

# Second round of debates finds Grassley on offense

By Norman D. Sandler  
United Press International

WATERLOO (UPI) — Even before the crowd had left the Electric Park Ballroom, some to return to the nearby carnival midway of the National Cattle Congress, the consensus was clear.

Rep. Charles Grassley, devastated during his first faceoff with Sen. John Culver two weeks before, had learned his lesson.

Grassley Sunday successfully avoided the defensive posture that allowed Culver to dominate their first face-to-face encounter, taking to the offensive to bring the second debate of their heated race to an even draw.

For days preceding, his handlers had been formulating ways of countering the aggressive style Culver has mastered. From the outset, Grassley kept to the offensive — some observers said too much so — hammering away at the economic issues on which Republican leaders say the election can be won or lost.

Culver loyalists insisted Grassley still was short on substance — a charge also made after the Sept. 6 debate that served as little more than a proving ground for Sunday's televised showdown.

However, their findings overlooked one realism of politics: that form often means as much as substance.

"We clearly won," said a triumphant Grassley staffer. "It worked."

Grassley's performance reflected intensive prepping. His new-found aggressiveness, smoothed with well-rehearsed responses to anticipated questions, was a contrast to his easy-going style on the campaign trail.

Much of the dialogue — the opening and closing statements and many answers — mimicked the Sept. 6 debate. Unlike their previous encounter, the candidates dealt more with specifics and what they called central issues of the campaign.

It was a spirited 60 minutes that left some observers wondering whether the intensity of his attacks on Culver would help Grassley or eventually hurt him.

"It was too negative. It was just too personal," said one Culver supporter. "It'll backfire."

On one issue in particular Grassley was prepared.

For months, he has been dogged by his refusal to take sides on the state Equal Rights Amendment. Culver has used the issue to drive a wedge between Grassley and pro-ERA Republican women.

But when the question arose Sunday, Grassley quickly glossed over his ERA stand and took aim at Culver, suggesting the Democrat's own support of the ERA was not borne out by hiring practices within his office.

Grassley read off the names and salaries of Culver's top five aides — all men. He then claimed women fill two-thirds of the jobs in his office, including three of his five top staff positions.

Citing his support for estate tax reforms and



Culver

Grassley

establishment of a homemakers retirement program, he defiantly added, "In equal rights, I go beyond what the Equal Rights Amendment would do."

Later, in comparing his record to Culver's, he said: "Not only is there rhetoric, but there's commitment."

The incident upset Culver, who insisted the staff comparisons were not valid. He refused to allow it to cloud what he called Grassley's irresponsible refusal to take a stand on the state ERA.

However, it allowed Grassley to maintain the offensive — to go on to criticize Culver for "big spending habits" and repeatedly pin his record to that of the Carter administration.

"We got down to specifics," Grassley said afterward. "During the first debate, I avoided specifics. Now we're going to use them for the rest of the campaign."

Culver, however, still scored high marks for his command of the facts and the detail underlying his charges.

He and Grassley sparred over the logic behind the economic policies advocated by the Republican Party, with Culver firing the final salvo. The idea of granting a massive across-the-board tax cut while boosting defense spending and balancing the budget, he said, "is totally unworkable and would result in a chaotic situation."

Culver at one point lashed out at Grassley's use of "sloganeering." In response, Grassley continued to talk of the "Carter-Culver economy" and the "Carter-Culver farm program" and emphasize the too-liberal-for-Iowa theme underpinning his campaign.

On other issues:

- Grassley accused Culver of being aided by "radical organizations" in an effort to neutralize fallout from his own backing by the New Right. The example he cited was Culver's support from the Council for a Livable World, a Washington-based arms control group.

- Culver, while saying it was "regrettable" racism had entered into the presidential race, noted Grassley opposed the Fair Housing Act just as Ronald Reagan at one time had opposed the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

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# Greeley tuggers to Switzerland

GREELEY — Greeley's tug-of-war team is going overseas again Tuesday, this time to the Tug of War International Federation championships in Basel, Switzerland.

Jim Schmitz, manager of the team, said Greeley will represent the U.S. in the 18-country competition next Sunday. Schmitz is not going, but he said the following pullers will leave Tuesday for the nine-day trip:

Lyle Bolsinger, Joe Grant, Gerald Welsh, Duane Putz, his brother Darryl Putz, Steve Moorman, Dave Siegel and Al Kruse. All are from the Greeley area except Siegel, who lives in Cedar Rapids. Coach Leroy Bolsinger and trainer Joe Schnitner will accompany the team, in addition to several wives.

The 12-person party will arrive in Basel Wednesday morning and compete Sunday. Then the lowans will go to Ireland before returning Oct. 2. In Ireland, they plan to visit some of the tug-of-war pullers who competed in Iowa.

Greeley will compete in the 640-kilo (1410-pound) class.

"Siegel is the heavyest," said Schmitz, "but he has reduced from 225 to about 205 pounds. The lightest is Gerald Welsh at 143."

