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Carter is favorite in Illinois

CHICAGO — Ronald Reagan and John Anderson were locked in a tossup race and President Carter was favored over Sen. Edward Kennedy in today's Illinois primary. Election officials predicted 2.5 million of the state's 5.7 million eligible voters — a record — would turn out for what they said would be another big victory for the Democratic president and a tough GOP race.

The weather was favorable — a forecast of sunny skies with temperatures in the 40s in the populous northern Illinois and into the south.

Voters in both parties had two ballots to fill. Each had a preference vote — a "party contest" — and separate ballots for the state convention delegates.

The Republicans elect 92 district delegates and will select 10 more at-large later in the state convention. Democrats elect 152 delegates by district and will add 27 later on the outcome of the statewide popular vote.

Carter went into the primary well ahead of Kennedy — 303 to 165 — in the race for 66 delegates needed to win the Democratic nomination. Before Illinois Reagan had 187, George Bush 45 and Anderson 13 with 998 needed for the GOP nod.

The latest statewide public opinion poll, by Chicago Tribune sampling taken Friday and Saturday, showed Carter leading Kennedy 56 to 23 percent. Reagan had a narrow 34 percent lead over Anderson in a near-state battle, while Bush trailed with 1 percent.

Carter had lost six points from a poll one week earlier, but those flipped to the undecided column, not to Kennedy. Because voters do not register voters by party, he said this signaled a big crossover to the GOP ballot — with Anderson the likely beneficiary.

Reagan had overtaken Anderson in the weekend poll, but the difference remained in the survey's 6 percent margin of error.

The big loser was Bush, who had dropped eight points in a week. But he refused to concede anything, telling a Springfield reporter Monday:

"The polls are wrong and I need you to wait Tuesday to show these hotshot pollsters and upstate political pundits who are wrong."

He also designed for a pledging that, Bush also said Illinois did not doom his candidacy — no matter what the results. He treated Anderson's recent spurt as a quirk in a strange political year, and he would press his campaign to the convention in Detroit in July.

Kennedy also was taking out insurance against a popular vote loss. He told reporters Monday, "We are going to make a very strong showing in the delegate area, and I think we'll do significantly better than that poll."

Kennedy got his largest public exposure in the campaign Monday, marching in Chicago's St. Patrick's Day parade.

An estimated 300,000 gave him and his wife Joan a generally warm reception as they walked ahead of Mayor Jane Byrne, who has committed to him the once avenue but now divided local Democratic machine.

Anderson, Reagan fight for delegates

CONCORD, N.H. — New Hampshire reporters of John Anderson say they will witness any decision that keeps the Republican presidential candidate from taking two of the state's delegates to the GOP national convention.

The Illinois congressman recently demanded and got a recount of New Hampshire's Feb. 26 Republican primary. When the ballots were retallied, Anderson finished with 9.82 percent of the vote, only 91 votes shy of 10 percent.

Secretary of State William Gardner has said state law prevents him from awarding delegates to a candidate who finished with less than 10 percent.



Gordon Echols, associate dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, performs the "ultimate Q-drop." Staff photo by Lynn Blanco

Dean makes last Q-drop biggest of the semester

By MERIL EDWARDS
Campus Staff
To symbolize the "ultimate Q-drop," two senior environmental design students made a plaster of Paris and cardboard Q and had Gordon Echols, associate dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, drop it from the roof of the architecture building Monday.

Echols tossed the white, two-foot high letter into the wind at 5 p.m. — the deadline for Texas A&M University students to drop a class without penalty.

The letter landed on the sidewalk, but didn't break. The Q designers, David Applebaum and Bruce Walker, yelled to fellow students on the ground to step on it. Only a few students gathered to watch the drop.

Carter's new guidelines have advisers in hot seat

WASHINGTON — Some members of Congress are having a problem with the budget portion of President Carter's new anti-inflation program — they don't know what it is.

Carter's top economic advisers Monday made their first appearances before Congress since the president announced his package of budget cuts, credit controls, an oil import fee and expanded monitoring of voluntary wage and price guidelines.

Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker was to be on the firing line before the Senate Banking Committee today.

At hearings before the banking panel and the Joint Economic Committee, chief inflation fighter Alfred Kahn and Council of Economic Advisers Chairman Charles Schultz came under heavy questioning about the delay in the budget proposals.

