

REAGAN-BUSH JOKE

mid Sept. 1980

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I CAN'T QUITE FIGURE OUT WHAT'S COME OVER THE REPUBLICANS.

NO SOONER DID THE CAMPAIGN BEGIN THAN THEY SENT GEORGE BUSH TO PEKING. NEXT THING YOU KNOW, HE THREW OUT THE OPENING BALL AT A LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP, AND TAIWAN WON.

THEN RONALD REAGAN CAME UP WITH A PLAN TO WIN THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

NEXT, MR. REAGAN EXPRESSED "SERIOUS DOUBTS" ABOUT THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION. IN SO DOING, HE PICKED UP A HOT POTATO LAST DROPPED BY WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN IN 1925 AT THE SCOPES MONKEY TRIAL.

THEN -- ON THE SAME DAY THAT THE INDEX OF LEADING ECONOMIC INDICATORS REGISTERED ITS HIGHEST RISE IN THE HISTORY OF THAT MEASURE -- MR. REAGAN ANNOUNCED THAT WE WERE IN A "SEVERE DEPRESSION," AN ASSESSMENT EVEN HIS OWN CHIEF ECONOMIC ADVISOR DIDN'T SHARE.

THIS WAS THE POINT THAT MR. BUSH TOOK US ALL BY SURPRISE AND ANNOUNCED THAT WE WERE RUNNING A LOW-ROAD CAMPAIGN. WHEN ASKED WHAT HE MEANT, HE EXPLAINED THAT WE'D CLAIMED MR. REAGAN WASN'T SURE THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM SHOULD BE INDEXED FOR INFLATION. WHEN ONE REPORTER POINTED OUT MR. REAGAN'S STATEMENT ON THE RECORD THAT PERHAPS HOUSING INFLATION SHOULD BE ELIMINATED -- A STEP THAT WOULD CUT BENEFITS SUBSTANTIALLY; AND HIS STATEMENT THAT PERHAPS SOCIAL SECURITY SHOULD BE MADE "VOLUNTARY" -- WHICH WOULD WRECK THE SYSTEM ENTIRELY -- MR. BUSH ANNOUNCED THAT HE DIDN'T KNOW MR. REAGAN'S POSITION ON THAT. (I GUESS BUSH MUST BE WONDERING WHAT HIS LIFE WOULD BE LIKE TODAY IF THAT CO-PRESIDENCY WITH JERRY FORD HAD WORKED OUT.)

JOKE

AT MY PRESS CONFERENCE, I WAS ASKED WHY I'VE BROUGHT THE CAMPAIGN TO MILWAUKEE, AND I WANT TO TELL YOU.

I LOOK AT IT THIS WAY: MR. REAGAN HAS BEEN HAVING A VERY BAD WEEK.

ON SATURDAY, HE LOST CHINA.

ON SUNDAY, HE LOST BUSH.

ON MONDAY, HE WON THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

ON TUESDAY, HE LOST CHARLES DARWIN.

ON WEDNESDAY, HE LOST THE SOUTH.

AND SO I FIGURE: BY NOVEMBER, HE'LL SURELY LOSE WISCONSIN.

DEBATE - MUSKY JOKE

Q: HOW DO YOU THINK THE ANDERSON-LUCEY TICKET WILL AFFECT YOUR CHANCES IN NOVEMBER?

A: I'M ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO ANSWER THAT HERE IN WISCONSIN THIS WEEKEND. AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, UP IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE STATE, ^{VILAS} VILAS COUNTY TODAY IS PLAYING HOST TO 500 FISHERMEN IN THE ANNUAL WORLD MUSKY CLASSIC. AND OVER IN WALKER, MINNESOTA, ANOTHER 1000 ANGLERS ARE HEADING IN FOR THE ANNUAL MUSKY TOURNAMENT THERE. I THINK THERE ARE SOME POWERFUL ANALOGIES BETWEEN MUSKY FISHING AND THIRD-PARTY CANDIDATES THAT ARE WAITING TO BE DRAWN.

Based on a lifetime of fishing
FIRST, NO ONE EVER CATCHES A MUSKY. AND I MIGHT POINT OUT THAT NO THIRD PARTY CANDIDATE IN TWO HUNDRED YEARS HAS WON THE PRESIDENCY.

