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***LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE OF
PRESIDENTIAL VISITS TO:***

NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

MIDDLETOWN, NEW JERSEY

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 9, 1992**

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In Pa. and N.J. visits, Bush seeks voters' trust on economy, taxes

By Ellen Warren
INQUIRER WASHINGTON BUREAU

President Bush yesterday asked Pennsylvania voters to trust him to rescue the nation from "economic hell," then told a New Jersey rally that although he raised taxes once, "I'm not going to do it again — ever."

In remarks to workers at a manufacturing plant in suburban Trappe, Bush conceded that the economy is "anemic," "sick" and "lousy," but said he still was optimistic about the country.

His blunt characterizations of the economy came on the eve of a speech scheduled today in Detroit where campaign aides say he will offer a "comprehensive" assessment of the economy but announce no new major initiatives.

"We've been through economic hell in this country," Bush said during a question-and-answer forum at Uniform Tubes, a cable and tube manufacturer here. "We're poised in my view for a decent and strong recovery."

"I haven't just been sitting there,"

Bush insisted, returning to his refrain that the "liberals" in the Democratic-controlled Congress have squelched his plans for economic recovery.

With only eight weeks to go before the election, Bush clearly has abandoned any hope of a robust economy to buoy his election chances.

Instead, Bush's strategy is to acknowledge the economic problems, blame them on Congress, predict that a recovery looms — and then exploit voters' fear of the untried in

See **BUSH** on A7

BUSH from A1
Democratic challenger Gov. Bill Clinton, political analysts say.

Bush went to the Montgomery County tube company after a stop at Norristown Area High School, where some students were delighted to disrupt their first day of classes to hear the President discuss education reforms.

The President then traveled to New Jersey, where he attended a rally in the parking lot of the VFW hall in Middletown Township. Several thousand people had waited in sweltering temperatures to see him.

He attacked Clinton's proposal to raise taxes on the wealthy and came close to resurrecting his "Read my lips, no new taxes" pledge of 1988 — which he broke in 1990.

"I found out the hard way. I went along with one Democratic tax increase and I'm not going to do it again — ever, ever!" said the President.

The visit to Norristown was tied to the school district's adoption of the Bush's America 2000 program, which establishes six goals for improving education and literacy in America. Included are 90 percent graduation rate for high school students, periodic performance testing, and literacy for all adult Americans.

"Gov. Clinton is in with the crowd who says 'no' to break-the-mold schools, 'no' to higher standards, 'no' to less regulation and 'no' to my GI bill for kids," Bush said.

Bush sought to deflate Clinton's contentions that he has made big improvements in education in his 12 years as governor of Arkansas.

He credited Clinton with taking a constructive role in shaping the national education goals that are the center of Bush's education proposals. However, Bush said, "The facts tell the story about his own record."

In 1980, he said, Arkansas ranked 47th in percentage of adults with college degrees. "Today," he added, "they're dead last."

Clinton supporters fired back, defending Clinton's record and saying Bush has not lived up to his promise to be the "education president."

"Listening to George Bush say he is the education president ... just doesn't fit," said campaign aide Bob Boorstin. "Bill Clinton has fought for education reform for 12 years. He is recognized as a national leader in education."

Some students were upset when Bush closed by criticizing Clinton by name.

Sophomore Brian Greko asserted he "didn't like him bringing Clinton in at the end. I thought he should have stayed away from politics."

The economy dominated the day as Bush discussed jobs — the unemployment rate is 8.2 percent in Pennsylvania and 9.4 percent in New Jersey — and the economy.

"It is lousy," Bush said. "We know that. We've been trying to stimulate it. We're in a global recession. It's not just the U.S."

Nonetheless, Bush said, "I am optimistic about this country. ... We aren't on the decline. We are on the rise and I've got to take that sense of optimism and get enough backing to get done the kinds of programs I've been advocating," he told about 350 employees at the successful manufacturing plant.

Voters seem to be more skeptical. Polls show that they are discouraged about the economy and are unhappy about the way Bush has handled it.

With the huge electoral-vote states of Texas, California and Florida now in doubt for Bush, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have become critical battlegrounds, along with Michigan, Illinois and Ohio.

Yesterday, in two of those key states, the President met with mixed reactions.

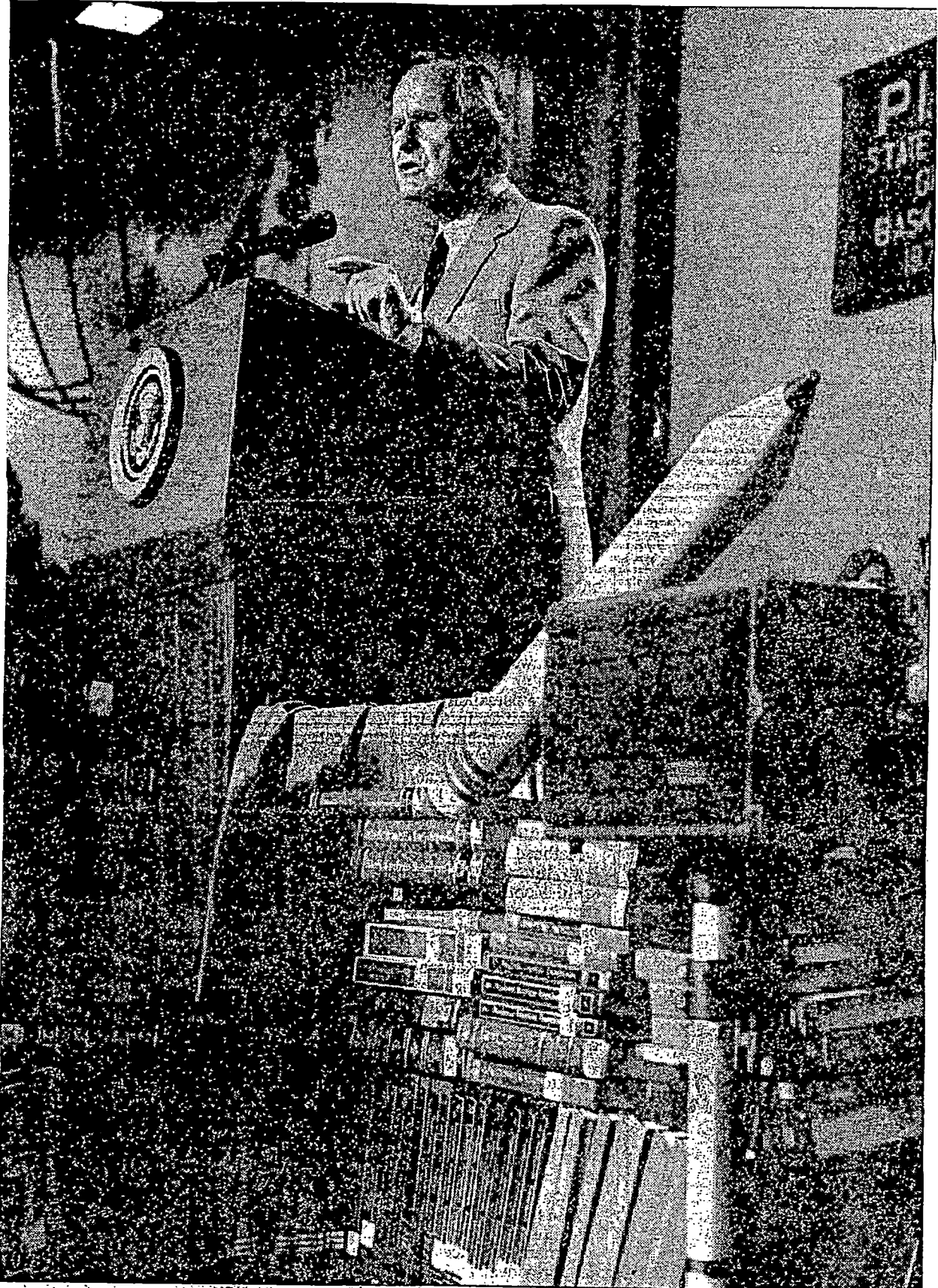
"Four more years, four more years," some in the New Jersey crowd yelled.

But a small group of protesters at the Norristown high school had a different idea.

"Four more months," they hollered.

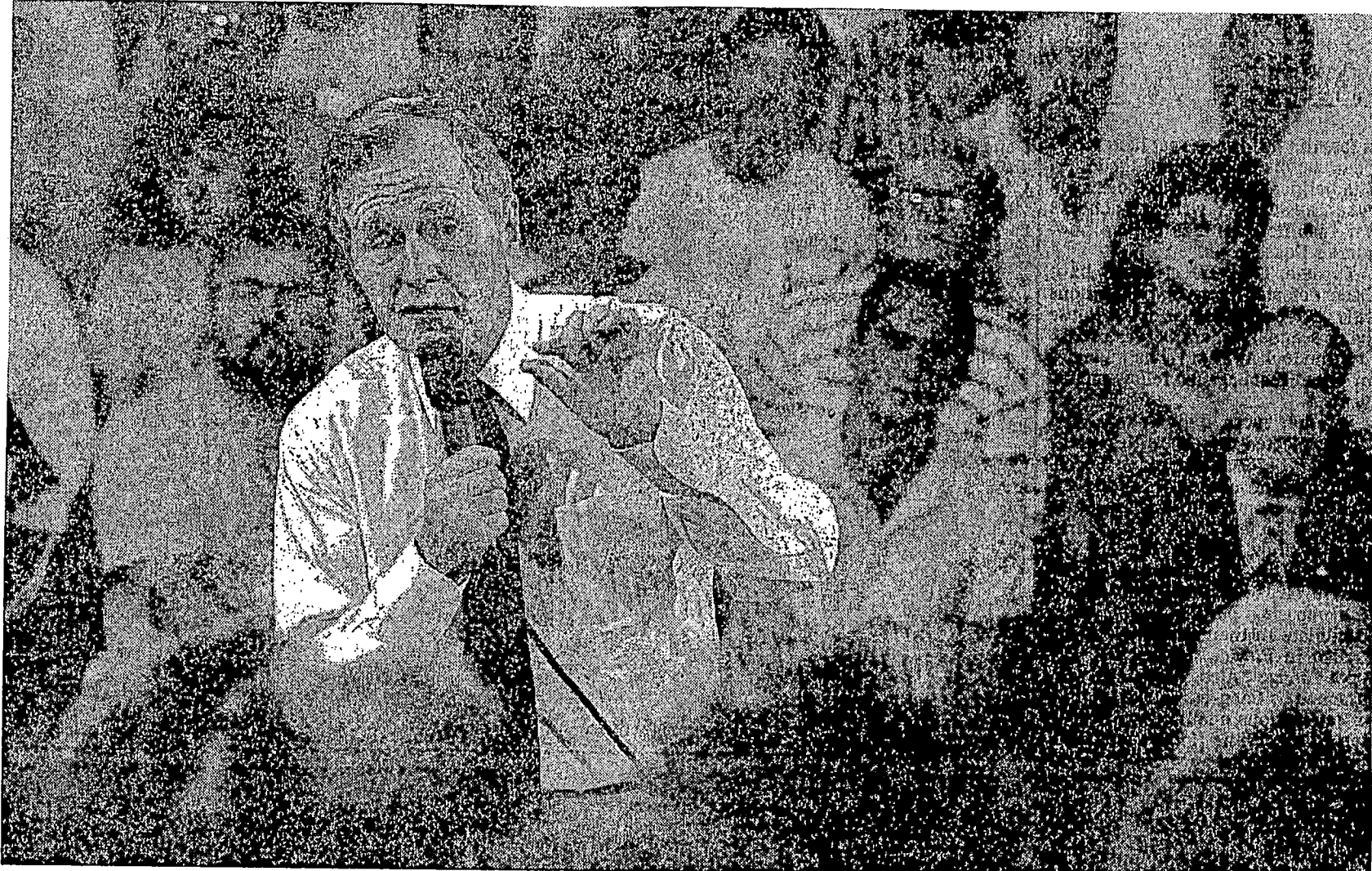
Inquirer correspondents Ken Dilanian, Wendy Greenberg and Diane Struzzi contributed to this article. It also contains information from the Associated Press.

The President criticized his opponent's record on education as Arkansas governor.



President Bush provides a diversion on the first day of classes at Norristown Area High School. Bush spoke yesterday at the school and at a factory in Trappe before appearing in Middletown Township, N.J.

The Philadelphia Inquirer / AKIRA SUWA



Workers at Uniform Tubes found a more personable President Bush. His support has not mirrored the 2-1 county GOP advantage. The Philadelphia Inquirer / AKIRA SUWA

Bush wins over many at Montco firm

By Peter Landry
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

On Main Street near the plant that would host a president, the marquee on the Trappe tavern gave a down-home howdy:

"Welcome to The Trappe, Mr. President. Four more beers!"

President Bush didn't stop for beer when he visited Trappe's Uniform Tubes company yesterday, but he used the occasion to show a side of himself he hopes will win back support in a Republican county he can ill afford to lose.

At an "Ask George Bush" forum with company employees, the President was the picture of practiced ease — winking with workers in the first few rows, smiling his crinkly aw-shucks smile, joking in a manner that suggested he would be comfortable in the taproom as well as the boardroom.

Republicans have controlled Montgomery County since the 19th century, but Bush's support this year has not matched the party's 2-to-1 advantage in registration.

Before 350 employees of Uniform Tubes, the personal approach seemed an effective antidote to the more formal, often stiff, appearance he sometimes gives on television.

The way he spoke, the employees said, was as important as what he said.

"He surprised me," said Kate Shiposki. "I was for Ross Perot and I wanted to get a feel for George Bush. The warmth he showed appealed very much. He seemed very sincere in his responses."

Donald Waltmyer, whose aisle seat gave him a chance to joke with Bush as the President left, gave another thumbs up to the President's performance.

"I liked it," said Waltmyer. "He's the type of guy you can joke and gesture to. I told him he had a hell of an arm."

Uniform Tubes, a nonunion shop in a sprawling plant on 35 groomed acres, was chosen for Bush's question-and-answer forum because it has an education-and-literacy program that mirrors the President's America 2000

plan for educational reform.

"Everyone here, from the chairman of the board on down, took a two-hour test of eighth-grade math and reading," said Carol Christobek, who set up the company's program. "Fifteen percent of 350 workers are now going through brush-up skills in math and 5 percent for reading."

Yesterday, ringed by planks of the medical and aerospace tubing the company manufactures, Bush praised the program, but he also talked politics and jobs and acknowledged the distance he must cover if his campaign is to succeed.

"I see a T-shirt there: 'I'll do it tomorrow, I'd rather be fishing,'" Bush noted at the top of his remarks. "He's on to something, but for 55 days they won't let me do anything like that. I've got to get to work here."

With employees as close as six feet away, and stacked in bleachers borrowed at the last minute from the local Little League, everyone got up close and personal with the President.

"I was very favorably impressed

with the way he spoke with feeling," said Charlotte Jay, administrative assistant to Uniform Tubes co-owner A. Bruce Mainwaring.

Charles Evans, a bearded supervisor in a T-shirt for the Shy Beaver fishing shop, liked that, too. He said he was a Democrat but would be voting for Bush.

"It could be a hell of a lot worse than it is," he said.

Machine operator Steve Quinty, however, was going the other way.

"This was purely political," Quinty said. "Nothing I hadn't heard before. I'm a registered Republican and I think I'm going to vote Libertarian."

Alexis Bunt, 7, daughter of Republican State Rep. Raymond Bunt Jr., said it "was great to see him in person," but her father said she was a tad disappointed.

"She had only one question for the President," he said. "She wanted to know if she could have a kiss."

Inquirer correspondents Mac Daniel and Jeff McGaw contributed to this article.

BUSH
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The Philadelphia Inquirer
Thursday, Sept 10, 1992



Campaign '92

Bush speech to offer new economic plan

Help for small firms is expected. It is unlikely to boost the economy before the election.

By Tom Raum
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Bush will present his strategy for stimulating the economy beyond Election Day in a speech in Detroit today and in five-minute campaign ads to be broadcast nationally tonight, White House and Bush campaign officials said.

Administration sources said yesterday that Bush's presentation may include modest new tax breaks for small businesses but no major budget or tax initiatives.

Bush's speech to Detroit business leaders will reflect his advisers' conclusion that economic statistics are unlikely to show a rebound in time to be of much political help, administration and campaign aides said.

Instead, the speech will focus on the long term and seek to portray Bush as better qualified than Democratic challenger Bill Clinton to lead the nation into a recovery.

The Bush campaign bought television time tonight on NBC, CBS, ABC and CNN for a five-minute taped address by the President on his economic proposals.

The ads will spell out Bush's plan

for making the United States an "economic and exporting superpower," said campaign spokeswoman Torie Clarke.

Bush's address today will represent the first major weighing in of James A. Baker 3d — former secretary of state turned chief of staff and political Mr. Fix-it — on a critical policy issue.

Still, the speech represents just the latest in a string of Bush addresses that have been billed in advance as presenting prescriptions to cure an ailing economy.

Bush was supposed to use his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention last month to do just that.

Instead, he delivered vague convention promises of an across-the-board tax cut in a second term and proposed a tax check-off plan to help fight the deficit — ideas that many analysts say have failed to generate much enthusiasm or voter confidence. Bush has not explained how he would pay for the tax cut.

Baker and his top aide on the economic address, deputy chief of staff Robert B. Zoellick, were closely guarding details of Bush's address to the Detroit Economic Club.

But the possible proposals are expected to focus on ways in which small companies can write off investment costs, sources said.

Bush has been emphasizing small business in his economic proposals.

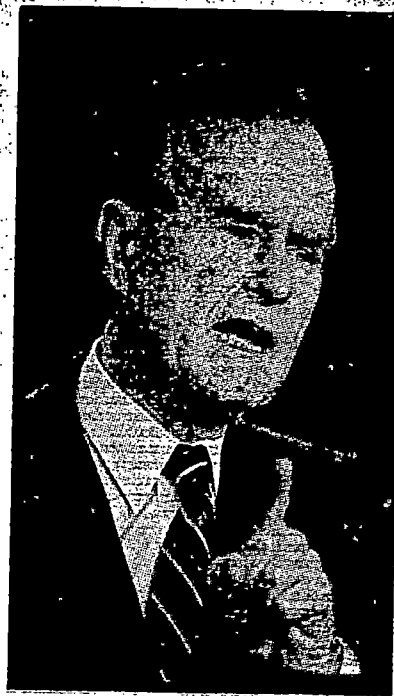
Bush making 3rd pitch for N.J. vote

By JIM GOODMAN
Staff Writer

TRENTON — President Bush will be in New Jersey today — his third visit here since winning the GOP nomination — as he fights to win back some of the voters who have supported Republicans in past presidential elections but are believed to be leaning toward Democrat Bill Clinton this time around.

Bush will appear at the Middletown Township VFW Post 2179 in Monmouth County where he is expected to attack Clinton for his alleged efforts to avoid the draft during the Vietnam War. The 1 p.m. event is open to the public.

The Bush visit comes at a time when the Clinton campaign is beginning to poll New Jersey voters to



President Bush

determine whether the state, which has voted Republican in every presidential election since Lyndon Johnson's 1964 Democratic landslide, can be won by Clinton.

Bush's trip to New Jersey is his third in recent weeks compared with Clinton's hurriedly arranged post-convention stop in Camden and an appearance at the National Gov-

ernors' Association conference here. Clinton is not scheduled to make

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another appearance in New Jersey until Sept. 30 when he is expected to attend a major campaign fund-raising event.

The Democratic candidate's low-profile campaign in New Jersey has raised speculation that Clinton wants to avoid appearing with Democratic Gov. Jim Florio, who has been stuck on the low end of voter polls for more than two years since his controversial tax plans were enacted.

OFFICIALS IN the Democratic Party and the Clinton campaign said yesterday they are "encouraged" and "even delighted" by the strong showing Clinton has been registering in private and public voter polls.

But the decision on whether to commit major resources to the campaign in New Jersey still depends on what the Clinton pollsters find as they canvass New Jersey this week.

"Both parties have only so many resources (money and manpower) from their national campaigns and the decision of how much they can take from those resources for a state that has such a long history of going for the Republican candidate has to be based on hard polling results," said one official from the Democratic National Committee in Washington.

But Clay Constantinou, a major fund-raiser for Clinton in New Jersey and the nation, said he is confident the Clinton campaign will be stepped up in New Jersey once its intense concentration on the Midwestern states is completed.

CONSTANTINOU, who said he conferred last week with Clinton in Little Rock, dismissed speculation that the candidate is avoiding New Jersey because of Florio and the anti-tax climate of the state.

"Bill Clinton is very pleased with what we have been seeing in New Jersey," said Constantinou, one of the main supporters of Democrat Michael Dukakis in the 1988 election. Dukakis abandoned New Jersey ear-

The Bush visit comes at a time when the Clinton campaign is beginning to poll New Jersey voters to determine whether the state, which has voted Republican in every presidential election since Lyndon Johnson's 1964 landslide, can be won by Clinton.

ly in that election as Bush started building momentum for his landslide victory.

Clinton will not hesitate to campaign with Florio, and Al Gore, the vice presidential candidate, also will be active in the state, Constantinou said.

Even David Norcross, the Republican national committeeman for New Jersey, said he doubts the Clinton campaign will abandon New Jersey.

"It's too important for him and it's too important for us," Norcross said. "If Clinton wants to give up New Jersey, that's fine. We'll take it."

Roger Bodman, a Republican political consultant, said New Jersey may have only 15 electoral votes but it's a "battleground state" that has an impact on voting in neighboring states like New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

THE IMPORTANCE of New Jersey was underlined in a poll released by Time magazine this week that surveyed voters in five major suburban counties in as many states.

Middlesex County in New Jersey, one of the key counties, showed Clinton leading Bush 49 percent to 36 percent.

The county is critical to both campaigns because Middlesex, once a bastion of Democratic strength, has voted Republican in three consecutive presidential elections. Last year, Republicans won control of Middlesex County government for the first time in 60 years.

The magazine quoted Bill Palatucci, executive director of the Bush campaign, as saying, "We've got to play the Democrats to a draw (in Middlesex) or we're dead statewide."

The Bush campaign is stepping up its effort to attack Clinton's credibility on the Vietnam draft issue by staging its program today at a VFW hall.

GOP strategists like Bodman and

Steve Salmore, who concentrates on local and congressional elections, say the varying answers that Clinton has given to charges that he actively worked to avoid the Vietnam draft go to the theme that Bush wants to exploit: whether the country can trust someone to be president who has ducked his military duty.

The New Jersey Clinton campaign yesterday distributed a letter from a Vietnam veterans organization that argued that veterans are more interested in the candidates' views and records on veterans' issues than what they did 25 or more years ago.

Bush is a decorated Navy fighter pilot who was shot down in action in the Pacific. Clinton does not deny he opposed the war in Vietnam but said he did not take any improper action to avoid being drafted before he enrolled at Oxford University in England as a Rhodes scholar.

AN OFFICIAL of the American Legion in New Jersey said yesterday the legion does not endorse candidates but that he "has no doubt what choice veterans will make between a candidate who flew 58 missions and was shot down and was decorated and a candidate who was offered the chance to serve his country in the military and turned it down."

Gary Hall, president of the New Jersey State Council, Vietnam Veterans of America, said there is "no doubt that Clinton, like thousands of other Americans, took advantage of a loophole in the law to avoid the draft.

"But Bush and the Republicans are just doing what the Democrats did last time when they accused Dan Quayle of avoiding the draft by joining the National Guard."

The council has been highly critical of the Bush administration's policies on veterans programs, including accounting for those missing in action in Vietnam.

Visit puts All-Stars in league of their own

By **MARY ANN TARR**
 Staff Writer

Yesterday was anything but a normal day for Brandon Kivler. Today will be nothing short of extraordinary for Kivler and his teammates on the Nottingham Little League All-Star baseball team. With an agenda that would challenge the stamina of a campaign-

ing politician, action for the 12-year-old ballplayers continues today with Nottingham responding to invitations not only from the governor of New Jersey but also from the president of the United States — who just happens to be campaigning. Nottingham, the team from Hamilton Square that participated in the Little League World Series, has been asked to attend Presi-

dent Bush's visit to Middletown this afternoon. The itinerary for the New Jersey State Little League champions also includes a ceremony this evening at Drumthwacket, the governor's mansion in Princeton Township. Gov. Jim Florio and his wife, Lucinda, will host an outdoor re-

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ception for the nation's No. 2 Little League team.

"This is great," said Nottingham coach Matt Wolski. "Good stuff" for the kids on the team that fought all the way to the national championship game before falling, 1-0, to Long Beach, Calif., in the exciting U.S. title game at the 46th annual Little League World Series last month in Williamsport, Pa.

FOR KIVLER, yesterday was probably the most unusual of all of his "first day" of school experiences.

"We had a little bet going," said Carol Kivler, Brandon's mother. "He was not to wear anything with references to Nottingham Little League on it. He thought nobody would know because he goes to school in Hopewell."

Carol Kivler won her bet. Brandon, who was able to play in Nottingham Little League because of the "grandfather rule," received a standing ovation from students and staff.

"He was absolutely amazed," his mom explained.

Obviously, it's not easy to dodge the fame resulting from Nottingham's phenomenal summer which included championships in District

Nottingham, the team from Hamilton Square that participated in the Little League World Series, has been asked to attend President Bush's visit to Middletown this afternoon.

12, Section 4, N.J. state and the East Region all leading up to the World Series round of competition.

"When we moved (from Hamilton to Hopewell) four years ago, the first question out of my son's mouth was, 'Can I still play Little League at Nottingham?'"

Brandon Kivler started in Nottingham's T-Ball program as a 6-year-old. As an all-star this year, he batted .382 with five doubles and 15 runs batted in, making him a valuable member of Nottingham's history-making squad of 12-year-olds.

"WIN OR LOSE, those kids were coming back heroes," said Carol Kivler, referring to that heart-tugging loss on a just-barely-fair homer for the U.S. title.

"The first thing Brandon said to me was 'Mom, I didn't want to disappoint you.' Disappointed? I said to him, 'You don't understand what you achieved.' To them it was just another baseball game, no different than a game we played at districts."

Their progression in the world of Little League grabbed the attention of the nation. The U.S. final game drew a crowd of 21,000 and was tele-

vised by ESPN.

