

Tuesday, Sept. 7th

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

MEEKS & CARTER, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

404 SUPERIOR FEDERAL BUILDING
500 SOUTH BROADWAY
P.O. BOX 34193
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203501-376-4660
FAX 501-376-3203W. RUSSELL MEEKS, III
DANIEL R. CARTER
JAY F. SHELLGEORGE O. JERNIGAN, JR.
OF COUNSELFACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE:

6/29/93

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING PAGES TO:

First Lady Hillary R. Clinton

Fax No.:

(202) 456-6244

THESE PAGES ARE BEING TRANSMITTED FROM:

George O. Jernigan, Jr.

Fax No.:

(501) 376-3203

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET:

6

RE:

YOUR FILE NO.:

OUR FILE NO.:

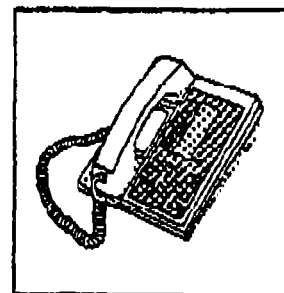
COMMENTS:

IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Cathy Williams

AT (501) 376-4660.

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Kevin, for
HPC
~~mand~~
pres briefing

(3)

AHCA

Hated by Cf. When ARK

~~1st~~ time in; diff from AHCA

Rep. Nursing Home industry

Steve Risch

Pts of CONC

1. what is LTC benefit & ^{the} degree it covers nursing homes?

Resp: N. H. LTC as you know is home & community based but there are some institutional based resi. such as

- increasing asset protection from \$2000 to \$2000

• increasing personal needs allowance which is the amt of \$ prov to N. H. residents to cover personal items such as bathpaste, from \$35 to \$100.

check

2. Eliminating 3 day prior hospitalization requirement

2. Of surprise to some they're not overly concerned that there is not a publicly LTC benefit. They are becoming more & more conv. w/ the idea of a private market for nursing home benefits. This market has been expanding relatively rapidly & the insurance industry & the N. H. indus have dev. close working & financial relationships

Resp: we are changing the AHCA

of LTC private insurance policies
to ensure that they are
treated the same as other h.c.
policies. This is a huge priority
in the insurance industry - pushed
for yrs & the A.H. ind will be
pleased as well

3. We are pro LTC insurance standards
to ensure consumers can be sure
of ^{TO AHC when recipients need}
payments. The payment will be
there for the providers.

will we ease the
3. conc. reg. ^{regulatory & statutory} provisions for M.H.?

esp. with them, we want to ensure
high quality in place. / Not
try not to get into this

Drugs

4.

Conc: want to make sure the med drug benefit parallels the drug benefit given to the rest of the nation.
Want to ensure effective cost containment so cost of the program doesn't scare Congress as it did in catastrophic

Resp: Dr. Ben does parallel (\$250 deduc / 20% copay / \$1000 out of pocket yrlly)

5.

Conc: Retiree Hlth Issue. Young pre-65 already not yet eligible for Medicare who are having trouble accessing Hlth care. How addressing in our plan.

Resp: We are addressing this in a way that's extremely generous. The current plan structure assumes that retired Hlth population that currently under contract for bene (pension union ret) are prov. at 80% ~~will~~ employer share 1/4 the 80% emp. up to 11 retro. The remaining 20% is picked up by employer. Beneficiary pay nothing.

IRA
Chris
Spec

For those nt. under contract:

6. Horace Reels / John Bolter
not in position to close the deal
she ~~power~~ ~~will~~ ~~pass~~ them to
Unlike catastrophic

• seniors will pay no

Q. will the increased prem payments to seniors occur before they see any benefits
A. Absolutely not. In the case of Resp / drugs & LTC

Q. what will be the out of pocket be the prem.

• Senior
As a result of the reductions in rate of growth for Medicare, will there be any increased premiums or out of pocket costs in addition to drugs & LTC

A. There will be an out of pocket expenses included an income related premium for high income individuals (over \$100,000)

Call on Iran to disc if they want further details

AARP

1. RB of CONC

- size of med cuts

Medicare whether or not ^{the} rate of growth is ^{capped} capped at the same level as ~~private sector~~ ^{or}

Tik/B Resp: Is capped at same level. In fact, we acknowledge elderly population is a costly group so we're giving them a cushion

2. • As a result of budget mech, the disparity in payment rates for prov. ^{Does} billing Medicare beneficiaries stay the same or grow?

↳ They don't want to see disp. grow

Resp: We do not believe disp. ^{will} increase, because ~~if~~ ^{for} ~~multiple~~ ^{disp} may even lessen.

3. LTC - how much a benefit & how quickly phased in, how many dollars? How much ^{the} ~~close~~ ^{if} ~~any~~ ^{they} have to pay re. increase in Medicare premium.

~~Resp:~~ AARP thought increase may be as much as \$20. That w/ drug premium increase would almost double current Medicare prei.

amint
estimates

Resp: Good news is we've reduced it from \$20 to \$10 & ~~looking to reduce further~~

Rm 212 Chris Jennings Roosevelt

Concern: How best to deal if they lobby against // are we doing enough outreach w/ Roosevelt group. Dangerous Group

Resp:

MEEKS & CARTER, P.A.

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

W. RUSSELL MEEKS, III
DANIEL R. CARTER
JAY F. SHELL

404 SUPERIOR FEDERAL BUILDING
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P.O. BOX 34183
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203

501-376-4660
FAX 501-376-3203

GEORGE O. JERNIGAN, JR.
OF COUNSEL

June 29, 1993

Melanne - Rec?

no

VIA FACSIMILE & REGULAR MAIL

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,
Washington, D.C. 20500-2000

[Handwritten signature]

Dear Hillary:

Once again, thank you so much for meeting with the representatives of the Arkansas Health Care Association while they were in Washington for the American Health Care Association's Congressional Conference. You should hear them talk, it was the highlight of their lives.

We were most pleased that Dr. Paul Willging, Executive Vice President of the American Health Care Association, could be with us and from all I have heard from him, he is excited about thoughts and proposals for long term care in your proposed health care program.

As we all stated, change is here, though we might not like and agree with everything, we want to help you and President Clinton pass your health care reform package. Just let us know what we need to do.

May we urge you to carefully consider the invitation to you from the American Health Care Association to speak at their national convention being held September 28-30, 1993, in Nashville, Tennessee. With over 3,000 delegates present from all 50 states, representing eleven thousand member homes, one and one-half million employees and over a million residents and families, this would be a great opportunity to rally support for health care reform.

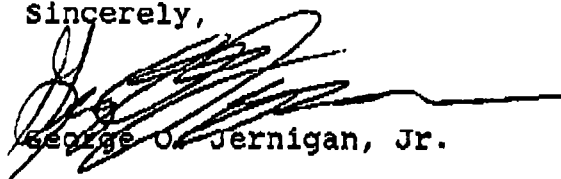
I am enclosing a copy of an article in Arkansas Business, June 28, 1993, entitled "Nursing Homes' in Transition", which I thought you might find interesting.

