

election '84

Ferraro urges women to vote

By EVANS WITT
AP Political Writer

FORT LEE, N.J. — Geraldine Ferraro celebrated her birthday yesterday by urging women to use their right to vote — written into the Constitution exactly 64 years ago — to make her the nation's first female vice president.

"Sixty-four years ago today, women couldn't hold public office," she said. "In 1984, we'll elect one of our own to the nation's second highest office."

At the celebration of "Women's Equality Day," Ferraro quoted Susan B. Anthony, one of the most prominent early feminists.

"In 1906, only a month before her death at age 85, after a lifetime devoted to women's rights, Susan B. Anthony addressed a women's suffrage convention in Baltimore. 'Failure,' she said, 'is impossible.' She's right — Failure is impossible," Ferraro said.

"Taking advantage of the fortuitous coincidence of her 84th birthday and the anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, the Democratic vice presidential candidate came to this New Jersey city to talk about women's rights and the need to defeat President Reagan in November."

"We have been given a chance to change history . . . Sixty-four years ago today, we didn't have the right to vote and we got it. In 1984, women will elect the next

'If any one still doesn't take women seriously, let them wait until Nov. 6 and we'll show them how serious you and I are.'

— Geraldine Ferraro

president of the United States," Ferraro told a crowd of several hundred at a recreation center here.

Various legal and nonlegal barriers stood between women and elective office early in this century, although most of them were state laws, not any federal prohibitions.

Since women's right to vote was guaranteed in 1920, participation of women in elections has steadily increased. Women are the majority of registered voters and probably will be a majority of voters on Nov. 6.

"If any one still doesn't take women seriously, let them wait until Nov. 6 and we'll show them how serious you and I are," the New York representative said.

Ferraro, born Aug. 26, 1935, was celebrating her birthday privately last night with a family dinner.



AP Laserphoto

Bush defends Republican stand for strong Defense Department

By MICHAEL PUTZEL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Vice President George Bush accused his Democratic opponents yesterday of advocating "peace through weakness" and "a defense policy with no backbone."

In remarks made at the opening of the Disabled American Veterans convention in Washington, Bush said the Democrats — Walter F. Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro — "talk as if peace and weakness mean the same thing."

Bush addressed the disabled veterans two days after President Reagan, in a speech to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Chicago, suggested indirectly that Mondale was "jackass" for opposing the major new weapons systems Reagan has advocated.

White House Chief of Staff James Baker downplayed Reagan's remark in an appearance Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press." Saying Reagan was quoting former Democratic House Speaker Sam Rayburn when he used the term, Baker said the

president "certainly did not intend to say that (jackass) with respect to the nominee on the other ticket, as some have suggested."

But Baker acknowledged that the president "thinks very little of the nuclear freeze; he thinks people who support a nuclear freeze are to some extent naive."

Bush, returning from a weekend at his vacation home in Maine, took a similar tack.

Saying the Democratic challengers want to cancel the MX missile, B-1 bomber and deployment of Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe at a time when the Soviets hold a numerical advantage in land-based missiles and bombers, Bush said the opponents "may advocate a defense policy with no backbone, but it's not what President Reagan and I want."

The text of the speech mentioned Mondale and Ferraro by name, but Bush followed the example of his running mate and dropped the names of the Democratic nominees when he delivered his speech, referring to them only as "our opponents."

The Reagan administration, he said, has "insisted the United States bargain from a position of strength. It seems to me just simple common sense that if you're really serious about arms reduction, you fund those weapons systems that some want to scrap."

He called it a choice between "peace through strength versus peace through weakness."

The vice president, in an aside, said he "didn't come here to make a shrill, partisan speech." But he seized the opportunity to tell the veterans about a film clip in a biographical movie about Bush shown at the Republican National Convention last week.

The clip, which Bush said was shot from a submarine in the South Pacific in 1944, showed a naval aviator, identified as Bush.

"I was accused by the political opposition of what they called epau-let-flexing because of emphasizing the fact that I fought and was in combat," Bush said. "If she's (Ferraro) troubled by that now, wait! No- vember."

No business like . . .

President Reagan introduces singer Juice Newton to the crowd on the South Lawn of the White House yesterday. Newton provided the entertainment during ceremonies commemorating Women's Equality Day, the 64th anniversary of American women winning the right to vote.

Republicans fear complacency

By JOAN MOWER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — James Baker III, the White House chief of staff, said yesterday the Reagan campaign is worried that Republicans across the country are too complacent about the president's re-election chances in November.

"We've seen these presidential elections close up and get very tight before," Baker said on NBC's "Meet The Press." "We know it can happen, we know it's likely to happen in this election."

With polls showing President Reagan leading Democrat Walter F. Mondale by 14 percentage points, Baker said, "We worry somewhat about complacency with respect to this election, particularly on the part of some of our troops out there across the country."

He added: "There are just one heck of a lot more Democrats out there across the country than there are Republicans."