"Not only was our community following them, but whatever town they were in would start following them," said Carol Kivler. Nottingham's support grew in Morristown, site of the New Jersey Final Four tourney; in Bristol, Conn., home of the Eastern Regional; and in Williamsport.

"It's wonderful, exciting," said Carol Kivler. "It's overwhelming, and it's non-ending. Every day this week there's something."

Also lined up for tomorrow is a pizza party for the team at Fred & Pete's Delicatessen in Mercerville. On Friday, the team will be featured on a local radio show. Saturday is a double-header: a parade honoring the team, and ceremonies during intermission at the Greater Trenton Symphony Orchestra concert during Septemberfest in Hamilton's Veterans Park.

The beat goes on Monday when Nottingham will be honored by the State Assembly at 4 p.m.

The team banquet next month should provide a fitting end to the hoopla.

Too many columnists attacking Bush

I am appalled at the pro-Clinton bias of your paper day after day.

The editorial cartoonists featured in The Times, namely MacNelly, Toles, Borgman, Oliphant and Auth consistently ridicule President Bush, but never criticize Gov. Clinton.

I find it hard to believe that everything Clinton says or does is completely right and above criticism.

The same applies to your editorial page columnists, namely Mary McGrory, Ellen Goodman, William Raspberry, Richard Cohen, Otis Pike and, of course, your local columnists including Harry Sayen and Jim Goodman.

The only objective columnist appearing in your paper is James Kilpatrick; George Will at one time was considered to be a conservative, but he apparently has developed a personal vendetta against President

Bush.

I have always been of the belief that newspapers should report and comment on the news in an even-handed fashion. On the editorial page you are perfectly within your rights to espouse your liberal lean-

ings in your editorials, but surely there still should be some room for fair and balanced commentary among your columnists and political cartoonists.

James J. Egan Jr.
Yardley, Pa.

Bush: No tax hike, 'Ever, ever'

N.J. crowd lukewarm

By JIM GOODMAN
Staff Writer

MIDDLETOWN — George Bush pulled out all the stops yesterday, promising to never sign another tax increase law and blaming Gov. Jim Florio for ruining New Jersey's economy. But the sun-wear, heavily Republican crowd here displayed little enthusiasm for the GOP presidential candidate.

The crowd, dominated by area residents invited by Republican Party officials, waited for four hours on the asphalt parking lot of the Middletown VFW Hall here to cheer Bush as he attempted to revive his lagging campaign in New Jersey, a state GOP officials say he almost has to carry in order to win re-election.

Although several groups of veterans were on hand and distributed pamphlets attacking Democratic candidate Bill Clinton as a draft dodger, Bush made no mention of his opponent's alleged efforts to avoid being drafted during the Vietnam War.

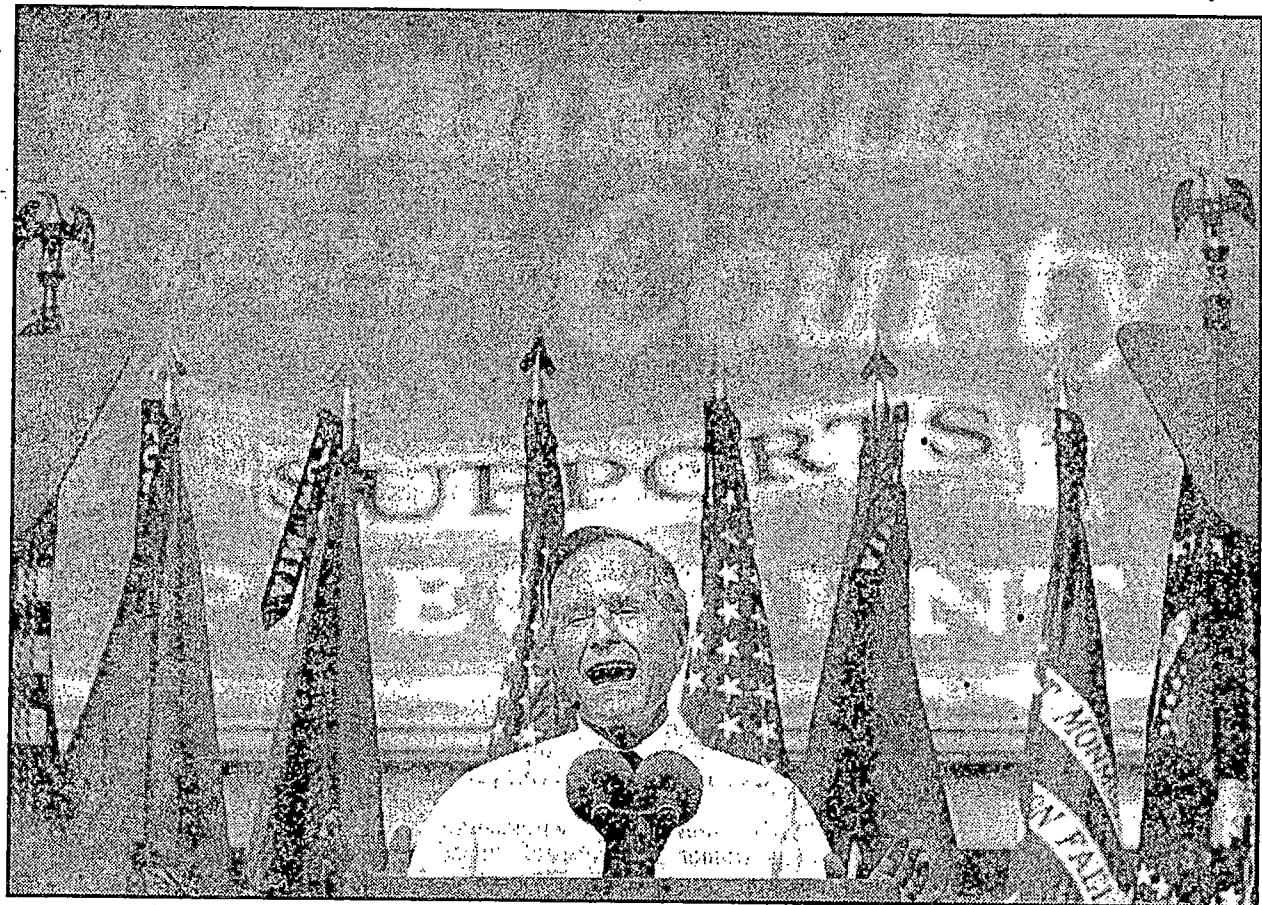
Instead, Bush reiterated his admission that he signed what he called a "Democratic tax increase," and added, apparently for the first time, a pledge that if re-elected he would never go along with any Democratic congressional plan to raise taxes for the next four years.

"We do not need to raise taxes in

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President Bush makes a point while speaking in Middletown yesterday.

Staff photo by Marc Bellagamba

this country," Bush declared. "I found out that the hard way. I went along with one Democratic tax increase and I'm not going to do it again. Ever, ever."

ALTHOUGH BUSH has implied in recent weeks that he would oppose new taxes, the statement seemed to be a pledge he would ban any new tax increases in a second term.

At a campaign appearance in Trappe, Pa., earlier in the day, Bush conceded that the U.S. economy is "sick and anemic." Bush added, "We've been through economic hell in this country," but insisted, "we're poised for a decent and strong recovery."

"We're in this transition period. We've been caught in a tough economic time... a global recession."

At Middletown, Bush made New Jersey's Democratic governor his target. "I wish I could bring every American voter to New Jersey to see first hand what a liberal governor and a liberal legislature can do to wreck an economy," Bush said.

"Gov. Florio and the Democratic legislature acted like every day was April 15 (the deadline for filing income tax returns)."

Bush taunted the Democrats by reminding them of the slogan of the Republicans under former Gov. Tom Kean — "New Jersey and You, Perfect Together."

He rewrote that to read, "A rubber stamp legislature and a rubber stamp executive are not perfect together."

Florio issued a statement at the State House in Trenton saying he was flattered when the president mentioned his name, but added, "if he's come here to take shots at me, he's going to have to stand in line behind the NRA, the insurance companies and the special interests who favor the inadequate health care status quo."

BUSH SAID that instead of raising taxes like the "tax and spend Democrats," he wants to create tax credits that spurn investments. He said that approach and the proposed free trade agreement would create 300,000 jobs "and that's just in the short run."

New Jersey, Bush said, already is heavily involved in firms that are affected by foreign investments and foreign trade.

Bush touted his record as president on the environment, telling the crowd of about 3,000 that he campaigned in Monmouth County four years ago with a pledge to end ocean dumping off the coast of New Jersey and made good on that promise last year.

"When tourists look out over the shore, they won't see sludge barges. They'll see sailboats," Bush said.

The president said he will act to force New York state to build sewage treatment plants that will end that state's practice of dumping sewage into the ocean "that winds up on your shore."

BUSH CONTRASTED his environmental efforts with those of Clinton as governor of Arkansas. He said Clinton placed dead last in independent rankings of states for environmental initiatives.

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Random interviews with people in the crowd as they left the Bush rally indicated that many were impressed with the president's talk. When asked what they thought was most important among the things Bush said, the most frequent response was his promise not to raise taxes again and his pledge not to cut Social Security benefits to lower the federal deficit.

Bill Palatucci, executive director of the Bush campaign in New Jersey, said the Bush campaign was very pleased with the event here.

"We're trying to reinforce the troops," Palatucci said. "Monmouth County is very strongly Republican, and it's very important to us."

Palatucci said it was not a complete surprise that Bush did not criticize Clinton's draft record. "That's an issue without saying it," he said.

Even Republicans who said they didn't like Clinton questioned the importance of the draft issue in this election.

One veteran, a life member of the

VFW post, said "the only people who are concerned about the draft are the younger men who didn't want to be called up if a draft was needed for the (Persian) Gulf war."

"I don't think it means much," said the World War II Army Air Force veteran who asked that his name not be used. "We had a meeting at the (VFW) post the other night and I can't recall anyone even mentioning it."



Staff photo by Marc Bellagamba

Nottingham Little Leaguers Matt Wolski, left, and Brad Cannon, center, meet President Bush during his New Jersey visit yesterday. Ex-Gov. Thomas Kean is at right.

All-Stars earn ovations from Bush, Florio

By MARY ANN TARR
Staff Writer

The Nottingham Little League All-Star baseball team didn't make it to the White House in 1992, but did manage to touch President Bush.

Minutes after Bush's speech at a campaign stop yesterday, Nottingham players Matt Wolski and Brad Cannon presented a team T-shirt, a

team photo and an autographed baseball to the man who had invited them to be a part of the program held at New Jersey's Middletown Township VFW Post 2179.

It is traditional for the No. 1 team in the nation to make a trip to Washington, D.C. Nottingham, as the No. 2 team for 1992, managed a brief visit with Bush on a long and hot afternoon in Monmouth County, N.J. After apologizing for being late

and thanking a long list of people, Bush made the wait worthwhile for Nottingham's players and parents when he acknowledged the efforts made by the Hamilton Township team that won N.J. State and East Region championships by declaring, "Nottingham Little League — what a job they did."

The crowd then gave a cheer for the team that didn't falter until the U.S. championship game at the Lit-

tle League World Series. That game was a 1-0 loss to Long Beach, Calif.

"No one really liked waiting in the heat," said Cannon, referring to the fact that Bush was scheduled to make his remarks at 1:50 p.m., but didn't address the crowd until approximately 3 p.m. "But for me and Wolski, it was worth it."

CANNON AND WOLSKI received instructions at the conclusion

of the president's speech.

"One of the Secret Service guys said 'follow us,'" Cannon remembered.

Among the top memories for Cannon, a substitute pitcher/outfielder for the team that went 18-3, will be shaking hands with the president of the United States and convincing

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Bush to autograph a baseball for him.

While the president donned the powder blue T-shirt that proclaimed Nottingham's domination at the Eastern Regionals in Bristol, Conn.— and was customized to read "President Bush" on the back — another man dressed in powder blue was anticipating the team's arrival.

Scheduled to be at the governor's mansion at 5 p.m., the Nottingham contingent left Middletown and headed for Princeton Township.

Gov. Jim Florio was wearing Nottingham's colors — an outfit that included a red shirt and powder blue jacket — when he welcomed the players and parents for an outdoor reception at Drumthwacket.

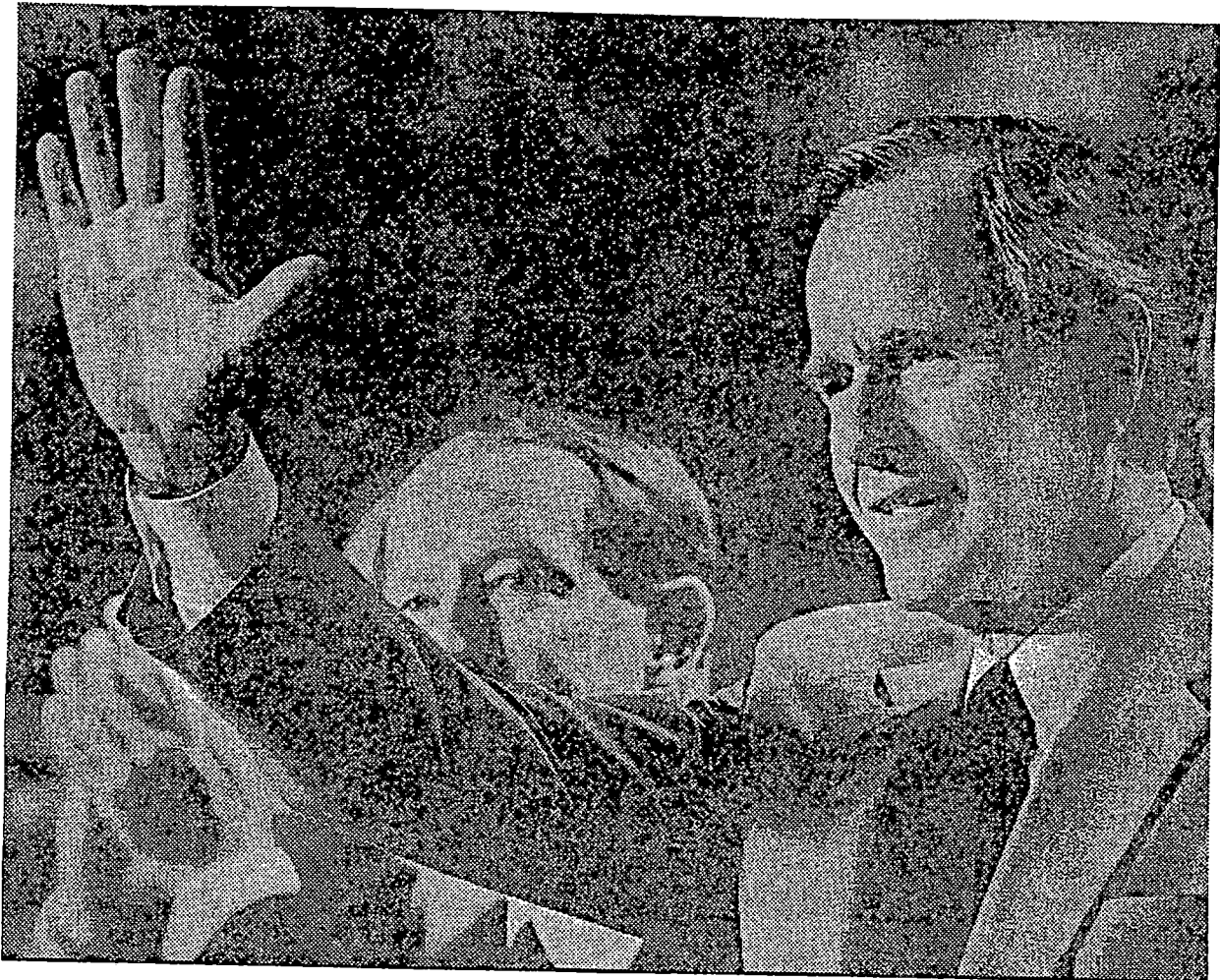
"Little did we know that we'd be upstaged by the president of the United States," said Florio, who along with his wife, Lucinda, presented proclamations to the players, coaches and league President Dan DeRose. The presentations were made in alphabetical order, with the players first on the list. From Michael Braender to Wolski, each player was called forward to receive the official document and have his picture taken with the Florios.

When the name "Jerry Conti" was announced, the parents applauded the manager who took the Hamilton Township team to new heights.

THE GOVERNOR ALSO received some Nottingham memorabilia and he promised to keep it in some good company.

"There's a little room upstairs," said Florio, who was interrupted by questions such as "There's a little room in there?" which was followed by much laughter. Florio, who assured them the room exists and contains autographed pictures of Willie Mays and Muhammad Ali, said that was where the Nottingham team photo and baseball would be kept.

'Norristown is in the lead,' Bush says



President Bush waves to the audience yesterday at Norristown Area High School.

Economic concerns greet Bush

By Steve Talbot
Times Herald Staff

As with most of the country, economic issues were at the forefront for employees of Uniform Tubes Inc. who met yesterday afternoon with President George Bush in a question-and-answer session.

During the 45-minute meeting in Trappe, the president fielded more than 10 questions from the 350 employees and guests, ranging in topic from jobs to health care to family values.

But most of the questions focused on the economy. Bush said several times that Congress failed to act on legislation he had proposed that would have fueled the economy.

"I have been critical of Congress as the gridlocked Congress," he said. "The one institution that has not changed in 38 years is Congress, which can't run a two-bit bank or a two-bit post office."

Trappe Mayor Richard Bateman asked the president what he foresees for the building trades and industry.

Bush responded that during his State of the Union address in January he proposed the investment tax allowance and tax credits for first-time home buyers.

"It's still sitting there in Congress," he added. "In my view, that would have stimulated the building trades. We've been trying to get it done."

When asked for a guarantee that he could be more effective in working with Congress, Bush said, "The assurance comes from the fact that there will be 100 to 150 new members."

He said then and repeated later that he would meet with the new members from both parties in an attempt to pass legislation amenable to all.

While his delivery was polished and skillful, Bush minced few words in characterizing the economy. But he said there is hope in the future.

"Let me say this about the economy — it is lousy. We know that. We're in a global recession," the president told the tube company workers.

"With interest rates down and inflation down, we should be able to recover and recover well."

"This is a weird political year," he said later in the session. "I am optimistic about this country. Compared to other economies and other countries, we're on the rise."

A question asking whether he

See **BUSH** On Page 6

Bush

Continued from Page 1

would focus more on domestic issues than on spending money and time abroad drew applause from the audience, but the president defended his stand on free trade.

"The answer is not to turn inward," Bush said.

The North American Free Trade Agreement will not cause U.S. workers to lose their jobs, according to the president. He said it will increase jobs "because we have the most productive workers."

"The freer trade we have, the more jobs there are in America," Bush continued.

To address domestic issues, the president said, this country has to rely on the same energy it used to defeat Saddam Hussein and bring freedom and democracy to Eastern Europe.

The new freedom across the world has led to cutbacks in the defense industry, and Bush said job retraining programs plus education will help those left without jobs find new ones.

In working with the new Congress, Bush said he wants to see a balanced budget amendment and a line-item veto.

"Let me try to cut the excess," he told the crowd. "I think we're spending too much."

Another Uniform Tubes employee asked what role the government can play in assisting and encouraging family values.

"The opposition wants me to get off talking family values," said Bush, adding that the largest concerns of the country's mayors stem from the decline of the American family.

Family values are not solely the realm of government, the president said. He noted that the country seems to have gotten away from fundamentals.

Bush said the issue of family values is not demagoguery or saying his family is better than Bill Clinton's or against single mothers.

"It isn't to criticize. It's trying to identify with what the strength of our country is," he said.

"The liberals hate it... It is right to try to find ways to help the family, whether through financial or moral backing," the president said, drawing applause.

The president also was asked about racism and the drug situation in America.

"Racism and anti-Semitism have no place in this country," he said. "A president must continue to speak out."

Bush said cocaine use has dropped 60 percent, although those addicted to the drug have been unable to shake the habit.

The answer, he said, is in both prevention and treatment as well as interdiction.

"We're using the military much more than we did to interdict," said Bush, who also pushed for passage of his crime bill to support law enforcement officials.

Lucy Ivins, executive director of the Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce, wanted to know about Bush's health-care plan.

The president said his plan would provide insurance for all through tax credits, a pool of insurance and more use of managed care. A cap must be placed on "frivolous malpractice suits," he added.

The president asked the Uniform Tubes employees to support him in the upcoming election.

Some campaigning slips into president's education speech

Democrats cry foul but Republicans didn't mind a bit

By Margaret Gibbons
Times Herald Staff

President Bush's visit yesterday to Norristown Area High School was billed as an "official" government visit to support educational reforms under way in the school district.

But politics crept into the final minute of his 15-minute speech when Bush took a swipe at the educational policies of his Democratic opponent, Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton.

Bush said Clinton has aligned himself with the "education establishment," such as the teachers' unions, and that the education establishment "fears change."

"He has told the education establishment what they want to hear," Bush told the crowd at the high school in West Norriton

Township. "I, as president, will continue to tell them what America needs to hear."

At least one of the invited guests did not believe that the school auditorium, which held more than 2,700 students and guests, was the proper place for Bush's political digression.

"It was totally an inappropriate forum," said Democratic county commissioner Joseph M. Hoeffel III. "I think it really detracted from his speech. It fell flat and should have been made more properly in a campaign setting."

Hoeffel, who is the chairman of the Clinton-Gore campaign in Montgomery County, defended Clinton's education record. He claimed that many reforms now being supported by Bush were first proposed by Clinton.

"I think it was great that the president came to Norristown but I don't think he should have used his speech — even though it was only a minor part — to attack Bill Clinton," he said.

County controller Richard S. Buckman said, "It would have gone the other way if Clinton was the speaker, so I think it was fair."

Buckman is a Republican like most of the invited guests in a county where Republicans outnumber Democrats by more than a 2-1 ratio.

"I think the speech was very appropriate," said Republican county clerk of courts Jane B. Markley.

County commissioners chairman Mario Mele said the references to Clinton were "part of the educational process to make the students aware that there is a critical election in 55 days, an election that will determine who runs this country for the next four years."

While politics was kept to a minimum in the auditorium, with only a few discreet Bush-Quayle buttons showing, politics was all that was on the minds of a group of Clinton supporters gathered outside.

John Meyerson of Philadelphia roused the Clinton contingent with chants through a bullhorn.

Meyerson, who works for the United Food and Commercial Workers' Union Local 1776 in Plymouth Township, said he viewed the presidential visit as "an opportunity to express displeasure with the last four years."

"I think he picked Montgomery County because he thought it was safe," Meyerson said. "His economic policies have made it so no place is safe."

Debbie Molnar of East Norriton Township had another issue on her mind.

Molnar, an unemployed cashier, said she has carpal tunnel syndrome, a repetitive strain injury in the wrists. Her health benefits have run out, she said.

"I wanted to know what happened (with) health care," said Molnar, who held up a sign with two bandaged arms. "You're left out in the cold."

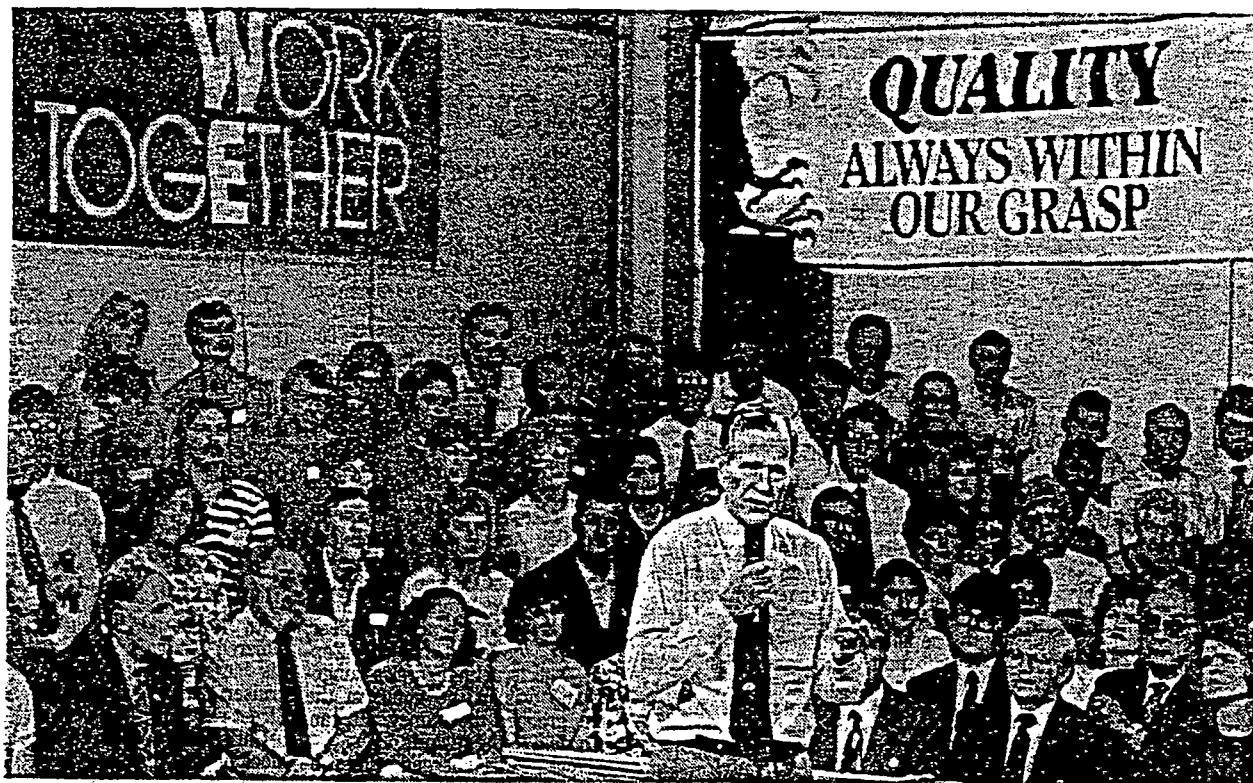
(Times Herald staff writer Dana Smith contributed to this report.)



Students and guests in the packed gymnasium watch and listen to Bush during his speech.



