

THE CRUSADER

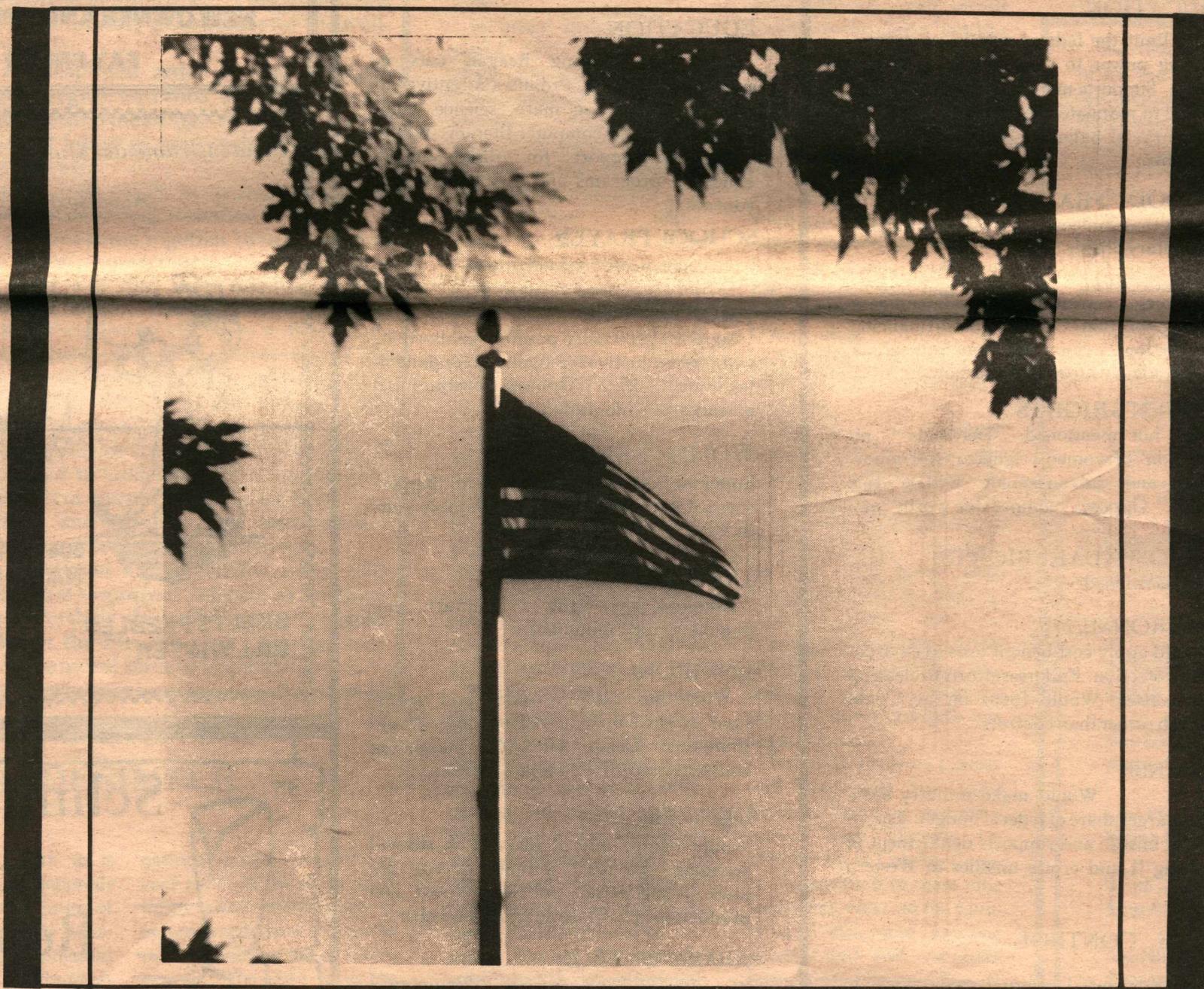
"Men are never so likely to settle a question rightly as when they discuss it freely." -Macaulay

Nampa, Idaho

Northwest Nazarene College

November 5, 1984

Special Election Edition



Election '84

Editorials

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

ECONOMIC POLICY

Opposes increase in income taxes. Favors reducing deficits by continuing economic recovery, cutting government spending, and providing incentives for personal savings. Opposes repeal of tax-rate indexing. Favors a modified flat tax.

Supports constitutional admendment requiring a balanced budget and legislation permitting a line-item veto. Suggests the gold standard "may be a useful mechanism" for achieving stable prices. Calls for reduced federal regulation.

