

Marston heads for mayoral spot

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — David Marston, the baby-faced, Harvard-grown lawyer who as a federal prosecutor took on the White House in a row over the political spoils system, appears a cinch to win the Republican nomination for mayor of Philadelphia.

He's the blue chip candidate in a field of four. He's endorsed by the local party, has received a \$25,000 blessing from the Republican National Committee, and is backed by the governor, who called him on a Sunday night at home and said "run."

Actually Marston is strolling, at his own leisure, toward almost certain victory, getting his house in order for the general election in November.

What a change from the David Marston who frantically ran around the state last spring in a bid for the Republican gubernatorial nomination.

He didn't have any bumper stickers, or billboards, or campaign literature. His campaign buttons were cut out of paper by his children. He carried his lunch in a brown paper bag. He slept in his raincoat. He drove a gray station wagon. He came in fourth.

And the whole time, he kept promising that if elected he was going to sweep the rascals out of government. And at every chance he emphasized his political independence, denying he was a political opportunist.

"Sure, if Carter hadn't fired me I wouldn't be running," he'd say.

Then he'd add: "But if it hadn't been for this set of circumstances, I wouldn't have this unusual opportunity to run statewide without going in hock to the political bosses and the big money people."

"I don't need or have a fancy Madison Avenue ad agency to sell me on TV like soap. And I don't have a political machine behind me."

Marston has a political machine behind him for the May 15 mayoral primary. He has a promise from the GOP governor, Dick Thornburgh, to raise money and campaign for him. He also has pledges of support from U.S. Rep. Charles Dougherty, and U.S. Sens. Richard Schweiker and John Heinz.

He's already hired a well-known political pollster to look things over and there's talk he's thinking about hiring a top notch political consultant for November.

In short, he's hitched to political bosses and big money people.

It's going to be "nice, comfortable," he says now, thinking about those brown bag lunches and those chilly nights in the raincoat. He adds: "In a city with a 7-2 Democratic voter registration edge, you need the support of every Republican available. It would be suicidal without it."

But he also stresses that he intends to carry over the streak of independence displayed in the governor's race

in order "to appeal to the enormous amount of Democratic voters" he must attract in the fall.

Marston was ousted as U.S. attorney here in January of 1978 by Attorney General Griffin Bell, fanning the brouhaha over political patronage.

While in office he headed the prosecution on political corruption charges of two of the state's most powerful Democrats, and many Americans saw his firing as an attempt to thwart further probes of members of the ruling party.

A Gerald Ford appointee, Marston accused President Carter of breaking a campaign pledge to depoliticize Justice Department appointments.

Public outcry was heightened when Carter, during a nationally-televised news conference, confirmed he had asked Bell to expedite Marston's removal at the request of then U.S. Rep. Joshua Eilberg, a Philadelphia Democrat.

It turned out Eilberg was the target of another Marston probe. He was indicted last fall and in February pleaded guilty to a conflict of interest charge in connection with the federal funding of a hospital.

Marston was born into a Republican family in Knoxville, Tenn., on July 17, 1942. While a toddler, the family moved to the Philadelphia suburb of Wyncote.

Marston returned to Tennessee to attend Maryville College. Then it was off to Harvard for the law degree.

