

**CLINTON**  
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But George said Clinton was not the catalyst in the renewal of Democratic cooperation. "What united the Democratic Party together has not been Clinton but the fear of Republicans."

This fear was no more real than when Democrats saw their party leader on the verge of removal from office. Here the party stood together, voting almost strictly across party lines against convicting Clinton.

Despite their efforts to unite, Democrats lost their 40-year majority in Congress in the 1994 elections after Clinton's first two years in office. Since Clinton's inauguration, 481 Democratic elected officials nationwide switched parties. But Aldrich said this was due to the Republican majority in Congress.

"It's not a measure of Clinton but the value of being in the majority party."

**A President Under Fire**

One thing Americans will associate with Clinton for at least the next few years will be the Monica Lewinsky scandal, his impeachment trial and the scandal's long-term impact on his political efforts. Lapinski said Clinton's many personal problems preoccupied him in office. "He constrained his own policy agenda by creating these situations such as Lewinsky," Lapinski said.

Clinton's impeachment not only affected his focus on public policies but also could have a lasting effect on future trials. After Clinton, Aldrich said, it might be more tempting for politicians to bring up accusations involving personal scandals without concrete evidence because of the impeachment's lack of political upheaval. "The thing that worries me is that because he came out of it so smoothly and smelling like a rose, people will impeach more often and it won't be a big deal," Aldrich said.

But in the long run, Aldrich said, the impeachment and Clinton's personal issues will not be the major focus of his presidency. "It's going to take a long time, but in time we'll think less often of his personal scandals," he said. "I think he will be considered a good president with personal weaknesses."

George said that during the Clinton presidency, Americans were led to

believe the country can be safely run by a morally suspect man who can keep things in order and maintain economic progress. "We treated Clinton as a CEO - as long as he (made) an economic profit, the public didn't care."

George said this attitude could be detrimental in the future. "People are taught a dangerous lesson that a bad man can be a good president," George said. "We shouldn't believe that because our luck isn't always going to hold."

George said if it were not for the permanent campaign - a new idea installed by Clinton - the outcome of the trial might have been different. The idea involves political analysts advising the president on the public's likely reaction to decisions through continued polling.

"He wouldn't have survived impeachment if it hadn't been for the permanent campaign," he said. "His legacy will include the idea of a permanent campaign with a high-tech propaganda office."

George said he expects President-elect George W. Bush to have a form of permanent campaign following the success of Clinton's, demonstrated by his high approval ratings.

**A Legacy in Progress**

Political pundits said Clinton has his own ideas of what he would like the history books to record about his presidency.

Rosero said Clinton took actions to protect the environment, such as extending a ban on oil drilling and protecting 58 million acres of forest from logging.

But Aldrich said Clinton only recently made a conscious effort to protect the environment, citing the recent large tracts of land set apart in Washington state. "He's working real hard to be remembered as an environmentalist, though he waited to the end of his term to do it."

As Clinton's term winds down, Aldrich said he is defying the tradition of doing little policy-making as a lame duck. "In time we'll realize that he was the most effective president in the end of his term."

But Lapinski said Clinton will be disappointed in his goal to resolve the political conflict in the Middle East, still

going strong after various delays in the peacemaking process. "What he wanted to leave as part of his legacy was peace in the Middle East," he said.

No presidency is without its failures, and Lapinski said some of Clinton's struggles passing policy were a direct result of the Republican Revolution of 1994, when Republicans reclaimed both houses. "Policywise, he wasn't as effective because of the Republican-controlled legislature," he said.

Clinton's plan to provide health care for all citizens was a key issue in his 1992 campaign but fell to fierce Republican opposition in Congress.

"I think health care was a huge Democrat issue he had, and he squandered it," George said.

But Lapinski said history will overlook such failures. "Things that didn't pass, like health care, won't be remembered."

Aldrich also said the prosperous economic times should have lowered the number of people living in poverty.

Aldrich said Clinton enjoys unexplained popularity among blacks but

*"He constrained his own policy agenda by creating these situations such as (Monica) Lewinsky."*

**JOHN LAPINSKI**

Yale University Political Science Professor

refrained from making any specific policies addressing racial harmony or injustice. "Policywise, he'll be remembered less than he could have," he said.

George said Clinton failed to gain the respect of the military. His draft-dodging and early military policies such as "Don't ask, don't tell," may result in a legacy of demoralization of the military.

He said Clinton's biggest failure was not living up to his campaign promise to hold an ethical office.

Political pundits are not sure how Clinton will be remembered. Aldrich said he will be remembered positively but more time is needed to see the effects of his presidency.

"I think he's going to be above average, but that's going to be in the long run," he said. "He was a good president, but he could have been a great president. It's unfortunate."

The State & National Editor can be reached at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

**Ashcroft Approaches Confirmation**

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - As his prospects for confirmation as attorney general improved, John Ashcroft promised on Wednesday not to seek Supreme Court reversal of a woman's right to abortion and pledged to defend the constitutionality of gun controls he had opposed.

Ashcroft picked up his first Democratic vote when Sen. Zell Miller of Georgia announced his support. Other Democrats on the Judiciary Committee predicted Ashcroft's confirmation in the evenly divided Senate.

Under detailed questioning by skeptical Democrats, the former Missouri senator reaffirmed his personal opposition to abortion.

