

## COVER STORY

**Little-known fact:** Edwards was the first person in his family to go to college.

**Close encounter:** "I have never seen someone connect with people where they live the way John Edwards does. He just gets it. While this election is a very personal thing for him, it is not about him. He really believes that all Americans deserve an equal opportunity to be heard."

**State supporters:** "All of our supporters are key to victory. Every vote will count the same in this election."

**Why people in Madison should support**

**Edwards:** "He believes that the way we strengthen America is to have a government that honors our values: hard work, responsibility, faith and family. John Edwards' plan offers real solutions for America."

**Name one thing Edwards would do regarding... Iraq:** Bring others into this effort, including the U.N.

**The economy:** Reform the tax code to reward work, not only wealth.

**Education:** Invest in quality early childhood education.

**Health care:** Guarantee health care for every child.

**The environment:** Lead the fight against increased air pollution due to Bush's roll-back of the Clean Air Act.

**Seniors:** Improve the quality of home and community-based care and nursing homes.

**Gay/Lesbian issues:** Strengthen America's anti-bias laws, including the Employment Nondiscrimination Act.

**Public integrity:** Turn off the spigot of special-interest spending that all those lobbyists are buying in Washington.

**Other big idea:** Restore corporate responsibility and confidence in our economy by implementing a "Worker and Shareholder Bill of Rights."

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'He actually is a politician who lives by his principles.'

### Sally Stix

State office coordinator  
for Rep. Dennis Kucinich

Last May, when Sally Stix attended an anti-war rally at the Orpheum, she hadn't planned on coming away convinced that Dennis Kucinich should be the country's next president. But everything the Ohio congressman said was right on target. "I thought, 'Jeez! This guy has all the positions I like.' I was just knocked over."

Stix, 54, offered Kucinich her law office for his Wisconsin headquarters and volun-

teers as his state office coordinator. A labor attorney and Green Party member, Stix has long worked on progressive causes: "I'm not a big 'D' Democrat." She once ran for school board in Wisconsin Heights, "coming in four of four," and worked on Ed Garvey's 1998 bid for governor.

Although Kucinich is a dark-horse contender, Stix says his campaign has brought progressive ideas — like repealing NAFTA to save U.S. jobs — into the mainstream for debate. She lives with her 16-year-old daughter on Madison's west side.

**Why I back Kucinich:** He has a 10-point "Progressive Vision" for America, and "every one of them is near and dear to my heart." As a small-business owner struggling to provide health care for her two employees, Stix is especially impressed with Kucinich's support for universal health care. "The cost of health care could put me out of business."

**Greatest strength:** His honesty. "He actually is a politician who lives by his principles." He got "creamed" for it as mayor of Cleveland, losing reelection after he refused to sell the city's electric utility to a private company in 1978. "Twenty years later, the city gave him a commendation for saving it millions."

**Greatest weakness:** His honesty. "It does make him vulnerable," says Stix, because he will follow his conscience, not poll numbers.

**Little-known fact:** He's a vegan.

**Close encounter:** Stix first met Kucinich at last summer's "Fightin' Bob" Fest. She saw him again when he swung through Madison on a campaign stop in October, but they didn't speak. "I was busy trying to find some hot tea for Mimi Kennedy." The "Dharma & Greg" star was accompanying Kucinich on the campaign trail.

**State supporters:** Ed Garvey, editor and publisher of fightingbob.com; Midge Miller, former state lawmaker.

**Why people in Madison should support Kucinich:** "He's the only candidate who will make not only our country, but our world, safe and preserved for our children and grandchildren."

**Name one thing Kucinich would do regarding... Iraq:** Bring the U.N. in to rebuild the country and bring American troops home.

**The economy:** Cut the Pentagon budget and use the money to create jobs rebuilding America's bridges and highways.

**Education:** Increase federal funding to refurbish old schools.

**Health care:** Create a universal plan, similar to Canada's publicly funded system.

**The environment:** Sign the international Kyoto treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow global warming.

**Seniors:** Lower the age at which seniors can collect full benefits from 67 to 65.

**Gay/lesbian issues:** Offer Social Security survivor benefits to same-sex couples.

**Public integrity:** Support public financing of political campaigns.

**Other big idea:** Break up large agriculture monopolies and restore family farms.

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'I am impressed with his working knowledge of the big issues.'

### Stan Woodard Supporter of Al Sharpton

Stan Woodard is "a living room supporter" with no direct ties to the activist New York reverend's campaign.

