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The White House NEWS SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EJT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Broke His Pledge in 1980, Mondale Warns -- Larry Speakes said Social Security benefits would be protected for all present and future contributors to the program without adjustment for inflation.

(Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Hill Votes U.S. Money for Two Days -- Congress voted to bail out the government for two more days as House Democratic leaders moved to break a logjam on a full-year spending bill for most government agencies by agreeing to shelve controversial water projects that had prompted presidential veto threats.

(Washington Post)

Bush and Ferraro Gear Up for TV Debate -- George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro made final preparations for a debate that has acquired an unexpected importance in the campaign. The clash in a campaign atmosphere that has changed sharply since last Sunday when Mondale was widely seen as beating Ronald Reagan in their first debate.

(Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Endorses Israel's Economic Plans, Praised as True Friend -- President Reagan has given a ringing endorsement to Israel's plans to pull out of its economic troubles and received from PM Peres politically important praise as "a true friend of Israel."

(Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Tuesday Evening)

SOCIAL SECURITY -- President Reagan made an abrupt policy shift on Social Security.

PERES -- Mr. Reagan agreed to release all the aid money Congress has appropriated for next year all at once.

EL SALVADOR -- Salvadoran rebels accepted Duarte's invitation to hold peace talks.

BABY DOE -- President Reagan signed the Baby Doe Bill, under which medical personnel can be prosecuted if they don't treat severely handicapped infants.

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This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff. For complete stories or information, please call ext. 2950

NATIONAL NEWSREAGAN DENIES NEW CHARGE THAT HE PLANS BENEFIT CUTS

Soon after Mondale leveled the charge that President Reagan has a "secret plan" to reduce Social Security benefits after the election, Larry Speakes said Reagan was broadening his oft-stated pledge not to reduce benefits for those persons now on the rolls. "The President will never stand for a reduction of Social Security benefits for anybody," Speakes said. Speakes acknowledged that changes may be necessary in Medicare financing in the next few years and said they would be dealt with "hopefully on a bipartisan basis with the cooperation and not the demagoguery of the Democrats." Reagan's pledge underscored what aides described as intensifying White House fears that Mondale was scoring points on one of Reagan's most serious political vulnerabilities, continuing an offensive that the Democratic nominee launched in Sunday's debate.

(David Hoffman and Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A1)

President Denies Charge He Plans to Cut Benefits

The former vice president, on a roll after his effective debate performance, goaded President Reagan about the future of Social Security and drew an angry response from the White House. Mondale charged Mr. Reagan has aides working on a secret plan to cut Social Security benefits after the election. Larry Speakes, obviously in a state of temper, told reporters he had showed the Mondale statement to President Reagan in the Oval Office and was authorized to make this statement: "Mr. Mondale ought to be ashamed. He's out to frighten the elderly. Mr. Mondale's statement is pure campaign rhetoric. The President will never stand for reduction of Social Security benefits for anybody, those now getting them or future recipients." Also, President Reagan showed his feisty side when reporters asked him if the Democrats were trying to make an issue of his age. The 73-year-old President, who some thought looked tired after nearly two hours of the debate, retorted, "I'll arm wrestle them."

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Promises No Benefits Cut for Any Retirees

Mr. Reagan's inclusion of "future recipients" went further than a statement he made in the debate. The unusual addendum to the debate statement was offered as his strategists sought to deal with Mondale's continuing attacks on the President as "hatching plans to cut Social Security." The strategists were also mapping plans to regain the campaign offensive from Mondale.

(Francis Clines, New York Times, A1)

Rival's Attack Prompts Shift

President Reagan, abruptly shifting his policy on Social Security after a pointed challenge from Walter Mondale, categorically ruled out any reductions for changes in the benefits for current recipients for future retirees.

(Baltimore Sun, A1)

REAGAN BROKE HIS PROMISE IN 1980, MONDALE WARNS

PITTSBURGH -- Larry Speakes said Social Security benefits would be protected for all present and future contributors to the program without adjustment for inflation. Mondale contended this differed from Mr. Reagan's position in Sunday's debate, when he promised to protect those now on Social Security but left in question the position of those paying into the fund who are not yet beneficiaries.

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A1)

REAGAN'S AGE EMERGES AS ISSUE IN RACE

The question of whether Ronald Reagan is too old to be President emerged as an overt issue after a debate performance that even some of his aides described as halting and ineffective. Democrats, usually sensitive about raising the issue, openly suggested that Reagan was too old to serve another four years. And a Reagan adviser, commenting on condition that he not be identified, said: "It's the one issue that could change the course of this campaign. We don't think it will, but the potential is now there."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan's Age Is Now an Issue, Democrats Say

Citing what they said was an unsteady performance by President Reagan in the debate, Democratic leaders declared that Mr. Reagan's age was now a major issue in the campaign. "Sure it's a factor," said Speaker O'Neill. "There's no question about it. I've already announced I'm going to draw the curtain (as a congressman) and he's about 15 months older than I am. He did look a little tired." Republicans insisted the issue of his age and vigor would not hurt his bid for a second term.

(Fred Barnes, Baltimore Sun, A1)

MONDALE CAMPAIGN FEELS SPIRITS REVIVE

DETROIT -- Political campaigns are essentially exercises in mass persuasion, and nothing is more persuasive than success. In August and September, Mondale had struggled to overcome the image of being "a loser," hung on him by speaker after speaker at the Republican National Convention and reinforced by newspaper and television reports of his struggling, sometimes inept, campaign. Now, for the first time since the Democratic Convention, Mondale has begun to change public perceptions, and the effects are tangible. It has given Mondale a needed shot of confidence as a stump speaker. "Who won the debate?" he bellowed at the Detroit audience. "Mondale," they shouted. "Who's going to win the election?" "Mondale," they answered.

(David Broder, Washington Post, A4)

DETROIT -- Walter Mondale accused the Republicans of "trying to put ice in our souls in a campaign of self interest." The candidate was in fighting form at a noontime rally at Detroit's Kennedy Square. "Don't let them steal the future from our children," he said. Later at an airport news conference in Pittsburgh, Mondale told reporters he could sense a post-debate responsiveness in his crowds and said, "I believe that this campaign is red hot right now and I have a good chance of making it."

(Mike Feinsilber, AP)

SEARCH FOR STABILITY STEERING SUNNYVALE VOTERS TO REAGAN

SUNNYVALE, California -- President Reagan seems headed for victory here, but not necessarily because voters agree with the specifics of his policies or his expressed conservative ideology. They don't, as they will carefully tell you when they discuss such things as the deficit, public school prayer, abortion and Soviet-American relations. Reagan's standing is the result of a generalized feeling about the country's direction so strongly held and widely shared that it outweighs other issues troubling people.

(Haynes Johnson, Washington Post, A5)

ETHICS UNIT EXTENDS FERRARO PROBE;
GOP MAY FORCE FLOOR VOTE ON ISSUE

The House ethics committee voted unanimously to continue its investigation of allegations that Rep. Ferraro violated House disclosure requirements after it reviewed numerous amendments she filed to her original disclosure forms, it was learned by The Washington Times. The Times also learned that some House Republicans are drafting a "motion of privilege" to force the Ferraro matter to the House floor before the adjournment of Congress. In a third development, the Times also has learned that a committee investigator returned from New York and reported that John Zaccaro makes all the mortgage and tax payments on the couple's three jointly owned residential properties in Queens, Fire Island and St. Croix. A Republican source said some committee members, while making no formal judgment, believe the investigator's report seems to contradict Rep. Ferraro's claim that she is exempt from reporting her husband's financial dealings because she has no knowledge of them and has no benefit from them.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A1)

GOP STRATEGISTS SAY FARMERS, DESPITE HARD TIMES, WILL BACK REAGAN

Although many farmers have undergone a severe financial crunch, most seem to be coming out of their economic tailspin and still support President Reagan in the election, say GOP campaign strategists. Harold Steele and Donald Brock, national co-chairmen of Farmers and Ranchers for Reagan-Bush '84, said Carter Administration policies, which were shared by Mondale as vice president, were to blame for much of the recent farm problem, including a high rate of inflation and soaring interest rates.

(Don Kendall, AP)

BIG FARM GROUP GIVES FERRARO LOW MARKS

Geraldine Ferraro is the only member of the House who did not support the American Farm Bureau Federation on a single one of 18 votes identified as key issues. She voted against the Farm Bureau 12 times and missed the other six votes. Ferraro spokeswoman Amy Dehart discounted the importance of the Farm Bureau rating, citing instead a listing by the National Farmers' Union that shows the group agreed with Ferraro 10 out of 12 times on major votes last year.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A3)

GOP SEEN KEEPING SENATE STRENGTH

Sen. Lugar said in an interview that President Reagan's coattails will provide the margin of victory in three state where GOP incumbents are at risk and give the necessary impetus to win at least one seat currently held by Democrats.

(Ron Cordray, Washington Times, A2)

HILL VOTES U.S. MONEY FOR 2 DAYS

Congress voted to bail out the government for two more days as House Democratic leaders moved to break a logjam on a full-year spending bill for most government agencies by agreeing to shelve controversial water projects that had prompted presidential veto threats. The Democrats' move, which came after inconclusive efforts by Senate Republicans to negotiate a compromise with the White House, appeared aimed at prodding President Reagan to come to agreement on other major sticking points, including aid to insurgents in Nicaragua.

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A1)

HIGH COURT TO REVIEW PUBLIC TUTORING IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Supreme Court added to its docket a fifth major case testing the wall between church and state. The court agreed to review a federal appeals court ruling that struck down the way New York City administers a federally funded program of remedial aid for disadvantaged children. The lower court ruled that New York's Title I program -- which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education -- violates the First Amendment ban against state establishment of religion because the city sends public teachers into private schools, most of which are church-related, to tutor children.

(Tom Diaz, Washington Times, A3)

FETUS IS 'PERSON,' D.C. APPEALS COURT RULES FOR FIRST TIME

A divided D.C. Court of Appeals -- trying to sidestep controversies surrounding abortion and the legal rights of an unborn baby -- for the first time ruled that a fetus is a "person" under District law.

(David Sellers, Washington Times, A1)

HOUSE PANEL SUBPOENAS AGENCY HEAD, 40 OTHERS

The head of FEMA and 40 other people are being subpoenaed to testify before a House panel probing allegations of spending abuses and contract irregularities at the agency. The subpoenas were approved by the Science and Technology Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee.

(AP)

PANEL CHIEF ASKS JUSTICE FOR ITS NOTES ON LAVELLE

Rep. Dingell asked the Justice Department for notes that suggest that senior department officials in early 1983 discussed starting a criminal investigation of Rita Lavelle to block a probe of the EPA by Dingell's oversight and investigations subcommittee. In his statement, Dingell said he had received no reply, adding: "Any further delays raise serious questions about the department's motives."

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A3)

IMMIGRATION BILL DEADLOCK UNBROKEN

House-Senate conferees failed again to crack a two-week deadlock that likely will doom the first reform of immigration law since 1952. Sen. Simpson said President Reagan "indicated very clearly" in a meeting last week that he would veto the bill if federal costs were not capped at \$1B per year over the next four years.

(Rita McWilliams, Washington Times, A2)

ON THE HILL, OIL AND GAS MONEY FLOWS TO GOP, STUDY FINDS

Political action committees with strong ties to the oil and gas industries are continuing to funnel the majority of their cash to Republican Senate and House candidates, according to a study by an alliance of labor and liberal reform groups. The Citizen-Labor Energy Coalition, which has been lobbying for legislation to control energy prices, determined that from the start of 1983 through Aug. 31, 1984, a total of 212 PACs connected to the oil industry gave \$5.47M.

(Thomas Edsall, Washington Post, A4)

WORLD SERIES

SAN DIEGO -- The Detroit Tigers won the opening game of the World Series, defeating the San Diego Padres 3-2 behind the eight-hit pitching of Jack Morris. (AP)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Donnie Radcliffe's article, "Roosevelt Reunion: Nancy Reagan Honors the Democratic First Lady," appears on page D1 of The Washington Post (Style).

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BUSH STICKS TO DUTIES AS DEBATE APPROACHES

With their big debate just days away, Vice President Bush spent only 90 minutes preparing for his encounter with Rep. Ferraro and the rest of the time being vice presidential. Bush's aides portrayed him as coolly going about his official business, conferring with PM Peres -- to the consternation of some advisers who worry that he should bone up more intensely. Still, like Bush, his aides minimized the debate's political importance. (Juan Williams and Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A4)

Ferraro Practices Hard For Face-off With Bush

NEW YORK -- Rep. Ferraro began preparing in earnest for her debate with Vice President Bush, with Democratic strategists now convinced that the stakes in the Philadelphia face-off have increased dramatically. One adviser said Ferraro, who has never formally debated a political opponent, can be expected to challenge aggressively some of Reagan's "amazing claims and statements" on Sunday, particularly concerning his policies on Social Security and the deficit.

(Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A4)

Bush and Ferraro Gear Up for TV Debate

George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro made final preparations for a debate that has acquired an unexpected importance in the campaign. The clash in a campaign atmosphere that has changed sharply since last Sunday when Mondale was widely seen as beating Ronald Reagan in their first debate. Ferraro, who has brought zest to an otherwise lackluster Mondale campaign, will be trying to build on the momentum Mondale's debating victory has brought. (Reuter)

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) -- Philadelphia was eager to be host for the nation's first vice presidential debate with a woman candidate, hoping the addition to its rich political history would brighten its economic future.

(UPI) -- There will be a clash of styles when Vice President Bush meets Geraldine Ferraro in debate Thursday night. If Ferraro's off-the-cuff speaking style can best be summed up in the word "feisty," Bush's can be described as "testy." The New York congresswoman has never tested her wits in a national debate, but she is counting on her talent for the quick comeback and an uncanny rapport with an audience. The vice president, a seasoned debater, rarely follows a text in its entirety, and the results of his deviations can be sarcastic humor, gawky gestures and sometimes flights of rhetoric that ignore facts. Despite his frequent testy responses to reporters, he is by nature polite and will usually use a reporter's first name in answering a question.

(UPI) -- Both Bush and Ferraro are well-equipped to play the role of tough campaigner. In addition, both vice presidential candidates are seasoned ad lib performers. Both got early training in House of Representatives debate, in which short, sharp repositives are most effective and both are better in spontaneous question-and-answer formats than in delivering set piece speeches.

INTERNATIONAL NEWSREAGAN OFFERS TO AID ISRAEL

President Reagan told PM Peres that the U.S. is ready to help Israel overcome its economic problems, but decisions about the size and nature of new U.S. aid were postponed until January when a new joint study group is expected to report on Israel's needs. In announcing formation of the joint economic group to be composed of officials and economists from both countries, Reagan was vague about its functions. But Israeli sources said the group is being given a January deadline to present recommendations that Israel expects to be the basis for new U.S. assistance efforts.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan Endorses Israel's Economic Plans, Praised as True Friend

President Reagan has given a ringing endorsement to Israel's plans to pull out of its economic troubles and received from PM Peres politically important praise as "a true friend of Israel." In remarks following the White House talks, Reagan said he was impressed by the "bold and wide-ranging" economic steps being planned by the Israeli government.

(William Scally, Reuter)

U.S., Israel Plan Joint Commission to Resolve Israeli Economic Crisis

PM Peres announced the formation of the bilateral commission after meetings with President Reagan, Secretary Shultz and Secretary Weinberger. He said the aim was to restore his country's economy and trade balance and end the "impossible inflation which exists in Israel." Sources close to the State Department talks said Israel's economic crisis, Lebanon and Middle East peace were the main subjects discussed. Diplomatic sources said Israel is anxious to restart negotiations for a free trade treaty.

(Russell Howe, Washington Times, A1)

Israel's No. 1 Aid Share Could Rise

Aid to Israel in the current 1985 fiscal year will total \$2.6B, according to legislation in its final stage of passage on Capitol Hill. The total is about the same as in the previous year, but with the important difference that for the first time, the package is made up of grants from the U.S. Treasury instead of including large loans that must be repaid with interest at near-commercial rates.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A19)

President Vows to Try to Help Israeli Economy

President Reagan told PM Peres the U.S. would "cooperate the best way we can" to resolve Israel's pressing economic problems. He specifically promised to provide emergency help if Israel was faced with a balance-of-payments crisis. Through the joint economic group, the Administration hopes to halt Congress's practice of increasing aid to Israel in an unstructured way, a State Department official said.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

MUBARAK ENDS ISOLATION WITH VISIT TO JORDAN

AMMAN -- President Mubarak, marking the end of Egyptian isolation in the Arab world, arrived in Jordan two weeks after King Hussein broke ranks to establish diplomatic relations with Cairo.

