

Support for NC's own John Edwards rises

Although Edwards faces strong competition in the race to win the Democratic presidential nomination, many of his supporters are confident his Southern appeal will win him key states.

By Sarah Hampton Cheatham
Copy Editor

Despite traditional Republican domination in the South, many Southern Democrats are hopeful that native North Carolinian Senator John Edwards will be the key to placing a Democrat in the White House in 2005.

that not being in Washington your whole professional career is a good thing. [Edwards's] five years in the Senate have taught him how to get things done in D.C., but also that there are some things that need to be changed," said Zach Wineburg, Grimsley alumnus and now a Field Organizer for the Edwards campaign in Iowa.

The main indicator of whether or not Edwards has a real shot at the Democratic nomination will be determined on Jan. 19, 2004, when Iowa holds its caucuses. The Iowa caucuses are not actual elections; their importance is that they are the first official state-

Edwards for the sole reason that he's from North Carolina, even if I don't really agree with all of his platform as I am a Republican," said junior Suzanna Ritz.

So far in the campaign, Edwards has not lost the "home field advantage" by detaching himself from the South in an attempt to sway Northern voters.

When Howard Dean said he would like to be "the candidate for guys with Confederate flags in their pickup trucks," Edwards responded by saying that Dean might not understand "what the Confederate flag means to us in terms of oppression and, too often, violence."



Cnn.com graphic

Because of John Edwards's North Carolina heritage, he has a unique advantage in the race for the Democratic presidential nomination. He is able to attract traditionally Republican southerners because of his roots while still appealing to Democrats throughout the country.

Edwards's decision to run for the Democratic presidential nomination earned him both praise and criticism. His detractors pointed out his relative youth, political inexperience, and past as an "ambulance chaser."

"I don't like the fact that he's a malpractice lawyer," said senior Clarke Edwards. "But I hate Bush so much, I'd probably vote for Edwards. Plus, you've got to love the last name."

His supporters, on the contrary, maintain that Edwards has spent just the right amount of time in Washington.

"Some people actually think

wide votes held. Since 1972, every eventual nominee from either party has finished in the top three in Iowa. Senator Edwards will need a strong showing to beat out controversial front-runner Howard Dean for his party's nomination.

Despite their personal opinions about Edwards, most people agree that his main chance of becoming the Democratic candidate for President lies in using his Southern heritage to gain the support of North Carolina and the rest of the traditionally Republican South.

"I think I would support John

According to Wineburg, this stance and Edwards's other policies are working.

"Edwards is the only candidate leading in his must-win state [of North Carolina]. He is up ten points in South Carolina, gaining steam out here in Iowa, and in third place in New Hampshire.... We have an uphill battle ahead of us [in Iowa]. But the fact of the matter is that people love Edwards out here," said Wineburg.

The outcome, however, will not be revealed until the Iowa Caucus and the New Hampshire Primary this coming January.

Local tragedy raises concern about risks of teen driving

The recent death of six-year-old Ana Maria Sola at the hands of a teenage driver has increased concern about the many hazards created by teen driving.

By Brian Gould
Reporter

Brandon Potts, a local high school student, disregarded safety lights on a school bus and struck two small children, both cousins. Ana Maria Sola, a six-year-old Rowan County elementary student, was killed Nov. 5, 2003, while her cousin was injured and admitted to Baptist Hospital. This tragedy has once again sparked de-

bate about safety issues and teenage drivers.

Ana Maria Sola crossed the street to board her school bus, as she did every day on her way to school, but as Sola stepped off the curb, 17-year-old driver Potts hit her and her five-year-old cousin Brenda at upwards of 55 mph.

Ana Maria Sola's mother recounted the instance to news sources as she watched her daughter die. She claimed that the weather was slightly foggy, but the school bus's safety lights were clearly visible in the conditions. The bus driver tried to alert the three children, Sola, her cousin, and

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Holiday volunteering

Children and adults with developmental disabilities

Volunteers needed: Shopping buddies for adults in the agency's independent living program who do not have transportation. Runs through Christmas.

Minimum age: 18
Contact: Lelenja Harrington

Individuals with a wish list

Needs volunteers. Minimum of 10, accompanied by an adult. Sell ceramic angels painted by developmental disability individuals.

Runs through Dec. 20.
Contact: Judy Lefaive at 373-1076

Donations

For children ages Pre-K through 5th Grade.

Donations: Hygiene Products
Contact: Mark Sills at 379-0037

Urban Ministry

Needs emergency food and housing for families that cannot provide for themselves.
Contact: Gail Gore-Lewis 271-5959 ext. 305

Kids Path

Donations: \$10 or more to place a light on the Tree of Remembrance.
Contact: Linda Hiatt or Jane Gibson at 621-2500

Salvation Army

Request: Toys, gifts, clothes, food, shelter. Adopt a needy family for the holidays.

Bell ringers are also needed at local grocery stores and shopping centers.
Contact: Jackie Lucas at 235-0349

Santa's Workshop

Donate used toys to children in the community.
Contact the Greensboro Youth Council at 373-2738
Toy drive ends Dec. 12.

Kimberly's Kids

Donate new, unwrapped toys to Kimberly's Kids. Drop them off at the collection boxes at Reynolda Village and any participating Carolina Ford Dealers, or send a check to: The Winston-Salem Foundation 860 West 5th street Winston-Salem, NC 27101

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