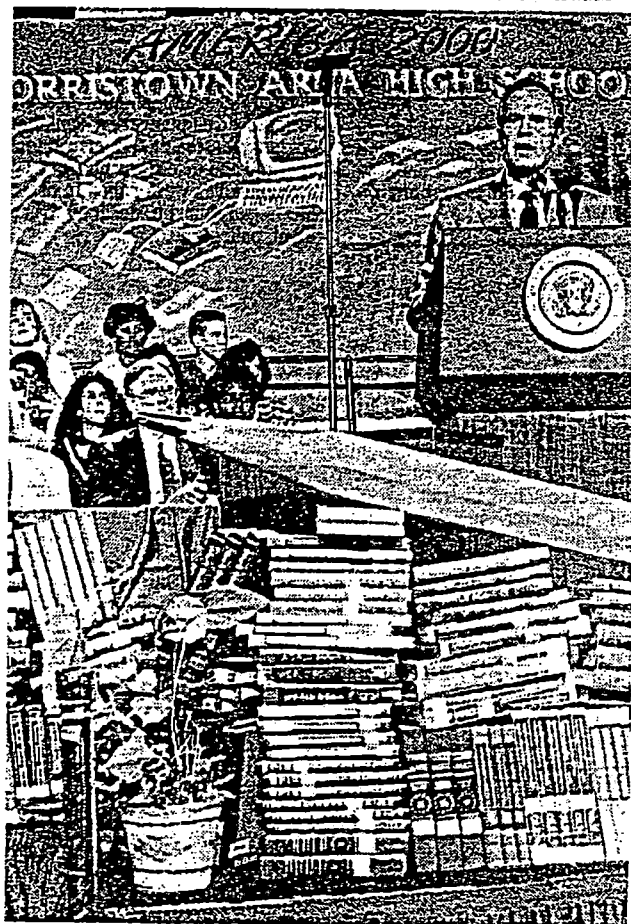
Students at Norristown Area High School ham it up for a photographer while waiting to be seated in the gymnasium. Almost no student misbehavior was evident during the president's visit.



Helena I. Sheldon/The Times Herald

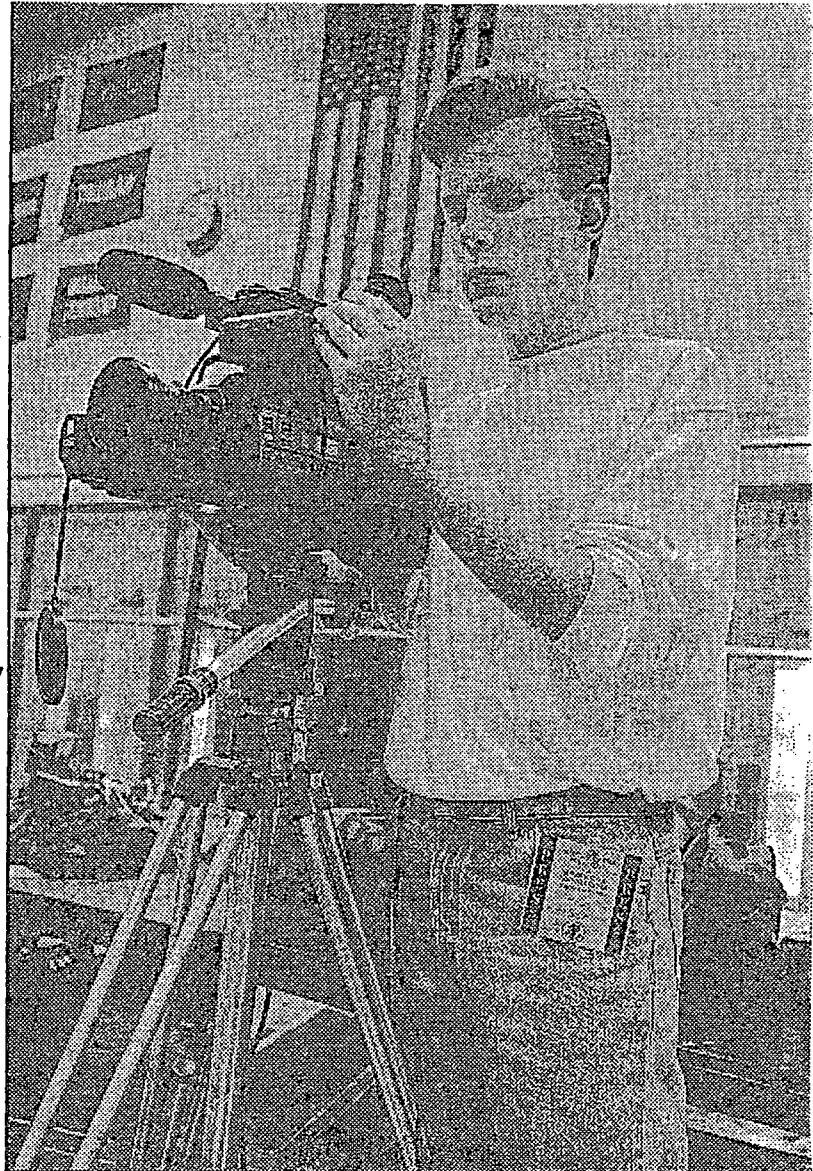
Hailing the chief

President Bush (above) discusses the economy and other issues with employees at Uniform Tubes Inc. in Trappe yesterday. At right, the president speaks on his education proposals earlier in the day at Norristown Area High School. After his address there, Bush (below) shakes hands with students seated behind the podium.





East Norriton Township residents (from left) Vince, Joe and Kathy Bocinski show their support for President Bush yesterday.



Paul Bronson, a junior at Norristown Area High School, runs the school's video camera during President Bush's address.



Kamara Shaw, a fifth-grader at the Paul V. Fly Elementary School, reads one of the six goals of the America 2000 education program.

"I have come to Norristown because you have accepted my challenge to re-invent American schools. Norristown is in the lead but you are not alone."

"I think every parent has the right to choose the school that's right for their children."

"The world has changed and so must our schools."

"Our schools were basically designed for another age."

President George Bush
At Norristown Area High School



President Bush gestures during his talk on education at Norristown Area High School.



Norristown Area High School seniors (from left) Robyn Leibowitz, Andrea Allmayer and Sarah Toas hand out press credentials before the president's visit yesterday at the school in West Norriton Township.

Educators inspired, skeptical

By Dana Smith
Times Herald Staff

Norristown school and business officials said President Bush's local appearance yesterday will provide a healthy boost to their long-range education plan.

"It was an exciting day," Norristown area school superintendent James N. Holton said late yesterday afternoon. "I think this gives us even more of an impetus to work together to achieve the educational goals of our country."

During his 25-minute address to some 2,700 students and invited guests, Bush commended the district's Greater Norristown 2000 program. The local program is based on Bush's America 2000, which was designed to implement educational reform by the end of the century.

America 2000 centers on six educational goals, including increasing graduation rates, making students first in the world in science and math, eliminating adult illiteracy and providing drug- and violence-free schools.

"We are totally committed to the America 2000 concept and its six goals," Holton said. "We are organized now to achieve all six of the national goals and we're well on our way to accomplishing that."

"We've definitely been committed to it from the business aspect," added Clarence L. Rader, board chairman of the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce. "We're absolutely in favor of the goals because of what they purport to do."

Rader said the presidential endorsement should entice more businesses into joining the local 2000 project.

"If they had any concerns about whether to get involved with 2000, that surely ought to take care of it," he said.

School leaders outside of Norristown, however, were skeptical of some of Bush's ideas for the future of education.

Laird P. Warner, superintendent of the Methacton School District, said it will be "virtually impossible" for urban schools to meet the goals due to a lack of funding.

"I'd love to see that," said Warner, who attended the program with four school board members. "But the resources aren't there to make that happen."

Warner said he supports Bush's proposals of setting up pilot schools and districts and providing year-round education, which the district is looking into. But the president has said he will not raise taxes.

"Those dollars have to come from somewhere," Warner said. "And that probably means public education."

Colonial School District Superintendent Stanley J. Durtan agreed, saying funding toward education is already on the decline.

"We're having trouble maintaining the basic programs that run our school district," Durtan said.

Durtan attended yesterday's program along with two Colonial school board members.

Colonial is facing a \$1.6 million budget deficit, which officials have attributed to delinquent taxes, falling interest rates and a reduction in state funding.

Furthermore, Durtan and Warner said they disagree with the inclusion of parochial and private schools in a bill touted by Bush that would provide \$1,000 vouchers for students to attend the school of their choice.

"I certainly have no problem with choice at the public school level, but I'm bothered by the president's assertion that it will solve our problems," Durtan said.

Warner questioned the idea of giving scarce education dollars to parents who would have sent their children to parochial or private schools anyway.

"People have always had a right to make choices and have their children educated where they want, and they have done that," Warner said.

Norristown High students also didn't let the honor of having a president in their midst cloud their opinions about his job performance.

"I figured (Bush) had four years to shape up the country and he didn't do it," said senior Nathan Tarr, 17.

"I personally thought Bush was doing a good job," said Tricia Runkle, an 18-year-old senior. "This is my first year for voting and I initially (filed) Democratic, but if I did vote, I would vote for (Bush)."

For their part, the students won the praise of many for their patience during a two-hour wait in the gymnasium before Bush's arrival.

"That was really impressive," Warner commented.

"I just choke up when I think about how wonderful those kids were," said Holton. "I've never been prouder in my entire life of a school district."

Employees give mixed review on Bush

By Steve Talbot
 Times Herald Staff

As President Bush's arrival neared, all eyes in the warehouse at Uniform Tubes Inc. (UTI) in Trappe focused on the door he would enter.

Once he was inside the crowd erupted into loud, sustained applause, with a few employees waving American flags and hooting much like the audience for the Arsenio Hall Show.

More cheers erupted when Bush was introduced before his 45-minute question-and-answer session with the Uniform Tubes workers.

"I think it was quite an honor that President Bush chose Uniform Tubes," said employee Joan Schmitt of Trappe. "He presented himself very well."

Not everyone, however, shared in the enthusiasm.

Annemarie Gillespie of Willow Grove joked afterward that perhaps she should have clapped more during the question-and-answer session. While most were excited to see the president, she was not.

"Personally, a couple of campaign stops do not make up for four years of his presidency," Gillespie said. "I wasn't happy being a part of a campaign stop."

Royersford resident Fred Dollinger called Bush's answers to the employees' questions "more political rhetoric."

Dollinger said he was interested in hearing what the president had to say about foreign policy spending. He wondered how the president could approve spending and loan agreements in other countries when Bush delayed in his response to Hurricane Andrew in Florida.

"It was very smooth," said Dollinger, calling Bush's answers to questions on domestic versus foreign issues "predictable."

Others, though, found that Bush had answered the questions to their satisfaction.

Schmitt said she had hoped the president would discuss the economy and jobs during his visit, and she was "pleased" by what she heard.

"I was impressed," she said. Limerick Township resident

Carla Learn said Bush had covered many of the topics on the employees' minds, especially in addressing job retraining at a small company like UTI.

She also was hopeful about Bush's re-election chances.

"I think he has a good stepping stone to become president again," Learn said. "If he could get Congress to help back some of his plans, it could help pull us out of the recession."

Trappe Borough Council President Richard L. Franks agreed with Bush's comments that Congress should shoulder some of the responsibility for the economy.

"I think he's getting a bad rap on the economy. I like to blame it on Congress, too," said Franks, a Republican and Bush supporter. "My feeling is it's coming around and it's picking up."

Before the session, UTI maintenance employees Richard Jenkins of Skippack and Bob Lessig of Birdsboro wanted to hear Bush talk about the economy.

"I'd like to see less money going

overseas. We're spending too much money overseas," said Lessig.

Jenkins said he thought neither Bush nor Democratic candidate Bill Clinton would be able to change the economy and how politics work overnight.

"At this time, I don't like what we have, but I'm afraid of what might be," said Jenkins. "I'm old enough to see what the Democrats have done. They want to give away too much."

Whether they agreed or disagreed with Bush, many workers saw yesterday's visit as a banner day for both UTI and Trappe.

"I was surprised he would come to a small company," said Jenkins. "It's good for the company. They're striving to get better recognition."

Franks noted that the last president to visit Trappe was George Washington, who stayed in the borough before he became the nation's first chief executive.

"It's a thrilling thing for Trappe," he said. "It's of some significance that the president would come to a small company in a small town."



AP Photo

President Bush shakes hands with Norristown High football players Howard Preston (64) and Jake Corropolese (21).

Pigskin preview

Bush gives fans an early prediction; says Norristown will 'do great' Friday

The Times Herald Peerless Pigskin Preview highlighting all of the area weekend scholastic football games returns for another season tomorrow.

The new-and-improved preview gives fans an outlook at each game involving area high school teams. As usual, a panel of eight experts from The Times Herald also offers predictions on which teams will win.

During yesterday's visit to Norristown Area High School, President Bush jumped the gun and gave an early prediction on tomorrow's game between Norristown and North Penn.

"I'm here to put your fears at rest," Bush said. "I know you guys will do great against North Penn Friday night."

Uniform Tubes pushes employee education

By Steve Talbot
Times Herald Staff

He took their questions and delivered praise.

During his stop yesterday at Uniform Tubes Inc. (UTI) in Trappe, President Bush lauded the company for its education efforts.

"I salute you," Bush told the 350 employees. "I'm pleased to be at this company taking the lead.

"We can't go back to the same old ways."

In March of this year, Uniform Tubes, in affiliation with Montgomery County Community College, initiated UTI 2000 in response to Bush's America 2000 education goals established for U.S. businesses.

Uniform Tubes' program aims to upgrade employee skills by offering programs in reading comprehension and mathematics to the eighth-grade level.

UTI chairman A. Bruce Mainwaring said the company's program and America 2000 work "to ensure that all Americans are literate, can compete in the future and function as responsible citizens."

Each employee at Uniform Tubes has taken a placement test, according to Mainwaring, and classes have been offered to improve skills.

Instructors from the community college visit for two-hour sessions twice a week on company time. Classes are limited to six participants; all work is individualized.

Mainwaring said the company has had 15 graduates since the program began.

"This is all a part of UTI's goal to seek continued improvement in all the activities of the company," he said.

Uniform Tubes manufactures precision miniature, high-technology parts; tubular fabrications in over 100 alloys; intricate and miniature metal parts; and microcoaxial cable.

Another educational program at UTI is Total Quality Management Control, which allows each employee to participate in introductory and reinforcement education on basic and advanced statistical concepts.

Employees use their acquired skills to monitor service, process and product quality.

Bush said as the country is "poised for a decent and strong recovery," education remains an important ingredient.

"No one is too old to learn," the president advised the workers.

After Bush's visit, Perkiomen Valley Chamber of Commerce executive director Lucy Ivins said UTI deserves the recognition it received.

"UTI is a leader in education goals. At the chamber, we admire that," Ivins said. "I was impressed that they selected UTI. This company is where the whole country should be."

For just a few fleeting seconds, they glimpsed the man of the hour

By Traci Canning
 Times Herald Staff

More than 100 people lined the low shoulder of Collegeville Road and braved a sweltering midday sun just to get a look at *him*.

The Kennedys — John and Janice, that is — were in the group standing at the Perkiomen Valley Airport in Skippack Township to bid farewell to President George Bush, who was in Montgomery County yesterday on a pair of official visits to West Norriton Township and Trappe.

"This is very exciting for a small town," said John Kennedy, clutching a Sears camera. "I guess it's just the excitement of seeing the president."

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime situation — getting to see the president," said Kathy Brown of Collegeville. "That is, if he slows down."

Police posted orange cones at the intersection of Collegeville and Mill roads yesterday afternoon to warn motorists that no one would be getting near the airport — at least not by car. However, friendly unnamed police officers noted that they couldn't stop anyone from *walking* the eighth of a mile for a view of the helicopters parked in an open field.

It was along this route that the presidential motorcade was set to pass, shuttling Bush from a question-and-answer session at Uniform Tubes Inc.

in Trappe to an engagement in Middletown, N.J.

"What we need is some broccoli," said Brown. "Maybe then he'll stop."

In the group of Bush supporters were children, veterans, bicyclists and business people.

Donna Miller of Schwenksville said she came out because "this is probably the closest I'll ever get to seeing a president."

And how could she afford to spend the afternoon on the trail of the president?

"I'm unemployed, so I have the time," said Miller, a former long-term substitute teacher in the Spring-Ford Area School District. "School went back and I didn't."

Ironically, Bush spent the early part of his trip to the county at Norristown Area High School, where he touted the district's work in education reform.

Regardless of her employment status, Miller declared herself a Bush fan, if only "sort of."

Lisa Scenna of Creamery had stronger feelings for the incumbent.

"I'm out of work and it's not his fault," said Scenna, who rode her bicycle to catch a peek at Bush. "He spent four years getting our foreign affairs in order. Now the voters should let him do the same with our domestic affairs."

Bob Krimmel of Lower Frederick Township took a long lunch to get his brush with Bush and he agreed that the president should tend to the home fires should he be elected to a second term.

"In general, I do like the man," Krimmel said. "He did an excellent job on our foreign affairs. I wish he would do the same with the domestic side."

President Bush's departure from the Perkiomen Valley Airport caused some concern at the State Correctional Institution when about 50 corrections officers were delayed in reporting for their second shift by roadblocks, according to prison spokesman Alan J. LeFebvre.

"They started trickling in after 2. By 3 p.m. we were back up to speed with a complete complement," said LeFebvre. He added that no unusual occurrences took place inside the prison, but "from a security standpoint we have to be concerned about manpower."

On a lighter note, Krimmel said he had seen former presidents John F. Kennedy and Jimmy Carter and conceded that it was about time he added a Republican head of state to his list of celebrity sightings.

He did, albeit briefly. The crowd leaned forward in a sort of rumbling lurch which coincided with the passing of the second black limousine in the line of cars.

From the back waved a smiling George Bush, who leaned forward in his seat and nearly up against the window to greet the well-wishers.

And just that quickly he was gone — a well-dressed fleck in a rural field.

"He saw us," gushed an elated Walt Kunda of King of Prussia.

In Our View

Vote of approval from George Bush

You can't buy the kind of publicity Norristown Area School District got yesterday when the President of the United States came to town to pat it on the back.

To President Bush, it may have been only one stop that will get lost in the blur of campaign appearances between now and November. But to Norristown Area School District — a district that strives to prove its urban-suburban mix of students and challenges should improve, not lessen, its standing among its more affluent, homogenous peers — the president's visit was a boost, especially at the start of a school year in which local budget cuts weighed heavy on staff and students.

Bush commended the district for taking up his America 2000 challenge to "reinvent schools." One of the education themes he focused on is the idea that schools were designed for another age and are not suited to prepare students for today's careers.

And that is an idea driving Norristown's America 2000 plan, dubbed Project HOLOS. The proposal, prepared by district staff, is ambitious. It proposes things like eliminating conventional grade levels and putting students of different ages together; extending the school day and school year; increasing the use of technology, not only for traditional students but for community use; giving district "certification" to child-care facilities that meet certain standards; and creating teams of teachers who will follow a student's progress like a team of surgeons would follow a patient.

Of course, implementing such a plan costs money.

President Bush made the point that it is ideas, not money, that will revolutionize schools. "If you think money alone will reinvent our schools, think again," he said.

True enough. But the flip side is that a lack of money sure isn't going to make change any easier.

To launch HOLOS, Norristown Area School District was hoping to get \$2 million from the New American Schools Development Corp., a private group formed at the president's request to fund model schools. Unfortunately, Norristown's proposal, one of nearly 700 competing, was not among the 11 awarded funding in July.

Considering that the Norristown Area school board had just laid off 70 employees, significantly cut programs and still had to raise taxes 27.5 mills, finding another \$2 million for HOLOS was not in the cards.

But the district, as promised, is pushing on with HOLOS. It does not have the \$500,000 to make the technology purchases the plan envisioned. And it did not provide the \$1 million needed to pull 25 teachers from the classrooms this year to train them. Instead, training will be done as part of regular in-service programs. And other parts of the plan, such as team teaching and multi-age classrooms, are in use in some buildings and will be expanded.

With President Bush's visit, however, the school board should be emboldened to make the dramatic changes necessary to fully implement HOLOS. The president, after all, was praising the potential of the plan. If his visit is going to be remembered as more than a campaign pit stop, the district must make sure that HOLOS lives up to its presidential billing of revolutionizing schools.

A spark for students

President Bush joked with the gymnasium full of students that they appreciated his visit because it was an excuse to get out of classes.

For some, maybe. But others were eager to strike up conversations with reporters and have their views heard. They initially dismissed the president's visit as just an attempt to get votes, but this led to talk of what changes should be made to improve schools. And if it takes a presidential visit to get teen-agers to think and talk about such things, it's worth the trip.

Environmental group blasts Bush's choice of tour stops

By Steve Talbot
Times Herald Staff

An environmental coalition blasted President George Bush's visit yesterday to Uniform Tubes Inc., saying it showed his lack of concern for the environment.

"(President Bush) picked a company that has a particularly harsh impact on the environment," said Joe Minott of the Clean Air Council and a member of the coalition, Citizens for the Environment.

"If his message had been, this was a company that could create jobs ... and be environmentally sound, that would have made some sense," Minott added.

In a release, the coalition cited statistics filed by the Trappe company with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Minott pointed out that the emissions are legal and the coalition was not suggesting UTI was violating the law.

"This shows the very problem with environmental laws under the Bush administration," Minott said. "A company can legally emit that amount of carcinogen into the community."

Those figures show that Uniform Tubes:

▶ Released 689,569 pounds of toxic chemicals into the air in 1989.

▶ Released 906,047 pounds of trichloroethane, a developmental

toxin known to cause birth defects, into the air in 1990.

▶ Released more than 10,000 pounds of neurotoxins, known to cause brain damage, in 1989.

▶ Released 17,727 pounds of carcinogens into the air in 1989.

▶ Transferred 33,430 pounds of toxic chemicals off site in 1989.

UTI president Gordon Hattersley said the company is undertaking a number of steps to reduce the amount of emissions from its plant.

"We are doing everything possible to phase out trichloroethane by Dec. 31, 1993," Hattersley said.

He added that UTI has also joined a voluntary EPA program called 33-50, which calls for the company to reduce emissions by 33 percent and then by 50 percent by certain dates.

UTI has also engaged a consultant and is working in-house to study the lubricants it uses and come up with alternatives, according to Hattersley.

In April of this year, Hattersley said UTI signed a corrective measures study with EPA for the cleanup of contaminated groundwater at its 40-acre site in Trappe.

The cleanup, which will cost about \$3 million, involves pumping out contaminated groundwater and removing contaminants with air strippers.

Trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination was found in the groundwater in 1977; its source was three underground storage tanks under one of the production plants. The tanks were pumped dry and filled with concrete.

The Citizens for the Environment is an informal coalition comprised of representatives from organizations like the Clean Air Council, Clean Water Action, the Sierra Club, Philadelphians for Recycling, the Philadelphia Earth Island Institute, Jobs With Peace and Environmentalists for Sustainable Transit.

'Vote often'

President mixes humor with comments during discussion with Trappe workers

George Bush as talk-show host?

Even the president couldn't help making the comparison yesterday while seated on a swivel chair at Uniform Tubes Inc.

"Welcome to the Phil Donahue show," Bush told more than 350 employees and invited guests surrounding him during a question-and-answer session at the Trappe tube company.

"I feel like that sitting out here," he admitted.

Before taking questions from

the audience, Bush spotted a man wearing a T-shirt that said "I'd rather be fishing."

"I'd rather be, too," said the president, an avid fisherman.

The discussion had focused on issues such as the economy, jobs, Congress and family values before Trappe Mayor Richard Bateman asked Bush what could be done to help the president achieve his goals.

"Vote often," Bush quipped, drawing hearty laughter from the audience.

— Steve Talbot

A pro-family move for president: Family Leave Act

To The Editor:

American families have changed dramatically over the last 20 years, but neither workplace policies nor President Bush have kept up. Less than 8 percent of all families with children have a parent who stays home to care for the young children or grandparents or family members of any age who are seriously ill.

The Family and Medical Leave Act provides a minimum level of protection for those least able to negotiate fair treatment at a time of family emergency. It supports families that need to care for

newborns, adopted children and seriously ill family members, without the risk of losing their jobs or health insurance. It provides the same assurance for workers who are seriously ill.

The Family and Medical Leave Act was passed by Congress in both 1990 and 1991 with strong, bipartisan majorities. President Bush, who campaigns on pro-family rhetoric, vetoed it in 1990 and has promised to do so again.

Wendy L. Troester
Plymouth Meeting



A Norristown Area High School student (middle) stands next to President Bush after receiving his autograph. At right is high school principal Barry Spencer.

President sees district "in the lead" in education reform

By Traci Canning
Times Herald Staff

President George Bush opened the school year in the Norristown Area High School auditorium this morning, offering his support of educational reforms in the district and providing a report card on his accomplishments as America's "education president."

More than 2,700 students and invited guests filed through metal detectors and waited nearly two hours for the president to offer a 25-minute address outlining his thoughts on the changing needs in American education.

He said now that the threat of nuclear war is over, America needs to turn its attention to its children.

"The world has changed and so must our schools," said Bush. "America is responding to this charge."

And he hailed Norristown ed-

"I have come to Norristown because you have accepted my challenge to re-invent American schools."

President Bush

ucators as agents of that change.

Bush lauded the school district for its work in the Greater Norristown 2000 program, a local offshoot of the national America 2000 program initiated by the president last year to reform education before the millennium.

"I have come to Norristown because you have accepted my challenge to re-invent American schools," said Bush. "Norristown is in the lead but you're not alone."

Bush said nearly 700 schools across the country have signed on to his "revolution in American education."

He went on to say that the new challenge in learning is to seek creativity and innovation as well as increased federal and state funding.

"If you think money alone will re-invent our schools, think again,"

See **BUSH** On Page 8

To our readers

Publication of today's edition was delayed so that we could offer our readers comprehensive coverage of President Bush's visit to Norristown Area High School.

Bush

Continued from Page 1

Bush explained, adding that the president's educational system is based on outmoded principals. "Our schools were basically designed for another age."

The Norristown program forged a joint venture between the district and the business community called the Business Industry School Partnership Program (BISPP), which is designed to implement educational goals outlined by the president.

Bush said Norristown's efforts are in line with his ambitious national goals for the year 2000.

