

The Daily Tar Heel

VOLUME 111, ISSUE 62

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2003

www.dailytarheel.com

RACE BREAKS OPEN

EDWARDS SAYS HE ISN'T RUNNING FOR SENATE SEAT IN 2004



DTH FILE PHOTO/BRIAN CASSELLA

John Edwards announced that he would not run for re-election.

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

In a decision that is a boon to Democrats and Republicans vying to replace him, U.S. Sen. John Edwards announced Sunday that he will forego seeking re-election to focus all his efforts on his presidential bid.

It's a political gamble for Edwards, some experts believe, but the senator needs to take the risk to show his commitment to his presidential run.

Edwards made his intentions known in a letter sent Sunday to state Democratic Chairwoman Barbara Allen. "I ... decided that I will not seek re-election to the United States Senate, in order to

devote all my energy to running for President," he stated.

In the letter, Edwards also expressed faith that Allen will encourage strong candidates to run for his seat.

That's good news for N.C. Democrats interested in Edwards' office, who now can focus all their energies on campaigning. Among others, Erskine Bowles, the 2002 Democratic U.S. Senate nominee, and former N.C. House Speaker Dan Blue have indicated they will run.

Bowles defeated Blue in the Democratic 2002 primary for retired Sen. Jesse Helms' vacated seat. Former N.C. Secretary of State Elaine Marshall, who also lost in

that Democratic primary, has said she has not ruled out running for Edwards' now vacated seat.

U.S. Rep. Richard Burr, a Republican from Winston-Salem, also has said he will place his name on the ballot for North Carolina's second Senate seat.

Edwards' announcement means that in 2005, Elizabeth Dole, who defeated Bowles in 2002 for Helms' seat, will become North Carolina's senior senator.

Ferrel Guillory, director of UNC's Program on Southern Politics, Media and Public Life, said the decision benefits Dole's Republican Party just as much as

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Bush asks for \$87B to aid Iraq

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Bush said Sunday that he will ask Congress for \$87 billion to fight terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan, appealing for troops and money from other countries, even those who opposed the U.S.-led war.

Bush, in a speech from the Cabinet Room, said the United States would not be intimidated into retreat by violence.

"The terrorists have cited the examples of Beirut and Somalia, claiming that if you inflict harm on Americans we will run from a challenge," Bush said. "In this, they are mistaken."

Bush spoke just four days before the anniversary of the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Seeking support for his policy, he said, "The surest way to avoid attacks on our own people is to engage the enemy where he lives and plans."

Bush addressed the nation in his first major speech on Iraq since May 1, when he declared an end to major combat operations. Since then, more U.S. troops have died in Iraq than were killed during the war. The overall death count is 287 — 149 since May 1.

The violence, including four major bombing attacks in a month, has raised alarms about Bush's handling of Iraq. Republicans and Democrats alike have urged Bush to change course and seek more resources from



THE WHITE HOUSE/TINA HAGER

President Bush addresses the nation Sunday, asking Congress for \$87 billion to fight terrorism.

other countries.

Questions also have been fueled by the administration's failure to find Saddam Hussein or any of the weapons of mass destruction the administration says he possessed.

Bush said Iraq and the Middle East are critical to winning the global war on terror. Bush's Mideast plan appeared to be unraveling after Saturday's resignation of Mahmoud Abbas, the U.S.-backed Palestinian prime minister.

Bush described Iraq as the central front in the war against terror and said, "Enemies of freedom are making a desperate stand there, and there they must be defeated."

He said that the number of U.S. troops in Iraq — 130,000 — is sufficient but that more foreign troops are needed. He said that two multinational divisions, led by Britain and Poland, are serving

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"Our greatest memorial ... must be to protect the lives and liberties of those yet to come."

JOHN ASHCROFT, ATTORNEY GENERAL

Outing defends statute

BY ELLIOTT DUBE
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

DURHAM — U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft said Saturday that the USA PATRIOT Act has been effective in closing "gaping holes" in law enforcement's ability to combat terrorism.

Making a Triangle tour stop as part of his cross-country promotion of the act, Ashcroft spoke to an assembly of state and local law enforcement officials at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel. The event was not open to the public.

Ashcroft's tour was prompted at least in part by wide-ranging criticism of the Patriot Act, particularly by groups such as the American Civil Liberties Union.