EDUCATION

Would limit the federal role in education, restoring power to state and local governments. Supports merit pay for teachers. Is opposed to mandatory busing of students to achieve racial balance. Advocates tuition tax credits.

SCHOOL PRAYER

States that students are entitled to engage in voluntary prayer.

ABORTION

Supports constitutional admendment banning abortion. Opposes public financing of abortion. Supports appointment of federal judges who oppose abortion.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

ERA not mentioned. Demands "no inhibition" of women's rights to "full opportunity and advancement within this society." Opposes "comparable worth" pay concept.

HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS

Not mentioned.

ENVIRONMENT

Would apply cost-benefit tests to environment protection. Endorses efforts to clean up toxic wastes. Would focus on acid rain research rather than controls.

DEFENSE

Would make military spending a larger share of federal budget. Endorses MX missile and supports deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles in Western Europe.

ARMS CONTROL

Seeks substantial mutual reductions in nuclear weapons. Would negotiate for verifiable arms control agreements while modernizing U.S. "deterrence capability." Opposes freeze on nuclear weapons, contending such a step would maintain Soviet superiority.

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

ECONOMIC POLICY

Would reduce budget deficits by reassessing defense expenditures, creating a fairer tax system, and controlling health costs. Opposes constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget.

Would cap the effect of the Reagan tax cuts, limiting benefits of third year reduction to individuals with income below \$60,000. Would partially defer tax-rate indexing and impose minimum corporate tax of 15%.

Supports tax reform that would retain some progressivity in rates, rather than flat tax.

EDUCATION

Calls for restoring Reagan cuts in education spending. Promises incentives to schools focusing on math, science, communications and computer literacy. Would strengthen support for disadvantaged childrens' programs and expand bilingual education.

SCHOOL PRAYER

Does not mention school prayer.

ABORTION

Supports pro-choice position on abortion, with "reproductive freedom as a fundamental human right." Opposes constitutional amendment banning abortion.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Endorses Equal Rights Amendment. Supports equal pay for work of "comparable worth."

HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS

Endorses gay rights in military, employment, and immigration.

ENVIRONMENT

Would increase EPA budget and "superfund" to clean up toxic waste dumps. Would strengthen Clean Air Act, mandating emission controls to combat acid rain.

DEFENSE

Would reduce rate of increase in defense spending. Favors "military reform" for more cost-effective policies. Would end production of MX missile and B-1 bomber.

ARMS CONTROL

Would immediately initiate a "temporary verifiable and mutual" freeze on testing and deployment of anti-satellite weapons and underground nuclear weapons; on testing and deployment of all weapons in space, and of new strategic ballistic weapons now under development. Supports mutual and verifiable freeze on testing and production of all nuclear weapons.

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Editorials

PERSPECTIVE 100

by President Wetmore

Politics and religion are distinct social energies which come together constructively in the life of the responsible Christian.

Politics derives from the root word polis, the city. The interchange between people. It calls for structure and wise governance. It calls for responsible leadership. Politics connotes order and civic discipline. Its goal is to enable peace, order, and growth. Its logic leads to freedom and accountability, the misuse of which calls for laws and correction.

The polis finds meaning in the market place and the interrelatedness of enterprise. Politics, a word carrying the responsibility of structure for the well-being of the people.

Religion is disciplined order around ultimate value. Religion begins, and ends, in the efforts of a person to find essential meaning.

The important factor in religion is whom one is worshipping and why.

True religion will result in persons who are responsible stewards of God's creation.

Religious persons come together to support each other and to achieve common missions. Followers of God in Christ will find their missions in His revealed will and design. They will act to heal the broken and to sustain the weak. They will act as effective agents to bring about the deliverance of the captives. They will feed the hungry and clothe the naked. They will condemn evil but not the evildoer. They will proclaim the good news that all who respond in faith to the call of God in Christ may be reconciled to God the Father and receive the God-given gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

Both politics and religion are controversial because both issues effect each of us so deeply.

Politics and religion are in conflict when self-serving persons use organized religion as leverage to give credence to their ideas. Politics and religion come together in the life of a true Christian and result in a positive moral force to impact society.

