

# State and National

## Dukakis shows birds of a feather don't flock together

By **BOB LUKEFAHR**  
Staff Writer

When Michael Dukakis announced last week that he had selected Texas Sen. Lloyd Bentsen as his running mate, he surprised many people, both in and out of the Democratic Party. Bentsen's voting record on many of the most volatile domestic and foreign policy issues is often in opposition with Dukakis' stands.

Bentsen supported the Reagan administration on several of its most controversial foreign policy positions, including aid to the Nicaraguan contras and aid to the UNITA rebels in Angola. As recently as February, Bentsen voted for lethal aid to the contras and cosponsored a resolution calling for emergency aid. But Dukakis has been a fierce opponent of the Reagan administration's Central American policy.

In May, Bentsen voted against an amendment sponsored by Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., that would have prohibited the use of U.S. military forces in Honduras and Nicaragua. In 1987 he voted for an amendment, sponsored by N.C. Sen.

### News Analysis

Jesse Helms, that stated "the Monroe Doctrine is, and should remain, the basis for U.S. Central American policy."

In August 1986, Bentsen voted for economic sanctions against South Africa, but later voted against an amendment which would have required U.S. companies to divest themselves of their financial interests in the country.

Bentsen has also consistently voted to fund new military weapons systems like the B-1 bomber, the Strategic Defense Initiative and the MX missile, all of which Dukakis opposes. Most recently, Bentsen voted to add two new aircraft carriers to the Navy's inventory — again opposed by Dukakis.

In 1987, Bentsen voted to fund the production of the Army's new binary chemical weapons, voted against restricting nuclear testing, supported the U.S. Persian Gulf policy and voted for an amendment sponsored by Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., which

said the United States was not bound by the SALT II treaty. Dukakis supports a ban on nuclear testing while opposing both the Persian Gulf policy and the Reagan administration's decision to exceed the limits on strategic nuclear arms outlined by the SALT II treaty.

While the differences between the running mates on foreign policy and military issues are great, there is an even greater difference on some of the more emotional domestic issues. Bentsen opposes federal funding for abortions, supports capital punishment for drug-related murders and has voted twice for a constitutional amendment to allow prayer in public schools. All are measures that Dukakis opposes.

In March, Bentsen supported a bill that provided federal funds to produce educational information about AIDS, but also voted for an amendment sponsored by Helms requiring that the information promote abstinence and prohibiting federal funds from being used to "promote homosexual activity."

While Dukakis is a strong supporter of gun control, Bentsen voted against gun control legislation several times in the past two years, usually siding with the National Rifle Association.

Bentsen also voted to confirm William Rehnquist as chief justice of the Supreme Court, Antonin Scalia as a Supreme Court justice and

### Where Sen. Bentsen stands:

	Supports	Opposes
Constitutional amendment for school prayer	✓	
Federal funding for abortion		✓
Capital punishment for murderers in drug cases	✓	
Presidential line-item veto	✓	
Balanced-budget amendment		✓
Oil import tax	✓	
Military aid to the Nicaraguan contras	✓	
Military aid to the UNITA rebels in Angola	✓	
Sanctions against South Africa		✓
Divestment from companies doing business in South Africa		✓
MX missile	✓	
Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars")	✓	
Continued application of the Monroe Doctrine	✓	
Continued compliance with the SALT II treaty	✓	
Nuclear test ban		✓
B-1 bomber	✓	

Edwin Meese as attorney general. He voted against Robert Bork for the chief justice position.

There is also considerable disagree-

ment between Dukakis and his running mate on budget matters. Bentsen voted for the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings deficit-reduction bill, supported a balanced-budget amendment to the constitution and co-sponsored a bill which would impose an oil import fee. Dukakis opposes all three measures.

### For the Record

The men in the picture titled "Beating the rush" on page 36 of the July 14 issue of The Tar Heel were incorrectly identified. They were of the Inter-Fraternity Council, not the Panhellenic Council. The Tar Heel regrets the error.

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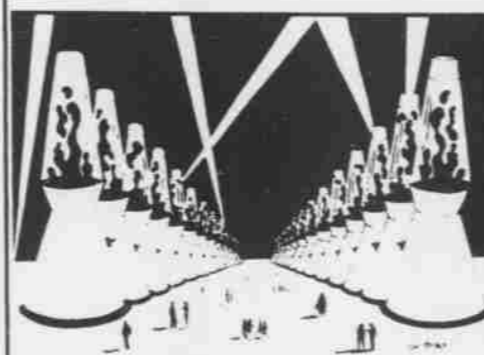


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