# Clinton, Bush trade personal insults, spar on economy

Bill Clinton and George Bush clashed over the economy on Thurssonal insults in their run for the White House. The president said "two bozos" are on the Democratic ticket, while Clinton accused his rival of saying incredible, incredible dishonest



Bush pressed his underdog's campaign in part by mentioning his dog.

'My dog Millie knows more about foreign affairs than these two bozos,"

of Clinton and his running mate.

that the economy is on the road to day, and swapped uncommonly per- recovery. "Not as sick as the opposition would have you believe," he

Clinton said, "We are 18 months after the bottom of the recession and we are still doing worse than at any comparable period since before World

Ross Perot's name turned up in the strangest place. Vandals doctored the 50-foot letters of a sign that says HOLLYWOOD in the hills above Los Angeles to read: PEROTWOOD.

Most public polls showed Clinton with a lead in single digits. His aides he said in Michigan insisted their margin was holding.

"We've got a November surprise she said.

Bush also stressed over and over at the economy is on the road to Bush is going to be re-elected," said Vice President Dan Quayle

Democratic vice presidential candidate Al Gore joined in. Texas is a dead heat, he said.

Perot stayed out of public view in preparation for an evening appearance on CNN's "Larry King Live."

His spokeswoman, Sharon Holman, complained that the news media was inaccurately depicting the race as a two-way competition between the president and his Democratic chal-

"The American people do not consider this only a Bush-Clinton race,"

Clinton delivered a speech on the economy in Michigan and had another one on AIDS schedaled for later in New Jersey.

He lashed out at Bush as a "desperate person who just wants to hold power.... And if you're totally shameless and somebody tells you you're not telling the truth and you keep on doing it anyway, which is what Bush does, it's hard for the American people to know what to make of it.'

Clinton said Bush says "incredible, incredible dishonest things," and aides said he was referring to radio commercials the Republican president is airing in several states.

Bush denied Clinton's accusations, and criticized the media liberally for what he said was overly pessimistic reporting on the economy

As for the economy itself, he said: "A lot of people are hurting, but we're growing. And that is the key factor," he said in an appearance on CBS' "This Morning." He pointed to this week's report showing economic growth was up 2.7 percent in the most recent quarter, more than had been predicted.

'That's a pretty darned good turnaround here, pretty beginnings, not robust growth, but it's far more impressive than, obviously, all these economists had been predicting," Bush

## CIA refused to share information on Iraqi firms, documents show

WASHINGTON—The CIA knew before the Gulf War that at least five recipients of U.S. exports to Iraq were defense industries, but it did not tell the Commerce Department, which approved the sales, documents show.

The Commerce Department ap-proved some \$1.5 billion in exports to Iraq from 1985 to 1990, saying most were not designated for military use.

Information revealed Thursday on both sides of the Atlantic indicated that the CIA had information about Iraqi defense industry purchases both in the United States and Britain.

Many of the Iraqi companies that bought U.S. technology legally turn out to have been military industries with innocuous sounding names that didn't set off alarms at the Commerce Department. In any case, the department was under White House orders to encourage trade with Iraq.

Intelligence Agency, knew the true the CIA told him it did not supply the

nies, according to a congressional investigator's documents obtained

Thursday by The Associated Press. On Jan. 29, 1991, the senior congressional investigator met with CIA officials to ask what the agency had known about 25 of the Iraqi end users listed on U.S. export licenses, and whether the agency had notified the Commerce Department.

F. Douglas Whitehouse, who headed the CIA's committee on technology transfer, said he had run a computer check comparing the 25 end users against a CIA data bank, according to the notes made by the investigator, who also was interviewed on the grounds that he not be

Whitehouse said he had come up with "about five hits" -- five companies about which the CIA had infor-The CIA, and possibly the Defense mation, said the investigator. He said

nature of some of the Iraqi compa- information to the Commerce Department because it was never asked to do so.

Complaints about the CIA's reluctance to share information with other government agencies are legion. The problem was recently underscored in the case of an Italian bank branch in Atlanta that approved unauthorized

In a message to agency employees this week, CIA Director Robert Gates said he had asked his inspector general to examine the records system of the Directorate of Operations and to recommend changes that will "put an end to difficulties in responding promptly to congressional and other inquiries.