GERRYMANDERING.... MADE SIMPLE

by Prof. S. K. Sha'v

This election year it is natural and understandable that almost all the attention of the informed public is directed toward the presidential race between President Reagan and former Vice-President Walter Mondale. With the election agenda including such issues as arms control, federal taxation and spending, relations with the Soviet Union, the federal deficit, Central America and the future of the Supreme Court, it would at least be inadvisable to ignore the

national angle of election year 1984. In the midst of all this, a salient political issue is before us right here in Canyon County, and the rest of Idaho as well. The 1984 races for the newly-enlarged Idaho legislature are being contested under a new court-ordered, legislatively-approved reapportionment plan, popularly known as Plan 14-B.

President Harry Truman once said that the most sacred piece of real estate in a democracy is the voting

booth. However, for years the right to vote was denied to many people for many different reasons, many having to do with racial discrimination. For example, the Jim Crow laws of the South were used to prevent blacks from exercising their right under the Fifteenth Amendment to vote in local, state and national elections. Poll taxes, literacy tests and other devices were often employed to deny, or debase the enjoyment of that basic right.

In many instances, white voters and urban voters, along with blacks, had their votes debased through a process known as "gerrymandering." This term was coined after former Massachusetts governor and Vice-President under James Madison, Elbridge Gerry, who in 1812 helped form an election district in the shape of a salamander. Basically, gerrymandering involves dividing a state, county or city into voting districts in order to give unfair advantage to one political party in the election. Consequently, gerrymandering and political apportionment addresses the reality of geographical or territorial issues in politics, serving to establish the nexus between political space and the enjoyment of one's civil liberties and personal rights.

The United States Supreme Court, under the leadership of Chief Justice Earl Warren, issued significant decisions in a trilogy of cases in the 1960s dealing with legislative reapportionment. The landmark case of *Baker v. Carr* in 1962, considered by Warren to be the most important of all the opinions rendered by the court during his tenure, established the constitutional validity of the principle known as "one man, one vote." The other two cases, *Reynolds v. Sims* and *Wesberry v. Sanders*, held that malapportionment of representation districts local, state, and federal violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

Chief Justice Warren wrote that the Equal Protection clause "guarantees the opportunity for equal participation by all voters. The fundamental principle of representative government in this country is one of equal representation for equal numbers of people, without regard to race, sex, economic status, or place of residence within a state.

The issue of legislative reapportionment was injected into Idaho politics following the 1980 census and the requirement faced by the Idaho legislative assembly to redraw state legislative district boundaries in light of population shifts since the last census. The additional wrinkle faced by Idaho's legislators, beyond the constitutional requirement of equal protection, and the Supreme Court's mandate of one man, one vote, had to do with the fact that the Idaho Constitution, Article III, Section 5, required that counties not be divided in creating legislative districts. Following political machinations in the legislature and a series of confrontations in Idaho courtrooms, the plan known as 14-B was finally implemented, to take force with November election, 1984. In Canyon County, this new plan is producing several key changes, in political campaigning and even perhaps political party strength and organization.

Voters in Canyon County will now vote for three senators and six representatives from District 11, which is all of Canyon County. In addition to these nine legislators, voters in the county will also vote for one senator and two representatives from a floterial district which encompasses nine Idaho counties, stretching from the Nevada border to above McCall, an area roughly half the size of Idaho's First Congressional District. Candidates now spend more time covering more area, trying to contact more voters at greater expense. Additionally, voters

vote on a proposed constitutional amendment, essentially doing away with Article III, Section 5, hence allowing the crossing of county lines and returning the control of reapportionment to Idaho's legislators. Thus, while political apportionment may appear to be an arcane subject to some and an archaic idea to others, the relationship between political space and representative government is as crucial to Idaho today as it was to Mr. Gerry in 1812.

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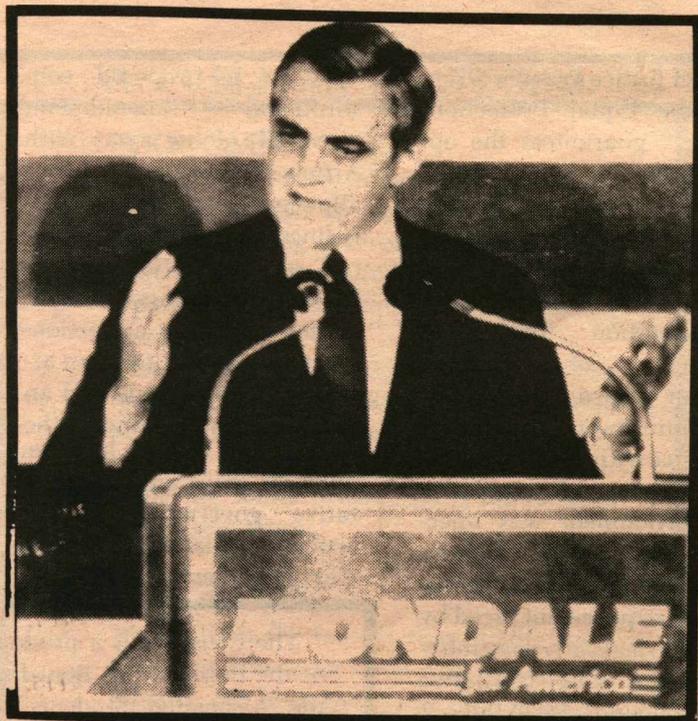
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ELECTION '84