(David Ottaway, Washington Post, A19)

King Hussein, Egyptian Leader May Chart Mideast Peace Strategy

AMMAN -- Mubarak said in a speech carried by Jordan state television: "Unity of words is our path and establishment of justice and peace our goal...You (Hussein) have valiantly opened the door for unifying positions and for a fresh struggle under a peace strategy." His remarks were widely seen as the clearest indication yet that a major purpose of Jordan's restoration of ties with Egypt was to create a front of Arab moderates to press for Middle East peace. (Ibrahim Noori, Reuter)

Hussein's Welcome Starts Egypt on Path Toward Arab Leadership

Other Arab nations are expected to follow Jordan's lead, further challenging Syria's recent ascendancy by forming a nucleus of what U.S. analysts cautiously predict will become a powerful bloc of moderate Arab nations.

(Donald Neff, Washington Times, A1)

LEADER OF S. LEBANON ARMY PREDICTS READINESS IN YEAR

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon -- The commander of the Israeli-supported South Lebanon Army said his forces will be able to secure all of southern Lebanon in a year, but that a complete Israeli withdrawal will be impossible unless there is also a political agreement to prevent outside pressures on his army. Gen. Antoine Lahad gave this assessment of his army's progress, of which even some Israeli military officials are skeptical, in an interview at the headquarters building he shares with units of the Israeli army.

(Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A18)

LEBANESE FORCES ELECT NEW CHIEF

BEIRUT -- Lebanon's Christian militia forces elected a new commander in a move seen as strengthening Gemayel's hold on the Maronite Christian community. At the same time, leftist groups announced the creation of a new national coalition under the leadership of Walid Jumblatt. Both developments underscored Lebanon's shift away from U.S. and Israeli alignments and bolstered Syria's position as power broker in the Lebanese political crisis.

(Bradley Graham, Washington Post, A20)

SOVIETS, N. YEMEN SIGN TREATY

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union and North Yemen signed a 20-year treaty of friendship and cooperation, a move that appeared to signal Moscow's rising profile in the Arab world. The conclusion of a treaty with North Yemen was seen by diplomatic observers here as indicating increased Soviet diplomatic and political activity in the Middle East following the failure of President Reagan's mediation efforts last year and the collapse of U.S. positions in Lebanon.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A19)

SALVADORAN REBELS ACCEPT MEETING

MEXICO CITY -- Salvadoran guerrilla leaders agreed to meet President Duarte in El Salvador Monday if the discussions are witnessed by neutral observers and if Duarte is accompanied at the talks by top-ranking Army officers, rebel spokesmen said. The rebels' acceptance of Duarte's proposal was the first important move toward beginning negotiations to end the five-year-old civil war.

(William Orne Jr. Washington Post, A1)

SAN SALVADOR -- The guerrilla acceptance of Duarte's proposed meeting was the most substantive move toward resolving the bloody conflict that has claimed some 59,000 lives.

(Joseph Frazier, AP)

Duarte's peace proposal "is a major step toward that end," said Allan Romberg. "The United States welcomes this initiative." Another Administration official added, "It's a good move. It took a lot of guts by Duarte." The same official denied the U.S. engineered the coming talks, but said U.S. officials did discuss the prospect of negotiations with Duarte for the past several months. (Miles Cunningham, Washington Times, A1)

The unexpected diplomatic effort was welcomed by diplomats throughout the region. They characterized Duarte's offer as a shrewd gesture intended both to blunt an expected guerrilla offensive and to seize the political high ground as the Contadora peace talks enter their final phase.

(James LeMoyne, New York Times, A1)

Duarte Says His Peace Moves Widely Supported

SAN SALVADOR -- Duarte said all sectors of Salvadoran society support his proposal for peace talks with left-wing guerrillas but has declined to discuss the guerrillas' conditions for a meeting.

(Mark Baillie, Reuter)

SHULTZ HEADING FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

Secretary Shultz is to leave on a three-day swing through Central America for talks with area leaders at a moment of tension and hope for progress toward a regional peace. The focus of the trip is the inauguration Thursday of Nicolas Ardito-Barletta as president of Panama. Shultz will visit Duarte on the way to Panama and de la Madrid on the way back. He is also scheduled to stop briefly in Puerto Rico on Friday to greet Pope John Paul II.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A21)

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NEWS FROM THE STATES

DEBATE

LANSING, Mich. (UPI) -- U.S. Rep. Claude Pepper, a leading senior citizens' advocate, says the elderly will turn to Walter Mondale once they understand the facts. "I think (the debate) is a turning point in this campaign," Pepper said. Asked why many senior citizens favor Reagan, Pepper said "They don't have a full understanding of the facts."

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (UPI) -- Walter Mondale may have avoided a historic defeat with a solid performance in the first of his two debates with President Reagan, a top conservative pollster says. Frederick Currier of Market Opinion Research said Monday there was "no doubt" Mondale was a "slight winner" over Reagan. Although admitting the debate breathed life into the Mondale campaign, Currier said there is too little time for the Democrat to overcome a Reagan lead of 10 to 15 percent. "It is unlikely now, unless you get a huge mistake by Reagan or a foreign policy problem."

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (UPI) -- Walter Mondale sounded a bit nasal, but seemed more in control and President Reagan looked a bit shaky at first in the first presidential debate, a speech pathologist who specializes in public speaking said. President Reagan's head shook somewhat and he appeared somewhat uncomfortable, but eventually stabilized, Lillian Glass said Monday. Glass, who instructs politicians and performers how to improve their delivery style, said Mondale's demeanor "changed incredibly" for the debate. "He looked into the camera, used gestures, more facial animation," she said. "He seemed more in control."

SALEM, Ore. (UPI) -- Gov. Vic Atiyeh said Tuesday that Walter Mondale may have gained some ground on President Reagan following Sunday night's debate between the two presidential candidates. Atiyeh, who is an honorary co-chairman of the Oregon Reagan-Bush campaign, said he would have liked to see Reagan "do a better job and been more forceful."

MINNEAPOLIS (UPI) -- Minnesota Independent Republicans felt President Reagan did well in Sunday night's debate while Minnesota Democrats gave the edge to former Vice President Walter Mondale. The reaction was predictable but Marsie Leier, co-chair of the Reagan-Bush campaign in Minnesota, gave high marks to Mondale. She said, "I think Mondale probably did the best job I ever saw him do." However, Leier said whatever benefit the former vice president got from the debate, it will be only temporary.

MEDFORD, Ore. (UPI) -- Southern Oregonians gave Walter Mondale a 55-45 percentage favorable edge in a telephone call-in poll conducted by two television stations regarding Sunday night's debate with President Reagan.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) -- Labeling President Reagan as incompetent, Rep. Bill Alexander, D-Ark., said Walter Mondale was the clear winner of the first presidential debate and that he hoped the performance would mean more campaign funds before November. Republicans called Reagan the winner.

OKLAHOMA CITY (UPI) -- A Democratic leader says Walter Mondale did so well in the presidential debate that President Reagan may try to back out of a second match. But a Republican official called Sunday night's battle a standoff that won't affect the vote.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

REAGAN LOOKS LIKE A WINNER IN FLORIDA CITRUS COUNTRY

LAKELAND, Fla. (UPI) -- In the heart of citrus country, President Reagan has the look of a winner -- a big winner. Old people and young people, orange grove owners and union workers, Republicans and Democrats. All are falling in line with the Reagan parade. Walter Mondale has some support in heavily Democratic Lakeland and Polk County, but not nearly as much as one might think. Plus, Mondale backers are something less than gung-ho.

REGAN SAYS MONDALE IS HIGH TAX, HIGH SPENDING PROPONENT

SANDUSKY, Ohio (UPI) -- Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale is a proponent of high-tax, high-spending and low-growth economics, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan says. Regan, speaking to about 500 Erie County Republicans Monday night, said he was "absolutely delighted" with Mondale's remarks during Sunday's presidential debate. "(I was) delighted in that he finally revealed, once and all, to a very large audience exactly what he stood for," Regan said. "And what he stood for is higher taxes, higher spending and lower growth.

BLACK REPUBLICANS DENOUNCE MONDALE-FERRARO

LOS ANGELES (UPI) -- A group of black Republican leaders Tuesday denounced the Mondale-Ferraro campaign for "blatant dishonesty" and distortion in attacking President Reagan's record on minorities. The Rev. E. V. Hill, who supported Jesse Jackson before joining the Reagan-Bush camp, told reporters at a Crenshaw District news conference that black voters are not getting an accurate picture of the Reagan administration. Also speaking at the "Black Voters for Reagan-Bush" campaign kickoff -- part of a national effort to woo the support of black voters -- was Stephanie Lee-Miller, assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

JOBLESS DOMINANT ISSUE IN OHIO

CINCINNATI (UPI) -- While it has not been the dominant issue of the 1984 presidential campaign, joblessness still tops many Ohioans' lists of biggest problems facing the nation, according to the latest edition of the Ohio Poll. The poll, released Monday by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati, said 28 percent of those people questioned said unemployment is the nation's most troublesome issue.

PRESIDENT TO VISIT ALABAMA

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (UPI) -- President Reagan will make a campaign stop at the University of Alabama Monday for a short speech and to field questions from students, state Republicans said. Gordon Lawless, senior vice chairman of the Alabama Republican Party, said Reagan chose the Alabama campus "because the students here love him and because the university setting is the type of forum the president enjoys."

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

KENTUCKY SENATORIAL CANDIDATES DEBATE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) -- Sen. Walter "Dee" Huddleston, D-Ky., and Republican Senate nominee Mitch McConnell said their friends and supporters told them Tuesday that each had won their first campaign debate. McConnell dismissed any suggestion that renewed interest in Walter Mondale's campaign would affect his chance to benefit from President Reagan's coattails. McConnell said that -- despite Mondale's showing in Sunday night's debate with President Reagan -- there hadn't been any polling evidence to show Mondale's standing among voters had improved.

KENTUCKY REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN HAS 3-1 MARGIN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) -- Rep. Gene Snyder, R-Ky., leads Democratic challenger Pat Mulloy by a 3-1 margin and is one of the few congressmen with a district lead bigger than President Reagan, Snyder's pollster says. "It is extremely unusual for an incumbent congressman to be running ahead of the president right now," Newhouse said. Newhouse declined to specify the difference between the Snyder and Reagan showings in the survey but said it was within the poll's 5.5 percent margin of error.

BETHUNE WANTS DEBATE WITH PRYOR

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) -- GOP Congressman Ed Bethune accused his general election opponent, incumbent Democratic Sen. David Pryor, of being afraid of his record in refusing to participate in a statewide televised debate. Calling the first presidential debate Sunday a "high point" in American politics, Bethune said in a news conference Monday that Pryor's refusal to debate was a "low point" for Arkansas politics.

MRS. BUSH IN BUFFALO

BUFFALO, N.Y. (UPI) -- Buffalo's first light rail rapid transit car, with the wife of Vice President George Bush at the controls, moved along Main Street today in the official opening of the above ground section of the city's new transit system. "Wonderful," Mrs. Bush said as she stepped from the transit car after piloting the vehicle on its inaugural trip along a 1.2 mile stretch of the transit line.

MRS. MONDALE IN OREGON

BEND, Ore. (UPI) -- Joan Mondale, wife of Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale, will visit Oregon Friday during a political swing along the West Coast on behalf of her husband. She will make a stop in Bend during the trip, which also will take her to Spokane, Bellingham and Seattle in Washington and Salinas and San Diego in California.

HODEL IN CALIFORNIA

TILLAMOOK, Ore. (UPI) -- U.S. Energy Secretary Donald Hodel hopes a plan to sell surplus power from the Columbia River Basin to California will be finished by November. Hodel told a gathering sponsored by the Tillamook County Republican Central Committee over the weekend that the Northwest has \$250 million worth of surplus power every year that could be sold.

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

PREACHERS SUPPORT HANSEN

BOISE (UPI) -- A group of Baptist preachers is traveling through southern Idaho this week on behalf of Rep. George Hansen, praising the Idaho Republican as a champion of religious freedom for his role in a Nebraska church school dispute.

CONGRESSMEN DEBATE

LARAMIE, Wyo. (UPI) -- Two upcoming debates may help close the gap between Democratic U.S. House candidate Hugh McFadden Jr. and Rep. Dick Cheney, R-Wyo., McFadden says. Cheney and McFadden are scheduled to debate each other Oct. 21 in Casper, Cheney's home, and Oct. 31 in Laramie, McFadden's home.

ASHE TRYs TO TIE GORE TO MONDALE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) -- Republican Victor Ashe tried repeatedly to link Democrat Albert Gore Jr. with his party's presidential nominee, Walter Mondale, Monday night during the fifth of six Senate candidate debates. "Well of course I support Walter Mondale," Gore said in answer to Ashe's questioning. Ashe said the Senate race was a "choice between Mondale-Gore ticket and the Reagan-Ashe ticket." He said it was also a vote for or against Mondale's proposed "\$157 a month tax increase."

SENIOR CITIZENS TRAVEL ILLINOIS AGAINST REAGAN

CHICAGO (UPI) -- A group of senior citizens will begin traveling across the state Wednesday in a nine-day Truth Drive to educate fellow seniors on "life and death issues," including what they say are the adverse policies of President Reagan and Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill. "The Reagan administration has already cut our Medicare and Social Security and has plans for more. Seniors must know this," she said.

DEMOCRATS CONSIDER PUNISHING CROSSOVERS

ST. LOUIS (UPI) -- Members of the Democratic City Central Committee met today to consider punishment for two aldermen who crossed party lines and endorsed Republican John Ashcroft for governor. Democratic aldermen Steven C. Roberts and Virvus Jones announced their endorsements Monday. Ashcroft attended their joint news conference at offices of the Regional Commerce and Growth Association. "It's Columbus Day, but it's not a holiday," Rep. Anthony D. Ribaud, D-St. Louis, said Monday. "Virvus Jones and Steve Roberts have ruined the holiday."

PENNSYLVANIANS SPOTLIGHT FAILURE OF ADMINISTRATION

HARRISBURG, Pa. (UPI) -- Ronald Reagan's farm and economic policies came under attack Tuesday by a coalition formed to spotlight the "failures of the Reagan administration" in the state. United Pennsylvanians -- composed of groups representing the concerns of farmers, senior citizens, environmentalists and others -- said it would be traveling across the commonwealth to show how the president's policies have harmed state residents.

-end of State News-

CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES

(UPI) -- Schedules for the presidential and vice presidential candidates for Wednesday, Oct. 10, and tentative schedules for the week ahead.

Walter Mondale:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Noon departs Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, for Market Square, Stanwick and Fourth streets, Philadelphia.

12:15 rally, Market Square.

12:45 p.m. departs for airport.

1:15 p.m. private time, airport.

2 p.m. charter flight to New York City.

3:05 p.m. arrives LaGuardia Airport, Marine Air terminal, Butler Aviation. Late afternoon event, New York.

Evening attends New York Democratic dinner, Sheraton Center, overnights Waldorf-Astoria Hilton Hotel, Park Avenue at East 50th street.

Thursday, Oct. 11: Departs New York for Columbus, Ohio.

Noon rally, State House, Columbus.

Departs for Orlando, Fla., no time given.

Late afternoon event, Orlando. Departs for Miami, no time given, has an event and overnights there.

Friday, Oct. 12: Morning departs Miami for Madison, Wis.

Noon EDT rally, East Washington entrance, State Capitol, Madison.

Departs for Minneapolis, no time given, and overnights at home, North Oaks, Minn.

Saturday, Oct. 13: Event, St. Paul, Minn., no time given. Overnights North Oaks.

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Geraldine Ferraro:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Prepares for vice presidential debates, Modern Telecommunication, 47th and Second streets, New York City; pool reporters only.

Thursday, Oct. 11: Morning private time, Queens.

2:35 p.m. EDT departs for LaGuardia Airport, Butler Aviation, Marine Air terminal.

3 p.m. departs for Philadelphia.

3:40 p.m. arrives Philadelphia International Airport, gate 25, Cargo City terminal.

4:20 p.m. goes to Pennsylvania Hall, Civic Center Drive, to view debate site.

5 p.m. departs for Bellevue Stratford Hotel, Broad and Walnut streets, Philadelphia.

5:15 p.m. private time, hotel. 8:15 p.m. departs for Pennsylvania Hall.

8:30 p.m. arrives hall.

9 p.m. vice presidential debate.

10:30 p.m. private time, Pennsylvania Hall.

10:55 p.m. departs for The Bourse, Fifth and Market streets, Philadelphia.

11:10 p.m. rally, The Bourse.

11:35 p.m. departs for hotel and overnights there.

Friday, Oct. 12: Departs Philadelphia for Madison, Wis., no time given.

Noon joins Mondale for rally, state capitol.

Goes to Chicago, no time given, has an event and overnights there.

Saturday, Oct. 13: Departs Chicago for campaign trip to Des Moines, Iowa, no time or event given.

Returns to Queens for overnight.

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CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES (continued)

President Reagan:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: 10:40 a.m. EDT event, St. Agatha's High School, Wayne County, Mich.

12:05 p.m. event, Ukranian Cultural Center, Redford, Mich.

2:30 p.m. rally at McComb College, McComb County, Mich.

4:55 p.m. returns to Washington.

