

## Des Moines Register

Estimated printed pages: 2

July 14, 1999

**Section:** Main News

Sidebar

**Page:** 4A

### Gore courts women voters

*Zeleny Jeff*

*Register Staff Writer*

*DM*

Vice President Al Gore courted women and African-Americans Tuesday night in Des Moines, asking community leaders and activists to support his presidential bid.

"If you came here undecided, I hope I gave you reasons to support me," Gore told about 50 Democratic women at Christopher's restaurant in Des Moines. "I'd like you to reach down into your hearts and believe this is important for your children and your families and generations of women and men to come."

Also Tuesday evening, Gore and Christie Vilsack, the governor's wife, met with 16 African-American leaders at Soul City Cafe in Des Moines.

The vice president is trying to shore up support among minority and women voters in Iowa, said Steve Hildebrand, Gore's Iowa campaign manager.

At Christopher's, Gore talked with each woman, and answered questions about health care, abortion and education.

Two-thirds of the women there were uncommitted, Hildebrand said. One of those was Jacquie Easley, who said she liked Gore's message but still has not decided between him and his challenger, former U.S. Sen. Bill Bradley.

"There's going to be a lot of discussions between now and the Iowa caucuses," she said.

"But everything that I heard tonight are areas that I support and that I'm interested in."

-Jeff Zeleny

---

Copyright (c) The Des Moines Register. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.