

From: "Sherzer, David"
To: "Melissa Danforth" <MDanforth@gwb43.com>, "Staff Secretary"
Cc: "Ralston, Susan B.", "Danforth, Melissa C.", "Tanner, Christon R.", "Graves, Caleb", "Felts, Jonathan D.", "Jonathan Felts" <JFelts@gwb43.com>, "Taylor, Meghan J.", "Stanley, Laura M.", "Lynch, Michele M.", "Kratovil, Lindley", "Allman, Amy", "Slaughter, Kristen K.", "Kavanaugh, Brett M.", "Burck, Bill", "Lee, Sujean S.", "Drouin, Lindsey E.", "Green, Anneke E."
Subject: RE: 4/6 NC Political BP
Sent: Wed, 5 Apr 2006 14:51:06 -0500
[04-06 Political Briefing \(NC\).doc](#)

Political Briefing attached with suggested edits and a few questions. Thanks.

From: Melissa Danforth [mailto:MDanforth@gwb43.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 05, 2006 6:55 AM
To: Staff Secretary
Cc: Ralston, Susan B.; Danforth, Melissa C.; Tanner, Christon R.; Graves, Caleb; Felts, Jonathan D.; Jonathan Felts; Taylor, Meghan J.; Stanley, Laura M.; Lynch, Michele M.; Kratovil, Lindley; Allman, Amy; Sherzer, David; Slaughter, Kristen K.; Kavanaugh, Brett M.; Burck, Bill; Lee, Sujean S.; Drouin, Lindsey E.; Green, Anneke E.
Subject: 4/6 NC Political BP

[Attached for review.](#)

From: Graves, Caleb [mailto:Caleb_Graves@who.eop.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 04, 2006 8:04 PM
To: Staff Secretary
Cc: Ralston, Susan B.; Danforth, Melissa C.; Melissa Danforth; Melissa Danforth; Tanner, Christon R.; Felts, Jonathan D.; Jonathan Felts; Taylor, Meghan J.; Stanley, Laura M.; Lynch, Michele M.; Kratovil, Lindley; Allman, Amy; Drouin, Lindsey E.; Green, Anneke E.
Subject: 4/4 GWOT NC GWOT Event BP

Attached for review is the NC GWOT Event BP. Acks and Political Brief to follow later. Thanks.

Caleb
6-6578

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFING

STATE ISSUES

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES

In February 2006, North Carolina's unemployment rate was 4.6 percent, 2.4 percent below its peak of 7.0 percent in January 2002. As of February 2006, the national unemployment rate was 4.8 percent.

SENATOR JESSE HELMS' HEALTH

Former Senator Jesse Helms (R, NC) has been diagnosed with vascular dementia and has been moved to a convalescent center. The symptoms of vascular dementia are similar to those Alzheimer's disease. Helms, who is now 84 years old, retired in January 2003 after five terms in the Senate.

DUKE UNIVERSITY LACROSSE TEAM

Members of the Duke University men's lacrosse team could face criminal charges after an exotic dancer alleged she was assaulted and raped by three men at a private party on March 13. The players and their attorneys deny the allegations, and police are waiting for the results of DNA tests before filing charges. Duke has suspended the team's season while authorities continue to investigate.

IMMIGRATION LAWS

The U.S. Senators from North Carolina have been active in the debate over border security and immigration reform. Senator Elizabeth Dole (R) has said border security must be "our top priority." She also supports creating temporary work permits, as long as these workers would have to pay taxes and obey the law. Dole said, "After a time, the workers would have to return to their home country to reapply for legal admission." Senator Richard Burr (R) has said that he favors a temporary worker program, but not as a path to citizenship.

Congresswoman Sue Myrick (R, NC-09) has been extremely vocal on immigration issues. Recently, she called for a meeting with Attorney General Gonzales to discuss the need for North Carolina to have its own immigration court. Myrick believes the state does not have the tools and resources needed to deport illegal aliens in an expedited manner. Currently, North Carolina is under the jurisdiction of the immigration court in Atlanta. Regarding Myrick's proposal, a DOJ spokesman said that North Carolina "is currently a leading candidate for a new immigration court," adding "That doesn't mean it's a definite."