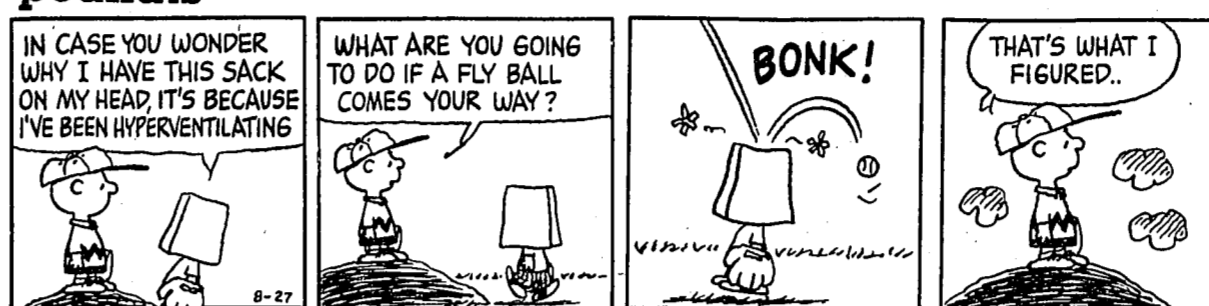
Under questioning, Baker acknowledged that the GOP expected "some difficulties" with farmers, who have been squeezed economically in recent years, and said environmentalists may pose a problem. But, he added, "The president's record on the environment is far better than he is getting credit for."

Baker's comments on complacency were similar to those made by campaign manager Edward Rollins in a speech to the Republican National Committee at the conclusion of last week's GOP convention in Dallas.

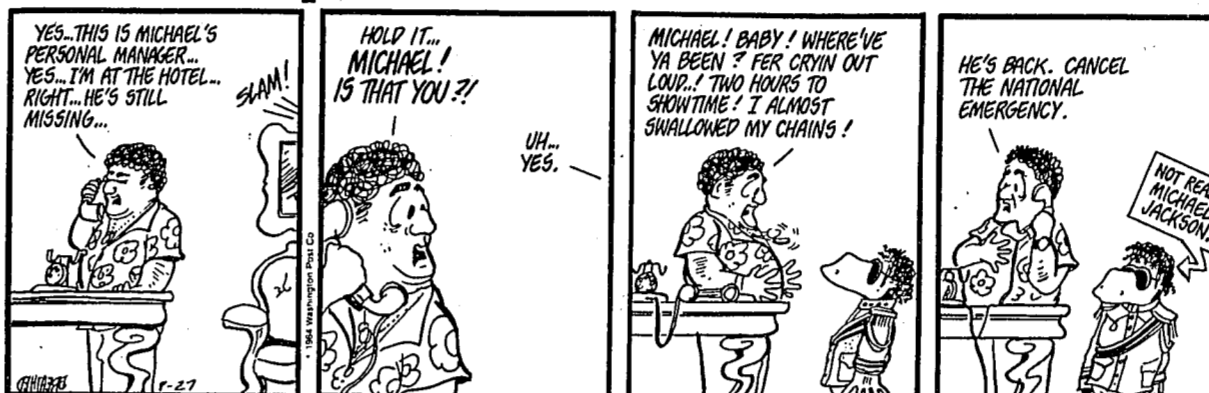
Asked about Reagan's tough rhetoric criticizing the Democrats at Dallas, Baker said it was proper for the president to use the convention to "reinforce his message with the troops" and "energize his base."

comics, etc.

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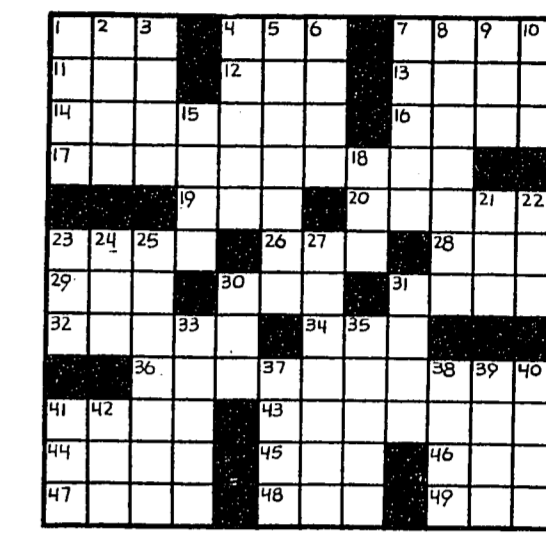
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- 14 Prayers
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- 17 Smoked sausage
- 19 Annex
- 20 Selected
- 23 Cartoonist
- 26 Cycle
- 28 Marsh elder
- 29 Trouble
- 30 Miscalculate
- 31 Examine
- 32 Attracts
- 34 In the manner of
- 36 Swimming pool
- 41 Long tooth
- 43 Couturture
- 44 Shaped molding
- 45 Unit of work
- 46 Hindrance
- 47 Cincinnati ball team
- 48 American humorist
- 49 English letter

Down

- 1 Eau
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- 3 Sharp
- 4 Sand bank
- 5 Pugilist's trainer
- 6 Otherwise
- 7 Octopus
- 8 Nomadic
- 9 Urge
- 10 Roman
- 16 Phase
- 18 Man's nickname
- 21 Child heroine
- 22 Jacob's son
- 23 Bricklayer's helper
- 24 Attitude
- 25 Pre-arranged
- 27 Chapel
- 30 Superlative ending
- 31 Hindu garment
- 33 Reconcense
- 35 Brotherhood
- 37 So be it
- 38 Alt
- 39 Indiana
- 40 New York athletes
- 41 Because
- 42 Season

Crossword

(answers in Tuesday's classifieds)



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