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MARK ROUGHS UP REV. AL



TWO-FRONT ATTACK: Fernando Ferrer and the Rev. Al Sharpton both came under fire from Mark Green yesterday. Sharpton had said "Bozo" could have united the city as well as Mayor Giuliani did. Dan Cronin

Slams 'Bozo' jeer, calls Ferrer divider

By ROBERT HARDT Jr., KIRSTEN DANIS, and TOM TOPOUSIS

Mark Green yesterday ripped into rival Fernando Ferrer — charging that he's running a "polarizing" campaign and that his backer, the Rev. Al Sharpton, was wrong to make a "Bozo" remark about Mayor Giuliani.

Green's sudden attack — one week before the runoff — was his toughest of the campaign and comes just a day after he and Ferrer gave subdued performances in a 90-minute debate.

Green, who had avoided blasting Ferrer's "two cities" stump theme until Wednesday night's debate, called it "polarizing" at almost every campaign stop yesterday.

"The Ferrer campaign has been based on a polarizing theme of 'we're two cities,' " Green said in his first interview of the day on WOR-AM.

"He's a good man who allowed himself to run on a bad theme," Green later said of Ferrer on WABC-AM.

The Bronx borough president — who during the debate denied ever talking about "two cities" — yesterday wouldn't address the fact that he has been previously quoted in several newspaper articles using that term.

Green also went after Ferrer backer Sharpton for saying that even "Bozo" could have united the city as well as Giuliani did following the World Trade Center attacks.

"His remarks about Bozo were wrong, shouldn't have been said," Green said in attacking Sharpton for the first time.

Green's first jabs about Sharpton — five days after the reverend's comments — come as some experts believe Green must make the controversial civil-rights activist an issue in the campaign if he wants to boost turnout of moderate white supporters who will back him over Ferrer.

Sharpton told The Post he's "surprised" by Green's harsh words.

"I spoke to him on the phone Tuesday night and he never said anything to me about Bozo," Sharpton said.

"I don't know why you talk to a guy at night and then take shots at him in the day."

At an afternoon press conference, Green hammered Ferrer for waiting three weeks to offer a recovery plan for New York after the terror attack.

"He hasn't risen to the emergency when it comes to safety and security and — as I've said — I think his responses have been late and little," said Green, who received the backing of Giuliani's former public-safety czar, Jerry Hauer.

Ferrer mostly avoided mixing it up with Green — and last night got a major boost when the powerful teachers union voted to endorse him.

The United Federation of Teachers had previously backed Alan Hevesi's failed mayoral bid.

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