Those goals include being able "to slam-dunk the rest of the world in math and science."

Other goals are a 90 percent high school graduation rate; ensuring that children will be free to study in drug- and violence-free schools; and striving for 100 percent adult literacy.

The aspirations of the Greater Norristown 2000 program provide the flip side for a district wrought with fiscal woes.

Bush reiterated his support of the school choice voucher program, calling it a G.I. bill for America's young.

The president said nearly two-thirds of Norristown district students would be eligible for \$1,000 scholarships under his program and the district itself would be entitled to another \$6 million in federal funding with no strings attached.

"I think every parent has the right to choose the school that's right for their children," said Bush. "Most parents would choose public schools."

"I trust parents, not government, to do the right thing (when it comes to their children's education)."

The 1992-93 Norristown budget season saw the school board approve a \$52 million spending plan which nonetheless eliminated more than 70 district positions from the payroll and hacked extracurricular activities from the district roster.

Additional austerity measures included the implementation of a \$10 student activity fee and a recommendation that varsity football players next year foot the bill for their own insurance.

But John Gould, assistant superintendent of curriculum, sees the budgetary problems as a

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QUAYLE
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symptom of a larger problem. He believes those problems could be solved through restructuring such as outlined in HOLOS.

"It is symptomatic of having to refinance the old system," Gould said. "These cutbacks will continue until we restructure. The old model doesn't work."

After his address to Norristown Area School District students, the Bush entourage was scheduled to make a stop at the Uniform Tube Inc. in Trappe for a question-and-answer session with workers.

In addition to holding the blue collar quiz session, Bush was expected to commend the company on its work in continuing education and training for its employees.

Today's visit marks the first time Bush has visited Central Montgomery County as president; however, he has made visits to Norristown in his former capacity of vice president, most notably for a spaghetti dinner at the home of supporters Bob and Teresa DeAngelis in the East End of Norristown.

After his remarks at the Trappe factory, Bush was scheduled to fly

to Middleton, N.J.

Bush yesterday announced that he wanted Congress to appropriate \$7.6 billion for cleanup and rebuilding in Florida and Louisiana in the aftermath and Hurricane Andrew as well as for Guam, which suffered typhoon damage last week.

And during an appearance in Washington, D.C., Bush reversed his earlier position on loan guarantees to Israel, telling the B'Nai B'rith he planned to formally ask Congress for more than \$10 billion to house immigrants.

Israel needs the guarantees to obtain bank loans for housing and helping settle nearly 500,000 Jews who have come to Israel since the gates of the former Soviet Union were opened to emigration.

He opposed the plan for months, but yesterday said, "Don't let any member of Congress tell you we can't afford this."

Bush also acknowledged that "consideration has been given" to a sale of 72 F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia.

GOP faithful embrace their standard bearer

By Margaret Gibbons
Times Herald Staff

The chairman of the Bill Clinton-Al Gore campaign in Montgomery County today found himself in an unusual position - as a guest invited to witness President Bush's visit to Norristown Area High School.

"I know it's ironic, but I can appreciate the visit of the president of the United States to our county, and I accepted the invitation as a county commissioner," said Democratic commissioner Joseph M. Hoeffel III.

Hoeffel was recently named chairman of the Clinton-Gore campaign in Montgomery County, and was a Clinton delegate at the July Democratic National Convention in New York.

While calling Bush's visit a "great experience for the school

"This visit by a sitting president creates the enthusiasm we need."

Jane B. Markley
County clerk of courts

kids," Hoeffel is not about to abandon his political loyalty.

In a county where Republicans outnumber Democrats two-to-one, Hoeffel says he believes the presidential race will be very close in Montgomery County, unlike four years ago, when Bush thumped Dukakis by a margin of 170,294-109,834.

"(Clinton's) moderate vision of government services and his program for economic recovery and job training is a message that plays strongly with the suburban swing

votes," Hoeffel said.

But Hoeffel's comments were in the minority today as most of the other invited guests at the West Norriton high school were Republicans.

County clerk of courts Jane B. Markley said she believes today's visit by Bush will give county Republicans that "added boost" needed for the fall campaign.

"This visit by a sitting president creates the enthusiasm we need," said Markley.

Markley predicted that Bush will "take" the county in November "but we (Republicans) will all have to work hard to insure that victory."

Going one step further and predicting that Bush will win the state was self-proclaimed "Bush cheerleader" county commissioner chairman Mario Mele.

"I am that much of a believer in our president and his policies to predict he will do superbly in this state," Mele said.

Mele's strong support for Bush placed him at odds last month with county GOP chairman Charles F. Nahill Jr., when Mele blasted Nahill for his alleged lack of enthusiasm for the president.

Nahill said last month that, given the economy and Bush's position in the polls, he was not as enthusiastic about the presidential campaign as he once was. Instead, he said, he would concentrate his efforts on local and state Republican candidates.

"President Bush definitely will do well," said county controller Richard Buckman, whose wife, Gail, is a Montgomery County Bush-Quayle campaign coordinator.

"People here will be working a lot harder than they did for Dick Thornburgh," he said.

For many, a special first day

By Regina Panetta
Times Herald Staff

Students arriving at Norristown Area High School today had a lot more to talk about than summer vacation.

Aside from teachers, support staff and high school administrators, students were greeted by police with guard dogs, metal detectors and sharply dressed Secret Service agents.

What a way to start the first day of school.

Then again, it's not every day that the President of the United States drops in to say hello.

"The eyes of the entire world will be on us today," high school principal Barry Spencer said over the school's public address system. "I ask you to do everything in your power to make Norristown High proud."

Outside the high school gymnasium, where the president was expected to address 2,700 spectators on his America 2000 education reforms, students checking press credentials discussed Bush's visit.

"It will be interesting to hear what the president has to say," said 17-year-old Robin Leibowitz, a senior from East Norriton and a

member of the Eagle News school communications center. "I'm not used to this happening at Norristown High School. This is great for the school."

Another Eagle News member, senior Sarah Toas, 17, of Norristown, described Bush's visit as both an honor and a disruption to the first day of classes.

Toas wanted to know where Bush's education dollars were going.

"I heard federal monies were increased for education but it seems we've had a lot of cuts in our school," Toas said. "We lost a lot of teachers this year and students may suffer because of the cuts."

Other students waiting to get to their homeroom classes at 7:30 a.m. gave Bush mixed reviews.

"I heard (the president was coming) on the news and I almost flipped out," said senior Tricia Runkle, 18, of Norristown. "My homeroom teacher called me last night to verify it."

"Yeah, it's surprising (that the president's visiting) but I think he's looking for votes because there are a lot of people who are 18 in high school," added 16-year-old junior Karen Strauss of Norristown.

Special education teacher Max Geisler of Trappe thought Bush's visit reflected the district's education efforts.

"I think the district should be honored by his presence," Geisler said. "I think it shows respect for the efforts this district has been making to re-evaluate itself and prepare our students for the 21st century."

Geisler was not as enthusiastic, however, about Bush's stance on education.

"I don't think his policies are supportive of public schools," he said.

Left with precious little time to plan for President Bush's arrival, high school staff members were out in force by 7 a.m. today.

Many carried portable radios and scurried through the halls trying to coordinate the first-day rush of students with the anticipated influx of invited guests.

"We've only known about it three days. We started working on it two

days ago," Spencer said on his way to the forum, an open area between the academic building and the gymnasium.

Despite the frenetic pace throughout the school, the anticipation mounted as the hour drew near for Bush's arrival.

"The decision of President Bush to come to Norristown Area High School is a tribute to all of the students, teachers, administrators and parents who have worked so hard to be innovative and industrious," high school vice president Irena Sandler said.

By 8 a.m. today, Secret Service agents and West Norriton police had flanked one of two entrances to the high school gymnasium.

At least six television news vans were stationed in the parking lot by the forum, along with police and firefighting vehicles.

Part of the parking lot near the gymnasium was sealed off with police tape for the anticipated 150 to 300 invited guests.

The remaining spectators would comprise the entire high school student body and eighth graders from district middle schools.

Inside the school, talk of Bush's visit could be heard in the halls from the cafeteria to the principal's office.

Data entry clerk Rose Clark began fielding telephone calls the minute the front switchboard opened at 7:15 a.m.

"They've been crazy," said Clark of East Norriton Township. "I'd say nine (calls) for the president and one for the first day of school."

A line of emergency telephone cables snaked its way from the forum area inside the brightly lit gymnasium, where a row of television cameras and seats for the White House press corps lined the rear of the building.

Both sets of bleachers were extended and there were over 600 folding chairs set up on the gymnasium floor.

Set up behind the podium where the president was to speak was a mural depicting an outdoor school scene with the high school in the background and books and school supplies moving toward it as through space.

The mural was created by Valley Forge Convention Plaza complex art director Christine Kerrick of West Chester, who was hired by the Bush/Quayle advance team.



Bill Landis Photos/The Times Herald
Bush and schools superintendent Dr. James N. Holton share a laugh before the president's speech.

Cloak of security encircles this VIP

By Dana Smith
Times Herald Staff

The yellow school buses were strategically placed by a side entrance.

Uniformed police officers manned every door, while men in suits continually checked the building inside and out.

Providing security for a presidential visit is no simple task.

"The logistics of the whole thing — it's just overwhelming to deal with," said West Norriton Township Police Lt. Joseph Boccella. "This is the first time for something of this magnitude."

George Bush's appearance at Norristown Area High School today meant a collaboration of huge proportions among law enforcement from the federal, state and local levels.

The visit — which totalled about

45 minutes — went off with only a few minor incidents.

Planning began on Labor Day, when White House staff and Secret Service agents met with township police at the high school. While local officers knew the basics about the visit, they weren't filled in on many details.

"The secret service is very definitively vague," Boccella said early today outside the high school. "Right up to the last second, nothing was very definitive. We had to plan for everything."

The game plan once the president arrived was not a complex one — local police would handle duties outside the building, while federal agents took care of any up-close work.

But working toward the 11:43 a.m. arrival of the motorcade started some six hours earlier.

See **SECURE** On Page 9

Secure

Continued from Page 1

when West Norriton police met at the department's mobile command post set up in the parking lot.

Five yellow school buses were set up parallel to a building entrance nearest Burnside Avenue. They weren't there for show — the buses blocked the line of vision of the president from some homes across the field.

Inside, Secret Service agents closed the gymnasium at 8:15 while a bomb-sniffing dog searched for any explosives. Their "sweep" of rooms throughout the high school continued until the president's arrival, with each room sealed off after it was inspected.

Around 9:05 a.m., the district's middle school students began arriving. Less than a half hour later, some of the nearly 300 invited guests began lining up at a table where their name was checked off.

"The idea is in some way to restrict it so that just anybody doesn't walk in," said Payson W. Burt, president of the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

The system wasn't totally fool-proof, as an East Norriton resident apparently grabbed a pass when no one was looking and entered the building. The man, who police said has a history of mental prob-

lems, was escorted from the building and left the area without a problem.

Before anyone entered the gymnasium, they were shuffled through one of four metal detectors. Handbags were searched and passes for invited guests were checked.

The first alert of the day occurred when a woman who did not have a pass tried to get inside. She was immediately turned away, but allowed to stay on the premises.

Louise Lantonio of Allentown said she told the agents she just wanted to catch a glimpse of a politician she's supported for years.

Shortly after 10 a.m., a couple hundred supporters of Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton arrived and staked out a large portion of the spectator area.

"The police asked us to cooperate with them and the secret service and stand behind police lines," said John Meyerson, who works for the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1776 in Plymouth Township. "I usually do have a problem with that since it's public property."

Once the motorcade arrived, police coverage tightened. Police from Plymouth and East Norriton escorted the caravan through their communities once it left the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Norristown exit.

"They want every single street shut down for the whole route,"

Boccella said.

Two police cars led the line of vehicles, with one black limousine driving ahead of the car containing Bush. He was quickly ushered into a side door of the gymnasium, where he began speaking about 15 minutes later.

Shortly after the president arrived, a man who said he was a veteran charged toward the motorcade. He was quickly apprehended by several police officers.

Boccella said the man would be detained until the president left, and would probably be released without being charged.

From Norristown, the president and his motorcade traveled to Uniform Tube Inc. in Collegeville, where Bush was scheduled to address employees and company officials.

Then it was off to Perkiomen Valley Airport, where a helicopter was to take him to another appearance in New Jersey in the early afternoon.

Airport owner Lane Jubb said the president's staff contacted him a few days ago and asked permission to use the facility off Collegeville Road in Skippack Township.

Although Jubb figured he wouldn't meet Bush personally, he was happy for the recognition his small airport will receive.

"I don't think we ever had a president up here," Jubb said. "It might put us on the map a little bit."

Both Bush and Clinton stressing their past domestic achievements

The Associated Press

President Bush is struggling to persuade voters he is as devoted to domestic issues as to international affairs, while warning that his foreign policy gains will be wasted if Bill Clinton becomes commander-in-chief.

Bush was trying today to reclaim the mantle of the "education president," traveling to Pennsylvania to sell his America 2000 schools program and praise a manufacturing company's adult education classes.

Bush's recent adherence to a daily theme is part of new campaign overseer James A. Baker III's attempts to focus the president's message.

Republicans spent the day yesterday demanding that Clinton "come clean" on his Vietnam-era draft status, suggesting he wasn't decisive enough to lead during an international crisis and ridiculing him for incorrectly describing Patriot missiles.

An ABC News-Washington Post poll released last night showed Bush gaining ground but with Clinton still 12 points ahead. Clinton had 53 percent support compared with Bush's 41 percent in a poll of 621 likely voters. The Sept. 2-6 telephone survey had a margin of error of 4.5 percentage points. A week ago, the same poll showed Clinton and Bush at 56-36.

Clinton also was focusing on domestic issues today — his campaign strength — after speaking via satellite to the B'nai B'rith convention that Bush addressed yesterday.

The Democratic nominee left Connecticut and New York to tour his native South today, where he would discuss welfare reform in Jonesboro, Ga., and address the Southern Baptist Convention and a town hall meeting in Jacksonville, Fla.

Clinton made a nostalgic visit yesterday to Yale Law School, drawing rousing applause from students at his alma mater. One student who held up a Bush-Quayle sign was roundly booed, but the Arkansas governor urged

his supporters to stop.

"Academic freedom," he said with a grin. "Even at Yale you have the right to be wrong."

At Pennsylvania's Norristown High School, Bush was to discuss his America 2000 plan for improving the nation's education system by the turn of the century. The plan seeks to make American pupils the world's best in math and science and reduce the dropout rate to 10 percent while giving parents wider choice in choosing public or private schools.

Aides said the president also would highlight other education initiatives his administration has pushed, such as the Lifelong Learning Act legislation he submitted to Congress last March. That proposal would widen access for adult workers to grants for continuing education.

Later, in Collegeville, Pa., Bush was visiting Uniform Tubes Inc., a manufacturer and exporter of precision tubing used in industry. He planned to conduct an "Ask George Bush" session, taking questions from employees and their families.

Not coincidentally, Uniform Tubes has adopted a program it calls UTI 2000, which Bush aides say is the company's response to the president's America 2000 initiative. UTI's in-house program provides employees with supervisory and basic educational training to help them advance in the company.

Clinton's running mate, Al Gore, toured Texas' Rio Grande Valley, where he pleaded with largely Hispanic crowds to help sway Bush's adopted home state to the Democratic ticket.

Before B'nai B'rith, Clinton would likely take the defense, after Bush told the Jewish service organization that Israel would not have been as safe in the Persian Gulf war if Clinton had been president.

"Ask yourself where we would be if we had someone in the Oval Office who would have waffled, who would have wavered and wanted to have it both ways," said Bush.

The Bush campaign, intent on its theme that Americans cannot trust a small-state governor to lead the nation's foreign policy, seized on Clinton's comment yesterday that the Patriot missiles used in the Persian Gulf War "go through doors or down chimneys."

Clinton apparently was thinking of warplane camera footage showing laser-guided bombs entering ventilation shafts in Baghdad and reports that some bombs struck aircraft hangar doorways. Patriot missiles are used to shoot down other missiles.

"He's shown his complete ignorance about even the most fundamental defense system," said Bush campaign spokeswoman Torie Clarke.



West Norriton police Lt. Joseph Boccella (in white shirt) gives instructions to the township's police officers early today in the high school parking lot. Gene Walsh/The Times Herald

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Collegeville, Pennsylvania)

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT IN
ADDRESS TO THE NORRISTOWN AREA HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Norristown High School
Norristown, Pennsylvania

12:00 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you so much. Thank you, Dr. Holton. And may I congratulate our Superintendent for his leadership on America 2000 and on the job he's doing for the whole school system in this area. Good morning to everybody; it's great to be back in Pennsylvania on this first day of school. Any excuse to get out of class -- I know. And here you all are. Thanks for greeting me. And may I salute the man you heard from a minute ago -- Secretary Alexander, Lamar Alexander. He's come to Washington after great experience in education and in government, and leading us all with this marvelous America 2000 program. We owe him a great vote of thanks, and I'm very pleased to have him with us. (Applause.)

And another old friend is with us today, the Congressman from this district, Larry Coughlin, who is leaving the Congress after marvelous service. But he came in with us.

Larry, do you want to stand up there? (Applause.)

And may I thank all involved with this; particularly Principal Barry Spencer, who has done a great job on all the arrangements and are making these facilities available. Josh Lippy, the President of the Student Council -- I salute him as a student leader. And I should add, welcome back to school. I hope you had a great summer. And out here in the audience are not just students, but members of the Chamber of Commerce, Payson Burt and others that are taking a leadership role. The Class of 2000 -- I salute them -- all of you, these participants who got up and read those education goals. I thought they did a first-class job. Not a nervous one in the bunch. (Applause.) And I salute all the volunteers -- the volunteers that make it happen as we try to reform education. I'll get to the teachers in a minute.

I'm told that many of you were nervous this week. Tensions rising about the big event. Wondering how you'll handle all the attention. Well, I'm here to put your fears at rest. I know you'll do great against North Penn Friday night. (Applause.)

You know, I want to just give a serious talk this morning. You know, our world has been through a lot of change in the past few years. When my kids were the age of the kids in this room today, they used to practice nuclear disaster drills. The alarms would go off, and they would all crawl under the desks and wait. This happened all across the country, all across many countries.

That doesn't happen anymore. As a parent and as a grandparent, I am glad that American kids can grow up in the sunshine of peace. And we ought to be grateful for that as a nation. (Applause.)

But now that the Cold War is over, the challenge before our nation is to win the peace. To guarantee that America in the

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21st century will be not just a military superpower, but also an export superpower, an economic superpower.

That's just a fancy way of saying that when you grow up, you deserve the chance to have a good job, and live a better life than your parents and grandparents. And you should live the American Dream.

That's why I'm here this morning, to talk about how we can build what you need and deserve -- the very best schools in the entire world.

Now, I admit, education is not usually found on the front page of the newspaper, or at the top of the evening news -- but it is the solution for most of what you do see there. As a President and as a grandparent, my loyalty lies with young people. Kids like these fifth graders -- who did such a fantastic job laying out these national education goals this morning.

In the year 2000, these fifth graders will graduate from high school. And they will have changed so much, we will barely be able to recognize them. I want the schools from which they graduate to have changed so much, that we won't be able to recognize them, either.

Four years ago, I said I wanted to lead a revolution in American education. And today, I come before you to report -- the revolution is underway.

As President, my job is to set the agenda, and mobilize the nation. And I'm proud that the goals the students read this morning are the very first education goals in our nation's history. They were created by all the governors -- Republicans and Democrats alike -- and are being embraced by parents, by teachers, by business and community leaders -- in town after town, city after city, all across America. Politics is being laid aside, a revolution in education is taking place. And if he were here today, I'd shake his hand and salute the Governor of this state, who is holding out his hand to all who want to see America 2000 succeed. He's been a real leader, and we are grateful to him for that -- Governor Casey. (Applause.)

I have come to Norristown because you accepted my challenge to reinvent American schools. And again, I salute the Principal and the Superintendent. Norristown is in the lead -- but you're not alone. Today, 1,700 communities -- in every single state -- have adopted the vision of what we call "America 2000." Seventeen hundred communities have drawn lines in the sand of the future that reads -- "Our children must be number one."

The federal government should do more than offer congratulations, and we are matching our words with action -- as we promised.

You've heard about our first goal -- making sure every student arrives at school ready to learn. For the first time, every eligible four-year-old who wants a Head Start on kindergarten can get one. We have asked for record increases in investment for math and science education -- to help train teachers. That is consistent with goal number four that was read here -- math and science excellence. And I bet you were proud to watch the Olympics, and see Jordan and Ewing and Malone slam dunk the opposition. By the year 2000, I want you -- our young people -- to be able to slam dunk the rest of the world in math and science. And we can do it. (Applause.)

Goal number five is to guarantee a skilled, literate work force. My opponent accuses me of cutting education spending. That's just flat wrong. I have proposed record increases in education funding -- and during my four years, federal investments in

MORE

education have increased at a more rapid rate than state and local funding.

But if you think that money alone will reinvent our schools -- think again. As a nation, only Switzerland -- only Switzerland spends more per student on elementary and secondary education. This doesn't mean we should not make new investments, it means we cannot spend our money on the old way of doing things.

Our schools were basically designed for another age -- a hundred years ago. A world of Model T cars, in which toasters and flashlights were a big deal. A world in which most clothes were made at home -- imagine -- a world without the King of Prussia Mall! (Laughter.) Hard to believe.

But today, if you apply for a summer job in a car factory, they'll ask you if you can handle mathematics, estimation and spatial relations, things your mom and dad just didn't have to know. And other things have changed. It's tougher being a parent, tougher being a teacher, and my grandkids tell me -- it's pretty tough being a kid these days.

The world has changed, and so must our schools.

You don't have to look far for new ideas. Teachers, school board members, parents, business leaders -- all are fountains of innovation. They represent the true genius of America -- and we must encourage them. Right now, as we gather today, America is responding to this charge. Really, four revolutions are underway.

First, we are in the process of creating hundreds of what we call "Break-The-Mold" schools -- schools that reject the status quo. For example, a school where students attend all year round. Now, I challenged America to come up with ideas for these schools, and Norristown was one of 700 communities that responded. I applaud you for your energy. I applaud you for your creativity.

Revolution number two has to do with what we teach in our schools. We must demand more of you, so that you can compete in the world economy. Your math teachers are already relying on new, world-class standards, and you are learning more than your older brothers and sisters. By the time today's fifth graders enter high school, we will have new standards in science, history, English, geography, civics and the arts.

And to support these standards, we will have a national examination system -- and I call it the American achievement tests, so that parents can know how our kids and our schools are doing.

The third revolution involves a very important person -- your teacher. If I can ask a favor, since this is the first day of school, I assume none of you have received any tests back yet. So let's take advantage of the good feeling, and say thanks to all the teachers in this room. They are making a difference in your life -- and we should applaud them. And I'd like to ask them to stand up -- all the teachers here. (Applause.) Thank you all very much.

When your teachers -- let me make this point to the students -- when your teachers chose their career, they did it because they love learning, and they love helping you to live up to your potential. They certainly didn't do it for self-gain; they did it to help someone else.

Not long ago, as part of my America 2000 effort, I met with some teachers up in Lehigh Valley, and I asked them what was their biggest problem. I thought they might talk about a lack of money, or discipline, or the drug problem. But they instead talked about all the paperwork and regulations -- about getting state government off their back.

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I cannot do much about Harrisburg, but this week Congress will consider my legislation to give teachers more flexibility in using federal funds, as long as they achieve results. Congress wants to give flexibility to just 300 schools, I want to give it to all 110,000 schools. We've got to relieve these teachers of federally-mandated paperwork requirements. (Applause.) I trust the teachers, not the government, to do what's right for our students.

There's one final revolution underway -- I think every parent should have the right to choose the school they want for their children.

Not long ago, I was talking with a Milwaukee parent -- she and her kid came to the Roosevelt Room right outside of the Oval Office in the White House. Her name -- Janette Williams. She told me her son Javon went to a crowded school, teachers couldn't pay attention to him. He was so bored, he'd just go home halfway through the day. And then Milwaukee gave some parents the right to choose new schools for their kids. And today, this kid Javon is doing his homework, attending all his classes, even helping clean up around the classroom.

I want to hear more stories like that. My G.I. Bill For Kids would give \$1,000 scholarships to children of middle-and low-income families that they can use to spend on any school of their choice. Most parents would choose public schools, but every parent should be able to choose any school -- public, private, or religious. (Applause.)

Right here in Norristown, almost 6,000 kids -- about two-thirds of the school population -- would be eligible for this \$1,000 scholarship. Norristown would receive another \$6 million in new federal funds -- not controlled by bureaucrats, but parents and teachers. And when it comes to choosing schools -- I trust parents -- not the government -- to do the right thing. (Applause.)

So these are the four revolutions in American education. "Break-The Mold" Schools. New standards. Getting government off the teacher's backs. And giving parents real choice.

Together, these revolutions will change our schools. When these fifth graders come back to visit Miss Ritter and Mrs. Bieler in eight years, they will marvel at how small the desks are, and how they have to stoop way over to use the water fountain. But as they look and listen to the school around them, they will say -- everything else has changed.

Now, as some of you may have heard, there's an election in about 55 days. So, before I leave you this morning, I want to take just a moment, and contrast my education vision with the opponent's. I want to be fair. When I convened the national education summit -- I mentioned it earlier in this speech about -- with the governors present, most of the governors attended. Governor Clinton's role was constructive; he helped to set these national education goals. And I commend him for that.

However, the facts tell the story about his own record. In 1980, Arkansas ranked 47th in the percentage of adults with high school diplomas, now 48th. Today, they're dead last -- in the percentage of adults with college degrees.

But that's not the real issue -- the real issue is what kind of education president would my opponent be.

And in this campaign -- Governor Clinton has spent a lot of time courting the education establishment, teachers unions leaders, and the liberal Congress. These people fear change. Look at the education before Congress today. They really don't want to

spend more money on education, they want to spend it on the same old system. I wish fixing our schools was that easy, it is not.

A President's job is to set a path -- and insist that the nation sticks to it. But Governor Clinton is in with the crowd who say "no" to break-the-mold schools, "no" to higher standards, "no" to less regulation, and "no" to my G.I. Bill for Kids. Here's the difference between me and my opponent. He has told the education establishment what they want to hear -- and I will continue to tell them -- what America needs to hear. (Applause.)

