

# Political dogfight now with GOP

**PRIMARIES**  
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Alabama governor as a factor in his party's campaign.

There was ample evidence of Democratic crossover voting in Indiana, where Reagan had 51 per cent of the vote in counting that had passed the three-quarters mark.

That gave him a margin of about 11,000 ballots.

Reagan's campaign manager said that primary election results from Indiana, Georgia and Alabama would "give us the lead" over Ford in committed delegates.

"We will move to tie down the technically uncommitted but strongly pro-Ford delegations in the northeast, such as New York and Pennsylvania," Morton said at Ford headquarters.

Sears said Reagan's victory in Indiana was due to the "extra efforts of our grassroots support," and acknowledged that Reagan voters apparently included some Democrats and Independents.

Sears said that Carter's "strong victory in Indiana makes it even more sure that he will be the Democratic nominee, and we are confident that Republican primary voters in the many states that have still to select their delegates will be guided by the strong backing which the voters of Indiana have given to Gov. Reagan today."

Morton said Ford had some tough going ahead, particularly in six states that permit crossover voting by Democrats. He and Reagan meet next in Nebraska, which is not among them.

Reagan, in Lincoln, Neb., said "it takes some time for the issues to register," and added that he thought momentum he gained with his landslide victory in Texas on Saturday had helped Tuesday.

"We're both going to go to the convention with a sizeable bloc of delegates," he said.

"I think this is going to put Ford on the defensive," Carter said. "I think he's in trouble."

It will take 1,130 delegates to choose a Republican presidential nominee.

Democratic Senator Vance Hartke won renomination in Indiana over Representative Philip Hayes. Hartke had 52 per cent of the vote. Former Indianapolis Mayor Richard Lugar won the Republican Senate nomination. Secretary of State Larry Conrad won

## Nebraska governor's son files for bankruptcy

OMAHA, NEB. (AP) — The son of Gov. J. J. Exon has filed for bankruptcy in Federal Bankruptcy Court here, court records show. Stephen J. Exon, 29, a salesman for an Omaha beer distributor, listed assets of \$7,405 and liabilities of \$52,046.

## Equal time for Ford if station runs Reagan movie

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — If a television station airs Ronald Reagan's "Cattle Queen of Montana," President Ford can demand equal time, the Federal Communications Commission ruled Tuesday.

The format can be different, said the FCC, it simply has to be equal opportunity for TV exposure.

Ford has indicated he wouldn't seek equal time for the old Reagan movies.

In a 5-2 vote upholding a staff ruling, the FCC said it was following the wording of the law on equal time provisions.

While joining the majority, Chairman Richard Wiley and Commissioner James Quello said "from a common sense point of view, it seems absurd to apply the same regulations to old movies that are applied to political announcements."

They said the commission is bound by the wording of the law and they hope Congress "will explore the possibility of legislative reform."

Commissioners Glen Robinson and Ben Hooks, dissenting, said they think the commission has "discretion to follow the dictates of common sense."

Involved directly are two movies owned by Adrian Weiss' production firm, "Tennessee Partner," in which Reagan plays a cowboy, and "Cattle Queen of Montana," in which Reagan portrays a gunfighter.

The FCC Broadcast Bureau last Feb.



## A Carter vote

Rosalyn Carter, wife of Democratic presidential hopeful Jimmy Carter, steps into the voting booth at Plains, Ga., Tuesday to cast her ballot in the first Georgia presidential primary.

the Democratic nomination to run against Republican Gov. Otis Bowen.

With 92 per cent of the precincts counted in Georgia, it looked this way:

• Reagan 108,517 or 68 per cent.

• Ford 50,112 or 32 per cent.

The former California governor was leading for all 48 GOP delegates.

Carter had 364,206 votes or 84 per cent.

Wallace was second with 51,360 or 12 per cent. Ten other names on the ballot divided the rest of the vote.

That meant all 50 delegates for Carter.

With 45 per cent of the precincts counted in Washington, D.C., Carter was ahead for six delegates, Representative Morris Udall of Arizona for four, and two uncommitted entries led.

There were no returns on the other five delegates there.

Alabama Count

Four per cent of the precincts had been counted in Alabama in the Republican race and Reagan led for 22 delegates, with no returns in on the other 15 seats.

In the Democratic primary, with 39 per cent of the precincts counted, delegates backing Wallace led for 15 convention seats, Carter for one, Fred Harris for one, one uncommitted entry for two. There were no returns counted in the other 17 delegate contests.

President Ford was unopposed for

the 14 GOP delegates from the District of Columbia, so there was no need for a Republican primary there.

The four-primary night was the first of six successive Tuesdays that will feature multiple contests, before the primary marathon ends June 8.

## Reagan Outlook

Reagan's sweep of 96 Texas delegates virtually guarantees that he'll be challenging Ford not only through those elections, but through the nine weeks between the last primaries and the opening gavel of the Republican National Convention in Kansas City Aug. 16.

Ironically, it is the Democrats, the party out of the White House, who now appear to be consolidating around a candidate. They started with a dozen, and while there are still five men in the race, Carter's polling place clout is starting to convince party leaders that he is their man.

Senator Birch Bayh of Indiana endorsed Carter on Monday; Senator Lloyd Bentson of Texas said Tuesday he is releasing the half dozen delegates he was able to win in his favorite son primary race against Carter. Bentson said it is obvious Texans want Carter.

Reagan has begun arguing that he is the Republican best suited to face Carter for the White House next Nov. 2, saying that as a former California governor without Washington ties, he has the credentials to take the anti-establishment vote. Ford has sought to counter that argument, and has been taking on Carter, too.

Udall, Wallace, Senator Frank Church of Idaho, and Gov. Jerry Brown of California are still campaigning against Carter, the latter two entering their first primaries later this month.