In his speech, Ashcroft listed what he sees as crucial functions of the act, which Congress passed in October 2001, shortly after the Sept. 11 attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center.

The Patriot Act gives "critical investigative tools" to officials, he said, and it updates anti-terrorism laws to reflect terrorists' technological gains and allows law enforcement agencies to team up and share information.

Ashcroft defended some of the new powers the act has granted law enforcement agents against increasing criticism that they infringe on civil liberties.

For example, he said, roving wiretaps would rid prosecutors of the inconvenience of having to get multiple court orders to track one suspect using different phones.

"A roving wiretap does not mean that the government can just rove around and listen to anyone's phone conversations," he said.

He added that the wiretaps have

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DTH/JOANIE TOBIN

Chapel Hill High School student Katie Yow, 17, shows her dissatisfaction Saturday with the USA PATRIOT Act outside Attorney General John Ashcroft's appearance at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Durham.

Protesters blast Patriot Act

BY ELLIOTT DUBE
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

DURHAM — Outside Durham's Sheraton Imperial Hotel on Saturday, a vocal contingent of protesters lambasted the USA PATRIOT Act.

They did so as, inside the building, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft was extolling its virtues.

The protesters were a small sample of the growing force concerned that the Patriot Act is sup-

portive of the nation's ideals in name alone and that operationally, it could severely damage citizens' civil liberties.

The states of Alaska, Hawaii and Vermont, as well as town governments across the country, have passed resolutions opposing parts of the act. The American Library Association, the American Civil Liberties Union and other organizations have condemned it as well.

The act also is feeling congressional heat. In July, the House passed an amendment to the act, sponsored by U.S. Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter, R-Idaho, that would cut funding for searches that start before people under investigation are notified, often called "sneak-and-peek" searches.

This criticism followed Ashcroft to the Sheraton. As protesters shouted, "Take back our Bill of

rights," protesters chanted. One sign read, "THE PATRIOT ACT IS FASCIST. DEFEND ALL CIVIL LIBERTIES."

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La Fiesta attracts wide array of cultures

BY KATHRYN GRIM
CITY EDITOR

Still wearing the ruffled white dress and tembleque hair ornaments worn in her Panamanian dance performance, Elaina Perez stood with her son, Elvyn Morales, watching another dance group representing her native Puerto Rico.

Others in the stands at La Fiesta del Pueblo complained that the Puerto Rican group had chosen to use modern, Mexican-sounding music.

But at the performance's end, all of them clapped with pride to see a reflec-

tion of home.

The diversity of cultures represented at La Fiesta made it abundantly clear that there is no such thing as a monolithic Hispanic community. "Whoever comes here comes with a curiosity to look at others," Perez said. "We want to exchange our cultures with everybody."

Perez and her son joined the Panamanian Heritage in North Carolina dance group when her neighbor and the group's founder, Eritza Vallejo, told her she needed more members.

"We just learned something differ-

ent," Perez said. "We both speak Spanish, but there are differences. You can see it here."

Visitors to La Fiesta found themselves surrounded by the Spanish language — written on poster board advertisements, broadcast in music over speakers and shouted over the crowd by announcers.

Karen Anglero, like many Hispanic parents at La Fiesta, said she visits every year to expose her 2-year old daughter, who was born in the United States, to different cultures and to

introduce her to other Puerto Ricans.

Anglero said she was excited to see that Remi, a clown famous in Puerto Rico, had traveled to the festival. "We grew up with that clown," she said. "And now our kids get to see him."

But other groups attended La Fiesta this year with somewhat different motives.

Volunteers crowded lanes with booths providing information and propaganda, all in Spanish, aimed at

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DTH/BRIAN CASSELLA

Jose Plata inspects his son Austin, 5, while hat shopping Sunday at La Fiesta del Pueblo in Raleigh.

HELP WANTED

DEADLINE NEARING

Pick up a DTH staff application in Union 104. Applications are due Tuesday, and results will be posted Thursday.



SPORTS

SO CLOSE

The Tar Heels narrowly lose 49-47 to the Syracuse Orangemen in Kenan Stadium during a triple overtime nail-biter PAGE 12

WEATHER

TODAY Partly cloudy, H 78, L 59

TUESDAY Partly cloudy, H 81, L 60

WEDNESDAY Partly cloudy, H 78, L 58

