

## Louisiana teachers rally against state evaluation system

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Nearly 4,000 teachers Saturday cheered the president of the Louisiana Association of Educators who said the election year "is showdown time" with Gov. Buddy Roemer over his teacher evaluation program.

School boards, superintendents and some legislators have joined teachers in demanding the evaluations be suspended.

Many who were chosen teachers of the year in their respective parishes, including some with two degrees, failed the test, teacher organizations charged. They blamed the problems on a flawed evaluation instrument similar to those scrapped in Florida and Georgia.

### LAST CRUISES CANCELED:

The Navy has canceled the final two cruises of the historic aircraft carrier USS Lexington because of maintenance problems, mounting repair costs and the cease-fire in the Persian Gulf. The 48-year-old ship, whose home port is Pensacola, Fla., either will be headed for the scrap heap or serve as a floating museum after decommissioning ceremonies Nov. 26, Navy officials said.

### DONATIONS RETURNED:

Louisiana Gov. Buddy Roemer will return \$15,000 in campaign contributions to three Formosa Plastics Corp. group companies to avoid the "perception of a conflict of interest," a Roemer campaign spokesman said. Although the contributions are legal, environmental advocates said they raised ethical questions because Formosa Plastics will need approval from the Roemer administration to build its huge rayon plant in St. John the Baptist Par-