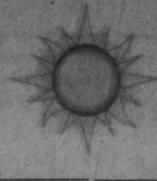


Home Again  
Actor revisits his  
roots. See Page 3



A New Attitude  
Matt Doherty & Co.  
are set to launch a new era of  
Tar Heel men's hoops. See Insert



Smiley  
Today: Sunny, 67  
Saturday: Sunny, 62  
Sunday: Sunny, 64

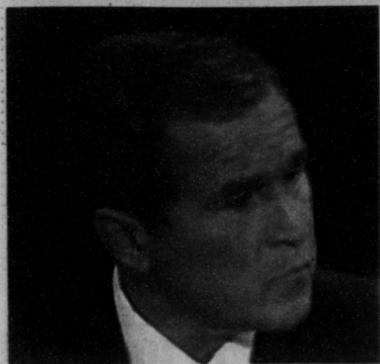
# The Daily Tar Heel

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Serving the students and the University community since 1893

Friday, November 10, 2000

## Who's The Man?



'America has a long  
tradition of uniting  
once elections are over.'

GEORGE W. BUSH



'It is also crucial that the  
American people have  
full faith and confidence  
in the electoral process  
from which the president  
derives authority.'

AL GORE

### White House Hangs in the Balance As Recount Stretches Into Night

#### Race Might Hinge on Absentees

With fewer than 300 votes  
separating Gore and Bush  
in Florida, results could be  
delayed until next week.

The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — George W. Bush's lead over Al Gore in all-or-nothing Florida slipped beneath 300 votes in a suspense-filled recount Thursday, as Democrats threw the presidential election to the courts claiming "an injustice unparalleled in our history."

The Bush campaign was considering recounts in two other close-voting states.

Chaos reigned. It may take weeks to untangle the thickening legal and political webs to determine the nation's 43rd president.

"The presidential election is ... on hold," said James A. Baker III, the secretary of state in the Bush administration brought in to protect the Texas governor's interests.

Gore wants a follow-up recount in four Florida counties and perhaps a new election in the Palm Beach area — ideas the Bush camp said amounted to "politicizing and distorting" the electoral system.

"One of the options that they seem to be looking at is new elections."

"Our democratic process calls for a

See TALLY, Page 7



Students watch CNN's coverage of the Florida recount in the Student Union. The nip-and-tuck race has drawn unusually high interest from town residents and the University community.

DT H/CHRISTINA BAUR

#### Election Updates Enthrall Locals

By ELIZABETH BREYER  
AND KAREY WUTKOWSKI  
Assistant University Editors

The sight of a few bleary-eyed political junkies stumbling to class or wandering along Franklin Street is not uncommon after most elections.

But this time around, more folks than usual have been transfixed by the ups and downs of the yet-to-be-decided presidential race.

On Thursday afternoon, students filled the seats circling the big-screen television in the Student Union to watch as Florida counties reported recount results.

Sophomore political science major Scott Crew said he stopped when he saw people gathered around the television.

"I thought something big had happened," Crew said. "I thought they had just announced (the election) or someone had been assassinated, but it was the exact

same thing as the last time I checked." But he said not all people are so interested in the delayed results. "Most of my friends could care less."

Other students are making sacrifices to stay updated. "I've been watching (the news) constantly," said Angela Farag, a senior public policy major. "I'm supposed to be in the library because I have schoolwork to do. I'm going to be clicking to the Internet while I'm trying to write my paper."

But some members of the community found a way to mix their desires to watch the political drama unfold and to maintain their social lives.

Tricia McGovern, an employee of Spanky's Restaurant at 101 E. Franklin St., said interested patrons had been packing the restaurant. "Everybody that

See REACTION, Page 7

#### Gore Supporters File Suit in Fla.

The Associated Press

PALM BEACH COUNTY — The scrutiny of Florida's presidential vote broadened Thursday as supporters of Vice President Al Gore compiled examples of alleged irregularities and initiated an Internet campaign to encourage a new vote in the county.