Thursday, Oct. 11: White House.

Friday, Oct. 12: 11:35 a.m. EDT rally, downtown Dayton, Ohio, to kick off whistle stop train trip through Ohio.

1:10 p.m. rally in Sidney, Ohio.

2:50 p.m. rally in Lima, Ohio.

3:40 p.m. rally in Ottawa, Ohio.

4:40 p.m. rally in Deshler, Ohio.

6 p.m. rally in Perrysburg, Ohio.

6:50 p.m. departs Toledo Express Airport for Andrews Air Force Base.

8:05 p.m. EDT Returns to White House

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Vice President George Bush:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Washington; no public schedule.

Thursday, Oct. 11: 1 p.m. EDT departs Washington for Philadelphia.

9 p.m. Vice presidential debate, Pennsylvania Hall, Philadelphia.

Friday, Oct. 12: 9 a.m. EDT rally, the port of Elizabeth, N.J. Departs for Birmingham, Ala., no time given.

12:20 p.m. EDT speech, Southeast U.S.-Japan Annual Conference, Birmingham, Ala.

2 p.m. departs for Washington.

Saturday, Oct. 13: Washington.

Sunday, Oct. 14: Begins campaign swing to the West Coast, no locations or events available.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

CBS's Dan Rather: President Reagan made an abrupt policy shift today on Social Security. His new position: not only no benefit cuts for those now getting Social Security, but no proposed cuts either for future retirees. This was a policy shift aimed at taking away one of the issues on which Walter Mondale believes he has been scoring.

CBS's Bob Schieffer: It was before a lively crowd in Cincinnati this morning that Mondale laid down the Social Security challenge, saying he'd never allow cuts in benefits for those on Social Security, or those who will be eligible in the future. (Mondale: "I have taken this pledge. I think it's time for President Reagan to take that pledge without loopholes and make it to the American people right now, before the election.") That got almost as much applause as when Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste gave Mondale a Louisville Slugger for the way he said Mondale slugged it out in Sunday's debate. And in Detroit, where he picked up a Detroit Tigers hat to go with the bat a few hours later, he got another enthusiastic reception from one of his biggest campaign crowds. But it wasn't until his third stop of the day, Pittsburgh, that he learned the President had also taken the pledge on Social Security. His reaction was a bit dubious. (Mondale, at airport: "The American people know I'll protect Social Security and Medicare. We have no way of knowing which Reagan policies would be in effect after the election.") Forcing today's Presidential statement on Social Security only added to the rising optimism that's been building in the Mondale camp since Sunday night's debate. And that's understandable, because at every stop since then, there's been no doubt the crowds liked what they saw in the face-off with the President. The Mondale people know there's still a huge gap to close, but they say events of the past two days show their message is now beginning to be heard, and that, they say, is the first step. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Brit Hume: In Cincinnati this morning, Walter Mondale was still taking bows for his debate performance the other night in Louisville, and Ohio Gov. Celeste gave a baseball bat to commemorate it. It was, of course, a Louisville Slugger. Before his first audience of the day, Mondale raised the issue that has become a virtual Democrat's rallying cry. (Mondale: "The choice of values in this election can be seen in just two words: Social Security.") Mondale said President Reagan had promised not to cut Social Security benefits, and then done just that. And he said the President has now made the same promise to current recipients, but left open the possibility he might cut all future beneficiaries. (Mondale: "I don't know which is worse, cutting benefits for people who are on Social Security or asking people to pay into Social Security their whole lifetime and not give them any benefits when the time comes to retire.") Mondale pledged to veto any bill to cut Social Security in any way. (Mondale: "I think it's time for President Reagan to take that pledge without loopholes and make it to the American people right now, before the election.") Next stop Detroit. This is the state that gave Mondale one of his biggest victories of the primary

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Hume (continued): season, and today, thanks he said to the debate, gave him one of his biggest crowds of the year. Mondale's performance as a debater has clearly fired up up the Democratic faithful, and he apparently thinks one way to keep them fired up and keep the President on the defensive is to hammer away on the one issue that has given Ronald Reagan anything but trouble: Social Security. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Lisa Myers: (Mondale: "This campaign is now close. This campaign has begun. We're on our way. We're making progress every day.") Keeping up the pressure, Mondale took some tough swings at Reagan on the volatile issue of Social Security, claiming Reagan's pledge during the debate never to cut Social Security was full of loopholes. (Mondale: "His only pledge was to people now on Social Security. The question is: Will he keep it when he didn't last time? But there's a deeper question about what he intends to do with the rest of you.") While being tough on Social Security, he's not bringing up another sensitive issue that came out of the debates: the President's age. But other Democrats were discussing it publicly. (Speaker O'Neill: "I've already announced that I'm going to withdraw and this will be my last term. And -- ah -- I don't know. He's 15 months older than I am, or something like that. I don't want to get into the age factor. He did look a little tired the other night, a little confused, which he admitted." Mayor Coleman Young: "I think we saw on television last Sunday there's a man in the White House now who really doesn't have the answers. Half the time, he didn't know what was going on.") Clearly, this campaign is going to get a whole lot tougher. Mondale's aides claim to have polls showing that he already has cut a few points from the President's lead. They said it was what they call a dramatic improvement in Mondale's image as a leader. Some now predict he can close to within 10 points of Reagan in time for the second debate. (NBC-Lead)

CBS's Leslie Stahl: The President played offensive politics in the Rose Garden, signing the Older Americans Act and took credit for it, even though he proposed cutting the bill by more than a billion dollars. But it was defensive politics backstage. (TV Coverage: Graphic showing still photo of Larry Speakes with words written underneath.) Spokesman Larry Speakes, quoting the President, said Mondale ought to be ashamed. He's out to frighten the elderly. And he denied Mondale's charge today of a secret plan to cut Social Security benefits. It was the first time the President had responded to a Mondale charge made from the campaign trail. The White House then announced a sudden shift in its Social Security policy. The President promised no reductions in benefits, not only for those who get their benefits now, but for future recipients as well -- those who work and pay into the system. Till now, the pledge covered only current recipients, a position taken as recently as Sunday night. (President, during debate: "I will never stand for a reduction of the Social Security benefits to the people that are now getting them.") Why the sudden shift? Well, a CBS News-New York Times poll taken right after the debate asked viewers what was said that made the strongest impression. The issue most often mentioned was Social

Stahl (continued): Security. White House officials denied they were panicking. But indicating the President's policy shift was made for political reasons, Larry Speakes said the Democrats took the Social Security issue and beat us over the head with it in the '82 campaign, and they aren't going to do it again. (CBS-2)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan's strategists moved swiftly today to close the apparent loophole in the President's Social Security position through which Walter Mondale is trying to drive his campaign truck. (TV Coverage: Graphic with still photo of Speakes in corner, wire copy beneath and words written out over wire copy.) Larry Speakes said he took the wire copy report of Mondale's Cincinnati speech into the Oval Office and the President authorized him to say that no Social Security recipients, including future recipients, would suffer a benefit cut. Mondale is out to frighten the elderly. He should be ashamed, said Speakes. The President later spoke for himself on the matter. (Donaldson: "Sir, will you extend your pledge not to cut Social Security benefits to future recipients as well as present recipients?" President: "I think that is the statement I released has all -- has been made clear. That's exactly what I meant the other night." Reporter: "It's not what you said Sunday night, sir!" President: "Yes it is, really.") No it wasn't, actually. On Sunday, the President spoke only about present recipients. (President, in debate: "I will never stand for a reduction of the Social Security benefits to the people that are now getting them.") Now it's clear. Not only the people now getting them, the people who will get them are covered in the President's pledge not to cut benefits. But along with such heavy talk, Mr. Reagan fell back on one of his favorite devices today -- humor -- to deflect the Mondale assault. What about Mondale's charges, a reporter asked. (President: "He ought to pay them.") And it was humor the President used in the attempt to deal with that other age issue that emerged from the debate: his own, stemming from the President's sometimes fumbling answers on Sunday night. (Donaldson: "Mr. President, the Democrats say your age is now a legitimate issue in the campaign. Do you think it ought to be, sir?" President: "I'll challenge him to an arm wrestle anytime.") The Reagan White House now seems to be on the defensive, a direct result of the Sunday night debate and the way it changed the campaign dynamics. Social Security and the President's age have always been here. But only now did the warning flags seem to be up here, and it may take more than one-liners to bring them down. (ABC-2)

NBC's Chris Wallace: Social Security is such a sensitive issue here that when Mondale hit the President today, Reagan hit back. He sent Larry Speakes to tell reporters Mondale is out to frighten the elderly. He ought to be ashamed. Then Speakes tried to close every loophole, saying the President will never stand for a reduction of Social Security benefits for anybody. Those now getting them or future recipients. During a Rose Garden ceremony, Mr. Reagan denied this was a big change in policy. (President: "That's exactly what I meant the other night.") But in Sunday's debate, he pledged only to protect current recipients. And last March, Mr. Reagan called for a revamping of the program. He was known then to be considering an increase in the eligibility age of future retirees. A

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Wallace (continued): leading Democrat noted that Mr. Reagan made a similar pledge in 1980 to protect all Social Security benefits, and then proposed cuts. (Rep. Coelho: "I think the question that the people have to ask themselves is whether or not they can believe President Reagan in 1984 and whether or not he is doing the same thing in 1984 that he did in 1980. And the only response that we would have is: There you go again, Mr. President.") If the President responded forcefully on Social Security, he had a different way to deal with Democratic suggestions he may be too old for his job, saying he had an offer for Mondale. (President: "I'll challenge him to an arm wrestle anytime.") But in the wake of Mr. Reagan's poor debate performance, there's not much laughing here, especially not about Social Security. That has long been one of the President's weakest issues. In 1982, the Democrats made big gains charging he planned to cut the program. A top official explaining today's announcement said, "We're not about to let them get away with it again."

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Today the President signed legislation that would make it more difficult to cut off Social Security disability benefits. In the last couple of years, about 300,000 people lost their disability benefits after a review of the rolls. (NBC-2)

Rather: One issue that President Reagan can't defuse with a policy change is an issue that went unspoken but not unnoticed during showdown Sunday with Walter Mondale: the issue of Mr. Reagan's age. Does it affect his performance as President? Will it in the future? Since Sunday, the issue and those questions are being talked about more.

CBS's Bill Plante: (President, during debate: "But -- um -- but the -- um -- ") In Sunday's debate, the President stumbled, hesitated and sometimes appeared to be groping. (President: "With regard to -- ah -- the -- ah -- with regard to the -- ah -- progressivity, as I said -- ") And now the Democrats, sensing an issue, have begun suggesting not very subtly that perhaps Mr. Reagan is too old for the job. (Robert Strauss: "Ronald Reagan's failure to be crisp, to be sharp, and the way he disassembled in the debate did make age an issue." Speaker O'Neill: "He's 15 months older than I am, or something like that -- I don't want to get into the age factor. He did look a little tired the other night, a little confused, which he admitted.") The oldest man ever to serve as President has always relied on humor to defuse the age issue. (President in Dixon, Ill., on birthday: "I believe Moses was 80 when God first commissioned him for public service.") Lines like that, plus all the pictures of a robust President swimming or clad in jeans on the back of a horse have so far canceled out any signs of aging, such as his deteriorating hearing or occasional dozing off. (TV Coverage: President swimming, riding and lifting weights, then holding his hand to his ear in Baltimore and dozing off during his meeting with the Pope.) Statistically speaking, doctors say that people Mr. Reagan's age are approaching a difficult time of life. (Dr. Lawrence Klein, Georgetown University: "People reach 75-80 years old, the prevalence of chronic disease goes up, the prevalence of dementia goes up. Of

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Plante (continued): course, some people do quite well in that 75 to 80 to 85 range.") And today the President, asked about the Democrats' charge he's too old, was still joking. (President, at Peres departure: "I'll challenge him to an arm wrestle anytime.") Still, the President's performance on Sunday has caused doubts among some longtime supporters, such as psychologist Eugene Jennings, a management expert. (Eugene Jennings, Michigan State University: "Basically, what I saw, and knowing what he was like four years ago, I think aging has had an effect.") Mr. Reagan's aides, stunned and disappointed by his performance in the debate, fear he may have created an issue where one didn't exist. They think that they can make it go away by putting him to work vigorously on the campaign trail, but they're amazed it could have happened in the first place. (CBS-3)

ABC's James Wooten: This was one of those rare days in schizophrenic Washington when the whole town seemed to focus on one thing: Ronald Reagan's age. It all started with this morning's Wall Street Journal in a story that quoted Democratic Congressman Tony Coelho. He said the President himself had made his age a campaign issue by looking old and acting old in the debate on Sunday night. And when Speaker O'Neill, who's no college freshman himself, showed up for work today, he said he couldn't agree more. (Speaker O'Neill: "He did look a little tired the other night, a little confused, which he admitted." Reporter asks question. O'Neill: "Oh sure, there's a factor, there's no question about it.") The question may be fairly simple. Is Mr. Reagan, the oldest man ever to serve as President, too old to serve four more years? Any suggestion that he may be understandably irritates the men who run the White House. But it isn't an entirely irrelevant question. Even some of his loyalists conceded that he didn't seem up to snuff in the debate. (President, in debate: "The system is still where it was with regard to -- uh -- the -- uh -- with regard to the -- ah -- progressivity, as I said --") And there have been other times when he hasn't seemed exactly on top of things. (President, at ranch: "What?" Reporter asks question. Mrs. Reagan: "Doing everything we can." President: "Doing everything we can.") Michael Deaver, his closest aide, has said the President falls asleep occasionally during Cabinet meetings, as he seems to have drifted off in this audience with the Pope, (TV Coverage: The President nodding off during meeting with Pope) just one more of the endless round of appointments on any presidential calendar, a regimen that has taken its toll on much younger presidents in the past. So his schedule is liberal, with rest and relaxation. And there are plenty of photo opportunities to show him as the picture of health, (TV Coverage: Pictures of the President riding and cleaning his horse's hooves) a hale and hearty President, no matter what his age. Most Democrats are still very cautious, because the President's age is an issue with a lot of potential backlash.

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ABC's Peter Jennings: Well, that is the political dimension of the story today. To discuss the medical side a little more in depth, joining me is ABC's medical editor Dr. Tim Johnson. Dr. Tim, if the -- some people did see the President more faltering, more uncertain and looking old, does that really tell us anything?

ABC's Dr. Tim Johnson: I don't think so, Peter. I think one has to make a careful distinction between various aspects of aging. For example, there are problems associated with aging of the physical body. President Reagan appears to be in good physical health, from all we can gather. There are other processes that might be more associated with changes in mental acuity. But even those do not necessarily signify aging. A person may, for example, have always stumbled while trying to think or speak on their feet, and what we're more interested in is any change with them. Finally, I think we have to say that there are other kinds of changes that have nothing to do with either physical ability or mental acuity -- such skills as judgment and instinct and intuition.

Jennings: Let me interrupt you for a second. And you're saying that, if the President was halting and uncertain on the television, it is not necessarily a reflection on his ability in other areas.

Johnson: Not necessarily, but obviously cause for concern. The only two statements I could make medically speaking that would not be challenged I think are these: Number one, that with increasing age there is clearly an increased statistical risk for both physical and mental problems. Ten percent of people who reach 75 have significant mental impairment. Having said that, the other side of the medical coin is that there is no good way to predict in any individual case what's going to happen or how fast anything might happen.

Jennings: the President said in the 1980 campaign that if he became President, he would take regular tests for mental agility, or as he called it then senility. Is that something that he should do, or should any man 73 in that job do?

Johnson: That does become both I think a medical and political question. We do not have precise medical tests to say that this person is suffering from aging attributable to mental change. But we do have some tests which, when taken together, can give some at least clues in that direction. I personally think those are tests we would apply to anybody we suspected of having some mental problems or some aging associated with the (unintelligible), and maybe we should apply to a president as we would to anybody else.