LETTER TO FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
JUNE 29, 1993
PAGE 2

Again, thank you, your staff and everyone at the White House for all of their help and assistance during our visit, we miss all of you. Come home and visit soon.

Best personal regards, I am yours

Sincerely,



George O. Jernigan, Jr.

GOJ/caw

Enclosure

cc: Paul R. Willging, Ph.D.
Executive Vice President
American Health Care Association

'Nursing Homes' in Transition

Health Care Reform, Lifestyle Trends Drive Internal, Aesthetic Changes in Health Care Facilities

BY DIXIE WALTERS
Arkansas Business Staff

THE "OLD FOLKS HOME" is changing not only its look, but its focus. It's not just for old folks anymore.

In states at the vanguard of health care reform, the so-called "nursing home" is quickly becoming extinct. Taking its place are "specialized health care facilities" offering a combination of short-term and long-term medical help to patients who vary widely in age and ailment.

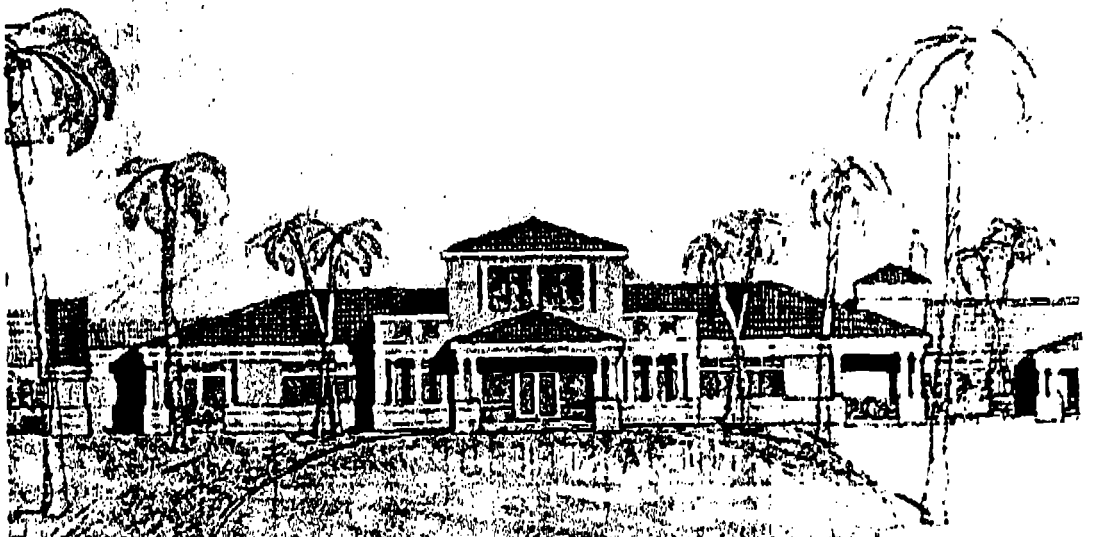
"Strictly nursing homes like you may find here in Arkansas are really not going to exist anymore because the nursing home is going to become more," says architect Dwayne Wilson of The Fletcher Firm Inc. of Little Rock.

"With the health care system we have, we're fixing to find a big shift... Nursing home care is not only going to be for the elderly or (those needing) skilled care. They're trying to provide sub-acute care and rehab care and so forth. The whole spectrum is trying to shift right now."

The Fletcher Firm has become nationally known through its association with Fort Smith-based Beverly Enterprises Inc., for which it has designed many health care facilities. Beverly Enterprises is the largest operator of nursing homes in the country.

As a result, much of The Fletcher Firm's work is in states with high elderly populations such as Florida, California and New Jersey. Two Arkansas examples of the firm's work are the Jonesboro Villa and Hot Springs Villa retirement centers.

Wilson attributes changes in the



FUTURE WAVE: This architectural rendering by The Fletcher Firm Inc. is of Oak Pointe Manor, a 64,000-SF upscale facility under way in Sarasota, Fla. The Spanish mission style building borrows design elements from the mansions of Palm Beach, Fla. Architects say health care facilities such as this one are becoming more residential in form and feeling.

operation and appearance of health care facilities to the health care reform movement and the aging of the baby-boom generation, which has grown accustomed to a higher quality of life than its elders.

"They want to be served better than the lower population was 25-30 years ago," Wilson says. "They're demanding more."

Reflecting Today's Concerns

Designs in elderly housing closely parallel societal and health care trends. On the whole, elderly housing has

moved away from institutional-looking buildings toward ones "more residential in form and feeling," says John Fletcher, the principal of The Fletcher Firm, which specializes in the design of nursing, rehabilitation and retirement facilities.

A project the firm has under way in Sarasota, Fla., could be considered the future of assisted-living health care. Known as Oak Pointe Manor, it is the antithesis of sterile, hospital-like nursing homes.

As its name suggests, Oak Pointe Manor is upscale, designed in a Span-

ish mission style that emulates the mansions of Palm Beach, Fla. Inside, decorative touches such as arched doorways, columns, arcades and moulding reinforce the building's architectural character. Lush regional vegetation accents the building's interior and exterior.

The facility operates differently, too.

It will house elderly people needing help on a daily basis and other patients who are ventilator-dependent, in need of physical therapy or respite care. The function of a facility serving a varied patient base should dictate its form, Wilson says, just as a physical site would influence whether a building is sprawling or a high-rise.

"If you've got three separate specialties going on in the building, the building should reflect that," Wilson says. "They shouldn't intertwine with each other."

Architect Steve Warnock of The Fletcher Firm says a variety of design elements are being used by architects to "de-institutionalize"



ARKANSAS EXAMPLE: Pictured is a Fletcher Firm rendering of the West Memphis Nursing and Rehab Center, a 119-bed replacement facility under development by Beverly Enterprises Inc.

CAREING FOR THE ELDERLY

ARKANSAS BUSINESS 19

JUNE 28, 1993

health care facilities. For example, narrow, nondescript corridors are becoming a thing of the past.

"Instead of having a double-loaded corridor with rooms on each side, we go down to a pod where we have four private apartments or rooms around a sitting area," Warnock says.

Corridors also are getting increased attention with sitting areas and other design elements breaking up their monotony.

"Strictly nursing homes like you may find here in Arkansas are really not going to exist any more because the nursing home is going to become more."

— Dwayne Wilson

inside — giving these people daylight, views to the exterior and places to sit outside," Warnock says.

Wilson says the goal of most of The Fletcher Firm's clients is to shift the emphasis from long-term care to a short-duration, rehabilitative care.