by Richard N. Hume

Hold on to your brain, your about to hear rational arguments of why you should vote for Walter Mondale. Ronald Reagan's rule has been marked by neglect. Walter Mondale offers rule by compassion, responsibility, and sanity.

President Reagan promised a balanced budget, he in-

creased the national debt by $\frac{1}{3}$. In 1980 the national debt stood at 1 trillion dollars, now, by the magic of Reaganomics it is 1.6 trillion dollars. The government must borrow money from banks to pay this debt. This results in less money for business to expand and for people to buy. Large and per-

MONDALE'S CRY: "No more years!"

sistent deficits can cause economic recession. Ronald Reagan has neglected his balanced budget promise.

As for Reagan and Christian charity, those two words are ironic in the same sentence. Reagan has advocated cutting off more than 100 billion dollars in programs for the needy over the last four years. In the last four years, those living below the poverty line has grown from 15% of the total population to nearly 18%. Of those who live below the poverty line, 60% receive no federal help whatsoever. It is encouraging to see that Reagan has presided over an era where the military can have a \$7,000 coffee maker while white conservatives in Idaho want to stop "hand-outs" to the poor. President Reagan has ignored the example of the Good Samaritan and neglected his

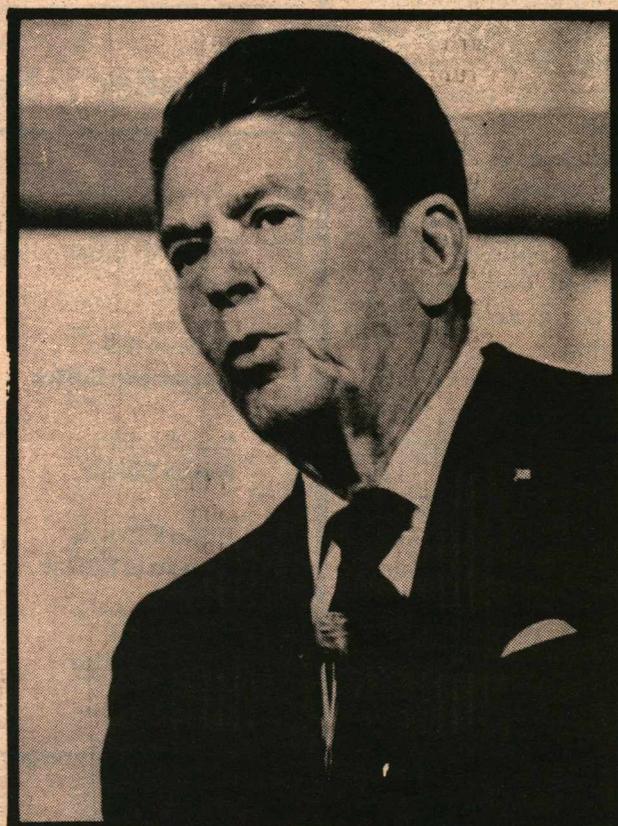
responsibility to the poor.

A third area where Reagan has neglected his office is in the protection of the environment and public health. Reagan administration officials at the Environmental Protection Agency have delayed, opposed enforcement, and in some cases refused to enforce laws and regulations. White House intervention kept the pesticide EDB on the market and in food despite evidence that it was "one of the most potent carcinogens (cancer-causing)" the EPA had ever dealt with. The Interior Department allowed Yates Petroleum to drill illegally in the Salt Creek Wilderness Area. There have been cases children in toxic shock from chemicals they were exposed to at home on land containing asbestos fibers, families contaminated by toxics, and farm workers exposed to EDB. The damage done to land is

irretrievable but President Reagan can be denied a second term.

