



# THE TRUTH ABOUT MIKE HATCH

## DFLers Speak Out

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“Mike Hatch is a **political chameleon** who accommodates to any prevailing coloration in order to be governor and doesn't really have a program that I can discern, except one that changes from day to day.”

-Tony Bouza, '94 gubernatorial candidate

(Robert Whereatt, “DFL's Hatch, Bouza Give Each Other Preprimary Pounding; Ads, Charges Fly As Vote Nears,” *Star Tribune*, September 3, 1994)

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“It's almost **like a knife in the back.**” - Gov. Perpich regarding Hatch's decision to challenge him for the DFL endorsement in 1990

(Bill Salisbury, “Perpich Drops Pollster, Takes Campaign Outstate,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, July 25, 1990)

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“One quality that sets him apart from all the other candidates is he's as **mean as a junkyard dog** and everybody knows it.” - former St. Paul Mayor George Latimer

(Conrad deFiebre, “For Hatch, Endorsement Is A New Experience,” *Star Tribune*, May 4, 2002)

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“His record on abortion is **questionable.**” - State Rep. Tom Huntley

(K.C. Howard, “Could Hatch Unify Reeling DFL?” *Mesabi Daily News*, May 17, 2003)

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“He's **tough to work with.**” - State Sen. John Marty

(Betty Wilson, “Don't Mess With Mike,” *Minnesota Law & Politics*, April-May 2001)

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“This is a man who **wants to hold office so bad he's willing to sell his soul.**”

-Sue Rockne, veteran DFL activist

(Dane Smith, “MCCL support For Hatch Prompts Allegations Of Flip-Flop On Abortion Issue,” *Star Tribune*, September 2, 1994)

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“He's **disloyal** and turned on the party.”

- DFLer Mike Freeman

(Chris Hamilton, “Hatch Takes Aim At Health Insurers, Weaver,” *Duluth News Tribune*, October 29, 1998)

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**“We are here to say that Hatch waffles, that Hatch has flip-flopped and that Hatch is a double-dealer.” - Amy Phenix, feminist activist**

(Jim Ragsdale, “Guns, Abortion Lead DFL Debate[;] Pivotal Issues Dominate 11th-Hour Messages In Gubernatorial Race,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 12, 1994)

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**“I never said that Warren Spannaus was the best governor in the history of the state. I never said I wasn’t going to run against Warren Spannaus. I never said I was going to go for the endorsement and If I didn’t get the endorsement I wouldn’t run. I never said I wasn’t going to run any negative campaigns (before doing so) –**

**I didn’t run any negative campaigns. I kept my word. There’s a big difference.**

**And I didn’t work for Warren Spannaus, by the way.” - Gov. Rudy Perpich**

(Bill McAllister, “DFL: Hatch Makes Perpich The Issue,” *St. Cloud Times*, September 9, 1990)

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**“Mike Hatch has spent his adult life running for governor and it seems the major reason he keeps getting rejected is he hasn’t learned voters want to know what he plans to do, not how much mud he can fling.” - DFLer R.T. Rybak** (“Another Bouza Book Takes A Beating,” *Associated Press*, August 10, 1994)

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**“Mike has burned a lot of bridges over the years.” -Jackie Stevenson, DFL activist**

(Bill Salisbury, “Front-Runner Hatch Has His Work Cut Out,” *Pioneer Press*, June 7, 2006)

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**“He’s tough as a junkyard dog. His Achilles’ heel is he’s just too political.”**

**- Bob Meek, DFL analyst**

(Bill Salisbury, “Finding A Place In The Middle[;] Mike Hatch Has Old-Fashioned, Nuts-And-Bolts View On Politics,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, July 17, 1994)

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**“His is a fairly crafty form of negative campaigning. It has no joy or vision.”**

**- DFLer Mike Freeman**

(Allen Short, “Mike Hatch - DFL Candidate For Governor,” *Star Tribune*, August 17, 1994)

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**“He’s a political hack if there ever was one.” - DFLer John Stanoch**

(Linda Vanderwerf, “Hatch’s Ads Cite Abortion, Stir Debate,” *Mesabi Daily News*, July 15, 1990)

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**“He’s an attractive flim-flam man,. He’s an expert at conning people...but I found working with him similar to being bludgeoned. He also does a very good job hyping himself. Of course in politics, there’s nothing wrong with that.”**

**- DFL feminist leader Jeri Rasmussen**

(Jim McCartney and Bill Salisbury, “Hatch Claims His Policy Is To Regulate,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch*, December 16, 1985)