Myrick has taken a tougher stand on illegal immigration since a July 2005 incident in which a North Carolina school teacher was killed when his car was struck by an illegal immigrant

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who was drunk driving. Last year, Myrick introduced an amendment to immigration legislation in the house that would require any illegal immigrant convicted of a DWI to be automatically deported; the amendment was adopted by voice vote. Last month, Myrick joined Congressman Patrick McHenry (R, NC-10) and other conservative Representatives in signing a letter to Senator Arlen Specter (R, PA) expressing opposition to proposals in the Senate that would legalize undocumented foreign workers already in the country.

Myrick is considering a bid for governor in 2008, and some interpret her vocal stance on immigration as an effort to curry favor with conservatives.

NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATION LOTTERY COMMISSION

Governor Mike Easley (D) signed legislation in August 2005 creating a state lottery, with the proceeds going toward education expenses. At least 35 percent of total proceeds will be used to reduce class sizes, fund school construction, and enhance college scholarships for students who qualify for Federal Pell Grants. The lottery legislation went into effect on March 30.

SPEAKER JIM BLACK UNDER INVESTIGATION

Federal and state officials have multiple investigations centering on State House Speaker Jim Black. Initial investigations revolved around allegations of illegal lobbying by a vendor seeking the new state lottery contract. Meredith Norris, Black's former chief political advisor, is also being investigated for allegedly lobbying for the vendor without being registered to do so. A Federal grand jury has subpoenaed documents and testimony, seeking to learn about contacts between the vendor and Black's office.

In a separate matter, the State Board of Elections ruled on March 23 that Black and a Political Action Committee (PAC) representing optometrists may have violated the law by collecting checks with the name of the recipient left blank; names were filled in later, and the checks were distributed to specific candidates. Black, an optometrist, has admitted that he filled in three checks himself. Black's lawyers have said that state law allows this practice, but the State Board of Elections ruled that the actions may have been illegal. The Board has referred the matter to Wake County District Attorney Colon Willoughby (D), who is also considering charges in the lottery investigation.

Many Republicans and some Democrats have called on Black to step down as Speaker.

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POLITICAL CLIMATE AND KEY 2006 RACES

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STATISTICS**2004 General Election Results:**

	Total Votes	% Won
Bush	1,961,166	56%
Gore	1,525,849	44%
Other	11,551	0%

**2004 General Election Results
(Mecklenburg County):**

	Total Votes	% Won
Kerry	166,828	52%
Bush	155,084	48%
Other	988	0%

2000 General Election Results:

	Total Votes	% Won
Bush	1,631,163	56%
Kerry	1,257,692	44%
Other	26,135	0%

**2000 General Election Results
(Mecklenburg County):**

	Total Votes	% Won
Bush	132,485	51%
Gore	124,975	48%
Other	1,750	1%

CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION**U.S. SENATE:**

- Elizabeth Dole (R), 1st term, elected in 2002 with 54%
- Richard Burr (R), 1st term, elected in 2004 with 51%

U.S. HOUSE: 13 Total (7R, 6D)

- G.K. Butterfield (D-01), 2nd term, 1st full term, re-elected with 63%
Note: Butterfield won the seat in a special election in 2004.
- Bob Etheridge (D-02), 5th term, re-elected in 2004 with 62%
- Walter Jones (R-03), 6th term, re-elected in 2004 with 71%
- David Price (D-04), 9th full term, 4th consecutive term, re-elected with 65%

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- Virginia Foxx (R-05), 1st term, elected in 2004 with 59%
- Howard Coble (R-06), 11th term, re-elected in 2004 with 73%
- Mike McIntyre (D-07), 5th term, re-elected in 2004 with 73%
- Robin Hayes (R-08), 4th term, re-elected in 2004 with 55%
- Sue Myrick (R-09), 6th term, re-elected in 2004 with 70%
- Patrick McHenry (R-10), 1st term, elected in 2004 with 64%
- Charles Taylor (R-11), 8th term, re-elected in 2004 with 55%
- Melvin Watt (D-12), 7th term, re-elected in 2004 with 67%
- Brad Miller (D-13), 2nd term, re-elected in 2004 with 59%