Finally, President Reagan has neglected our national security. He supports the B-1 bomber and MX missile. Already military intelligence says that the B-1 bomber cannot penetrate Soviet airspace. The MX will be housed in existing silos. The MX was supposed to replace the vulnerable missiles in those same silos! Reagan supports increasing numbers of warheads, increasing delivery systems, space weapons, and long-term nuclear war strategy. Currently, the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. are like two people standing in a room filled to their knees with gasoline. One has 10 matches and one has 9.... *We are not secure in 1984 from the Soviets or even our own technology.*

President Reagan has caused people to feel good,



by Warren Kolz

The convention doors have long been closed and the delegates have since returned

to their homes, but their cries for, "four more years, four more years,..." can still be

NATION'S CRY: "Four more years!"

heard echoing throughout the country. These cries of, "four more years," represent not only the delegate's but a strong national satisfaction with the performance and accomplishments of one Ronald Reagan. These cries are a strong affirmation that the American people have been satisfied with Ronald Reagan's first four years in office. They want to keep the pendulum of American progress on an upward swing by keeping Ronald Reagan in office.

Ronald Reagan again is campaigning on the promise not to raise taxes. Ronald Reagan does not see fit to punish the American people with higher taxes to pay for a Democratic Congress' overspending. It is the Democratic controlled House of Representatives who must share in the

temporary failure to balance the budget. It is the House of Representatives that holds the purse strings of the American budget. It has been the goal of the current administration to gain economic recovery not through higher taxes as proposed by Walter Mondale, but through increased revenue and decreasing governmental spending. Economic recovery must be viewed in broader terms than a balanced budget.

When it comes to National Security, Ronald Reagan stands ready to defend America. Many cases of Soviet treaty violations give testimony to Ronald Reagan's cautious attitude regarding arms control agreements. He supports reductions in nuclear weapons but believes that America must modernize and

upgrade its deterrence abilities if the United States is to achieve and maintain parity with the Soviet Union.

The Reagan administration has again proposed an increase in the defense budget. These increases are to continue the upgrading of the military that President Reagan initiated in his first four years in office. Key to the administration's defense package is the B-1 bomber and the MX missile. President Reagan proposes that upgrading and modernizing our defenses is the way to strengthen our defenses.

Ronald Reagan proposes to protect the environment through the cost/benefit system. He believes that the toxic waste disposal sites must be cleaned up. And that before the problem of acid rain can be solved, it must be

ELECTION '84

...President Reagan has caused people to feel good, drugs do the same thing.

drugs do the same thing. Reagan has given us a huge hit of patriotism, a long drag of self-importance, and a strong shot of political morphine. We believe Reagan because he tells us what we want to hear, he asks us to do or sacrifice nothing, and lures us with religious symbolism. Since Reagan took office, federally funded abortions have increased, the school prayer issue has stagnated—Reagan is using Christians, he knows the proper bait and the season is wide open.

This tirade against President Reagan comes from frustration. Four years of Reagan has had negative results, people must see the truth, reality is not relative—Reagan is wrong. People should neglect Ronald Reagan on November 6th.

It would be an overstatement to paint Walter Mondale as the nation's political messiah. However,

Walter Mondale could give fair, compassionate, and firm leadership to America.

Mondale realizes the dangers of the federal deficit. He sees that in order to reduce the deficit we must all make sacrifices now for prosperity later. Mondale has proposed a plan, a tax plan that is unpopular, but would reduce the deficit by $\frac{2}{3}$ while restoring progressivity of the tax rates. Mondale has proposed a solution, no magic or illusion, just some hard truth.

Mondale knows the poor. He sees that while some may benefit by current economic growth, many are not. How a nation responds to its needy shows the character of the nation. A Mondale presidency would extend to the poor restored programs to let them live with shelter, clothing, and adequate food. Mondale has proposed a poverty program, no magic or

illusion, just hard truth.

Mondale realizes the "stewardship" responsibility to the environment. Mondale plans restoration of the EPA's funding and would enlarge the Superfund to clean up health hazards. Action would characterize Mondale in banning EDB, in removal of toxic waste, in purification of contaminated water, and in protection not destruction of wilderness lands. Mondale proposes prosecution and protection, no magic or illusion, just hard truth.

Mondale believes that security is found in intelligent strategy and sincere negotiation. Mondale supports the "Stealth" bomber, it is undetectable to enemy radar. He advocates the deployment of the "Midgetman" missile to replace current nuclear missiles. Mondale is aware that the accumulation of any more

nuclear warheads is only destabilizing. Mondale does not speak of winnable nuclear war but of verifiable nuclear reduction. Mondale will not allow fear and competition to prevent a dialogue of peace with our adversaries. Mondale has a weapons policy, a military policy, and a negotiation strategy. He offers discussion, no magic or illusion, just hard truth.