You hear a lot of talk about change in this election. But ultimately, change isn't what you say, it is what you do. With your help and the help of millions of other Americans, we have set the forces in motion, to literally revolutionize the way we prepare our young people. And I hope you will give me the opportunity to finish the revolution.

To the parents, teachers, community leaders, and students participating in Norristown 2000, I say "thank you." You are writing a better chapter in the history of America's next generation.

Thanks for listening. And may God Bless each and every one of you, the State of Pennsylvania and The United States of America. Thank you very much. (Applause.)

END

12:20 P.M. EDT

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary
(Collegeville, Pennsylvania)

For Immediate Release

September 9, 1992

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
IN "ASK GEORGE BUSH" QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION
WITH EMPLOYEES OF UNIFORM TUBES, INC.

Uniform Tubes, Inc.
Collegeville, Pennsylvania

12:55 P.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Listen, it's a pleasure to be here. Thank you all very much. Welcome to the Phil Donahue Show. (Laughter.) I feel like that, sitting out here. But let me just thank Bruce, all that greeted us, all of you involved in this wonderful company, and all who, particularly, have participated in this education approach. As I look at the country and look at the problems facing us, we're in a transition period. We've been through economic hell in this country. We're poised, in my view, for a decent and strong recovery. But always at the bottom of this is education for the future.

One of the reasons we are so strongly in support of America 2000 is, it trains people for the future. They have this thing -- no one is too old to learn. Well, so to demonstrate that, Lamar Alexander, our Secretary of Education, who is with me suggested about a year ago that I learn to run a computer. I'm trying to kill him for that, but nevertheless I use it all the time, and it does -- I think it does help demonstrate that nobody's too darn old to learn.

Similarly, we're in a mobile economy, and our whole health care reform proposal talks about people being able to move, take their health care with them if they move into another challenging area.

So I just wanted to salute you. I'm pleased to be at this company that's taken the lead in education. It offers everything for the future. We've got to do new ways. We can't go back to the same old ways that the schools have been run forever. And I'm going to keep pushing for the America 2000 education program, meeting these six educational goals. They're not Democrat or Republican. The Governor of this state has been terribly supportive of this program, and it's one that I don't have to go to Congress for a lot of it -- I've got to go to Congress for some of it -- but a lot can be done right at the company level or the school level.

So I'm glad to be here for that reason and many others. And I see this guy's teeshirt. I'll do it tomorrow -- "I'd rather be fishing." He's right. He's onto something. (Laughter.) But for 55 days they won't let me do anything like that. No more fishing. I've got to get to work here. And I'm looking forward to the next few days to take this kind of message to the country.

Now, I don't know how we proceed, but fire away on questions. Shoot.

Q Good morning, Mr. President. What assurances can you give the American people that you'll be more effective working with Congress in your next term?

MORE

THE PRESIDENT: Good question. I have been criticizing Congress as the gridlocked Congress. People on the other side are talking about change. The one institution that hasn't changed in 38 years is this Congress that can't run a two-bit bank or a two-bit post office. So I've had my battles with them. We've gotten some things done.

We've got a good program on the child care, for example, on the ADA, which is bringing the disabled into the mainstream. But the assurance -- and it's a very important question -- people don't want gridlock. And the assurance comes from the fact there are going to be at least 100 -- maybe as many as 150 -- new members of Congress that have to do what I have to do -- go out into the neighborhoods, go out into companies like this, take your case to the people, and listen to the people. And I think the kind of changes that people want are the kind that I stand for.

And so what I've said I'll do is take these new members when they get here -- heck with the party -- bring them into the White House and say, let's get these things done: health care reform, Education 2000, whatever the priorities are that come out of this election -- and education and health care.

I also happen to think -- I see these police officers on the line -- I'm fighting for a stronger anticrime bill. And it's been -- literally -- now, this is not making excuses -- it's been bottled up in Congress ever since I've become President. And my case now is, take it to the people, then if the people support my approach to tougher law enforcement for the neighborhoods, remind the members of Congress when they come there, and say, look, this is what the people want. That's the good thing about a four-year election cycle. So, sit with the new members, try to get it done. And I think we can.

Come on, you guys. Here we are. Sir?

Q Being a -- to and a proponent of the American worker, what steps has your administration taken to not -- the Overseas Private Investment Corporation -- OPIC?

THE PRESIDENT: We're taking steps to fund it. Because I think when you create more export market, OPIC -- and that's exactly what it does -- you create more jobs in this country. In this sick and anemic economy, which, incidentally, has grown for the last five -- hey, just a minute, I haven't finished yet -- (laughter) -- but, no, really, what it does, OPIC secures American -- that are selling abroad. And that is what we need. It creates more domestic jobs. So I'm strongly for OPIC. It's done a very good job. And more and more American products are being sold because of investments like that.

Q Mr. President, my question is: What personal message would you like to deliver to the former employees of companies like Allied Tank and Anchor Glass -- local people who have lost their jobs due to plant closings during your tenure in office?

THE PRESIDENT: I'd say we've been caught in a very tough economic time. And we've got to move forward now with incentives to stimulate the economy. If we had had this investment tax allowance, I believe a lot of companies that aren't in business would be in business. I believe it would have stimulated investment.

I happen to believe that the credit for first-time homebuyers that's hung up in this gridlocked Congress would have helped the housing industry. I don't know whether any of these companies sell to that. And some of them are talking about change. We're actually in an outmoded process is being replaced by something new. There, you've got to do what this company is

doing, and what I'm proposing on better education. So it's a combination of all three of these areas.

But let me say this on the economy: It is lousy. We know that. We've been trying to stimulate it. And we're in a global recession. It's not just the United States. Take a look at Canada. Take a look at England and France and Germany. It has been too long.

I do think, with interest rates down, with inflation down, with a Misery Index which reached 21.9 percent under the last time we had a Democrat president and a Democrat House -- Congress, down now to around 10 percent, we should be able to recover and recover well. But you've got to do these things we're talking about.

yes, sir, in the back.

Q My question, Mr. President, is also referencing to Education Secretary Alexander, and I'm glad he's here. He refers to the many educational entrepreneurships as "sort of defense contractors of the school industry." If there are successes with these programs, what incentives will our communities have to accept them?

THE PRESIDENT: I'm not sure -- where's Lamar? I'm not sure I've heard him --

Do you want to comment on what you've said and then let me try to fill in on the rest of it? Because I'm not sure I've heard him use that expression --

SECRETARY ALEXANDER: He asks about the -- I made a reference to the design teams for the New American Schools Development Corporation that you created which are -- there were 700 applications for that, and 11 were selected. They're going into the business of helping communities create very different schools. The question was: What are the incentives for them?

The incentives for them are the same incentives, Mr. President, that the defense contractors have. What we spend on elementary and secondary education is about exactly the same amount of money in America that we spend on national defense. And defense is going down and education is going up. So those businesses have the opportunity if they wish to be for-profit -- most of them are not, but if they wish to be -- of helping school districts in states improve the management of their schools. Now, that would be --

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very much.

What we're talking about here, for those not familiar, is this whole concept of literally revolutionizing the schools. Lots has changed in this country. Employees -- work on the floor has changed. A lot of things has changed. Defense has changed. But the schools -- elementary and secondary -- schools literally have not had fundamental change. So when we talk about the New American Schools, we're talking about letting the communities come together -- private end of it, teachers and all -- and reinvent the schools. Some are going to want year-round schools, some are going to want to have smaller classes, some larger, some different plant and equipment. And we're just challenging the whole system to radically think anew about education.

We spend more on education per capita than any country except Switzerland. And I don't believe a single parent can say that they're happy with the total results. We're grateful to the teachers, but we're not happy with the total results coming out of these schools. And so we've got to do what we're talking about in this whole concept of New American Schools. Some -- we need some support from Congress.

MORE

Fortunately, much of it can be done as Pennsylvania 2000 is doing. Again, I cite your Governor, I cite the Chamber of Commerce, I thank companies like this who are literally saying, well, we're going to get the job done. So they go out and invent and innovate, and from that we're going to -- other places will learn.

Q Mr. President, in your campaign you talk of the importance of family values, which I agree with. My question is, what role, if any, the government is planning to take in assisting and/or encouraging the country to get back to these values that we've lost sight of?

THE PRESIDENT: You know, the opposition wants me to get off talking about family values. We had the mayors of the largest cities in the country -- you know, Mayor Bradley of Los Angeles -- and some of the smallest -- mayors of the League of Cities. They came in, they said the largest concern we have for the cities, the problems of the cities, stems from the decline of the American family.

What we're trying to do is change the welfare system, for example, so people have to work if they're going to get a welfare check -- or, as in Wisconsin, have to learn -- try to get learning and work involved in that. What we're trying to do is give choice in child care or in education so people can choose where their children want to go to school.

But when we talk about family values, it isn't all what the federal government can do. A lot of it is things like Barbara tries to do when she holds a little kid and teaches -- shows compassion, or when she works for the volunteer reading program to show that parents ought to read to their kids.

I think we've gotten away from some of these fundamentals. I think discipline is one. I think respect for the police officers that are out there risking their lives for us every single day is a family value. (Applause.) And so, you know -- and that leads to the kind of crime legislation we're supporting.

So it is not demagoguery, it is not suggesting -- I was on a thing with Tom Brokaw the other night. Bill Clinton was on there before me. He said, are you trying to say you think you and Barbara's family is better than the Clinton family? I said, absolutely not. That's not what we're talking about at all. We're talking about the fabric of our society. We're talking about something that we've taken for granted for years. And that is that it's the family around which everything good happens in the community.

We're not criticizing single mothers. As I told him on that same show, my daughter was one until she got married. She's now married again, very happy. But it isn't trying to be critical of someone else, it's simply trying to identify with what the strength of our country is, and then instead of tearing it down, build it up and find ways to improve it.

So we're going to stay on it. The liberals hate it. They are all over me in these editorials, and I'm going to keep right on it. Because it is right to try to find ways to help the family -- whether it's financial help or whether it's just the moral backing of the President of the United States. (Applause.)

Q I'd like to know what your point of view is on if you're planning to focus more on domestic issues and keep more of our money at home so you support this? (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: The answer is -- you don't want us to give you a long speech on it. But when you -- about -- I don't know how long ago you were in grade school, but maybe you had to, as everybody else did -- my kids did -- go under, climb

under the desks to worry about some drill against nuclear war. That has dramatically changed. Because we kicked Saddam Hussein, the United States is the sole leader around the world. We are now a military superpower; we've got to stay one. We're an economic superpower, in spite of the lousiness of our economy. And we've got to be an export superpower.

So as I see it now, with freedom and democracy on the march -- and I would like to get some credit for that, give plenty of credit to predecessor, I might add -- with Germany reunited, democracy moving in South America, Eastern Europe, these great ethnic areas free -- Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia -- that's done. So we can do what I mentioned back here, sell more abroad, but now we've got to use this same energy to change things at home. And I believe we can get the job done because of what I answered this, on the new Congress.

But the answer is not to turn inward. I may have a difference with you on this. I believe the freer trade we've got, the more jobs that means for America. You take -- some are opposing me on the North American Free Trade Agreement, saying it will cost auto jobs. Not so. It will increase the amount of auto jobs we have because we have the most productive workers in the world. Interest rates go into a decision as to whether you put plants abroad or have them here. They are at a all-time low.

So I really don't want to see us turn in. But I do want to see us solve these domestic problems of education, of jobs, of crime and whatever it is. So that's the philosophy that I'm bringing to it and that I'll be talking about out in Detroit tomorrow in a rather long and, but I hope, comprehensive speech.

Yes, sir.

Q Good afternoon, Mr. President. I would like to ask you -- is there anymore that you could do about the moral issues that's messing with our country? I'm talking about racism as in the Rodney King incident. And I'm talking about abortion, and as you see that that's getting out of hand. And I'm talking about the drug situation -- the war. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Very good question. In the first place -- first place, racism, anti-Semitism have no place in this country. And I think a president must continue to speak out on it. (Applause.) And I've done that and I'm going to continue to do it. (Applause.)

Secondly, the answer I gave on the family is very important to the second part of your question.

And thirdly -- the third one is on crime? What was the third part you mentioned?

Q Drugs.

THE PRESIDENT: On the drugs. Yes, drugs. We have a strong antidrug strategy. The good news is that use of cocaine has gone down by 60 percent in the last three years. The bad news is that it's still pouring in here -- these drugs are -- mainly from South America, and that the addictive group, the group from about 35 years old, the hard users, have gotten a little worse. It hasn't moved in the right direction. So the answer lies, prevention and treatment. And we're spending a lot more money than any administration, and I'm not suggesting that alone can get the job done. And then redoubling our efforts on interdiction.

And we have some good people that are working with us in Latin America. Gaviria in Colombia has done a good job on it. We're trying to work with Peru and Bolivia on this. But that's a major part of it. And we're using the military much

more than we did to try to interdict the flow of narcotics coming into this country.

But, once again, here's an area where we really do have to back up those that are out on the streets. And that argues, then -- our people out on the streets helping, DEA and FBI and local police -- and that argues for a strong crime bill. I mean, you've got to put away these hardened criminals. And we've got to be tougher on the criminal and a little more sensitivity for the victims of crime. And that's what our crime bill will do.

And so those are the ways that we're trying to approach that problem.

yes, in the back, sir.

Q I wonder what you have envisioned, once you become elected for the next four years, with the building trade industry? And also, back to basics where we're sort of pulling ourself up by the bootstraps and make a good country such as our forefathers have started. And also, the monetary situation -- how do you think the dollar will fare -- like, strong dollar or whatever?

THE PRESIDENT: Let me answer the last part first. One thing a president shouldn't do is say what the level of the dollar is. With the dollar at these levels, most people would agree, we're going to sell a hell of a lot more abroad. And that's good, you can export a lot more. But I don't want my answer to be interpreted as suggesting at what level the dollar should be. That should be set by markets and not by the United States. We can't set our currency like that. It has to respond to international markets.

In terms of the values, I've tried to respond to that one. And in terms of the building trades, that gets to the heart of what we're going to be talking about here and trying to do and that is jobs. I mean, building -- I have a proposal in -- again, my opponent will jump on me for saying I'm blaming Congress.

On January 20th, we had a State of the Union message and in it I suggested an investment tax allowance and that first-time homebuyer's credit. And it is still sitting there in the United States Congress. And I have to take that case to the people. Because, in my view, that would have stimulated the building trades and stimulated this kind of employment around the country. And I just have to insist on that and try to make the people understand that I haven't just been sitting there. We've been trying to get it done.

And Clinton says we're blaming the Congress. Well, as a matter of fact, I am because they're not getting the job done. And I will keep -- as I said, I'll work with a new Congress. I've help my hand out to them. But now I've got to define the differences. I want to see a balanced budget amendment. I want to see less taxes and less spending. And I've got to contrast that in terms of a vigorous economy with my opponent. And we'll have a debate, and that will all be out there for people to see. I want a balanced budget amendment. I want a line-item veto. If the Congress can't cut spending, give me what 43 governors have and let me try to cut the excess and save more money for the private sector or for the families that are working. I don't think you're taxed too little; I think we're spending too much.

And so I've got to get that philosophy out there and back it up with specifics enough so people will see that we're very serious about this. And I believe that will help building trades and everything else. I don't know about city government.

Q What can we do to help you fulfill your goals?

THE PRESIDENT: Vote often. (Laughter and applause.) No, but seriously, I've never seen a political year like this. I think most people looking at the political process no matter what party you're on, whether you agree with some of the things I've said here or not, think that this is a weird political year, strange kind of time.

But I have -- you see, I am optimistic about this country. And I do look around the world. And I see compared to any other economy or any other country, we're not in decline, we're on the rise. And I've got to take that sense of optimism and get enough backing to get done the kinds of programs that I've been advocating and will continue to advocate.

And then the final analysis, and I'll put it this way: I hope -- I hope I have earned the trust of the American people in terms of the way I've tried to conduct myself as President. I know there's a big difference. I know there's a lot of differences on issue.

But in the final analysis, I'm going to say to the American people, here's my position on the issue, here it is on job training, here it is on skills, here it is on education, here it is on accomplishments in foreign policy, here's the things we haven't done, here's the mistakes I've made. But now I ask for your vote because I think I've been the kind of president in whom you can place your trust. And I'll do that and I think it will resonate. (Applause.)

Q My question to you is, what can you offer the middle- and the older-aged people that have been displaced in the job market?

THE PRESIDENT: The program that I talked about in New Jersey the other day of skills training -- retraining. We've got a tremendous problem in the defense industry. One of the penalties, you might say, of success is that because we've been successful in reducing the threat to the United States abroad, we've been able to reduce our defense. But as you do that, people are thrown out of work. So that argues for the job retraining programs, some of which we have in effect, others of which I have proposed. And so I think that is the major answer -- that, plus education -- to those who are older and still able to be in the workplace.

And the other thing is that when we go for our health care program, which is going to keep it in the private sector, provide insurance to those poorest of the poor, that those health benefits will go with the person. In other words, if they leave Company X, they don't lose those benefits. And I think that, then, gives a certain mobility to the kind of people you're talking about, that those that want to move over next door to a new job and still be able to get it.

But the fundamental thing is, get the economy stimulated so young and old will be able to have jobs in the private sector.

Yes, ma'am. Excuse me. Am I out of here?

(Laughter.)

Q I'd like to know what your proposed plan is for -- especially for the people who do not qualify for Medicaid and are unable to --

THE PRESIDENT: The plan I favor provides, through tax credits and through pooling of insurance and through more managed care, insurance for all.

People come tearing down into our country from Canada and other places because of the quality of U.S. medicine. I do not want to see the quality diminished. People come down to get bypasses in Cleveland because they've got to wait six months to get a coronary bypass next door, where they have a nationalized program.

I think it would be a big mistake to nationalize it, and our program calls for what I've said -- pooling insurance, more use of managed care, and it also calls for something else -- and here's one where I have a clear difference from my opponent: It calls for the revision of these mal -- getting rid of some of these frivolous malpractice suits. You cannot coach the Little League without some guy that doesn't like the -- three and two and doesn't like the call -- trying to sue you these days.

And neighbor is suing neighbor and we're suing each other too much. And we've got to put some caps on the outrageous limits. Doctors sometimes don't practice delivering babies because they're afraid they're going to be sued. And we've got to get away from that. And that is over \$25 billion -- different figures -- \$20 billion to \$50 billion a year in terms of your added health costs. I don't know how many have been in the hospital recently, but hospitals are scared; so they say, give the guy three tests instead of one. Make him have Test A because we're not sure that we won't be sued if we only give him Test B.

And, so, along with pooling the insurance and making that transportable so people can take it with them wherever they go, we've got to have this concept of malpractice reform which, incidentally, helps pay for the thing without raising people's taxes.

So I really think we've got the best idea on health care reform. Congress is all over me. It was raised by the Senate race here last year.

Take a look at the guy. What's happened? They control the Senate. Where's their education bill? Mine's sitting up there languishing. So, again, blaming the Congress. Well, in this instance, they control both Houses of the Congress. You want health care reform? Where is one? In three and a half years none have come my way.

We've got a good program. And, again, one of the good things about this election year is you say to the American people: Here's what I stand for. Let him say what he's for; here's what I want to get done, regardless of whether you're Democrat or Republican, try to get -- make your voice loud enough so that when we first come in, sit down with those members of Congress and get this done for the American people. So there we are, and that's the approach I take.

Listen, thank you all very, very much. I appreciate it. (Applause.)

END

1:24 P.M. EDT

September 8, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: STEVEN PROVOST

SUBJECT: REMARKS AT NORRISTOWN HIGH SCHOOL

On Wednesday morning, September 9, you will address approximately 2000 attendees, most of whom are high school students, in the gymnasium of Norristown High School. Your remarks (16 minutes, teleprompter) discuss your vision of education for the future and commend Norristown for adopting the ideals of America 2000.

NOTE: The mention of Luke Perry on the top of page eight refers to the teenage heart-throb of the popular prime-time television show, "Beverly Hills 90210". Luke Perry plays tough-guy Dylan McKay.

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet (George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. Background Paper	Re: POTUS America 2000 speech; contains personal information. (1 pp.)	n.d.	P-6, (b)(6)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File, Backup
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: America 2000, Norristown PA 9/9/92

Date Closed: 12/4/2004	OA/ID Number: 07580
FOIA/SYS Case #:	
Re-review Case #: 2004-2265-S	
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Lamar Alexander

Members of Congress - Ed will have
upon am.

Barry Spencer, Principal

Jack Lippy, Pres. of Student Council

Dr. Helton (superintendent)

rivals → North Penn Knights (215) 368-9800
~~King of Prussia~~ ~~Levittown~~ ~~(215)~~

afterschool → lots of extra curricular activities

weekends → King of Prussia > shopping
Plymouth Meeting malls

pool hall → Marklay Billiards

Friendly's → after games/concerts/etc.

football game on Friday against North Penn

~~long & speeches~~

principal gives really loooooong speeches.

what would you talk to him about?
- how does he feel re: SM?

Norristown Eagles - blue/white

music → rap
club music
Top 40
heavy metal/hard core
popular music

seems that school spirit & morale
have dropped

Eagle News Team (school tv station)
live morning program
2 anchor people
all done by students
~~Barbara Duffell~~

famous graduates

what ~~to show~~ do kids watch?
90210?

Josh Lippy
46 N. Highland Ave.
Norristown, PA 19403

→ SNL live
90210

Howard Stern tv show

MTV

Ren and Stimpy
(cats)

"you stupid bloated
sack of protoplasm"
- Ren
(chihuahua)

→ ★ Steve Bono; football for the 49ers
famous grad (at least 10 yrs. ago)

Jerry Spinelli, a writer
grad in 1954

→ make broccoli joke

→ diss
break out

→ most grads tend to stay in PA, & on east coast

→ after school jobs, most at the mall
restaurants

→

→ Principal → famous grads

~~6.6 mil~~

at least \$6 mil in new fed. funds

at least \$6 mil in new fed funds
~~in~~ in

addition to 1.8 mil DoEd funds
you receive now.

"Reform must come from within, not from without."
James Cardinal Gibbons
Speech in Baltimore, MD
9/13/09

"Power should not be concentrated in the hands of a few,
and powerlessness in the hands of so many."
Heggie Kuhn
Mrs. Maguire
June, 1975

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

08-SEP-1992 04:16PM

TO: (SEE BELOW)
FROM: CLAIRE F. TURNEY
OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
SUBJECT: STAFFED SPEECH - NORRISTOWN, PA

PROVOST/AARHUS

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS
NORRISTOWN, PA
SEPTEMBER 9, 1992
DRAFT: 3:00 P.M.

Dr. Holton
THANK YOU (^), AND GOOD MORNING EVERYONE, IT'S GREAT TO *Hobson*
BE BACK IN PENNSYLVANIA.

I WANTED TO START THIS MORNING BY SAYING WELCOME BACK -- BUT
I KNOW THAT THE START OF SCHOOL CAN PROVOKE MIXED EMOTIONS.

I'M SURE MANY OF YOU HAD A LOT OF FUN THIS SUMMER. NOW YOU
HAVE TO GET USED TO NEW TEACHERS AND NEW CLASSES, NEW ROUTINES.

Child abuse?
BUT IF THIS EVER GETS YOU DOWN, JUST REMEMBER, ~~YOU COULD BE
GETTING BEAT OVER THE HEAD EVERY DAY,~~ YOU COULD BE HAVING YOUR
CHARACTER ASSASSINATED ON TELEVISION, -- YOU COULD BE RUNNING
FOR PRESIDENT. //

OUR WORLD HAS BEEN THROUGH ENORMOUS CHANGE THE PAST FEW
YEARS. TODAY, I CAN STAND BEFORE YOU AND SAY SOMETHING NO
PRESIDENT COULD EVER SAY BEFORE. ((THE COLD WAR IS OVER -- FREEDOM

FINISHED FIRST.)

((NOW, THE CHALLENGE BEFORE OUR NATION -- IS TO WIN THE PEACE.
TO GUARANTEE THAT AMERICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY IS NOT JUST A
MILITARY SUPERPOWER, BUT ALSO AN EXPORT SUPERPOWER, AND AN
ECONOMIC SUPERPOWER.))

((THAT'S THE CENTRAL QUESTION -- AT THIS TIME OF WRENCHING
GLOBAL CHANGE.)) I HAVE MADE ONE PROMISE TO AMERICA -- NOT TO

SCARE PEOPLE IN THIS CAMPAIGN, BUT TO TALK ABOUT REAL ISSUES --
and give REAL ANSWERS -- TO THE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS BEFORE OUR NATION.

THAT'S WHY I AM HERE THIS MORNING, TO TALK ABOUT HOW WE CAN
BUILD ~~FOR OUR CHILDREN~~ ^{what this Nation's kids} ~~WHAT THEY~~ NEED AND DESERVE -- THE VERY
BEST SCHOOLS IN THE ENTIRE WORLD.//

NOW I ADMIT, EDUCATION IS NOT USUALLY FOUND ON THE FRONT
PAGE OF THE NEWSPAPER, OR AT THE TOP OF THE EVENING NEWS -- BUT
IT IS THE SOLUTION FOR MOST OF WHAT YOU DO SEE THERE.

AS PRESIDENT AND AS A PARENT, ^{and grandparent} MY LOYALTY LIES WITH ~~THE~~ YOUNG
PEOPLE. # KIDS LIKE THE FIFTH GRADERS -- WHO DID SUCH A FANTASTIC
JOB LAYING OUT OUR NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS THIS MORNING.

IN THE YEAR 2000, THESE FIFTH GRADERS WILL GRADUATE FROM
HIGH SCHOOL. THEY WILL LOOK MUCH DIFFERENT. ^{Their cars will look much different than the} ^{ones you} ^{drive today.} [^] THE SCHOOLS FROM
WHICH THEY GRADUATE -- ^{will} [^] BE MUCH DIFFERENT AS WELL.

FOUR YEARS AGO, I SAID I WANTED TO LEAD A REVOLUTION IN
AMERICAN EDUCATION. TODAY, I COME BEFORE YOU TO REPORT -- THE
REVOLUTION IS ^{well} [^] UNDERWAY.