"The pullers have been working very hard. They have taken off about 35 pounds as a group in the last three or four weeks. They will have their last heavy workout from 1 to 4 this afternoon in the Greeley park, then the team members will run or ride bicycles to keep their legs in top shape for the competition."

Last year a Greeley team went to Sweden for a similar competition. Three Wisconsin teams will go to Basel, too.

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# First fall day brings summer, winter weather

Associated Press

A summer storm and a warning of wintry weather crossed paths in Iowa today on the first day of autumn.

Severe weather, including at least one tornado, spun across northern Iowa Saturday night, knocking over trees, destroying a handful of buildings and interrupting utility service.

On Sunday night in Clayton County, a funnel cloud was reported west of Elkader about 9:30 p.m., but apparently the twister did no damage. The thunderstorms associated with it dropped large amounts of rain, including 2.9 inches at New Albin and Deocrah.

Meanwhile, strong northerly winds and much cooler temperatures entered the state as a cold front moved across Iowa today.

A high pressure area will move over the state tonight, causing quite cool temperatures. Some areas will have temperatures in the 30s by Tuesday morning, and scattered areas of light frost will be possible.

Authorities in Rudd reported golf ball-sized hail and winds up to 60 miles per hour Saturday,

causing tree limbs to fall and ripping up loose roof shingles.

A racquetball club building and flatbed truck trailers in Spencer were extensively damaged by the storm, which also knocked down utility poles and caused power outages in that area.

The tornado, according to the National Weather Service, touched down near Kanawha at about 7 p.m. Saturday, knocking down trees and telephone poles. No injuries were reported.

The service also said a tornado touched down about 10 minutes later about two miles north of Goodell, and another was reported near Klemme.

Kanawha residents reported the storm tossed litter throughout the town, and there were reports that nearby barns had collapsed, trapping farm animals inside.

The storm raced across Iowa's northwestern tier of counties, beginning with a wind blast at Sioux City at about 4 p.m. Authorities said winds, gusting up to 76 mph, accompanied by hail, caused widespread power outages.

# 8 persons die on Iowa roads

United Press International

At least eight Iowans were killed in weekend traffic accidents around the state, and a ninth person died of injuries suffered earlier in the month.

Kelly Costigan, 17, of Cedar Rapids died after his car was struck by an oncoming car on U.S. Highway 30 Saturday.

The driver of the second car, Katherine Davis, 21, also of Cedar Rapids, apparently fell asleep while driving and crashed into Costigan's vehicle.

Fremont County officials said two young men died, apparently by drowning, early Sunday when the car in which they were riding went out of control and landed in a pond about 2.5 miles east of Riverton.

Officials identified the victims as Robert K. Allen, 25, of Sidney, the driver of the car, and Jeffrey Mall, 19, of Shenandoah.

Michael P. McNerty, 16, of Ames was killed Sunday when a wrecking truck in which he was a passenger went out of control on a Boone County gravel road and overturned in a ditch. Officials said McNerty was pinned beneath the truck.

Teresa Geith, 16, of Logan was killed in a car-train collision near Missouri Valley Saturday night.

Geith was a passenger in a car driven by Lisa Lundergard, 18, of Logan, who was listed in fair condition at an Omaha hospital late Sunday.

The Iowa Highway Patrol said Elmer Van Whye, 61, of Ireton in Sioux County was killed in a two-vehicle accident in Ireton Saturday.

Van Whye, who was pronounced dead at the scene, was driving north on a Sioux County gravel road, the patrol said, when his car was struck by a vehicle driven by Bryan McKee, 28, of Akron. McKee was not seriously injured.

Keith Jessen, 21, of Evely died in a two-vehicle accident northwest of Fostoria Saturday.

The Iowa Highway Patrol said Jessen was a passenger in a pickup truck driven by Charles Selzer, also of Evely, when the vehicle collided with a car driven by Rick Williamson of Spirit Lake about eight miles northwest of Fostoria.

State troopers are investigating the death of Iona Johnson, 45, Ellsworth, Minn., who died after the bicycle she was riding was hit from behind by a car near Rock Rapids.

Mark A. Ritchie, 19, Dubuque, injured when his motorcycle collided with a car in Iowa City Sept. 1, died Saturday of severe head injuries at University Hospitals in Iowa City.

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# Authorities look for man who dated murder victim

BETTENDORF (AP) — A man who had a date with Sandra Jo Pittman on the night she was killed last week is being sought by the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation.

Miss Pittman's body was discovered Wednesday in a rest area along U.S. Highway 30 near Clarence. She had been missing from Bettendorf since Tuesday.

DCI Director Gerald Shanahan said Sunday that interviews with Miss Pittman's friends and relatives

gave them the lead that she apparently had a date on the night of her death. Shanahan said the man was wanted only for questioning.

Investigators have said that Miss Pittman was living with a man at the time of her disappearance. Miss Pittman's body was not identified until Saturday. An autopsy showed she died of a skull fracture.

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