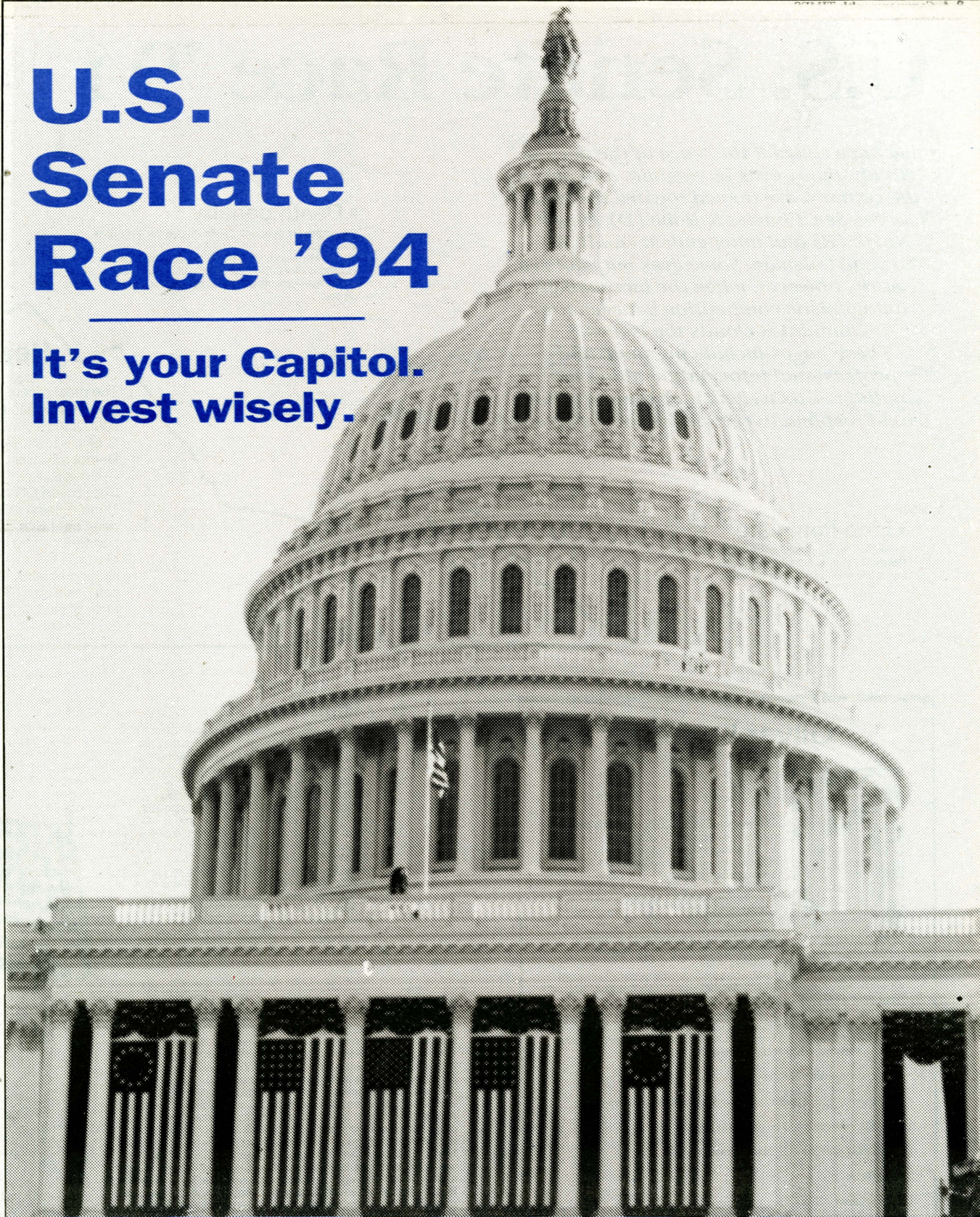


U.S. Senate Race '94

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These pages include personal and professional information about the candidates, as well as how they say they would respond to certain issues if elected.

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Coleman: He supports the death penalty, in certain instances.

North: He supports the death penalty in certain instances, like those that involve violent crimes.

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• Line-item veto

Coleman: He supports the line-item veto.