Aesthetic changes in health care buildings are mirroring that broader purpose and audience. And, if architects and health care operators succeed in their transformation ef-

forts, perhaps they'll undo the stereotype of nursing homes as an institutional, languishing ground only for dependent elderly.

"It's nursing care while you're there, but you're there to be rehabilitated," Wilson says. "That's the target of our clients."

Integrating Outside and Inside

Another design trend being used more today in health care facilities is bringing the outdoors in through the use of skylights, atriums and oversized windows.

"We're doing a much better job these days at integrating outside and

SPOTLIGHT

Amenities Provide Key to Modern Retirement Living

RISING ABOVE THE wooded hillside along Little Rock's Interstate 630 is Woodland Heights, an example of the new of retirement homes.

It could easily be mistaken for an exclusive high-rise luxury apartment which it is, but it admits only active retirees 62 and over who live independently.

Architects of retirement homes and assisted-living facilities are borrowing many design elements from the hospitality industry, which is an evident influence at Woodland Heights, built in 1985. Amenities such as a plant-filled atrium, eating areas tailored to different meals, a swimming pool and hot tub, daily continental breakfast and plush decor are all reminiscent of nice hotels.

These offerings are necessary to entice people to sell their homes and experience retirement living, says Pat M. Riley Sr., board chairman of the



Woodland Heights retirement home is located along Interstate 630.

Riley Co., the holding company for Riley's Inc., which operates Woodland Heights and two other nursing homes. "If you don't make it really plush, then you don't attract," Riley says. He points to carpeting as an example of the extra detail involved in decorating upscale retirement homes. For example, when Riley bought carpet for Woodland Heights about 10 years ago, he installed corridor carpet that cost \$18 a yard. Carpet for the dining room and main floors cost a premium \$48 a yard, he says.

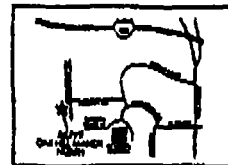
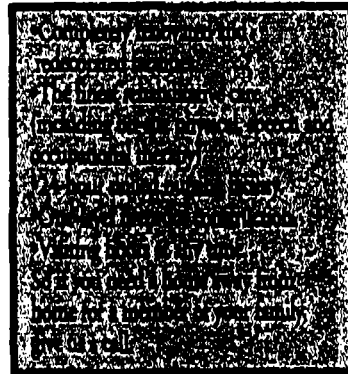
Riley says these are all touches that are expected in a facility that requires monthly service fees from about \$700 to \$900. In addition to a partially refundable resident's fee that tops but around \$100,000.

After all, the goal is not just retirement living, but luxury living.

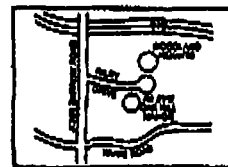
— DIXIE WALTERS

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

For more than two decades, our family has provided Arkansas families with the state's highest quality nursing home care and assisted living. Some of the many benefits we offer include:



RILEY'S OAK HILL MANOR NORTH
2501 John Ashley Dr.
North Little Rock
758-3800



RILEY'S OAK HILL MANOR SOUTH
8701 Riley Dr.
Little Rock
224-2700



Riley's Oak Hill Manor
Excellence In Nursing Care



Our Professional Staff Has Taken Patients Farther Than They Ever Imagined.

Today's space program has taken us places once thought too distant to ever reach. For someone who has lost the use of a limb, or who has had an amputation, returning to their previous life can seem just as distant a goal.

At **Snell Prosthetic & Orthotic Laboratory**, our professional staff is helping patients reach new heights through the fabrication of prosthetic and orthotic devices made from carbon graphite composites and ultra light materials originally invented for NASA.

These materials combined with technologies such as Myoelectronics, Computer Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD/CAM) and Computer Pressure Analysis make a world of difference in the comfort and function of our patients.



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PROSTHETIC & ORTHOTIC LABORATORY

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Little Rock (501) 664-2624 • Statewide Toll-free 1-800-342-5341

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL CONVENTION AND EXPOSITION

AHCA's convention is the annual meeting of the largest long term care organization representing over 67% of the industry.

Attendance: Over 3,500 in attendance representing long term care facility decisionmakers in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia.

Leadership: Over 500 members who represent AHCA's leadership in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia regularly attend convention.

Vendors: Over 1,000 vendors representing 250 manufacturers of health care products and services.

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION GRASSROOTS (KEY MEMBER) PROGRAM

AHCA's grassroots program extends into every level of government -- local, state and national.

- * There are 16,000 long term care facilities in the United States. Of these, 11,000 are members of the American Health Care Association.
- * These member facilities provide care to well over one million residents plus their attendant families.
- * These facilities provide employment to over 1.2 million people.
- * AHCA has a strong, active political network that has direct contact with every member of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.
- * Each of our 51 affiliate member associations has a similar network that reaches into every level of state and local government.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 3, 1993

MEMORANDUM FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON

FROM: Mike Lux
SUBJECT: September 7-8 meetings

As you know, we are scheduling 5 one-on-one meetings on Tuesday and Wednesday with 5 interest groups vitally important to our political strategy. All of these are short (30 minute) meetings designed to be political rather than substantive, with the goal of each being to either decisively close the deal or come as close as possible given the politics and positioning of the group. With each of them, we have a separate plan for substantive briefing of them, including scheduling them into our reading room in order to read the plan.

With Kim Tilley gone, and because these are coming up so quickly, I have done a quick political summary of each meeting so you would know what my view was of the goal. I'll help her Monday pull together anything else you need in the way of briefing materials.

AMERICAN HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

American Hospital Association's (AHA) leadership badly wants to support us, and I think our responsiveness on the package to their concerns has made it likely that the support will be there. Their internal politics are not easy, though, and the membership's vote will not be automatic. This meeting is to close the deal with the leadership, to give them the needed assurances and enthusiasm to go out and aggressively sell their membership.

AFL-CIO

The goal of this meeting is to close the deal. They want very much to support us, and I believe they are ready to make the leap now that the tax cap issue has been resolved mostly in their favor. This is your chance to hear directly from them that they are with us.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS

Although we'll still have the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in to look at the details prior to announcement, I view this meeting as our final deal closing meeting. I think they are ready to go with us, and this is our last best chance to make sure they are on board. Although Ira has gone over the medicare cut numbers with them, this meeting will also give you a chance to clarify directly with them their willingness to support the plan even in the face of Waxman's and others' opposition.

AMERICAN HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION

The American Health Care Association (AHCA) represents for-profit nursing homes, and is the biggest and most powerful long term care provider organization in the country. They have indicated a real willingness to support the plan, and we have had a number of very constructive meetings with them. Among the people in the room will be Alan Solomont, a Massachusetts nursing home provider who was a big financial player in the campaign and has indicated that he will be very active in his support.

I don't know if we can actually close the deal at this meeting, because this is a slippery group, but I think we can come very close. The goal of this meeting should be to come as close as we possibly can to closing the deal with them.

BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD

Blue Cross/Blue Shield is our best chance of gaining support in the insurance industry. They are supportive of most of the insurance reform, the employer mandate, and the general managed competition principles. While they are leery of the global budget and the cost control measures in the plan, they act as if they want to be supportive.

Like the American Health Care Association, I think the goal here is to come as close as we can get to closing the deal, although we probably won't be able to get them to sign on the dotted line.

Bridget Taylor / HHS / Andrea
~~war~~ Room - check Laurie Davis
side by side - per. comps

WED - 8:15 / 9:00

- Cross Departmental -

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1993
DRAFT: #2

Possible
AAA 2:30

Scheduling Desk:

Sara Grote
202-456-2922
202-456-2317
202-483-7312
1-800-528-7528

office
fax
home
WHCA#4363

8:15 - 9:45

PREV RON

The White House

9:00 am-

9:15 am

PRIVATE MEETING W/Maggie Williams and Patti Solis
HRC's Office

9:15 am-

9:30 am

PRIVATE MEETING W/Maggie Williams
HRC's Office

10:30 am-

10:45 am

DARE PHOTO-OP */Patti has mat'l*
Site: TBA

Contact: Danny Wexler
456-2930

11:00 am-

12:00 pm

BI-PARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP [w/ The President] *unclear if HRC attending*
Room: TBA
CLOSED PRESS

Format: Informal briefing

Participants:

Contact: Steve Ricchetti
456-6493

12:00 pm-

12:30 pm

LUNCH

12:30 pm-

1:30 pm

BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD
Room: TBA *Rm 100*
CLOSED PRESS

Format: Informal briefing

Participants:

Contact: Mike Lux

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1993
PAGE 2

456-2930

1:45 pm-
2:15 pm

AFL-CIO
Room: TBA
CLOSED PRESS

Format: Informal briefing

Participants:

Contact: Mike Lux
456-2930

2:15 pm-
3:00 pm

PHONE/OFFICE TIME
HRC's Office

3:00 pm-
4:00 pm

BRIEFING ON CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS
Room: TBA
CLOSED PRESS

Format: Informal briefing

Participants:
-Chris Jennings
-Steve Ricchetti
-Melanne Verveer

Contact: Melanne Verveer
456-6266

4:30 pm-
xxx pm

BUSINESS ROUND TABLE
Room: tBA
CLOSED PRESS

Format:

Participants:

Contact: Sam Maury
301-299-9467
202-872-1260

Staff Contact: Marilyn Yeager

7:30 pm

SMALL DINNER
Room: TBA

Willard Hotel / *SAMMA Maury*
872-1620

SCHEDULE FOR HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1993
PAGE 3

CLOSED PRESS

Format:

Participants: Approx. ____ people to attend.

Staff Contact: Ann Stock
456-7136

RON

The White House

Vogue 91

/Julia Reed

Schedule Proposal

7/28/93

ACCEPT

✓ REGRET

✓ PENDING

TO:

Marcia L. Hale
Assistant to the President and
Director of Scheduling & Advance

CC: Path Solis

Dan Wexler

FROM:

Tom Epstein
Special Assistant to the President
for Political Affairs

REQUEST:

POTUS participate in event to celebrate
the 10th anniversary of D.A.R.E. (Drug
Abuse Resistance Education).

PURPOSE:

Drug education/anti-drug hit.

BACKGROUND:

D.A.R.E. is a drug education program
taught by law enforcement officers to 25
million K-12 students every year.
D.A.R.E. teaches kids facts about
illegal drugs, as well as helps kids
build self-esteem so that they can
resist peer pressure and really "say
no." Studies credit D.A.R.E. with
helping to reduce drug use among kids.

Chelsea Clinton participated in D.A.R.E.
in Little Rock.

DATE & TIME:

Thursday, September 9, 1993. Time TBA.

LOCATION:

Washington, DC., exact location TBA.
[NOTE: D.A.R.E. originally requested
that the event be held at the WH.]

DURATION:

Drop-by with brief remarks

REMARKS REQUIRED:

Brief remarks re: importance of staying
off drugs and staying in school.

PRESS COVERAGE:

Pool coverage possible; not required.

1ST LADY'S PARTICIPATION: Open

VP'S & 2ND LADY'S
PARTICIPATION:

No

RECOMMENDED BY:

Tom Epstein

CONTACT:

Ron Rogers, Rogers & Associates
(310) 552-6922

POTUS will be out of
town. The First
Lady will do a
photo-op w/ the
poster winners.

Dan Wexler is the
contact.



TEACHING KIDS TO NEVER TAKE DRUGS

12800 Culver Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90066
(800) 223-DARE • (310) 822-7273 • Fax: (310) 574-1174

Barbara Yanow Johnson
General Counsel

July 14, 1993

Hon. Tony Coelho, President and C.E.O.
Wertheim Shroder Investment Services
787 Seventh Avenue, Equitable Center
New York, N.Y. 10019

BY FACSIMILE AND MAIL

RE: NATIONAL DARE DAY - THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 9

Dear Tony,

What a wonderful treat seeing you in Las Vegas last week. Good deeds do indeed make great luncheon partners!

As we discussed it would be marvelous if you could help us with scheduling a meeting with President Clinton on National Dare Day, Thursday September 9 at the White House. We will be there with the children who are the winners of the National Poster Contest currently underway.

As you know, D.A.R.E. serves over 5.5 million children every year in grades K-12 in police-officer led classroom programs. The curricula is taught in all fifty states, 5,200 communities, Department of Defense schools worldwide, and six foreign countries.

If you could set up a photo session with all the bells and whistles you would be our hero. All of our efforts have resulted in hearing that "it's too early to commit." As you can appreciate we're trying to schedule time with the Attorney General, our Senate and House sponsors and Lee Brown et. al. and need to start solidifying the schedule for the kids and the Board Members who will be in attendance.

Please contact me directly at 310/393-4220 or at the above captioned numbers.

All best. I look forward to seeing you again soon... how about Washington on Sept. 9th?

Sincerely,

BARBARA YANOW JOHNSON
General Counsel

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION



D.A.R.E. WILL TEACH OVER 5.5 MILLION CHILDREN DRUG RESISTANCE SKILLS IN 1993

This year, over 5.5 million additional school children across the country will learn the skills they need to resist pressure to take drugs or join gangs, thanks to the highly acclaimed D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program. Since its inception, D.A.R.E. has already taught drug resistance skills to over twenty million students worldwide.

D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teach children in grades K-12 how to resist pressure to experiment with drugs and alcohol. In 1983, the Los Angeles Police Department and the Los Angeles Unified School District recognized the need for a comprehensive, long-term educational approach to prevent substance abuse among children. Through a cooperative effort, the D.A.R.E. Program, which employs law enforcement officers as regular instructors, was developed. Initially, D.A.R.E. focused on elementary school children. It has subsequently become a comprehensive program for grades K-12. The D.A.R.E. program has proven so successful that it has expanded into more than 5,200 communities in all 50 states, American Samoa, Puerto Rico and Department of Defense Schools worldwide. D.A.R.E. has also been adopted by a number of other nations including Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and, more recently, Costa Rica, Mexico and Brazil.