"Al doesn't stand a chance of winning," admits Woodard, who nonetheless hopes Sharpton will be at the Democratic National Convention and help shape the party's platform. With a good showing in some primaries, he "may well have the delegates that will give him a voice."

Woodard, 54, host of WORT's "Tuesday Morning Buzz," is a "child of the '60s, the civil rights movement and the Black Panther party." He previously supported Jesse Jackson's presidential bids. He lives in Fitchburg with his wife, attorney Yolanda Woodard. The couple has four children and seven grandchildren.

**Why I back Sharpton:** "I am impressed with his handling of questions outside his comfort level, and his working knowledge of the big issues. He has surprised a lot of people, using humor, which is always great. Plus, he's playing within the Democratic Party, not looking to bolt from it."

**Greatest strength:** "His ability to communicate complex issues in a man-on-the-street language. I think that takes a great intellect."

**Greatest weakness:** "His race, I am sorry to say. He still has the albatross of Tawana Brawley around his neck, along with some other issues, which may not always be as they are reported. And there's his hair; but I like it! That's his style, and he sticks with it. But American politics is so shallow, and sadly the electorate votes not on substantive issues but rather on looks, race, sex and personality."

**Little-known fact:** He married a James Brown backup singer!

**Close encounters:** Sharpton was the keynote speaker at Beloit's annual NAACP banquet prior to announcing his candidacy. "I had a chance to ask him questions. I played some of his comments on my radio show," says Woodard. "He handled himself well. He's a seasoned social activist."

**State supporters:** Madison radio personality Stan Woodard.

**Why people in Madison should support Sharpton:** "It's time to send a message that we are concerned about the economic viability of Madison, as opposed to that of Baghdad. Our cities, our schools, our health-care system, all need help. World domination seems to be the larger goal, and it has caused the real deficit in this country."

**Name one thing Sharpton would do regarding... Iraq:** Use the U.N.: "This John Wayne attitude is not what America should be about."

**The economy:** Repeal the Bush tax cuts and

flip breaks from the top 10% to the working poor; to stimulate from the bottom up.

**Education:** Seek a constitutional amendment affirming the right to high-quality public education.

**Health care:** Seek a constitutional amendment affirming the right to high-quality health care.

**The environment:** "I am sure that, living in New York, he is concerned with the contamination of water and nuclear waste, but this might not be at the top of his list."

**Seniors:** Ensure that Social Security is protected.

**Gay/Lesbian issues:** Woodard wasn't certain, but Sharpton has expressed his support for gay marriage.

**Public integrity:** Support reform "so that when people like Al want to run, there is some public accommodation to level the economic playing field."

**Other big idea:** Back a constitutional right-to-vote amendment to override the "state's rights" voting system currently in place.

www.sharpton2004.org



'He comes unencumbered by the compromises of past political life.'

### Barbara Lawton State campaign chair for Wesley Clark

Barbara Lawton, Wisconsin's lieutenant governor, calls her role as state chair of the Clark campaign "a leadership, not a management position," stressing that she's not running the four-star general's state campaign. Lawton, 52, had met all but one of the other Democratic candidates and decided she was "not going to be involved in the primaries" — until Gen. Clark entered the race.

Lawton met Clark, former Supreme Allied Commander of NATO, at the National Lieutenant Governors Association meeting in Little Rock, Ark. "I had the privilege of pummeling him with questions for two hours," she says. "I got a real sense of the man and his vision for governance and came away from with it with the feeling that if he chose to be a candidate for president, it would be worth it to me to become actively involved."

Lawton, whose primary residence has been in Green Bay, recently moved her center of activities to a new condo in downtown Madison.

**Why I back Clark:** "His vision for governance is in sync with mine and with progressive values." She cites Clark's leadership and vision on national and international fronts, his background as an economics professor and his military background to help "lead us out of the mess in Iraq." She compares his wish to plan ahead "with 100 years in mind" to the Native American philosophy of making "every decision with seven generations in mind."

**Greatest strength:** "His integrity. He comes unencumbered by the compromises of past political life."

**Greatest weakness:** "His lack of experience as a candidate."

**Little-known fact:** At 59, Clark has only 5% body fat.

**Close encounter:** Lawton recalls Clark's stop in Milwaukee. "He'd just done a national debate, had been in two states already and was coming to a third, yet exhibited excitement about getting to speak to people."