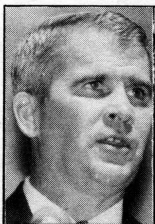
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Oliver L. North



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- 51 years old
- Republican
- currently serves as chairman and co-founder of Guardian Technologies International Inc., a Virginia-based manufacturer of body armor for law enforcement personnel
- served as an Infantry Platoon Commander in Vietnam
- in 1981 joined the National Security Council staff, earning the position of Deputy Director of Political-Military Affairs.
- directed the program to give anticommunist Contra rebels in Nicaragua profits from secret arms sales to Iran
- charged with 16 criminal counts, including helping in the obstruction of Congress, lying to Congress, wire fraud, accepting an illegal gratuity, and destroying and altering documents
- four charges were later dropped.
- acquitted of nine charges, and convicted of three felonies
- convictions overturned on appeal in 1990.
- graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy
- wife Betsy
- four children

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Coleman: He was critical of President Clinton's decision to send troops to Haiti. Since they are there, however, he supports the troops, but he wishes they would be brought home as soon as possible.

North: He thinks the United States should promote democracy, but even more important, the principle of freedom — and the free enterprise system. He also believes the U.S. vital national interest does not extend to an invasion of Haiti.

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Coleman: He urges that the state be supported in its efforts to try innovative ways of accommodating the mentally ill through health-care reform legislation, or other means. He thinks the tax code needs to be reformed in a fashion that encourages states to invest, particularly in plants and equipment, to provide more jobs. He also believes the state needs to develop technical training programs and educational initiatives that enable the state population to be trained to be competitive on a global basis. This would allow the unemployed and the working poor to enjoy the same opportunities to benefit more from the economic prosperity as others.

North: He supports strengthening child support payment laws. He would like to impose a two-year limit on welfare, and would like to require unwed teen-aged mothers to live with a parent or guardian.

Robb: He supports strengthening child support payment laws. He supports giving limited benefits to women who have additional children while receiving welfare.



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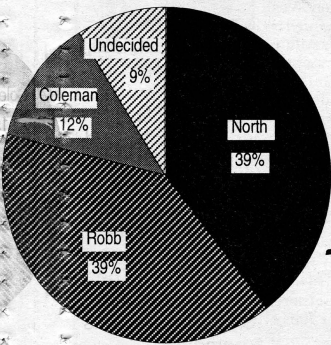
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Coleman: He supports public education. He is a product of public education, but at the same time he supports the concept of choice and supports tax credits and vouchers as means to provide that choice.
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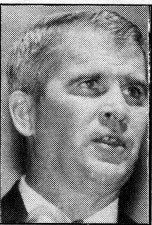
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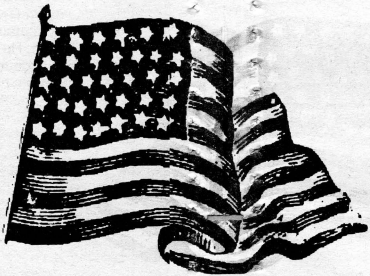


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• Health care reform

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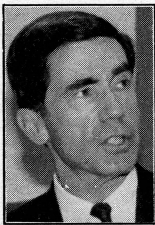
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Coleman: He is personally opposed, but during his years in public office he has realized a limited role for government in this issue is necessary. He thinks there are people in good faith on both sides. He also believes it's important that government does not serve as a force that causes dissension and division, but one that comes together and reasons together. He supports providing community alternatives to abortion, like adoption and counseling, so mothers might be convinced to choose not to have an abortion.
North: He thinks abortion should be legal only in cases of rape, incest or the life of the mother is in danger. He also supports parental notification for mothers younger than 18. He supports a state-mandated waiting period before an abortion can be performed, and the elimination of funding for clinics that perform abortions.
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- retired from the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve in 1991, after 34 years of active and reserve service
- commanded an infantry troop in Vietnam
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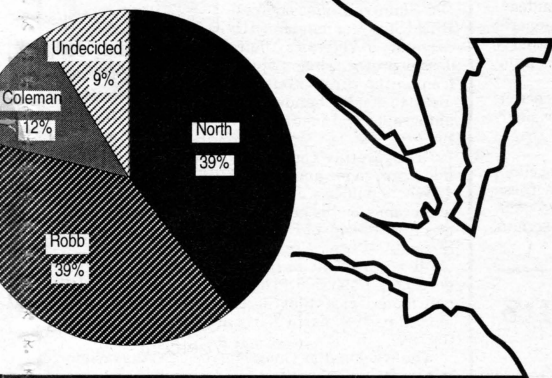
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Ben Ragsdale

Three myths in the Senate campaign

For several months I've been reporting on the senate campaign for the VCU-based Capital News Service. It has been interesting, not inspiring.