But Carter is nearly one-third of the way to the 1,505 delegate votes it will take to choose a Democratic nominee. Unless he blunders, or one of the late season entries come on with an unexpectedly strong showing, there is no one in sight now to block his path.

## Long Struggle

So it was the Republicans who faced the long, intense contest between an incumbent President and a conservative challenger. Reagan has been saying all along that he would prove his vote pulling power when the primary schedule reached the South and Southwest. It has.

He went into Tuesday's competition with two primary victories in his column, compared to Ford's six. But Reagan won the tests he most needed to win, in North Carolina to silence suggestions that he was finished as a candidate, and in Texas to prove his southern strategy and his power to sustain the race.

It is that emphasis on the South that has led Ford strategists to call Reagan a regional candidate. They coupled that with suggestions that because the Reagan victory in Texas was built on Democratic crossover votes, it was less significant than a clear Republican test.

But Reagan said he was delighted to have Democrats in his column. He said it was a year to cross party lines for the sake of solving problems.

Reagan said his campaign was addressed to "my fellow Republicans and an awful lot of Democrats and independents who want what the rest of us want out of life." He said crossover Democrats proved that his campaign has broad appeal to the voters.

It was conservative Democrats who did the crossing, voters who normally cast ballots in Democratic primaries because that is where the state and local contests are in places like Texas. The same voters are likely to go Republican in national elections.

With the Wallace campaign virtually out of the picture as a meaningful Democratic factor, Democrats who have backed him in past elections were effectively cut loose to switch primaries.

## BELT LINKED TO TEEN'S DEATH

By PAUL LEAVITT  
Register Staff Writer

Des Moines police have obtained a belt they believe could have been used in the Apr. 14 strangulation death of Mary Ann Scovel, 18, according to Polk County District Court records.

The belt, with a circular pattern, was confiscated by police Friday when they served a search warrant on Jeffrey R. Calvert.

Calvert, 22, was later arrested and charged with murder in connection with the incident. He pleaded innocent to the charge and is free under provisions of the pre-trial release program.

Detective Clarence Jobe, in obtaining the warrant last Thursday, testified that "marks on (Scovel's) neck show a design made by an apparent belt-like substance." The marks were in a "circular or octagonal pattern or design and are in a line extending around her neck," Jobe testified.

Police said Scovel lived next door to Calvert and his wife, Patty, in an apartment house at 661 Seventeenth St. The Calverts moved in with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Calvert at 3213 Forty-eighth Place a few days after the slaying, police said.

Jobe testified "the only access to the apartment where the body... was found was through the apartment of Jeffrey R. Calvert."

During the investigation, police said a major question was how Scovel's slayer entered and left her apartment, because the front door was locked from the inside and the back door was locked from the outside. A door between the two apartments, was locked from Calvert's side, police said.

Jobe testified that Calvert was the last person known to have seen Scovel alive. Calvert has said he was with Scovel at 5:15 p.m., "within the time of death set by the medical examiner," Jobe testified.

A preliminary hearing on the charge against Calvert has been scheduled for June 4.

## Ford meets with W. German official

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — President Ford conferred Tuesday with Helmut Kohl, leader of the West German Christian Democratic Party that hopes to regain power in October balloting. While reporters were in the Oval office, Ford and Kohl discussed U.S. bicentennial celebrations in West Germany.

## Linn County deputies accept contract offer

The Register's Iowa News Service  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA. — Deputies in the Linn County Sheriff's office here Tuesday accepted a proposed contract calling for a 7.6 per cent wage increase next year. The agreement, which covers 46 officers, must be formally approved by the county board of supervisors.

## Campaign subsidy bill passed, sent to Ford

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The Senate passed and sent to President Ford Tuesday, a bill that would open the way for a resumption of federal campaign subsidies for presidential candidates.

The vote was 62 to 29, two more than the two-thirds vote that would be needed to override a veto. Iowa Democrats John Culver and Dick Clark voted for passage. The House passed the measure Monday by 291 to 81.

A key part of the bill is a restructuring of the Federal Election Commission in compliance with a Supreme Court decision so that the federal money for presidential contenders, cut off since Mar. 22, can be turned on again.

But the bill also makes many other changes in campaign finance law that opponents contend would undermine the independence of the FEC, add to the political muscle of labor unions, and increase the advantages of incumbent officeholders.

Ford has said he will carefully review the legislation — a compromise of separate bills previously passed by the Senate and House — before deciding whether to sign or veto it.

He repeatedly urged Congress just to pass a bill reconstituting the FEC to comply with the Supreme Court's Jan. 30 decision that all six of the agency's members be appointed by the President.

The 1974 campaign finance law creating the FEC provided for appoint-

ment of four of the members by Congress. The court ruled this was unconstitutional because the commission performs executive functions.

Just last week, Ford issued a statement protesting that Congress was introducing confusion and uncertainty into this year's elections by making many other unnecessary changes in existing law.

He has received conflicting advice from Republican congressional leaders on whether to sign or veto the bill.

Senate GOP leader Hugh Scott said he thought the bill was the best the Republican minority could hope for and advised the President to sign it.

But the Senate Republican whip, Robert Griffin, said he favored a veto, and so did Representative John Rhodes, the House GOP leader.

Rhodes called the bill "pro-union, pro-Democratic, and pro-incumbent."

Former California Gov. Ronald Reagan, Ford's opponent for the Republican presidential nomination, also has urged a veto.

Meanwhile, the FEC announced Tuesday that candidates have filed new requests, seeking \$1.36 million in funds that would become available if the bill becomes law.

Senator Frank Church (Dem., Idaho), one of the candidates, announced he was dropping plans to campaign in the Connecticut primary, primarily because of the logjam over campaign funds.

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