(ABC-3)

DEBATE COMMENTARY

NBC's John Chancellor comments that the debate didn't attract as large an audience as the presidential debates in 1980 and 1976. What may be more important politically is that the figures show the audience stayed tuned until the end of the debate. The President

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Chancellor (continued): would have been better off if most of the viewers had switched halfway through. He less effective as the debate went on, and his closing statement was his worst moment. That worst moment and Mondale's better showing are going to give the Reagan campaign some headaches for the next week or so. so far this year, the story has been a triumph for Reagan and a disaster for Mondale. Now that the President has stumbled, every columnist, cartoonist, editorial writer and commentator is going to produce something about the flaws in the Republican campaign. It is only natural. This coverage could center on the President's age. No one today was seriously questioning the President's ability to survive his bad showing in the debate and the period of critical press coverage, but just about everyone agrees that it makes this campaign a closer contest. (NBC-10)

BLUE COLLAR VOTE

Brokaw talks in Toledo with two blue collar voters, one who is a union organizer and pro-Mondale, and one, a member of the organizer's union, who is pro-Reagan. (NBC-9)

PRIME MINISTER PERES

Rather: With a pledge that "our ties remain unbreakable," President Reagan had a White House meeting today with Israeli Prime Minister Peres. But after more than two hours of talks in the Oval Office, Mr. Reagan made no specific commitment to new U.S. aid for Israel. He did, however, announce formation of a panel of U.S. and Israeli officials to help strengthen Israel's economy, which has been wracked by a 400 percent inflation rate. (CBS-5)

Jennings: Israel's new Prime Minister, Shimon Peres, today appealed to President Reagan for help in bailing the Jewish state out of its worst economic crisis ever. After a two-hour meeting at the White House, Mr. Reagan agreed to release all the aid money Congress has appropriated for the next year to Israel all at once. And the White House also set up a joint economic development group to provide long-term help. (ABC-4)

NBC's Marvin Kalb: (TV Coverage: Photo opportunity in the Oval Office showing the President and Prime Minister Peres) This is the picture the White House wanted and wanted now, during the height of the election campaign: a sympathetic President and a needy prime minister. The President invited Peres to demonstrate his support for the Jewish state, fully aware of the political benefits, and Peres accepted because Israel desperately needs that support and more, and after these meetings it's clear he's going to get it. (President: "We've made clear our willingness to continue our dialogue and to cooperate with Israel the best we can as Israel proceeds with its plans.") Peres asked for a Presidential declaration of U.S. support for the Israeli economy and got it. He asked for more economic aid and military aid, \$2.6 billion in flat-out grants for 1985. He'll get

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Kalb (continued): that all in the first quarter of the year. And for 1986, perhaps as much as \$4 billion. And Peres expressed his country's gratitude with words that have political resonance. (Peres: "Again, Mr. President, I thank you from the depths of my heart for your understanding, friendship and support in the long and short range of the destiny of Israel.") Peres also conferred with Secretary Shultz about Israel's economic plans and with Defense Secretary Weinberger, who visits Israel next week. Peres spoke of a new level of harmony between the two countries and as an example cited the establishment of joint economic development groups to help Israel overcome its current problems. (NBC-3)

PRESIDENT MUBARAK

Egyptian President Mubarak met with Jordan's King Hussein today, restoring diplomatic ties between those countries. (CBS-6, ABC-5, NBC-4)

EL SALVADOR

CBS's Mike O'Connor reports Salvadoran rebels accepted President Duarte's invitation to hold peace talks. Some diplomatic observers see Duarte's willingness to talk now as a sign that he feels secure politically. The Salvadoran army says it is doing better in the field. U.S. Amb. Pickering warned that an agreement to talk was only a first step. (Amb. Pickering: "An extremely important step. I don't look for turning points and I don't look for lights at the end of the tunnel. I think neither of those concepts is rational or reasonable given the difficulty of the task here.") (CBS-4)

ABC's Anne Garrels says Duarte has invited only guerrilla field commanders, saying they are the real guerrilla power. The guerrillas want their political leaders, now in exile, to attend. According to Amb. Pickering, the time was right for Duarte to make his move. (Amb. Pickering: "It's a dramatic step. It's an important step. It is a step not without risks.") Dramatic is the key word. Salvadoran officials admit that Duarte's speech at the United Nations was made for impact with no preparation. (ABC-6)

NBC's Mike Boettcher reports the guerrillas soldiers in La Palma today were talking about peace talks, not their next battle. "I'm tired of the war," said one guerrilla. He was glad the negotiations were coming. The other guerrillas in the town felt the same way. (NBC-5)

BABY DOE LAW

Brokaw: Baby Doe was the name for an infant with birth defects who died in Indiana after doctors withheld and surgery that could have kept her alive. That 1982 case led the Reagan Administration to seek a law that would prohibit the withholding of such care. Well, today President Reagan signed the so-called Baby Doe Bill, and under it medical personnel can be prosecuted if they don't treat severely handicapped infants. (NBC-8)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

A Plus For Voters -- "This first debate served a different purpose. It helped clear deadwood from the presidential campaign forest. Both candidates were driven more to the political center on key issues like church-state relations, social security, the environment. Mr. Mondale has been offering the Democratic past, Mr. Reagan the Republican present. We have yet to hear enough about the American future."

(Christian Science Monitor, 10/9)

But No Surprises -- "At this point in the campaign, therefore, the race is not Mondale's to win, but it is Reagan's to lose. The President is so far ahead going into the final stretch that only if he takes a bad fall can he be overtaken. He took no such fall in the Sunday night TV debate."

(Dallas Morning News, 10/9)

Liberation in Louisville -- "Differences now are etched more vividly in the mind of the American electorate. Reagan is running on his record with no apologies, but with little specific focus on the future. Mondale last night seized the future as an issue and began to compete credibly for the Presidency."

(Boston Globe, 10/8)

The Debate -- "There were no disastrous gaffes and no knockouts. There can no doubt, however that at the debate's end, Walter Mondale was more credible as a candidate for President, while Ronald Reagan had a bad night. It is too soon to know whether that ultimately will affect votes. The next four weeks will determine that. Stay tuned."

(Miami Herald, 10/9)

The People's Day -- "But which candidate won? You won't get an answer here; the only decision that counts is on Election Day....Interestingly, the boldest position taken probably was Reagan's declaration that Medicare, like Social Security before it, had financial problems that had to be confronted and couldn't be wished away. That was a gutsy stand."

(New York Daily News, 10/9)

Who's Right on Social Security... -- "...Mr. Mondale ought to remind himself that, should he become president, he'll be mighty glad the Reagan administration took some steps to rein in Medicare's runaway growth."

(Washington Post, 10/9)

A Clearing-The-Air First Debate -- "...There was a moment -- for those whose minds weren't already made up -- that spoke directly to the question of Mondale's toughness (or lack thereof) and President Reagan's charm (or over-reliance thereupon). That moment came when Mr. Reagan dusted off the old 'There you go again' line....Mr. Mondale reminded Mr. Reagan -- turning to face him squarely -- that he had used that line in 1980 to deny he had plans to trim Medicare -- which his Administration, in fact, later proposed trimming. Mr. Mondale came off cool, straightforward and strong."

(Philadelphia Inquirer, 10/9)

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Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

Strawmen Galore -- "What Mondale attempted to do...with President Reagan was patently absurd. He cannot be allowed to get away with such gall any longer. Again and again the President has declared that he has no intention of reducing the payments of people now receiving Social Security. Again and again he has clarified his position with regard to whether he will propose additional taxes to bridge the deficit gap....Again and again -- and yet again -- he has declared that the safety net for the truly needy of the country will be maintained. Yet Mondale keeps harping on these so-called issues and claiming he 'knows' what the President really wants to do and will do. By continuing to claim the unique ability to read other people's thoughts, Mondale could be causing unnecessary alarm and anxiety among the country's elderly and poor. And the irony is that he pretends to be interested in the well-being of these very people."

(Chicago Sun-Times, 10/9)

The Democrats lose an excuse -- "In helping to solve his image problem, Mondale has created a problem for his party -- should he lose this election by anything approaching the margin by which the President leads today. The liberal Democrats have lost the alibi they were constructing; they have lost the ability to blame a November debacle upon their candidate, as they blamed previous disasters upon George McGovern and Jimmy Carter. ...Should he lose by other than a narrow margin, Great Society liberalism and foreign policy McGovernism will be repudiated; and the Democratic Party will be forced to make that agonizing reassessment of itself which is so long overdue."

(Patrick Buchanan, New York Post, 10/9)

The Gipper Can't Play Defense -- "Reagan went to Louisville so far ahead that his only problem was to prevent Mondale from solving his problem. Mondale's problem was to get people to take him seriously. He did that. Reagan remains closer than Mondale to the voters, both in mood and on the issues, so he left Louisville with a big lead -- something like being ahead two games to none in a best-of-five baseball series. Ronald Reagan, call the Chicago Cubs office."

(George Will, Washington Post, 10/9)

Shutting Off The Derisive Laughter -- "Mondale is no longer just a bad joke. As to Reagan, he gave his backers a couple of anxious moments.... Politically, the President almost certainly had the better of the argument. Rightly or wrongly, his prescription for unfettered growth, rewards to the strong and pressures on dependency suits the national mood. It would still be surprising to me if he lost the election, or even if it was very close."

(Joseph Kraft, Washington Post, 10/9)

What it takes to win debates won't help us win the future -- "What Reagan had to say on Sunday night -- standing firm by his plan for increased economic growth without inflation and reducing the excessive share that the government takes from the gross national product -- may not be the stuff which wins debates, but it is what will win the future."

(New York Post, 10/9)

Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

Mondale Advances on a Walk -- "What was surprising (and to this former aide, disappointing) was that the members of the Reagan team didn't play for a decisive victory. What we saw was a Reagan at a typical press conference, not the Gipper rising to a challenge and scoring a 'tour de force.' Why did they set their sights so low? As times it seemed that he thought he had the election in the bag, so why turn it on?"

(David Gergen, Los Angeles Times, 10/9)

Sunday night massacre -- "If you think President Reagan looked uneasy as he stammered to the close of his debate with Mondale, imagine how his handlers must be feeling. For some of them, a trip to the woodshed is in order....An aggressive hustings campaign, with a presidential arm draped around other Republican candidates' shoulders, could revive the Reagan campaign. Meanwhile, the foreign policy debate, a fortnight away, becomes all the more crucial. A White House summons to Jeane Kirkpatrick was never more imperative."

(Washington Times, 10/9)

Play Offense, Not Defense -- "Where, gentlemen, are the ideas, the visions, the plans for the future?...For the next round we hope the President will put aside the advice of his overcautious aides...and all of the unnecessary mumbo jumbo they stuffed him with, and go with his instincts. The American people voted for him because they agree with the thrust of his policies; he should not shrink from informing them of his successes and clarifying future plans. He should play offense, not defense."

(Detroit News, 10/9)

From Loser to Underdog -- "Once again the presidential debate had changed the conventional wisdom, if not the dynamics, of a presidential election campaign. The Reagan managers will now have to confront a suspicious electorate about their previous strategy of keeping the President under wraps....Mondale is now the Underdog, with four weeks to go."

(Mark Shields, Washington Post, 10/9)

The Loser is Still a Winner -- "However, for all the talk about Mondale's appearance, he really was no better Sunday than he had been against Gary Hart in the spring. On the other hand, Reagan looked terrible. Perhaps, as some have charged, he is a weaker candidate as an incumbent. Maybe he was rusty from his lack of exposure to the press. Or perhaps Reagan's age has begun to catch up with him....The odds are against Mondale, but against an aging champion a comeback is always possible. Just ask the Chicago Cubs."

(Steven Stark, Hartford Courant, 10/9)

Round One in the Debate -- "Mr. Mondale appeared forceful, articulate and clear of vision during the debate. One may still disagree with his vision, but at least one can respect and appreciate its existence. In short, Mr. Mondale had nowhere to go but up as a result of the encounter in Louisville, and he did go up."

(Hartford Courant, 10/9)

How Much Did Mondale Gain From The Debate? -- "The question, of course, is whether Mondale's strong performance translates into a significant number of votes. And that's something only time will reveal."

(Newsday, 10/9)

Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

The Debate: Round One -- "With his performance, Mondale may have fortified his base and won over some voters who were leaning in his direction, but, given his poor standing in the polls, he will have to do a lot more than this if he is to win the election four weeks from today. Perhaps the best Mondale can hope for from the debate, realistically, is that he finally has put the President on the defensive. Reagan, meanwhile, can hope that he has a better evening again in two weeks."

(Dallas Times Herald, 10/9)

Mr. Fritz-it and the Mondale Doctrine -- "...If a clergyman happens to agree with Fritz on an issue, any issue, whether abortion, or capital punishment or whatever, then Fritz welcomes enthusiastically that clergyman's deep involvement in the political process....On the other hand, any clergyman who pushes a view at odds with the Mondale-Ferraro line -- O'Connor on abortion, for instance -- is obviously intent upon imposing his faith on you and your loved ones, a clear violation of the separation of church and state....And if you can't grasp that simple distinction, you lack the intellectual qualifications to be a liberal Democrat in the brave new 1980's."

(Bill Reel, New York Daily News, 10/9)

Ron and the abortion-is-murder issue -- "The abortion issue is now crystal clear, and there can be no evasion of it....There is an ironic role reversal here. Mondale, the alleged advocate of big government, urged that the government be kept out of private lives and private choices. Reagan, the conservative enemy of big government, urges federal enforcement of the minority religious view that abortion is murder.....Ironically, earlier in the debate, Reagan avowed, 'I happen to believe that the people are supposed to be dominant in our society. That they, not government, are to have control of their own affairs to the greatest extent possible within an orderly society.' But he was not talking about abortion. He was talking about presidential leadership."

(Lars-Erik Nelson, New York Daily News, 10/9)

Reagan's Late-Inning Letdown -- "It was clear from interviewing those under-35 voters...that they did not know much about Mondale and didn't like what they did know -- mainly that he had been Jimmy Carter's vice president and was proposing to raise their taxes. My guess is that some of them may be taking a second look. Youth is not particularly tolerant of the vagaries of age such as Reagan displayed."

(David Broder, Washington Post, 10/9)

A Failure to Communicate -- "It was revenge of the nerd. Walter Mondale...finally got Ronald Reagan away from the campaign sound stage and onto the debate stage -- and whomped him. He won one against the Gipper....But after the debate was over, the women who were serving food in a lounge near the press section abandoned their steam tables and ran into the streets to see the President leave the hall. It could be the Ronald Reagan lost the debate but won the girl anyway. Or it just could be they were saying goodbye. In life, as in the movies, the nerd sometimes gets revenge."

(Richard Cohen, Washington Post, 10/9)

Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

There Are Two -- Count'em -- "About 90 million viewers watched the confrontation on the three commercial networks alone...That should settle the questions about whether Americans are apathetic about their leadership. And there are now two candidates for the presidency, an assertion about which you could have gotten an argument just a few weeks ago."
(Los Angeles Times, 10/9)

First Thoughts on the Debate -- "The verdict on who 'won' last night's debate actually comes at three levels. One is what the pollsters will tell us three days from now. Another is what each citizen feels as he turned off the television last night. The final verdict comes when he reassesses after witnessing the debate over the debate that will range during coming days. To the extent that voters understand the whole process of coming to judgment, they will reach wiser and more independent decisions."
(Baltimore Sun, 10/8)

...And Who Asks The Questions? -- "The dispute over 'blackballing' journalists seems to be more a matter of misunderstanding than of any blameworthy conduct by anyone, but it will have served a useful purpose if it turns out to signal the end of involvement by journalists in the debate process."
(Washington Post, 10/9)

Mondale's Scorecard -- "But for whatever value they might have for testing what Hemingway called 'grace under pressure,' TV debates are, on the whole, one of the worst ways available to voters for examining issues and policies. Trying to cover a whole range of complex matters under the time constraints of TV usually results in exactly what happened Sunday night, an embarrassing exchange of cheap shots that did little credit to either candidate."
(Wall St. Journal, 10/9)

Reagan in Baltimore -- "Yet, sad to tell, the president was flat...Why the flatness? It wasn't Baltimore. It wasn't Little Italy. It certainly wasn't Christopher Columbus. No, it was post-Louisville. Although White House aides kept a brave front, insisting the president has done well in his debate with Mondale, the quick-snap Gallup Poll gave the debate to the Democrat by 54 to 35 percent. There were recriminations and post-mortems reported in the Reagan camp, with some of the anti-debate insiders saying I-told-you-so....Was Baltimore witness to a change in the atmosphere and the chemistry, if not the outcome, of the campaign?"
(Baltimore Sun, 10/9)

Debate's winner: The voters -- "Reagan went into the debate with more to lose than to gain, and as Mondale said, it was to the President's credit that he agreed to debate at all. He didn't have to. But in a way, he did have to, and that may be the most important feature of this year's debates. The debates have become expected, so expected that even an incumbent who is sitting on an apparently commanding lead can ill afford to risk the questions that would be raised if he were to say 'no' to the sponsoring League of Women Voter's R.S.V.P."

(Atlanta Constitution, 10/9)



The White House NEWS SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1984 -- 6 a.m. EDT Edition

TODAY'S HEADLINES

NATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Broke His Pledge in 1980, Mondale Warns -- Larry Speakes said Social Security benefits would be protected for all present and future contributors to the program without adjustment for inflation.

(Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post, Washington Times)

Hill Votes U.S. Money for Two Days -- Congress voted to bail out the government for two more days as House Democratic leaders moved to break a logjam on a full-year spending bill for most government agencies by agreeing to shelve controversial water projects that had prompted presidential veto threats.

(Washington Post)

Bush and Ferraro Gear Up for TV Debate -- George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro made final preparations for a debate that has acquired an unexpected importance in the campaign. The clash in a campaign atmosphere that has changed sharply since last Sunday when Mondale was widely seen as beating Ronald Reagan in their first debate.

(Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Reagan Endorses Israel's Economic Plans, Praised as True Friend -- President Reagan has given a ringing endorsement to Israel's plans to pull out of its economic troubles and received from PM Peres politically important praise as "a true friend of Israel."

(Washington Post, Reuter, UPI)

NETWORK NEWS SUMMARY (Tuesday Evening)

SOCIAL SECURITY -- President Reagan made an abrupt policy shift on Social Security.

PERES -- Mr. Reagan agreed to release all the aid money Congress has appropriated for next year all at once.

EL SALVADOR -- Salvadoran rebels accepted Duarte's invitation to hold peace talks.

BABY DOE -- President Reagan signed the Baby Doe Bill, under which medical personnel can be prosecuted if they don't treat severely handicapped infants.

NATIONAL NEWS.....A-2

INTERNATIONAL NEWS...A-8

STATE NEWS.....A-11

NETWORK NEWS.....B-1

DEBATE EDITORIALS....B-9

This Summary is prepared Monday through Friday by the White House News Summary Staff. For complete stories or information, please call ext. 2950

NATIONAL NEWSREAGAN DENIES NEW CHARGE THAT HE PLANS BENEFIT CUTS

Soon after Mondale leveled the charge that President Reagan has a "secret plan" to reduce Social Security benefits after the election, Larry Speakes said Reagan was broadening his oft-stated pledge not to reduce benefits for those persons now on the rolls. "The President will never stand for a reduction of Social Security benefits for anybody," Speakes said. Speakes acknowledged that changes may be necessary in Medicare financing in the next few years and said they would be dealt with "hopefully on a bipartisan basis with the cooperation and not the demagoguery of the Democrats." Reagan's pledge underscored what aides described as intensifying White House fears that Mondale was scoring points on one of Reagan's most serious political vulnerabilities, continuing an offensive that the Democratic nominee launched in Sunday's debate.

(David Hoffman and Milton Coleman, Washington Post, A1)

President Denies Charge He Plans to Cut Benefits

The former vice president, on a roll after his effective debate performance, goaded President Reagan about the future of Social Security and drew an angry response from the White House. Mondale charged Mr. Reagan has aides working on a secret plan to cut Social Security benefits after the election. Larry Speakes, obviously in a state of temper, told reporters he had showed the Mondale statement to President Reagan in the Oval Office and was authorized to make this statement: "Mr. Mondale ought to be ashamed. He's out to frighten the elderly. Mr. Mondale's statement is pure campaign rhetoric. The President will never stand for reduction of Social Security benefits for anybody, those now getting them or future recipients." Also, President Reagan showed his feisty side when reporters asked him if the Democrats were trying to make an issue of his age. The 73-year-old President, who some thought looked tired after nearly two hours of the debate, retorted, "I'll arm wrestle them."

(Jeremiah O'Leary, Washington Times, A1)

Reagan Promises No Benefits Cut for Any Retirees

Mr. Reagan's inclusion of "future recipients" went further than a statement he made in the debate. The unusual addendum to the debate statement was offered as his strategists sought to deal with Mondale's continuing attacks on the President as "hatching plans to cut Social Security." The strategists were also mapping plans to regain the campaign offensive from Mondale.

(Francis Clines, New York Times, A1)

Rival's Attack Prompts Shift

President Reagan, abruptly shifting his policy on Social Security after a pointed challenge from Walter Mondale, categorically ruled out any reductions for changes in the benefits for current recipients for future retirees.

(Baltimore Sun, A1)

REAGAN BROKE HIS PROMISE IN 1980, MONDALE WARNS

PITTSBURGH -- Larry Speakes said Social Security benefits would be protected for all present and future contributors to the program without adjustment for inflation. Mondale contended this differed from Mr. Reagan's position in Sunday's debate, when he promised to protect those now on Social Security but left in question the position of those paying into the fund who are not yet beneficiaries.

(Alan McConagha, Washington Times, A1)

REAGAN'S AGE EMERGES AS ISSUE IN RACE

The question of whether Ronald Reagan is too old to be President emerged as an overt issue after a debate performance that even some of his aides described as halting and ineffective. Democrats, usually sensitive about raising the issue, openly suggested that Reagan was too old to serve another four years. And a Reagan adviser, commenting on condition that he not be identified, said: "It's the one issue that could change the course of this campaign. We don't think it will, but the potential is now there."

(Lou Cannon, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan's Age Is Now an Issue, Democrats Say

Citing what they said was an unsteady performance by President Reagan in the debate, Democratic leaders declared that Mr. Reagan's age was now a major issue in the campaign. "Sure it's a factor," said Speaker O'Neill. "There's no question about it. I've already announced I'm going to draw the curtain (as a congressman) and he's about 15 months older than I am. He did look a little tired." Republicans insisted the issue of his age and vigor would not hurt his bid for a second term.

(Fred Barnes, Baltimore Sun, A1)

MONDALE CAMPAIGN FEELS SPIRITS REVIVE

DETROIT -- Political campaigns are essentially exercises in mass persuasion, and nothing is more persuasive than success. In August and September, Mondale had struggled to overcome the image of being "a loser," hung on him by speaker after speaker at the Republican National Convention and reinforced by newspaper and television reports of his struggling, sometimes inept, campaign. Now, for the first time since the Democratic Convention, Mondale has begun to change public perceptions, and the effects are tangible. It has given Mondale a needed shot of confidence as a stump speaker. "Who won the debate?" he bellowed at the Detroit audience. "Mondale," they shouted. "Who's going to win the election?" "Mondale," they answered.

(David Broder, Washington Post, A4)

DETROIT -- Walter Mondale accused the Republicans of "trying to put ice in our souls in a campaign of self interest." The candidate was in fighting form at a noontime rally at Detroit's Kennedy Square. "Don't let them steal the future from our children," he said. Later at an airport news conference in Pittsburgh, Mondale told reporters he could sense a post-debate responsiveness in his crowds and said, "I believe that this campaign is red hot right now and I have a good chance of making it."

(Mike Feinsilber, AP)

SEARCH FOR STABILITY STEERING SUNNYVALE VOTERS TO REAGAN

SUNNYVALE, California -- President Reagan seems headed for victory here, but not necessarily because voters agree with the specifics of his policies or his expressed conservative ideology. They don't, as they will carefully tell you when they discuss such things as the deficit, public school prayer, abortion and Soviet-American relations. Reagan's standing is the result of a generalized feeling about the country's direction so strongly held and widely shared that it outweighs other issues troubling people.

(Haynes Johnson, Washington Post, A5)

ETHICS UNIT EXTENDS FERRARO PROBE;
GOP MAY FORCE FLOOR VOTE ON ISSUE

The House ethics committee voted unanimously to continue its investigation of allegations that Rep. Ferraro violated House disclosure requirements after it reviewed numerous amendments she filed to her original disclosure forms, it was learned by The Washington Times. The Times also learned that some House Republicans are drafting a "motion of privilege" to force the Ferraro matter to the House floor before the adjournment of Congress. In a third development, the Times also has learned that a committee investigator returned from New York and reported that John Zaccaro makes all the mortgage and tax payments on the couple's three jointly owned residential properties in Queens, Fire Island and St. Croix. A Republican source said some committee members, while making no formal judgment, believe the investigator's report seems to contradict Rep. Ferraro's claim that she is exempt from reporting her husband's financial dealings because she has no knowledge of them and has no benefit from them.

(Thomas Brandt, Washington Times, A1)

GOP STRATEGISTS SAY FARMERS, DESPITE HARD TIMES, WILL BACK REAGAN

Although many farmers have undergone a severe financial crunch, most seem to be coming out of their economic tailspin and still support President Reagan in the election, say GOP campaign strategists. Harold Steele and Donald Brock, national co-chairmen of Farmers and Ranchers for Reagan-Bush '84, said Carter Administration policies, which were shared by Mondale as vice president, were to blame for much of the recent farm problem, including a high rate of inflation and soaring interest rates.

(Don Kendall, AP)

BIG FARM GROUP GIVES FERRARO LOW MARKS

Geraldine Ferraro is the only member of the House who did not support the American Farm Bureau Federation on a single one of 18 votes identified as key issues. She voted against the Farm Bureau 12 times and missed the other six votes. Ferraro spokeswoman Amy Dehart discounted the importance of the Farm Bureau rating, citing instead a listing by the National Farmers' Union that shows the group agreed with Ferraro 10 out of 12 times on major votes last year.

(Stephanie Nall, Washington Times, A3)

GOP SEEN KEEPING SENATE STRENGTH

Sen. Lugar said in an interview that President Reagan's coattails will provide the margin of victory in three state where GOP incumbents are at risk and give the necessary impetus to win at least one seat currently held by Democrats.

(Ron Cordray, Washington Times, A2)

HILL VOTES U.S. MONEY FOR 2 DAYS

Congress voted to bail out the government for two more days as House Democratic leaders moved to break a logjam on a full-year spending bill for most government agencies by agreeing to shelve controversial water projects that had prompted presidential veto threats. The Democrats' move, which came after inconclusive efforts by Senate Republicans to negotiate a compromise with the White House, appeared aimed at prodding President Reagan to come to agreement on other major sticking points, including aid to insurgents in Nicaragua.

(Helen Dewar, Washington Post, A1)

HIGH COURT TO REVIEW PUBLIC TUTORING IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS

The Supreme Court added to its docket a fifth major case testing the wall between church and state. The court agreed to review a federal appeals court ruling that struck down the way New York City administers a federally funded program of remedial aid for disadvantaged children. The lower court ruled that New York's Title I program -- which is funded by the U.S. Department of Education -- violates the First Amendment ban against state establishment of religion because the city sends public teachers into private schools, most of which are church-related, to tutor children.

(Tom Diaz, Washington Times, A3)

FETUS IS 'PERSON,' D.C. APPEALS COURT RULES FOR FIRST TIME

A divided D.C. Court of Appeals -- trying to sidestep controversies surrounding abortion and the legal rights of an unborn baby -- for the first time ruled that a fetus is a "person" under District law.

(David Sellers, Washington Times, A1)

HOUSE PANEL SUBPOENAS AGENCY HEAD, 40 OTHERS

The head of FEMA and 40 other people are being subpoenaed to testify before a House panel probing allegations of spending abuses and contract irregularities at the agency. The subpoenas were approved by the Science and Technology Investigations and Oversight Subcommittee.

(AP)

PANEL CHIEF ASKS JUSTICE FOR ITS NOTES ON LAVELLE

Rep. Dingell asked the Justice Department for notes that suggest that senior department officials in early 1983 discussed starting a criminal investigation of Rita Lavelle to block a probe of the EPA by Dingell's oversight and investigations subcommittee. In his statement, Dingell said he had received no reply, adding: "Any further delays raise serious questions about the department's motives."

(Mary Thornton, Washington Post, A3)

IMMIGRATION BILL DEADLOCK UNBROKEN

House-Senate conferees failed again to crack a two-week deadlock that likely will doom the first reform of immigration law since 1952. Sen. Simpson said President Reagan "indicated very clearly" in a meeting last week that he would veto the bill if federal costs were not capped at \$1B per year over the next four years.

(Rita McWilliams, Washington Times, A2)

ON THE HILL, OIL AND GAS MONEY FLOWS TO GOP, STUDY FINDS

Political action committees with strong ties to the oil and gas industries are continuing to funnel the majority of their cash to Republican Senate and House candidates, according to a study by an alliance of labor and liberal reform groups. The Citizen-Labor Energy Coalition, which has been lobbying for legislation to control energy prices, determined that from the start of 1983 through Aug. 31, 1984, a total of 212 PACs connected to the oil industry gave \$5.47M.

(Thomas Edsall, Washington Post, A4)

WORLD SERIES

SAN DIEGO -- The Detroit Tigers won the opening game of the World Series, defeating the San Diego Padres 3-2 behind the eight-hit pitching of Jack Morris. (AP)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Donnie Radcliffe's article, "Roosevelt Reunion: Nancy Reagan Honors the Democratic First Lady," appears on page D1 of The Washington Post (Style).

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BUSH STICKS TO DUTIES AS DEBATE APPROACHES

With their big debate just days away, Vice President Bush spent only 90 minutes preparing for his encounter with Rep. Ferraro and the rest of the time being vice presidential. Bush's aides portrayed him as coolly going about his official business, conferring with PM Peres -- to the consternation of some advisers who worry that he should bone up more intensely. Still, like Bush, his aides minimized the debate's political importance. (Juan Williams and Dale Russakoff, Washington Post, A4)

Ferraro Practices Hard For Face-off With Bush

NEW YORK -- Rep. Ferraro began preparing in earnest for her debate with Vice President Bush, with Democratic strategists now convinced that the stakes in the Philadelphia face-off have increased dramatically. One adviser said Ferraro, who has never formally debated a political opponent, can be expected to challenge aggressively some of Reagan's "amazing claims and statements" on Sunday, particularly concerning his policies on Social Security and the deficit.

(Rick Atkinson, Washington Post, A4)

Bush and Ferraro Gear Up for TV Debate

George Bush and Geraldine Ferraro made final preparations for a debate that has acquired an unexpected importance in the campaign. The clash in a campaign atmosphere that has changed sharply since last Sunday when Mondale was widely seen as beating Ronald Reagan in their first debate. Ferraro, who has brought zest to an otherwise lackluster Mondale campaign, will be trying to build on the momentum Mondale's debating victory has brought. (Reuter)

PHILADELPHIA (UPI) -- Philadelphia was eager to be host for the nation's first vice presidential debate with a woman candidate, hoping the addition to its rich political history would brighten its economic future.

(UPI) -- There will be a clash of styles when Vice President Bush meets Geraldine Ferraro in debate Thursday night. If Ferraro's off-the-cuff speaking style can best be summed up in the word "feisty," Bush's can be described as "testy." The New York congresswoman has never tested her wits in a national debate, but she is counting on her talent for the quick comeback and an uncanny rapport with an audience. The vice president, a seasoned debater, rarely follows a text in its entirety, and the results of his deviations can be sarcastic humor, gawky gestures and sometimes flights of rhetoric that ignore facts. Despite his frequent testy responses to reporters, he is by nature polite and will usually use a reporter's first name in answering a question.

(UPI) -- Both Bush and Ferraro are well-equipped to play the role of tough campaigner. In addition, both vice presidential candidates are seasoned ad lib performers. Both got early training in House of Representatives debate, in which short, sharp repartees are most effective and both are better in spontaneous question-and-answer formats than in delivering set piece speeches.

INTERNATIONAL NEWSREAGAN OFFERS TO AID ISRAEL

President Reagan told PM Peres that the U.S. is ready to help Israel overcome its economic problems, but decisions about the size and nature of new U.S. aid were postponed until January when a new joint study group is expected to report on Israel's needs. In announcing formation of the joint economic group to be composed of officials and economists from both countries, Reagan was vague about its functions. But Israeli sources said the group is being given a January deadline to present recommendations that Israel expects to be the basis for new U.S. assistance efforts.

(John Goshko, Washington Post, A1)

Reagan Endorses Israel's Economic Plans, Praised as True Friend

President Reagan has given a ringing endorsement to Israel's plans to pull out of its economic troubles and received from PM Peres politically important praise as "a true friend of Israel." In remarks following the White House talks, Reagan said he was impressed by the "bold and wide-ranging" economic steps being planned by the Israeli government.

(William Scally, Reuter)

U.S., Israel Plan Joint Commission to Resolve Israeli Economic Crisis

PM Peres announced the formation of the bilateral commission after meetings with President Reagan, Secretary Shultz and Secretary Weinberger. He said the aim was to restore his country's economy and trade balance and end the "impossible inflation which exists in Israel." Sources close to the State Department talks said Israel's economic crisis, Lebanon and Middle East peace were the main subjects discussed. Diplomatic sources said Israel is anxious to restart negotiations for a free trade treaty.

(Russell Howe, Washington Times, A1)

Israel's No. 1 Aid Share Could Rise

Aid to Israel in the current 1985 fiscal year will total \$2.6B, according to legislation in its final stage of passage on Capitol Hill. The total is about the same as in the previous year, but with the important difference that for the first time, the package is made up of grants from the U.S. Treasury instead of including large loans that must be repaid with interest at near-commercial rates.

(Don Oberdorfer, Washington Post, A19)

President Vows to Try to Help Israeli Economy

President Reagan told PM Peres the U.S. would "cooperate the best way we can" to resolve Israel's pressing economic problems. He specifically promised to provide emergency help if Israel was faced with a balance-of-payments crisis. Through the joint economic group, the Administration hopes to halt Congress's practice of increasing aid to Israel in an unstructured way, a State Department official said.

(Bernard Gwertzman, New York Times, A1)

MUBARAK ENDS ISOLATION WITH VISIT TO JORDAN

AMMAN -- President Mubarak, marking the end of Egyptian isolation in the Arab world, arrived in Jordan two weeks after King Hussein broke ranks to establish diplomatic relations with Cairo.