STATE GOVERNMENT

Governor Mike Easley (D), 2nd term, re-elected in 2004 with 56%
 Lieutenant Governor Beverly Perdue (D), 2nd term, re-elected in 2004 with 56%
 Secretary of State Elaine Marshall (D), 3rd term, re-elected in 2004 with 57%
 Attorney General Roy Cooper, III (D), 2nd term, re-elected in 2004 with 56%
 Auditor Les Merritt (R), 1st term, elected in 2004 with 50%
 Treasurer Richard Moore (D), 2nd term, re-elected in 2004 with 55%
 Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler (R), 1st term, elected in 2004 with 50%
 Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry (R), 2nd term, re-elected in 2004 with 52%
 Insurance Commissioner Jim Long (D), 6th term, re-elected in 2004 with 58%
 Superintendent of Public Instruction June Atkinson (D), 1st term, elected in 2004 with 50%

State House: **120 (63D, 57R)**
 Speaker: Jim Black (D)
 Majority Leader: Joe Hackney (D)
 Minority Leader: Joe Kiser (R)

State Senate: **50 (29D, 21R)**
 President: Lieutenant Governor Beverly Perdue (D)
 Majority Leader: Tony Rand (D)
 Minority Leader: Phil Berger (R)

STATE PARTY

Chairman: Ferrell Blount
 National Committeeman: Ed McMahan
 National Committeewoman: Linda Shaw

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STATE DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Estimated Population 2000:

North Carolina: 8,049,313, an increase of 21.4% since 1990

National: 281,421,906, an increase of 13.1% since 1990

Race/Ethnicity:

North Carolina: 72.1% White; 21.6% African-American; 4.7% Hispanic;
1.4% Asian-American; 1.2% Native-American

National: 69.1% White; 12.5% Hispanic; 12.3% African-American;
3.6% Asian-American; 0.9% Native-American

Median Age:

North Carolina: 35.3 years (12.0% are 65 years and older)

National: 35.3 years (12.4% are 65 years and older)

College Educated:

North Carolina: 22.5%

National: 24.4%

Median Income:

North Carolina: \$39,184

National: \$41,994

Households:

North Carolina: 68.9% family households; 52.5% married couple families

National: 68.1% family households; 51.7% married couple families

Source: 2000 U.S. Census Bureau

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFING**YOUR PREVIOUS TRAVEL**

Event	Date	City
Tour of Deere-Hitachi Facility and Remarks on the Economy	December 5, 2005	Kernersville
Tour of Textile Facility and Remarks on CAFTA	July 15, 2005	Belmont and Dallas
Meeting with Families of Fallen Soldiers and Remarks on the War on Terror	June 28, 2005	Fort Bragg
Social Security Roundtable Discussion	February 10, 2005	Raleigh
W Stands for Women Campaign Rally Victory 2004 Fundraiser	September 17, 2004	Charlotte
Meeting with North Carolina Judicial Nominees and Victory 2004 Event	July 7, 2004	Raleigh
Roundtable and Remarks at Central Piedmont Community College and Bush-Cheney '04 Luncheon	April 5, 2004	Charlotte
Remarks at Centennial of Flight Celebration	December 17, 2003	Kitty Hawk
Bush-Cheney '04 Luncheon and Conversation on the Economy and Job Training	November 7, 2003	Winston-Salem
Address to Marines and Families at Camp Lejeune	April 3, 2003	Jacksonville
Dole for Senate Rally	October 24, 2002	Charlotte
Malpractice Reform event at High Point Hospital and Dole Fundraiser	July 25, 2002	High Point; Greensboro
Airport Welcome and Fort Bragg Visit	March 15, 2002	Fayetteville
Welfare reform event at Chamber of Commerce and Dole Fundraiser	February 27, 2002	Charlotte
Citizen Preparedness Message Event; Meeting with Grassroots Leaders; and Roundtable at the Center for Community Safety	January 30, 2002	Winston-Salem
Tour and Remarks at Concord Middle School and North Carolina Welcome	April 11, 2001	Concord; Greenville

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