Walter Mondale does not hide the truth no matter how ugly. He believes in America but he also sees the tough problems ahead. Mondale wants to take a plan, work with it and solve these tough problems. Eventually real answers must be given for the deficit, to the poor, for the environment, and for the arms race. Mondale is saying, we have difficult problems, there are solutions but they are hard—do we choose to solve them or be destroyed by them?

This election is really about a person's view of reality. Mondale offers a reality of choices, of decisions, of ideas. Reagan offers a reality of pleasant feelings, of Rockwell paintings, and blissful numbness. Do we sleep or do we think? The choice in 1984 is yours. Our nightmare may be only beginning.

Sources:

Sanity, Jul 1984.

U.S. News and World Report, Oct 1, 1984.

U.S. News and World Report, Oct 15, 1984.

U.S. News and World Report, Oct 22, 1984.

A Season of Spoils, by Jonathan Lash, et al.

Current Issues, by Fritz Mayer, 1982
Speeches of Sen. Mark O. Hatfield, Rep. Oregon.

further researched. Amid cries for economic recovery, Ronald Reagan has seen how strengthening pollution control standards on industry would be costly, either to the industry or the government. Either way, the public would ultimately foot the bill. Ronald Reagan is not blind to the effects and hazards of toxic wastes but in fact sees that these problems have not occurred over night, neither will they disappear over night.

In Ronald Reagan's approach to civil rights, he has and continues to recognize social restraints. He has seen how the American mindset, concerning equal rights and racial integration, has evolved slowly and will continue to do so. While Mr. Mondale would propose the passage of a number of civil rights acts (central is the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment), he neglects to

take the mindset of the American people into account. This is another example of the simplistic views of Mondale. President Reagan through experience has found that it takes time for social change to occur and you cannot legislate social change.

President Reagan is an avid supporter of voluntary prayer in schools and is an ardent opponent of abortion. This is not to imply that Reagan is more "Christian" than Mondale but it does bring out some key differences in the two candidate's ideologies. President Reagan is concerned with the moral fabric of the United States and supports measures to uphold traditional values. Meanwhile, Mondale is more concerned with giving hand-outs to the poor and embarking on a second generation of "Great Social Societies". President Reagan takes the stand that we should use money to create

jobs for the poor instead of giving them hand-outs.

The political issues of this year's presidential race are many. They cover a large area and encompass a vast number of topics, each of which Ronald Reagan has shown why he deserves "four more years". But possibly the biggest issue in this year's race may not be purely political, this issue is that of leadership. Reagan's track record of leadership cannot be matched by many, past or present, let alone by the likes of Walter Mondale.

"Has Walter Mondale ever led," asks Patrick Buchanan. To begin his public life he was appointed to his position of Attorney General of Minnesota. When Mondale entered the Senate, he had not been elected but rather was appointed to fill the vacancy left when Hubert Humphrey became Vice President. People are still trying to

figure out what wild hair provoked Jimmy Carter to select Mondale as a running mate in 1976.

By contrast, Ronald Reagan has a long and impressive list of leadership credentials. In 1976 he was the leader of a conservative movement that came ever so close to taking the nomination from an incumbent President of his own party. In 1980 he became the first nominee in 50 years to upset an elected incumbent seeking a second term. Add to this his eight years as the governor of the third largest and most populated state in the Union. Ronald Reagan has acquired respect as a leader the old-fashioned way, he has earned it. When Reagan became President, he was seen in Europe as a simple-minded cowboy. Since that first impression, Reagan has forged a bipartisan coalition that has

changed American political direction for the first time since Franklin Roosevelt. Reagan has set an agenda and won on deregulation of industry, across-the-board tax cuts, cut the growth of government domestic spending, slashed inflation, and led America to its greatest economic comeback since 1946. Whether one agrees with Reagan's policy or not it is obvious that President Reagan is leading America, and leading it in a positive direction to a new future, better than Americans could have hoped for just a few years ago.

In a poll published in a recent issue of *Time* magazine, those polled agreed that Reagan would handle the issues of the economy, unemployment, the deficit, taxes, and nuclear arms control better than

(continued to page 6)

THY KINGDOM COME...IN POLITICS

Through parables, through sermons, through miracles, through real-life incidents, through living examples, Christ endeavored to teach men a new way of life. All things considered, one might well ask what more Jesus could possibly have done to introduce men to the Kingdom of God.