While a confusing ballot in Palm Beach County generated the most attention, Democratic Party officials, Gore campaign aides and the NAACP compiled fast-growing lists of complaints.

Two lawsuits were filed in state court seeking a new vote in Palm Beach County. Also, in an unexpected move, an emergency lawsuit challenging Palm Beach County returns in the presidential election was withdrawn Thursday so the action could be combined with another suit to be filed next week in state court, attorneys said.

Among alleged irregularities:

- Polls closed while people were still in line in Tampa.
- Osceola County Hispanic voters alleged they were

required to produce two kinds of identification instead of one.

Voters in Osceola County in central Florida said they, too, were confused by their ballots. "We went to vote and the ballot would not line up with the names correctly," said Joette Tindell, 33, a teacher from St. Cloud, Fla.

The county said it will not take any official action unless it receives a formal complaint.

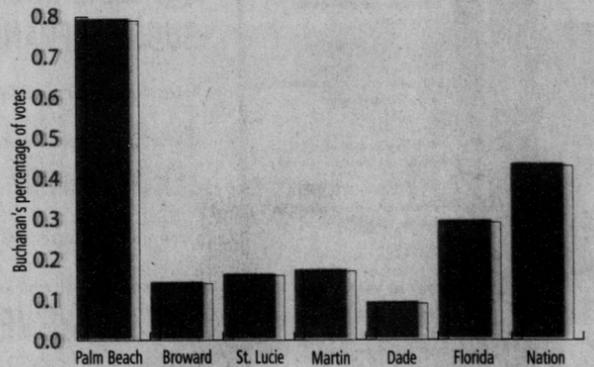
On the Internet, Democrats.com, a Web site not affiliated with the Democratic National Committee, launched TrustThePeople.com, where Palm Beach voters could download an affidavit, which they could sign and send election officials protesting the vote. The site had collected more than a thousand affidavits by late Thursday afternoon, according to a site official.

Florida Election Director Clay Roberts said, "We expect legal challenges." He said Secretary of State Katherine Harris, as the state's chief elections officer, will defend any lawsuit.

Harris was among 140 Florida residents who campaigned on behalf of George W. Bush last January in New Hampshire.

#### The Florida Flash Point

Palm Beach County, Fla., recorded a much higher percentage of votes for Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan than the rest of the nation, leading many to question a confusing ballot.



SOURCE: CNN

DT H/CAROLINE GOBBLE, KRISTEN HARDY AND GINNY SCIABARRASI

#### Which Was It?

As Tuesday night waned on and networks wavered on calling the election, newspapers wrangled with what to put on their front pages.



#### House to Probe Media's Premature Calls

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A House telecommunications panel will hold hearings as early as next week on the television networks' early calls of the presidential race in Florida and their possible impact on voters elsewhere.

Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., chairman of the House Commerce Committee's

Telecommunications Subcommittee, planned Thursday to announce the panel's intention to invite TV network officials to testify.

A spokesman said the hearings could be set as early as next week, when Congress must return for a lame-duck session to finish this year's budget.

"Obviously, we're concerned about what the impact the early call of the

election had on voter turnout," said Ken Johnson, Tauzin spokesman. "We're going to focus on Florida, but we'll look at other areas."

About 8 p.m. EST Tuesday, NBC, CBS, CNN, Fox, ABC and The Associated Press all called Florida, with its decisive 25 electoral votes, for Gore.

About 9:55 p.m. EST, media outlets began taking back those projections

based on the actual Florida vote count. Tauzin's hearings are aimed at examining whether the early calls in Florida, always considered a keystone to the election, might have deterred some people from voting in other states, Johnson said.

About 2:15 a.m. Wednesday, television news outlets projected Bush winning Florida but retracted those projections about 3:45 a.m.

No American will ever be able to seriously say again, 'My vote doesn't count.'

President Clinton