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Edwards announces candidacy

BY WES WOLFE
THE GAMECOCK

U.S. Sen. John Edwards officially announced his candidacy for the 2004 presidency Tuesday in front of the Russell House.

Edwards, a North Carolinian born in Seneca, S.C., was greeted by festivities that included a three-piece band, a gospel choir and about 300 supporters. The event was sponsored by the USC Young Democrats, many of whom sat in seats on a raised platform to the right of the podium.

"We are very excited about this event," said Lisa Flick, president of the USC Young Democrats and a fourth-year political science student. "It gives the Democratic Party in South Carolina a chance to show that there are alternatives to President Bush, and it also gives the USC YDs a chance to let people know that there is a Democratic Party organization on campus."

USC political science professor Betty Glad said Edwards' choice of USC for the second half of his candidacy announcement was a good idea.

"There's certainly a lot of energy here," Glad said. "It's worked extremely well, and I

think it's a plus."

Edwards came to USC after he made the first part of his announcement in Robbins, N.C., where he grew up.

He said he came to USC because he is trying to reach out to young

people and "get them involved in my campaign and my ideas, like 'College for Everyone,' which is based on making sure all young people get a real opportunity."

The "College for Everyone" plan promises to pay for the first year of college at a public university or community college for students who are willing to work 10 hours per week.

Edwards entered the event from the back of the crowd, shaking hands on the way to the stage while John Mellencamp's "Small Town" played loudly over the speakers. After Edwards gave an introduction, he launched into his speech, beginning with a description of his childhood in North Carolina.

The senator then criticized President George W. Bush on the economy, health care and financing a college education before going into his own ideas.

Earlier in the afternoon, a Baskin-Robbins ice cream stand

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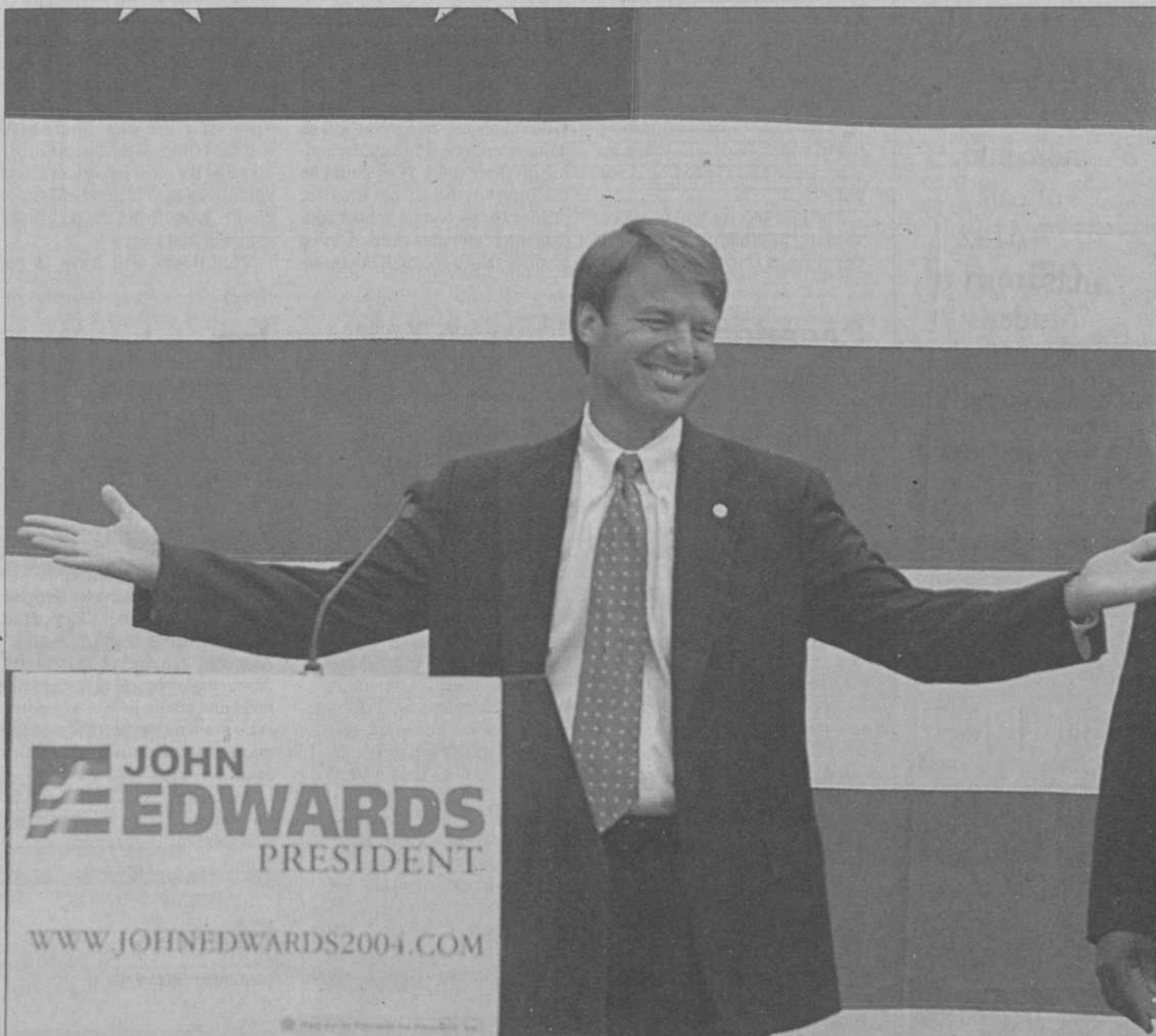
Who is John Edwards?



