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Local Democrats Cautiously Optimistic About Gantt

Frank Madison
As his campaign to unseat incumbent Senator Jesse Helms enters its final days, Harvey Gantt and his supporters are expressing guarded optimism. Most polls show their candidate with a slight lead.
A local Democratic Party official, Ms. Sonya Lewis, this week described her feelings about Gantt as "cautiously happy."
The most recent public poll by the Charlotte Observer-WSOC had Gantt ahead 49-41," she said. "Our own latest internal poll had Gantt leading by four percentage points."
Explaining the need for caution, however, she pointed out how volatile polls have been when candidates were involved.
She used the Douglas Wilder campaign for governor of Virginia as an example. Ms. Lewis said, "He went into election day with an 11-point lead in the polls, won by only two percentage points. I'm happy about Harvey's good to indicate trends, but you can't count on them completely."
Ms. Lewis is co-coordinator of the campaign Durham of Democrats led. She explained that though this is an off-year election, Democrats are running their candidates in the precise same way

they would if it were a presidential election year.
"Because we're having such a major race," she said, "this year, we wanted to unite all Democratic candidates behind the flagship of the Harvey Gantt for Senate Campaign. That's something we traditionally do only in presidential election years, but we felt this race is so important we're doing it even if it is an off-year election."
Ms. Lewis is full of praise for the Gantt Campaign team and the positive race it has run. She states assertively that it was a "conscious decision by Gantt and his staff to take the high road and not get involved in a mud-slinging contest."
She says the decision was reached after Gantt and his staff reviewed and analyzed his own prior mayoral campaigns, the Hunt-Helms battle, and the Dukakis presidential bid.
"Gantt has chosen to put forth the issues and explain what he thinks a senator from North Carolina should be doing for his state," Ms. Lewis explained.
Continuing, she added, "Of course, he must be able to respond if an ad comes out from Helms that is a distortion or an untruth, but Gantt has still managed to put forth
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Get Out The Vote Rally Set For Sunday, Nov. 4

On Sun., Nov. 4, at 6 p.m., the Ebenezer Baptist Church located at 2200 South Alston Avenue, will host the traditional Mass "Get-Out-The-Vote". Rally of the Durham Committee on the Affairs of Black People. Keynoting the G.O.T.V. Mass Rally will be the Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy, Congressman for the District of Columbia since 1971.
Special invitations to attend have been extended to area churches and their congregations, members of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, NAACP members, Precinct officers, registrars, candidates, business men and women, educators, parents and students. Music will be provided by choirs from a number of area churches.
Congressman Fauntroy, an ordained minister, has served as pastor of New Bethel Baptist

Church in Washington, D.C. for the past 30 years, since 1959. He is president of the National Black Leadership Roundtable and chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus Braintrust on Voter Participation and Network Development. Congressman Fauntroy chairs both the Committee on the District of Columbia Fiscal Affairs and Health Subcommittee and the Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy. He is also a member of the House Select Committee on Narcotics Abuse and Substance Control.
The public is invited to come out on Sun., Nov. 4, at 6 p.m. for the last official activity before the General Election on Tues., Nov. 6.
"Do The Right Thing" Come to the Rally on November 4, and Vote on November 6, 1990.
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VOTE NOVEMBER 6

A Voteless People Is Hopeless People



WASHINGTON — Police crush an anti-Ku Klux Klan demonstrator in the nation's capital. Police were out in force to prevent violence between Ku Klux Klan members who staged a march and demonstrators opposing them. (UPI Photo)

Democrats Say GOP Trying To Intimidate Voters

RALEIGH (AP) - State Democratic Party officials say the GOP is mailing postcards to registered Democrats throughout North Carolina, saying if they haven't lived in their precinct for at least 30 days, they can't vote.
"This is an outright lie," state Democratic Party Chairman Lawrence Davis said Tuesday.
"The reality is that any registered voter who is registered to vote in a particular precinct and still lives in that precinct may vote in that precinct," he said. "Voters who have moved from the precinct in which they are registered may either go to the Board of Elections before they vote or to the precinct in which they are registered on Election Day and get transferred to the precinct in which they currently reside." State Republican officials said they were trying to ensure legal election returns.
"The Republicans claim to be pursuing their program of intimidation and lies in the name of making sure the election is 'honest,'" Davis said in a prepared statement. "In fact, they are attempting to walk on the constitution by denying North Carolinians their constitutionally mandated right to vote." In Asheville, Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate Harvey Gantt said parts of the mailings were incorrect. "We simply want them to correct it and assure that there is no intimidation at the ballot box," he said.
Republicans on Monday announced the ballot security measures to safeguard voting outcomes.
"I am completely surprised that Lawrence Davis ... would recommend that we have anything but honest and fair elections in the state of North Carolina," Jack Hawke, state Republican Party chairman, said Tuesday. "I can only draw the conclusions ... that they want dishonest elections. The only people who received a mailing from us are those that are improperly registered."
Mailings in Durham did not go to just those who were improperly registered, but to many African Americans who have been permanent residents for over 10 years in the same precinct.
"The only people that should be