Yet try as He must, Jesus' audiences were exceedingly slow to transcend their provincialism and to see God in anyone but their own little in-group. When Jesus suggested to a Jewish congregation (Luke 4:25-30) that non-Jews could serve God's special purpose and be recipients of His blessing, they tried to throw Him over a cliff. When He preached that God had a special concern for the poor, He was branded "dangerous".

God's kingdom was simply too inclusive and its values (to use Kohlberg's terminology) too "post-conventional" to be acceptable. Even those closest to Jesus, His disciples, frequently failed to comprehend the transvaluational nature of God's kingdom. Out of con-

cern for status, they quarreled over who among them would sit on the right hand and left hand of Jesus in His kingdom. Out of a narrow nationalism, they persisted in their hope that Jesus would, by His military might, restore Israel to a throne of dominance. Out of a narrow ethnocentrism, Peter later insisted that non-Jewish converts adopt Jewish practices. (According to Paul Rees, if Peter had had his way, he would have turned Christianity into a Jewish circumcision cult.)

In the 2000 years since Jesus' death and resurrection, things have not changed very much. Evidence of narrow provincialism and naked self-interest abounds. At times I am even cynically inclined to suspect that the overriding prayer of we Christians is "Lord, bless us few, that will do."

Not surprisingly in an election year, politicians appeal to our selfish interest by inviting us, for example, to ask whether we and our own little in-group are better off than we were in the past and whether we are likely to be better off in the future.

As responsible revealers of God's kingdom, it is imperative that we also entertain more inclusive, less self-interested questions. Shouldn't we be asking, for example, whether America's Indians, Blacks, Catholics, and Mormons actually are (or are likely to be) better off? Shouldn't we be asking whether the inner city poor, the sick, the hungry, and those in prison are better off? As custodians of God's resources, shouldn't we be asking whether His lakes, forests, and prairies are better off? And as political participants in a nation whose policies affect those around the world, shouldn't we be examining how this country's policies are affecting global hunger, human rights, and economic justice?

These, and similar issues, I would contend, are of utmost importance, particularly for those of us who are privileged to operate as part of a Christian liberal arts college community.

by, Dr. R. J. Stellway

PAC's

All major political campaigns require large amounts of a single substance—money. Although public financing exists and personal contributions are legal, money from the political action committees (PACs) is becoming more and more important.

A PAC is a special interest group with a very narrow focus. There are PACs related to trade and labor unions, corporations, different businesses, and ideologies. For example, the beer industry has a political action committee entitled "SixPac". There are currently over 3,500 PACs as compared to 608 in 1975.

The incredible growth is due to the power and influence the PACs wield; their power is also the source of most criticism against these groups. After a PAC has contributed to a candidate, it demands only one thing in return—access. A study conducted by Kirk F. Brown from Yale University entitled "Congressional Contributions and Congressional Voting," studied the movement of two bills

through the legislative system. Brown discovered a correlation between PAC money and Congressional votes on bills of concern to the specific PAC.

The money a PAC can contribute to a candidate is limited to \$5,000 per election. However, there is no limit on the amount of money that can be spent against a candidate. The National Conservative PAC operates by this latter method and claims responsibility for the defeat of five Democratic Senators in one election cycle alone.

The PACs do serve a valid purpose in our political system, however. Some groups push citizen involvement or reform to make the political system more equitable. "Common Cause" is one such group. Other "good" PACs take it upon themselves to champion the minorities whether that minority is racial or ideological—to insure their voice in government.

PACs must be judged on a case by case basis. PACs in and of themselves are not inherently evil or corrupt, but that is definitely not to praise all political action committees.

(REAGAN: continued from page 5)

Walter Mondale. And Reagan was rated superior to Mondale in his reaction to a time of crisis and as an effective leader.

The exceptional success of the policies of Ronald Reagan in the past four years, along with his proven leadership, shows many times over that Ronald Reagan is entitled and deserving of "four more years, four more years, ... four more years."

Sources:

U.S. News and World Report, Oct 15, 1984.

Time, August 27, 1984.

Time, September 3, 1984.

Time, September 24, 1984.

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ELECTION '84

CHOICES IN THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL RACE

Letters to the Editor...

To the Editor:

I would like to commend this year's Junior Class on the great job they did with the Fun House.

If you went to the Fun House this year, you most likely realized that it was not a fun house, but a haunted house that was called a fun house (a rose by any other name...).

