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Gridiron Dinner 3/28/92 [OA 6100]

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PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: GRIDIRON CLUB DINNER

You know, that closer a few moments ago was the most moving thing I've seen in over a dozen Gridirons. But I do remember an inspired moment Barbara and I had, after last year's dinner. Standing on a windy street corner... she in a trenchcoat with the collar turned up... her long, flowing red hair blowing in the wind... and both of us too proud to run after it.

Let me congratulate the new Gridiron President. It's good to have an intellectual in charge. It took vision to predict my race would be over after Iowa... to say Dukakis would get the Southern vote... to work for a paper that predicts Daniel Ortega by 30 points... Speech in the dark? Hell, Broder writes whole columns in the dark.

That tune about the "Bad, Bad, G.O.P." was a real toe-tapper. We Republicans are tough -- especially my Chief of Staff. Down in Cartagena during a lunchtime photo op, we had to keep saying, "Remember John -- bite the taco, shake the hand..."

Our Press Secretary, he used to be pretty soft. But he's come a long way from last year, when we went into a clothing store. Marlin said, "I'd like to see a bathing suit in my size." And the clerk said, "So would I."

But I think we've got a good team in place. When the phone rang the other day, Scowcroft ran it through intelligence. Baker checked everything out. Sununu said take the call. Certainly worth it. Never thought I'd hear from Elvis again.

What we're still hearing from the White House Press Corps is, "Where's Brent?" And I'm **sensitive** to tonight's jokes about those trips of his. A few weeks ago Brent took a vacation in Salt Lake City. We told the press about it. But I'll be damned if I'm gonna put sanctions on Utah.

[LAST ONE:]

Look. Lot of comedians out there. Doing impersonations. Okay with me. At this juncture, need for balance: somewhere between caution, and prudence. \\ But natural disasters? Out of bounds. California earthquake? Not my fault. San Andreas [an DRAY us] fault.

You know, a few years ago David Broder wrote, "Gridironers believe that foolishness is its own reward." It's true. Because the basis of all good humor is a measure of rebellion. And if we've learned anything from the momentous world events of the past year, it is the undeniable value of thoughtful dissent.

As the esteemed David -- David Brinkley -- recently said, "This city is nowhere near as important as it thinks it is."

Also true -- but the lesson here shouldn't be about declining influence, as much as deflating self-importance. Events in Eastern Europe and around the world have a power of their own -- because of the people and personalities that drive them -- but above all, because of the power of ideas that compel them.

We may witness the world's upheavals through eyes blurred with tears, or eyes bright with wonder. But we can know that because of this idea called America, the world will never be the same again. And thanks to my best efforts, the English language may never be the same again either.

Good night -- and God bless you all.

#

RAYMOND SILLER

1373 Monument Street
Pacific Palisades, California 90272
(213) 454-1922

TO: Marlon Fitzwater

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

FROM: _____

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING 4 PAGES (WHICH INCLUDES THIS COVER LETTER) TO:

FAX #: _____

CONFIRMATION #: _____

ADDITIONAL MESSAGE: Notes on Prediction
plus more "should" lines

IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, OR IF YOU WANT TO FAX A DOCUMENT, CALL (213) 573-2020. THANK YOU!

- | -

NOTES ON TARMAC LINES

First line, "Ich bin" makes no sense. It worked as joke I submitted, but is forced here. It may be fixed if rewritten

as:

A MICHIGAN SOUND BITE PAT BUCHANAN WOULD LIKE TO TAKE BACK
Ich bin ein Mercedes owner.

The "que sera" line is weak. It should at least be re-done as "What's the Spanish phrase for "Read my lips"? But it doesn't really make it.

The "scud, stud, Fudd" line isn't strong, is a bit mean-spirited, and obvious. Plus, there's a rhyming joke coming up later. Audience should only hear one rhyming joke in the batch, and the "crook" line is better. If you want a better Tsongas joke, do my Santa Claus line.

The "Wheel of Fortune" line is good, but again, the second part should be a declarative sentence a la Carnacs. It should read:

"Name a game show, a talk show, and a no show".

The "three new inventions" and "turtleneck" lines are not strong, you should consider replacing.

Carnac usually ends with a rhyming joke. It's usually the one that gets applause, gets you off.

- 2 -

Ten Tarmacs are enough. There are lines that need to be cut.

TARMAC SAVERS

May your annual physical be given by Dr. Kevorkian.

May you choke on a silver foot.

May you get trapped in a Senate elevator with Brock Adams.

May you phone a 900 number for a date and get Tammy Faye Bakker.

May the press find the flower you're watering in your garden is Jennifer.

Tarmac not need this. Just got job as Gene McCarthy's handler.

May your niece come out of a cake at Ted Kennedy's (Yassar Arafat's) bachelor party.

May a diseased yak leave a souvenir in your tube socks.

May you be forced to carpool between Rush Limbaugh and Al Sharpton. (Nina Totenberg and Al Simpson)

- 3 -

May your X-rays reveal a Nawl in your Gingrich.

May your dinner companion at Banihana be Fritz Hollings.

May a crazed tribe of bedouins pitch camp under your tails.

May you discover 43 references in Geraldo's book to your sister.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1992

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: DAVID DEMAREST 

SUBJECT: GRIDIRON IDEA

Instead of your traditional stand-up routine at the Gridiron Dinner, please consider the following idea for your appearance. You could do a little role playing -- i.e., a parody of Johnny Carson's "Carnac the Magnificent" character. You would play the role of Tarmac the Magnificent and Marlin Fitzwater would be your second banana, Ed McMahon.

A scenario for the skit and possible jokes are attached.

Proposed Format for "Great Tarmac" Presentation

- A toast will be made in your honor.
- You will proceed to the podium and acknowledge some of the individuals at the head table.

[While you speak, Marlin will sneak back stage.]

POTUS:

Thank you, thank you for that kind introduction.

Mr. Vice President, members of the cabinet....fellow insiders...

For the second time in a year I nearly lost consciousness during dinner. Thank god none of those skits were funded by the NEA, try selling that to the taxpayer.

My respects to the folks here at the head table.

I see my Attorney General. Bill, saw your profile in the Post. thought they went to far when they said you looked like you were "forced into a suit against your will". You may be boyish but your not "pudgy". Marlin - now there's pudgy.

My good friend Nick Brady, adding that common touch to the head table. Nick, I heard about your latest effort to save the economy. When Marla threw her gold ring at Donald, Nick dove for it. With this deficit, every ounce counts.

- Bill Farish will hand you a note, at this point. You will excuse yourself for a moment and go behind stage.
- Marlin returns to podium and laments how there has been some confusion and that you have been detained. He will then indicate that there is a presidential designee.

Marlin:

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am pleased to welcome the great one, the seer of the unknown, the wisest in the land, a world traveler, a former young Republicans groupy and former baggage handler for Air Sununu....Ladies and Gentlemen.....TARMAC THE MAGNIFICENT!

- You appear wearing a turban and a cape.
- Marlin continues to speak.

Marlin:

I have in my hand questions that have been hermetically sealed in this jar, kept as secure as any taxpayers money in the House Bank -- since noon...Oh great one we need you to shed some light on this mangy looking group of lost souls. If you would please....[Marlin hands you the first card and you hold the card to your forehead]

- You continue reading the jokes as explained.

Thank you, thank you for that kind introduction.

Mr. Vice President, members of the cabinet.... fellow insiders....

For the second time in a year I nearly lost consciousness during dinner.

Sitting through a Gridiron has always been my second favorite fantasy. My favorite fantasy is to spend an entire year in Biosphere 2 with the Mclaughlin Group.

Thank God none of those skits were funded by the NEA, try selling that to the taxpayer.

My respects to the folks up here at the head table.

I see my Attorney General. Bill, saw your profile in the Post. Thought they went too far when they said you looked like you were "forced into a suit against your will" You may be boyish but your not "pudgy". Marlin - now there's pudgy.

My good friend Nick Brady, adding that common touch to the head table. Nick, I heard about your latest effort to save the economy. When Marla threw her gold ring at Donald, Nick dove for it. With this deficit, every ounce counts.

(Take a Sip of Water) Excuse me, Ann [Richards]. Silver foot went down the wrong way.

Gen. Scowcroft ... effervescing as usual.

Dick Cheney did a great job with operation Desert Storm.....
not so sure about Operation Big Splash.

New Secretary of Transportation, Andy Card (?).....

Congratulations to Alan Simpson - new feminist poster boy.

Jerry Brown, is he up here somewhere? Don't see him. Too bad, would have liked to have seen him in that white tie and turtleneck.

And of course, my respects to the Silver Fox. No red hairdo tonight. Seriously, to do what she does for the country, her campaign against illiteracy, working with so many issues, she's been a terrific first lady who's raised a terrific family.
(pause for applause) And she bakes some of the best cookies you've ever tasted.

Some of the entertainment tonight reminded me of my visit to the Country Music Awards. Heard Garth Brooks down there. Seen

Garth Brooks on the cover of Time. Garth Brooks is a friend of mine. Lamar, you are no Garth Brooks.

Lane, good to see you tonight. You know, one of the tabloids is working on a story about Lane Kirkland and three members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union....Lane says he was just trying to "look for the label".

A lot's happened since the last Gridiron -- Cosmonaut Sergi Krikaley returned to earth after ten months in orbit. What must have gone through his mind when he saw the dramatic changes in less than a year. The collapse of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev out of power, Yeltsin in charge.... super market scanners.

Boy, poor Boris Yeltsin. There's a guy truly under siege - - taking shots from his right and his left -- his popularity in the tank -- presiding over an economy on the skids. Whew! Am I glad I'm not in his shoes.

Speaking of hard times, let me just say one thing tonight before I go any further. Not my recession -- out of the country.

Tom Foley's had a rough couple of weeks. Asked him how he was going to handle it all. He said "Mr. President, I'm going to Disney World!"

Tom mentioned he was going to get rid of some those ostentatious perks that Congress has. No more freebies at the pharmacy, no more free passes to the Health Club and no free rubdowns from the House Masseuse -- Ty Collins.

Jack Germond, at it again. I didn't think there was anything that could top last year's Energizer Bunny Suit. Until I saw him backstage in his new Speedo!

This political year has been pretty exciting. It's got something for everyone -- sex, drugs, and rock and roll. And that's just the Clinton campaign.

I'm am concerned though about what are kids are seeing on the tube -- all this violence -- like the Clinton-Brown debates.

Did you see the last one? It was produced by Don King. Bill Clinton replaced one of his handlers with a cut man.

But it's not just Bill and Jerry, candidates from both parties have engaged in vicious name-calling ...like "corrupt", "liar", "hypocrite", "incumbent".

And no one is immune from campaign gaffes. I really think that Pat Buchanan may have hurt himself in Michigan when he started his speech with, "Ich bin ein Mercedes owner".

But there has been some interesting new technology -- got to give Jerry Brown a lot of credit for his success with that 1-800 number. Of course I don't quite get Clinton's [flip over card that reads: 1-976-CLINTON.] But I hear he's getting a lot of calls.

Others are following in his footsteps. Pat's was a flop: [flip over card that reads 1-800-MER-CEDES) and my very own Dick Darman -- looking for help on reducing the deficit [flip over card 1-800-BIG-DICK] [Ok maybe 1-800-END-PORK]

CONCLUSION

Other jokes that you marked that didn't pass our scientifically selected laugh sample:

Paul Tsongas pulled out of the race. The other candidates are relieved. It was distracting debating a man who reeked of chlorine.

This year's political commercials have been ugly. The only thing worse would be the pictures from Yassar Arafat's wedding night.

And what about that Ross Perot. It seems he may be a little out of touch with the average American. He wants Greenpeace to declare the polo pony an endangered species.

Ross has the only penny loafers with Krugerrands.

Last week he tossed a tax-free municipal bond across the Potomac.


Jerry Brown has an abrasive personality. He's the only person ever to make Mother Teresa's enemies list.

The press no longer tries to hide its preference for liberal politicians. Last night there was a bachelor party for Ted Kennedy...and Sarah McLendon popped out of the cake.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1992

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

From: DAVID F. DEMAREST, JR. 

Subject: GRIDIRON PROPOSAL

Per our conversation this morning, I have revised the format for the Gridiron speech and included some additional jokes with this package. I have also included the dialogue for the opening and closing comments.

Proposed Format for "Great Tarmac" Presentation

- A toast will be made in your honor.
- Then Dan Thomasson will say "I have learned the President will not be speaking this evening. I have been asked to turn over the program to Marlin Fitzwater."
- Marlin will proceed to the podium and introduce TARMAC THE MAGNIFICENT. See dialogue.
- TARMAC THE MAGNIFICENT appears wearing a cape.
- Marlin continues to speak. See dialogue.
- Marlin will hand you a joke in a sealed envelope. [The joke will be written out on the back of the envelope and a list will also be provided for you on the podium.] You will hold the envelope up in the air, close to your forehead and read it. Marlin, at this point, may repeat what you say, similar to Ed McMahon. You will open the envelope, blow into the envelope, and read the card.
- There may be an occasion where a joke does not get the most enthusiastic response. In this case you will have the option to chide the audience. We will provide short quips/jokes that you can choose from. As well as a list of quips to use when Marlin gets out of line.

A: The ideal Detroit, Michigan sound bite.

Q: "Ich bin ein Mercedes owner."

A: Saddam Hussein, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul Tsongas.

Q: A scud, a stud, and a Fudd.

A: Wheel of Fortune, McLaughlin Group, and Mario Cuomo.

Q: A game show, a talk show, and a no show.

A: Dante's Inferno.

Q: A year in Biosphere 2 with the McLaughlin Group.

A: Sara McClendon and Jack Germond.

Q: What two people would you not want to see dancing the Lambada?

A: Hans, Franz, and Adolf.

Q: Pat Buchanan's three favorite auto mechanics.

A: Russian capitalism, Reebok pumps, supermarket scanners.

Q: Name three new inventions in 1992.

A: Gallapagos Islands, National Aquarium, and Jerry Brown.

Q: Three places where you'll find a lot of turtlenecks.

A: Jenny Craig and Betty Crocker.

Q: The two leading ladies in Marlin's life.

LAST ONE

A: Que sera, sera.

Q: French, for "Read my lips".

JABS AT MARLIN

- lean cuisine breath
- toupee-less one
- snack-sneaking snowball
- man of a thousand and one inches
- my full-figured flack

GROANER COMEBACKS

- may your Nielsens match my polls
- may your first-born daughter fall in love with a
Congressman
- may you be reincarnated as an NEA Chairman
- may you contract terminal writer's block
- may you ride shotgun to New Jersey with John Sununu

M... ..

GRIDIRON DINNER
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1992

MARLIN: Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sorry that the President will not be speaking to you this evening. However, we have a friend and travelling companion of the President's. Let me now introduce a very special visitor from the East. He is retiring in May, and is making his farewell tour. I am speaking of the all-knowing, all omniscient. Famous seer, sage, and soothsayer. And former baggage handler for Air Sununu. TARMAC . . .THE MAGNIFICENT.

I hold in my hand the envelopes. A child of four can see they are hermetically sealed. They have been kept in a mayonnaise jar on Funk and Wagnall's porch since noon today. NO ONE knows the content of these envelopes. But you, in your mystical and borderline divine way, will ascertain the answer having never before heard the question. Is that correct, oh holy sage?

PRESIDENT: You're padding your part, elephant breath . . .

Envelope number one.

MARLIN: Funk and Wagnall's porch.

Noon today.

MARLIN: I hold in my hand the last envelope.

{After cheering}

PRESIDENT: May your first born daughter marry a Congressman
and may your Nielsen ratings match my polls.

