## Robertson focuses on moral issues

Editor's note: This is the second article in a daily series profiling presidential candidates and their platforms.

By CARRIE DOVE

On the heels of a second-place showing in Iowa and a last-place finish in New Hampshire, former television evangelist Marion "Pat" Robertson is stepping up his campaign for president in the South, hoping for a big win with his "bring a strong moral sense back to the White House" campaign, officials around the country say.

Robertson's mission is to restore the American family, campaign officials said.

"(Robertson) will bring America back to traditional values," said Jeff Whitesides, Tennessee campaign director.

Robertson, founder of the Christian Broadcasting Network, has downplayed his religious background while depending on Christian fundamentalists for a support base. Last week, he asked that the press refrain from identifying him as a former televangelist, because the title has negative connotations, he said.

In his conservative platform, Robertson supports tax breaks for parents who stay home with their

Campaign '88

children, a balanced budget amendment, reduced defense spending and early deployment of the Strategic Defense Initiative, said Teresa George, deputy press secretary for Americans for Robertson.

He supports a constitutional amendment outlawing abortion "with only extreme exceptions," she said.

Voluntary prayer in schools and the elimination of federal funding for Planned Parenthood are other issues Robertson supports, said Sue White. North Carolina campaign director.

Robertson would cut federal spending by \$100 billion by 1990, George said. He would reduce the defense budget by \$30 billion to \$40 billion by eliminating obsolete weapons and some 300 unnecessary military bases world-wide, she said.

"(Robertson) would make the federal government more lean and more efficient," George said. Other efficiency boosters would be selling Amtrak to private investors, reorganizing the Postal Service and eliminating \$2 billion in salaries to govern-

ment consultants, she said. Federal subsidies to farmers would be eliminated under Robertson's administration, including price supports for tobacco farmers, George

Eliminating protective tariffs is another part of his platform, George

"When you impose protective tariffs, you risk triggering a worldwide recession," she said.

Robertson believes education should be centered at the local level, she said, and school districts should implement a merit pay system for

In foreign policy, Robertson's views are conservative, which could help him in the South, said Robert Jones, communications director for the N.C. Republican Party.

He opposes economic sanctions against South Africa, George said. "(Robertson) doesn't support sanc-

tions against South Africa - he believes that they will harm the black South African livelihood," she said.

Economic sanctions could propel South Africa into a Marxist dictatorship, she said.

Robertson would expand economic and cultural ties to the black South African community to help end apartheid, George said.

Robertson supports aid to the contras and does not think the Arias peace plan will bring an end to the problems in Central America, she

"(The plan) overlooks the Sandi-

Pat Robertson

nistas' record, and it hasn't worked in reality," George said.

While his conservative views will give him Southern support, Robertson's opposition to tobacco subsidies could hurt him in North Carolina, Jones said.

His strength in the South is his emphasis on grassroots campaigning, Whitesides said.

"Our momentum is picking up at the local level," he said.

## Babbitt, du Pont abandon presidential race

From Associated Press reports

Democrat Bruce Babbitt and Republican Pierre "Pete" du Pont dropped out of the presidential race Thursday, both declaring their futile campaigns the opportunity of a lifetime, while most of the surviving contenders marched south for a Tuesday's primary trophy.

Babbitt and du Pont became the first post-New Hampshire casualties.

that everyone wins, only that everyone had the opportunity to try. You have given me the opportunity

chose. I could not have asked for

chemical company fortune.

Babbitt made his exit gracefully in a quip-filled Washington news conference. "Look, I'm not going to slash my throat if we don't raise taxes tomorrow," said the former Arizona governor, who had asked voters to campaign blitz leading up to Super stand up for a national sales tax to reduce the deficit.

Iowa's caucuses last week and sixth "In America we do not promise in New Hampshire's primary on Tuesday, said the campaign was "the greatest joy of my entire public life." He praised all his former rivals but .... You listened, considered and endorsed none of them, saying he would do what he could to aid the

more," said du Pont, heir to the eventual winner of the Democratic nomination.

Du Pont, whose provocative ideas about fundamental change in Social Security and abolition of farm subsidies failed to attract much voter support, announced his withdrawal in a news conference in Wilmington,

"The campaign has lowered its flag, Babbitt, who finished fifth in but the crusade continues to march,' said the former governor and congressman. He said his ideas are right for the country and "they're coming to America sooner or later."

Sen. Albert Gore Jr. of Tennessee, hoping to emerge as the Democratic front-runner after Super Tuesday,

said his rivals had taken positions that were out of the mainstream and added he was the one who could lead the Democrats to victory in 1988.

Illinois Sen. Paul Simon hedged on his earlier decision to quit the race if he couldn't win either the South Dakota primary or Minnesota caucuses next week.

