



From ABC News' Gephardt campaign reporter Sally Hawkins (11/4/03)

Congressman Gephardt seemed to make up for lost time on Monday, his first day campaigning in New Hampshire in the last few weeks. The drizzly day began in Exeter, where Gephardt state campaign chairman Jim Demers picked up the Congressman in his plush 1999 motor home, which he bought at a bargain basement price on E-bay.

At the "Every Child Matters" forum on the UNH campus, Gephardt ripped into President Bush for his under-funded "No Child Left Behind" program and paid tribute to a high school teacher who helped him apply to college.

When the floor opened up for questions, a 13-year-old girl named Lil asked, "What kind of a student were you in high school?" Gephardt laughed, then sighed. "Oh my gosh ... well, I was a geek ... let's start there." "I was a fairly a good student. I wasn't at all an A-student. I did good but I wasn't at the top of the class." Recognizing his deficits he said, "I was not very good athlete. I'm coordinated but I'm not really good at any of these things" ... "I played tennis. I was an alternate on the high school tennis team, which means I wasn't any good." "I participated in school plays ... I was in a musical called Sweethearts."

Leaving the UNH forum an elderly attendee fell down the concrete steps outside and cracked her head open. It was bleeding profusely. Demers called 911 and gave me and others instructions, and I held towels from the bathroom against the back of her head before the paramedics arrived. Gephardt found out the woman's name and number later in the day and called her up to wish her well. She was all stitched up and feeling fine.

I asked Gephardt whether the trip indicated a new New Hampshire strategy. "We're going to work hard in New Hampshire, I've worked hard in New Hampshire through the past nine months. You know in the last 30 days, we were concentrating on Iowa and trying to get everything we needed to do done there. And now, we're going to now work on a full strategy. We're going to work in New Hampshire and I'm working in the other states that come after New Hampshire."

After several New Hampshire stops, it was time to head to Boston for a meeting with Harvard students and then an appearance on "Hardball." The campaign was running late. The four-car caravan sped down Route 2 at about 80 mph led by Mike, a Gephardt intern at the wheel of his fancy new SUV that he won in a raffle.

From ABC News' Moseley-Braun campaign reporter Monica Ackerman (11/4/03)

Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun campaigned in New Hampshire Monday, and was one of the last candidates to participate in the Every Child Matters Forum. Sam Young of *PoliticsNH.com* joked about Moseley Braun's appearance in New Hampshire: "Though Halloween was last Friday, some Granite Staters might've thought they saw an apparition at the University of New Hampshire Monday afternoon."

According to a local news producer, more children were in the audience for Moseley Braun's appearance than any of the other six candidates who have already participated. After the forum, teenager Kim Lynch said, "I think she has a great chance of running against Bush and like my mom said, it's really cool that a woman is running for president because women have something to say."

Ambassador Moseley Braun reacted with surprise later that afternoon when I told her Bob Graham wasn't seeking re-election in the Senate.

"No! That's too bad! Oh, Bob. Bob, we hardly knew you. He's been a terrific Senator for Florida and I hope this is not a signal that his health is deteriorating so much that he has to step out of the public light. His commitment to serving people really is unparalleled. I wish him all the best. I wish him and Adele a lovely time together. Certainly they've worked hard enough, so they've earned the right for him to retire. But he will absolutely be missed within the public sphere."