he wanted to encourage good, clean industry in North Carolina.

"I'm an environmentalist... but I also want us to continue to be able to have good growth," he said.

Lee said he wanted to place heavy emphasis on recycling in the state and improve the mass transit system.

Lee said he was pushing for greater self-management for the UNC system. He also stressed having a commitment to the Basic Education Plan.

He is concentrating on management of government funds.

"We need to recognize we are in a time when we have limited government resources," Lee said. "We need to learn how to have better overall government management of financial resource."

Lee is a faculty member of the UNC School of Social Work.

All four candidates towed party line on state funding for abortion, although Reece said he was not opposed to women having abortions as long as it was still legal.

"I think it's a choice for the woman and her deity," he said.

John Humphrey, press secretary for the N.C. Democratic Party, said the race would be close, but he expected the Democrats to win.

"(Russell and Lee) have ably supported their district in the past," he said. They also have the advantage of incumbency.

But according to Tom Ballus, press secretary for the N.C. Republican Party, Reece and Boyd have been able to raise more money than is usual for challengers because they already have recognition among N.C. voters.

Boyd ran for lieutenant governor in 1988, narrowly losing to Jim Gardner, and Reece came close to winning Lee's seat.

The biggest setback to the Republican party's cause in Orange County is the high support for Democratic candidates in Chapel Hill, Ballus said.

"Knock that out and we'd carry the election," he said.

McCoy chooses not to actively challenge 6-term incumbents

By ANDRE HAUSER

Staff Writer

Paul McCoy, the Republican challenger in the N.C. House of Representatives' 24th District, is facing an uphill battle in his quest to represent the area's conservative voters.

"It's very difficult to find Republicans in (Chatham) county because they've been battered down for so many years," said Audrey Heiser, secretary of the executive committee of the Chatham County Republican Party. This explains why the Republicans have nominated only one candidate for the two seats in the district, she said.

"They figured that (Anne) Barnes and Joe Hackney are so entrenched that it is too hard to move them," said Charles Trumbull, Orange County Republican Party chairman.

Barnes and Hackney are the two Democratic representatives from the 24th District. Both are running for sixth terms.

The traditionally Democratic 24th District includes Orange County and parts of Chatham County. All candidates, including the incumbents, run against each other. The two highest vote-getters take the available positions.

McCoy's candidacy has not received much attention, and this may be because of his low-key style of campaigning. McCoy said he has been running alone, requesting very little help from the Republican Party.

But the Republican Party headquarters and its services are open to McCoy, and party volunteers have posted signs for him, Heiser said.

Democrats are not sure why McCoy is running such a quiet campaign.

"It seems like a waste of the voters' time... to file and then not campaign for the election," said Mike Nelson, campaign coordinator for the Orange County Democratic Party.

The Democratic candidates have used their party's resources more actively. The party headquarters is a central spot for poster and literature distribution, as well as a useful volunteer coordination center, Barnes said.

"It's a joint effort. The party does many things" to help the candidates, she said.

Another reason McCoy has received limited media attention is because he has not spent much money campaigning.

"I have not solicited money," McCoy said. "In fact, I have refused to take PAC (political action committee) money." McCoy also said he did not take contributions from private citizens.

Barnes and Hackney have run much more expensive campaigns, and they both estimated their contributions to have been in the thousands of dollars.

But campaign style is just one area of difference among the incumbents and

"It seems like such a waste of the voters' time ... to file and then not campaign for the election."

— Mike Nelson,
campaign
coordinator for
the Orange
County
Democratic Party

their Republican rival.

"I'm running on the conservative philosophy," McCoy said. "I'd be in tune with Sen. Helms and (Gov.) Jim Martin on most issues."

McCoy, a Chatham County farmer and land developer, favors holding taxes at their present rate and reducing government spending by "maybe trim(ming) out some fat" from government programs. He opposes state-funded abortions, and he said he believed abortion should only be allowed in cases of rape and incest.

"(Barnes and Hackney) are pretty much opposite most of the things I stand for," McCoy said.

Barnes, a professional legislator, and Hackney, an attorney, are both supporters of state-funded abortions.

"If (abortion) is available for the rich, they ought to be available for the poor," Hackney said.

Barnes and Hackney both said that in addition to abortion rights, the two main issues they are running on are education and the environment.

"I have been a strong advocate of education spending on the state level," Barnes said. "I think education is the number one issue for the state." Improved education is the key to solving many of the state's problems, such as unemployment and a high crime rate, she added.

"One of my primary areas of concern has been environmental protection," Hackney said. He has sponsored bills on solid waste reduction, water quality and the consolidation of the Departments of Environment, Health and Natural Resources.

Gantt, Helms supporters engage in shouting fight during rally in Charlotte

From Associated Press reports

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Supporters of Harvey Gantt and Sen. Jesse Helms screamed insults at each other, and two people fought briefly at a Helms rally.

"Left-wing Commie pinko faggots!" shouted Helms backer Steve Jones, 54, on Saturday after walking through a crowd of Gantt supporters, who were waving anti-Helms signs and screaming "Harvey! Harvey! Harvey!" Police were not present during the clash at Alexander Graham Junior High School.

"Murderer! Murderer! Murderer!" yelled another Helms backer, in reference to the abortion rights of Gantt and some of his supporters. Gantt, a Democrat, is challenging Republican Helms in Tuesday's election.

The confrontation began when about 40 Gantt supporters waved anti-Helms signs in the faces of backers as they entered the school.

A brief scuffle erupted outside between university student Tom Tritton and rally security guard Jim Grice, who said he was working for rally organizers to watch fire doors.

Spokesmen for both campaigns said they were not aware of the confrontation. Police said no arrests were made and no

injuries were reported.

Helms was foregoing any campaigning Sunday after a long day on the road Saturday, said his wife, Dot Helms.

"We got to bed at 3 o'clock and we're just using this as a day of rest," she said. "I'm sure the Lord will understand" why they missed church.

Gantt was in church Sunday morning and had a rally planned Sunday night.

Both candidates planned to fly around the state Monday in a final blitz before Election Day.

Polls released Thursday showed a close race between Helms, a three-term Republican, and Gantt, a Democrat. One poll gave Helms a lead of 4 percentage points; another gave Gantt the same lead. Both had margins of error of 3.5 percentage points.

Gantt, 47, rode the civil rights wave of the '60s to become the first black student at Clemson University and later the first black mayor of Charlotte.

Helms, 69, rose to prominence in the same decade as a television commentator who nightly rallied against civil rights, integration and communism. That notoriety helped him to the U.S. Senate in 1972.