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A: Wheel of Fortune, McLaughlin Group, and Mario Cuomo.

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RAYMOND SILLER

1373 Monument Street
Pacific Palisades, California 90272
(213) 454-1922

TO: David Demarest

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FROM: _____

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ADDITIONAL MESSAGE: Notes on Gridiron
plus a few "insult" lines.

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May your X-rays reveal a Newt in your Gingrich.

May your dinner companion at Benihana be Fritz Hollings.

~~May a crazed tribe of bedouins pitch camp under your tails.~~

May you discover 43 references in ^{Wit Chamberlain} ~~Geraldo's~~ book to your sister.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 27, 1992

INFORMATION

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SUBJECT: GRIDIRON IDEA

Instead of your traditional stand-up routine at the Gridiron Dinner, please consider the following idea for your appearance. You could do a little role playing -- i.e., a parody of Johnny Carson's "Carnac the Magnificent" character. You would play the role of Tarmac the Magnificent and Marlin Fitzwater would be your second banana, Ed McMahon.


A scenario for the skit and possible jokes are attached.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST

FROM: MICHELE NIX 

SUBJECT: GRIDIRON DINNER

Here's the poopski so far: POTUS will address the Gridiron Club on Monday at the end of the evening's program. The program is set up as follows:

- The festivities begin with the traditional Speech in the Dark by the Club's new president, Dan K. Thomasson of Scripps-Howard (and Andy Ferguson's old boss). (Last year's president was "Budge" Sperling of the Christian Science Monitor.
- Marine Band enters, plays, exits
- Opening musical number
- Recognitions
 - Install the new president (Edgar Allen Poe of New Orleans Time-Picayune presents ivory gavel to Thomasson)
 - Introduce new members
 - Acknowledge some member of the audience
- Democratic skit (20-30 minutes of song and dance)
- Democratic response by Ann Richards (boo)
- Republican skit (another 20-30 minutes of song and dance)
- Republican response by Lamar Alexander (yea). Thomasson told me that Alexander is probably going to steal the show with what he's planning -- but he didn't want to tell me what that was. We should be joke-prepared.)
- Closing musical number
- Toast to the President ("In 107 years, the Gridiron Club has had but one toast -- 'Ladies and Gentleman -- to the President of the United States!'"

March 25, 1992

Dave --

Dan Thomasson is holding tight to the rehearsal book -- because they're still rewriting.

So I called somebody else with the Gridiron -- the Gridiron sheriff. He said he'd try and get me one of the final books -- due back from the printer today.

In the meantime, he gave me a quick run-through of the songs.

REPUBLICAN SKIT:

(Held on top floor of Macy's Department Store -- the players try to put together the Macy's Parade, but since they're in Chapter 11, they end up with a very ragged parade.)

Songs:

"Darman" singing "Forget Your Troubles, Come on Get Happy."

About the Soviets -- "Breaking Up is Hard to Do"

About Saddam -- "The Rain in Spain" as sung by four coneheads (SNL variety)

About the Japanese car industry "Surry with the Fringe on Top"

About POTUS' flu -- song about Oliver Stone investigation of the puking incident

About Buchanan -- "Man from La Mancha"

Bart Simpson singing to Lamar character "Teach Me Tonight" re education system

DEMOCRATIC SKIT

All those who didn't run -- Cuomo, Gore, Gephardt, Benson singing:

"No More Dolls" re Clinton's happy pants

"Good Ol' Reliable Congress"

Song about Clarence Thomas

"Sleeze" re press reporting second hand sleeze recycled from tabloid press

Health Care song -- a witch doctor singing and dancing

Ted Kennedy song -- first a song about him boozing it up and getting fresh with the girls -- and then the song "I'm Getting Married in the Morning"

About Jerry Brown -- the Energizer Bunny (supposed to be Brown) comes out with voice over saying "There's Jerry Brown -- he's still running . . ." One side of the drum says "Jerry Brown for President" and the other side has "1-800-MONEY."

About Clinton: Clinton character dressed as Elvis singing to the press "You Ain't Nothin' but a Hounddog." And then sings "Love Me Tender, Democrats."

Helen Thomas plays Ann Richards singing about herself -- makes reference of silver foot.

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A: Saddam Hussein, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul Tsongas.

Q: A scud, a stud, and a Fudd.

A: Wheel of Fortune, McLaughlin Group, and Mario Cuomo.

Q: A game show, a talk show, and a no show.

A: Dante's Inferno.

Q: A year in Biosphere 2 with the McLaughlin Group.

A: Sara McClendon and Jack Germond.

Q: What two people would you not want to see dancing the Lambada?

A: Hans, Franz, and Adolf.

Q: Pat Buchanan's three favorite auto mechanics.

A: Russian capitalism, Reebok pumps, supermarket scanners.

Q: Name three new inventions in 1992.

A: Gallapagos Islands, National Aquarium, and Jerry Brown.

Q: Three places where you'll find a lot of turtlenecks.

A: Jenny Craig and Betty Crocker.

Q: The two leading ladies in Marlin's life.

LAST ONE

A: Que sera, sera.

Q: French, for "Read my lips".

JABS AT MARLIN

- lean cuisine breath
- toupee-less one
- snack-sneaking snowball
- man of a thousand and one inches
- my full-figured flack

GROANER COMEBACKS

- may your Nielsens match my polls
- may your first-born daughter fall in love with a
Congressman
- may you be reincarnated as an NEA Chairman
- may you contract terminal writer's block.
- may you ride shotgun to New Jersey with John Sununu

m...
m...

GRIDIRON DINNER
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1992

MARLIN: Ladies and Gentlemen, I am sorry that the President will not be speaking to you this evening. However, we have a friend and travelling companion of the President's. Let me now introduce a very special visitor from the East. He is retiring in May, and is making his farewell tour. I am speaking of the all-knowing, all omniscient. Famous seer, sage, and soothsayer. And former baggage handler for Air Sununu. TARMAC . . .THE MAGNIFICENT.

I hold in my hand the envelopes. A child of four can see they are hermetically sealed. They have been kept in a mayonnaise jar on Funk and Wagnall's porch since noon today. NO ONE knows the content of these envelopes. But you, in your mystical and borderline divine way, will ascertain the answer having never before heard the question. Is that correct, oh holy sage?

PRESIDENT: You're padding your part, elephant breath . . .

Envelope number one.

MARLIN: Funk and Wagnall's porch.

Noon today.

MARLIN: I hold in my hand the last envelope.

{After cheering}

PRESIDENT: May your first born daughter marry a Congressman
and may your Nielsen ratings match my polls.

A: The ideal Detroit, Michigan sound bite.

Q: "Ich bin ein Mercedes owner."

A: Saddam Hussein, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Paul Tsongas.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1992

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

From: DAVID F. DEMAREST, JR. 

Subject: GRIDIRON PROPOSAL

Per our conversation this morning, I have revised the format for the Gridiron speech and included some additional jokes with this package. I have also included the dialogue for the opening and closing comments.

Proposed Format for "Great Tarmac" Presentation

- A toast will be made in your honor.
- Then Dan Thomasson will say "I have learned the President will not be speaking this evening. I have been asked to turn over the program to Marlin Fitzwater."
- Marlin will proceed to the podium and introduce TARMAC THE MAGNIFICENT. See dialogue.
- TARMAC THE MAGNIFICENT appears wearing a cape.
- Marlin continues to speak. See dialogue.
- Marlin will hand you a joke in a sealed envelope. [The joke will be written out on the back of the envelope and a list will also be provided for you on the podium.] You will hold the envelope up in the air, close to your forehead and read it. Marlin, at this point, may repeat what you say, similar to Ed McMahon. You will open the envelope, blow into the envelope, and read the card.
- There may be an occasion where a joke does not get the most enthusiastic response. In this case you will have the option to chide the audience. We will provide short quips/jokes that you can choose from. As well as a list of quips to use when Marlin gets out of line.

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~~and may your Nielsen ratings match my polls.~~

FOR RELEASE AT 6 P.M. EST SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1992

NOTE; SONG LYRICS ATTACHED

FOR QUESTIONS: CALL PENNY DIXON 202 639-5480

GRIDIRON DINNER

WASHINGTON--The 107-year-old Gridiron Club of Washington newspaper men and women held its annual politically-satirical song and dance white-tie dinner Saturday night at the Capital Hilton Hotel.

President and Mrs. Bush were among the administration, cabinet, congressional, judicial, military, diplomatic, gubernatorial, labor, industrial and journalistic guests in attendance at the annual dinner. President Bush is the 18th consecutive president to attend a Gridiron Dinner since Benjamin Harrison attended his first on Jan. 30, 1892.

Other head table guests at the dinner included Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, Secretary of the Treasury Nicholas F. Brady, Attorney General William Barr, Associate Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Colin Powell and the dean of the diplomatic corps, Shaikh Saud Nasir Al-Sabh, Ambassador of Kuwait.

Notable guests included CIA Director Robert Gates, GOP presidential candidate Patrick J. Buchanan and former Democratic Sen. Paul Tsongas.

Gridiron President Dan Thomasson of Scripps-Howard delivered the traditional "speech in the dark" to the club members and their guests. He said that Dallas billionaire Ross Perot had been asked to finance the dinner "but he said he might need all his money this year. Therefore, we were forced to negotiate a grant from Japan. So, Mr. President, the dinner is on Mr. Miyazawa."

President Thomasson took note of Vice President Dan Quayle's absence from the dinner, telling the crowd he was busy at work on his golf game--"one of his handicaps."

The skits lampooning the Democrats and the Republicans are the centerpiece of all Gridiron affairs. This year's show was produced by music chairman Phillip Geyelin of the Washington Post. The skit producers were Richard Cooper of the Los Angeles Times and Alan S. Emory of the Watertown Daily Times.

The Democratic skit highlighted the party's dilemma in finding a presidential candidate this year, took a punch at Congress and outlined the bad year for Sen. Edward Kennedy. It compared the Democrats to the gamblers and horse players in the 1950 musical "Guys and Dolls."

Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton made his case for the nomination to the tune of "Love Me Tender":

"I'm the nominee for you,
Cleansed of lust and sin.
Love me tender, I'll be true--
As I've always been."

"I've always been a patriot,
This is no new leaf.
Draft me for my favorite spot:
Commander-in-Chief."

The Congress took its lumps to the melody "The House I Live In."

``The House we live in is more than just a bank
It's a monumental tribute to the privilege of rank.
A parking space for members--no tickets and no fee.
The right to be elitist--that's America to me.''

The place we work in is more than just a dome.
It takes a heap of free-bees to make this House a home.
Free travel when we're jaded, exotic sights to see.
While ripping off the public--that's America to me.''

As for Senator Kennedy, he was featured in the ``Ted Kennedy Blues.''

``It's three o'clock in the morning,
Time we go out for a beer.
Au Bar's the place we are heading,
Plenty of action down there.
We'll bring us back some girlies,
Just for a romp by the sea,
If anything's done that is naughty--
You'll never prove it by me.''

The Republican skit featured the GOP take-over of Macy's department store as a demonstration of its new economic growth plan. The opener needed Richard Darman, the Bush administration's budget director, to the song ``Get Happy.''

``Forget your troubles and just get happy,
We're gonna chase all your blues away.
Sing Hallelujah, come on, get happy--
No recession we can see today.
You lost your job? Well, come on, get happy.
We've got a program to ease your pains.
And for the poor it is really snappy''--
So they can keep all their cap'tal gains.''

Presidential candidate Pat Buchanan was on the griddle to the tune of
``Man of La Mancha.''

``Listen up, ye apostles of true isolation,
The wisdom I bring from TV.
I'll get rid of all Zulus and porn in our nation.
Return to the right. Elect me.''

``I am I, Pat Buchanan,
The Lord of Protection.
Our borders have got to be sealed.
We must march to the trumpets of Goldwater, Taft,
And get everything modern repealed.''

The CIA was spoofed to the melody of the "Whiffenpoof Song."

"We are poor little spies who have lost our way,
C-I-A.
Out of work spies who have gone astray,
C-I-A.
Once we fought the evil empire,
Now we're only guns for hire.
Yeltsin put out the Langley fire.
C-I-A."

The responses to the skits were delivered by Lamar Alexander, Secretary of Education, for the Republicans and by Ann Richards, Governor of Texas, for the Democrats.

Four new active members--William Beecher of the Minneapolis Star and Tribune; Clark Hoyt of Knight-Ridder; Julia Malone of Cox Newspapers; and John W. Mashek of the Boston Globe were initiated into the Club at the dinner.

Three new members chosen for their musical ability were also initiated. They were singers Brian Donnelly and Mike Shortal; and pianist John Legg, Master Sargent in the United States Marine Band.

As always, the program concluded with the only toast of the evening--to the President of the United States. Mr. Bush responded.

Music before the dinner was provided by the United States Marine Band which has been associated with the Club since the days of John Philip Sousa. The band was directed by Col. John R. Bourgeois, who also serves as director of music for the Gridiron. The Les Karr Orchestra provided music for the show.

Following are the lyrics for all the songs in the show:

MAKIN' WHOOPEE

Another year, another cast
Of celebrated, men in my past.
Another season, another reason
For makin' whoopee.

A lot of rubes, a lot of hicks
Are gettin' nervous in politics
It's really killing, they were so willing
To make a whoopee.

Picture a little love nest
Down where the roses cling
Picture that same sweet love nest
Think what some years will bring.

They got their wishes, they had their way
They're so ambitious, but now they pay
I won't forget boys, that's what you get boys
For makin' whoopee.

SO MANY WAYS TO HAVE GOOD CLEAN FUN

JIMMY SWAGGART:

In the fight against sin and moral decay
Political leaders have now shown the way
You're finished with harassment, womanizers cannot run
You've become colossal bores and need some fun.

You need weenie roasts and treasure hunts, conundrums and charades
Dominoes, monopoly and masquerades
No more singing, no more dancing, no more gaiety
And scandals that offend the political laity.

So many ways to have good clean fun
So many games to enthrall
No earthly reasons why public life should be so dull.

Ever so often we're overwhelmed
Many temptations to shun
That's why it pays to have
So many ways to have
Good clean fun.

(ORCHESTRA REPEATS A SECOND TIME WITH ON STAGE CHOREOGRAPHY)

CHORUS CHANTS IN STAGE WHISPER

Donna Rice, Tai Collins,
Gennifer Flowers, Oh boy

Blue smoke, blue movies
Long Dong Silver, Au Bar

Pookie Pookie, Monkey Business
Brock Adams, Call your druggist

I love my wife but of you kid.

(modulate key)

We've got the guys and we've got the dolls
We've spent our publishers' dough
Everyone stay cause it's time for the play
It's the Grid Iron Show

CHORUS:

Everyone stay cause it's time for the play
It's the Grid
Iron
Show

SOLOIST

So many ways to have
good clean fun.

So many games to
enthrall

No earthly reasons
why public life

Should be so dull

LUCK BE A LADY
(Tune - Same)

They call you Lady Luck,
But there is room for doubt.
The last twelve years you've had a discouraging way of running out.
Our pickings have been slim
Since Reagan came to town,
And yet before November is over you might bring Poppy down.
You might forget past history,
Ignore what pollsters say,
And so the best that we can do is pray.

Luck, let the Democrats see
How nice a dame you can be.
Luck, you must be the one who gave us Jimmy Carter,
Luck, hear our Democrat's plea.

We should have nothing to fear,
Bush is a patsy this year.
If you don't cotton to our guys already running,
Maybe a late volunteer?

Our candidates aren't smooth and preppy,
But with your help, one could prevail,
We're better on our knees in a crapshoot like this
Than out on the fairways with Quayle.

