

State and National

HOW THEY STAND

ISSUE	BUSH	DUKAKIS	BENTSEN
Voluntary school prayer	AYE	NAY	AYE
Federal funding for abortions	NAY	AYE	NAY
Capital punishment for drug related murders	AYE	NAY	AYE
Line-item veto for the president	AYE	AYE	NAY
Balanced budget amendment	AYE	NAY	AYE
Oil import fee	NAY	NAY	AYE
Military aid to the Nicaraguan Contras	AYE	NAY	AYE
Military aid to the UNITA rebels in Angola	AYE	NAY	AYE
Maintaining sanctions against South Africa	AYE	AYE	AYE
MX missile	AYE	NAY	AYE
Reduce funding for the Strategic Defense Initiative ("Star Wars")	NAY	AYE	NAY
Nuclear test ban	NAY	AYE	NAY
B1 bomber	AYE	NAY	AYE
Loose interpretation of the ABM treaty	AYE	NAY	N/A
U. S. comittment to no first use of nuclear weapons	NAY	NAY	NAY
Midgetman missile	AYE	NAY	N/A
Intermediate Nuclear Force elimination treaty	AYE	AYE	AYE
Increased Federal funding for education (including Pell grants)	AYE	AYE	N/A
Federal funding for daycare	NAY	AYE	N/A
Increase in the minimum wage	NAY	AYE	N/A

AYE-SUPPORTS

NAY-OPPOSES

N/A-NOT AVAILABLE

Focus is on short session for gubernatorial race

By ANDREW LAWLER
Staff Writer

When the short session of the General Assembly ended in July, it marked the beginning of the gubernatorial campaigns, and the legislative session is a hot topic for the candidates.

Republicans will emphasize Gov. Jim Martin's success in the short session.

"The governor was able to get 90 percent of his agenda passed," said Tim Pittman, press secretary for the Martin campaign. The campaign will also focus on those programs proposed by the governor that were not approved by the Democratically-controlled legislature. Among these, Pittman said, were three of four programs to increase penalties for drug crimes, as well as a request for more highway patrolmen.

Martin has long had trouble with the legislature that his campaign characterizes as arrogant and partisan, and reform of that body will be a major focus of the campaign, according to Pittman.

Specifically, Martin will concentrate on opening the legislature to public scrutiny, said Tom Ballus, assistant director of communications for the N.C. Republican Party.

"The Democrats are still meeting in secret and hammering out their own budget," Ballus said. Although

reporters are now allowed into budget sessions, Ballus said Democrats continue to keep the process private by "speaking in code" before the press.

But a focus of the Democratic gubernatorial campaign is the success of Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan, Martin's opponent, in the short session. Jordan was the main voice of reform in the process, said Laura Carpenter Bingham, Jordan's policy assistant.

Jordan initiated the reforms, not Martin, by leading the fight to open budget meetings and increase the amount of deliberations given each matter, Bingham said.

Republicans will also focus on pork barrel funding, in which senators received between \$30,000 and \$60,000 to be used at their discretion for their counties.

"Our concern is not the projects being funded, but rather the use of the money to force legislators to vote the (Democratic) party line," Pittman said. Ballus added that the eight most powerful Democrats received the most money for their counties.

Republicans also are attempting to use the short session to portray Jordan as a weak leader.

"Basically, Bob Jordan was offered an opportunity to show leadership in the short session and failed to do so,"

See CAMPAIGNS page 9

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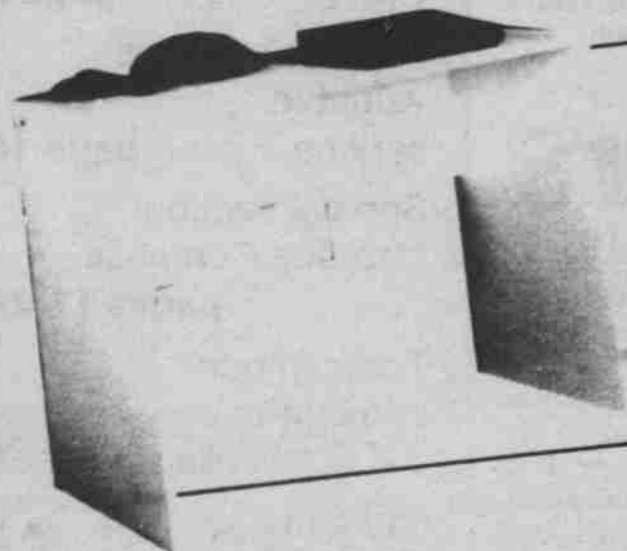


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