**State supporters:** State Reps. Spencer Black and Dave Travis, Dane County Clerk Joe Parisi, Nino Amato, Nan Cheney, Eve Galanter

**Why people in Madison should support**

**Clark:** "We ought to recognize the opportunity to have a principled leader with strong vision for government, not run by consultants and pollsters but a commitment to the shared prosperity of all citizens."

**Name one thing Clark would do regarding... Iraq:** Build an alliance through the U.N., find allies.

**The economy:** Rescind the latest tax cut and take the money to create jobs and training programs.

**Education:** Fully fund the "No Child Left Behind" law in a renewed commitment to public education.

**Health care:** Ensure that every child in the U.S. is covered by health care insurance.

**Environment:** Return to Kyoto and reverse Bush's position on global warming.

**Seniors:** Commit to fully protecting Social Security and Medicare.

**Gay/Lesbian:** Support equal rights, civil unions and their attendant benefits.

**Public integrity:** "I couldn't support anyone who didn't support my position on public financing."

**Other big idea:** Re-engage youth in public service and civics, see dissent as part of "New American Patriotism."

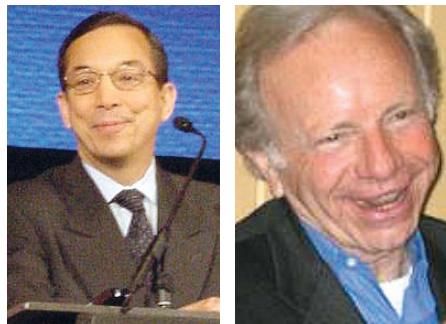
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*'What impresses me is his genuine niceness. He exudes kindness and dignity.'*

## Richard Boxer

Joe Lieberman's designated state rep

Richard Boxer, a Milwaukee urologist (try as we might, we couldn't find a Madison supporter of this moderate senator from Connecticut), comes to the campaign by way of Al Gore. Boxer was a Gore delegate to the 1988 Democratic National Convention and helped craft the Clinton/Gore campaign's health-care position in 1992.

Democratic politics and health-care policy

remain the doctor's avocations. Boxer, 56, served on Hillary Clinton's health-care task force (and tried to warn her the plan was "going to tank" six months before it did). He ran unsuccessfully for chair of the Wisconsin Democratic Party in 1995, losing to the recently indicted Milwaukee attorney Mark Sostarich. Boxer was a senior health-care adviser to the Clinton/Gore campaign in 1996 and to Gore/Lieberman in the 2000 race. His wife, Barbara, is a Milwaukee attorney and prominent backer of Tom Barrett's mayoral bid.

**Why I back Lieberman:** "What impresses me is his genuine niceness. He exudes kindness and dignity and a sense that you're dealing with an honest human being. Both his friends and enemies would say that."

**Greatest strength:** His message. "I honestly believe that the only message that will defeat George Bush will be one of a centrist Democrat, similar to what Bill Clinton stood for. Anything to the left of that will go down in flames."

**Greatest weakness:** He's not a great ora-

tor. "He doesn't express himself with the strength and conviction and fire that, for instance, Howard Dean does."

**Little-known fact:** As a college student in the 1960s, Lieberman took a month off to help black people register to vote in Mississippi, and later joined the March on Washington to hear Martin Luther King's famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

**Close encounters:** Lieberman once stayed at Boxer's home, and the two exchange e-mails.

**State supporters:** State Sen. Jeff Pyle of South Milwaukee and Antonio Riley, a former Milwaukee lawmaker who runs the state's housing authority.

**Why people in Madison should support Lieberman:** "We can't afford the luxury of being purists and going down in flames. We have to get a candidate who will draw the moderate Republicans as well as the independents to our side."

**Name one thing Lieberman would do regarding... Iraq:** Internationalize the rebuilding effort.

**The economy:** Repeal Bush's tax cuts for the super-wealthy, but maintain them for the middle class.

**Education:** Expand Pell and other grants for college students.

**Health care:** Broaden Medicaid eligibility to cover more uninsured children and families.

**Environment:** Adopt higher gas-efficiency standards for vehicles.

**Seniors:** Directly negotiate drug prices with pharmaceutical companies.

**Gay/lesbian:** Support domestic partner benefits, but not gay marriage.

**Public integrity/campaign finance:** Unlike Kerry and Dean, he accepts public financing for his campaign.

**Other big idea:** Establish the American Center for Cures, a "mission-oriented" health agency that would amply fund five or six research teams to seek cures for specific diseases.

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