D.A.R.E. America Launched To Meet Demand

The overwhelming national and international demand for the D.A.R.E. program led to the creation of a national non-profit organization, "D.A.R.E. AMERICA". The program has been supported by D.A.R.E. America since 1984. Headquartered in Los Angeles, D.A.R.E. AMERICA serves as a resource to communities, helping them establish and improve local D.A.R.E. programs.

D.A.R.E. AMERICA supports officer training, provides educational materials for students, regularly monitors instruction standards and program results and develops national awareness for the D.A.R.E. program.

Nathan Shapell, Chairman, Shapell Industries, presides over D.A.R.E. AMERICA's National Board of Directors, which is comprised of a national representation of business and community leaders.

D.A.R.E. Training Is Unique

D.A.R.E. goes far beyond traditional drug abuse programs. Typically, these programs emphasize drug identification and the harmful effects of drugs and alcohol. They warn children not to use these substances, but don't teach them how to resist the pressures to try them. D.A.R.E. gives children skills to recognize and resist the subtle and overt pressures that cause them to experiment with drugs and alcohol.

D.A.R.E. has been lauded by two presidential administrations, Congressmen, governors and state legislators. For the past four years, by Congressional Resolution and Presidential Proclamation, the second Thursday of September has been declared National D.A.R.E. Day. State legislatures have joined with the President and Congress by proclaiming D.A.R.E. Day within their respective states.

Veteran Cops Assigned Classroom "Beats"

The curriculum for the D.A.R.E. program, developed by LAUSD, was designed to be taught by officers because young students are frequently much more sophisticated about substance abuse than are classroom teachers. Veteran police officers can answer student questions based on their training and experience. Prior to entering the D.A.R.E. program, each officer undergoes 80 hours of special training in areas such as child development, classroom management, teaching techniques and communication skills. Forty hours of additional training is provided to experienced D.A.R.E. instructors to equip them to teach the high school lessons.

The police officers assigned to D.A.R.E. have come straight from the streets. Their years of direct experience with the ruined lives and street crimes caused by substance abuse gives them unmatched credibility.

D.A.R.E. – The Program

Many experts in education and medicine believe substance abuse prevention must begin early. D.A.R.E. targets students when they are most vulnerable to tremendous peer pressure to try drugs or alcohol. The D.A.R.E. lessons help children build their self-esteem, manage stress, foresee behavioral consequences, resist pro-drug media messages, and identify alternatives to drug use. It doesn't just tell them to say 'no'; it teaches them how to say 'no'.

The primary goal of D.A.R.E. is to prevent substance abuse among school age children. D.A.R.E. accomplishes this goal by:

- Providing students with accurate information about alcohol and drugs;
- Teaching students ways to say "NO" to drugs while providing alternatives to drug use;
- Teaching students decision making skills and the consequences of their behavior; and
- Building students self esteem while teaching them how to resist peer pressure.

The D.A.R.E. Program is divided into four components:

K-4th grade visitations: This acquaints the children with the D.A.R.E. officer and lays the ground work for the 17 lessons they will receive in 5th or 6th grade.

5th/6th grade core classes: This is the foundation of the D.A.R.E. Program. It provides the students with the skills they will need as young adults to resist the temptations of drug abuse.

Junior High: These 10 lessons are a follow-up to the previous 17 lessons. They reinforce the values students learned in elementary school.

High School: These 9 lessons take the students into adulthood. D.A.R.E. combines all the previously learned values and experiences and applies them to real life situations, teaching young adults the value of staying drug free. Utilizing a shared implementation, six lessons are officer taught with 3 follow-up lessons taught by regular classroom teachers.

FACT SHEET: D.A.R.E. 1993 (DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION)

Founded:	September 1983
Headquarters:	Los Angeles, California
Development:	D.A.R.E. originated as a cooperative effort of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).
Curriculum:	Development by LAUSD health education specialists. Specially trained veteran police officers teach a course in drug resistance techniques. Lessons focus on (1) providing accurate information about alcohol and drugs; (2) teaching students decision-making skills; (3) showing them how to resist peer pressure; (4) giving them ideas for alternatives to drug use.
Grade Levels Involved:	Kindergarten through high school
States, Countries Implementing D.A.R.E.:	50 states in the U.S., the Department of Defense Dependent Schools, Australia, New Zealand, American Samoa, Canada, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Costa Rica, Brazil
Projected Number of Students to be Reached in 1991:	Over 5.5 million children in over 250,000 classrooms will receive the core curriculum. In addition, 20 million more kids will be impacted by the other components of the D.A.R.E. Program.
Number of Lesson Plans:	The D.A.R.E. curriculum has three separate components: • Elementary - 17 lessons, plus visitations, K-4 • Junior High - 10 lessons • High School - 6 lessons with 3 follow-up lessons by teacher
D.A.R.E. Programs in Place:	5,200 cooperative partnerships between law enforcement and local school districts are in place.
Materials:	Educational materials, program outlines for schools, student workbooks, drug awareness information for parents, information pamphlets for citizens and community groups
Funding:	Provided by D.A.R.E. AMERICA through private and corporate donations. Officer salaries are at public expense.
National Sponsors:	Kentucky Fried Chicken and Bayliner Marine Corporation.
Successes and Results:	Independent evaluations show students have learned to resist drugs and combat peer pressure. In addition, school vandalism, truancy and gang activity have decreased. Relations between ethnic groups have improved. Students have developed a more positive outlook toward police and school.
Expansion:	D.A.R.E. is available to communities across the country at no charge.

Success of Program Documented

D.A.R.E.'s success was measured by an in-depth evaluation conducted by the Evaluation and Training Institute (ETI), a Los Angeles-based independent research firm. Other evaluations around the country have shown similar results.

Findings from ETI's long-term study, begun in 1985, show that the program has far exceeded its goal of helping students combat peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol. It also has contributed to improved study habits and grades, decreased vandalism and gang activity and has generated greater respect for police officers.

D.A.R.E. PROGRAM 5TH/6TH GRADE CURRICULUM

The following outlines the D.A.R.E. curriculum. One lesson is presented each week throughout a grade school semester.