At this point, I have been so close to so much charade, I may no longer be able to tell truth from fantasy.

OPINION

I do believe, however, that much of the "conventional wisdom" about Virginia's 1994 U.S. Senate race is wrong. The following are three of the many misrepresentations prevalent in Virginia's 1994 Senate race, myths perpetrated by the candidates, the cooperating news media and most political analysts.

Myth #1: "Oliver North lied to Congress."

The almost-universal representation is that North lied during the congressional Iran-Contra hearings, under oath. The lie he actually admitted to, and was held accountable for, took place in a White House briefing of a few congressmen, not under oath.

Some say the difference is insignificant. I say the factual misrepresentation should not be excused (hey, isn't a lie a lie?).

I also believe that, in degree, the two situations differ. For all my adult life, White House officials have been lying to members of Congress and to the public, especially about covert national security operations.

The real scoundrels of Iran-Contra — and this was well-documented by the independent investigation led by Judge Leonard Walsh — were the guys at the top who directed Oliver North and allowed him to operate.

The big enchilada providing cover in the Iran-Contra affair was our president, Ronald Reagan.

Myth #2: "Charles Robb was 'the deciding vote' supporting Clinton's big 1993 tax-and-spending budget proposal."

Although the Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 initiated a lot of new taxes, the key feature of the legislation was the enactment of measures to cut the annual federal budget deficit by \$500 billion in five years.

This reversed the upward trend in annual budget deficits during 12 years of Reagan-Bush. The U.S. financial community widely applauded the 1993 budget bill, which, in recent months, generally has been credited with stimulating the economy.

The record shows that, throughout his six years in the Senate, Robb has taken a rather tight-fisted view toward federal spending.

Myth #3: "Since Marshall Coleman has neither his party's nomination nor much money, and since he lost two statewide races for governor during the '80s, he does not deserve to be considered seriously in this campaign."

This view smacks of snobbery (most notably by the news media), belittles the American ideal that good men and women should come forward and offer themselves for public service and, unfortunately, infers that winning is everything.

Certainly winning is important in competitive endeavors. But this man was elected Virginia's attorney general and twice nominated for governor by the Republican party because of his outstanding abilities — and his winning ways.

Coleman is as solid a public servant as we've seen in Virginia during the last 20 years. He deserves consideration on his credentials, not his win-loss record.

Conclusion

Unlike the Rush Limbaughs of this land, I do not claim that I have an exclusive on the truth. But, to me, these three "myths" that I've sought to debunk concern considerations that are very important to those casting a serious vote on Nov. 8. I hope that includes you.

Wilder throws support to Robb

Former rivals present united front

Diane Giles

CT MANAGING EDITOR

When former Gov. L. Douglas Wilder made a promise Friday night, after endorsing Sen. Charles S. Robb's candidacy for re-election, to "be involved in every conceivable manner," he apparently meant it.

The two politicians stopped in for lunch yesterday at the Old Country Buffet on West Broad Street, accompanied by Secretary of Veteran's Affairs Jessie Brown. They stopped frequently throughout the meal to shake hands, sign autographs and answer questions.

"The governor's endorsement and support is very important to me and my constituency," Robb said.

When Wilder was asked whether the endorsement comes on the heels of encouragement or promises from President Clinton, Robb asked to respond himself.

"It is an insult to both the President and the governor," Robb said. "There was no quid pro quo — both made it clear that there was none. It's insulting to both parties, particularly after they said it's not the case."

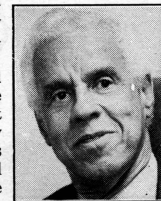
The Washington Times has reported that Wilder met with Clinton and discussed a possible ambassadorial appointment in return for Wilder's endorsement of Robb, according to the Associated Press.