WASHINGTON — Ku Klux Klan leader Virgil Griffin (r) speaks on the steps of the U.S. Capitol during a Klan rally. About thirty Klan members took part in the march on Constitution Avenue to the Capitol for the Rally. (UPI Photo)

Yusuf Hawkins' Family Ends Cooperation With Prosecutors

NEW YORK (AP) - The father of racial-attack victim Yusuf Hawkins is angered by the treatment he's received from the Brooklyn district attorney's office and will no longer cooperate with prosecutors, his adviser says.
The Rev. Al Sharpton also said the Hawkins family would demand jury trials for the remaining defendants and would not agree to any plea bargains.
"We felt that the district attorney's office had not protected the reputation and protected the image of the victim's father," he said.
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Sharpton, who stood on the steps of Brooklyn's state Supreme Courthouse with Hawkins' father, Moses Stewart, acknowledged Tuesday that in the last week the Hawkins family rejected plea bargains for the remaining defendants in the case.
According to Sharpton, prosecutors were ready to accept pleas that would let the young whites charged in the racial attack off "on a breath more than a misdemeanor" and put them in jail for a year.
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JOHANNESBURG — Zulu warriors parade through Johannesburg in a show of hate for anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela and loyalty to Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi. (UPI Photo)

Vernon Jordan Issues 'Wake-Up Call' For Black America

In response to President George Bush's veto of the 1990 Civil Rights Bill, former civil rights leader Vernon Jordan delivered a stinging speech to the Executive Leadership Council Second Annual Recognition Dinner, held Thursday, October 25, in Washington, D.C. In this speech, Jordan declared war on the Bush administration and issued a wake-up call to battle for black America. Jordan is now a senior partner of the law firm of Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld. Following are some excerpts from that speech:
When President Bush vetoed the Civil Rights Act of 1990, he rang the alarm bells for all black people. He sent us the message that his Administration — as in Reagan's — the basic interest of black people will be fought. We're going to have to fight back.
When the President vetoed the Civil Rights Acts, he went against the advice of blacks in his Administration. He went against the advice of Bill Coleman, the former Secretary of Transportation, who tried to save his President and his party from disaster.

He went against the advice of the majority of the House of Representatives, which passed the Bill by a vote of 273 to 154.
He went against the advice of the Senate, which passed the Bill by a vote of 62-34.
He went against the advice of major Jewish organizations that cared deeply about quotas and who supported this Bill and said it was not a quota bill.
He went against the advice of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, which is the best civil rights law firm in the world.
He went against the advice of the civil rights leadership, which wanted to work with this President and which met every reasonable objection to the Bill as originally drafted.
Instead, he took the advice of Sununu, Thornburg, and Gray — the waterboys for the right wing.
By doing so, he declared war on women and minorities in America, and he declared war on equal opportunity.
In 1988, George Bush ran against Willie Horton. In 1990, he's running against quotas.
It's the same cynical code-word game ... the same pandering to the

right wingers and race-baiters.
And the President has plenty of company in Washington — people who talk kinder, gentler and act harsher, meaner.
Just look at some of the names of Senators who voted against the Civil Rights Act:
Dole and Kassebaum of Kansas ... D'Amato of New York ... Lugar and Coats of Indiana ... Boschwitz of Minnesota ... and Wilson of California.
All from the North and California. Most considered moderates. Most from states with significant minority populations.
Now look at some of those in the Senate who voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1990:
Robb of Virginia ... Sanford of North Carolina ... Hollings of South Carolina ... Graham of Florida ... Nunn and Fowler of Georgia ... Shelby and Helms of Alabama ... Breaux and Johnston of Louisiana ... Sasser and Gore of Tennessee ... Benten of Texas ... Ford of Kentucky ... Pry and Bumpers of Arkansas.
All from the ...
All from states who once said "segregation now or forever."
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