1. **PERSONAL SAFETY PRACTICE** — Acquaints students with role of police and practices for student safety.
2. **DRUG USE AND MISUSE** — Helps students understand harmful effects of drugs.
3. **CONSEQUENCES** — Helps students understand the negative consequences of drug use and the positive consequences of saying no to drugs.
4. **RESISTING PRESSURES TO USE DRUGS** — Makes students aware of kinds of peer pressure they may face and helps them learn to say no to offers to use drugs.
5. **RESISTANCE TECHNIQUES — WAYS TO SAY NO** — Teaches students ways to say no in resisting various types of pressure.
6. **BUILDING SELF-ESTEEM** — Helps students understand that self-image results from positive and negative feelings and experiences.
7. **ASSERTIVENESS: A RESPONSE STYLE** — Teaches that assertiveness is a response style that enables a person to state his or her own rights without loss of self-esteem.
8. **MANAGING STRESS WITHOUT TAKING DRUGS** — Helps students recognize stress and suggests ways to deal with it other than by taking drugs.
9. **MEDIA INFLUENCES ON DRUG USE** — Helps students develop the understanding and skills needed to analyze and resist media presentations about alcohol and drugs.
10. **DECISION MAKING AND RISK TAKING** — Helps students apply the decision-making process in evaluating the results of various kinds of risk-taking behavior, including that of drugs.
11. **ALTERNATIVES TO DRUG USE** — Helps students find out about activities that are interesting and rewarding and are better than taking drugs.
12. **ROLE MODELING** — Older student leaders and other positive role models that do not use drugs talk to younger students to clarify the misconception that those who use drugs are in the majority.
13. **FORMING A SUPPORT SYSTEM** — Students develop positive relationships with many different people in order to form a support system.
14. **RESISTING GANG PRESSURE** — Helps students identify situations in which they may be pressured by gangs and evaluate the consequences of the choices available to them.
15. **D.A.R.E. SUMMARY** — Helps students summarize and assess what they learned from the program.
16. **TAKING A STAND** — Students present their own commitment to the class which helps them respond effectively when pressured to use drugs.
17. **CULMINATION** — Student graduation from the D.A.R.E. program.

PL- Bulk (Apprec.)

National D.A.R.E. Officers Association

President: Tab Turke, Morgan Co., S.D., IL
Vice President: Alan Green, LAPD, CA
First Vice President: Bill Finn, Braintree PD, MA
Past President: Terry Johnson, SBI, NC



Secretary: Mike Fordham, GBI, GA
Treasurer: Jimmy Richerson, Kentucky S.P.
Sergeant-At-Arms: Joan Allen, Michigan S.P.
Executive Assistant: Tom Johnson, Houston P.D., TX
Educational Advisor: Dr. Robert Banks, SC Dept. of Ed.

July 27, 1993

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the National D.A.R.E. Officers Association, I would like to thank you for the videotaped message you presented to our membership at the Sixth Annual N.D.O.A. Conference in Las Vegas. The membership was very appreciative of the fact that you took time out of your undoubtedly busy schedule to honor us with your personal observations as a father regarding drug abuse.

As a veteran law enforcement officer with the Los Angeles Police Department, I have seen firsthand the negative effects of drug abuse in my community. Like you, I am a firm believer in education and prevention, which are the heart and soul of D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). Our program works because of the tremendous dedication and commitment of law enforcement, teachers and parents, and because our nation's leadership has recognized the destructiveness of drugs and is fighting alongside a concerned citizenry.

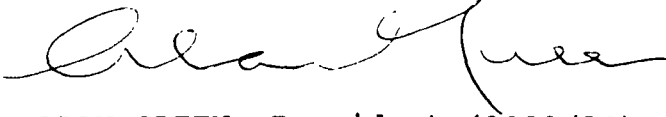
I applaud you for your efforts in eradicating drug abuse in our nation. As President of the National D.A.R.E. Officers Association, the largest police/educator association in the world, I offer our assistance in keeping the children of our nation from taking the deadend pathway of drugs. That has always been our organization's purpose and goal.

As you know, the D.A.R.E. program will be celebrating its 10th anniversary on September 9, 1993. I will be in Washington on that day to join the celebration of this milestone and, if possible, I would be honored to meet with you and present you with some D.A.R.E. mementos.

The Honorable Bill Clinton
Page Two

Once again, thank you for your support of the D.A.R.E. program and the National D.A.R.E. Officers Association.

Very respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alan Green". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the text block.

ALAN GREEN, President (1993/94)
National D.A.R.E. Officers Association

August 9, 1993

Mr. Alan Green
President
National D.A.R.E.
Officers Association
Post Office Box 290
Campbellsville, Kentucky 42718

Dear Alan:

I appreciate your getting in touch with me
about my message to the N.D.O.A. conference.

in
I'm grateful for your support and your
efforts ~~on~~ behalf of our nation's most vulnerable
citizens, our young people. Working together, we
can ~~give~~ safe communities, safe schools, and safe
streets back to the ~~American~~ people, and give the
next generation ~~of Americans~~ the peace of mind
they deserve. I am dedicated to this challenge.

bring back
Sincerely,

MM
BC/~~MM~~/KB/ws

(Corres. #841147)

cc:w/copy of incmg to Scheduling

pm

*MM -
This is a Scheduling
matter.
Have typing "kill"
#841147 & get this
right up to Scheduling!*

pm

DRAFT OF BC LETTER

INITIALS: BC / mhm / KB

DOCUMENT TITLE: /slr/p/green.a.mm.

DRAFT DATE / LETTER DATE: Aug 06 1993 /

CORRESPONDENCE #: 841147

CLEAR WITH:

WHCC:

CC:

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESSED TO:

Mr. Alan Green
President
National D.A.R.E. Officers Association
P. O. Box 290
Campbellsville, Kentucky 42718

APPROVAL/ENCLOSURES/SPECIAL INSTR:

WHcc: copy and incoming to scheduling

Dear Alan:

I appreciate your getting in touch with me ^{about} ~~regarding~~ my message to the
N.D.O.A. conference.

I'm grateful for your support and your efforts on behalf of our
nation's most vulnerable citizens, our young people. ~~By~~ working
together, we can give safe communities, safe schools, and safe streets
back to the American people, and give the next generation of Americans
the peace of mind ^{they deserve}. I am dedicated to this challenge.

Sincerely,

BC

AUG 6 1993

TONY COELHO
EQUITABLE CENTER, 787 SEVENTH AVENUE
FIFTH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10019-6016

August 3, 1993

7/11/93
file +
attach ~~Sept~~
to other
related
material
Sept 93

Ms. Marcia Hale
Assistant to the President and
Director of Scheduling and Advance
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Marcia:

I am writing with regard to an invitation the President has received from the National D.A.R.E. Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) to meet with the winners of this outstanding organization's national poster contest in Washington on September 9, 1993.

September 9 is National D.A.R.E. Day. D.A.R.E. is a program in all 50 states that serves over 5.5 million elementary, junior high and high school students each year. Specially trained veteran police officers teach a course in drug resistance techniques that focuses on 1) providing accurate information about alcohol and drugs, 2) teaching students decision-making skills, 3) showing them how to resist peer pressure, and 4) giving them ideas for alternatives to drug use. Independent evaluations of the program have shown that students have learned how to resist drugs and combat peer pressure. School vandalism, truancy and gang activity have decreased, relations between ethnic groups have improved, and students have developed a more positive outlook toward police and school.