So Luck, heed the Democrats' call,
Not just another pratfall.
Always remember we're the party of the people.
Luck, be a Lady,
Though odds are shady,
Luck, be a lady this fall.

A PERSON CAN BE OUT IN THE COLD
Lady Luck & Sideliners
(Tune: Adelaide's Lament)

(GEPHARDT steps forward.)

LUCK: A young Democratic hopeful, looking to try again,
Takes special caution drafting his design,
And big GOP poll numbers, fed by the hot Gulf war,
Affect the amount of stiffness in his spine,
In other words just from wondering whether George Bush is
too hard to beat,

GEP: A person can develop cold feet.

(GORE steps forward.)

LUCK: Though he's certainly making a name for himself back in
Tennessee,
And the public should note he delivered a vote to make
Kuwait free,
When the Solid South seems to be solid for the GOP,

GORE: A person can develop cold feet.

(BENTSEN steps forward.)

LUCK: To get on the national ticket's a worthy and noble goal,
One that he managed back in '88.
Winning by acclamation, that's how he likes to go,
Quite free of campaign travel or debate.
In other words, just from worrying over the primary
combat heat,

BENTSEN: A Texan can develop cold feet.

(CUOMO steps forward.)

LUCK: Though a spell-binding speaker can give you exciting
convention scenes,
He may spend all the primaries up there in Albany
counting beans,
When the party is looking for some kind of hero who's
not from Queens,

CUOMO: A Cuomo can develop cold feet.

LUCK: In other words, just from stalling and stalling the
question of getting bold,
A person can be out in the cold.

So it looks as though they will be shelving their
presidential hopes,
And patrolling political sidelines like a bunch of
dopes,

A PERSON CAN BE OUT IN THE COLD
page 2

But who could predict that George Bush would be up
against the ropes?
Contenders can be out in the cold.

It's sad, it's bad, they've really been had.
Unfinanced and unpolled, cause they all missed a shot at
the gold.

From a lack of sufficient vision and a feeling they're
all getting old.

ALL: Contenders can be out in a four-year cold.

FUGUE FOR GREENHORNS
Ron Brown & Democratic Promoters
(Tune - Fugue for Tinhorns)

CHORUS: Can do, can do
We'll clean up in '92
With this super-stellar crew
Can do, can do.

BROWN: Our Democrats are great.
Would like to sweep the states,
Hey, what a choice selection of candidates.

PRO-1: Tom Harkin had the force
To be a real warhorse
But not enough folks liked it when he talked coarse.

PRO-2: Bob Kerrey's campaign boom
Just never reached full bloom
So now he can't move Debra to the Lincoln Room.

PRO-3: Let's go for Jerry Brown,
The only guy in town
Who's firmly pledged to burning the White House down.

PRO-4: Bill Clinton's set to scrap,
He talks that Southern yap
And he's a cinch to broaden the gender gap.

PRO-5: Paul Tsongas' cool technique
Has just begun to peak,
And what the party needs is another Greek.

PROS: Party kings
 Sexy things
 Ding-a-lings

CHORUS: We've got the guys right here.

NO MORE DOLLS
(Tune - Guys and Dolls)

FIRST NEWSY:

What's in the Daily News?
I'll tell you what's in the Daily News:
Story 'bout a politician who has trouble telling whose
wife is whose.
That's what's in the Daily News.

SECOND NEWSY:

What's big on TV?
I'll tell you what's big on TV:
Piece about a boss who made lewd suggestions to a lovely
employee.
That's what's big on TV.

THIRD NEWSY:

What news perserveres?
I'll tell you what news perserveres:
Saga of a husband so loyal that his girl-friend waited
for eleven years.
That's what perserveres.

SOLOIST:

Looks like sex is popular as racial quotas.
They're the kind of thing that doesn't please the voters.
Though a pol is mean, ignorant and unclean,
It's OK if he never toyed with some doll.
Candidates can win the electorate's trust
If they promise--they must--from puberty on,
Abandon all lust.
The most awesome hunk has to live like a monk,
If he longs for that motorcade down the Mall.
Though he's rude, crude and awful
And his platform might be unlawful,
Long as he isn't making it with some doll,
Some doll, some doll.
The guy can't be making it with some doll.

ALL THREE NEWSYS:

Long as he isn't making it with some doll,
Some doll, some doll.
The guy can't be making it with some doll.

THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED
(Tune - same)

We don't care if the laws get complex
Long as our bank's not bouncing checks.
We can dine a la carte all we want
On the tab at the House restaurant.
While Mitchell and Foley act like good scouts
And the Ethics Committees rarely report,
And things bein' how they are, we can drop by the Post Office
for a snort.
We're immune to both anger and praise,
Once an incumbent's in, there he stays.

For it's good old reliable Congress,
On the Senate side and the House.
If you're looking for action, don't come to the Hill
Cause anything that Bush is for we're looking to kill.
In the good old reliable Congress
Where the budgets only expand,
It's the oldest established permanent floating
con game in the land.

There are well-heeled lobbies everywhere, everywhere,
Lots of well-heeled lobbies everywhere,
And an awful lot of PAC dough for the candidates who lack dough
there.
All those corp'rate contributions really help keep the
competition fair.

That's our good old reliable Congress
Where harassment's always in style.
Ev'ry member need not be too clever by half,
All the bills and speeches can be written by staff.
In those hideaways furnished by Congress
Where the slick maneuvers are planned,
It's the oldest established permanent floating
con game in the land.

Spend the money, dodge the blame,
You can play the game if you've got no shame,
It's the oldest established permanent floating
con game in the land.

CONGRESS CORRUPTKE
("Gee, Officer Krupke")

BIDEN:

Dearrrrr... kind-ly Clar-ence Thom-as
And dear Pro-fess-or Hill,
We don't want to har-ass you
We on-ly want our fill.
We tried to keep it se-cret
But you know how that works --
Now on T-V, we all look like jerks.

Please, par-don our pry-ing when deal-ing with sex.
There's no smok-ing gun here, so why don't-cha just confess.

ALL SENATORS:

We don't want a lynch-ing --
We're not so un-couth --
We simp-ly hung-er for the truth.

BIDEN:

We want truth! We want truth! We want just plain truth!
What we hunger for is just the truth.

BIDEN:

Dearrrrr...kind-ly Ms. An-i-ta,
We're sorry for the leak.
We don't like to repeata
The charges that you speak.
But Spec-ter here is eag-er
And Strom's all a-quiv-ver
To hear you views on Mis-ter bleep-bleep Sil-ver.

Paul Si-mon is blush-ing, and Metz-en-baum's blue.
They don't like this cir-cus one bit more than you do.

DEMOCRATIC SENATORS:

This is strict-ly biz-ness,
Not real-ly a joke.
Please, tell the part about the Coke.

BIDEN:

Yes the Coke.

CHORUS AND SENATORS:

Yes, the Coke! Yes, the Coke!
Yes the tell-tale Coke.
And remember, please, this is no joke!

REPUBLICAN: The problem is she's dreaming.

DEMOCRAT: The problem is he's crude.

REPUBLICAN: The problem is she's scheming.

DEMOCRAT: The problem is he's lewd.

CONGRESS CORRUPTKE
page two

REPUBLICAN: The problem is still growing.

DEMOCRAT: The problem is full grown.

ALL: Fel-las, we've got problems of our own.

ALL:

Dear TV view-ers, we're down on our knees,
'Couse no one likes a Cong-ress that wallows in sleaze.
The vot-ers they tell us, that we are all wet.
We on-ly hope that you ... for-get!

HEALTH CARE SONG
(Tune: "'The Witch Doctor'')

We need a health care plan to win in ninety-two
To cover working folks and jobless people too
I asked the Witch Doctor to tell us what to do
And he said:

Oooh, eee, oooh ah ah
Ting, tang walla walla bing bang
Oooh, eee, oooh ah ah
Ting tang walla walla bing bang

We need to hold down costs and get the care to you
We need to find the cash but taxes just won't do
I asked the Witch Doctor to give us just a clue
And he said:

Oooh, eee, oooh ah ah
Ting, tang, walla walla bing bang
Oooh, eee, oooh ah ah
Ting tang walla walla bing bang

We've been playing fast and loose with our domestic trouble.
And some have said we've not been very smart,
But this new plan is slick enough to rise above the rubble.
It's guaranteed to win the voter's heart.

This health care strategy is catchy and it's great
If we sing loud enough with voters we will rate
Maybe the Witch Doctor should be our candidate

Let's hear it:

Oooh eee oooh ah ah
Ting tang walla walla bing bang
Oooh, eee, oooh ah ah
Ting, tang walla walla bing bang

Oooh eee oooh ah ah
Ting tang walla walla bing bang
Oooh, eee, oooh ah ah
Ting, tang walla walla bing bang

Song for a Democratic Congressman who declined to speak on the record.

(The House I Live In)

(SOLO)

What is America to me -- safe seat, good pay and perks for free,
Political plutocracy -- that's American to me.

The House we live in is more than just a bank
It's a monumental tribute to the privilege of rank.
A parking space for members -- no tickets do WE see.
The right to be elitist -- that's America to me.

The place we work in is more than just a dome.
It takes a heap of free-bees to make this House a home.
Free travel when we're jaded, exotic sights to see.
while ripping off the public -- that's America to me.

Assistants all around us, to tell us what to think,
And cozy little hide-outs where we can sneak a drink.
Free parking at the airport, free pills for every ill.
Our very own gymnasium, our postage costs are nil.
The cut-rate hair-cuts, the luncheons on the cuff;
We fatten up our pay check when we think it's not enough.
We celebrate the virtue of in-equality.
It's neat to be elitist -- that's America to me!

(CHORUS REPEAT)

We celebrate the virtue of in-equality!
It's neat to be elitest -- that's America to me.

* * *

TED KENNEDY BLUES
(It's Three O'Clock in the Morning)

Ted Kennedy: It's three o'clock in the morning,
Time we go out for a beer.
Au Bar's the place we are heading,
Plenty of action down there.
We'll bring us back some girlies,
Just for a romp by the sea.
If anything's done that is naughty--
You'll never prove it by me.

CHORUS: If anything's done that is naughty---

Soloist: You'll never prove it by me.

Soloist dons cutaway coat and begins to sing...

"GET ME TO THE CHURCH ON TIME"

KENNEDY I'm getting married in the morning,
Ding dong the bells are gonna chime,
A resurrection, before my election,
So get me to the church on time.

If I am dancing, roll up the floor,
I gotta face my voters in ninety-four.

Hey, I'm getting married in the morning.
Too bad, when I've just reached my prime.
Kick up a rumpus, but don't lose the compass,
And get me to the church, get me to the church,
For Pete's sake, get me to the church on time.

"NEVER ON TUESDAY"

TSONGAS:

I wear my Speedo trunks on
Wednesday and Sunday and Monday --
That's when I reach my peak.
But then along will come a
Tuesday, a Tuesday, a Tuesday --
It messes up my week.

I was no Santa Claus on
Thursday or Friday or Sunday --
So I kept flying high.
But when the polls would close on
Tuesdays, black Tuesdays, the voters
Would leave me high and dry

"YOU AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A HOUND DOG"

BILL CLINTON (to press dog):
You ain't nothin' but a hounddog,
snooping all the time.
You ain't nothin' but a hounddog,
snooping all the time.

But you never caught me running,
with some cash-for-trash feline.

"LOVE ME TENDER"

CLINTON:
Love me tender, Democrats,
I'm your mod'rate star.
Next to me Bush looks ersatz,
Quayle is over par.

I'm the nominee for you,
Cleansed of lust, and sin.
Love Me Tender, I'll be true--
As I've always been.

I've always been a patriot.
This is no new leaf.
Draft me for my fav'rite spot:
Commander-in-Chief.

I survived the spring combats,
Selling southern soap.
Love Me Tender, Democrats,
I'm your ONLY hope.

THE GIRL THAT I MARRY
Democratic Speaker's Song

ANN RICHARDS:

I shyly suggest that our nominee
Could take a few lessons from little me.
To him I would explain
How to run a nice friendly but macho campaign.
When old Clatey hit me with all those smears,
I did things to him that we do to steers;
He was kneelin, he was squealin.
And I have to admit I've been feelin'
I'm tall in the saddle for nationwide battle this year.

So let's take a look at our candidates.
They're not what you'd describe as heavy-weights.
We need someone with class
And a silver foot to kick Republican ---- ("Bleep.")
Of course you know I'd never use that word,
A more genteel phrase is to be preferred.
We want winners, not beginners,
And what we do not need is male sinners.
I'm female and foxy, and I've got the moxie -- choose me.

REPUBLICAN OPENER
Richard Darman Song
GET HAPPY

SOLOIST: Forget your troubles and just get happy.
We're gonna chase all your blues away.
Sing Hallelujah, come on, get happy--
No recession we can see today.
You lost your job? Well, come on, get happy.
We've got a program to ease your pains.
And for the poor it is really snappy--
So they can keep all their cap'tal gains.

Trust us, we are caring, and you know we really tried.
Trough times we're sharing,
Blame the other side.

Can't get a mortgage? Come on, get happy.
A little hunger can be okay.
No real depression. That makes us happy--
At least until Election Day.

DANCE

CHORUS: Just trust us, we're caring, and we really, really tried.
Look how we're faring.
Blame the other side.

Can't get a mortgage? At least, get happy,
And you can share in the games we play.
The banks are folding, but still we're happy--
At least until Election Day.

CIA SONG
Whiffenpoof Song

SOLOIST: To the old McLean headquarters,
To the place where Casey dwelled,
To the covert actions that we planned so well.
We are former spooks assembled,
With no one on whom to spy,
And the K-G-B's our buddy, sad to tell.

SPIES: Yes, the K-G-B's our buddy,

SOLOIST: More so than the F-B-I,
And we're having trouble fooling Cap'tol Hill.
Oh, we long for ol' Bill Casey,
May his ghost inspire us now,
Gates just lacks the shady tricks to fill the bill.

SPIES: We are poor little spies who have lost our way,
C - I - A.
Out-of-work spies who have gone astray,
C - I - A.

SOLOIST: Once we fought the evil empire,
Now we're only guns for hire.
Yeltsin put out the Langley fire.

ALL: C - I - A.

SOVIET BREAKUP SONG
Breaking Up Is Hard to Do
(Arvidson with Groer, Means, Brazaitis, Page & Geyer)
Group enters up ramp

RUSSIANS: A-zer-bai-jan.
Dooby doo, down, down.
And Uz-bek-i-stan.
Dooby doo, down, down.
Where's Turk-men-i-stan?
Dooby doo, down, down.
Breakin' up is hard to-oooh-oooh do.

ARVIDSON: These brand-new names are not a snap.
You can barely find us on the map.
As to our future we don't have a clue,
'Cause breakin' up is hard to do.

Remember when inflation rates
Were decided inside Kremlin gates?
Who knew that freedom would bring trouble too?
'Cause breakin' up is hard to do.

SOLO, RUSSIANS, CHORUS: Ta-ji-ki-stan
Dooby doo, down, down.
Also, Ka-zakh-stan,
Dooby doo, down, down.
Where is Kyr-gyz-stan?
Dooby doo, down, down.
Breakin' up is hard to-oooh-oooh do.

SADDAM HUSSEIN SONG
The Rain in Spain

SOLOIST: Saddam Hussein is causing Bush great strain.
That damn Saddam is driving George insane.

CHORUS: Aga-ain???

SOLOIST: We got-ta rub him out . . . of this campaign.

CONEHEAD 1: I thought you'd got him!