(David Ottaway, Washington Post, A19)

King Hussein, Egyptian Leader May Chart Mideast Peace Strategy

AMMAN -- Mubarak said in a speech carried by Jordan state television: "Unity of words is our path and establishment of justice and peace our goal...You (Hussein) have valiantly opened the door for unifying positions and for a fresh struggle under a peace strategy." His remarks were widely seen as the clearest indication yet that a major purpose of Jordan's restoration of ties with Egypt was to create a front of Arab moderates to press for Middle East peace. (Ibrahim Noori, Reuter)

Hussein's Welcome Starts Egypt on Path Toward Arab Leadership

Other Arab nations are expected to follow Jordan's lead, further challenging Syria's recent ascendancy by forming a nucleus of what U.S. analysts cautiously predict will become a powerful bloc of moderate Arab nations.

(Donald Neff, Washington Times, A1)

LEADER OF S. LEBANON ARMY PREDICTS READINESS IN YEAR

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon -- The commander of the Israeli-supported South Lebanon Army said his forces will be able to secure all of southern Lebanon in a year, but that a complete Israeli withdrawal will be impossible unless there is also a political agreement to prevent outside pressures on his army. Gen. Antoine Lahad gave this assessment of his army's progress, of which even some Israeli military officials are skeptical, in an interview at the headquarters building he shares with units of the Israeli army.

(Edward Walsh, Washington Post, A18)

LEBANESE FORCES ELECT NEW CHIEF

BEIRUT -- Lebanon's Christian militia forces elected a new commander in a move seen as strengthening Gemayel's hold on the Maronite Christian community. At the same time, leftist groups announced the creation of a new national coalition under the leadership of Walid Jumblatt. Both developments underscored Lebanon's shift away from U.S. and Israeli alignments and bolstered Syria's position as power broker in the Lebanese political crisis.

(Bradley Graham, Washington Post, A20)

SOVIETS, N. YEMEN SIGN TREATY

MOSCOW -- The Soviet Union and North Yemen signed a 20-year treaty of friendship and cooperation, a move that appeared to signal Moscow's rising profile in the Arab world. The conclusion of a treaty with North Yemen was seen by diplomatic observers here as indicating increased Soviet diplomatic and political activity in the Middle East following the failure of President Reagan's mediation efforts last year and the collapse of U.S. positions in Lebanon.

(Dusko Doder, Washington Post, A19)

SALVADORAN REBELS ACCEPT MEETING

MEXICO CITY -- Salvadoran guerrilla leaders agreed to meet President Duarte in El Salvador Monday if the discussions are witnessed by neutral observers and if Duarte is accompanied at the talks by top-ranking Army officers, rebel spokesmen said. The rebels' acceptance of Duarte's proposal was the first important move toward beginning negotiations to end the five-year-old civil war.

(William Orne Jr. Washington Post, A1)

SAN SALVADOR -- The guerrilla acceptance of Duarte's proposed meeting was the most substantive move toward resolving the bloody conflict that has claimed some 59,000 lives.

(Joseph Frazier, AP)

Duarte's peace proposal "is a major step toward that end," said Allan Romberg. "The United States welcomes this initiative." Another Administration official added, "It's a good move. It took a lot of guts by Duarte." The same official denied the U.S. engineered the coming talks, but said U.S. officials did discuss the prospect of negotiations with Duarte for the past several months. (Miles Cunningham, Washington Times, A1)

The unexpected diplomatic effort was welcomed by diplomats throughout the region. They characterized Duarte's offer as a shrewd gesture intended both to blunt an expected guerrilla offensive and to seize the political high ground as the Contadora peace talks enter their final phase.

(James LeMoyne, New York Times, A1)

Duarte Says His Peace Moves Widely Supported

SAN SALVADOR -- Duarte said all sectors of Salvadoran society support his proposal for peace talks with left-wing guerrillas but has declined to discuss the guerrillas' conditions for a meeting.

(Mark Baillie, Reuter)

SHULTZ HEADING FOR CENTRAL AMERICA

Secretary Shultz is to leave on a three-day swing through Central America for talks with area leaders at a moment of tension and hope for progress toward a regional peace. The focus of the trip is the inauguration Thursday of Nicolas Ardito-Barletta as president of Panama. Shultz will visit Duarte on the way to Panama and de la Madrid on the way back. He is also scheduled to stop briefly in Puerto Rico on Friday to greet Pope John Paul II.

(Joanne Omang, Washington Post, A21)

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NEWS FROM THE STATES

DEBATE

LANSING, Mich. (UPI) -- U.S. Rep. Claude Pepper, a leading senior citizens' advocate, says the elderly will turn to Walter Mondale once they understand the facts. "I think (the debate) is a turning point in this campaign," Pepper said. Asked why many senior citizens favor Reagan, Pepper said "They don't have a full understanding of the facts."

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (UPI) -- Walter Mondale may have avoided a historic defeat with a solid performance in the first of his two debates with President Reagan, a top conservative pollster says. Frederick Currier of Market Opinion Research said Monday there was "no doubt" Mondale was a "slight winner" over Reagan. Although admitting the debate breathed life into the Mondale campaign, Currier said there is too little time for the Democrat to overcome a Reagan lead of 10 to 15 percent. "It is unlikely now, unless you get a huge mistake by Reagan or a foreign policy problem."

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (UPI) -- Walter Mondale sounded a bit nasal, but seemed more in control and President Reagan looked a bit shaky at first in the first presidential debate, a speech pathologist who specializes in public speaking said. President Reagan's head shook somewhat and he appeared somewhat uncomfortable, but eventually stabilized, Lillian Glass said Monday. Glass, who instructs politicians and performers how to improve their delivery style, said Mondale's demeanor "changed incredibly" for the debate. "He looked into the camera, used gestures, more facial animation," she said. "He seemed more in control."

SALEM, Ore. (UPI) -- Gov. Vic Atiyeh said Tuesday that Walter Mondale may have gained some ground on President Reagan following Sunday night's debate between the two presidential candidates. Atiyeh, who is an honorary co-chairman of the Oregon Reagan-Bush campaign, said he would have liked to see Reagan "do a better job and been more forceful."

MINNEAPOLIS (UPI) -- Minnesota Independent Republicans felt President Reagan did well in Sunday night's debate while Minnesota Democrats gave the edge to former Vice President Walter Mondale. The reaction was predictable but Marsie Leier, co-chair of the Reagan-Bush campaign in Minnesota, gave high marks to Mondale. She said, "I think Mondale probably did the best job I ever saw him do." However, Leier said whatever benefit the former vice president got from the debate, it will be only temporary.

MEDFORD, Ore. (UPI) -- Southern Oregonians gave Walter Mondale a 55-45 percentage favorable edge in a telephone call-in poll conducted by two television stations regarding Sunday night's debate with President Reagan.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) -- Labeling President Reagan as incompetent, Rep. Bill Alexander, D-Ark., said Walter Mondale was the clear winner of the first presidential debate and that he hoped the performance would mean more campaign funds before November. Republicans called Reagan the winner.

OKLAHOMA CITY (UPI) -- A Democratic leader says Walter Mondale did so well in the presidential debate that President Reagan may try to back out of a second match. But a Republican official called Sunday night's battle a standoff that won't affect the vote.

NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

REAGAN LOOKS LIKE A WINNER IN FLORIDA CITRUS COUNTRY

LAKE LAND, Fla. (UPI) -- In the heart of citrus country, President Reagan has the look of a winner -- a big winner. Old people and young people, orange grove owners and union workers, Republicans and Democrats. All are falling in line with the Reagan parade. Walter Mondale has some support in heavily Democratic Lakeland and Polk County, but not nearly as much as one might think. Plus, Mondale backers are something less than gung-ho.

REGAN SAYS MONDALE IS HIGH TAX, HIGH SPENDING PROPONENT

SANDUSKY, Ohio (UPI) -- Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale is a proponent of high-tax, high-spending and low-growth economics, Treasury Secretary Donald Regan says. Regan, speaking to about 500 Erie County Republicans Monday night, said he was "absolutely delighted" with Mondale's remarks during Sunday's presidential debate. "(I was) delighted in that he finally revealed, once and all, to a very large audience exactly what he stood for," Regan said. "And what he stood for is higher taxes, higher spending and lower growth.

BLACK REPUBLICANS DENOUNCE MONDALE-FERRARO

LOS ANGELES (UPI) -- A group of black Republican leaders Tuesday denounced the Mondale-Ferraro campaign for "blatant dishonesty" and distortion in attacking President Reagan's record on minorities. The Rev. E. V. Hill, who supported Jesse Jackson before joining the Reagan-Bush camp, told reporters at a Crenshaw District news conference that black voters are not getting an accurate picture of the Reagan administration. Also speaking at the "Black Voters for Reagan-Bush" campaign kickoff -- part of a national effort to woo the support of black voters -- was Stephanie Lee-Miller, assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

JOBLESS DOMINANT ISSUE IN OHIO

CINCINNATI (UPI) -- While it has not been the dominant issue of the 1984 presidential campaign, joblessness still tops many Ohioans' lists of biggest problems facing the nation, according to the latest edition of the Ohio Poll. The poll, released Monday by the Institute for Policy Research at the University of Cincinnati, said 28 percent of those people questioned said unemployment is the nation's most troublesome issue.

PRESIDENT TO VISIT ALABAMA

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (UPI) -- President Reagan will make a campaign stop at the University of Alabama Monday for a short speech and to field questions from students, state Republicans said. Gordon Lawless, senior vice chairman of the Alabama Republican Party, said Reagan chose the Alabama campus "because the students here love him and because the university setting is the type forum the president enjoys."

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

KENTUCKY SENATORIAL CANDIDATES DEBATE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) -- Sen. Walter "Dee" Huddleston, D-Ky., and Republican Senate nominee Mitch McConnell said their friends and supporters told them Tuesday that each had won their first campaign debate. McConnell dismissed any suggestion that renewed interest in Walter Mondale's campaign would affect his chance to benefit from President Reagan's coattails. McConnell said that -- despite Mondale's showing in Sunday night's debate with President Reagan -- there hadn't been any polling evidence to show Mondale's standing among voters had improved.

KENTUCKY REPUBLICAN CONGRESSMAN HAS 3-1 MARGIN

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (UPI) -- Rep. Gene Snyder, R-Ky., leads Democratic challenger Pat Mulloy by a 3-1 margin and is one of the few congressmen with a district lead bigger than President Reagan, Snyder's pollster says. "It is extremely unusual for an incumbent congressman to be running ahead of the president right now," Newhouse said. Newhouse declined to specify the difference between the Snyder and Reagan showings in the survey but said it was within the poll's 5.5 percent margin of error.

BETHUNE WANTS DEBATE WITH PRYOR

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (UPI) -- GOP Congressman Ed Bethune accused his general election opponent, incumbent Democratic Sen. David Pryor, of being afraid of his record in refusing to participate in a statewide televised debate. Calling the first presidential debate Sunday a "high point" in American politics, Bethune said in a news conference Monday that Pryor's refusal to debate was a "low point" for Arkansas politics.

MRS. BUSH IN BUFFALO

BUFFALO, N.Y. (UPI) -- Buffalo's first light rail rapid transit car, with the wife of Vice President George Bush at the controls, moved along Main Street today in the official opening of the above ground section of the city's new transit system. "Wonderful," Mrs. Bush said as she stepped from the transit car after piloting the vehicle on its inaugural trip along a 1.2 mile stretch of the transit line.

MRS. MONDALE IN OREGON

BEND, Ore. (UPI) -- Joan Mondale, wife of Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale, will visit Oregon Friday during a political swing along the West Coast on behalf of her husband. She will make a stop in Bend during the trip, which also will take her to Spokane, Bellingham and Seattle in Washington and Salinas and San Diego in California.

HODEL IN CALIFORNIA

TILLAMOOK, Ore. (UPI) -- U.S. Energy Secretary Donald Hodel hopes a plan to sell surplus power from the Columbia River Basin to California will be finished by November. Hodel told a gathering sponsored by the Tillamook County Republican Central Committee over the weekend that the Northwest has \$250 million worth of surplus power every year that could be sold.

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NEWS FROM THE STATES (continued)

PREACHERS SUPPORT HANSEN

BOISE (UPI) -- A group of Baptist preachers is traveling through southern Idaho this week on behalf of Rep. George Hansen, praising the Idaho Republican as a champion of religious freedom for his role in a Nebraska church school dispute.

CONGRESSMEN DEBATE

LARAMIE, Wyo. (UPI) -- Two upcoming debates may help close the gap between Democratic U.S. House candidate Hugh McFadden Jr. and Rep. Dick Cheney, R-Wyo., McFadden says. Cheney and McFadden are scheduled to debate each other Oct. 21 in Casper, Cheney's home, and Oct. 31 in Laramie, McFadden's home.

ASHE TRYs TO TIE GORE TO MONDALE

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (UPI) -- Republican Victor Ashe tried repeatedly to link Democrat Albert Gore Jr. with his party's presidential nominee, Walter Mondale, Monday night during the fifth of six Senate candidate debates. "Well of course I support Walter Mondale," Gore said in answer to Ashe's questioning. Ashe said the Senate race was a "choice between Mondale-Gore ticket and the Reagan-Ashe ticket." He said it was also a vote for or against Mondale's proposed "\$157 a month tax increase."

SENIOR CITIZENS TRAVEL ILLINOIS AGAINST REAGAN

CHICAGO (UPI) -- A group of senior citizens will begin traveling across the state Wednesday in a nine-day Truth Drive to educate fellow seniors on "life and death issues," including what they say are the adverse policies of President Reagan and Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill. "The Reagan administration has already cut our Medicare and Social Security and has plans for more. Seniors must know this," she said.

DEMOCRATS CONSIDER PUNISHING CROSSOVERS

ST. LOUIS (UPI) -- Members of the Democratic City Central Committee met today to consider punishment for two aldermen who crossed party lines and endorsed Republican John Ashcroft for governor. Democratic aldermen Steven C. Roberts and Virvus Jones announced their endorsements Monday. Ashcroft attended their joint news conference at offices of the Regional Commerce and Growth Association. "It's Columbus Day, but it's not a holiday," Rep. Anthony D. Ribaud, D-St. Louis, said Monday. "Virvus Jones and Steve Roberts have ruined the holiday."

PENNSYLVANIANS SPOTLIGHT FAILURE OF ADMINISTRATION

HARRISBURG, Pa. (UPI) -- Ronald Reagan's farm and economic policies came under attack Tuesday by a coalition formed to spotlight the "failures of the Reagan administration" in the state. United Pennsylvanians -- composed of groups representing the concerns of farmers, senior citizens, environmentalists and others -- said it would be traveling across the commonwealth to show how the president's policies have harmed state residents.

CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES

(UPI) -- Schedules for the presidential and vice presidential candidates for Wednesday, Oct. 10, and tentative schedules for the week ahead.

Walter Mondale:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Noon departs Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh, for Market Square, Stanwick and Fourth streets, Philadelphia.

12:15 rally, Market Square.

12:45 p.m. departs for airport.

1:15 p.m. private time, airport.

2 p.m. charter flight to New York City.

3:05 p.m. arrives LaGuardia Airport, Marine Air terminal, Butler Aviation. Late afternoon event, New York.

Evening attends New York Democratic dinner, Sheraton Center, overnights Waldorf-Astoria Hilton Hotel, Park Avenue at East 50th street.

Thursday, Oct. 11: Departs New York for Columbus, Ohio.

Noon rally, State House, Columbus.

Departs for Orlando, Fla., no time given.

Late afternoon event, Orlando. Departs for Miami, no time given, has an event and overnights there.

Friday, Oct. 12: Morning departs Miami for Madison, Wis.

Noon EDT rally, East Washington entrance, State Capitol, Madison.

Departs for Minneapolis, no time given, and overnights at home, North Oaks, Minn.

Saturday, Oct. 13: Event, St. Paul, Minn., no time given. Overnights North Oaks.

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Geraldine Ferraro:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Prepares for vice presidential debates, Modern Telecommunication, 47th and Second streets, New York City; pool reporters only.

Thursday, Oct. 11: Morning private time, Queens.

2:35 p.m. EDT departs for LaGuardia Airport, Butler Aviation, Marine Air terminal.

3 p.m. departs for Philadelphia.

3:40 p.m. arrives Philadelphia International Airport, gate 25, Cargo City terminal.

4:20 p.m. goes to Pennsylvania Hall, Civic Center Drive, to view debate site.

5 p.m. departs for Bellevue Stratford Hotel, Broad and Walnut streets, Philadelphia.

5:15 p.m. private time, hotel. 8:15 p.m. departs for Pennsylvania Hall.

8:30 p.m. arrives hall.

9 p.m. vice presidential debate.

10:30 p.m. private time, Pennsylvania Hall.

10:55 p.m. departs for The Bourse, Fifth and Market streets, Philadelphia.

11:10 p.m. rally, The Bourse.

11:35 p.m. departs for hotel and overnights there.

Friday, Oct. 12: Departs Philadelphia for Madison, Wis., no time given. Noon joins Mondale for rally, state capitol.