I was privileged to be able to attend the National D.A.R.E. Convention in Las Vegas last month, and I was able to see for myself some of the incredible successes of this program. The President was kind enough to send a video greeting to the convention, in which he told of Chelsea's own participation in the D.A.R.E. program and what a positive impact it had on her.

I urge the President to meet with the D.A.R.E. contest winners on September 30 at the White House. Not only is this an outstanding program that deserves to be highlighted on its own merits, but it would also help to shore up the President's support within the law enforcement community. For additional information, and to set up a meeting, please contact Barbara Yanow Johnson, D.A.R.E. General Counsel, at 310/393-4220 or 310/822-7273.

As always, Marcia, thank you for your consideration.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

T

TONY COELHO

I assume the President
will do this - can we
give them a sticker
you depending on any
criteria etc?

File —

9/7/93

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better r

In Joan Didion's novel *Democracy*, there is a brilliantly drawn character, a political handler named Billy Dillon. He is frequently in the business of telling the heroine, Inez Victor, whose husband is running for president, how exactly to handle interviews with the press. "It's a game, Inez, it's tennis. . . . It's only going to last x minutes. Finite time. For those x minutes you're here to play. You're going to place the ball"—here Billy Dillon had paused, and executed a shadowy serve—"inside the lines."

I have just met the wives of three of the Democratic candidates who are running for president. There were no Billy Dillons musing

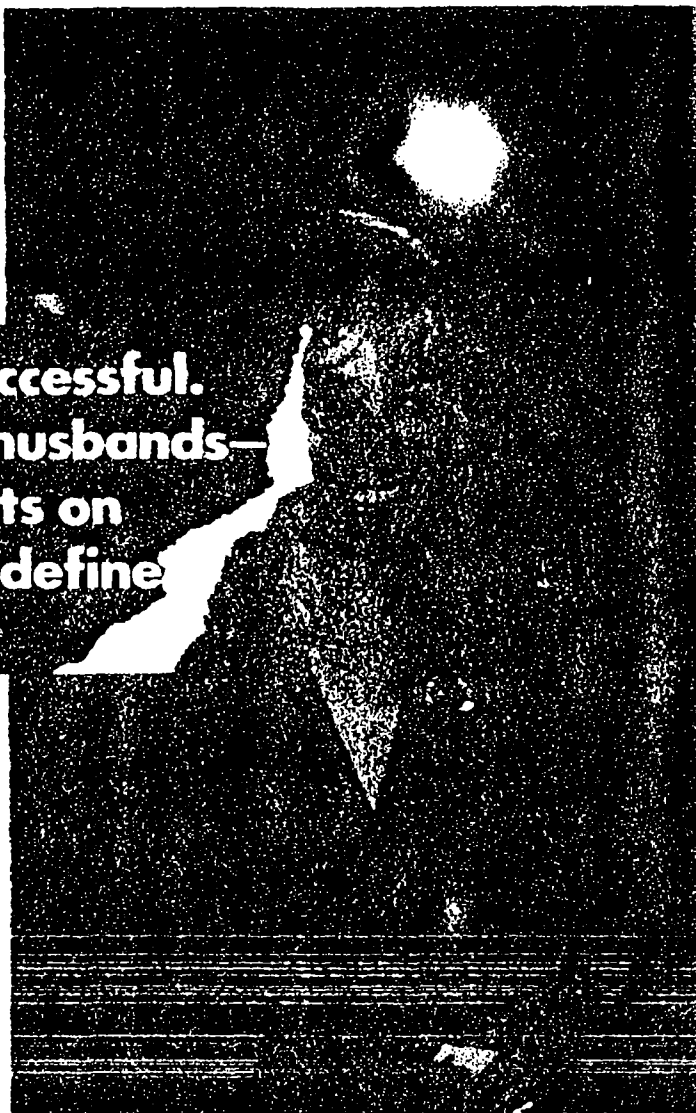
They're young. They're successful. They disagree with their husbands—in public. Julia Reed reports on the women who would redefine the role of first lady

serves in the background. These are not women who will be told to place any imaginary tennis balls inside any lines.

Hillary Clinton, who met her husband, Bill, when both were students at Yale Law School, is a partner specializing in litigation in a Little Rock law firm. She serves on the boards of Wal-Mart Stores and TCBY Enterprises (the yogurt folks), among others, and she chairs the Children's Defense Fund. When reporters ask her about her husband's campaign, she always answers with the pronoun, "we," as in "New Hampshire is a big challenge for us and something we're taking very seriously. . . . but we think Super Tuesday is so important." Clinton lands well-placed shots, all right, but they say, I'm in this too, you know, it's fifty-fifty. "The idea," she says, "that I would check my brain at the White House door is something that just doesn't make any sense to me."

When her husband, Paul, was diagnosed with cancer, Niki Tsongas promptly enrolled in Boston University law school. It was a tough practical decision during an emotional time, but the odds seemed in favor of her becoming the family's sole breadwinner. Her husband made a miraculous recovery, and Tsongas went into partnership with a friend. She insists her husband did not make the decision to run until that partnership had dissolved. So crucial was the New Hampshire race that she spent more days there than her husband. She didn't talk about women's issues or projects she would adopt as first lady. She faced the crowds and detailed, among other things, the tricky difference between Paul Tsongas's "economic patriotism" and Pat Buchanan's brand of protectionism.

Ruth Harkin was elected to public office long before her husband, Senator Tom Harkin, made it to Congress. For six years she served as chief prosecutor in Story County, Iowa. Now she



Hillary Clinton with her husband, Arkansas governor Bill Clinton, in Los Angeles, ABOVE, and in her Little Rock law office, RIGHT. "You have to be constantly vigilant that you don't sacrifice who you are or what you care about to your husband's profession," she says.

practices corporate law, specializing in agriculture at the Washington, D.C., law firm founded by ambassador Robert Strauss. She is in favor of the death penalty; her husband opposes it. In Iowa they have been known to campaign for different candidates running in Democratic primaries. When a congressional pay raise Tom Harkin voted against was passed anyway, he gave back the money. She draped a banner across their house that read: "A fool and his money are soon parted."

These three women are the first of a new generation of presidential wives. They are young (all three are in their forties), they have

ra lve



children, they have careers as meaningful as those of their husbands. They make sacrifices for the sake of their husbands' ambitions, but they are sacrifices of a new kind. It's no longer just a question of leaving the kids at home and hitting the road hard; it's a question of subjugating, at least temporarily, their own careers to someone else's. "You have to be constantly vigilant that you don't sacrifice who you are and what you care about to your husband's profession," says Clinton. "It's a terrific challenge. And it's one I've tried to meet by getting up every day and going to work."

