

STATE AND NATIONAL

# Perot tells supporters to keep close watch on congressmen

By Alia Smith  
Staff Writer

**HIGH POINT** — Former independent presidential candidate Ross Perot issued a call for American awareness and stumped for his political organization in a speech Saturday to hundreds of N.C. supporters.

"If we are too arrogant and complacent to come together and fix our country, then we deserve our fate," Perot said.

Perot was invited to speak at High Point's Showplace in the Park by United We Stand North Carolina, a branch of United We Stand America, his national group. He focused on the problems facing modern government and tried to entice prospective supporters to join his organization.

He praised his supporters and urged them to use their voting power to send competent leaders to Washington. "More precious than money is your vote," Perot said. "We send good people to Washington, but it is a strange system. When you leave the business world and enter Never-Never Land, it's a culture shock."

Perot emphasized the need to make the nation's troubled economy a top political priority and said he thought the Clinton administration's promises of a reduced national debt would fall through.

"Don't forget that everybody west of

the Mississippi's income taxes go just to pay off the national debt," he said. "Pretty soon it'll be all the way to the coast. We're going to go into debt another trillion dollars by the end of Clinton's presidency."

"Right now, Washington assumes that money falls out of the sky, but I must explain that it comes out of the sweat of the brow of the taxpayers," he said. "They don't say 'tax and spend,' they say 'contribute and invest.' Well, let's just call a dog a dog."

Focusing on what he said were excesses in government spending, Perot called for cuts in congressional perks.

"We've got 1,200 airplanes to fly senior officials around," he said. "They can go to the airport, lose their luggage, eat a bad meal and get a taste of reality."

He added that Americans must monitor their congressmen to prevent wasteful spending. "They've got a spending program under every rock," Perot said as he asked Americans to write their congressmen to demand a balanced budget amendment and a presidential line item veto.

He said some of the nation's ballooning debt could be trimmed by cutting unnecessary government jobs, including public relations consultants, entertainment committees, members of the White House staff and foreign lobbyists. "At least some jobs aren't shrinking."

Perot also urged the audience to ask

for moral and fiscal responsibility from their representatives in Congress. "Congressmen should set the highest moral, ethical standards in the country," Perot said. "They should give us the whole picture, not just pieces. We need to tell them to be careful, not reckless with our money. Every federal check should say, 'the people's money.'"

"Do we really need to spend one million dollars to see how many people ride bikes or how many dogs and cats there are in some town in California?" he asked.

Calling the presence of foreign lobbyists in the Clinton administration "economic treason," Perot said he wanted to oust them along with political action committees in order to bring companies and jobs back to America.

"If we can't get rid of the cancer of foreign lobbyists, we won't have any jobs," he said. "We need selfless people in government, good hard-working citizens who, like the Salvation Army, just do it with no hidden agenda."

Perot added that both the Bush and Clinton campaigns had been run by former foreign lobbyists and that there were former foreign lobbyists in high government positions, including U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown.

He chided the lobbyists for enticing large corporations to move overseas, a policy that he said took jobs away from Americans. "God help the average American worker," Perot said. "The two principle exports going out of New York are scrap metal and paper, which are shipped to Japan. Our government hates big successful companies."

"Today our best and brightest people with MBAs from Harvard and Stanford, have to hit the street and look for work because we just don't have the industrial base we used to," Perot said.

But Perot added that he had confidence in the country's ability to deal with its economic troubles. "The problems we face today are nothing to what we've had before and solved," he said.

Perot outlined the objectives of United We Stand America as being

**Week**

has done extensive research on the Pink Triangle," Staley said.

The triangle was an equilateral triangle German Nazi officials required gay men to wear to declare their illegal sexual orientation, Staley said.

"I think he's going to do a chalk drawing of the Pink Triangle and perform in it," she said. "He also might shave his head."

Today's featured speaker will be



Ross Perot addresses supporters of his United We Stand America organization at High Point's Showplace in the Park Saturday

governmental reform and the formation of a new connection between Americans and Congress. "If we don't reform the federal government we won't get anything done," Perot said. "It's just that simple. They're disconnected at the top, but they're our servants."

Perot said his goals were to form a "government that comes to us, not at us, a government that stays and doesn't cash in on foreign jobs," and "to put people, our people, back to work."

"A growing, expanding economy is the only way out of the hole," he said.