Critics of the CIA argue that the agency has an instinctive mistrust of sharing information with outsiders, partly out of fear of compromising its sources, and that no amount of records reforms will help.

### Cleaner, costlier gasoline required for urban drivers

automobiles in most American urban areas will be polluting less, thanks to a cleaner burning, peppier gasoline required by the government.

As a result of the regulation that takes effect Sunday, carbon monoxide emissions from automobiles and small trucks will be sharply reduced in 39 urban areas from Boston to San Diego, say air qual-

ity experts.
"This is the first big program under the Clean Air Act to go into effect," said Dick Wilson of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Under the two-year-old law, service stations in the 39 areas, which don't meet carbon monoxide health standards, will be allowed to sell only gasoline containing an additive that provides more oxygen, thereby allowing it to burn

WASHINGTON - This winter over a four-to-seven-month period depending on the severity of air pollution. The EPA estimates that the new gasoline will result in a drop of about 20 percent in carbon monoxide emissions from cars and

Carbon monoxide is emitted when a vehicle's engine is warming up, and is a greater problem in winter and in high-traffic areas. Even in relatively mild concentrations, it can cause dizziness, headaches and problems for elderly people with heart conditions.

The new "oxygenated" gasoline blends cut down on carbon monoxide emissions because the gas burns cleaner during warm-up, say EPA officials.

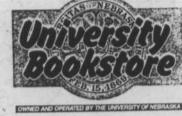
Oil companies say it costs 3 to 4 cents more a gallon to produce the oxygenated fuel. Motorists also may have to buy more gasoline because The new blend must be used the new blend is less fuel efficient,

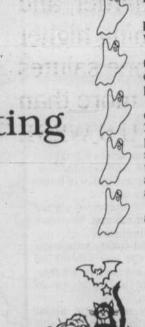
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## Horse race campaign Pre-election polls play increasing role

exercise into something as unseemly as the admits, "readers love to talk about them." fourth race at Aqueduct.



gency, as poll results dominate the closing days of the presidential campaign and threaten to shape the very outcome of the

On Thursday, President Bush's rise in the pells was all over the

airwaves and across Page One in New York's tabloids. "CLOSER" reported Newsday, while the New York Post had Bush "BREATHING DOWN BILL'S NECK." The president, head-lined the Daily News, had pulled off "A LATE

POLL VAULT."
It's all part of what University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato has called "the worst orgy of polling in American history.

Two television networks update their election polls daily, giving a fresh answer to the one encouraged by the way these polls that we live question that matters most in a political campaign: Who's ahead?

The number of national presidential election campaign polls increased from three in 1972 to 259 four years ago. This year, a half-dozen polling organizations are dialing tens of thousands of people across the nation in the two and local news organizations and candidates are conducting their own polls.

The Seattle Times is not among them. "Who's ahead" polls are "the junk food of our demo- margin of victory."

It's an old complaint: Pre-election polls are cratic process," executive editor Michael R. turning the Republic's greatest deliberative Fancher wrote in a column this month. He

That doesn't mean everyone wants to talk to This season the the pollsters. For those who don't, Daniel S. charge has new ur- Greenberg, a syndicated columnist specializing in scientific issues, has a homemade remedy: When the pollster calls and asks for your opinion, preference or plans, simply respond: "None of your business, thank you.

> Don't believe these crazy polls! Don't believe these nutty pollsters!

Even the candidates can grow impatient at the barrage of polling. Earlier this month, when many polls had Bush with a double-digit deficit, he told a crowd in Cornelia, Ga: "Don't

believe these crazy polls! Don't believe these nutty pollsters!" On Thursday, Bush said in Michigan, "I'm and die by are shaping up.'

"We're seeing an excessive amount of horse race analysis," said Lee Miringoff, director of the Marist Institute for Public Opinion and normally an exuberant advocate of polls and polling.

There might be some front-runner voters weeks before the election, and hundreds of state out there who want to vote for a winner, but there aren't many," says Guy Molyneux, coordinator of polling for Cable News Network. "And they would only add a bit to a winner's

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