SECOND, AS SOMEONE OBSERVED, "FISHING FOR MUSKIES BRINGS NEITHER THE THRILL OF VICTORY NOR THE AGONY OF DEFEAT -- JUST WAITING." I THINK THAT'S BEEN THE EXPERIENCE OF THE CURRENT THIRD PARTY CANDIDATE.

THIRD, WHEN MUSKY FISHERMEN ARE ASKED WHY THEY GO AFTER THEM, THEY USUALLY ANSWER, "WELL, TO BE FRANK, IT'S SNOB APPEAL. I'VE CAUGHT EVERY OTHER KIND OF FISH -- AND SO HAS EVERYONE I KNOW. I JUST WANT TO BE DIFFERENT."

I'VE HEARD IT SAID THAT THERE IS REALLY NO SUCH THING AS A MUSKY -- THAT IT WAS DREAMED UP BY THE ^{Muskie Room of Amer} NORTHERN WISCONSIN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. ^{Steelhead Room of Amer} THERE'S A LESSON TO BE DRAWN ABOUT THIRD PARTY CANDIDATES THERE, TOO, BUT I'LL LEAVE IT TO THE FISHERMEN IN THE PRESS CORPS.

REAGAN'S ON OUR SIDE

THE CAMPAIGN IS GOING VERY WELL.

CARTER'S CAMPAIGNING FOR THE TICKET IN THE EAST AND
THE SOUTH.

I'M CAMPAIGNING FOR US HERE IN THE MIDWEST.

AND REAGAN'S CAMPAIGNING FOR US ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

THIRTY MILLION YEARS JOKE

RONALD REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN IS OFF TO AN EXCELLENT START. THEY CALL IT "A NEW BEGINNING" -- AND I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY MEAN.

FIRST HE TURNED THE CLOCK BACK TEN YEARS AND LAID OUT A PLAN TO WIN THE WAR IN VIETNAM.

THEN HE TURNED THE CLOCK BACK THIRTY YEARS AND DECLARED HIS SUPPORT FOR TAIWAN.

THEN HE TURNED THE CLOCK BACK THIRTY MILLION YEARS AND DECLARED HIS OPPOSITION TO THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION.

I'VE BEEN ASKED TO ANNOUNCE THAT MR. REAGAN HAS JUST WON THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE FLAT EARTH SOCIETY.

HOW MANY VICE PRESIDENTS?

RAY JUST ASKED ME AN INTERESTING QUESTION. WHAT NUMBER VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AM I? I'M GLAD YOU ASKED.

THERE HAVE BEEN 39 PRESIDENTS -- ACTUALLY 38 INDIVIDUALS, WITH GROVER CLEVELAND COUNTED TWICE, SINCE HIS TWO TERMS WERE NOT CONSECUTIVE. OF THOSE PRESIDENTS, 35 HAD VICE PRESIDENTS -- BECAUSE 4 OF THESE MEN SUCCEEDED TO THE PRESIDENCY, WERE NOT SUBSEQUENTLY ELECTED IN THEIR OWN RIGHT, AND NEVER HAD VICE PRESIDENTS. SINCE 8 OF THE 35 HAD TWO VICE PRESIDENTS AND SINCE ONE HAD 3 VICE PRESIDENTS, THERE HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN 45 PRESIDENTIAL/VICE PRESIDENTIAL TEAMS. HOWEVER, ONLY 42 INDIVIDUALS HAVE HELD THE OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT, BUT 2 OF THE 42 EACH SERVED UNDER TWO DIFFERENT PRESIDENTS.

I'M GLAD YOU'VE GIVEN ME A CHANCE TO CLEAR THAT UP.

9/3-6/80
Trip

THERE'S SOMETHING TROUBLING HERE. THE MAN WHO CO-STARRED WITH A CHIMPANZEE IN "BEDTIME FOR BONZO" NOW TELLS US THAT HE HAS SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT THE THEORY OF EVOLUTION. MAYBE BONZO KNOWS SOMETHING WE DON'T.

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SOME PEOPLE ARE WORRIED ABOUT WHO REAGAN WOULD APPOINT TO THE SUPREME COURT. NOW IT LOOKS AS THOUGH HE'D ALSO RE-OPEN THE SCOPES MONKEY TRIAL.

Reagan off to a good start - I'm going to keep him on the Reagan

RONALD REAGAN'S CAMPAIGN IS OFF TO AN EXCELLENT START.

"New Boy"

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