THE CREDIT IS CERTAINLY NOT MINE ALONE. THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT HAS MERELY BEEN A CATALYST -- AS IT SHOULD BE. THE
~~GOALS THOSE STUDENTS READ~~ ^{Education goals the students recited, and that the video talked about} ARE THE FIRST EDUCATION GOALS IN OUR
NATION'S HISTORY. ~~THEY ARE BEING EMBRACED BY GOVERNORS --~~ ^{And the great part about those goals, is that they were} ^{created and} ^{written by}
~~REPUBLICAN AND DEMOCRAT ALIKE, BY PARENTS, BY TEACHERS, BY~~
BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY LEADERS, AND MOST IMPORTANT, ^{students} ~~BY YOUNG~~
~~PEOPLE~~ LIKE YOU -- IN TOWN ^{and cities} ~~AFTER TOWN, CITY AFTER CITY,~~ ALL
ACROSS AMERICA.

I HAVE COME TO NORRISTOWN -- BECAUSE YOU ARE IN THE LEAD -- BUT YOU ARE NOT ALONE. **TODAY 1,700 COMMUNITIES -- ^{and} 44 STATES -**

Lisa Barnes
401-3000 ✓

- HAVE ADOPTED THE VISION OF WHAT WE CALL "AMERICA 2000."
SEVENTEEN HUNDRED COMMUNITIES -- REPRESENTING () ^{students} YOUNG PEOPLE
-- ~~HAVE AGREED TO~~ ^{are pursuing (?)} THE FIRST NATIONAL EDUCATION GOALS IN AMERICAN HISTORY. ((SEVENTEEN HUNDRED COMMUNITIES AGREED TO LINES IN THE SAND OF THE FUTURE THAT READ -- "OUR CHILDREN MUST BE NUMBER ONE."))

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD OFFER MORE THAN ~~OFFER~~ ^{JUST} CONGRATULATIONS FOR THESE EFFORTS, ^{SO} ~~AND~~ WE ARE MATCHING OUR WORDS WITH ACTION.

YOU HEARD ABOUT OUR FIRST GOAL -- MAKING SURE EVERY STUDENT ARRIVES AT SCHOOL READY TO LEARN. TODAY -- FOR THE FIRST TIME -- EVERY ELIGIBLE FOUR-YEAR-OLD WHO WANTS A HEAD START ON KINDERGARTEN -- CAN GET ONE.//

Goals 2, 3, 6?
~

WE HAVE ^(REORGANIZED FEDERAL SPENDING) FOR MATH AND SCIENCE -- GIVING SPECIAL EMPHASIS TO TEACHER TRAINING. THAT IS CONSISTENT WITH GOAL NUMBER FOUR -- MATH AND SCIENCE EXCELLENCE. (I WAS ^{enjoyed} ~~PROUD TO WATCH THE OLYMPICS, AND WATCH CHARLES BARKELY SLAM DUNK THE ENTIRE ANGOLAN BASKETBALL TEAM.~~ ^{watching the Olympics and seeing} ~~BY THE YEAR 2,000, I WANT~~ ^{kinda mean} OUR YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE SLAM DUNKING THE REST OF THE WORLD IN MATH AND SCIENCE.

GOAL NUMBER FIVE IS TO GUARANTEE A SKILLED, LITERATE WORK FORCE. (AND I AM PROUD TO SAY THAT IN OUR COLLEGES TODAY -- ONE OUT OF EVERY TWO STUDENTS HAS A FEDERAL GRANT OR LOAN -- ~~THAT'S A HIGHER RATIO THAN EVER BEFORE IN OUR HISTORY.~~)

can't be proven
study has only
been done
twice.

What does this have to do
w/ Goal Five really?

Bill Moran
708-8391

EDUCATION IS MY NUMBER ONE PRIORITY, AND MY BUDGETS HAVE REFLECTED IT. DURING MY FOUR YEARS, FEDERAL INVESTMENTS IN EDUCATION HAVE INCREASED AT A MORE RAPID RATE THAN STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING.

the Department of Education

*Rae Nelson
X7777*

BUT IF YOU THINK THAT MONEY ALONE WILL REINVENT OUR SCHOOLS -- THINK AGAIN. AS A NATION, ONLY SWITZERLAND SPENDS MORE PER STUDENT ON ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION. THIS DOESN'T MEAN WE SHOULD NOT MAKE NEW INVESTMENTS, IT MEANS WE CANNOT SPEND OUR MONEY ON THE OLD WAY OF DOING THINGS.

continue to

OUR SCHOOLS WERE INVENTED FOR THE AGE OF THE MODEL T. (YOUNG HUMOR) WE DON'T DRIVE MODEL T'S ANYMORE, WE DON'T LIVE IN LOG CABINS, SO WHY ARE OUR SCHOOLS THE SAME?

*record player vs. compact disc player/walkman
filmstrip projector vs. VCR
Orson Welles radio shows vs. Beverly Hills 90210*

AFTER ALL, AMERICA HAS CHANGED. TODAY, THE GUY ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE IN A CAR PLANT MUST KNOW FAR MORE ABOUT MATH THAN HIS FATHER EVER DID. OUR FAMILIES LOOK DIFFERENT; IN MOST FAMILIES, BOTH PARENTS WORK; AND IN MANY FAMILIES, ONLY MOM OR DAD COMES HOME AT NIGHT. OUR SCHOOLS HAVE NOT KEPT UP WITH THE DEMANDS OF THE NEW WORLD AROUND THEM.

need to catch up to meet the

demands of the

TALK TO TEACHERS, SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS, PARENTS -- AND THEY'LL GIVE YOU THOUSANDS OF IDEAS OF WHAT NEW SCHOOLS MIGHT LOOK LIKE. THAT IS THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR EDUCATION REVOLUTION. NOT TO DEVISE ONE SOLUTION IN WASHINGTON AND FORCE IT ON YOU -- BUT TO ENCOURAGE THE TRUE GENIUS OF AMERICA -- GRASSROOTS CREATIVITY AND PROBLEM SOLVING.

should

cornerstone

*businesses and communities
parents and kids
teachers and students
all working together to
determine what needs
to be done.*

RIGHT NOW, AS WE GATHER TODAY, AMERICA IS RESPONDING TO THIS CHARGE. ((REALLY, FOUR REVOLUTIONS ARE UNDERWAY.)) → This is Lamar term. We shouldn't use.

FIRST, WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF CREATING HUNDREDS OF WHAT WE CALL "BREAK-THE-MOLD" SCHOOLS. THESE MIGHT BE SCHOOLS WHERE -- STUDENTS ATTEND ALL YEAR ROUND. OR WHERE ONE SCHOOL CONCENTRATES ON ONE SUBJECT AREA -- LIKE ARTS OR ENGLISH. THESE BREAK-THE-MOLD SCHOOLS MAY COME IN EVERY SIZE AND SUBSTANCE -- BUT ALL SHARE ONE CHARACTERISTIC -- ((THEY REJECT THE STATUS QUO.))

REVOLUTION NUMBER TWO HAS TO DO WITH WHAT WE TEACH IN OUR SCHOOLS. WE MUST DEMAND HIGHER STANDARDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE. MATH TEACHERS ARE SETTING HIGHER STANDARDS TODAY, AND WE NEED THE SAME FOR SCIENCE, HISTORY, ENGLISH, GEOGRAPHY, CIVICS AND THE ARTS.

AND I SUPPORT THE IDEA OF A NATIONAL EXAMINATION SYSTEM -- I CALL IT AN AMERICAN ACHIEVEMENT TEST TO LET PARENTS AND COMMUNITIES KNOW WHAT OUR CHILDREN ARE LEARNING. ~~SOMETHING ELSE I'M SUPPORTING,~~ THAT'S TO HELP SOMEONE VERY SPECIAL, SOMEONE VERY IMPORTANT TO YOUR FUTURE -- YOUR TEACHERS.

(BY THE WAY, SINCE THIS IS THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, I ASSUME THAT NONE OF YOU HAVE RECEIVED ANY TESTS BACK YET. SO LET'S TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GOOD FEELING, TO SAY THANKS TO ALL THE TEACHERS IN THE ROOM. THEY ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE, AND WE SHOULD SALUTE THEM.)

(NOW WHEN YOU GO HOME TONIGHT, YOU CAN TELL YOUR PARENTS YOU SAW TWO THINGS THAT WERE OUT OF THE ORDINARY. THE PRESIDENT, AND A CROWD OF KIDS APPLAUDING THEIR TEACHERS.)

now don't boo this idea -- where

Confusing to give another set of #s

for students.

There's something else I support and

move to front of speech. it can piggy back other applause. What if they don't clap

You may not realize it now, but

They've never seen before (a never thought they'd see)

WHEN THE PROFESSIONALS IN THIS AUDIENCE DECIDED ON THE ~~to become~~
~~teachers, they didn't do it because~~
NOBLE PROFESSION OF TEACHING, THEY DID IT BECAUSE THEY LOVE
LEARNING, AND HELPING YOU LIVE UP TO YOUR POTENTIAL.

MY GUESS IS NONE OF OUR TEACHERS -- CHOSE THEIR JOB BECAUSE
THEY HAVE A SECRET PASSION FOR PAPERWORK, ~~X~~ OR AN INCURABLE
ROMANCE WITH THE COPYING MACHINE.

BUT THAT'S WHAT TOO MANY OF OUR TEACHERS SPEND THEIR TIME
DOING, (AND I WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO GET OFF TEACHER'S BACKS.) ~~X~~ *Calio says don't be strong on this.*
I DON'T WANT OUR TEACHERS SLAVING OVER ~~X~~ PAPERWORK, I WANT THEM TO
BE WORKING TO FREE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE FROM THE SLAVERY OF IGNORANCE
AND APATHY. // *needless* *NO!*

THERE'S ONE FINAL REVOLUTION UNDERWAY -- VERY IMPORTANT, AND
IT MIMICS WHAT WE'VE ~~X~~ *? seen?* AROUND THE WORLD IN RECENT YEARS.

FREEDOM WORKS. FREEDOM WINS. YET IN OUR NATION, ONLY THE
PRIVILEGED ~~X~~ HAVE THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE WHERE THEIR KID ~~X~~ *S* GOES TO
SCHOOL.

LET ME ~~TELL~~ GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT I MEAN.

TODAY IN CHICAGO, ~~THERE ARE 66 PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS, AND ONLY~~ *only 19 out of 66 graduate more than*
~~19 GRADUATE MORE THAN HALF~~ *X* THEIR STUDENTS AND, VERY FRANKLY, ~~EVEN~~
(MANY OF THOSE GRADUATES CANNOT READ AND WRITE.) *public school* WHERE DO ~~X~~ TEACHERS
IN CHICAGO SEND THEIR KIDS? WELL, ALMOST HALF SEND THEM TO
PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

She LISTEN TO STARR PARKER, A SMALL BUSINESS OWNER IN CHICAGO.
~~HE~~ SAYS WHEN IT COMES TO EDUCATION, "THE RICH HAVE CHOICE NOW.
WHEN I WAS ON WELFARE, THERE WAS NO WAY I COULD PUT MY CHILD IN ~~X~~

~~GOOD~~ SCHOOL. IT'S TIME WE STOP CONDEMNING THE POOR TO A MONOPOLY EDUCATION SYSTEM."

WELL, I AGREE WITH STARR PARKER. CHOICE IN EDUCATION SHOULDN'T BE LIMITED TO JUST THE PROSPEROUS AND THE PRIVILEGED.

EVERY PARENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO CHOOSE THE SCHOOL THEY WANT FOR THEIR KIDS.

My Ad In fact, just last month, my administration *PresDocs*
proposed a ~~my~~ GI BILL FOR KIDS, *which* WOULD GIVE A THOUSAND DOLLARS TO MIDDLE- AND LOW-INCOME FAMILIES THAT THEY CAN USE TO SPEND ON ANY SCHOOL OF THEIR CHOICE -- PUBLIC, PRIVATE, OR RELIGIOUS.

AK *6,000* *about 2/3 of*
HERE IN NORRISTOWN, ALMOST ~~4,000~~ KIDS -- ~~OVER HALF~~ THE SCHOOL POPULATION -- WOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS NEW GI BILL. IF TEACHERS ARE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT CHOICE MIGHT DO TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS, CONSIDER THIS *x*: IN THIS TOWN ALONE, YOU *could* ~~WOULD~~ RECEIVE *AT LEAST* ALMOST \$4 MILLION EXTRA IN FEDERAL FUNDS. BUT THIS MONEY WOULDN'T BE CONTROLLED BY FEDERAL BUREAUCRATS, IT WOULD BE CONTROLLED BY PARENTS, WHO COULD REWARD YOUR CREATIVITY, YOUR INGENUITY, YOUR COMMITMENT TO RESULTS. *Bruno Manno 202-234-4708*

SO THESE ARE THE FOUR AMERICAN EDUCATION REVOLUTIONS. THEIR INFLUENCES CAN BE PROFOUND. THEY MEAN THAT WHEN THESE ~~KIDS~~ FIFTH GRADERS COME BACK TO VISIT THEIR (INSERT TEACHERS NAME) CLASS IN EIGHT YEARS, THEY WILL MARVEL AT HOW SMALL THE DESKS ARE, AT HOW THEY HAVE TO STOOP TO USE THE WATER *Fountain* ~~COOLER~~. BUT AS THEY LOOK AND LISTEN TO THE SCHOOL AROUND THEM, THEY WILL SAY -- EVERYTHING ELSE HAS CHANGED.// *Hobson*

NOW, AS SOME OF YOU MAY HAVE HEARD, THERE IS AN ELECTION IN ABOUT 55 DAYS. SO, BEFORE I LEAVE YOU THIS MORNING, I WOULD LIKE

TO TAKE JUST A MOMENT, AND CONTRAST MY EDUCATION RECORD -- WITH MY OPPONENTS.

TO HIS CREDIT, GOVERNOR CLINTON HAS BEEN A LEADER IN THE NATIONAL EDUCATION REFORM MOVEMENT -- AND HE DESERVES CREDIT FOR THAT.

BUT I WILL BE JUDGED BY MY RECORD, AND HE SHOULD BE JUDGED THE SAME.

ARKANSAS ENJOYED AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES IN THE 1980'S -- BUT IT WAS HALF THE PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE 70'S -- BEFORE GOVERNOR CLINTON WAS ELECTED.

ARKANSAS SPENDING ON STUDENTS HAS ALWAYS LAGGED BELOW THE NATIONAL AVERAGE. IN THE 70'S, THAT SPENDING INCREASED, BUT IN THE CLINTON YEARS, IT DIPPED AGAIN.

IN THE 70'S, ARKANSAS TEACHERS SALARIES GREW FASTER THAN THE REST OF THE NATION. AGAIN IN THE 80'S, THAT PROCESS REVERSED ITSELF.

THESE ARE THE FACTS. BUT IT IS NOT THE GOVERNOR'S RECORD THAT WORRIES ME SO MUCH, AS THE IMPACT OF THE LIBERAL LEADERS IN THE DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS, AND THE EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT IN WASHINGTON.

THESE ARE PEOPLE WHO FEAR CHANGE -- WHO WANT TO PRESERVE THE STATUS QUO. ON SCHOOL CHOICE FOR EXAMPLE, THEY SAY "LET'S CHANGE ~~JUST~~ -- JUST A LITTLE BIT." THEY WANT PARENTS TO CHOOSE THEIR SCHOOLS, AS LONG AS THEY ~~ARE ALL PUBLIC~~. I SAY, LET'S CHANGE ALOT. LET PARENTS CHOOSE RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS IF THEY WANT TO.

Choose only public schools.
or private schools.

THIS FALL, THE VOTERS^x WILL HAVE TO DECIDE ^{whose} ~~WHO'S~~ APPROACH ^{they} ~~YOU~~ SUPPORT. BUT I BELIEVE ONE THING IS CLEAR. IN THIS CAMPAIGN, GOVERNOR CLINTON HAS MADE A HABIT OF TELLING THE EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT IN WASHINGTON WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR. I WILL CONTINUE TO TELL THEM -- WHAT THEY NEED TO HEAR.//

WE'VE HEARD A LOT OF TALK ^{about} ~~OF~~ CHANGE ⁱⁿ ~~IS~~ THIS ELECTION, AND THAT'S APPROPRIATE, BECAUSE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IS NEVER ENDING.
1776?

BUT THE CHANGE WE'VE SEEN AROUND THE WORLD THE PAST FEW YEARS IS REALLY UNUSUAL, CHANGE IS USUALLY MUCH MORE INCREMENTAL, MUCH MORE DIFFUSE.

THAT'S THE KIND OF CHANGE THAT IS UNDERWAY IN AMERICAN EDUCATION TODAY.

VISITING SCHOOLS, TALKING TO PARENTS, MEETING WITH BUSINESS LEADERS -- I AM REMINDED OF THE WORDS OF ROBERT KENNEDY -- SPOKEN IN ANOTHER TIME, ON ANOTHER TOPIC.

KENNEDY SAID, "FEW WILL HAVE THE GREATNESS TO BEND HISTORY ITSELF; BUT EACH OF US CAN WORK TO CHANGE A SMALL PORTION OF EVENTS, AND IN THE TOTAL OF THESE ACTS WILL BE WRITTEN THE HISTORY OF THIS GENERATION."

ROBERT KENNEDY WAS TALKING ABOUT THE BATTLE FOR RACIAL EQUALITY. TODAY, THE STRUGGLE IS FOR A NEW EQUALITY -- TO GIVE ^{All} ~~THESE~~ KIDS AN EQUAL CHANCE IN THE NEW WORLD ECONOMY.

BUT WHILE THE TOPIC HAS CHANGED, ~~BUT~~ ^{students} THE MESSAGE IS THE SAME. TO THE PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS PARTICIPATING IN NORRISTOWN 2000, I SAY -- "THANK YOU." YOU ARE

CHANGING A PORTION OF EVENTS, AND IN YOUR ACTION, YOU ARE WRITING
A BETTER CHAPTER^x IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICA'S NEXT GENERATION.

THANKS FOR LISTENING. GOD BLESS ^{Nonistown} PENNSYLVANIA. GOD BLESS
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

#

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Provost/Aarhus

Presidential Remarks
Norristown, PA
September 9, 1992
Draft: 3:00 p.m.

Thank you (~~←~~), and good morning everyone; ^{Dr. Holton} it's great to
be back in Pennsylvania. And I should add -- welcome back to
school. I hope you had a great summer.

I'm told that many of you were nervous this week. Tension's
rising about the big event. Wondering how you'll handle ^{all} the
attention. Well, I'm here to put your fears to rest. I'm sure
you'll do great against North Penn Friday night.//

You know, our world has been through ^a lot of change the past
few years. When my kids were your age, they used to practice
nuclear disaster drills. The alarms would go off, and they would
all ^{crawl} ~~climb~~ under their desks and wait.

That doesn't happen anymore. Today ~~we're not just building~~
~~nuclear weapons, we're destroying them.~~ And ^{the only reason you} ~~you have to get~~
~~under your desks~~ ^{is} ~~to look for a pencil.~~ I'm sure you don't spend
~~much time worrying about nuclear armageddon.~~ But as a parent and
a grandparent, I'm glad that American kids can grow up in the
sunshine of peace.

Now that the cold War is over, the challenge before our
nation -- is to win the peace. To guarantee that America in the

21st century will be not just a military superpower, but also an export superpower, and an economic superpower.//

That's all just a fancy way of saying ~~x~~ that ~~you~~ when you grow up, you deserve the chance to have a good job, and live a better life than your parents, ^{and grandparents.} You can live the American dream.

That's why I'm here this morning, to talk about how we can build for ~~our children~~ ^{you students (kids)} what you need and deserve -- the very best schools in the entire world.//

Now I admit, education is not usually found on the front page of the newspaper, or at the top of the evening news -- but it is the solution for most of what you do see there.

As President and as a grandparent, my loyalty lies with ~~the~~ young people. Kids like these fifth graders -- who did such a fantastic job laying out our national education goals this morning.

In the year 2~~x~~000, these fifth graders will graduate from high school. They will have changed so much, we will barely be able to recognize them. I want the schools from which they ^{of} graduate to have changed so much, that we won't be able to recognize them either.

Four years ago, I said I wanted to lead a revolution in American education. Today, I come before you to report -- the revolution is underway.

As President, my job is to set the agenda, and mobilize the nation. And I'm proud that the goals those students read ~~the~~ students read this morning are the very first education goals in

our nation's history. They were created by ~~all~~ ^{the states} ~~governors~~ --
~~Republican and Democrat~~ -- and embraced by parents, by teachers,
 by business and community leaders, ~~in town,~~ ^{s and cities} ~~after town,~~ ~~city~~
~~after city,~~ all across America.

I have come to Norristown -- because you accepted my
 challenge to reinvent American schools. Norristown is in the
 lead -- but you are not alone. Today 1,700 communities -- ~~in~~ ^{and} 44
 states -- have adopted the vision of what we call "America 2000."
~~Seventeen hundred communities have agreed to the first~~ ^{set of} ~~national~~
~~education goals in American history.~~ Seventeen hundred
 communities agreed to draw lines in the sand of the future that
 read -- "our children must be number one."

The federal government should offer more than ~~offer~~ ^{just}
 congratulations for these efforts, ~~and~~ ^{so} we ~~are~~ ^{will} matching our words
 with action -- as we promised.

You heard about our first goal -- making sure every student
 arrives at school ready to learn. Today -- for the first time -
 every eligible four-year-old who wants a Head Start on
 kindergarten -- can get one.//

We have asked for record federal increases in investment for
 math and science education -- to help train teachers. That is
 consistent with goal number four -- math and science excellence.
 I bet you were proud to watch the Olympics, and watch Jordan and
 Ewing and Magic slam dunk the opposition. By the year 2000, I
 want ~~our~~ you -- our young people -- to be slam dunking the rest
 of the world in math and science.//

Goal number five is to guarantee a skilled, literate work force. Now, my opponent accuses me of cutting education spending. But that's just flat wrong. I have proposed record increases in education funding, and during my four years, federal investments in education have increased at a more rapid rate than state and local funding.

And I am proud to tell you that in our colleges today -- one out of every two students receives a federal grant or loan, ~~more than ever before.~~ (cannot be proven, according to DoEd)

But if you think that money alone will reinvent our schools -- think again. As a nation, only Switzerland spends more per student on elementary and secondary education. This doesn't mean we should not make new investments, it means we cannot spend our money on the old way of doing things.

Our schools were basically designed for another age -- a hundred years ago. A world of Model T cars, in which electricity was a big deal. A world in which most clothes were made at home -- imagine -- a world without the King of Prussia Mall!!!

If you apply for a summer job in a car factory, they'll ask you if you can handle math estimation and spatial relations, things your mom and dad just didn't have to know. And other things have changed. Today, it's tougher being a parent, (tougher being a ^{kid} children, my grandkids just say it's tougher being a kid these days.) ???

~~The world~~ has changed, so must our schools.

America

the electric toaster flashlight

You don't have to look far for new ideas. Teachers, school board members, parents, business leaders -- are all fountains of innovation. That is the point of our education revolution. Not to devise one solution in Washington and force it on you -- but to encourage the true genius of America -- grassroots creativity and problem solving.

Right now, as we gather today, America is responding to this charge. Really, four revolutions are underway.

First, we are in the process of creating hundreds of what we call "Break-The-Mold" schools -- schools that reject the ~~status quo~~ ^{ordinary} status quo, like, for example, a school where students attend all year round. I challenged America to come up with ideas for these schools -- and ~~Morristown~~ ^N Morristown was one of 700 communities that responded. I applaud you for your energy and your creativity.

Revolution number two has to do with what we teach in our schools. We must demand more of you, so that you can compete in the world economy. Your math teachers are already relying on new, world-class standards, and because of them, you are learning more than your older brothers and sisters. And by the time today's fifth graders entire high school, we will have new standards in science, history, English, geography, civics and the arts.

And to support these standards, we will have a national examination system -- I call it an American achievement test, so that parents can know what our kids know.

have learned.
(are learning')

The third revolution involves a very important person --
your teacher.

(If I can ask a favor, since this is the first week of school, I assume that none of you have received any tests ^{or quizzes} back yet. So let's take advantage of the good feeling, to say thanks to all the teachers in the room. They are making a difference in your life, and we should applaud them.) → Call Josh alert us more to live

(Now when you go home tonight, you can tell your parents you saw two things that were out of the ordinary. The President, ^{of the United States} and all your friends applauding their teacher.)

When the professionals in this audience decided ^{to become} on the ~~noble profession of teaching~~ ^{teachers}, they did it because they love learning, and they love helping you live up to your potential.

We should trust teachers, but we don't today. Not long ago, I met with some teachers up in ^{Lehigh} ~~Lee High Valley, Pennsylvania.~~ I asked them what they needed. I expected them to talk about money. But instead, they talked ^{about} all the paperwork and regulations -- about getting state government off their back.

Well, I can't do much about Harrisburg, but I have introduced legislation ^x which would give teachers more flexibility in using federal funds, as long as ^{they} you achieve results. I trust teachers -- not the government -- to do what's right for our kids.

There's one final revolution underway -- and it mimics what we've seen in Eastern Europe in recent years. That's the power of freedom.

Freedom works. Freedom wins. Yet in our nation, only the privileged~~x~~ have the freedom to choose where their kids go to school.

I think every parent should have the right to choose the school they want for their kids.

That's what happens in Milwaukee. Not long ago, I was talking with a Milwaukee parent -- her name was Janette Williams. She told me her son Javon went to a crowded school, teachers couldn't pay attention, he was so bored, he'd just go home halfway through the day. Then Milwaukee gave some parents the right to choose new schools for their kids. Today, Javon is doing his homework, attending all his classes, he's even helping clean up around the classroom. (His mother didn't indicate if he's cleaning his room at home -- that might be a true miracle.)

I want to hear more stories like that. My GI Bill For Kids would give a thousand dollars to middle-and low-income families that they can use to spend on any school of their choice -- public, private, or religious.

Here in Norristown, almost 6,000 kids -- ^{about} two-thirds of the school population -- would be eligible for this thousand [^]dollars scholarship. If teachers are worried about what choice might do to public schools, consider this. Norristown would receive ^{at least another \$6} ~~another \$4~~ million in ^{new} federal funds -- not controlled by bureaucrats, but parents and teachers. When it comes to choosing schools -- I trust parents -- not the government -- to do the right thing.