CONEHEAD 2: You said you'd shot him!

SOLOIST: It won't be all that easy to explain.

CONEHEAD 1: I could'a snagged him!

CONEHEAD 3: I could'a fragged him!

SOLOIST: Old Stormin' Norm . . . was on the prowl.

CONEHEADS: On the spot! Hot to trot!

SOLOIST: So who did . . . throw in the towel?

CONEHEADS: Colin Powell . . . Colin Powell!

SOLOIST: How could George give a furlough to that bee-east?
The Willy Horton of the Mid-dle Ee-east?

(A slinking figure enters and joins the coneheads.)

SOLOIST: This is a job . . . for C . . . I . . . A.

CONEHEADS: Let us pray . . . let us pray.

SOLOIST: Bob Gates will save the day!

CONEHEADS: Oy-vay! . . . Oy-vay!

SOLOIST: He'll slam Saddam the old Bill Casey wa-ay:
With dirty tricks -- before election day-ay!

CIA FIGURE: I think he's got it! I think he's got it!

CHORUS: With laundered swag we'll bag that Baghdad beast.
The Willy Horton of the Mid-dle Ee-east.

CAR SONG
The Surrey With the Fringe on Top

SOLOIST: Get the Ginza cleared in a hurry.
Here comes an Amelican surrey,
Left-hand drive Amelican surrey
Heading for the shop.

Watch the driver, see how he shudders
Ev-ry time that big clunker sputters,
And don't liss-en to what he mutters
When it starts to stop.

The wheels are wobbly, the upholst'ry's brown,
The dashboard's make-believe leather,
With power steering windows that won't roll down
In case there's a change in the weather.

One faint tail light winkin' and blinkin'.
Gallons of gas'line guzzlin' and drinkin'.
They can keep that rig if they're thinkin'
That they'd like to swap
For my zippy little Honda with the TARIFF on the top.

CHORUS: (Repeat)

OLIVER STONE SONG
It Ain't Necessarily So

Stone (Ryan) and cameraman (Smith) enter from stage right

RYAN: It ain't necessarily flu.
It ain't necessarily flu.
I have a suspicion that what his physician
Said ain't necessarily true.

My movie will prove something's wrong,
'Cause C-I-A spooks were along.
They poisoned his sushi--or else it was mooshi
Pork they fed him back in Hong Kong.

SMITH: Wa dee

CHORUS: Wa dee

SMITH: Zim bam boddle-ee

CHORUS: Zim bam boddle-ee

SMITH: Hoodle ah da wa dee

CHORUS: Hoodle ah da wa dee

SMITH: Conspiracy

CHORUS: Conspiracy

ALL: Yeah.

RYAN: Just take it from Oliver Stone:
There's something that is still unknown.
Reverse peristalsis not often befalls us,
So was that chef working alone?

I'll tell a great story, blood-curdling and gory
And I'll make up the plot
Mix facts up with fiction, and without restriction--
That's how my films are shot.

I'm sounding a warning today,
Just as I did in "J-F-K."
A new barf commission, o'er my opposition,
Will secretly flush it away.

I'm making this movie to prove

CHORUS & RYAN: It ain't necessa, ain't necessa, ain't necessa,
Ain't necessarily flu.

S L E A Z E
(Kids)

TABLOIDS:

Sleaze, we provide just what readers want today.
Sleaze, whether in the Senate or in the hay.
Print any kind of rumor, legend, lie or myth.
We hit stuffed shirts, bigwigs, perverts, preachers,
Any kind of target.

Sleaze, sodomy and rape are our stock in trade.
Sleaze, it's the steamy stuff of which profit's made.
Keeping our circulation healthy in evry way.
What's the matter with sleaze today.

ESTABLISHMENT PRESS:

Please, we're too pure to cover such sordid stuff.
Please, in the high class press there's not space enough.
Sleaze makes our readers queasy when they get the point.
Goodness gracious, no salacious copy
Ever mars our columns.

But -- there is one exception to standard bland,
Sleaze can be quite all right if it's second-hand.
Bless the Star and Inquirer, though we pretend they're worst,
Just as long as they print sleaze first.

CHORUS:

Bless the Star and Inquirer, though we pretend they're worst,
Just as long as they print sleaze first.

MARILYN QUAYLE SONG
Wabash Cannonball
Soloist enters from stage right.

QUAYLE: I give Dan his orders
And this is not a boast.
But we didn't pay a penny for
That series in The Post.

I'm planning campaign strategy
So he'll survive this fall.
My bouncing boy conservative
Wabash basketball.

Dan loosens rules in secret
to please our fat cat friends
'Cause open competition
Won't pay big dividends.

Though some call him a lightweight;
I think it's a close call.
I won't let anyone slam-dunk
My Wabash Basketball.

Jim Baker tried to run our show
'Way back in eighty-eight.
But Baker didn't understand
I was the running mate.

And if he tries to take Dan on
Four years from this Fall
He'll also have to take me on
The Wabash Cannonball.

CHORUS: It's time to think survival,
So she'll campaign this fall
She'll save Dan from himself
'cause SHE's (pause)
The Wabash Cannonball.

BUCHANAN SONG
Man of La Mancha

SOLOIST: Hear me, all you ridiculous fans of George Bush,
Bamboozled and dumb as can be:
A new hero is here, and I'm ready to push
For return to the last century.

I am I, Pat Buchanan,
Soft-spoken and tender,
And how I love our fellow man!
Put the homeless in jail as a sign of affection
America first is our plan.

Listen up, ye apostles of true isolation,
To wisdom I bring from TV.
I'll get rid of all Zulus and porn in our nation.
Return to the Right. Elect me.

I am I, Pat Buchanan,
The Lord of Protection.
Our borders have got to be sealed.
We must march to the trumpets of Goldwater, Taft,
And get everything modern repealed.

I know that I've seen the light.

CHORUS: It's like fifty-four forty or fight.

BUSH CAMPAIGN
Where is the Life that Late I Led

REAGAN: Since I reached political maturity,
And began to see the conservative light,
Like a priest who takes a vow of purity,
I cannot abide defection from the Right.
And now that the keeper of the flame am I,
How stricken by the squalor and the shame am I.

Where is the Right that late I led?
Where's my crusade? Totally dead!
Where is the Bush that I spoon-fed?
Where is his head? Why has he fled?

Oh, he pulled in -- for one pit-stop.
But praising an heir who isn't all there
Was not worth a photo-op.

DUET: So we reminded George and Bar:
WHO do you think got YOU this far?

REAGAN: NOT John Sununu -- and not YOUR voodoo!
Hey, I would-a bet-cha that would get-cha in deep
doodoo.
Apologizing? 'Bout things like taxes?
Now didn't I teach-ya saying you're sorry is
mal-practice.
Your new world order -- that's left-wing folly!
Somebody gets tough -- you get-cha a rough-neck
nut like Ollie.
Oh, how could you be . . . so spooked by Pat's
bluff?
Why don't you just thank him and outflank him with
the RIGHT stuff?

Where is the Bush that ONCE I knew --
Reading MY lips,
Loyal and true!
If you don't want my Holy Grail,
I'll take it back -- Give it to Quayle.
I should-a picked some Teflon guy,
Instead of an heir whose cupboard is bare
And can't even figure why.
Where is the Reagan legacy?
Where is the rest -- the best -- of me?

CHORUS: Where is the Bush that I spoon-fed?

REAGAN: Where is the Right that la-a-a-a-ate I led?

TEACH ME TONIGHT
(Bart Simpson to Alexander)

Guess you think I've got a lot to learn,
Got some minutes on the clock to burn,
Money's something I am hot to earn,
Teach me tonight.

Starting with the S-A-Ts of it,
Right down to the J-O-Bs of it,
We're behind the Jap-a-nese a bit.
Teach me tonight.

My life's a blackboard here before me,
With the best years yet to be spent
With luck, some day I'll grow up to be
The ed-u-ca-tion pres-i-dent.

If us students aren't reached, La-mar
Then our teachers haven't taught, La-mar
On the shore of life we're beached, La-mar,
Teach me tonight.

Desert Storm was swell to see, La-mar
Cut school to watch it on T-V, La-mar
We've got bombs smarter than me, La-mar
Teach me tonight.

We've got bombs smarter than me, Lamar!
Teach me tonight!

STARDUST

Verse

(Solo 1)

And now the purple blush of beajoulais
Steals across the meadows of our minds

(Solo 2)

We are slightly fried, tomorrow we pay
Right now, we hope we can stand for-Auld Lang Syne

(Solo 3)

The Secret Service, standing watch are they
Ready with the raincoats when he speaks

(Solo 4)

But before the presidential entre
We want to share our latest leaks

(Carl Rowan)

Sometimes we wonder how you sit through these long nights
Wishing they would end
Our Gridiron show wanders to and fro
And hits the truth a time or two

Every now and then

We might have an inspiration

Lord, that was hours ago and now our consolation
Is that you've stayed awake this long.

And here inside this hall the Gridiron glows

You await the dawn

(Bird song in orchestra)

A nightingale sings as we impale

(Scream backstage)

Another victim of our show

We may sing in vain

But we hope you will retain

Some Gridiron melodies

That beckon you to come again

CHORUS REPEAT FROM BRIDGE

And here inside this hall the Gridiron glows

You await the dawn

(Rooster crow)

A nightingale sings as we impale

(Scream backstage)

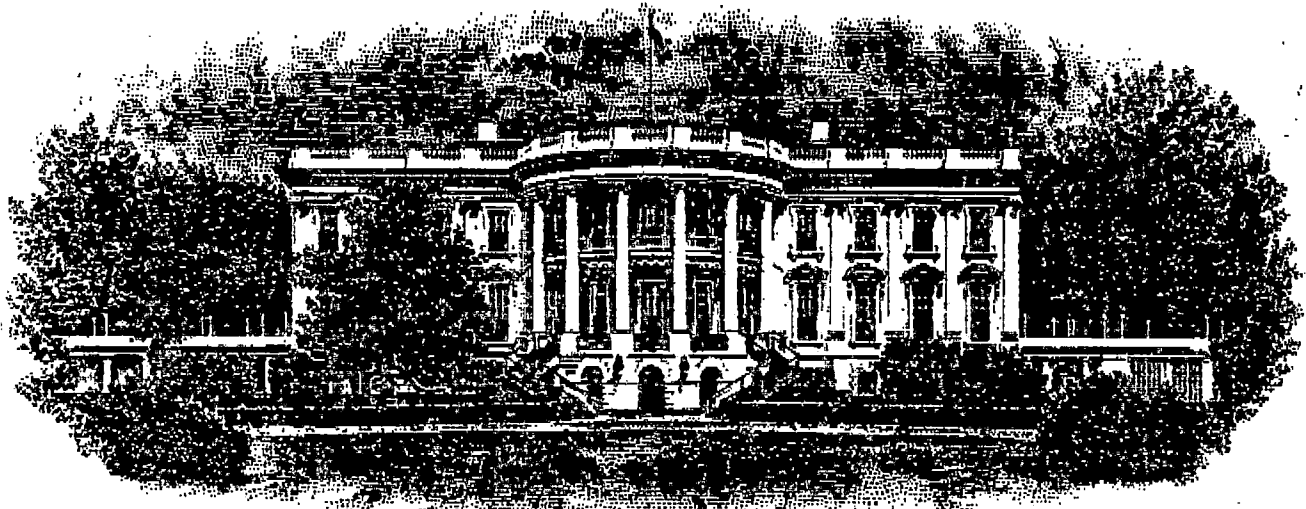
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We may sing in vain

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Some Gridiron melodies

That beckon you to come again



FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 2

DATE 3/26

TO David Demarest

FAX NUMBER 2983

COMMENTS Brainstorm re Girdiron
Also: Rehearsal book not available
until tomorrow.

FROM Michelle

* DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS *

OFFICE NUMBER 7750

March 26, 1992

Dave --

I called Sharon this morning to catch you with an idea we're batting around over here in Research, but I guess it's been a hectic day over there and you've been hard to reach.

Re Gridiron: Bob mentioned that the Pres wants to do something a little different this year besides stand-up. Well, I was thinking: Given that this is a Carson crowd -- and since Carson is to leave in a couple months -- POTUS could do a take-off on Carnac the Magnificent. Bob said he also thought of this and mentioned this briefly in the 9:00 meeting. My thinking was that Marlin would be the most logical "Ed." He's "pudgy," and he and POTUS have the same kind of rapport that Johnny and Ed have.

This would be a really easy set-up -- no elaborate costumes needed -- simple props. POTUS and Marlin could share the podium or they could set-up a simple desk and two chairs on the stage.

We could rename Carnac -- maybe making POTUS' character Carnac's brother, just back from overseas, "Bushwac the Electable" (Tarmac the Political, or something). Marlin could do the same set-up as Ed -- i.e., "these envelopes have been sealed in the House Bank vault since last year . . ." or whatever. Marlin could repeat back all the answers like Ed always does. POTUS could chime back things to Marlin "Thank you, twinkie breath." At the end, Marlin could do the "I hold in my hand the last envelope . . ." After the crowd cheers, POTUS could do the Carson-type line "May a Congressional representative date your sister . . ." or something along those lines.

The jokes we have now could be easily converted to the envelope answer-question format. One envelope idea: "THE HOUSE BANK" Marlin: "The House Bank." POTUS: [Opens envelope, blows inside -- and pours out white powder (or white powder flies out when he blows inside)]. And then POTUS makes some crack (no pun intended).

We have other ideas if you want to go with it. Bob thought it would be great if we could actually get Ed McMahon here to be himself. There'd be some great jokes to make about that -- something about Ed losing his job in a couple of months -- Bush doing what he can for unemployment . . . We could check with McMahon's scheduler to see if he's available, in the country, etc. I think the audience would get a huge kick out of something like this. More importantly, Ann Richards and Lamar Alexander are going to be great -- the President has to be great, too. The Carnac formula is easy to handle; there wouldn't be any fear of POTUS messing up. Plus, it fits with his personality -- and with the President's desire to be funny in some way other than stand-up. And most important of all: it's something great that we can pull together quickly.

POST
OFFICE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3/26/92

R3-

Call Demarest

see if they can

come up with

different format.

Am not comfortable

with standing up

reading joke & sitting

down. Mrs. B will

be there. Maybe Q + A?

Please return
to Pres.
Office -

Prez
-

GEORGE E

Discuss
w Demarest
early Thurs.
AM

Siller

MARCH 28, 1992

THE PRESIDENT

GRIDIRON DINNER

..., fellow insiders...



There must be some congressmen in the room. It feels like there's an overdraft.

(TAKE SIP OF WATER) Excuse me, Ann. Silver foot went down the wrong way.



First thing Monday morning I'm getting my eyes examined. Out in the lobby, I swear I saw a guy in a turtleneck flashing an 800 number.

Governor Jerry Brown was supposed to be here. But his turtleneck snagged in the zipper of his UAW jacket. A police emergency unit is using the Jaws of Life to remove him.

The governor of New York was invited, but he couldn't make up his mind whether to fly, take the train, or wait 'til the '96 Gridiron.

Bill Clinton planned to attend the dinner, 'til he heard the dessert topping was nutmeg.

- 2

Enjoyed the musical numbers and the droll, sophisticated, Noel Cowardesque skits...by the wit-challenged members of the press.

Quite a coup...hiring the authors of "Police Academy 9".

Thank God the NEA doesn't fund your skits. Try to justify that to the voters.

You people give "dysfunctional" a bad name.

Your performances were riveting. There should be a warning label on the program..."Immediately following a Gridiron, do not operate heavy machinery".