But he emphasized that he had no intention of attempting to get the high court to reverse the landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade abortion decision, which he once called "a miserable failure."

With a long line of women's rights, civil rights and gun control groups waiting to testify against Ashcroft later in the week, there were favorable signs for him as he completed his testimony during the second day of his confirmation hearings.

"I would not vote to confirm someone who I thought was a bigot or would hamper the cause of African-Americans," Miller, who is not on the committee, said in a statement. "I believe him when he says he will ... enforce the laws of this land, even those he disagrees with."

In the hearing, both Sen. Herb Kohl, D-Wis. and Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., said Ashcroft probably will be confirmed. So far only Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., is openly committed to opposing him. To block him in a Senate split 50-50, Democrats would need help from Republicans.

But Ashcroft made visible progress among GOP moderates. One, Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, seemed pleased with Ashcroft's answers to his midline line of questioning. Another, Susan Collins of Maine, acting at the request of President-elect Bush's transition team, appeared as a witness to heartily endorse Ashcroft. Republican leader Trent Lott predicts all 50 GOP senators will back Ashcroft.

**Campus Calendar**

Today

4 p.m. - LSAT Prep Group (Section 2), offered by the UNC Learning Center, will meet in 204 Phillips Annex. The course fee is \$100. To register, call 962-3782.

6 p.m. - MCAT Prep Group

(Section 2), offered by the UNC Learning Center, will meet in 204 Phillips Annex. The course fee is \$100. To register, call 962-3782.

Friday

3 p.m. - MCAT Prep Group (Section 2), offered by the UNC Learning Center, will meet in 204

Phillips Annex. The course fee is \$100. To register, call 962-3782.

**The Daily Tar Heel**

Thursday, January 18, 2001

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P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515

Matt Dees, Editor, 962-4086

Advertising & Business, 962-1163

News, Features, Sports, 962-0245

**PRICING**

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But Carden thinks the problem should be eliminated quickly and completely, regardless of whether it could be the fault of the publishing company.

"People are getting ripped off," (Elfland) said that the return policy is

just to refund the difference, and she thinks that is a good solution to the problem," Carden said.

"I don't think there should be a problem at all."

Elfland said she hopes to see more accuracy in the future but that she does not feel it is a huge concern for the student body because it is not a recurring problem.

But Carden said the problem never

should have happened because Student Stores should always be looking out for the students.

"It's not something students should have to worry about," he said.

"You expect to buy a book, and if you are paying a new book price, you expect it to be new and in good condition."

The University Editor can be reached at [udesk@unc.edu](mailto:udesk@unc.edu).

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

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such as universal health care, was no longer possible.

Robert Samors, UNC-system vice-president of federal relations, said North Carolina in particular has benefited from a program called GEAR UP, which helps disadvantaged middle

school students prepare for college.

Samors added that Pell Grants have increased at an unusually high rate of 9 percent a year since 1996.

In the most recent federal budget the Pell Grant has been raised by \$500 to \$3,800, which is the largest single increase ever.

During the Clinton presidency, funding for the National Institutes of Health, which provides grants to many universities, has increased steadily.

Clinton's administration also enforced Title IX, a law banning gender discrimination in college athletics. Since 1992, the number of female college athletes has increased by close to 50 percent, while the number of male athletes has gone up by only 10 percent.

But even in the area where Clinton has excelled, critics are quick to point out that the president didn't accomplish

everything he could have.

Jennings said that while middle-class families thrived during the Clinton presidency, students from low-income families still struggle to pay for college.

"I wish Clinton had put as much emphasis on expending aid to low-income students as he did for the middle class," Jennings said.

He added that since Clinton took office in 1992, education has become the main issue in American politics, which hasn't been the case for many years.

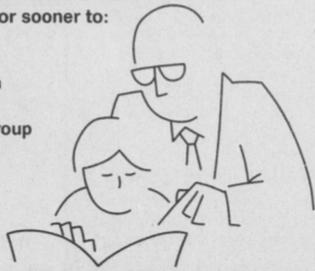
"In the last presidential campaign, the candidates talked a lot about education because people want quality schools and people want to send their kids to college."

The State & National Editor can be reached at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

**Teaching Positions**

The Educational Resources Group ([ergteach.com](http://ergteach.com)) will be interviewing in Chapel Hill in early February for teaching and administrative positions at 550 private schools east of the Rockies. Certification not required and no fees to candidates. Please send résumé by January 29th or sooner to:

Attention: Chris MacBrien  
([chris@ergteach.com](mailto:chris@ergteach.com))  
Educational Resources Group  
Box 526  
Solebury, PA 18963



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Information Session



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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.\*

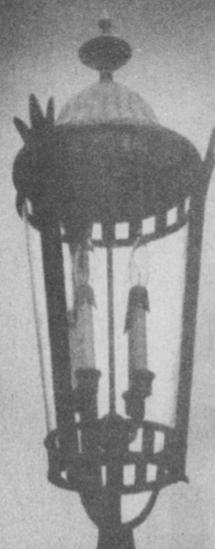
\* Your fender isn't the only thing bent out of shape. To keep someone's binge drinking from colliding with your life, advocate for change. Visit [www.HadEnough.org](http://www.HadEnough.org).

[HadEnough.org](http://www.HadEnough.org)

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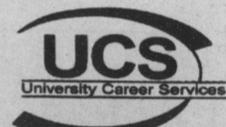
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