D-North Carolina, U.S. Senator and Presidential Candidate

- ◆ Born in 1953 in Seneca, S.C.
- ◆ Graduated from N.C. State with a bachelor's degree in 1974 with high honors.
- ◆ Defeated incumbent Republican Lauch Faircloth for U.S. Senate.
- ◆ Married for 26 years and has four children.

SOURCE: EDWARDS FOR PRESIDENT MEDIA KIT



U.S. Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C., formally announced his candidacy for president of the United States on Tuesday afternoon during a rally on Greene Street in front of the Russell House. About 300 supporters attended the event, plus a handful of protestors.

PHOTO BY MORGAN FORD/THE GAMECOCK



Brothers Phil, left, and Paul Markovich finally cheer for the same team, but Phil is sidelined because of injuries in a car accident.

BY KEVIN FELLNER
THE GAMECOCK

Paul Markovich says he never would have become involved with cheerleading if it hadn't been for his older brother, Phil.

Both were avid gymnasts in high school until one day Phil took Paul to an information session on an all-star cheerleading organization, which focuses on competition instead of supporting a football team on



the sidelines of a game.

After years of training together and the occasional friendly competition with one another, the two are teammates on USC's varsity co-ed squad this year. Well, almost.

Phil Markovich has been temporarily sidelined because of a back injury incurred when a car accidentally struck him earlier this year.

◆ CHEERLEADERS, SEE PAGE 2

USC hotel gets initial city approval

BY Z'ANNE COVELL
THE GAMECOCK

USC's plan to construct a university-affiliated inn to support the National Advocacy Center continues to make progress, despite persistent opposition from local hotel operators.

Last week, both the City Planning Commission and the City Design Development and Review Commission gave the inn their approval. The Planning Commission approved the inn's zoning Sept. 8, and the next day, the Design Development and Review Commission gave the go-ahead for the inn's design concept.

Local business associations have also endorsed the inn.

"The two leading business groups in the area, the Chamber of Commerce and the Midlands

"The two leading business groups in the area, the Chamber of Commerce and the Midlands Business Leadership Group, support the inn."

RUSS MCKINNEY
UNIVERSITY SPOKESMAN

Business Leadership Group, support the inn," university spokesman Russ McKinney said. "The fact that those groups are in our favor shows signals for city support."

Although city support seems strong, local hotel operators are still antagonistic.

According to Hudson Akin, vice

◆ INN, SEE PAGE 2

Survey shows plagiarism is up

BY ADAM BEAM
THE GAMECOCK

A survey conducted by a Rutgers University professor found that 38 percent of college students have participated in the cut-and-paste style of online plagiarism during the past year.

Rutgers University Management professor Don McCabe organized the survey, which encompassed 18,000 college students, 2,600 faculty and 650 teaching assistants on 23 campuses.

McCabe would not say what campuses were used in the survey.

The survey defines cut-and-paste Internet plagiarism as paraphrasing or copying a few sentences of material from the Internet without citing the source.

Stealing from Internet sources seems to be on the rise among college students. Three years ago, the same survey found that only 10 percent of students surveyed used plagiarized from the Internet. This year's study found that almost half the students sur-

veyed said they did not consider Internet plagiarism as cheating.

"My purpose in doing this is to convince schools that this is an issue they need to address," McCabe said.

McCabe said a majority of the students filled out the survey online, but some smaller schools did use a written version. Some schools offered incentives for students to fill out the survey, such as autographed footballs from players and coaches at their school or coupons for fast food

restaurants. McCabe said these schools got a response rate as high as 40 percent or 45 percent. Even though students filled out the survey anonymously, McCabe said he thinks the survey is still understating the problem.

But while the rise of the Internet has made it easier for students to cheat, it has also made it easier for professors to catch them. Web sites like Turnitin.com offer professors a huge database

◆ PLAGIARISM, SEE PAGE 5

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- ◆ SPORTS The USC volleyball team will play host to the Gamecock Classic this week, facing three solid teams beginning Thursday. **Page 10**