

Received(Date): 9 JUL 2002 09:44:57

From: Brett M. Kavanaugh (CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

To: Helgard C. Walker (CN=Helgard C. Walker/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])

Cc: timothy e. flanagan (CN=timothy e. flanagan/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO]), rachel l. brand (CN=rachel l. brand/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO]), h. christopher bartolomucci (CN=h. christopher bartolomucci/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO]), alberto r. gonzales (CN=alberto r. gonzales/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO]), noel j. francisco (CN=noel j. francisco/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO]), bradford a. berenson (CN=bradford a. berenson/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

Subject: : Re: In re NC judicial nominations

Begin Original ARMS Header

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Brett M. Kavanaugh (CN=Brett M. Kavanaugh/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 9-JUL-2002 09:44:57.00

SUBJECT:: Re: In re NC judicial nominations

TO: Helgard C. Walker (CN=Helgard C. Walker/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

CC: timothy e. flanagan (CN=timothy e. flanagan/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

CC: rachel l. brand (CN=rachel l. brand/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

CC: h. christopher bartolomucci (CN=h. christopher bartolomucci/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

CC: alberto r. gonzales (CN=alberto r. gonzales/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

CC: noel j. francisco (CN=noel j. francisco/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

CC: bradford a. berenson (CN=bradford a. berenson/OU=who/O=eop@eop [WHO])

READ: UNKNOWN

End Original ARMS Header

very good story. [REDACTED]

P6/(b)(6)

Helgard C. Walker

07/09/2002 09:23:02 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc: Alberto R. Gonzales/WHO/EOP@EOP, Timothy E.

Flanagan/WHO/EOP@EOP

Subject: In re NC judicial nominations

Edwards , Attempts To Gain National Standing May Have Hurt His Popularity
In NC. Insight (7/8, Nichols), in its cover story, writes, "Some North
Carolina politicians tell Insight they think that Sen. John Edwards' early
successes will lead to an even earlier exit from the presidential
sweepstakes. (One indication that Edwards may not yet be ready for prime
time was his appearance on NBC's Meet the Press in early May. As

conservative columnist Robert Novak reported, "Edwards' performance did not fall to the level of Edward M. Kennedy's disastrous 1979 interview with Roger Mudd, but he withered under Tim Russert's grilling." (In another context, Edwards might have appreciated the comparison to Kennedy, who has taken to "mentoring" the junior senator. (Edwards' choice of friends in Washington is confusing voters back home, who believed candidate Edwards' promise that he wouldn't vote all that differently from the state's senior senator, the staunchly conservative Jesse Helms. (The same Tar Heel Republicans who were surprised to see Edwards rise from obscurity to beat an incumbent senator now are surprised to be watching Edwards' own popularity sink like a rock. At a recent NHL Stanley Cup Finals game in Raleigh, Edwards received a chorus of boos when he was introduced. State Republicans saw this as an omen. They tell Insight the hockey demographic in Raleigh is full of the sort of moderate suburban swing voters (read: Northern transplants) whom Edwards so effectively wooed in the last election. If Edwards has lost his credibility with high-tech suburban voters who populate the "Research Triangle," say GOP operatives, imagine what the NASCAR set thinks of him! (The local polling data confirm these views. While his national recognition is climbing, his local standing is falling. Edwards' latest statewide approval rating stands at 46 percent, a stark contrast to Bush's 74 percent. The same poll shows that, head to head, Bush would beat Edwards by nearly 20 points in the senator's home state. (Political professionals tell Insight that Edwards' popularity slide is a consequence of playing to national Democrats instead of his North Carolina constituency. Despite his pledges to vote with Helms, the two senators' voting records couldn't be further apart. 8

Message Sent

To: _____

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