The Times also reported, based on information from anonymous Virginia Democrats, that Robb had discussed helping Wilder pay more than \$50,000 in campaign debts, the AP printed.

When asked why students should vote for Robb, Wilder said students need to become involved and not cynical.

"They should look at the issues, consider their opportunities to go to school — would those opportunities be presented under Oliver North, someone who thinks government is an enemy?"

As the entourage was leaving, Robb recommended the corn chowder to a fan who approached and asked what she should have to eat.



L. Douglas Wilder

Voter hotline answers policy questions

Mike Gangloff

CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Confused by the sometimes conflicting statements of political candidates? Virginia voters now have a telephone number to call for more information.

Project Vote Smart, a nonpartisan group established two years ago by former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford, collects and distributes information on political candidates and office-holders. The project's goal is to help voters make informed decisions.

"Candidates will do almost everything to couch their campaigns in positive terms," said Richard Kimball, Project Vote Smart board president and former Arizona congressman, at a press conference in Richmond. "They tailor these pitches, these emotional pitches, to throw at them (voters) on election day."

To help voters get specific information, the group operates a Voter's Research Hotline that can be reached at 1-800-622-SMART or 1-800-622-7627.

Callers are connected with a researcher who has access to a variety of information on candidates' finances, biographies and evaluations from 70 interest groups and voting records.

The centerpiece for Project Vote Smart's information focuses on its National Political Awareness Test, which examines candidates' positions on a variety of issues likely

to confront them once they are in office.

Slightly more than half of Virginia candidates completed the test, Kimball said.

Project Vote Smart bases its work on the "hired help" theory that politicians are hired to serve voters. Kimball characterized the information the group collects much like that needed for any job application.

The donor-sponsored organization, which operates largely through the efforts of volunteers, maintains its nonpartisan stance through internal opposition among its board of directors.

To join, a board member also must bring in a political "enemy," Kimball said.

Thus, the group's list of founders includes former presidential candidates and U.S. Sens. Barry Goldwater and George McGovern. In addition, Rep. Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., and former Democratic congresswoman and vice presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro of New York are listed among the founders.

Virginians may order the free Voter's Self-Defense Manual that gives the National Political Awareness Test questionnaire and a sampling of information available in the five categories by calling the Project Vote Smart Hotline.

They may also access information via computer on the Internet (gopher.neu.edu) and on Project Vote Smart's bulletin board at 1-503-737-3777.

- Thomas Davis (R-11th)
- Gordon Cruickshank (I-11th)

The following candidates refused to respond to the issue-oriented questions of the National Political Awareness Test:

- Marshall Coleman (I-Senate)
- Rep. Owen Pickett (D-2nd)
- Jim Chapman (R-2nd)
- Rep. Robert Scott (D-3rd)
- Rep. Norman Sisisky (D-4th)
- Rep. Lewis Payne (D-5th)
- Rep. Robert Goodlatte (R-6th)
- Rep. Thomas Bliley (R-7th)
- R. Ward Edmonds (I-8th)
- Rep. Rick Boucher (D-9th)
- Rep. Frank Wolf (R-10th)
- Robert Rilee (I-10th)

The following candidates have responded to the issue-oriented questions for the National Political Awareness Test:

- Sen. Charles S. Robb (D)
- Oliver L. North (R)
- Rep. Herbert Bateman (R-1st)
- Mary Sinclair (D-1st)
- Matt Voorhees (I-1st)
- Tom Ward (R-3rd)
- George Sweet (R-4th)
- George Landrith (R-5th)
- Gerald Berg (I-7th)
- Rep. James Moran (D-8th)
- Kyle McSarrow (R-8th)
- William Jones (I-8th)
- Steve Fast (R-9th)
- Alan Ogden (I-10th)
- Rep. Leslie Byrne (D-11th)

Credits

- Cover photo courtesy of Jeffrey Kraus.
- Oliver L. North, Marshall Coleman and Sen. Charles S. Robb photos by Bill Buckman.
- L. Douglas Wilder photo by Ken Odor.
- Inside information compiled from news sources.
- Map drawn by Gordon Schmidt, SMC production manager.
- Information compiled by CT News Editors.