

Dukakis gaining Jackson's voters

PHILADELPHIA — Michael Dukakis routed Jesse Jackson in the Pennsylvania Democratic primary Tuesday night, certifying his status as presidential front-runner. George Bush won a resounding Republican victory and predicted the state would deliver the final delegates needed to clinch the nomination.

Jackson was gaining 27 percent of the Democratic vote and said he intended to compete through the end of the primary season on June 7.

"The race is not to the swift and the strong," he said. "I'm a long-distance runner. It's too close now to turn around."

Network polling place interviews contained news that was as good for Dukakis as his vote totals.

Though Jackson gained more than

90 percent support from blacks, ABC polling analyst Doug Muzzio said that for the first time in the campaign season, Dukakis was winning a majority of voters who cited the poor and elderly as their chief concerns — voters Jackson won in prior contests. He said Dukakis also was winning voters who cited strong leadership and ability to make a change, a group that Jackson usually won in earlier races.

Bush was gaining 80 percent to 11 percent for dropout Sen. Bob Dole and 9 percent for former television evangelist Pat Robertson.

President Reagan agreed to drop his studied show of neutrality and bestow his blessings on his vice president in a White House meeting.

The vice president campaigned across Ohio during the day.

The Associated Press delegate survey indicated that by winning most of the delegates at stake, Bush would make his nomination a mathematical certainty. Dukakis sought a large majority of the 178 Democratic National Convention delegates at stake in a drive to pad his lead over Jackson. Delegates were all that mattered in the Republican race, where Bush long ago routed his rivals to seize command over the race for the nomination.

The Massachusetts governor said his Pennsylvania victory was "a very big boost, particularly in a state that's been a bellweather state in the general elections."

Soviets fear U.S. politics to stymie summit

WASHINGTON — Soviet officials drudgingly are giving up hope of reaching agreement with President Reagan to sharply cut nuclear arsenals and now fear the proposed deal will fall victim to the U.S. political process.

"The problem is that the American position is moving not forward but backward," said Valentin Falin, chairman of the Soviet Union's semi-official Novosti news agency. "As far as I can see, we don't have enough time to prepare any formal treaty" before the Moscow summit May 29-June 2.

And Falin, in an interview on Monday, worried that Reagan may revert to the Kremlin-bashing of his early years in office, when he branded the Soviet Union an "evil empire."

Falin, a non-voting member of the policy making Soviet central Committee and former Soviet ambassador to West Germany, said the American

political process bears some blame for what he called time wasted since the summit in Washington last December.

"Certainly, we cannot accomplish in the following four weeks what we have failed to do in four months," Falin said. "Certainly, we cannot expect miracles."

"In your country, it is a dead political season," Falin added. "Every four years in your political life, one year is wasted."

At best, Falin said, the Moscow summit may produce a "framework... for the development of future negotiations. This will make negotiations easier."

But no Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty is likely by the end of the year, and it is doubtful that Reagan and Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev would meet again for a summit after Moscow, he said.

After the Moscow summit, "I do not think that your president will have enough authority to make obligations which would have to be fulfilled by his successor," Falin said.

The Soviet official also criticized a U.S. intelligence report saying the Soviet economy has not improved despite economic reforms by Gorbachev.

Falin said the joint report by the CIA and Pentagon analysts might have been designed "to show the president that the Soviet Union is almost on its deathbed and it needs just another push, that he should not talk with the Soviet Union, but push it."

Falin challenged the pessimistic U.S. intelligence report, and said that under Gorbachev, industrial production rose more than 4 percent last year and agricultural production was up 9 percent.

In Brief

Consumer spending helps U.S. economy grow

WASHINGTON — Strong spending by American consumers helped the economy grow at a healthy 2.3 percent annual rate during the first three months of 1988, the government said Tuesday, dispelling fear of any lingering ill effects from the October stock market crash.

The Commerce Department, in its first look at overall economic performance this year, said consumer spending, the biggest surge in business investment in more than four years and growing exports kept the gross national product rising despite declines in government spending and housing construction.

"So much for the recession that was supposed to occur in the first quarter," said Commerce Undersecretary Robert Ortner. "... Whatever the impact (of the crash) was, it's pretty much behind us."

Senate committee subpoenas North diaries

WASHINGTON — The Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted 16-1 Tuesday to subpoena the private working diaries of Lt. Col. Oliver L. North in its continuing investigation of international drug smuggling.

Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., expressed concern that the originals of the North diaries have never been turned over to government authorities in uncensored form.

Saudi Arabia breaks relations with Iran

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia accused Iran of "terrorism and subversion" and broke relations Tuesday, ordering all Iranian diplomats to leave the kingdom within a week.

A statement broadcast by state-run television and distributed by the officials Saudi Press Agency cited a riot by Iranians during a pilgrimage to Mecca last year in which hundreds of people died, a subsequent attack on the Saudi Embassy in Tehran and attacks on commercial shipping in the Persian Gulf.

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