Nearly the second time this year I lost consciousness during a dinner. ✓

Your performances had all the fun of a Yassar Arafat bachelor party.

Sitting through a Gridiron has always been my second favorite fantasy. My favorite fantasy is to spend a year in Biosphere 2 with the McLaughlin Group. (Or, with the Capital Gang) (or, bungee-jumping into Tokyo strapped to Fritz Hollings) ✓

-3-

Tonight you were rougher than usual, but you don't frighten me. I could lick you with one handler tied behind my back.

rough

(SEC. ALEXANDER WILL HAVE SUNG COUNTRY MUSIC) I've heard Garth Brooks in concert. I've seen Garth Brooks on the cover of Time. Garth Brooks is a friend of mine. Lamar, you're no Garth Brooks.

far

If anyone from the NEA is here, I beg you not to fund him.

great

Lamar is the brother the Gatlins don't talk about.

Actually Lamar, you were great. Knocked my tube socks off.

I may be losing control of my Administration. This morning in the Situation Room, Colin Powell was singing rap...Sounded like a cross between M.C. Hammer and Rudy Vallee.

u

That super market tabloid, the Star, is working on a story about Lane Kirkland and three members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union...Lane says he was just trying to "look for the union label".

rough

I don't want to rattle Al Simpson. But this morning, Nina Totenberg was in a D.C. gun shop pricing sniper scopes.

-4-

Last week, Dick Cheney held a Pentagon briefing to show how he had Patriot missiles intercept and destroy his three giant checks.

With the world at peace, there isn't much work for our war correspondents. Peter Arnett (Charles Jaco) has been assigned to the Georgetown Four Seasons in case there's a flareup between Marla Maples and Donald Trump. (...assigned to the Hill in case there's a flareup between Nina Totenberg and Al Simpson)

When Marla threw her gold ring at Donald, Nick Brady dove for it. With this deficit, every ounce counts.

Alan Greenspan says the economy is recovering. I hope he's right. I just made a down payment on a pair of tube socks.

Took a lot of ridicule for purchasing a couple pair of socks. To the press, tube socks are a joke. To Senor Wences, they're a livelihood.

This speech isn't just about me. It's for the heart and soul of the Gridiron Club.

Some news from Russia. Lenin isn't dead. He was just napping during a particularly long Russian Gridiron dinner.

-5-

Congratulations to Bob Strauss, who was judged the wittiest speaker at this year's Russian Gridiron...Bob really cracked them up doing the Charlocton dressed as Nina Khrushchev.

Bob Gates is considering a private news program that would be available on encrypted computer to 200 top administration officials that would offer instant analysis of news events. That in itself is not a bad idea. But Bob may be getting carried away. He wants to hire Gordon Liddy to do weather and sports.

Have you seen John Sununu on "Crossfire"? Most people feel Michael Kinsley is overreacting...wearing chatterproof glasses.

John Sununu already alienated the brass at CNN. Last weekend he flew home to the dentist aboard a corporate jet...citing the need for secure communication with Michael Kinsley.

John Sununu may run for governor of Arkansas. John said, "Not only do you fly on corporate jets, but they serve you free chicken".

Too tough

-7-

Newt Gingrich has a take-no-prisoners personality. Newt has the only locker with a pinup of Hannibal Lecter. (Or, Newt Gingrich, the House Hannibal Lecter)

if??

Art Buchwald is now suing the producers of "Basic Instinct". Art claims they used his body as stunt double during Michael Douglas's love scenes.

maybe

Jesse Helms is writing a Saturday morning cartoon show for children...starring Joe Camel.

It may surprise you to learn Jesse Helms joined the ranks of animal rights supporters. Today outside the White House Jesse walked a mile for Joe Camel. (Or, Jesse Helms has become an activist for animal rights. Jesse wants to put Joe Camel on the endangered species list.)

Paul Tsongas pulled out of the race. The other candidates are relieved. It was distracting debating a man who reeked of chlorine.

possible

The person most unhappy to see Paul bow out was his unannounced running mate, Mark Spitz.

Paul dropped out so he can devote more time to catching that kwazy wabbit.

- 8 -

We've got to curb the violence on TV. I'm speaking of the Clinton-Brown debates.

These debates are getting heated. The next one will be produced by Don King.

It's getting nasty. Bill Clinton replaced one handler with a cut man.

You know it's gonna be vicious when the moderator begins the debate with, "Let's...RUMBLE!" (A la Vegas fight announcer)

Last week, they had to use the Jaws of Life to remove Jerry Brown's teeth from Bill Clinton's ankle.

New York police have warned residents to stay indoors so they don't get injured in a drive-by political commercial.

This year's political commercials have been ugly. The only thing worse would be the pictures from Yassar Arafat's wedding night. ✓?

Candidates from both parties have engaged in vicious name-calling...like "corrupt", "liar", ("hypocrite", "fascist", "draft dodger", "womanizer", "racist") "incumbent".

- 9 -

One candidate favors isolationism. You know the definition of an isolationist. That's a guy who showed up for a Tom Harkin victory party.

They accused me of pandering to the far right...just because I proposed statehood for Rush Limbaugh.

To most of us, the campaign season means countless nights in strange hotels. To (deadbeat pol or press person), it's a chance to glom tiny shampoo bottles, shoe polishing cloths, and chintzy white bathrobes.

I enjoy campaigning on the road, sleeping in hotels. It's a pleasure to thumb through the Gideon Bible and know they don't carry Doonesbury.

H. Ross Perot is launching a Presidential bid. Ross says he won't accept any contribution under a billion dollars.

To Ross, the Kuwaiti ambassador is middle class. (KUWAITI AMBASSADOR IS AT HEAD TABLE)

Ross may be out of touch with average Americans. He wants Greenpeace to declare the polo pony an endangered species.

Ross's campaign slogan is, "The Krugerrand stops here".

~ 10 -

Ross has the only penny loafers with Krugerrands. ✕

Last week he tossed a tax-free municipal bond across the ✕
Potomac.

The public can't get away from the candidates. The other day
in a Brooklyn K-Mart, a voice came over the speaker and
said, "Attention, K-Mart shoppers. I'm Jerry Brown and my
number is 800-426-1112".

Spent last weekend at Camp David with Helmut Kohl. Pat
Buchanan phoned the Chancellor and asked if he knew the blue
book price for a used Mercedes.

Pat's plan to get America moving is to set aside a diamond
lane for Mercedes drivers.

Pat may have made a tactical error when he gave a speech in
a GM parking lot that began with, "Ich bin ein Mercedes
owner".

✓
found
but maybe
too hard

Some say Pat really has his sights set on '96...when he
plans to run for Kaiser.

Pat tries to identify with people who frequent McDonald's.
But when Pat refers to a Big Mac, he means his fat neighbor
in McLean.

- 12

Jerry Brown lived two years in India, but was asked to leave. Waving that 800 card scared the snakes back into their baskets.

Jerry Brown has an abrasive personality. He's the only person ever to make Mother Teresa's enemies list. **24**

Governor Brown inspired Mother Teresa to say, "Enough already with the 800 number. Pass the curry".

Jerry Brown's campaign slogan is, "The Buddha stops here".

This year, even the scandals have changed. In the old days, politicians worried about being caught in a motel. Now they're scared they'll be spotted inside the Beltway.

This year, nobody's sacred. What will be the next revelation? Lane Kirkland wears Taiwan tails?

The climate is changing on the Hill. Today a congressman got into a shouting match with a D.C. cop (meter maid). But the cop (meter maid) refused to write him a parking ticket.

House members have gotten angry letters from bank robbers. You can't blame the robbers. When they get caught pulling a heist, they can't get the ticket fixed on their getaway car.

-13-

Recycling has caught on up on the Hill. At the House gym members pasted together a batch of checks and built a trampoline.

This whole business is pervasive. This morning Millie fetched me a rubber slipper.

There's so much rubber on the Hill some members carpool in the Goodyear Blimp.

They plan to reform the system. In the future, members may be asked to walk through a rubber detector. ?

Today the House voted that the United States convert to the rubber standard.

Did you know the Swiss now keep their money in the House bank?

The House post office scandal has the voters enraged. Elvis threatened to sue if they use his stamp.

What's going on up there? At the House post office they replaced the Elvis stamp with John Gotti.

Nobody wants to be associated with the mess. Today three of the "wanted" posters turned their heads to the wall.

- 14 -

Their post office has a special express mail service "when you absolutely positively have to make an overnight loan to your campaign".

The public is finding out about the House's perks, like free drugs. I hope that doesn't change. One thing the members don't need now is someone stopping the flow of Maalox.

Why can't we go back to those innocent days when politicians just took bribes?

Pundits predict this fall's contest will pit Bush versus Clinton...Barbara against Hillary in the Pillsbury Bakeoff.

*funny
but...*


Saddam is worried the United States may hit Iraq with our secret chemical weapon...the Arkansas chicken.

Talk about your land mines.

Secretary Cheney has assured me we have a sufficient number of F-117 Stealth fighters and nuclear subs in place as a precaution during Ted Kennedy's bachelor party.

-15-

A team of U.N. inspectors will supervise the dismantling of Ted Kennedy's little black book.

The press no longer tries to hide its preference for liberal politicians. Last night there was a bachelor party for Ted Kennedy...and Sarah McLendon popped out of the cake. 

A jury granted a divorce to Jim and Tammy Faye Bakker on the grounds of irreconcilable eyeliner.

The Colt Manufacturing Company applied for bankruptcy. The final straw was losing the contract to distribute free guns to D.C. (New York) schools.

Had a little trouble in Japan with the Vomit Thing.

My goal with Japan is someday to pass out on a level playing field.

This isolationist mood has to stop. Dick Gephardt awarded me 3 points for barfing on a foreign head of state...and an extra 5 point bonus because he was Japanese.

RAYMOND SILLER

4373 Monument Street
Pacific Palisades, California 90272
(213) 454-1922

TO: BRIDGET MONTAGNE

DATE: 3/24/92
TIME: 11:30 pm EST

FROM: RAY SILLER

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING 17 PAGES (WHICH INCLUDES

THIS COVER LETTER) TO:

FAX #: 202 4562397

CONFIRMATION #: 310 4541922

ADDITIONAL MESSAGE: Note to President &
Tridition Material.

Bridget, could you please count the
pages? 15 pages of notes, plus a
cover letter. I have a feeling one
page didn't go through.
Thanks. Ray

IF YOU DON'T RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, OR IF YOU WANT TO FAX A
DOCUMENT, CALL ~~(213) 573-2020~~. THANK YOU!

RAYMOND SILLER

1373 Monument Street
Pacific Palisades, California 90272
(213) 454-1922

TO: BRIDGET MONTAGNE

DATE: 3/24/92
TIME: 11:30 PM EST

FROM: RAY SILLER

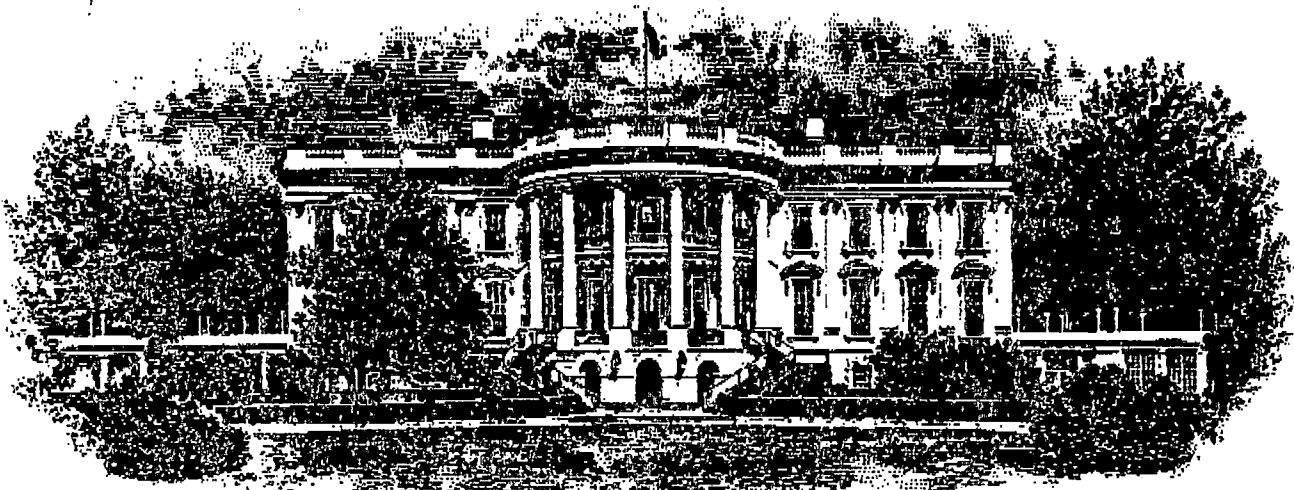
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CONFIRMATION #: 310 454 1922

ADDITIONAL MESSAGE: Note to President & Auditor Material.

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FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 17

DATE March 25

TO David Demarest

FAX NUMBER 456-2983

COMMENTS Ray Siller's jokes.

He breached some of the subjects

we touched on last night (e.g., Dick

Cheney check bouncing, briefing, Sumner + Clinton's

FROM Michelle Wix air travels

* DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS *

OFFICE NUMBER 7750

RAYMOND SILLER

1373 Monument Street
Pacific Palisades, California 90272
(213) 454-1922

TO: Archela Niz

DATE: 3/24/92
TIME: 11:45 PM EST

FROM: Ray Siller

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING ~~16~~¹⁶ PAGES (WHICH INCLUDES
THIS COVER LETTER) TO:

FAX #: 202 4566218

CONFIRMATION #: 310 4541922

ADDITIONAL MESSAGE: Superior Material

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DOCUMENT, CALL (819) 573-2020. THANK YOU!

Siller


THE PRESIDENT

GRIDIRON DINNER

MARCH 28, 1992

...., fellow insiders...

There must be some congressmen in the room. It feels like there's an overdraft.

 (TAKE SIP OF WATER) Excuse me, Ann. Silver foot went down the wrong way.

First thing Monday morning I'm getting my eyes examined. Out in the lobby, I swear I saw a guy in a turtleneck flashing an 800 number.

Governor Jerry Brown was supposed to be here. But his turtleneck snagged in the zipper of his UAW jacket. A police emergency unit is using the Jaws of Life to remove him.

The governor of New York was invited, but he couldn't make up his mind whether to fly, take the train, or wait 'til the '96 Gridiron.

Bill Clinton planned to attend the dinner, 'til he heard the dessert topping was nutmeg.

- 2 -

Enjoyed the musical numbers and the droll, sophisticated,
Noel Cowardesque skits...by the wit-challenged members of
the press.

Quite a coup...hiring the authors of "Police Academy 9".

★ Thank God the NEA doesn't fund your skits. Try to justify
that to the voters.

You people give "dysfunctional" a bad name.

Your performances were riveting. There should be a warning
label on the program... "Immediately following a Gridiron, do
not operate heavy machinery".

Nearly the second time this year I lost consciousness during
a dinner.

Your performances had all the fun of a Yassar Arafat
bachelor party.

★ Sitting through a Gridiron has always been my second
favorite fantasy. My favorite fantasy is to spend a year in
Biosphere 2 with the McLaughlin Group. (Or, with the Capital
Gang) (or, bungee-jumping into Tokyo strapped to Fritz
Hellings)

- 3 -

Tenight you were rougher than usual, but you don't frighten me. I could lick you with one hander tied behind my back.

(SEC. ALEXANDER WILL HAVE SUNG COUNTRY MUSIC) I've heard Garth Brooks in concert. I've seen Garth Brooks on the cover of Time. Garth Brooks is a friend of mine. Lamar, you're no Garth Brooks.