Goes to Chicago, no time given, has an event and overnights there.

Saturday, Oct. 13: Departs Chicago for campaign trip to Des Moines, Iowa, no time or event given.

Returns to Queens for overnight.

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CANDIDATES' SCHEDULES (continued)

President Reagan:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: 10:40 a.m. EDT event, St. Agatha's High School, Wayne County, Mich.

12:05 p.m. event, Ukranian Cultural Center, Redford, Mich.

2:30 p.m. rally at McComb College, McComb County, Mich.

4:55 p.m. returns to Washington.

Thursday, Oct. 11: White House.

Friday, Oct. 12: 11:35 a.m. EDT rally, downtown Dayton, Ohio, to kick off whistle stop train trip through Ohio.

1:10 p.m. rally in Sidney, Ohio.

2:50 p.m. rally in Lima, Ohio.

3:40 p.m. rally in Ottawa, Ohio.

4:40 p.m. rally in Deshler, Ohio.

6 p.m. rally in Perrysburg, Ohio.

6:50 p.m. departs Toledo Express Airport for Andrews Air Force Base.

8:05 p.m. EDT Returns to White House

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Vice President George Bush:

Wednesday, Oct. 10: Washington; no public schedule.

Thursday, Oct. 11: 1 p.m. EDT departs Washington for Philadelphia.
9 p.m. Vice presidential debate, Pennsylvania Hall, Philadelphia.

Friday, Oct. 12: 9 a.m. EDT rally, the port of Elizabeth, N.J. Departs for Birmingham, Ala., no time given.

12:20 p.m. EDT speech, Southeast U.S.-Japan Annual Conference, Birmingham, Ala.

2 p.m. departs for Washington.

Saturday, Oct. 13: Washington.

Sunday, Oct. 14: Begins campaign swing to the West Coast, no locations or events available.

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SOCIAL SECURITY

CBS's Dan Rather: President Reagan made an abrupt policy shift today on Social Security. His new position: not only no benefit cuts for those now getting Social Security, but no proposed cuts either for future retirees. This was a policy shift aimed at taking away one of the issues on which Walter Mondale believes he has been scoring.

CBS's Bob Schieffer: It was before a lively crowd in Cincinnati this morning that Mondale laid down the Social Security challenge, saying he'd never allow cuts in benefits for those on Social Security, or those who will be eligible in the future. (Mondale: "I have taken this pledge. I think it's time for President Reagan to take that pledge without loopholes and make it to the American people right now, before the election.") That got almost as much applause as when Ohio Gov. Richard Celeste gave Mondale a Louisville Slugger for the way he said Mondale slugged it out in Sunday's debate. And in Detroit, where he picked up a Detroit Tigers hat to go with the bat a few hours later, he got another enthusiastic reception from one of his biggest campaign crowds. But it wasn't until his third stop of the day, Pittsburgh, that he learned the President had also taken the pledge on Social Security. His reaction was a bit dubious. (Mondale, at airport: "The American people know I'll protect Social Security and Medicare. We have no way of knowing which Reagan policies would be in effect after the election.") Forcing today's Presidential statement on Social Security only added to the rising optimism that's been building in the Mondale camp since Sunday night's debate. And that's understandable, because at every stop since then, there's been no doubt the crowds liked what they saw in the face-off with the President. The Mondale people know there's still a huge gap to close, but they say events of the past two days show their message is now beginning to be heard, and that, they say, is the first step. (CBS-Lead)

ABC's Brit Hume: In Cincinnati this morning, Walter Mondale was still taking bows for his debate performance the other night in Louisville, and Ohio Gov. Celeste gave a baseball bat to commemorate it. It was, of course, a Louisville Slugger. Before his first audience of the day, Mondale raised the issue that has become a virtual Democrat's rallying cry. (Mondale: "The choice of values in this election can be seen in just two words: Social Security.") Mondale said President Reagan had promised not to cut Social Security benefits, and then done just that. And he said the President has now made the same promise to current recipients, but left open the possibility he might cut all future beneficiaries. (Mondale: "I don't know which is worse, cutting benefits for people who are on Social Security or asking people to pay into Social Security their whole lifetime and not give them any benefits when the time comes to retire.") Mondale pledged to veto any bill to cut Social Security in any way. (Mondale: "I think it's time for President Reagan to take that pledge without loopholes and make it to the American people right now, before the election.") Next stop Detroit. This is the state that gave Mondale one of his biggest victories of the primary

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Hume (continued): season, and today, thanks he said to the debate, gave him one of his biggest crowds of the year. Mondale's performance as a debater has clearly fired up up the Democratic faithful, and he apparently thinks one way to keep them fired up and keep the President on the defensive is to hammer away on the one issue that has given Ronald Reagan anything but trouble: Social Security. (ABC-Lead)

NBC's Lisa Myers: (Mondale: "This campaign is now close. This campaign has begun. We're on our way. We're making progress every day.") Keeping up the pressure, Mondale took some tough swings at Reagan on the volatile issue of Social Security, claiming Reagan's pledge during the debate never to cut Social Security was full of loopholes. (Mondale: "His only pledge was to people now on Social Security. The question is: Will he keep it when he didn't last time? But there's a deeper question about what he intends to do with the rest of you.") While being tough on Social Security, he's not bringing up another sensitive issue that came out of the debates: the President's age. But other Democrats were discussing it publicly. (Speaker O'Neill: "I've already announced that I'm going to withdraw and this will be my last term. And -- ah -- I don't know. He's 15 months older than I am, or something like that. I don't want to get into the age factor. He did look a little tired the other night, a little confused, which he admitted." Mayor Coleman Young: "I think we saw on television last Sunday there's a man in the White House now who really doesn't have the answers. Half the time, he didn't know what was going on.") Clearly, this campaign is going to get a whole lot tougher. Mondale's aides claim to have polls showing that he already has cut a few points from the President's lead. They said it was what they call a dramatic improvement in Mondale's image as a leader. Some now predict he can close to within 10 points of Reagan in time for the second debate. (NBC-Lead)

CBS's Leslie Stahl: The President played offensive politics in the Rose Garden, signing the Older Americans Act and took credit for it, even though he proposed cutting the bill by more than a billion dollars. But it was defensive politics backstage. (TV Coverage: Graphic showing still photo of Larry Speakes with words written underneath.) Spokesman Larry Speakes, quoting the President, said Mondale ought to be ashamed. He's out to frighten the elderly. And he denied Mondale's charge today of a secret plan to cut Social Security benefits. It was the first time the President had responded to a Mondale charge made from the campaign trail. The White House then announced a sudden shift in its Social Security policy. The President promised no reductions in benefits, not only for those who get their benefits now, but for future recipients as well -- those who work and pay into the system. Till now, the pledge covered only current recipients, a position taken as recently as Sunday night. (President, during debate: "I will never stand for a reduction of the Social Security benefits to the people that are now getting them.") Why the sudden shift? Well, a CBS News-New York Times poll taken right after the debate asked viewers what was said that made the strongest impression. The issue most often mentioned was Social

Stahl (continued): Security. White House officials denied they were panicking. But indicating the President's policy shift was made for political reasons, Larry Speakes said the Democrats took the Social Security issue and beat us over the head with it in the '82 campaign, and they aren't going to do it again. (CBS-2)

ABC's Sam Donaldson: President Reagan's strategists moved swiftly today to close the apparent loophole in the President's Social Security position through which Walter Mondale is trying to drive his campaign truck. (TV Coverage: Graphic with still photo of Speakes in corner, wire copy beneath and words written out over wire copy.) Larry Speakes said he took the wire copy report of Mondale's Cincinnati speech into the Oval Office and the President authorized him to say that no Social Security recipients, including future recipients, would suffer a benefit cut. Mondale is out to frighten the elderly. He should be ashamed, said Speakes. The President later spoke for himself on the matter. (Donaldson: "Sir, will you extend your pledge not to cut Social Security benefits to future recipients as well as present recipients?" President: "I think that is the statement I released has all -- has been made clear. That's exactly what I meant the other night." Reporter: "It's not what you said Sunday night, sir!" President: "Yes it is, really.") No it wasn't, actually. On Sunday, the President spoke only about present recipients. (President, in debate: "I will never stand for a reduction of the Social Security benefits to the people that are now getting them.") Now it's clear. Not only the people now getting them, the people who will get them are covered in the President's pledge not to cut benefits. But along with such heavy talk, Mr. Reagan fell back on one of his favorite devices today -- humor -- to deflect the Mondale assault. What about Mondale's charges, a reporter asked. (President: "He ought to pay them.") And it was humor the President used in the attempt to deal with that other age issue that emerged from the debate: his own, stemming from the President's sometimes fumbling answers on Sunday night. (Donaldson: "Mr. President, the Democrats say your age is now a legitimate issue in the campaign. Do you think it ought to be, sir?" President: "I'll challenge him to an arm wrestle anytime.") The Reagan White House now seems to be on the defensive, a direct result of the Sunday night debate and the way it changed the campaign dynamics. Social Security and the President's age have always been here. But only now did the warning flags seem to be up here, and it may take more than one-liners to bring them down. (ABC-2)

NBC's Chris Wallace: Social Security is such a sensitive issue here that when Mondale hit the President today, Reagan hit back. He sent Larry Speakes to tell reporters Mondale is out to frighten the elderly. He ought to be ashamed. Then Speakes tried to close every loophole, saying the President will never stand for a reduction of Social Security benefits for anybody. Those now getting them or future recipients. During a Rose Garden ceremony, Mr. Reagan denied this was a big change in policy. (President: "That's exactly what I meant the other night.") But in Sunday's debate, he pledged only to protect current recipients. And last March, Mr. Reagan called for a revamping of the program. He was known then to be considering an increase in the eligibility age of future retirees. A

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Wallace (continued): leading Democrat noted that Mr. Reagan made a similar pledge in 1980 to protect all Social Security benefits, and then proposed cuts. (Rep. Coelho: "I think the question that the people have to ask themselves is whether or not they can believe President Reagan in 1984 and whether or not he is doing the same thing in 1984 that he did in 1980. And the only response that we would have is: There you go again, Mr. President.") If the President responded forcefully on Social Security, he had a different way to deal with Democratic suggestions he may be too old for his job, saying he had an offer for Mondale. (President: "I'll challenge him to an arm wrestle anytime.") But in the wake of Mr. Reagan's poor debate performance, there's not much laughing here, especially not about Social Security. That has long been one of the President's weakest issues. In 1982, the Democrats made big gains charging he planned to cut the program. A top official explaining today's announcement said, "We're not about to let them get away with it again."

NBC's Tom Brokaw: Today the President signed legislation that would make it more difficult to cut off Social Security disability benefits. In the last couple of years, about 300,000 people lost their disability benefits after a review of the rolls. (NBC-2)

Rather: One issue that President Reagan can't defuse with a policy change is an issue that went unspoken but not unnoticed during showdown Sunday with Walter Mondale: the issue of Mr. Reagan's age. Does it affect his performance as President? Will it in the future? Since Sunday, the issue and those questions are being talked about more.

CBS's Bill Plante: (President, during debate: "But -- um -- but the -- um -- ") In Sunday's debate, the President stumbled, hesitated and sometimes appeared to be groping. (President: "With regard to -- ah -- the -- ah -- with regard to the -- ah -- progressivity, as I said -- ") And now the Democrats, sensing an issue, have begun suggesting not very subtly that perhaps Mr. Reagan is too old for the job. (Robert Strauss: "Ronald Reagan's failure to be crisp, to be sharp, and the way he disassembled in the debate did make age an issue." Speaker O'Neill: "He's 15 months older than I am, or something like that -- I don't want to get into the age factor. He did look a little tired the other night, a little confused, which he admitted.") The oldest man ever to serve as President has always relied on humor to defuse the age issue. (President in Dixon, Ill., on birthday: "I believe Moses was 80 when God first commissioned him for public service.") Lines like that, plus all the pictures of a robust President swimming or clad in jeans on the back of a horse have so far canceled out any signs of aging, such as his deteriorating hearing or occasional dozing off. (TV Coverage: President swimming, riding and lifting weights, then holding his hand to his ear in Baltimore and dozing off during his meeting with the Pope.) Statistically speaking, doctors say that people Mr. Reagan's age are approaching a difficult time of life. (Dr. Lawrence Klein, Georgetown University: "People reach 75-80 years old, the prevalence of chronic disease goes up, the prevalence of dementia goes up. Of

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Plante (continued): course, some people do quite well in that 75 to 80 to 85 range.") And today the President, asked about the Democrats' charge he's too old, was still joking. (President, at Peres departure: "I'll challenge him to an arm wrestle anytime.") Still, the President's performance on Sunday has caused doubts among some longtime supporters, such as psychologist Eugene Jennings, a management expert. (Eugene Jennings, Michigan State University: "Basically, what I saw, and knowing what he was like four years ago, I think aging has had an effect.") Mr. Reagan's aides, stunned and disappointed by his performance in the debate, fear he may have created an issue where one didn't exist. They think that they can make it go away by putting him to work vigorously on the campaign trail, but they're amazed it could have happened in the first place. (CBS-3)

ABC's James Wooten: This was one of those rare days in schizophrenic Washington when the whole town seemed to focus on one thing: Ronald Reagan's age. It all started with this morning's Wall Street Journal in a story that quoted Democratic Congressman Tony Coelho. He said the President himself had made his age a campaign issue by looking old and acting old in the debate on Sunday night. And when Speaker O'Neill, who's no college freshman himself, showed up for work today, he said he couldn't agree more. (Speaker O'Neill: "He did look a little tired the other night, a little confused, which he admitted." Reporter asks question. O'Neill: "Oh sure, there's a factor, there's no question about it.") The question may be fairly simple. Is Mr. Reagan, the oldest man ever to serve as President, too old to serve four more years? Any suggestion that he may be understandably irritates the men who run the White House. But it isn't an entirely irrelevant question. Even some of his loyalists conceded that he didn't seem up to snuff in the debate. (President, in debate: "The system is still where it was with regard to -- uh -- the -- uh -- with regard to the -- ah -- progressivity, as I said --") And there have been other times when he hasn't seemed exactly on top of things. (President, at ranch: "What?" Reporter asks question. Mrs. Reagan: "Doing everything we can." President: "Doing everything we can.") Michael Deaver, his closest aide, has said the President falls asleep occasionally during Cabinet meetings, as he seems to have drifted off in this audience with the Pope, (TV Coverage: The President nodding off during meeting with Pope) just one more of the endless round of appointments on any presidential calendar, a regimen that has taken its toll on much younger presidents in the past. So his schedule is liberal, with rest and relaxation. And there are plenty of photo opportunities to show him as the picture of health, (TV Coverage: Pictures of the President riding and cleaning his horse's hooves) a hale and hearty President, no matter what his age. Most Democrats are still very cautious, because the President's age is an issue with a lot of potential backlash.

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ABC's Peter Jennings: Well, that is the political dimension of the story today. To discuss the medical side a little more in depth, joining me is ABC's medical editor Dr. Tim Johnson. Dr. Tim, if the -- some people did see the President more faltering, more uncertain and looking old, does that really tell us anything?

ABC's Dr. Tim Johnson: I don't think so, Peter. I think one has to make a careful distinction between various aspects of aging. For example, there are problems associated with aging of the physical body. President Reagan appears to be in good physical health, from all we can gather. There are other processes that might be more associated with changes in mental acuity. But even those do not necessarily signify aging. A person may, for example, have always stumbled while trying to think or speak on their feet, and what we're more interested in is any change with them. Finally, I think we have to say that there are other kinds of changes that have nothing to do with either physical ability or mental acuity -- such skills as judgment and instinct and intuition.

Jennings: Let me interrupt you for a second. And you're saying that, if the President was halting and uncertain on the television, it is not necessarily a reflection on his ability in other areas.

Johnson: Not necessarily, but obviously cause for concern. The only two statements I could make medically speaking that would not be challenged I think are these: Number one, that with increasing age there is clearly an increased statistical risk for both physical and mental problems. Ten percent of people who reach 75 have significant mental impairment. Having said that, the other side of the medical coin is that there is no good way to predict in any individual case what's going to happen or how fast anything might happen.

Jennings: the President said in the 1980 campaign that if he became President, he would take regular tests for mental agility, or as he called it then senility. Is that something that he should do, or should any man 73 in that job do?

Johnson: That does become both I think a medical and political question. We do not have precise medical tests to say that this person is suffering from aging attributable to mental change. But we do have some tests which, when taken together, can give some at least clues in that direction. I personally think those are tests we would apply to anybody we suspected of having some mental problems or some aging associated with the (unintelligible), and maybe we should apply to a president as we would to anybody else.