On Wednesday, Simon said he'd quit next week if he couldn't come in first in one of those two states, but he and his aides said Thursday that he was raising enough money to stay the course at least through the 20 primary and caucus contests on

### **Ethics committee recommends** expulsion of N.Y. congressman

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON - The House ethics committee recommended Thursday that Rep. Mario Biaggi, a 10-term New York Democrat convicted of accepting illegal gratuities, be expelled from Congress for violating its rules of conduct.

Biaggi, once the most-decorated policeman on the New York City force, could become the first congressman since 1980 and only the second since the Civil War to be drummed out of the House.

The committee's recommendation must be approved by a twothirds majority of the House to become effective.

Biaggi is appealing his conviction and said he will protest the recommendation because his appeal has not yet been heard.

#### Search for hostage continues

TYRE, Lebanon - Moslem militiamen searched raindrenched citrus groves and valley caves Thursday for Lt. Col. William Higgins, and their leaders threatened to go after his kidnappers unless the U.S. Marine is freed soon.

"We want Higgins back and we have no red line as far as his case is concerned," said Daoud Daoud of the moderate Shiite militia Amal, the dominant force around this ancient port.

U.N. peacekeeping troops and about 1,500 Amal militiamen virtually sealed off a 300-squaremile area.

An anonymous telephone caller said a previously unknown group carried out the abduction Wednesday, just south of Tyre. He claimed Higgins, who commands U.N. truce observers in south Lebanon, is a CIA agent.

The abduction brings the number of foreign hostages in Lebanon to 25, including nine Americans. Most are believed held by pro-Iranian Shiite extremists, whose main Hezbollah militia has been challenging Amal's domi**News in Brief** 

nance in south Lebanon.

Soviet official leaves Politburo

MOSCOW - Communist Party leaders Thursday dropped Boris Yeltsin, the outspoken former Moscow party boss, from the ruling Politburo and promoted officials charged with reforming economic planning and party personnel.

The official Tass news agency announced the leadership changes at the end of a two-day meeting of the Central Committee which had been called to approve broad reforms in education.

On Nov. 11, Secretary General Mikhail Gorbachev ousted the 57year-old Yeltsin, an outspoken supporter of the party leader's policy of greater openness, from his position as Moscow party leader. At the last meeting of the Central Committee on Oct. 21, Yeltsin had criticized the pace of reform and the leadership style of the party. He had offered to quit.

Yeltsin was transferred to first deputy director of the State Construction Committee, with the rank of government minister.

The fate of Yeltsin was seen as a test by many in Moscow of how far Gorbachev would carry his policy of allowing greater openness and differences of opinion.

#### Kennedy takes seat on bench

WASHINGTON - Anthony Kennedy took his place Thursday as the 104th Supreme Court justice in U.S. history, restoring the court to full strength for the first time in eight months and inheriting a pivotal vote on key issues.

President Reagan, who appointed Kennedy, did not attend the courtroom ceremony, but Attorney General Edwin Meese presented Kennedy's commission of office to the justices.

## Film-making future is bright for North Carolina, officials say

By BETH RHEA

In the wake of Gov. Jim Martin's recent trip to Los Angeles to recruit movie production offers for North Carolina, film officials in the state are optimistic that producers will continue coming to the Tar Heel State.

"I think it's a trend," said Sam Taylor, director of public affairs for the N.C. Commerce Department.

aged by educating Hollywood on what North Carolina has to offer and by responding to their inquiries."

The state holds a number of attractions for film producers, said Bill Arnold, director of the N.C. Film

"We've got the facilities, and we've also got a pool of professional, experienced technical people," he

"It's something the state has encour- said. "That's an additional incentive for producers to come here because that's one less thing they have to bring with them."

> Taylor said producers are attracted to North Carolina by the low cost and ease of obtaining facilities in which to film. "The logistics of obtaining space and permits are simpler and much less costly (than in Los Angeles)," he said.

producing in North Carolina, he said. When the governor and representatives from the film office met with movie producers in Los Angeles, the governor was able to promise producers that they could obtain permits in a minimal amount of time, he said.

Another attraction for producers is the variety of scenery available in the state, said Jerry Whittington, technical director of Carolina Atlantic Studios in High Point. He said the geography, including both the coast and the mountains, lures many movie makers. "It's the same setup

Convenience is the best aspect of as you have in California," he said.

The governor's recent recruiting visit was particularly successful, Arnold said. His group came home with eight new potential projects. Since the trip, three more possible offers have surfaced as a direct result of the visit, Arnold said.

One of the movie production possibilities for the state this year is a sequel to the hit "Dirty Dancing," Whittington said. The original film was shot on Lake Lure near Asheville. Its producers are also working on a television pilot for a potential series.

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"We're talking to them about doing them here," Whittington said.

In 1987, \$384 million was generated for North Carolina by film productions, Taylor said. There were 22 feature films and 35 film projects produced last year, Arnold said.

The state film office was established by former Gov. Jim Hunt in 1980 to promote the state's film industry, Arnold said.

"Every year except one since then has been higher than the previous," he said. "All the signs indicate that it will be a continuing trend."

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