

Bush, Gore Scramble For Last-Minute Votes

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Rallying support in the final 48 hours of the presidential campaign, Al Gore charged that George W. Bush would "squander the surplus" on a mistaken tax cut for the wealthy. Bush told his troops not to believe the "scare tactics."

"The question on the ballot is prosperity itself. The question on the ballot is what should we do with this prosperity," Democrat Gore told a rally Sunday in downtown Philadelphia.

The crowd erupted into a chorus of "Boos" when Gore said his Republican rival would "squander the surplus" on a giant tax cut for the wealthy and questioned his commitment to seniors.

"You're way ahead of me," Gore said. Bush, who was spending the day in Florida, where the contest is tight although his brother is governor, dismissed the comments. Polls show Gore running strongly in Florida.

"I'm sure you've heard of all the scare tactics," Bush said at an airport rally in West Palm Beach. "Somebody who tries to scare people into the voting booth must not be very confident about his own positions."

At another point, he said: "They can

try to scare ... but we have a chance on Nov. 7 to purge this country of the old-style politics, the old way of politics."

Most national polls give a slight edge to Bush, but Gore is running strong in some big battleground states, and the two are often crossing paths as they contest the same states.

Pennsylvania and Michigan are key to Gore's strategy, while he hopes to steal an unexpected victory in Florida that would hurt Bush by grabbing that state's 25 electoral votes.

Both candidates began the day at church.

"This election comes down to a very few states," Gore said Sunday at one of two appearances at black churches in Philadelphia. "I need your help on Tuesday."

Bush and his wife Laura attended services at St. Andrews Church in Jacksonville. "Great way to start off the stretch run," he told reporters. "No politics, just prayer and reflection."

Afterward, the Rev. Gretchen Van Aken, while shaking Bush's hand, told him: "Remember, the Lord himself chooses the right man."

Bush also prayed and had breakfast with the Rev. Billy Graham, who all but endorsed him.

Referenda Push Pro-Pot Agendas

Alaska and California have already passed referenda allowing use of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

By JENNIFER HAGIN
Staff Writer

Although North Carolina has yet to consider such an option, voters in at least eight other states will decide referenda involving marijuana legalization on Nov. 7.

Alaska, California, Colorado, Florida, Massachusetts, Nevada, Oregon and Utah all have referenda, most dealing with legalization for medicinal purposes.

Alaska's referendum, the most sweeping, would legalize marijuana and release all inmates currently imprisoned for marijuana offenses.

Voters have passed all previous mar-

ijuana referenda, with the lowest majority being 57 percent and the highest topping out at 72 percent, said Joel Lindau, UNC senior and N.C. director of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

Voters in California, Alaska and other states already have passed referenda allowing for medicinal marijuana usage. "There's never been one that's been even close to losing," Lindau said.

He said information on the Internet discussing the advantages of legalization has helped propel interest in the subject and combat the government opposition.

But Sandra Bennett, director for the Northwest Center for Health and Safety, said the trend toward legalizing marijuana for medicinal use is merely part of a push toward legalizing the drug for recreational use as well.

Bennett also said information about marijuana's health benefits put out by the legalization proponents is false.

"I think it is an example of marketing," she said. "A lie repeated enough will be believed."

Rusche said she also opposed the referenda because the Food and Drug Administration has not yet approved the medicinal use of marijuana.

But Lindau predicted marijuana also would be legalized for recreational use in the United States within 10 years, citing 1997 statistics indicating that 70 million Americans admitted to using the drug.

Lindau also said the appointment of a new U.S. drug czar after the retirement of Gen. Barry McCaffrey this year could influence Americans' attitude toward the drug.

The drug czar is a position appointed by the president for life.

Whichever candidate wins on Tuesday will be responsible for naming a new drug czar.

But Appalachian State University

criminal justice Professor Matt Robinson said the new drug czar will not work to the advantage of legalization, regardless of the presidential election's outcome.

He said that the czar is not responsible for any policies, but publishes research about the usage of drugs in the United States and maintains a public stance against drugs. "The drug czar is a political position that knows nothing about facts," he said.

Robinson also said neither major presidential candidate will take a softer stance on marijuana usage because the majority of Americans are still against legalization.

"Lessons have been learned from the past, and only one answer is acceptable: tough on crime," he said.

"If you let your opponent characterize you as soft on crime, you lose."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Let's do lunch!

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411 West will be serving lunch again.

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dinner starts at 5:00 dinner starts at 5:00

Sunday-Monday dinner starts at 5:00

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DRINKING QUIZ #8 IN A SERIES

Your buddy borrows your car and after one too many shooters, tries to mate it with a fire hydrant. The most cost-effective tools to repair the damage are:

A	Blow torch and a can of spray paint.
B	Rubber mallet and shoe polish.
C	Duct tape and a wire coat-hanger.
D	NONE OF ABOVE.*

* Your fender isn't the only thing bent out of shape. To keep someone's binge drinking from colliding with your life, advocate for change. Visit www.HadEnough.org.

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Binge drinking blows.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CENTER FOR SCIENCE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

2000 OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION
ORANGE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
NOVEMBER 7, 2000

U.S. PRESIDENT, MEMBER OF CONGRESS, STATE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY OFFICES
READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE VOTING - MARK ONLY WITH PEN PROVIDED BY THE OFFICIAL.

FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER

1. To vote this ballot, complete the arrow to the right of the name of the political party for whose candidates you wish to vote.

2. A vote for the name of a political party's candidate for President and Vice-President is a vote for the Electors of that party. The names of whom are on file with the Secretary of State.

3. If you tick or check or stamp or mark ballot, return it and get another.

PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET. THEY MUST BE VOTED ON SEPARATELY.

FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (You may vote for one party)

DEMOCRATIC
AL GORE
JOE LIEBERMAN

REPUBLICAN
GEORGE W. BUSH
DICK CHENEY



LIBERTARIAN
HARRY BROWNE
ART OLIVIER

REFORM
PAT BUCHANAN
EZOLA FOSTER

THE ABOVE CANDIDATES ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE STRAIGHT PARTY TICKET. THEY MUST BE VOTED UPON SEPARATELY.

DON'T STOP AT THE TOP!

There are other pro-environment, pro-education, candidates on the ballot who will work for campaign finance reform.

16TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT (You may vote for TWO)


ELLIE KINNAIRD	DEM	✓
HOWARD N. LEE	DEM	✓
BILL BOYD	REP	
VICKIE HARGROVE	REP	

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. . . to pay the cost of renovating laboratories, classrooms, academic buildings, and worker training facilities and providing other capital improvements . . .

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Another valuable lesson learned from Hollywood: **66** of 74



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