So these are the four revolutions in American education. Break-The Mold Schools. New standards. Getting government off teacher's backs. And giving parents real choice.

Together, these revolutions will change our schools. When these ~~kids~~ fifth graders come back to visit in eight years, they will marvel at how small the desks are, at how they have to stoop to use the water fountain. But as they look and listen to the school around them, they will say -- everything else has changed.//

Now, as some of you may have heard, there is an election in about 55 days. So, before I leave you this morning, I would like to take just a moment, and contrast my education vision -- with my opponents.

I want to be fair, when ^I convened the ~~national education summit~~ ^{Charlottesville education summit}, Governor Clinton was there -- he helped set the national education goals. He deserves no criticism for that.

But what kind of education President would Mr. Clinton be?

Well -- in this campaign -- ^{he} ~~has been~~ ^{spent} a lot of time courting the education establishment, teacher's unions, and the liberal ^{leadership} of Congress. These people fear change the way (Carol?)

They want to spend more money on education, but on the same old system. I wish fixing our schools were that easy, but it's not.

A President's job is to set a new path -- and insist that the nation sticks to it. But Governor Clinton is in with the

crowd who say no ^{to} new schools, no to higher standards, no to less regulation, and no to my GI Bill for Kids.

I encourage you to compare our records with one comment in mind. Governor Clinton has told the education establishment what they want to hear -- I will continue to tell them -- what they need to hear.

But while the topic has changed, ~~but~~ the message is the same. To the parents, teachers, ^{and} community leaders, ^{and students} participating in Norristown 2000, I say -- "thank you." You are changing a portion of events, and in your action, you are writing a better chapter, in the history of America's next generation.

Thanks for listening. God Bless Pennsylvania, ^{and} God Bless The United States of America.

#

Two teachers: ~~Barbara Ritter~~

Mrs. Biele (BEE-ler)
Miss Ritter

→ tons of extra-curricular

(215) 584 5151

Jim Emery

→ school has bad image
b/c of area it's in

812 Woodland Ave.
Norristown, PA 19403

→ King of Prussia

→

more developed, more enlightened, as new discoveries are made, new truths discovered and manners and opinions change, with the change of circumstances, institutions must advance also to keep pace with the times. We might as well require a man to wear still the coat which fitted him when a boy as civilized society to remain ever under the regimen of their barbarous ancestors.

THOMAS JEFFERSON, letter to Samuel Kercheval, July 12, 1816.—*The Writings of Thomas Jefferson*, ed. Paul L. Ford, vol. 10, pp. 42–43 (1899).

Inscription on the southeast quadrant of the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C. The inscription omits some words without ellipses.

179 Few will have the greatness to bend history itself; but each of us can work to change a small portion of events, and in the total of all those acts will be written the history of this generation.

Senator ROBERT F. KENNEDY, "Day of Affirmation," address delivered at the University of Capetown, South Africa, June 6, 1966.—*Congressional Record*, June 6, 1966, vol. 112, p. 12430.

180 Change alone is eternal, perpetual, immortal.

Attributed to ARTHUR SCHOPENHAUER. Unverified.

181 The older order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways,
Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON, "Idylls of the King," line 408, *The Poetic and Dramatic Works of Alfred Lord Tennyson*, p. 574 (1899).

182 Where they [the cultures of Asia and the continent of Africa] resemble each other, however, is that in all cases, it is the Western impact which has stirred up the winds of change and set the processes of modernization in motion. Education brought not only the idea of equality but also another belief which we used to take for granted in the West—the idea of progress, the idea that science and technology can be used to better human conditions. In ancient society, men tended to believe themselves fortunate if tomorrow was not worse than today and anyway, there was little they could do about it. The idea, the revolutionary idea, that tomorrow might be better and that man can do something about it is entirely Western—and all around the world it inspires what Mr. Adlai Stevenson has called "the revolution of rising expectations." If a man has lived in a tradition which tells him that nothing can be done about his human condition, to believe that progress is possible may well be the greatest revolution of all.

BARBARA WARD, lecture, State University of Iowa, Iowa City, April 6, 1961.—Ward, *The Unity of the Free World*, p. 12 (1961).

See No. 1618 for Stevenson's words.

183 It is the first step in sociological wisdom, to recognize that the major advances in civilization are processes which all but wreck the societies in which they occur:—like unto an arrow in the hand of a child. The art of free society consists first in the maintenance of the symbolic code; and secondly in fearlessness of revision, to secure that the code serves those purposes which satisfy an enlightened reason. Those societies which cannot combine reverence to their symbols with freedom of revision, must ultimately decay either from anarchy, or from the slow atrophy of a life stifled by useless shadows.

Change

ALFRED NORTH WHITEHEAD, *Symbolism, Its Meaning and Effect*, chapter 3, p. 88 (1927). This paragraph ends the book.

184 He who rejects change is the architect of decay. (The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery.) *A*

Prime Minister HAROLD WILSON, speech to the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France, January 23, 1967.—Text, *The New York Times*, January 24, 1967, p. 12.

Character

185 Of all the properties which belong to honorable men, not one is so highly prized as that of character.

HENRY CLAY.—*The Clay Code, or Text-Book of Eloquence, a Collection of Axioms, Apothegms, Sentiments . . . Gathered from the Public Speeches of Henry Clay*, ed. G. Vandenhoff, p. 93 (1844).

Clay served in the House of Representatives 1811–1814, 1815–1821, and 1823–1825; he was Speaker every year except 1821. He was a senator 1806–1807, 1810–1811, 1831–1842, and 1849–1852.

186 Don't *say* things. What you *are* stands over you the while, and thunders so that I cannot hear what you say to the contrary.

RALPH WALDO EMERSON, "Social Aims," *Letters and Social Aims* (vol. 8 of *The Complete Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson*), p. 96 (1917).

Based on a lecture delivered in Boston, Massachusetts, December 4, 1864.

187 Character is what you are in the dark.

Attributed to DWIGHT L. MOODY by his son, William R. Moody, *D. L. Moody*, chapter 66, p. 503 (1930).

Although both *The Macmillan Book of Proverbs, Maxims, and Famous Phrases*, ed. Burton Stevenson, p. 317 (1948, reprinted 1965), and *The World Treasury of Religious Quotations*, ed. Ralph L. Woods, p. 108 (1966), state that this quotation came from his sermons, Moody scholars have not found it there.

188 An aristocrat in morals as in mind.

OWEN WISTER, describing Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes.—Wister, *Roosevelt: The Story of a Friendship*, p. 130 (1930).

Chesapeake Bay

189 Heaven & earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation; were it fully manured and inhabited by industrious people. Here are mountaines, hil[ls], plaines, valleyes, rivers, and brookes, all running most pleasantly into a faire Bay, compassed but for the mouth, with fruitfull and delightsome land.

Captain JOHN SMITH, description of countryside around Chesapeake Bay, 1606, *The Generall Historie of Virginia, New England & The Summer Isles*, vol. 2, pp. 44–45 (1907).

Revolutions never go backward.

- Wendell Phillips 2/17/1861

in a speech

- Lincoln said it 1st → on 5/19/1856

Revolutions are the locomotives of history.

- Khrushchev, speech to the Supreme Soviet,
Pravda, 5/8/1957



Young minds are our nation's most valuable natural resource!

Norristown Area School District

Norristown Area High School

1900 Eagle Drive

Norristown, PA 19403

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Sep 9, 1997

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THANK YOU.

FROM Cliff/Hopson

NORRISTOWN AREA SCHOOLS INVEST IN YOUTH THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS WITH BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

Throughout the country, when people talk about successful schools, they think about Norristown Area School District and its award-winning Pre-Vocational Programs. From National First Place in Business Advocacy to PDE Exemplary Status in Industrial Arts Technology, "NORRISTOWN" has captured the attention of school-community planners who seek an example of educational excellence.

The Record speaks for itself:

- A**merican Industrial Arts Student Association state and national honors for "Outstanding Student" and "Prepared Public Speaking."
- B**usiness Education Curriculum designed and implemented with the guidance of the business community.
- C**ooperative Education Program named one of 102 "Capstone" programs in Business in the state of Pennsylvania.
- D**istributive Education Programs and DECA shaping state and national winners in marketing achievement.
- E**ducational Access Cable Television Studio with broadcast links to more than 18,000 homes in 10 communities.
- F**uture Business Leaders of America taking FBLA state and national conventions by storm for two straight years with first place awards.
- G**ifted Program Mentorships in local businesses and community institutions through the "One-on-One" Program.
- H**igh Achievement and/or Advanced Placement classes for young scholars in Economics, History, English, Biology, Chemistry, Algebra, Geometry, Physics, Calculus.
- I**nformation Processing classes with state-of-the-art equipment.
- J**ob placement opportunities through school-community teamwork.
- K**eyboarding applications across the curriculum.
- L**eadership focus through participation in Forensics Competition, Student Council, the Presidential Classroom, and Leadership Conferences.
- M**arketing courses which prepare students for success in the world of work.
- N**ational Merit Scholars choosing higher education concentrations in business, law, and engineering.
- O**pportunities for independent study in potential career areas through the Industrial Arts Department.
- P**ublication of FBLA success stories in national journals.
- Q**uestions for members of the business and professional community through "Career Day" classes and American Education Week visits.
- R**ole model Rotarians, Lions, Ambucs, Optimists, BPW's, and Jaycees among district personnel
- S**kill development in the "basics" through vocational areas: alternative schools for alternative learning styles.
- T**esting programs in achievement, aptitude, and ability in Grades 3 through 12, and a computer-assisted High School Career Center.
- U**nique vocational training for Exceptional Students through one of the finest Special Education programs in America.
- V**ocational-Technical School extensions of the high school curriculum within a multi-district consortium.
- W**ritten, taught, and tested curriculum in Accounting, Data Processing, Computer Science, Economics, Typing, Shorthand, Marketing, Law, and Statistics.
- X** in the box for "Involvement in the Free Enterprise System."
- Y**outh of the Year Awards presented by the Exchange Clubs of America to NASD Orators.
- Z**est for team teaching and team planning in a Business Department second to none.

Professional Development

Tactics for Teaching

If one accepts the idea that there is a knowledge explosion brought on by technology, then schools need to examine how they organize knowledge and use technology. For this examination to be successful, staff development is essential for developing new images of schooling.

These are the critical issues for the Norristown Area School District (NASD). What underlines our rethinking is the idea that students and teachers must be able to function in a world based on work environments influenced by technologies and new categories of knowledge.

Teacher as Learner

NASD's staff development promotes the idea that teachers who actively engage in personal and reflective learning will carry this process over into their classroom teaching. Central to this idea is that the teacher should become the primary developer of the curriculum. For this to happen, the teacher must be responsible for understanding how to organize knowledge instead of primarily relying on what David Elkind calls derived knowledge from textbooks and other sources.

The activities designed to develop our curricular framework include: districtwide training sessions in instructional strategies using Tactics for Thinking (see chart, page 30) from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD); reflective study groups; workshops in whole language and mathematical problem solving;



By John Gould, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, Norristown (Pa.) Area School District

Some could say that our mandatory participation in Tactics training is inconsistent with the research on staff development that says mandates do not work. We believe we are not telling people what and how to teach, but creating an organizational climate that helps people think about the possibilities for their own professional growth. We are creating a structural change to allow democratic change to take place in which teachers may make responsible choices for themselves. This is NASD's style: to create our future now.

and technology workshops in HyperCard and multimedia.

Everyone Participates

The entire professional staff participates in Tactics. Through the use of substitutes, teachers form 20 member K-12 teams and attend four full-day workshops. Between each workshop they have a month-and-a-half to practice the strategies.

Tactics helps the staff develop a common language of thought. Teachers explore 22 teaching strategies that can enhance their development of subject-area content and students' thinking. For example, the use of visualization to enhance memory is a critical strategy in expanding a student's concept development in language acquisition.

It is during the training that teachers can see how to use technology to present information in different ways. Many of the strategies are presented with HyperCard or MacroMind Director.

Snapshot

Norristown Area School District

Location: Norristown, PA

Student Body: 6200 urban and suburban students; 40% African American, 58% white

Number of Schools:
7 elementary (23 students per class)
3 middle (25 per class)
2 senior high (23 per class)

Professional Staff: 450
District Budget: \$54 million
Key Reform Themes: Student as Thinker, Teacher as Learner, Principal and Superintendent as Facilitators

Reform Time Line: 10 years
Major Influences: Howard Gardner's multiple intelligences

theory; Robert J. Marzano's Tactics for Thinking; David Perkins' performance understanding.

Measurements for Success: State assessments in 3rd grade reading and 6th grade writing; in the process of developing outcome-based standards using portfolios and student performance. ■

**The Business/Industry/School Partnership Program
Investing in the Future**

By the year 2000 and beyond, the world in which our present-day students will be living will be quite different. America will be a society of predominantly high-tech, information and service industries. The job market will dramatically change, and entry level workers, as well as other workers, must be better trained in order for our Nation to compete in the world marketplace. These challenges will have major implications in the way we, as educators, are preparing our students to meet the requirements of new technologies and labor market changes.

Recognizing the need for our students to meet the ever-changing challenges of tomorrow's workforce, the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and the Norristown Area School District have formed the Business/Industry/School Partnership Program better known as BISPP. The Partnership is comprised of business and industry representatives working in concert with educators to bridge the gap between employers' needs and the school curriculum.

The specific goals of this Partnership are, jointly, to:

- Monitor and improve the development of quality educational programs to enable students in Grades K-12 to understand society and to function as productive members;
- Plan and/or upgrade activities that will increase awareness and understanding of educators and business/industry people toward each other and the work that they do;
- Review and recommend to the Board of Directors such programs as "Adopt-a-School," Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week, Economics for Young Americans, and others;
- Help coordinate exchange programs among businesses, industries and the school district; and
- Maintain the promotion of programs that raise the level of student understanding of the workplace and their place in it.

In addition to the traditional 3 R's--Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic, each goal focuses on The Fourth R: Workforce Readiness, championed by the National Alliance of Business, which includes thinking, reasoning, analytical, creative, and problem-solving skills, as well as behaviors such as reliability and responsibility.

BISPP's level of commitment to educational improvement spans all levels and all programs, kindergarten through grade twelve. Special emphasis is also placed on the non-college bound students in preparing them to make the successful transition from the classroom to the workplace.

The work of BISPP is done through committees. The mission of the Curriculum Committee is to strive for a learning environment that will enhance student's self-esteem, personal development, employable skills, and work ethic.

The Program Committee's functions are to expose students to the diversity of the world of work by bringing business leaders into the classrooms and arranging for students to visit the workplace, further expanding programs for student participation outside the classroom, and providing mentorship programs at all levels.

The acquisition of funds to carry out the mission and goals rests on the shoulders of the Finance Committee.

The Public Relations Committee stays abreast of all committee functions in order to convey, through all media channels, an awareness of BISPP activities of the Partnership to the general public, the private sector, and the school community.

Assessing the needs of the Norristown Area School District staff and developing a database of these needs is the monumental task of the Property Committee.

Since its inception in 1987, BISPP has made many accomplishments, some of which are:

- Receiving corporate sponsorship of on-site student tours
- Awarding STAR (Scholarship Trust of Abram Roebuck, administered by the Montgomery County Foundation) Grant scholarships semi-annually to graduating seniors and alumni students.

- ° Awarding scholarships for participation in Pennsylvania Free Enterprise Week
- ° Assessing needs of graduates for tomorrow's work force
- ° Exploring careers through the Boy Scouts of America Speakers' Program
- ° Obtaining grant funding for the implementation of Applied Academic courses
- ° Receiving donations of furniture and student supplies
- ° Publishing and distributing a newsletter--The Informer--semi-annually
- ° Joining in partnership with the Philadelphia Electric Company in support of excellence
- ° Supporting the exploration of the "Writing to Read" Program
- ° Adopting schools through corporate sponsorships

We have come a long way but have only scratched the surface of the challenges set forth. If we are to effectively prepare our students to occupy a productive place in society, our mission and goals must be on-going.

Where do we go from here? We continue to move forward and not rest upon our past and present laurels. We recognize the importance of, and are committed to, the quality of education that will enable our graduates to be literate, skilled, and productive members of tomorrow's workforce.

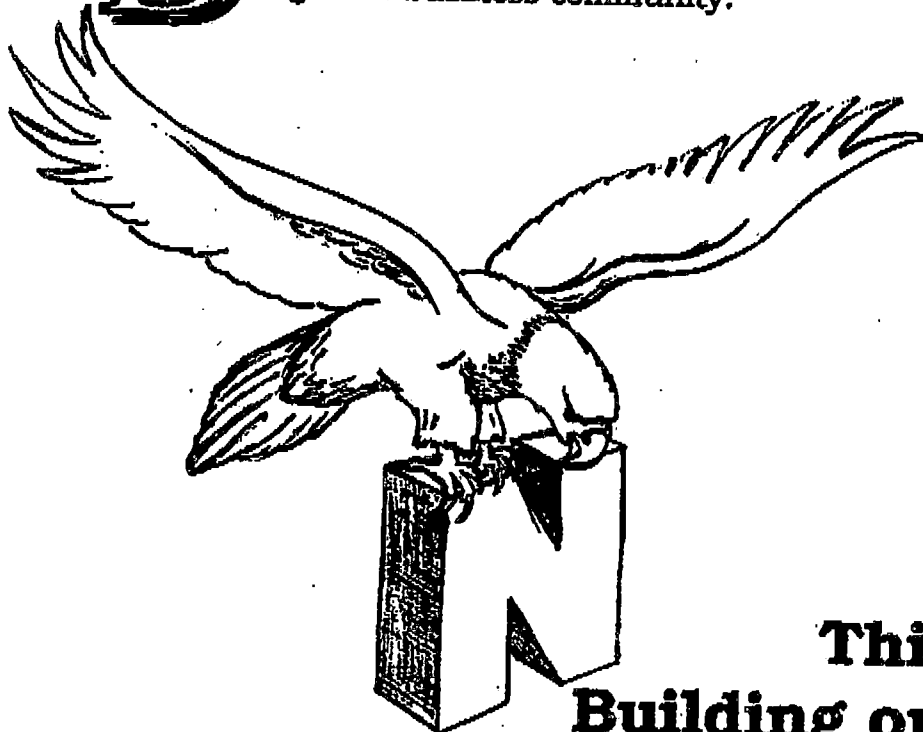
After all, BISPP is investing in America's most important resource, the future workers and leaders of our nation, our YOUTH. The challenges are great but well worth the return investment.

Norristown Area School District builds on innovative spirit, academic excellence and a rich base of ethnic and cultural diversity to prepare responsible citizens for "America 2000."

Academics, the arts, athletics and a wide range of extra-curricular activities are woven into a comprehensive educational program for optimum development of the individual.

State-of-the art technology and an emphasis on "student as thinker" and "teacher as learner" add new dimensions to both teacher preparation and student competence.

Devotion to lifelong learning is the central focus of a team effort--a team that includes parents, students, educators, auxiliary staff, and a vigorous business community.



**Thinking 2000:
Building on Excellence**

CELEBRATE ITS DIVERSITY**NORRISTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
401 North Whitehall Road
630-5000**

Take a bustling Pennsylvania borough, honor it as the Montgomery County Seat, unite it with townships West and North, fill it with folks of every faith, color and creed, build schools that celebrate its diversity, and watch it grow!

The Norristown Area School District emerged in 1966 by Commonwealth of Pennsylvania order as a blend of the best that Norristown and East and West Norriton townships had to offer. Today, a full generation later, it houses approximately 5,700 students K through 12 in eleven buildings equipped and staffed to prepare them for the 21st century. Its programs challenge young minds through advanced placement options in literature, government, calculus, chemistry, and computer science; exemplary coursework on communications, mathematics and technology; networked laboratories in information processing; writing centers for young authors; and community mentorships for gifted students.

Indeed, respect for community is a guide to District planning. Not only does our Adult Evening School offer an enticing array of course selections for residents of all ages, but an extensive recreational swim program in our Olympic pool is a four-season favorite. In addition, a full-color cable television studio located at Norristown Area High School broadcasts news and programs of general interest to more than 19,000 homes on a daily basis, while its 24-hour cable generator relays vital messages to school families.

Children of every grade participate in local campaigns to achieve a clean environment: they combat drug abuse through Drug Abuse Resistance Education and "Teen Fight Against Drugs;" serve as volunteers in senior adult facilities and hospitals; participate in "Free Enterprise Week" activities; design logos, posters, murals and project displays for community buildings; and reflect the strengths of the Norristown Area through involvement in the Distributive Education Clubs of America, Technology Students' Association, Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association events, District XI and Region VI musical organizations, the Pennsylvania Governor's Schools, the Presidential Classroom, the Congressional Youth Leadership Program, and host of state national competitions.

It is no wonder, then, that the area leaders in the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce have joined hands with Norristown Area School District to support its students and programs. This unique "Business and Industry School Partnership program (BISPP)," which represents such prestigious companies as Bell of Pennsylvania, UNISYS, Smith-Kline Bio-Science Laboratories, Peoples Thrift Savings Bank, Genuardi Supermarkets and Montgomery Hospital, has been the catalyst for computer expansion in our schools, career shadowing experiences, and a \$700,000 STAR-Grant Scholarship Fund that provides more than \$50,000 annually to worthy seniors and alumni. Like our 11-year old Alumni Hall of Fame/Hall of Champions which honors the deeds of outstanding graduates, BISPP is rapidly becoming part of a long-standing tradition of service, recognition and caring.

Please accept this invitation to visit our schools. They belong to all of us, whether teaching in classrooms, writing a curriculum, leading an assembly, or serving on an advisory committee. Begin with us today as we build for tomorrow.

WHAT IT MEANS TO GO TO NORRISTOWN AREA HIGH SCHOOL

by Wayne Kessler

Whenever I'm with a group of other students from other high schools, and I mention that I'm from Norristown Area High School, a certain look passes among those other students, a look of disrespect and hidden laughter. "I've heard about that school," they seem to be saying to one another. In a way that reaction bothers me, but then again, I don't really care, because they have no idea what they're talking about.

The first great thing about Norristown is its diverse student body. There are students of all type, something which the schools other kids go to lack. In fact, the kids standing around snickering about Norristown are probably all white upper-middle class and they think Norristown isn't a good school because it is not all-white and all middle class. But when they get into the real world, they are going to be dealing with all kinds of people they haven't experienced before, whereas I, and everybody else at Norristown, has. Encountering the different kinds of people at Norristown provides a wealth of experiences and relationships other high schools don't offer.

Norristown also has excellent facilities. The school is relatively new and is clean and well equipped. There is a sophisticated computer system in the library, and our communication equipment is very good. The school has a very wide range of course offerings, so everybody has a chance to study something they want.

Norristown prepares its students well for college, with an emphasis on lab experiments in science and writing in English. Most important of all are caring teachers. They don't just "cover" subjects, lecture and hand out grades, they really teach -- they stimulate, they encourage, they don't stifle creativity.

Most high schools are woefully similar -- the students and teachers are all the same. The courses are the same. They are boring, stifling and dependent on controlled uniformity. Norristown is different -- and better.

202/456-6218

TO: JEANNIE BUNTON

FROM: ED COWLING
PRESIDENTIAL ADVANCE

ATTACHED MATERIALS AS WE
DISCUSSED.

34 PAGES INC. COVER

THE TIMES HERALD, THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1992

Push is on to rebuild Norristown schools

By Jim Deegan
Times Herald Staff

Administrators at Norristown Area School District want help in carrying out President Bush's plan to shape a new generation of American schools.

Led by the Business Industry School Partnership Program (BISPP), the district yesterday kicked off Greater Norristown 2000 — an ambitious but controversial approach to building more accountable schools across the nation.

Greater Norristown 2000 is an arm of America 2000, which the president launched last year to redesign the educational process before the end of this century.

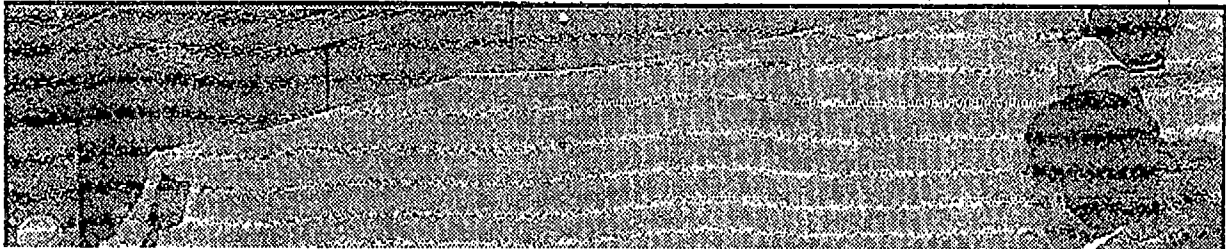
Greater Norristown 2000's first goal: creating six task forces to

"But we're also missing whole blocks of kids and we've got to get to them."

James N. Holton
Norristown schools superintendent

work on meeting the six national educational goals laid out by the president. About 50 people attended an organizational meeting yesterday at Norristown Area High School.

"We have kids going into all kinds of professions," said James N. Holton, superintendent of Norristown Area schools. "But we're also missing whole blocks of kids and we've got to get to them."



Schools

Continued from Page 1

Businesspeople, educators, parents and residents have been invited to join.

Last February, Norristown submitted a proposal to reform education in the district to a non-profit group called the New American Schools Development Corporation (NASDC). NASDC will select 20 to 30 of what it considers the best proposals in the nation and award \$500,000 to \$3 million in private money to begin carrying out targeted reforms.

About 700 schools applied across the nation, said John M. Gould, assistant superintendent.

Critics view the America 2000 plan as unrealistic or vague, and they say its future is clouded because of the presidential election

in the fall.

Even if Norristown fails to win grants, it plans to push forward with implementing its outlined reforms and promoting community involvement through Greater Norristown 2000, organizers said. NASDC will announce winners on July 7.

"We saw it as a way of mobilizing to rethink school in general," Gould said. "We saw this as a very good opportunity to bring it to the attention of the community."

Each task force will work on one of the national education goals, which are:

- ▶ All children in the nation will start school ready to learn.