I like the idea of a haunted house much better than that of a fun house. I thought it was silly of my class to change to a fun house in the first place. However, many people thought that having a haunted house would not be a very good display of what NNC stands for (not that I can remember anyone ever stating what NNC stands for anyway).

What I would like to commend the junior class on is the clever way that they had a haunted house, but made sure that everyone knew that it was called a fun house, thus tricking the fundamentalists into coming anyway. Keep up the clever work.

Sincerely,
Ron Stueckle

To the Editor:

I have just found out some very startling news. Right under the noses of poor, unsuspecting students of Northwest Nazarene College a gross deception is taking place. Right here on our college campus there are two faculty members that are actually not two faculty members, but rather they are ONE IN THE SAME PERSON! These two faculty members are (or claim to be) Ed Castledine and Bruce Webb (say them both fast). Think about it. Have you ever seen the two of them together. Things like this must be stopped if this campus is to survive as the thriving institution we all have grown to know and love.

Sincerely,
Ron Stueckle

If you have an opinion you would like to express, submit a Letter to the Editor, The Crusader, Box C.

Voters in Canyon County and the rest of Idaho's first Congressional District will have the chance to choose both a House member and a Senate member to send back to Washington on Tuesday.

Democrat Bill Hellar is challenging incumbent Republican Congressman Larry Craig for his first District seat. Both candidates, as could be expected, differ greatly as to solutions to national problems. Craig contends that to balance the budget and reduce the deficit, the U.S. must have a constitutional amendment to balance the budget, limit spending, and limit taxing. He maintains that this would allow for economic growth and thus reduce the deficit. However, Hellar believes that the deficit could be reduced by cutting defense spending increases, close tax loopholes, and establish a "fair" tax system.

The two candidates do not come any closer together on the issues dealing with nuclear war. Hellar advocates a verifiable nuclear freeze and immediate arms control talks. Craig maintains that the only way to prevent war is to remain strong. He believes that strength can be achieved by developing an anti-ballistic missile system and the maintenance of a strong military.

On the issue of agricultural policy both men believe that this is important to Idaho, and yet they disagree on the details. Craig believes that farmer's problems stem from high interest rates. He believes that in order to bring down the interest rates, the deficit must be reduced. Craig also supports the reduction of subsidies and elimination of quotas to promote exports. Hellar contends that federal farm subsidies must continue in order to prevent the destruction of family farms. He further

believes that the federal government should stabilize land values and bring down interest rates. Hellar also sees foreign markets as an opportunity for farmers to develop a much needed new market for their produce.

Current polls show Craig as the winner over Hellar, but their discussion of the issues is still a healthy process. In the senatorial race, though polls show a winner there, the race still provides an interesting contest. The Senate race is a three-man race between Democrat Peter BUSCH, Libertarian Donald Billings, and incumbent Republican James McClure.

On the issue of the deficit the three agree that it must be reduced, but they differ greatly as to how it should be reduced. McClure supports cuts in social programs, a balanced budget amendment, and further tax cuts. Busch contends that we could reduce the deficit by making deep cuts in defense programs such as the B-1 bomber and the MX missile. Billings advocates massive cuts in all federal spending and the privatization of social security.

In dealing with the threat of nuclear war, the Senatorial candidates continue their diverse opinions. Busch believes that arms control talks are most important but must be preceded by a nuclear-freeze. Billings maintains that if the U.S. would follow a non-interventionist policy and defend only only its own territories, there would be no

threat of nuclear war. McClure believes that there U.S. should strengthen its defenses in order to deter war and should develop an anti-missile system.

On the final issue of agricultural policy, the Senate hopefuls again disagree greatly. Billings advocates the elimination of all federal subsidies and regulations in order to allow competition. He believes this would allow the farmer to produce what was demanded by the consumer. McClure contends that bringing down high interest rates and reducing federal regulations would allow the farmer to compete more fairly for foreign markets. Busch believes that the family farm must be saved from incorporation, by government allocation of water resources, federal stabilization of prices and continued federal aid to farmers who have been hard hit by the recession on 1980-82.

McClure, according to recent polls is leading in his bid for reelection and short of a surprise burst by one of his opponents, will return to Washington in January. However, Idaho voters should make him justify his worthiness of their vote. The result should be the acceptance or rejection of his record as their representative.

Idaho voters on Tuesday will have a chance to do something about their complaints.

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November 19, 1984

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Special speakers representing Pro-Choice and Pro-Life positions will present their views and respond to student discussion.

Images

