

Candidates hammer away on economics, character

President Bush said Thursday he has a "pleasant relationship" with Bill Clinton, then freshened his attack on his rival's character and economic proposals. The Democrat said that after 12 years in power, the GOP has "run out of direction and they ought to be run out of town."

The third man in the race has "some good ideas and he's got some nutty ideas," the president said in an interview on "CBS This Morning." "I don't think people want to waste their vote (on Ross Perot) and that's what it undoubtedly would be."

Clinton didn't mention Perot by name but lumped him together with Bush by implication.

"Of all the choices you have in this election, only one has never been part of the Washington insider establishment," he said of himself.

The Texas businessman has stepped up his radio and television advertising, and polls suggest he has gained strength in selected parts of the country after the three presidential debates.

The president's campaign distributed a letter from 50 retired admirals and generals calling on Clinton to release all the documents in his possession about his Vietnam-era draft status. Clinton reminded his audience

“Of all the choices you have in this election, only one has never been part of the Washington insider establishment.”

— Clinton
Democratic presidential candidate

that 24 retired admirals and generals have endorsed him.

Clinton previewed a 30-second television commercial in support of his plan to impose higher taxes on foreign corporations operating in the United States. The ad says Bush "supports tax loopholes" for the firms, "supports them so much that he attacks Bill Clinton for wanting to close them."

Bush campaigned with Joseph Cicippio, a former hostage who was held in Lebanon.

"God bless America and God bless the president," said Cicippio.

Perot's running mate, James Stockdale, paid a low-key visit to Seattle, dropping by for 10 minutes at the ticket's campaign office to sign autographs for volunteers.

"Let's go for victory," he said.

Campaign finance reports indicated that Perot is plowing millions from his own fortune into his race for the White House.

Perot was paying for local TV ads in 23 states. In addition, the Texas billionaire is spending heavily on radio ads in at least nine states.

Clinton, 45, invoked the name of an earlier young Democrat as he campaigned in Washington and other Western states.

"About this time in the campaign of 1960, John Kennedy said to the American people that at this stage of the election the choice is about more than the candidates: It is about the people themselves. You have to decide what kind of people you are, what kind of values you have and what kind of future you want."

The Democrats, he said, offer hope and improvement.

The Republicans, he said, "have had the White House so long that they've run out of energy, run out of ideas, run out of direction, and they ought to be run out of town."

"In spite of the economic concerns that we all feel, I think — I'm confident I'm going to win this election," Bush told his CBS interviewer.

Homecoming undergoes changes

Royalty selection, competition may boost involvement

By Jan Calinger
Staff Reporter

The selection of Homecoming royalty and events has changed this year to lure more student involvement, said Marilyn Bugenhagen, director of the Office for Student Involvement.

"The decision is that Homecoming is not just for alumni," she said. "Current students need to be attached."

One of the biggest changes this year was the king and queen selection process, Bugenhagen said. Popular vote no longer was the sole determining factor. A candidate's interview also counts for 60 percent.

Bugenhagen said lack of student participation in last year's popular

vote was the main reason for the change. Of more than 25,000 students enrolled last year, only about 1,200 students participated in the election.

"Students think, 'It doesn't have any impact on me,'" she said. "They don't know any of the people."

No major changes were made in how candidates were chosen, said Shelly Byrne, director of the Royalty Committee. Any student who had 75 or more credit hours, a GPA of 2.8 or higher and no disciplinary actions could apply.

Semifinalists were chosen based on academic performance, answers to essay questions and campus and community service.

The change in selection will open the contest to students who are leaders but who do not have the voting power that a large campus organization can provide, Byrne said.

"(The change) can eliminate voting in blocs," she said. This year there

are fewer finalists from sororities and fraternities than in past years, Byrne said.

The other major change in Homecoming is a new competition among students, said Stephanie Smith, chairwoman of the Homecoming Committee. The competition will be during the week before Homecoming and will be divided into four categories: sororities, fraternities, student organizations and residence halls.

Organizations in each division will compete against one another in wallyball (like volleyball, but played off a wall), Husker Howl (a cheering contest), banners and lawn displays. The winner from each division will be announced at the Nebraska-Colorado football game Oct. 31.

Smith said the contests were meant to increase student spirit and participation in Homecoming.

"We want to involve many people and have a spirited week," she said.

Retreat targets UNL diversity

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick
Staff Reporter

UNL students, faculty and staff will have the opportunity to broaden their horizons at UNL's fifth annual Cultural Diversity Retreat this weekend, an official said.

John Harris, special assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs, is coordinating the retreat, which will be in Gretna Saturday and Sunday. He said 65 students and 15 faculty and staff would participate.

The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and the Racial

Pluralism Action Team are sponsoring the retreat. Harris said it would include group discussions and interactive group exercises aimed at increasing cultural awareness and breaking down stereotypes.

"All the participants will get a better feel for other person's perspectives," he said. "I think we'll open some eyes, and I think people will get the opportunity to learn some things."

"The bottom line is that we want to bring it home to UNL," he said. "We will try to openly discuss how our students feel — the problems our students face on campus — and talk

about what we can do as a campus community to work better together.

"We're not talking about a blame session, but something where the participants can get some answers."

The student participants are broken down into 39 students from 13 student groups, such as the Afrikan People's Union and the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska. The other 26 students were selected from applications submitted by the general student population.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, selected the 15 faculty and staff participants, Harris said.

Baldwin

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Muldoon said the investigation could provide an opportunity for the Omaha Police Department to prove to the community that the Baldwin case was handled properly.

"(The investigation) could build up our credibility if the Justice Department rules we handled the case properly," he said.

It is possible that the federal investigation could suggest different ways the case could have been handled, Muldoon said, but there is no evidence to reverse any conclusions from the Omaha investigation.

Muldoon said state Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha had convinced the Justice Department to investigate the Omaha Police Department before on other cases, and no indictments had been issued.

Muldoon said he disagreed with Chambers, who claimed that police reports regarding the shooting of Baldwin were contradictory.

It is common to have things out of place because witnesses have different perspectives and a variety of interpretations, he said.

"That's going to happen in any type of investigation," he said.

Muldoon also said Chambers' claim that a lack of Baldwin's fingerprints on Officer Peggy Truckenbrod's gun proved nothing, because the rough, checkered surface of a gun handle

“When the community doesn't trust you, it's somewhat discouraging. It's disturbing to have people believe you're not capable.”

Muldoon
Omaha Police Department
spokesman

will not pick up fingerprints. The police report states that Baldwin was reaching for her gun at the time he was shot.

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