- ▶ The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent.

- ▶ By grades four, eight and 12, all students will have met criteria in subjects such as English, math, science and history.

- ▶ U.S. students will be first in the world in science and math achievement.

- ▶ Every adult will be literate and able to compete in a global economy.

- ▶ Every school will be drug- and violence-free.

Each task force will develop goals for the year 2000, show the current situation and come up with ways to meet the goals, said Payson W. Burt, president of the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and a leader in the Greater Norristown 2000 movement.

Task forces will organize over the summer. Each will be headed by a BISPP board member and have free reign to develop its own strategies, Burt said. BISPP is an association of businesspeople and educators devoted to preparing young people for the workforce.

America 2000's philosophical basis is that local people know what's best for local schools, so they should be the architects of change, according to reformers.

"We do have a problem and the problem is our educational goals meeting the job opportunities we have," said Norristown Mayor William M. DeAngelis, who attended the meeting. "We need more people who are more flexible to meet the specific job requirements that exist. It's quite a trick, and it's quite a problem."

"It's not a matter of 'Do we want to do it?'" the mayor continued. "It's a matter of 'We must do it.'"

To show Norristown's adoption as an America 2000 program, flags bearing the Greater Norristown 2000 logo will be flown at the high school, the administration building and the new Whitehall Elementary School. The flags, donated by People's Thrift Savings Bank of Plymouth Township, were made by LeBlanc Flag Sales Co. in Norristown.

Those interested in volunteering to serve on a task force can call the chamber of commerce at 277-9501.

GREATER NORRISTOWN 2000



Dear Volunteer,

Welcome aboard Greater Norristown 2000. We're glad you took the plunge to work with other volunteers to make Norristown Area School District even greater than it already is!

We will be creating 6 task forces in the community. Each task force will work toward the completion of one of the Six National Educational Goals. The challenge is.....

By the year 2000,

- 1. All children in America will start school ready to learn.
- 2. The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent.
- 3. American students will leave grades four, eight, and twelve having demonstrated competency in challenging subject matter, including English, mathematics, science, history and geography; and every school in America will ensure that all students learn to use their minds well; so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment in our modern economy.
- 4. U.S. students will be the first in the world in science and mathematics achievement.
- 5. Every adult American will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- 6. Every school in America will be free of drugs and violence and will offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning.
- 7. I will be glad to work on any goal to which I am assigned.

Please check the task force you wish to join. The coordinator of the task force will be in contact with you over the summer to tell you the next step. If you are not sure which goal you want please check the seventh box.

Please fill in the information below so we can keep you fully informed.

Name _____ Phone home _____
 Address _____ work _____

Any comments or suggestions? Please add them to the back of this sheet.

- Are you a parent of NASD school children? yes no
 Are you an educator? yes no
 Are you a business person? yes no

Wednesday, June 17, 1992

6 News

THE POST

Schools and businesses brace to meet America 2000 volunteer goals

By Lisa A. Lombardo
Staff writer

The Norristown Area School District wants help its students prepare to face the working world of the next decade and beyond by encouraging the commercial and professional community to volunteer and make school business their business.

Businesspersons, professionals, educators, administrators, parents and interested community members gathered together June 10 to make the district and the borough a part of America 2000, a nationwide effort to examine and improve upon education goals for the next decade.

The Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce and the Business/Industry/School Partnership Program (BISPP), along with the school district, held

the meeting to ask for the help and support of the borough's businesses, professionals and non-profit organizations to get the "Greater Norristown" 2000 goals on track.

America 2000, explained Payson Burt, Chamber of Commerce president, is not mandated by the federal government, but is a volunteer effort on the part of individual communities across the United States to get entire communities involved in making decisions about school and learning improvements.

The Norristown project will involve the creation of six task forces, one for each specific goal of America 2000, Burt explained.

The National Education Goals for the Year 2000, as established by President Bush and the nation's governors in February of 1990, are:

- That all children in America

Norristown

- Greater Norristown 2000 is a volunteer attempt to meet national education goals.
- Local business people are invited to join one of six task forces with the ultimate goal of transforming schools.

will start school ready to learn;

- The high school graduation rate will increase to at least 90 percent;

- American students will leave grades four, eight and 12 having demonstrated competency in challenging subject matter...and every school in America will ensure that all students learn to use their minds well, so they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning and productive

employment in our modern economy;

- U.S. students will be first in the world in science and mathematics achievement;
- Every adult American will be literate and will possess the knowledge and skills necessary to compete in a global economy and exercise the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; and

- Every school in America will be free of drugs and violence and will offer a disciplined environment conducive to learning.

Coordinators will be chosen for each task force, Burt said, and community groups or individuals can sign up to turn their energies to whichever goals they chose.

"When we meet, we'll have to brainstorm. Solutions won't come overnight. We have to ask questions on where we want to be by year 2000, where are we now and

what are other communities doing to keep their goals alive," Burt said.

Burt said the task forces will be in contact with each other through the coordinators over the summer months to map out strategies for implementation. "We don't have textbook rules to work with, just national guidelines. We'll have to map them out ourselves," the chamber president said. "This project has to become our business."

Suggested contributions from area businesses and clubs include donating money or learning equipment, such as computers and programs; starting work-study programs for area students; presenting them with "on the job" training, or holding open houses for students to introduce them to the business world.

"Greater Norristown 2000" is an outgrowth of BISPP, which has

been in existence since 1988 and exists to bring education and business together to help students learn what they need to become successful citizens, according to Bettie Palombo, BISPP president and area realtor.

"This has been our goal right from the start and it makes me feel great we're finally getting it off the ground," Palombo said. "This community can do more than it thinks for our students, using this program." (See profile on Palombo in Life Style, Page 9.)

Over 900 communities in the nation have committed themselves to the "2000" goals for their students, Burt said, "and I can think of no better community or school district that can handle challenges and cooperation like this project."

To get involved, call the Chamber of Commerce at 277-9500 or Palombo at 279-8866.

9/5

P.1

September 4, 1992

MEMORANDUM TO: GARY FOSTER
FROM: DOUG DUVALL
SUBJECT: Survey report for Norristown, PA
Wednesday, September 9, 1992

~~Bob D. McHenry~~
(Speechwriter)
From RBZ

EVENT SCENARIO

The President will participate in an America 2000 speech at Norristown High School on the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 9th. Norristown High is located in the heart of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, and has a very diverse student body. The students represent all income levels and ethnic backgrounds. 40% of the student body is black.

- The audience will be comprised of:
- 1500 Norristown High School Students - grades 9-12
- 150 Faculty and administrative staff
- 75 representatives from the business community involved in American 2000.
- 9 School Board Members
- Representatives of the Parent Club Council (PTA)
- Norristown High School's Vocational Tech School
- Political invitees
- Elementary school kids

The speech will be given in the gymnasium which has three basketball courts. The bleachers hold 2,200, and additional seating for a couple hundred can be put on the gym floor. The stage will be put at one end of the center basketball court closest to the pool. The press platform would be at a head-on position near the public entrance to the gym. The press filing center could be located in the home economics room which is a short walking distance from the site.

The motorcade could arrive at the entrance closest to the football field and the President could proceed to the holding room upstairs. The wrestling room is large enough for the President and staff holding rooms and it has a secure stairwell which would lead directly to an offstage announce behind the dais.

As a pre-program, they plan on playing an America 2000 video which was scheduled to be shown at 3:00 in the afternoon anyway. Also, the high school band will be ready. They are also able to broadcast the speech live via Cablevision which reaches several thousand homes in the area.

SEP 8 8:29

Wednesday is the first day of school where the student body will be at 100%. Tuesday is a half day for registration for the freshman class. This would be a great way for their school year to kick off with the President of the United States.

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
02. List	Contact list for POTUS America 2000 speech; contains personal information. (2 pp.)	09/04/92	P-6, (b)(6)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Speechwriting, White House Office of
Series: Speech File, Backup
Subseries:
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: America 2000, Norristown PA 9/9/92

Date Closed: 12/4/2004
FOIA/SYS Case #:
Re-review Case #: 2004-2265-S
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:

OA/ID Number: 07580

MR Case #:
MR Disposition:
Disposition Date:

Appeal Case #:
Appeal Disposition:
Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

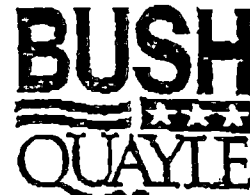
- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- (b)(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
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- (b)(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
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- (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information

Fax



1030 Fifteenth Street, N. W.
 Washington, D. C. 20005
 (202) 336-7080

TO: Bob Zaellick

OF: GARY FOSTER

FROM: Director, Campaign Events and Scheduling

DATE: September 4

FAX NUMBER: 1121

PAGES TO FOLLOW: _____

SUBJECT: _____

COMMENTS: _____

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF POLICY AND PLANNING

FAX COVER SHEET

TO: Steve Provost

FAX: 456-6218

FROM: Bruce Munro

NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW, INCLUDING COVER SHEET:

IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THE COMPLETE TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CALL 202-401-3078. FAX: 401-3095

MESSAGE:

I don't know whether you've seen
this information on Newington 2000

may want to read before 10:30am
conference call with Sec. Alexander.

Bm



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

REGION I, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY'S REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Memorandum

Date September 3, 1992

From D. Kay Wright *D. Kay Wright*
Secretary's Regional Representative

Subject Suburban Philadelphia AMERICA 2000 Community

To John Crisp
Deputy Assistant Secretary, OIIA

Jack Will
Director, Regional Officer

Per your request, provided is information related to a successful suburban America 2000 in the Philadelphia area.

NORRISTOWN 2000

Norristown kicked off June 10, 1992 in a ceremony held at the Norristown High School. The Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jim Holton and the President of the Central Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, Payson Burt, were the catalysts and partners in the effort.

Dr. Jim Holton - Superintendent
Dr. John Gould - Assistant Superintendent
Norristown School District
401 North Whitehall Road
Norristown, Pa. 19403-2799

Telephone: 215-630-5010

Mr. Payson Burt
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce
Lafayette Place One
Suite 101, Norristown, Pa. 19401
Telephone: 215-277-9500

There are task forces working on the national education goals.

The business-education partnership bought specially designed NORRISTOWN 2000 FLAGS to fly in front of the schools. They are beautiful!

The Community submitted a proposal to the New American School Development Corporation. John Gould, Asst. Supt., presented the Design to the Penn State conference participants. They are moving ahead with their Design with the support of the Chamber and the business community - even though they did not obtain a NASDC grant.

09.03.92 :2:16 PM *USDOE:PHILA.

P03

The district is a racially diverse district with a significant minority population (about 40%, if I recall).

The District is in the 13th Congressional District - currently held by Republican Laurence Coughlin who is quite supportive of President Bush.



Bush greets Norristown Area High students on their first school day

President sees district 'in the lead' in education reform

By Traci Canning
Times Herald Staff

President George Bush opened the school year in the Norristown Area High School auditorium this morning, offering his support of educational reforms in the district and providing a report card on his accomplishments as America's "education president."

More than 2,700 students and invited guests filed through metal detectors and waited nearly two hours for the president to offer a 25-minute address outlining his thoughts on the changing needs in American education.

He said now that the threat of nuclear war is over, America needs to turn its attention to its children.

"The world has changed and so must our schools," said Bush. "America is responding to this change."

And he hailed Norristown ed-

"I have come to Norristown because you have accepted my challenge to re-invent American schools."

President Bush

ucators as agents of that change.

Bush lauded the school district for its work in the Greater Norristown 2000 program, a local offshoot of the national America 2000 program initiated by the president last year to reform education before the millennium.

"I have come to Norristown because you have accepted my challenge to re-invent American schools," said Bush. "Norristown is in the lead but you're not alone."

Bush said nearly 1,700 schools across the country have signed on to his "revolution in American education."

He went on to say that the new challenge in learning is to seek creativity and innovation as well as increased federal and state funding.

"If you think money alone will re-invent our schools, think again,"

See **BUSH** On Page 8



Bill Landis Photos/The Times Herald

Bush and schools superintendent Dr. James N. Holton share a laugh before the president's speech.

For many, a special first day

By Regina Panetta
Times Herald Staff

Students arriving at Norristown Area High School today had a lot more to talk about than summer vacation.

Aside from teachers, support staff and high school administrators, students were greeted by police with guard dogs, metal detectors and sharply dressed Secret Service agents.

What a way to start the first day of school.

Then again, it's not every day that the President of the United States drops in to say hello.

"The eyes of the entire world will be on us today," high school principal Barry Spencer said over the school's public address system. "I ask you to do everything in your power to make Norristown High proud."

Outside the high school gymnasium, where the president was expected to address 2,700 spectators on his America 2000 education reforms, students checking press credentials discussed Bush's visit.

"It will be interesting to hear what the president has to say," said 17-year-old Robin Leibowitz, a senior from East Norriton and a

See **SCHOOL** On Page 9

Photo Copy-Preservation

Bush

Continued from Page 1

Bush explained, adding that the president's educational system is based on outmoded principals. "Our schools were basically designed for another age."

The Norristown program forged a joint venture between the district and the business community called the Business Industry School Partnership Program (BISPP), which is designed to implement educational goals outlined by the president.

Bush said Norristown's efforts are in line with his ambitious national goals for the year 2000.

Those goals include being able "to slam-dunk the rest of the world in math and science."

Other goals are a 90 percent high school graduation rate; ensuring that children will be free to study in drug- and violence-free schools; and striving for 100 percent adult literacy.

The aspirations of the Greater Norristown 2000 program provide the flip side for a district wrought with fiscal woes.

Bush reiterated his support of the school choice voucher program, calling it a G.I. bill for America's young.

The president said nearly two-thirds of Norristown district students would be eligible for \$1,000 scholarships under his program and the district itself would be entitled to another \$6 million in federal funding with no strings attached.

"I think every parent has the right to choose the school that's right for their children," said Bush. "Most parents would choose public schools."

"I trust parents, not government, to do the right thing (when it comes to their children's education)."

The 1992-93 Norristown budget season saw the school board approve a \$52 million spending plan which nonetheless eliminated more than 70 district positions from the payroll and hacked extracurricular activities from the district roster.

Additional austerity measures included the implementation of a \$10 student activity fee and a recommendation that varsity football players next year foot the bill for their own insurance.



President Bush shares a few words with students seated on the podium in the high school gymnasium.

Gene Walsh/The Times Herald

After his address to the Norristown Area School District students, the Bush entourage was scheduled to make a stop at the Uniform Tube Inc. in Trappe, where factory workers engage in a question-and-answer session with the commander in chief.

symptom of a larger problem. He believes those problems could be solved through restructuring such as outlined in HOLOS.

"It is symptomatic of having to refinance the old system," Gould said. "These cutbacks will continue until we restructure. The old model doesn't work."

After his address to Norristown Area School District students, the Bush entourage was scheduled to make a stop at the Uniform Tube

collar quiz session, Bush was expected to commend the company on its work in continuing education and training for its employees.

Today's visit marks the first time Bush has visited Central Montgomery County as president; however, he has made visits to Norristown in his former capacity of vice president, most notably for a spaghetti dinner at the home of supporters Bob and Teresa DeAngelis in the East End of Nor-

to Middleton, N.J.

Bush yesterday announced that he wanted Congress to appropriate \$7.6 billion for cleanup and rebuilding in Florida and Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew as well as for Guam, which suffered typhoon damage last week.

And during an appearance in Washington, D.C., Bush reversed his earlier position on loan guarantees to Israel, telling the B'Nai B'rith he planned to formally ask Congress for more than \$10 billion

to house immigrants.

Israel needs the guarantees to obtain bank loans for housing and helping settle nearly 500,000 Jews who have come to Israel since the gates of the former Soviet Union were opened to emigration.

He opposed the plan for months, but yesterday said, "Don't let any member of Congress tell you we can't afford this."

Bush also acknowledged that "consideration has been given" to a sale of 72 F-15 fighters to Saudi Arabia.

GOP

Continued from Page 1

votes," Hoeffel said.

But Hoeffel's comments were in the minority today as most of the other invited guests at the West Norriton high school were Republicans.

County clerk of courts Jane B. Markley said she believes today's visit by Bush will give county Republicans that "added boost" needed for the fall campaign.

"This visit by a sitting president creates the enthusiasm we need," said Markley.

Markley predicted that Bush will "take" the county in November "but we (Republicans) will all have to work hard to insure that victory."

Going one step further and predicting that Bush will win the state was self-proclaimed "Bush cheerleader" county commissioners chairman Mario Mele.

"I am that much of a believer in our president and his policies to predict he will do superbly in this state," Mele said.

Mele's strong support for Bush placed him at odds last month with county GOP chairman Charles F. Nahill Jr., when Mele blasted Nahill for his alleged lack of enthusiasm for the president.

Nahill said last month that, given the economy and Bush's position in the polls, he was not as enthusiastic about the presidential campaign as he once was. Instead, he said, he would concentrate his efforts on local and state Republican candidates.

"President Bush definitely will do well," said county controller Richard Buckman, whose wife, Gail, is a Montgomery County Bush-Quayle campaign coordinator.

"People here will be working a lot harder than they did for Dick Thornburgh," he said.

Photo Copy Preservation

Cloak of security encircles this VIP

By Dana Smith
Times Herald Staff

The yellow school buses were strategically placed by a side entrance.

Uniformed police officers manned every door, while men in suits continually checked the building inside and out.

Providing security for a presidential visit is no simple task.

"The logistics of the whole thing — it's just overwhelming to deal with," said West Norriton Township Police Lt. Joseph Boccella. "This is the first time for something of this magnitude."

George Bush's appearance at Norristown Area High School today meant a collaboration of huge proportions among law enforcement from the federal, state and local levels.

The visit — which totalled about

45 minutes — went off with only a few minor incidents.

Planning began on Labor Day, when White House staff and Secret Service agents met with township police at the high school. While local officers knew the basics about the visit, they weren't filled in on many details.

"The secret service is very definitively vague," Boccella said early today outside the high school. "Right up to the last second, nothing was very definitive. We had to plan for everything."

The game plan once the president arrived was not a complex one — local police would handle duties outside the building, while federal agents took care of any up-close work.

But working toward the 11:43 a.m. arrival of the motorcade started some six hours earlier,

See **SECURE** On Page 9



A Norristown Area High School student (middle) stands next to President Bush after receiving his autograph. At right is high school principal Barry Spencer.

GOP faithful embrace their standard bearer

By Margaret Gibbons
Times Herald Staff

The chairman of the Bill Clinton-Al Gore campaign in Montgomery County today found himself in an unusual position — as a guest invited to witness President Bush's visit to Norristown Area High School.

"I know it's ironic, but I can appreciate the visit of the president of the United States to our county, and I accepted the invitation as a county commissioner," said Democratic commissioner Joseph M. Hoeffel III.

Hoeffel was recently named chairman of the Clinton-Gore campaign in Montgomery County, and was a Clinton delegate at the July Democratic National Convention in New York.

While calling Bush's visit "a great experience for the school

"This visit by a sitting president creates the enthusiasm we need."

Jane B. Markley
County clerk of courts

kids," Hoeffel is not about to abandon his political loyalty.

In a county where Republicans outnumber Democrats two-to-one, Hoeffel says he believes the presidential race will be very close in Montgomery County, unlike four years ago, when Bush thumped Dukakis by a margin of 170,294-109,834.

"(Clinton's) moderate vision of government services and his program for economic recovery and job training is a message that plays strongly with the suburban swing

See **GOP** On Page 8

Photo Copy Preservation

School

Continued from Page 1

member of the Eagle News school communications center. "I'm not used to this happening at Norristown High School. This is great for the school."

Another Eagle News member, senior Sarah Toas, 17, of Norristown, described Bush's visit as both an honor and a disruption to the first day of classes.

Toas wanted to know where Bush's education dollars were going.

"I heard federal monies were increased for education but it seems we've had a lot of cuts in our school," Toas said. "We lost a lot of teachers this year and students may suffer because of the cuts."

Other students waiting to get to their homeroom classes at 7:30 a.m. gave Bush mixed reviews.

"I heard (the president was coming) on the news and I almost flipped out," said senior Tricia Runkle, 18, of Norristown. "My homeroom teacher called me last night to verify it."

"Yeah, it's surprising (that the president's visiting) but I think he's looking for votes because there are a lot of people who are 18 in high school," added 16-year-old junior Karen Strauss of Norristown.

Special education teacher Max Geisler of Trappe thought Bush's visit reflected the district's education efforts.

"I think the district should be honored by his presence," Geisler said. "I think it shows respect for the efforts this district has been making to re-evaluate itself and prepare our students for the 21st century."

Geisler was not as enthusiastic, however, about Bush's stance on education.

"I don't think his policies are supportive of public schools," he said.

Left with precious little time to plan for President Bush's arrival, high school staff members were out in force by 7 a.m. today.

Many carried portable radios and scurried through the halls trying to coordinate the first-day rush of students with the anticipated influx of invited guests.

"We've only known about it three days. We started working on it two

days ago," Spencer said on his way to the forum, an open area between the academic building and the gymnasium.

Despite the frenetic pace throughout the school, the anticipation mounted as the hour drew near for Bush's arrival.

The decision of President Bush to come to Norristown Area High School is a tribute to all of the students, teachers, administrators and parents who have worked so hard to be innovative and industrious, high school vice president Irena Sandler said.

By 8 a.m. today, Secret Service agents and West Norriton police had flanked one of two entrances to the high school gymnasium.

At least six television news vans were stationed in the parking lot by the forum, along with police and firefighting vehicles.

Part of the parking lot near the gymnasium was sealed off with police tape for the anticipated 150 to 300 invited guests.

The remaining spectators would comprise the entire high school student body and eighth graders from district middle schools.

Inside the school, talk of Bush's visit could be heard in the halls from the cafeteria to the principal's office.

Data entry clerk Rose Clark began fielding telephone calls the minute the front switchboard opened at 7:15 a.m.

"They've been crazy," said Clark of East Norriton Township. "I'd say nine (calls) for the president and one for the first day of school."

A line of emergency telephone cables snaked its way from the forum area inside the brightly lit gymnasium, where a row of television cameras and seats for the White House press corps lined the rear of the building.

Both sets of bleachers were extended and there were over 600 folding chairs set up on the gymnasium floor.

Set up behind the podium where the president was to speak was a mural depicting an outdoor school scene with the high school in the background and books and school supplies moving toward it as through space.

The mural was created by Valley Forge Convention Plaza complex art director Christine Kerrick of West Chester, who was hired by the Bush/Quayle advance team.

Photo Copy Preservation

PRESIDENT VISITS MONTCO



West Norriton police Lt. Joseph Boccella (in white shirt) gives instructions to the township's police officers early today in the high school parking lot.

Secure

Continued from Page 1

when West Norriton police met at the department's mobile command post set up in the parking lot.

Five yellow school buses were set up parallel to a building entrance nearest Burnside Avenue. They weren't there for show — the buses blocked the line of vision of the president from some homes across the field.

Inside, Secret Service agents closed the gymnasium at 8:15 while a bomb-sniffing dog searched for any explosives. Their "sweep" of rooms throughout the high school continued until the president's arrival, with each room sealed off after it was inspected.

Around 9:05 a.m., the district's middle school students began arriving. Less than a half hour later, some of the nearly 300 invited guests began lining up at a table where their name was checked off.

"The idea is in some way to restrict it so that just anybody doesn't walk in," said Payson W. Burt, president of the Central Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce.

The system wasn't totally fool-proof, as an East Norriton resident apparently grabbed a pass when no one was looking and entered the building. The man, who police said has a history of mental prob-

lems, was escorted from the building and left the area without a problem.

Before anyone entered the gymnasium, they were shuffled through one of four metal detectors. Handbags were searched and passes for invited guests were checked.

The first alert of the day occurred when a woman who did not have a pass tried to get inside. She was immediately turned away, but allowed to stay on the premises.

Louise Lantonio of Allentown said she told the agents she just wanted to catch a glimpse of a politician she's supported for years.

Shortly after 10 a.m., a couple hundred supporters of Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton arrived and staked out a large portion of the spectator area.

"The police asked us to cooperate with them and the secret service and stand behind police lines," said John Meyerson, who works for the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1776 in Plymouth Township. "I usually do have a problem with that since it's public property."

Once the motorcade arrived, police coverage tightened. Police from Plymouth and East Norriton escorted the caravan through their communities once it left the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Norristown exit.

"They want every single street shut down for the whole route,"

Boccella said.

Two police cars led the line of vehicles, with one black limousine driving ahead of the car containing Bush. He was quickly ushered into a side door of the gymnasium, where he began speaking about 15 minutes later.

Shortly after the president arrived, a man who said he was a veteran charged toward the motorcade. He was quickly apprehended by several police officers.

Boccella said the man would be detained until the president left, and would probably be released without being charged.

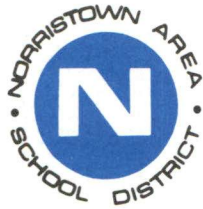
From Norristown, the president and his motorcade traveled to Uniform Tube Inc. in Collegeville, where Bush was scheduled to address employees and company officials.

Then it was off to Perkiomen Valley Airport, where a helicopter was to take him to another appearance in New Jersey in the early afternoon.

Airport owner Lane Jubb said the president's staff contacted him a few days ago and asked permission to use the facility off Collegeville Road in Skippack Township.

Although Jubb figured he wouldn't meet Bush personally, he was happy for the recognition his small airport will receive.

"I don't think we ever had a president up here," Jubb said. "It might put us on the map a little bit."



Young minds are our nation's most valuable natural resource!

Norristown Area School District

Administrative Office—Service Center

401 North Whitehall Road

Norristown, PA 19403

215-630-5000

James N. Holton, Ed. D.
Superintendent

September 26, 1992

Ms. Carol Aarhus
Presidential Speechwriter
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington DC

Dear Ms. Aarhus:

Thank you very much for your note regarding the President's visit to the Norristown Area School District on September 9.

I also wanted to mention that I enjoyed our brief conversation on the phone, and my sense of the day is that it was an overwhelmingly successful visit.

It was a great honor for us to host President Bush, and it was obvious to me that he has a top-flight team of speechwriters to support him in his Presidency.

I also thought you might enjoy seeing the very positive coverage in our local newspaper of the President's visit.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

James N. Holton

JNH:im
Enc.

Article in research file