(ABC-3)

DEBATE COMMENTARY

NBC's John Chancellor comments that the debate didn't attract as large an audience as the presidential debates in 1980 and 1976. What may be more important politically is that the figures show the audience stayed tuned until the end of the debate. The President

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Chancellor (continued): would have been better off if most of the viewers had switched halfway through. He less effective as the debate went on, and his closing statement was his worst moment. That worst moment and Mondale's better showing are going to give the Reagan campaign some headaches for the next week or so. so far this year, the story has been a triumph for Reagan and a disaster for Mondale. Now that the President has stumbled, every columnist, cartoonist, editorial writer and commentator is going to produce something about the flaws in the Republican campaign. It is only natural. This coverage could center on the President's age. No one today was seriously questioning the President's ability to survive his bad showing in the debate and the period of critical press coverage, but just about everyone agrees that it makes this campaign a closer contest. (NBC-10)

BLUE COLLAR VOTE

Brokaw talks in Toledo with two blue collar voters, one who is a union organizer and pro-Mondale, and one, a member of the organizer's union, who is pro-Reagan. (NBC-9)

PRIME MINISTER PERES

Rather: With a pledge that "our ties remain unbreakable," President Reagan had a White House meeting today with Israeli Prime Minister Peres. But after more than two hours of talks in the Oval Office, Mr. Reagan made no specific commitment to new U.S. aid for Israel. He did, however, announce formation of a panel of U.S. and Israeli officials to help strengthen Israel's economy, which has been wracked by a 400 percent inflation rate. (CBS-5)

Jennings: Israel's new Prime Minister, Shimon Peres, today appealed to President Reagan for help in bailing the Jewish state out of its worst economic crisis ever. After a two-hour meeting at the White House, Mr. Reagan agreed to release all the aid money Congress has appropriated for the next year to Israel all at once. And the White House also set up a joint economic development group to provide long-term help. (ABC-4)

NBC's Marvin Kalb: (TV Coverage: Photo opportunity in the Oval Office showing the President and Prime Minister Peres) This is the picture the White House wanted and wanted now, during the height of the election campaign: a sympathetic President and a needy prime minister. The President invited Peres to demonstrate his support for the Jewish state, fully aware of the political benefits, and Peres accepted because Israel desperately needs that support and more, and after these meetings it's clear he's going to get it. (President: "We've made clear our willingness to continue our dialogue and to cooperate with Israel the best we can as Israel proceeds with its plans.") Peres asked for a Presidential declaration of U.S. support for the Israeli economy and got it. He asked for more economic aid and military aid, \$2.6 billion in flat-out grants for 1985. He'll get

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Kalb (continued): that all in the first quarter of the year. And for 1986, perhaps as much as \$4 billion. And Peres expressed his country's gratitude with words that have political resonance. (Peres: "Again, Mr. President, I thank you from the depths of my heart for your understanding, friendship and support in the long and short range of the destiny of Israel.") Peres also conferred with Secretary Shultz about Israel's economic plans and with Defense Secretary Weinberger, who visits Israel next week. Peres spoke of a new level of harmony between the two countries and as an example cited the establishment of joint economic development groups to help Israel overcome its current problems. (NBC-3)

PRESIDENT MUBARAK

Egyptian President Mubarak met with Jordan's King Hussein today, restoring diplomatic ties between those countries. (CBS-6, ABC-5, NBC-4)

EL SALVADOR

CBS's Mike O'Connor reports Salvadoran rebels accepted President Duarte's invitation to hold peace talks. Some diplomatic observers see Duarte's willingness to talk now as a sign that he feels secure politically. The Salvadoran army says it is doing better in the field. U.S. Amb. Pickering warned that an agreement to talk was only a first step. (Amb. Pickering: "An extremely important step. I don't look for turning points and I don't look for lights at the end of the tunnel. I think neither of those concepts is rational or reasonable given the difficulty of the task here.") (CBS-4)

ABC's Anne Garrels says Duarte has invited only guerrilla field commanders, saying they are the real guerrilla power. The guerrillas want their political leaders, now in exile, to attend. According to Amb. Pickering, the time was right for Duarte to make his move. (Amb. Pickering: "It's a dramatic step. It's an important step. It is a step not without risks.") Dramatic is the key word. Salvadoran officials admit that Duarte's speech at the United Nations was made for impact with no preparation. (ABC-6)

NBC's Mike Boettcher reports the guerrillas soldiers in La Palma today were talking about peace talks, not their next battle. "I'm tired of the war," said one guerrilla. He was glad the negotiations were coming. The other guerrillas in the town felt the same way. (NBC-5)

BABY DOE LAW

Brokaw: Baby Doe was the name for an infant with birth defects who died in Indiana after doctors withheld and surgery that could have kept her alive. That 1982 case led the Reagan Administration to seek a law that would prohibit the withholding of such care. Well, today President Reagan signed the so-called Baby Doe Bill, and under it medical personnel can be prosecuted if they don't treat severely handicapped infants. (NBC-8)

EDITORIALS/COLUMNISTS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

A Plus For Voters -- "This first debate served a different purpose. It helped clear deadwood from the presidential campaign forest. Both candidates were driven more to the political center on key issues like church-state relations, social security, the environment. Mr. Mondale has been offering the Democratic past, Mr. Reagan the Republican present. We have yet to hear enough about the American future."

(Christian Science Monitor, 10/9)

But No Surprises -- "At this point in the campaign, therefore, the race is not Mondale's to win, but it is Reagan's to lose. The President is so far ahead going into the final stretch that only if he takes a bad fall can he be overtaken. He took no such fall in the Sunday night TV debate."

(Dallas Morning News, 10/9)

Liberation in Louisville -- "Differences now are etched more vividly in the mind of the American electorate. Reagan is running on his record with no apologies, but with little specific focus on the future. Mondale last night seized the future as an issue and began to compete credibly for the Presidency."

(Boston Globe, 10/8)

The Debate -- "There were no disastrous gaffes and no knockouts. There can no doubt, however that at the debate's end, Walter Mondale was more credible as a candidate for President, while Ronald Reagan had a bad night. It is too soon to know whether that ultimately will affect votes. The next four weeks will determine that. Stay tuned."

(Miami Herald, 10/9)

The People's Day -- "But which candidate won? You won't get an answer here; the only decision that counts is on Election Day....Interestingly, the boldest position taken probably was Reagan's declaration that Medicare, like Social Security before it, had financial problems that had to be confronted and couldn't be wished away. That was a gutty stand."

(New York Daily News, 10/9)

Who's Right on Social Security... -- "...Mr. Mondale ought to remind himself that, should he become president, he'll be mighty glad the Reagan administration took some steps to rein in Medicare's runaway growth."

(Washington Post, 10/9)

A Clearing-The-Air First Debate -- "...There was a moment -- for those whose minds weren't already made up -- that spoke directly to the question of Mondale's toughness (or lack thereof) and President Reagan's charm (or over-reliance thereupon). That moment came when Mr. Reagan dusted off the old 'There you go again' line....Mr. Mondale reminded Mr. Reagan -- turning to face him squarely -- that he had used that line in 1980 to deny he had plans to trim Medicare -- which his Administration, in fact, later proposed trimming. Mr. Mondale came off cool, straightforward and strong."

(Philadelphia Inquirer, 10/9)

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Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

Strawmen Galore -- "What Mondale attempted to do...with President Reagan was patently absurd. He cannot be allowed to get away with such gall any longer. Again and again the President has declared that he has no intention of reducing the payments of people now receiving Social Security. Again and again he has clarified his position with regard to whether he will propose additional taxes to bridge the deficit gap....Again and again -- and yet again -- he has declared that the safety net for the truly needy of the country will be maintained. Yet Mondale keeps harping on these so-called issues and claiming he 'knows' what the President really wants to do and will do. By continuing to claim the unique ability to read other people's thoughts, Mondale could be causing unnecessary alarm and anxiety among the country's elderly and poor. And the irony is that he pretends to be interested in the well-being of these very people."

(Chicago Sun-Times, 10/9)

The Democrats lose an excuse -- "In helping to solve his image problem, Mondale has created a problem for his party -- should he lose this election by anything approaching the margin by which the President leads today. The liberal Democrats have lost the alibi they were constructing; they have lost the ability to blame a November debacle upon their candidate, as they blamed previous disasters upon George McGovern and Jimmy Carter. ...Should he lose by other than a narrow margin, Great Society liberalism and foreign policy McGovernism will be repudiated; and the Democratic Party will be forced to make that agonizing reassessment of itself which is so long overdue."

(Patrick Buchanan, New York Post, 10/9)

The Gipper Can't Play Defense -- "Reagan went to Louisville so far ahead that his only problem was to prevent Mondale from solving his problem. Mondale's problem was to get people to take him seriously. He did that. Reagan remains closer than Mondale to the voters, both in mood and on the issues, so he left Louisville with a big lead -- something like being ahead two games to none in a best-of-five baseball series. Ronald Reagan, call the Chicago Cubs office."

(George Will, Washington Post, 10/9)

Shutting Off The Derisive Laughter -- "Mondale is no longer just a bad joke. As to Reagan, he gave his backers a couple of anxious moments.... Politically, the President almost certainly had the better of the argument. Rightly or wrongly, his prescription for unfettered growth, rewards to the strong and pressures on dependency suits the national mood. It would still be surprising to me if he lost the election, or even if it was very close."

(Joseph Kraft, Washington Post, 10/9)

What it takes to win debates won't help us win the future -- "What Reagan had to say on Sunday night -- standing firm by his plan for increased economic growth without inflation and reducing the excessive share that the government takes from the gross national product -- may not be the stuff which wins debates, but it is what will win the future."

(New York Post, 10/9)

Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

Mondale Advances on a Walk -- "What was surprising (and to this former aide, disappointing) was that the members of the Reagan team didn't play for a decisive victory. What we saw was a Reagan at a typical press conference, not the Gipper rising to a challenge and scoring a 'tour de force.' Why did they set their sights so low? As times it seemed that he thought he had the election in the bag, so why turn it on?"

(David Gergen, Los Angeles Times, 10/9)

Sunday night massacre -- "If you think President Reagan looked uneasy as he stammered to the close of his debate with Mondale, imagine how his handlers must be feeling. For some of them, a trip to the woodshed is in order....An aggressive hustings campaign, with a presidential arm draped around other Republican candidates' shoulders, could revive the Reagan campaign. Meanwhile, the foreign policy debate, a fortnight away, becomes all the more crucial. A White House summons to Jeane Kirkpatrick was never more imperative."

(Washington Times, 10/9)

Play Offense, Not Defense -- "Where, gentlemen, are the ideas, the visions, the plans for the future?...For the next round we hope the President will put aside the advice of his overcautious aides...and all of the unnecessary mumbo jumbo they stuffed him with, and go with his instincts. The American people voted for him because they agree with the thrust of his policies; he should not shrink from informing them of his successes and clarifying future plans. He should play offense, not defense."

(Detroit News, 10/9)

From Loser to Underdog -- "Once again the presidential debate had changed the conventional wisdom, if not the dynamics, of a presidential election campaign. The Reagan managers will now have to confront a suspicious electorate about their previous strategy of keeping the President under wraps....Mondale is now the Underdog, with four weeks to go."

(Mark Shields, Washington Post, 10/9)

The Loser is Still a Winner -- "However, for all the talk about Mondale's appearance, he really was no better Sunday than he had been against Gary Hart in the spring. On the other hand, Reagan looked terrible. Perhaps, as some have charged, he is a weaker candidate as an incumbent. Maybe he was rusty from his lack of exposure to the press. Or perhaps Reagan's age has begun to catch up with him....The odds are against Mondale, but against an aging champion a comeback is always possible. Just ask the Chicago Cubs."

(Steven Stark, Hartford Courant, 10/9)

Round One in the Debate -- "Mr. Mondale appeared forceful, articulate and clear of vision during the debate. One may still disagree with his vision, but at least one can respect and appreciate its existence. In short, Mr. Mondale had nowhere to go but up as a result of the encounter in Louisville, and he did go up."

(Hartford Courant, 10/9)

How Much Did Mondale Gain From The Debate? -- "The question, of course, is whether Mondale's strong performance translates into a significant number of votes. And that's something only time will reveal."

(Newsday, 10/9)

Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

The Debate: Round One -- "With his performance, Mondale may have fortified his base and won over some voters who were leaning in his direction, but, given his poor standing in the polls, he will have to do a lot more than this if he is to win the election four weeks from today. Perhaps the best Mondale can hope for from the debate, realistically, is that he finally has put the President on the defensive. Reagan, meanwhile, can hope that he has a better evening again in two weeks."

(Dallas Times Herald, 10/9)

Mr. Fritz-it and the Mondale Doctrine -- "...If a clergyman happens to agree with Fritz on an issue, any issue, whether abortion, or capital punishment or whatever, then Fritz welcomes enthusiastically that clergyman's deep involvement in the political process....On the other hand, any clergyman who pushes a view at odds with the Mondale-Ferraro line -- O'Connor on abortion, for instance -- is obviously intent upon imposing his faith on you and your loved ones, a clear violation of the separation of church and state....And if you can't grasp that simple distinction, you lack the intellectual qualifications to be a liberal Democrat in the brave new 1980's."

(Bill Reel, New York Daily News, 10/9)

Ron and the abortion-is-murder issue -- "The abortion issue is now crystal clear, and there can be no evasion of it....There is an ironic role reversal here. Mondale, the alleged advocate of big government, urged that the government be kept out of private lives and private choices. Reagan, the conservative enemy of big government, urges federal enforcement of the minority religious view that abortion is murder.....Ironically, earlier in the debate, Reagan avowed, 'I happen to believe that the people are supposed to be dominant in our society. That they, not government, are to have control of their own affairs to the greatest extent possible within an orderly society.' But he was not talking about abortion. He was talking about presidential leadership."

(Lars-Erik Nelson, New York Daily News, 10/9)

Reagan's Late-Inning Letdown -- "It was clear from interviewing those under-35 voters...that they did not know much about Mondale and didn't like what they did know -- mainly that he had been Jimmy Carter's vice president and was proposing to raise their taxes. My guess is that some of them may be taking a second look. Youth is not particularly tolerant of the vagaries of age such as Reagan displayed."

(David Broder, Washington Post, 10/9)

A Failure to Communicate -- "It was revenge of the nerd. Walter Mondale...finally got Ronald Reagan away from the campaign sound stage and onto the debate stage -- and whumped him. He won one against the Gipper....But after the debate was over, the women who were serving food in a lounge near the press section abandoned their steam tables and ran into the streets to see the President leave the hall. It could be the Ronald Reagan lost the debate but won the girl anyway. Or it just could be they were saying goodbye. In life, as in the movies, the nerd sometimes gets revenge."

(Richard Cohen, Washington Post, 10/9)

Editorials/Columnists on the Debate (continued)

There Are Two -- Count'em -- "About 90 million viewers watched the confrontation on the three commercial networks alone...That should settle the questions about whether Americans are apathetic about their leadership. And there are now two candidates for the presidency, an assertion about which you could have gotten an argument just a few weeks ago."
(Los Angeles Times, 10/9)

First Thoughts on the Debate -- "The verdict on who 'won' last night's debate actually comes at three levels. One is what the pollsters will tell us three days from now. Another is what each citizen feels as he turned off the television last night. The final verdict comes when he reassesses after witnessing the debate over the debate that will range during coming days. To the extent that voters understand the whole process of coming to judgment, they will reach wiser and more independent decisions."
(Baltimore Sun, 10/8)

...And Who Asks The Questions? -- "The dispute over 'blackballing' journalists seems to be more a matter of misunderstanding than of any blameworthy conduct by anyone, but it will have served a useful purpose if it turns out to signal the end of involvement by journalists in the debate process."
(Washington Post, 10/9)

Mondale's Scorecard -- "But for whatever value they might have for testing what Hemingway called 'grace under pressure,' TV debates are, on the whole, one of the worst ways available to voters for examining issues and policies. Trying to cover a whole range of complex matters under the time constraints of TV usually results in exactly what happened Sunday night, an embarrassing exchange of cheap shots that did little credit to either candidate."
(Wall St. Journal, 10/9)

Reagan in Baltimore -- "Yet, sad to tell, the president was flat...Why the flatness? It wasn't Baltimore. It wasn't Little Italy. It certainly wasn't Christopher Columbus. No, it was post-Louisville. Although White House aides kept a brave front, insisting the president has done well in his debate with Mondale, the quick-snap Gallup Poll gave the debate to the Democrat by 54 to 35 percent. There were recriminations and post-mortems reported in the Reagan camp, with some of the anti-debate insiders saying I-told-you-so....Was Baltimore witness to a change in the atmosphere and the chemistry, if not the outcome, of the campaign?"
(Baltimore Sun, 10/9)

Debate's winner: The voters -- "Reagan went into the debate with more to lose than to gain, and as Mondale said, it was to the President's credit that he agreed to debate at all. He didn't have to. But in a way, he did have to, and that may be the most important feature of this year's debates. The debates have become expected, so expected that even an incumbent who is sitting on an apparently commanding lead can ill afford to risk the questions that would be raised if he were to say 'no' to the sponsoring League of Women Voter's R.S.V.P."

(Atlanta Constitution, 10/9)