If anyone from the NSA is here, I beg you not to fund him.

Lamar is the brother the Gatline don't talk about.

Actually Lamar, you were great. Knecked my tube socks off.

I may be losing control of my Administration. This morning in the Situation Room, Colin Powell was singing rap...Sounded like a cross between M.C. Hammer and Rudy Vallee.

That super market tabloid, the Star, is working on a story about Lane Kirkland and three members of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union...Lane says he was just trying to "look for the union label".

I don't want to rattle Al Simpson. But this morning, Nina Totenberg was in a D.C. gun shop pricing sniper scopes.

- 4 -

Last week, Dick Cheney held a Pentagon briefing to show how he had Patriot missiles intercept and destroy his three giant checks.

With the world at peace, there isn't much work for our war correspondents. Peter Arnett (Charles Jacob) has been assigned to the Georgetown Four seasons in case there's a flareup between Maria Maples and Donald Trump. (...assigned to the Hill in case there's a flareup between Nina Totenberg and Al Simpson)

When Maria threw her gold ring at Donald, Nick Brady dove for it. With this deficit, every ounce counts.

Alan Greenspan says the economy is recovering. I hope he's right. I just made a down payment on a pair of tube socks.

Took a lot of ridicule for purchasing a couple pair of socks. To the press, tube socks are a joke. To Senor Wences, they're a livelihood.

This speech isn't just about me. It's for the heart and soul of the Gridiron Club.

Some news from Russia. Lenin isn't dead. He was just napping during a particularly long Russian Gridiron dinner.

-5-

Congratulations to Bob Strauss, who was judged the wittiest speaker at this year's Russian Gridiron...Bob really cracked them up doing the Charleston dressed as Nina Khrushchev.


Bob Gates is considering a private news program that would be available on encrypted computer to 200 top administration officials that would offer instant analysis of news events. That in itself is not a bad idea. But Bob may be getting carried away. He wants to hire Gordon Liddy to do weather and sports.

Have you seen John Sununu on "Crossfire"? Most people feel Michael Kinsley is overreacting...wearing shatterproof glasses.

John Sununu already alienated the brass at CNN. Last weekend he flew home to the dentist aboard a corporate jet...citing the need for secure communication with Michael Kinsley.

John Sununu may run for governor of Arkansas. John said, "Not only do you fly on corporate jets, but they serve you free chicken".

- 6 -

 Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalov returned to earth after ten months in orbit. What must have gone through his mind when he saw the dramatic changes in less than a year. The collapse of the Soviet Union, Gorbachev out of power, super market scanners...

Ten months orbiting the earth. He clocked more time in space than Jerry Brown.

Pravda is bankrupt. They went belly up after David Broder (Kevin Phillips, Evans and Novak) doubled the rate to carry his column.

Pravda went bankrupt. You have to feel for the Russian people. They'll no longer get to read Doonesbury.

Rich Bond has been on the phone with the former Pravda staffers. As Rich said, "You can never have too many spin doctors".

Lee Iacocca is stepping down. Lee has been feverishly working on a car for Chrysler executives. When the air bag activates, out pops a golden parachute.

→ -

Newt Gingrich has a take-no-prisoners personality. Newt has the only locker with a pinup of Hannibal Lecter. (Or, Newt Gingrich, the House Hannibal Lecter)

Art Buchwald is now suing the producers of "Basic Instinct". Art claims they used his body as stunt double during Michael Douglas's love scenes.

Jesse Helms is writing a Saturday morning cartoon show for children...starring Joe Camel.

It may surprise you to learn Jesse Helms joined the ranks of animal rights supporters. Today outside the White House Jesse walked a mile for Joe Camel. (Or, Jesse Helms has become an activist for animal rights. Jesse wants to put Joe Camel on the endangered species list.)

Paul Tsongas pulled out of the race. The other candidates are relieved. It was distracting debating a man who reeked of chlorine.

The person most unhappy to see Paul bow out was his unannounced running mate, Mark Spitz.

Paul dropped out so he can devote more time to catching that kwazy wabbit.

- 8 -

* We've got to curb the violence on TV. I'm speaking of the Clinton-Brown debates.

* Those debates are getting heated. The next one will be produced by Don King.

* It's getting nasty. Bill Clinton replaced one handler with a cut man.

You know it's gonna be vicious when the moderator begins the debate with, "Let's...RUMBLE!" (A la Vegas fight announcer)

Last week, they had to use the Jaws of Life to remove Jerry Brown's teeth from Bill Clinton's ankle.

New York police have warned residents to stay indoors so they don't get injured in a drive-by political commercial.

This year's political commercials have been ugly. The only thing worse would be the pictures from Yassar Arafat's wedding night.

* Candidates from both parties have engaged in vicious name-calling...like "corrupt", "liar", ("hypocrite", "fascist", "draft dodger", "womanizer", "racist") "incumbent".

- 9 -

One candidate favors isolationism. You know the definition of an isolationist. That's a guy who showed up for a Tom Harkin victory party.

They accused me of pandering to the far right...just because I proposed statehood for Rush Limbaugh.

To most of us, the campaign season means countless nights in strange hotels. To (deadbeat pol or press person), it's a chance to glom tiny shampoo bottles, shoe polishing cloths, and chintzy white bathrobes.

I enjoy campaigning on the road, sleeping in hotels. It's a pleasure to thumb through the Gideon Bible and know they don't carry Doonabury.

H. Ross Perot is launching a Presidential bid. Ross says he won't accept any contribution under a billion dollars.

To Ross, the Kuwaiti ambassador is middle class. (KUWAITI AMBASSADOR IS AT HEAD TABLE)

Ross may be out of touch with average Americans. He wants Greenpeace to declare the polo pony an endangered species.

Ross's campaign slogan is, "The Krugerrand stops here".

- 10 -

Ross has the only penny loafers with Krugerrands.

Last week he tossed a tax-free municipal bond across the Potomac.

The public can't get away from the candidates. The other day in a Brooklyn K-Mart, a voice came over the speaker and said, "Attention, K-Mart shoppers. I'm Jerry Brown and my number is 800-426-1112".

Spent last weekend at Camp David with Helmut Kohl. Pat Buchanan phoned the Chancellor and asked if he knew the blue book price for a used Mercedes.

Pat's plan to get America moving is to set aside a diamond lane for Mercedes drivers.

Pat may have made a tactical error when he gave a speech in a GM parking lot that began with, "Ich bin ein Mercedes owner".

Some say Pat really has his sights set on '96...when he plans to run for Kaiser.

Pat tries to identify with people who frequent McDonald's. But when Pat refers to a Big Mac, he means his fat neighbor in McLean.

- 11 -

We're all glad Super Tuesday is behind us. For Ron Brown, Super Tuesday is any Tuesday Jerry Brown has root canal.

Jerry Brown withdrew his membership from a California golf club because they exclude extra-terrestrials.

Jerry Brown has proposed a tax cut for middle-class Trekkies.

Democratic strategists are considering a possible Clinton-Brown ticket. That would provide a good balance. An outsider and a far-outsider.

Jerry could deliver the uncommitted extra-terrestrials.

Jerry feels the momentum is going his way...according to his pollster, Rod Serling.

Jerry Brown is crisscrossing the country aboard Winnebago One.

Jerry Brown did surprisingly well in Michigan. According to the exit polls, Jerry got the vote of 95% of all crash dummies.

- 12 -

Jerry Brown lived two years in India, but was asked to leave. Waving that 800 card scared the snakes back into their baskets.

Jerry Brown has an abrasive personality. He's the only person ever to make Mother Teresa's enemies list.

Governor Brown inspired Mother Teresa to say, "Enough already with the 800 number. Pass the curry".

Jerry Brown's campaign slogan is, "The Buddha stops here".

This year, even the scandals have changed. In the old days, politicians worried about being caught in a motel. Now they're scared they'll be spotted inside the Beltway.

This year, nobody's sacred. What will be the next revelation? Lane Kirkland wears Taiwan tails?

The climate is changing on the Hill. Today a congressman got into a shouting match with a D.C. cop (meter maid). But the cop (meter maid) refused to write him a parking ticket.

House members have gotten angry letters from bank robbers. You can't blame the robbers. When they get caught pulling a heist, they can't get the ticket fixed on their getaway car.

-13-

Recycling has caught on up on the Hill. At the House gym members pasted together a batch of checks and built a trampoline.

This whole business is pervasive. This morning Millie fetched me a rubber slipper.

There's so much rubber on the Hill some members carpool in the Goodyear Blimp.

They plan to reform the system. In the future, members may be asked to walk through a rubber detector.

Today the House voted that the United States convert to the rubber standard.

Did you know the Swiss new keep their money in the House bank?

The House post office scandal has the voters enraged. Elvis threatened to sue if they use his stamp.

What's going on up there? At the House post office they replaced the Elvis stamp with John Gotti.

Nobody wants to be associated with the mess. Today three of the "wanted" posters turned their heads to the wall.

-14-

Their post office has a special express mail service "when you absolutely positively have to make an overnight loan to your campaign".

The public is finding out about the House's perks, like free drugs. I hope that doesn't change. One thing the members don't need now is someone stopping the flow of Maalox.

Why can't we go back to those innocent days when politicians just took bribes?

Pundits predict this fall's contest will pit Bush versus Clinton...Barbara against Hillary in the Pillsbury Bakeoff.

Saddam is worried the United States may hit Iraq with our secret chemical weapon...the Arkansas chicken.

Talk about your land mines.

Secretary Cheney has assured me we have a sufficient number of F-117 Stealth fighters and nuclear subs in place as a precaution during Ted Kennedy's bachelor party.

-15-

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Ted Kennedy's little black book.

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field.

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3 points for barfing on a foreign head of state...and an
extra 5 point bonus because he was Japanese.

!R! CASS 1; EXIT;

(FILE COPY)

July 16, 1990

Mr. Jeff MacNelly
Chicago Tribune
1615 L. St., N.W.
Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Mr. MacNelly:

I write (belatedly) to apologize for inadvertently putting The Other Shoe on the silver foot at the Gridiron dinner.

Unaware of the origins of "shake the hand, bite the taco" -- clearly inspired by an incisive strip that had since receded into the blue smoke and mists of memory -- it was deeply painful to have it rise and Biden me from behind.

I hope you'll attribute this to Brain Cramp on my part, and not to deliberate theft. I'm neither that bold, nor Eliotic -- though it has been said that bad comedians borrow, and good comedians steal.

The fact that your brilliant line (now billed as "age-old political wisdom" on the back cover of your new book) is becoming part of popular and Presidential usage should, I think, be seen as a sign of greatness.

Like baseball, speechwriting is A Game for Masochists. But I'm trying to make that Long, Agonizing Climb Out of the Cellar, because The Shoe Must Go On.

Unfortunately, I'm Too Old for Summer Camp and Too Young to Retire. So please accept the enclosed as a token of apology, good faith, and best wishes from a true fan. As I've always said, A Cigar Means Never Having to Say You're Sorry.

Sincerely,

Mark Lange
Speechwriter to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

National Organization of Women Poster Child -- Alan Simpson

Wish Jerry Brown was here -- always wanted to see white tie and turtleneck.

Jerry Brown. Woody Allen talked about him once. He's the guy who cheated on his metaphysics exam. Looked inside the soul of the guy seated next to him.

Wish I had the line-item veto -- not for Congress -- but for tonight's song lines.

Boy, poor Boris Yeltsin. There's a guy truly under seige -- taking shots from his right and his left -- his popularity in the tank -- presiding over an economy on the skids. Whew! Am I glad I'm not in his shoes!

Let me say one thing tonight before we go any further

Not my recession -- I ~~was~~ out of the country.

My respects to the Silver Fox. No red hairdo tonight. Seriously, to do what she does for our country, her campaign against illiteracy, working with so many groups on so many issues, she's been a terrific first lady who's raised a terrific family. [pause for applause] And she bakes some of the best cookies you'll ever have.

*Foley steps
up
pharmacy*

*Tom Foley's first words
I'm going to Disney World*

*Bobcat
Goldthwaite*

Elvis stamp

Bob Marley, Timothy Leary stamp

- President's response
- Singing of Auld Lang Syne

I'm getting a rehearsal book of all the numbers to be performed. Thomasson says this years theme songs are: "Guys and Dolls" (Democrats) and "Macy's" (Republicans). There's going to be a song about Quayle and about Reagan.

I called Ray Siller and Doug Gamble last week. They both said they should have something for us today or tomorrow.

I've included the following:

- Head table list (to date)
- Guest list (to date)
- List of new members
- Bio of new Gridiron pres -- Thomasson
- Bio of last year's pres -- Sperling
- Copy of Radio and TV Correspondents' Dinner
- Copy of last year's remarks
- A couple of Nexis references of Gridiron -- could be joke material
- Blurb re Mark Hanna re ivory gavel

- 3 -

DOUG GAMBLE

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN - GRIDIRON (CONT'D)

WELL, IT'S NOW CLEAR THAT JUST ONE MORE PERSON STANDS BETWEEN ME AND REELECTION IN NOVEMBER. BUT ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ I'M NOT HERE TO TALK ABOUT SADDAM HUSSEIN.

I DON'T THINK IT'S FAIR TO BLAME ME FOR THE RECESSION. I WAS OUT OF THE COUNTRY WHEN IT HAPPENED.

I'VE BEEN TOLD THAT THE WORKING PEOPLE WON'T VOTE FOR ME. OF COURSE, THERE'S ALWAYS THE CHANCE THAT BY NOVEMBER THERE WON'T BE ANY LEFT.

I'D BE DOING BETTER IN THE POLLS IF THE PRESS WOULD QUIT ASKING ME UNFAIR TRICK QUESTIONS. LIKE, WHAT ARE MY PLANS FOR THE COUNTRY FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS.

AND PEOPLE WHO SAY I DON'T KNOW WHERE I STAND JUST HAVE IT ALL WRONG. THERE'S A LITTLE "X" MARKING THE SPOT RIGHT HERE BEHIND THE PODIUM.

I'M NOT AN ELITIST. IT'S JUST NOT TRUE THAT MY IDEA OF VISITING THE THIRD WORLD WAS MY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING TRIP TO J.C. PENNEY.

I'VE BEEN FIGHTING THAT UNFAIR "ELITIST" TAG ALL MY LIFE. I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I HEARD IT I WAS SO SHOCKED I ALMOST FELL OFF MY POLO PONY.

I LOOK AT BORIS YELTSIN AND I SEE A MAN PRESIDING OVER A STRUGGLING ECONOMY, A MAN WHOSE POPULARITY HAS PLUNGED, A MAN TAKING FLACK FROM CRITICS ON THE LEFT AND THE RIGHT. BOY, I'M SURE GLAD I'M NOT IN HIS SHOES.

- 4 -

DOUG GAMBLE

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN - GRIDIRON (CONT'D)

WE KEEP HEARING ABOUT THE POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF SCANDALS INVOLVING BILL CLINTON, BUT I THINK IT'S TIME TO GET PAST ALL THAT AND CONCENTRATE ON THE ISSUES. FRANKLY, I'M QUITE IMPRESSED WITH THE CLINTONS -- THE GOVERNOR, HIS WIFE HILLARY, THEIR DOG "CHECKERS."

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS IN THE FALL CAMPAIGN THERE WILL BE NO HARD FEELINGS, NOTHING PERSONAL, AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED. IN FACT, AS A TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP, WE JUST SENT HILLARY CLINTON ONE OF BARBARA'S BEST RECIPES FOR COOKIES.

IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE NOVEMBER VOTE ENDS IN A TIE -- THE WINNER WILL BE DETERMINED BY BILL CLINTON PLAYING A ROUND OF GOLF AGAINST DAN QUAYLE.

I HEAR JERRY BROWN INSISTS HE ACTUALLY WON THE NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIMARY. HE SAYS THE ABSENTEE BALLOTS AREN'T IN YET FROM SATURN.

I THINK JERRY BROWN WAS WHO WOODY ALLEN HAD IN MIND WHEN HE SAID HE HEARD OF SOMEONE WHO CHEATED ON HIS METAPHYSICS EXAM BY LOOKING INTO THE SOUL OF THE GUY SEATED NEXT TO HIM.

I RESENT JERRY BROWN SAYING THAT THE WASHINGTON ESTABLISHMENT IS BOUGHT AND PAID FOR. RENTED, MAYBE.

MORE...

- 5 -

DOUG GAMBLE

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN - GRIDIRON (CONT'D)

I'M SORRY THAT MARIO CUOMO DIDN'T RUN AND WIN THE NOMINATION. WHAT AN EXCITING EVENT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN. I CAN PICTURE IT NOW -- THE WORLD FINDS OUT THAT MARIO HAS BEEN CHOSEN WHEN WHITE SMOKE COMES FROM THE CHIMNEY AT DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS.

MARIO DOESN'T REALLY MIND NOT BEING PRESIDENT. IT JUST GALLS HIM THAT SOMEONE ELSE IS.

PAT BUCHANAN HAS EVERY RIGHT TO RUN AGAINST ME, EVERY RIGHT TO CRITICIZE AND TO OFFER HIS OWN PROGRAMS FOR THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. THERE'S NO ILL-WILL, WE'LL PATCH THINGS UP, AND I HOPE HE KEEPS IN TOUCH WHEN I REWARD HIM WITH A NEW GOVERNMENT POST -- U.S. ENVOY TO THE BERMUDA TRIANGLE.

I WANT PAT TO KNOW THAT WE HELD BACK THE HEAVY ARTILLARY. WE NEVER DID RUN THE COMMERCIAL THAT SHOWED A PICTURE OF PAT AND HAD THE ANNOUNCER ASKING "WOULD YOU BUY A USED MERCEDES FROM THIS MAN?"

I'M IMPRESSED BY THE CREATIVITY OF SOME CONGRESSMEN IN EXPLAINING THEIR BOUNCED CHECKS. BELIEVING SOME OF THE TALES THEY TOLD IS LIKE BELIEVING THERE'S A NEW POLITICAL GROUP CALLED "ZULUS FOR BUCHANAN."

THE CHECK BOUNCED BY MY FRIEND BOB DORNAN WAS TO PAY FOR A STATUE OF THE VIRGIN MARY HE WAS INSTALLING IN HIS BACKYARD IN ORANGE COUNTY. (pause) SO HE'D HAVE A PLACE TO PRAY THAT HIS CHECK WOULDN'T BOUNCE.

- 6 -

DOUG GAMBLE

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN - GRIDIRON (CONT'D)

I DON'T WANT THE CONGRESSMEN WHO BOUNCED CHECKS TO THINK I'M HAVING FUN AT THEIR EXPENSE. TO SHOW THERE ARE NO HARD FEELINGS, I'VE SENT EACH OF THEM AN ATTRACTIVE GIFT -- A RUBBER PLANT.

I WAS SURPRISED TO HEAR THAT TED KENNEDY IS GETTING MARRIED. ALL OVER AMERICA, SWINGERS ARE MARKING THE END OF AN ERA BY LOWERING THEIR ZIPPERS TO HALF MAST.

THERE WAS A THREE-ALARM FIRE IN VIRGINIA LAST NIGHT. AT FIRST I THOUGHT A HUGE BUILDING WAS BEING DESTROYED BUT IT WAS JUST TED KENNEDY MAKING A BONFIRE OF ALL HIS LITTLE BLACK BOOKS.

MAYBE THE TIME HAS COME FOR ME TO GET TOUGHER WITH THE JAPANESE. IF THEY WON'T LISTEN TO ME, PERHAPS THEY'LL LISTEN TO MY NEW AMBASSADOR TO TOKYO -- FRITZ HOLLINGS.

DOUG GAMBLE

March 23/92

424 - 36th Place
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
(310) 546-6409

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN

6 Pages

GRIDIRON DINNER (Dave Demarest)

THIS LOOKS LIKE JUST ANOTHER COME-AS-YOU-ARE PARTY AT H. ROSS PEROT'S HOUSE.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE BACK HERE AGAIN AT THE GRIDIRON DINNER. I DON'T THINK I'VE BEEN THIS EXCITED SINCE I WAS SHOWN THAT SUPERMARKET CHECKOUT SCANNER IN FLORIDA.

(looking at watch) I'M SORRY THIS RAN ON SO LONG. I WAS HOPING I'D HAVE TIME TO DROP BY THE HOUSE POST OFFICE TO GET A PRESCRIPTION FILLED.

WHEN I WAS GETTING DRESSED TONIGHT, BARBARA NOTICED I HAD A STUBBORN COWLICK STICKING UP FROM THE TOP OF MY HEAD. SHE CAME AT ME WITH A COMB AND A CAN OF HAIRSPRAY AND SAID "THIS WILL NOT STAND."

I THINK I SHOULD BE COMMENDED FOR KEEPING MY DINNER DOWN IN THE FACE OF TONIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENT.

MORE...

- 2 -

DOUG GAMBLE

TO: CHRISTINA MARTIN - GRIDIRON (CONT'D)

AFTER HEARING SOME OF THE LINES IN TONIGHT'S SONGS, I WISH MORE THAN EVER THAT I HAD A LINE-ITEM VETO.

ACTUALLY, THOSE PERFORMANCES BY MY FRIENDS IN THE MEDIA WERE SO GOOD, I THINK YOU SHOULD BE PAID FOR THEM. I'LL ASK CONGRESS TO WRITE YOU A CHECK.

I WAS A LITTLE WORRIED ABOUT THE COMPETITION TONIGHT. I ASKED SAM SKINNER WHAT HE THOUGHT THE CHANCES WERE OF ME BEING FUNNIER THAN ANN RICHARDS. HE SAID "ABOUT THE SAME AS THE CHANCES OF ALAN SIMPSON BEING NAMED POSTER BOY FOR THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN."

I'M GLAD ANN RICHARDS DIDN'T SEE THE TROUBLE I HAD GETTING IN HERE TONIGHT. I KEPT SETTING OFF THE METAL DETECTOR WITH MY SILVER FOOT.

IT'S GOOD TO HAVE RON BROWN AT THE HEAD TABLE, BUT I HAVE TO ADMIT TO SOME DISAPPOINTMENT. AT FIRST I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE JERRY BROWN, AND I WAS DYING TO SEE WHAT A WHITE TIE LOOKED LIKE WITH A UAW WINDBREAKER.

LAMAR ALEXANDER NOT ONLY DID A GREAT JOB TONIGHT, BUT HE'S PROVING TO BE AN OUTSTANDING EDUCATION SECRETARY. HE TOLD ME JUST YESTERDAY THAT THE DAYS OF THE IGNORANT AMERICAN ARE ENDING, THAT TEST SCORES ARE IMPROVING -- IN ALL 48 STATES.

MORE...

see—a more democratic government and more rights to the people of Iraq. That's all.

Q. Can I follow up on that? Have you come to the conclusion that the case of downfall of Saddam Hussein, the power vacuum in Iraq could be replaced easily, and have you addressed the situation in northern Iraq?

President Bush. Is this for me or for President Özal?

Q. Both.

President Bush. Go ahead, you're the expert in the area.

President Özal. I really don't know because we have been so much involved with only one man in power, single man in power in Iraq. And probably our thinking is such a way that there should be no replacement. But I don't think so.

Q. Can I follow up on that? Will Turkey allow an independent Kurdistan in Iraq—Kurdish state in Iraq?

President Özal. No, I said no.

Q. Did you discuss recent Turkish contacts with Iraqi opposition, namely Kurds?

President Bush. I didn't have any discussions. Maybe others did. I did not.

Yes, last one. This is the last. We really have to head—

Q. You said the United States was staying out of those internal affairs. Are you satisfied that Iran is staying out of the internal affairs? And could you give us your assessment of the way Iran has behaved from the time the—

President Bush. Well, I'm not sure I do understand what Iran's role is in the south. And I'm not sure—there have been some reports of people going across from Iran into southern Iraq. But I haven't seen an estimate on it. What was your second part?

Q. Their behavior as far as the planes, for example—they've decided now to keep the planes.

President Bush. That didn't surprise us at all.

Q. Okay. Do you want—or have you told Iran to stay out?

President Bush. I don't believe we've made a direct representation to Iran of that nature.

Q. Don't you think we should?

President Bush. Well, I think it would be better if everybody stayed out and let the Iraqi people decide what they want to do. I

think that would be much—the best approach. Yes, I would use this opportunity to say that. And that's what we plan to do. And so I think that's the best answer to a very, very complicated question and a situation that's now in turmoil inside of Iraq.

But I think that, in terms of the airplanes, it doesn't come as any surprise to me that Iran is not sending back a bunch of airplanes. Frankly, I'm very pleased that they're not. But that has little to do with who's intervening inside of Iraq.

Well, thank you all very, very much.

Hostages in Lebanon

Q. What about the Western hostages in Lebanon?

President Bush. Oh, I hope they get out.

Note. The President's 76th news conference began at 3:37 p.m. in the Briefing Room at the White House.

Remarks at the Gridiron Dinner March 23, 1991

Thank you very much: Mr. Vice President and members of the Cabinet, members of the congressional leadership, diplomatic corps, special guests. And on this special Gridiron evening, may I single out the members of the Joint Chiefs and the other members of the military that are with us tonight. May I also single out Messrs. Baker and Strauss. [Laughter] After sitting through their parts in the program, I'll say this: If I'd had a white flag, I'd have waved it. [Laughter] No, I thought they had some very good material. The ground war only took 100 hours. [Laughter]

I'm very happy to see Kuwait's Ambassador here—Al-Sabah, the Ambassador from Kuwait. I understand that during his recent travels with Jim Baker, Jim tried out some of tonight's jokes on him. And after hearing them, the Ambassador said, "Don't you think we've suffered enough?" [Laughter] No, but Jim put it well. We have been friends. And I have total confidence in him. Remember 1980? He's the guy who told me in New Hampshire, "Don't worry; let the

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guy from California pay for the mike."
[Laughter]

And I understand Eppie Lederer is with
us tonight over here at table 12. We all
know her as Ann Landers. Apparently, Bob
Strauss wrote to her recently, and she asked
me to read her response: "Dear Washington
Wheeler-Dealer," it says—[laughter]—"yes,
take the money from both sides." [Laugh-
ter]

But this has been a very special evening,
with emphasis understandably on the Gulf.
And it's great to have so many members of
the press back from the Gulf in time for
this Gridiron. I know many of the reporters
out there were roughing it lately. Sam Don-
aldson, though, said it wasn't so bad staying
at the Sheraton Riyadh. In fact, he said the
towels were so fluffy that he could barely
get his suitcase shut. [Laughter]

Some air war, wasn't it? I've just learned
the three words every Iraqi pilot dreaded
the most: Cleared for takeoff. [Laughter]

What a crowd. I haven't gotten so many
laughs since my last speech on domestic
policy. [Laughter] Thank you.

Now the attention is turned back to the
homefront, maybe Wolf Blitzer can go back
to his real name. [Laughter]

I'm glad that politics '92 didn't rear its
ugly head too much tonight. Well, it did a
little bit. And I understand that there is
speculation already about the '92 race. In
fact, just the other day, Jim Palmer sent a
telegram to George McGovern. It read:
"Heard you were considering a comeback.
Stop." [Laughter]

No, but it has been a special evening. I
notice that Bernie Shaw was sitting at the
table instead of under it. [Laughter]

All kidding aside, though, really it has
been, I think, the most enjoyable Gridiron
in many, many years. Barbara and I enjoy
ourselves always. I must say that, with all
respect to the two skits and to Ambassador
Strauss and to Secretary Baker, I think that
the most moving part, the most wonderful
part of the evening, was the tribute to the
troops. And there was a special line in it,
you may have heard in the beginning:
"Through the fog of distant war shines the
strength of their devotion." And as I've said
before, our soldiers and our sailors and our
airmen and our marines and our coast-
guardmen embodied the ideals of honor

and bravery and duty and country, and
were willing to sacrifice for the sake of
those simple words. And they liberated a
nation abroad and helped transform a
nation at home.

So, once again, Budge, my congratu-
lations to you, sir. Thank you for a very spe-
cial, enjoyable Gridiron evening. And may
God bless the families of all those soldiers
that we lost in action.

Thank you all very, very much.

Note: The President spoke at 7:08 p.m. in the Presidential Ballroom at the Capitol Hilton Hotel. In his remarks, he referred to Secretary of State James A. Baker III; Robert Strauss, former chairman of the Democratic Party; advice columnist Ann Landers; reporters Sam Donaldson of ABC News and Wolf Blitzer of Cable News Network; retired baseball player Jim Palmer, who recently attempted a comeback; Bernard Shaw, one of CNN's reporters in Baghdad, Iraq, during the early stages of the Persian Gulf conflict; and Godfrey "Budge" Sperling, Jr., president of the Gridiron Club. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks on Signing the Greek Independence Day Proclamation March 25, 1991

The President. Thank you very much for
the welcome. Please be seated. It's a great
pleasure to see so many friends here today.
Of course, a very special pleasure just now
to welcome Archbishop Iakovos back to the
Oval Office. He's been there on several oc-
casions since I've been President; certainly
before, many times. But it gave me an op-
portunity to express my respect and appre-
ciation for him. He's been a wonderful
friend and a good counselor on very impor-
tant matters.

I want to salute Ed Derwinski. He's not
Greek but he was a former Member of the
Congress. [Laughter] He's got a lot of
friends in the Greek-American community,
I'll tell you. And I also am delighted to see
Ambassador Zacharakis who's here—an-
other man who's doing a superb job.

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FROM: Rita Sutherland

NUMBER OF PAGES: 1 (NOT INCLUDING COVER SHEET)

THANK YOU

*President of Gridiron Club***DAN K. THOMASSON**

Dan King Thomasson is a member of a pioneer Indiana family who grew up in Shelbyville, Indiana, graduated from Indiana University, and did graduate work at Colorado University. During college, he was editor-in-chief of the Indiana Daily Student, a job once held by Ernest Taylor Pyle, was president of the Indiana University Student Foundation, general chairman of the Little 500 bicycle race, president of Sigma Delta Chi, and an editor of the Arbutus.

Following college, he joined the staff of the Indianapolis Star. He served two years in the army before becoming a reporter for the Rocky Mountain News. He was political editor of the News when he was assigned to Washington by Scripps Howard in 1964 in time for the 1964 presidential campaign.

He became chief congressional correspondent for Scripps Howard in 1966 and in 1973 was named by Washingtonian Magazine as one of the nation's 10 best investigative reporters.

He devoted much of his time to investigations, ranging from Bobby Baker and Thomas Dodd to Sen. Edward Kennedy's Chappaquiddick and Nixon's Watergate. He covered several administrations on Capitol Hill and three presidential campaigns.

Thomasson became managing editor of Scripps Howard News Service in 1976 and in January 1980 become editor of Scripps Howard News Service and chief of the 50 person Washington Bureau. He became Vice President for news of Scripps Howard Newspapers in October 1986.

