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# THE 1994 CAMPAIGN: THE INDEPENDENT; Golisano Is Received Warmly In Rochester, His Hometown

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Correction Appended

As rock music blared out onto a picture-perfect day, B. Thomas Golisano, gubernatorial candidate, went out to meet his public today. And the crowd at a music festival in his hometown could not have greeted him more warmly.

Mr. Golisano shook hands and chatted with voters all afternoon at Silver Stadium on the same day that his two opponents, Gov. Mario M. Cuomo and State Senator George E. Pataki, made forays into western New York, an area that seems to be Golisano country.

Polls show Mr. Golisano running virtually even with Mr. Cuomo in the Rochester area, with Mr. Pataki trailing the two.

As he campaigned today, Mr. Golisano looked confident and dapper in a silk tweed jacket. Most people here, many of them baby boomers or younger, said they knew Mr. Golisano as a hometown product who had turned a small business into a multimillion-dollar enterprise.

"Hi, Tom," people greeted him.

"Looking good, Tom," they would say as he went from table to table and blanket to blanket of people listening to the Freddy Jones Band, the singer Shawn Colvin and the band Whitebread Panic.

Sometimes crowds would form around him, with some of the people engaging him in a conversation about the issues.

"Where do you stand on abortion?" one woman asked him.

Mr. Golisano responded, "The country has been very clear that it wants choice, and I'm pro-choice."

Others complained about high taxes. They also lamented the job losses in the area, which is home to Kodak and a Xerox manufacturing plant and to Bausch & Lomb. They told him they were tired of other politicians neglecting their area in favor of New York City.

"All of our politics are fashioned by what's going on in New York City," said Kit Morgan, 41, a toolmaker. "It's not fair to upstate New York."

Not everyone he greeted said that they would vote for him.

"I'm undecided," said Kim Burrs, 25, who works at the local Body Shop, a skin-care store. "I really like Mario Cuomo, but sometimes I think it's time to move on."

In this town, the race seems to be between the Governor and Mr. Golisano, partly because this is Mr. Golisano's hometown. But it is also because here, Mr. Pataki is hardly a presence. Every week, said Marty Pulver, 31, when the local newspapers run columns on election issues, the one for Mr. Pataki is almost blank, with the only responses reading "no comment."

"Pataki is a loser, believe me," said Miss Pulver as she sipped a beer with friends. "I think if Tom keeps doing what he's doing -- coming out here like today, meeting all the people -- he can win it."

**Correction:** October 24, 1994, Monday Because of a transcription error, a front-page article yesterday about the New York governor's race referred incorrectly to a rock group at an event on Saturday attended by B. Thomas Golisano. It is Widespread Panic, not Whitebread Panic.

<http://www.nytimes.com/1994/10/23/nyregion/1994-campaign-independent-golisano-received-warmly-rochester-his-hometown.html?pagewanted=1>