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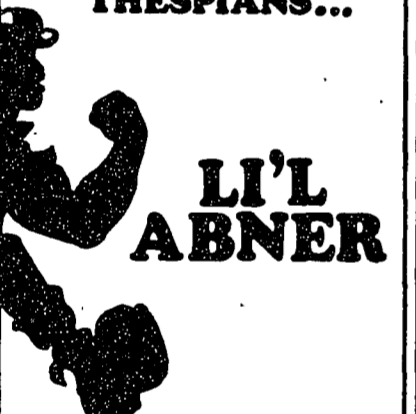
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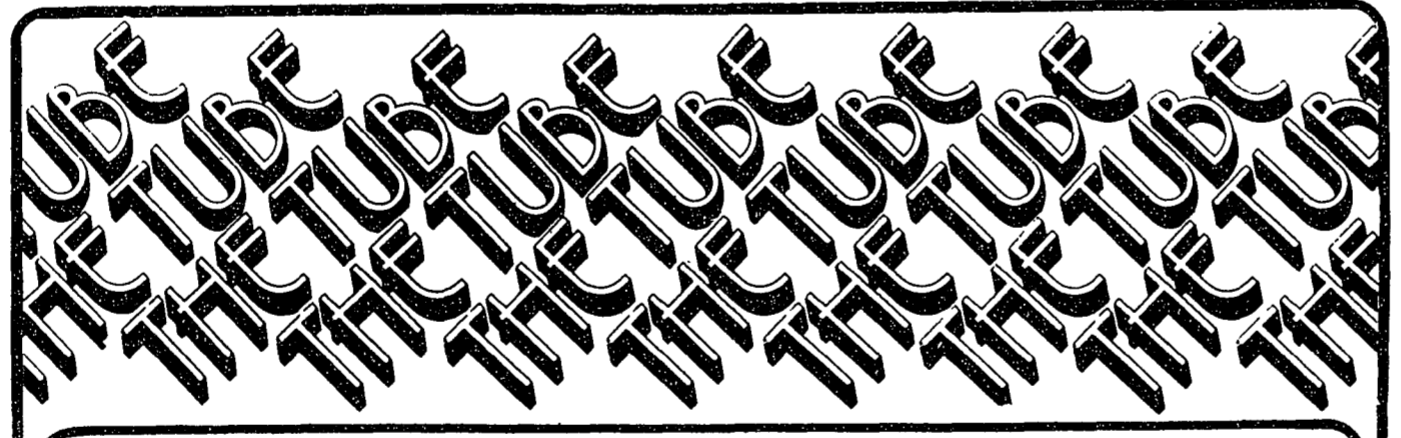
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6:00 (3) WEATHER-WORLD
(4) LOVE LUCY
(5) (6) (7) NEWS
(8) JOKER'S WILD
(9) ODD COUPLE

6:30 (1) STUDIO SEE
(2) SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN
(3) ABC NEWS
(4) CBS NEWS
(5) BOWLING FOR DOLLARS
(6) (7) CBS NEWS

7:00 (8) SANFORD AND SON
(9) MACNEIL-LEHRER REPORT
(10) (11) DAILY NUMBER
(12) DATING GAME
(13) BIONIC WOMAN
(14) ODD COUPLE
(15) MAKE ME LAUGH

7:01 (16) MARTY ROBBINS SPOTLIGHT Guests: The Kendalls.
(17) NEWLYWED GAME
(18) CROSS WITS

7:30 (19) CROCKETT'S VICTORY GARDEN Jerusalem artichokes and Chinese vegetables are grown at home
(20) MOVIE-(DRAMA)*** "Walking Tall" 1973 Joe Don Baker, Elizabeth Hartman. A man wages a one-man battle to clean up his town in Tennessee and loses his wife in the process. (2 hrs., 30 mins.)
(21) MARY TYLER MOORE SHOW
(22) TIC TAC DOUGH
(23) NEWLYWED GAME
(24) NEWS
(25) JOKER'S WILD
(26) FAMILY FEUD

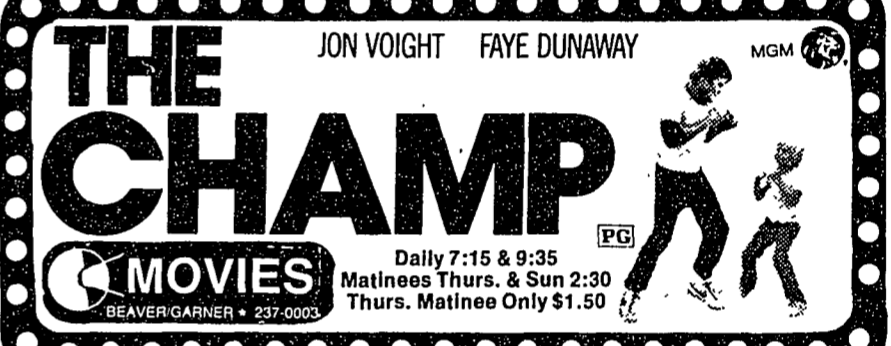
7:58 (27) NEWS
(28) MOVIE-(HORROR-COMEDY)*** "Bar-berk" 1967 Joan Crawford, Ty Hardin. When brutal murders break out in a circus owned by a shrewd business-woman, she's suspected by her performers as well as Scotland Yard. (2 hrs.)

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