Odds are that Clinton will not be taxiing off to work every morning if her husband captures the presidency. But she, Harkin, Tsongas, or others like them who will one day occupy the White House will certainly rede-

better halves

fine the role of first lady. "I think we're transitional," says Tsongas. Harkin agrees: "There aren't any models, so we're not talking about a cookie-cutter existence. We're talking about doing something different."

For Harkin the first difference came at the beginning, when her husband made the decision to run. "If my family weren't with me on this, I wouldn't do it," Tom Harkin says. "Never in a million years. It just wouldn't be worth it." In 1967, when Hubert Humphrey entered the presidential primaries, Muriel Humphrey was the last to know. She dashed off a telegram—not without sarcasm—that read, "What can I do to help?" and then, of course, she campaigned tirelessly. Today the Harkin model much more closely resembles reality than the Humphrey one. But Americans still seem to expect their political wives, particularly their first ladies, to be like Muriel Humphrey—or indeed, Barbara Bush—the stoic helpmate who devotes her life to raising her children and promoting her husband's career. And so far, deviation from this role has not been met with great success.

Tipper Gore was widely perceived to have hurt her husband's career with her outspoken support of labeling in the recording industry. "When you hear the name Gore here, the only thing you think of is his wife," said Robert Merlis, a vice president of Warner Bros. Records, during Gore's unsuccessful campaign in the 1988 primaries. "She has created such a giant smoke screen around his campaign that no one has any inkling of his politics." The public may have disapproved of Nancy Reagan's china-buying sprees, but that was small potatoes when it became clear that her influence ranged from veto power over the president's schedule to the firing of Donald Regan. When it was discovered that Rosalynn Carter sat in on Cabinet meetings, a public outcry ensued. And official Washington is very uncomfortable with the fact that Marilyn Quayle is the strategist behind Dan's rise to power.

Ruth Harkin thinks that what befell her predecessors can be avoided: "One thing you can do to protect yourself is to make it very clear what you are going to do ahead of time. And I think it may be easier for someone who has been involved in their own career. When you're in the working world, you are used to accounting for yourself. If people understand what your capabilities are, I think, people are more comfortable with you."

Clinton agrees. "I've already told people up front that I have opinions and they're going to hear about them. There's not going to be any behind-the-scenes stuff."

It is also important to remember that Nancy Reagan and Rosalynn Carter had no widely known job credentials other than being married to the president. "The fact that I was elected to public office before Tom was has been an enormous benefit to me," says Harkin. "I can feel free to speak about things, and people think I have something to say because I was a public official. So I've been treated very well."

Existing fields of expertise also make it easier to find a niche once in the White House. Harkin, the former prosecutor, would take on the issue of crime. "Not working is inconceivable to me," she says. "I've been working since I was four-

teen." Clinton has championed women's and children's rights for years. In addition to chairing the Children's Defense Fund, she has served on the board of the I Have a Dream Foundation, which arranges benefactors to pay for disadvantaged children's college educations. During her husband's second term she chaired his Education Standards Committee, and for the American Bar Association she chaired a commission that issued reports on the glass ceiling for women in the workplace. "Even though I've practiced law for eighteen years, I've been an activist and involved in public issues for longer." Being first lady, Clinton says, would give her "a more visible platform to talk about the things I'd talk about anyway." Other than that, she says, "there's not much inherent attractiveness in turning your life over to this process."

For all her independence, Clinton has not fully escaped the "stand by your man" aspect of her role. Bill Clinton—alleged to



Ruth Harkin with her daughters Amy, 15, and Jenny, 10



Joan and Ted Kennedy in 1980



Governor Jerry Brown and Linda Ronstadt, 1980

They make sacrifices for the sake of their husbands' ambitions, but they are sacrifices of a new kind

And we intend to be together thirty or forty years from now, regardless of whether I run for president or not. And I think that ought to be enough."

That day, at least, it was. *Newsweek* declared questions about Clinton's private life "put to rest" and applauded the "obvious zest for political combat that disarmed his inquisitors." His performance demonstrated "what a formidable candidate he could be." What the magazine failed to mention was the formidable presence of Clinton's wife. She is a tough, capable woman, not a shell-shocked Joan Kennedy or a stony-faced Lee Hart. Without her, he would be a lot less "disarming."

Hillary Clinton's presence may be vital in deflecting press criticism from her husband, but like Niki Tsongas, she usually campaigns separately from her husband. Ruth Harkin chose not to hit

the trail at all until just before the crucial early primaries. This would have been unthinkable just a few years ago. A campaign needed a wife as a symbol—a thankless job at best.

When Gary Hart ran in the 1988 Democratic primaries, Lee Hart not only joined the campaign after a separation from her husband, she stayed on after Donna Rice. When Joan Kennedy was hauled out as a campaign prop during Teddy Kennedy's disastrous bid for the 1980 Democratic nomination, her husband barely acknowledged her and referred to her bout with alcoholism as "her" problem. During a press conference in Iowa, a local reporter unschooled in the ways of Teddy and Joan asked her what she was interested in, meaning, presumably, which of her husband's issues. After a brief silence, Teddy turned and said, "Tell them about your piano playing, Joanie."

"It used to be that wives got nice corsages, smiled, and didn't say anything other than what their favorite recipe was," says Illinois senator Paul Simon, a Democratic presidential hopeful in 1988. "The wife is expected now to go out and say what she thinks about worker compensation—and everything else." At a coffee in New Hampshire, I heard a man ask Niki Tsongas about her position on the "POW" situation. "These wives are capable of answering these questions—substantively."

In 1980, when Jerry Brown brought Linda Ronstadt to New Hampshire, *The Washington Post's* Art Harris asked her how she liked the state. "Well, it's snowy—oh, who cares about the weather. That's boring. Ask me about nuclear power." "What about it?" asked Harris. "It's bad, and we're going to stop it."

If the current group of women want to discuss nuclear power, you can bet it will be a longer conversation. And the public will have to get used to it. There will be fewer and fewer candidates whose wives will *not* be involved in their own careers, will *not* have strong opinions that they will feel free to voice. Presidential politics, says Ruth Harkin, has lagged behind the rest of society in adapting to the structure of modern families. And until now those who have run for president have had traditional one-career marriages. "That," says Ruth Harkin, "just isn't what's happening in the United States today." •



Ruth with Tom Harkin in Iowa as he announced his candidacy



Niki Tsongas serves ice cream on the campaign trail in Massachusetts

Gary Hart pulls out of the '88 race as Lee looks on



pearance just prior to his announcement for the presidency to attack the problem head-on—with Hillary at his side. At a breakfast with thirty political reporters in Washington, he said, "What you need to know about me is that we have been together for almost twenty years and have been married almost sixteen, and we are committed to our marriage and its obligations, to our child and to each other. . . . Our relationship has not been perfect or free of difficulties. But we feel good about where we are. We believe in our obligations.