Thomasson has appeared over the years on a variety of national television shows including Face the Nation, Good Morning America, the Today show, Washington Week in Review, and C-Span.

He has been an editor in residence at a number of universities and has been a speaker at the national Investigative Reporters and Editors meetings at Ohio State and Washington and Lee Universities. He joined former Pennsylvania Governor William Scranton as the 1986 E. Don Tull lecturers at Franklin College. He is a trustee of Franklin College, a member of the National Public Affairs Council for Indiana University, and a member of the board of advisors of the Ohio University School of Journalism.

He is a member of the White House Correspondents Association and the American Society of Newspaper Editors. He is president of the Gridiron Club, the Raymond Clapper Foundation and a director of the Scripps Howard Foundation.

Last Year's president
"Budge"

1 | President

GODFREY SPERLING, JR., born in Long Beach, California, in 1915, but grew up in the Midwest (Urbana, Illinois).

B.S. in Journalism, University of Illinois, 1937; L.L.B. (J.D.) Law, University of Oklahoma, 1940.

Joined Monitor after five years of service as an officer in the U.S. Air Force (rose to Major) during World War II; retired as Colonel in Reserves in 1975.

Joined Christian Science Monitor in 1946. For 11 years Monitor's Washington Bureau Chief, up to 1984. Now Monitor's senior Washington columnist. Founder and host of Sperling Breakfast Group. President Reagan honored Sperling on the 17th anniversary of the breakfast, and continued to do so on the 18th, 19th and 20th anniversary. In the past both ~~Presidents Ford and Carter also had the group into the White House for breakfasts.~~

Wife: Betty. Daughter: Mary McAuliffe, an historian at CIA; son-in-law: Jack McAuliffe, Director of Marketing at Kennedy Center for Performing Arts; Granddaughter: Mavyn McAuliffe, 18, and headed for MIT. Son: John in real estate in Las Vegas.

wife
Betty

(Budge)

**RADIO AND TV CORRESPONDENTS \ WASHINGTON HILTON HOTEL
THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1992 \ 8:30 P.M.**

**THELMA LABRECHT, THANK YOU FOR THAT KIND
INTRODUCTION.**

I'M DELIGHTED TO BE HERE TONIGHT - [PAUSE] - NOT!

**I WOULD HAVE LIKED TO STAY FOR DINNER. BUT THEN I
SAW THE MENU: CARROTS, ALSO KNOWN AS ORANGE BROCCOLI.**

- 2 -

**AND YES, I'VE SEEN THAT NEW STUDY SAYING BROCCOLI
HAS CERTAIN HEALTH EFFECTS. THAT PROVES MY POINT: IT
TASTES LIKE MEDICINE.**

**I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU ALL COULD MAKE IT TONIGHT.
MARLIN'S RIGHT: IF YOU WANT THE PRESS TO SHOW UP FOR
YOUR SPEECH, JUST CUT THE AUDIO.**

I'M SORRY MARLIN'S NOT HERE. OF COURSE, I KNOW ABOUT HIS RECENT BLOW-UP ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL, WHEN HE CALLED SEVERAL OF YOU "LAZY WHATCHAMACALLITS." PLEASE UNDERSTAND: HE HAD A BAD DAY. EARLIER THAT MORNING HE'D SHATTERED HIS THIGHMASTER.

IT'S BEEN QUITE A CAMPAIGN SO FAR. I COULDN'T BELIEVE THE NERVE OF MY REPUBLICAN OPPONENT. FIRST, HE LOSES SEVERAL PRIMARIES -- AND THEN DEMANDS I WITHDRAW. THEN HE LOSES SEVERAL MORE -- AND HE DEMANDS I FIRE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. THEN HE HAD THE GALL TO NAME HIS RUNNING MATE, A GUY HE SAID SHARES HIS VISION AND EXPERIENCE. BUT WHO'D VOTE FOR A TICKET WITH GERALDO RIVERA ON IT?

AND DAVID DUKE: HE TRIED TO TAKE THE "AMERICA FIRST" THEME AWAY FROM PAT. DUKE SWORE ALL HIS FACIAL FEATURES WERE MADE IN THE USA.

THEN THERE'S THE DEMOCRATS. I'M SORRY THAT PAUL TSONGAS SUSPENDED HIS CAMPAIGN TODAY. HE'S A THOROUGHLY DECENT MAN. PAUL AND I GO WAY BACK. YOU KNOW, I WAS HIS FIRST CHARISMA TUTOR.

AND THEN THERE'S CLINTON, A VERY FORMIDABLE CANDIDATE. I JUST WONDER WHETHER CUOMO WOULD RUN AS HILLARY'S VICE PRESIDENT.

EIGHT MONTHS TO THE ELECTION -- AND ALREADY THE DIRTY TRICKS HAVE BEGUN. I PICKED UP THE HOTLINE THIS MORNING TO TALK TO YELTSIN -- AND I GOT JERRY BROWN ON THAT DAMN 800 NUMBER.

NOW TO THE ISSUES: I'VE BEEN ACCUSED OF DOWNPLAYING THE ISSUE OF FOREIGN AID. SO LET ME BE BLUNT: I FAVOR FOREIGN AID. AND THE SOONER WE GET SOME THE BETTER.

~~AND HOW ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON ON CAPITOL HILL? I WAS WATCHING C-SPAN WHEN THE CHECK-KITING SCANDAL BROKE. A CONGRESSMAN RAN TO THE MICROPHONE AND SHOUTED: "IS THERE A SPIN DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE?"~~

AS AN ENVIRONMENTALIST I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS SCANDAL. EVERY TIME A CONGRESSMAN ORDERS A NEW BATCH OF CHECKS A RUBBER TREE DIES.

Trees? ↳ boo-boo, but corrected it later.

I KNOW THIS IS GOING TO BE A TOUGH CAMPAIGN, BUT I'VE BEEN FEELING MORE OPTIMISTIC THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS. A FEW MONTHS AGO, A DEMOCRAT TOLD ME: "THERE'S ABOUT AS MUCH CHANCE OF YOU WINNING THIS ELECTION AS TEDDY KENNEDY SETTLING DOWN AND GETTING MARRIED."

BUT IF I COULD PUT JOKES ASIDE FOR A MOMENT -- I KNOW YOU HAVE TOUGH JOBS, AND TOUGH TIMES HAVEN'T MADE THEM ANY EASIER. IN YOUR OWN INDUSTRY, YOU'VE HAD CUTBACKS AND LAYOFFS. AND YET I NEVER FAIL TO BE IMPRESSED BY WHAT YOU CAN ACCOMPLISH, DESPITE THE PROBLEMS. ~~T~~THINK BACK TO FEBRUARY: FOR TWO WEEKS, CBS MANAGED TO INTERRUPT SOME OF THEIR COMMERCIALS TO BRING US GLIMPSES OF THE OLYMPICS. ~~D~~

AND I'M IMPRESSED BY THE RANGE OF THE STORIES YOU COVER -- PARTICULARLY THOSE HUMAN INTEREST STORIES. I NOTICE SOME PEOPLE THINK THEY DISCOVERED THE WRECKAGE OF AMELIA EARHART'S PLANE. FASCINATING STUFF. THEY'VE FOUND PART OF THE PLANE, THE HEEL FROM A SHOE, AND A TRAVEL VOUCHER FOR JOHN SUNUNU.

BIG LAUGH

BUT NOW I WOULD LIKE TO ADD A MORE SERIOUS WORD, IF I MAY. THIS IS GOING TO BE A TOUGH, LONG YEAR, AS IT IS EVERY FOUR YEARS. SOME OF IT WILL BE FUN, SOME OF IT MAY BE UNPLEASANT -- ALL OF IT WILL BE PRETTY TIRING. BUT I'M CONFIDENT THAT WHEN IT'S ALL OVER, WE'LL STILL BE TALKING -- BECAUSE WE'LL KNOW WE'VE BOTH BEEN DOING OUR JOBS THE BEST WE KNOW HOW.

I DON'T EVEN MIND SOME OF YOUR SCURRILOUS ACCUSATIONS -- FOR EXAMPLE, THAT I'M ALWAYS OVERSCHEDULED AND FRENETICALLY JUMPING FROM ONE THING TO THE NEXT. ((I'D LIKE TO REFUTE THAT, BUT I'VE GOT TO RUN. I'M OUTTA HERE.))

THANK YOU AND GOOD NIGHT.

#

March 23, 1992

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID DEMAREST

FROM:

MICHELE NIX

SUBJECT:

GRIDIRON

More schtuff:

- The Gridiron Club now has three "candidate used-to-be's" confirmed for the dinner -- Moe, Larry, and Curly (I mean, Buchanan, Tsongas, and Kerry). They still don't know about Shemp -- Harkin. Thomasson suspects Clinton will not come - - but will let us know as soon as he hears. Brown is a definite no.
- Lamar is planning a medley of country music songs -- with the words rewritten to parody Ann Richards, Clinton, the Dems in general. He's also doing a "light teasing" of the President -- nothing bad. The last song is supposed to address both sides -- in a way that will end the performance on a "unified high note."
- Thomasson said the show's songs and skits are still being reworked -- so he can't send me over any of the sheet music or scripts just yet.
- I talked to Ray Siller again -- he wrote a little this weekend. He already had some Japan (re barf) jokes. He's sending those anyway in case we change our minds about using them. He's aware of the Tsongas et al. update and will work on some jokes about them. Siller wrote a letter to POTUS early last week re doing a top ten list (along the lines of the Top 10 reasons why I should be re-elected). I told him that the idea had been broached a couple weeks ago. He said he'd just wait for a go ahead from the President before doing it -- unless we want him to go ahead with it.



3RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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December 10, 1991, Tuesday, City Edition

SECTION: NATIONAL/FOREIGN; Pg. 26

LENGTH: 152 words

HEADLINE: ASK THE GLOBE

BODY:

Q. What is the history of Washington's Gridiron Club? E.C., Boston

A. The club was founded in 1885 by members of the Washington press, who often found themselves excluded from the workings of government. (Officials disliked discussing government business, and members of Congress often packed the visitors' gallery with their guests so there was no room for reporters.) The 30 original Gridiron members were each asked to ante \$ 1 to launch the club, which then promptly invited politicians to dinner. Although women were excluded until 1974, club rules have almost always insisted that speakers at Gridiron dinners behave as if "ladies were present." The rule was hastily adopted after the first club president, Benjamin Parley Poore, gave what club historians call a "pretty racy" talk. A second rule is that the annual Gridiron satirical show on Washington politics may "sing but never burn."



The Washington Post, March 10, 1992

Former California governor Pat Brown (father of one presidential hopeful) will relive his historic 1962 gubernatorial win over Richard Nixon when he faces off with H.R. Haldeman on a panel at the Nixon Library later this month.

Touchstone Pictures has put off production of the political thriller "Ultimatum" -- which was to be filmed here and include a fictitious scene of the power Gridiron Dinner -- because it has yet to sign an actor for the starring role. Both Richard Gere and Al Pacino had scheduling conflicts.

Tom Cruise will reportedly be tapped as leading man for the film version of the best-selling novel "The Firm," long in development by Paramount.

Nixon vs. Scruggs: When No Is Not Enough

No one would ever accuse Jan Scruggs of leaving well enough alone. Now, the controversial head of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund has apparently teed off Richard Nixon. After having the former president turn down his request to be the keynote speaker at the memorial's 10th-anniversary ceremony, Scruggs fired off several more letters challenging Nixon to show up at the monument tomorrow, while he is in Washington. By Friday, Nixon aide Kathy O'Connor had replied in kind: "Having declined your initial invitation ... I was surprised to receive your badgering, disrespectful, unproductive correspondence.... I am particularly aghast over your exhortation that President Nixon display some 'positive leadership.' I refer you to his 1985 book 'No More Vietnams.' Perhaps by reading it, you will learn something."

Said the relentless Scruggs yesterday: "We still haven't given up hope."

Whooops ...

"There's a hush about Westminster Abbey. ... For this is not only a thousand-year-old house of worship but the final resting place of kings and queens. Edward I, Richard II, Henry III all sleep here, as do Elizabeth I and her half-sister, Mary Queen of Scots."

A British Airways magazine ad incorrectly stating England's history. Elizabeth and Mary were not sisters, half or otherwise, but merely cousins -- and once removed at that.

GRAPHIC: PHOTO, THE MEMORIAL FUND'S JAN SCRUGGS. BILL O'LEARY; PHOTO, BILL SNEAD; PHOTO

TYPE: COLUMN

SUBJECT: RENT; DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

NAMED-PERSONS: JOHN A. WILSON; JAN SCRUGGS; RICHARD M. NIXON; TOM CRUISE; EDMUND G. BROWN

Boss And Protégé

Mark Hanna cuts a patronage pie and upstages President McKinley; he gives the club its ivory gavel.

The public liked bland William McKinley, after a fashion. It never felt at ease with the hard-nosed political boss, Marcus A. Hanna, who made McKinley President of the United States.

With the Gridiron Club, it was the other way around.

To see why we turn to the Gridiron dinner of March, 1897, shortly after the McKinley inauguration. McKinley had been a guest before, in the previous decade when he served as a congressman. This time he delivered a short, theoretically humorous speech. Nowhere in the club's records or scrapbooks is there a hint of the tone or substance of what he said.

For Mark Hanna, it was his first appearance. He had won international fame for his skilled backstage manipulation and fund-raising behind Republican McKinley's victory over William Jennings Bryan, the far superior orator of the Democrats. Hanna had a reputation, also, as a tough, multi-millionaire business tycoon; but his personality was an unknown quantity in Washington.

So when Hanna was called on to speak, he had a roomful of curious and skeptical listeners.

"I know many members of the Gridiron Club," he began, then paused. "I have met most of you in the tented fields of campaign rallies and in the barrooms of New York and Chicago." Though these words weren't brilliant, they won a burst of approval. They showed Hanna felt at home, and had come to join in the fun. The rest of his remarks were light and self-deprecatory in the Gridiron tradition.

In a skit later in the program Hanna was to be imperson-

ated as the chief dispenser of McKinley administration patronage. A pie four feet in diameter was wheeled into the room, as a symbol of McKinley "pie and prosperity".

On impulse the Gridiron president presiding inquired whether Hanna would like to play the part of himself. He volunteered and was handed a huge knife. As he started on the first slice, a noisy, costumed herd of job-seekers rushed in, snatched away the pie and ran out with it.

No one enjoyed himself more at Gridiron dinners than Mark Hanna. After several years as a guest, he returned the hospitality by inviting all club members to a private dinner in which the Gridiron format of exchanging humorous insults was followed.

He also gave the club an ivory gavel. This is presented at each Spring Dinner to the Gridiron president elected for that year.

As a reward for services rendered, McKinley in one of his early acts as President arranged Hanna's appointment as a Senator from Ohio, filling a vacancy created by McKinley's nomination of Senator John Sherman to be Secretary of State. After the McKinley assassination Hanna continued as a powerful Senator, winning re-election in his own right.

Hanna made no secret of his scorn for the reforms of Theodore Roosevelt, successor to McKinley in the presidency. He usually referred to Teddy as "that damned cowboy."

When failing health forced Hanna's confinement to bed early in 1904, he spurned his doctor's advice and came to the January Gridiron dinner. Illness prevented him from eating or drinking, but he followed the program with customary enthusiasm.

He told his host that the evening had done more for him than a week of his doctor's care. Then he went home and back to bed—and died a short time later.



McKinley.



THE SLICKEST MAN IN ALL THE SNOW,
MARCUS A. HANNA STANDS:
HE SAYS NO WORDS; HE HAS, YOU KNOW,
AN ELEPHANT ON HIS HANDS.