Advocating a reform process that would begin at the grassroots level, Perot addressed the status of the nation's educational system. "Our public schools used to be the best but now rank at the bottom of the industrialized world," he said. "We've got to fix that. So, when school board elections come up, make sure the best people are elected."

Perot also stressed the importance of involving young people in politics.

"We are doing this for (young people)," he said. "All us old guys could just live this out, but we want you to be

first-class citizens. We want you to stay off drugs, to keep your head clear. A free society must rest on a strong moral, ethical basis."

Perot ended his speech by calling once again for the audience to support his organization. "The eagle can't fly without the wind beneath its wings, and this organization is the wind beneath its wings," he said.

"We hope all of you will join. Together we can 'climb every mountain and forge every stream' for our children's future."

from page 3

## Sangam

from page 3

classes into the University's curriculum. Sangam currently is lobbying the administration to offer Hindi language courses.

"The only goal we are trying to accomplish at (Sangam Night 1993), in terms of our needs, is to garner support for our Hindi petition," Sura said.

Both Duke University and N.C. State University offer Hindi language classes.

But it was the lure of exotic and delicious foods, not politics, that drew most of the patrons to the event.

Sura said the food was prepared by Sangam members and their parents and was as diverse as the crowd that consumed it.

"We have a food for each person: the breaded vegetables, the curries and stuff like that," Dave said. "We want to give (guests) samples from all of India."

The evening's entertainment kicked off with a spoof on the far-fetched plots present in Hindi films and was concluded by singing both the Indian and U.S. national anthems.

Wednesday, two showings of "Edward II," a movie about the supposed homosexual king of England, will be offered in the Union Film Auditorium.

Crae Pridgen, who was assaulted outside a Wilmington bar in January because he is gay, will speak at 7 p.m. in Hanes Art Center auditorium.

Wednesday's activities also include a parody of the game show "Jeopardy" in the Pit and a Gay and Lesbian Music Show on radio station WXYC.

On Thursday an AIDS awareness workshop will be held in 208 Union at 2 p.m. and a religious perspectives seminar will be held in the Toy Lounge of Dey Hall at 6 p.m.

Friday will feature a Kiss-In in the Pit at noon and a rap session on homosexuality at 3 p.m. in room 220 of the Union.

Gay men, lesbians and bisexuals will show affection for each other in public at the Kiss-In, Ferguson said.

The week will conclude Friday with a meeting of UNC-system gay student organizations at 2 p.m. in 205 Union.

Susie Bright, former editor of the national lesbian publication On Our Backs.

Bright, author of "Sexual Reality," will give her "sexual state of the union" address at 7 p.m.

Tuesday will feature a fund-raiser titled "closet cram contest" in the B-Glad office in the Student Union.

"We are going to let people guess how many people can fit in the 'closet,' and then we will cram as many people as possible into it," Ferguson said.

Entries for the contest will cost \$1 each. The first person whose entry falls within a pre-determined range will win dinner for two at Crook's Corner.

Tuesday's speaker, Marine Sgt. Justin Elzie, will discuss his experience as an openly gay Marine at 7 p.m. in Hanes Art Center. Elzie currently faces an involuntary discharge from the Marines because of his sexual orientation.

A panel discussion on media trends affecting homosexuals will include representatives from the local media and will conclude Tuesday's events.



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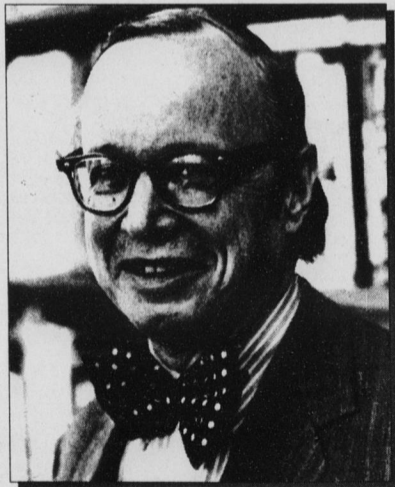
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*Race, Gender & Radicals*

*"If some Kleagle of the Ku Klux Klan wanted to devise an educational curriculum for the specific purpose of handicapping and disabling black Americans he would not likely come up with anything more diabolically effective than Afrocentrism."*



ARTHUR SCHLESINGER

Today, March 29, at 8:00 P.M., prominent historian, twice winner of the Pulitzer Prize and Kennedy administration official **Arthur Schlesinger Jr.**, will speak at **UNC's Hill Hall Auditorium** on "The Disuniting of America."

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