A White House spokesman said Carter himself was involved in making the tough decisions on where to slash the budget.

Carter told a congressional conference of the National League of Cities Monday his proposed budget cuts are crucial to halting a skyrocketing inflation that "threatens to rage out of control."

U.S. to plead case against Iran again

President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr has announced plans to reorganize Iran's army in an attempt to further consolidate his power, but his opponents took an early lead in election returns for Iran's parliament.

At the same time, the United States returns to the International Court of Justice in the Hague to press its case against Iran for backing the militants in the holding of 50 American hostages at the occupied U.S. Embassy in Tehran. The hostages are in their 136th day in captivity.

Bani-Sadr went on radio to announce his plans for a reorganization of the army, known to be poorly disciplined since the dismantling of the shah's forces and execution of generals following the revolution last year.

But at the same time, his opponents in the Islamic Republican Party took a strong lead in scattered returns in the election to the 270-member parliament, the Majlis. The Islamic party is made up of ayatollahs and clerics who generally take a harder line than Bani-Sadr on dealing with the West.

Tehran Radio, monitored in London, said Bani-Sadr called the army's organization an "urgent issue" and warned breaches of discipline would now be "dealt with severely."

The move was seen as an attempt by the president, who is commander-in-chief of the armed forces, to have at his disposal an armed force more disciplined and answerable to authorities than the present Revolutionary Guards.

Bani-Sadr said if any individuals in military uniform form a gathering in the streets this will be regarded as "an act of insubordination or a plot."

Bani-Sadr has favored finding a solution to the hostage crisis, now in its 20th week, but Iran's strongman, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has ruled their fate will be up to Iran's parliament, not expected to convene until May.

The president, who received over 70 percent of the vote in the January election to the presidency, has charged the parliamentary elections were marred by fraud and may have to be staged again in places where the allegations proved true. His attempts at organizing a slate of candidates fell far short of the organization shown by the Islamic Party.

Results from the first phase of the elections, held last Friday, still trickled in but the final outcome was not expected for two weeks. A run-off will be held for seats where no candidate received a majority vote.

Foreign Minister Sadeq Ghotbzadeh, in an interview aired on CBS News Monday night, said: "I think we are closer to the resolution of the problem" of gaining the release of the Americans. But he added, "It's unwise to calculate and predict because most of the time predictions and miscalculations have destroyed the whole process."

A U.S. Embassy spokesman in the Hague said today's hearing in the International Court of Justice on the United States' case against Iran was the "beginning of the actual case."

Last December, the court ruled Iran violated international law by condoning the seizure of the U.S. Embassy and the taking of its diplomatic personnel hostage.

Ford, survivors settle Texas case

AUSTIN — Ford Motor Co., cleared last week of responsibility for the fiery deaths of three people riding in a Pinto, has closed a similar Texas case with out-of-court settlements variously described as "substantial" and "not large."

Attorneys for the three Texas victims, killed on Jan. 20, 1979, when their 1972 Pinto was rear-ended and burst into flames, revealed Monday that the settlement had been reached without going to trial. No criminal charges had been filed against the automobile manufacturer in the deaths.

Damage awards went to the survivors of Josephine G. Maldonado, 53, of Del Valle and two passengers in her car, Miguel Mireles, 18, and Juan Urbina, 30, of Austin, and to another passenger who was severely burned in the crash.

The driver of the other vehicle was charged with drunk driving and sent to prison.

Ford Motor Co. was accused of reckless homicide in a landmark case prompted by the deaths of three Winamac, Ill., teenagers. A jury there last week acquitted the corporation.

Lawyers involved in the Texas case said the damage suits were hampered by questions about whether some of the victims were dead before the car burst into flames.

Don Davis, attorney for the two dead passengers and the one who was burned, said he reached a settlement for a "substantial amount of money" but that the agreement with Ford stipulated the dollar amount would not be disclosed.

Mack Kidd, attorney for the driver of the Pinto, said Mrs. Maldonado's six children did not want him to divulge the amount paid for her death. He called it "not a large sum of money," and other sources indicated the Maldonado suit was settled for \$10,000.

Flower power sours candidate's foes

WEST LIBERTY, Iowa — Dan Ehl, who describes himself as one of the "hippies from the '60s," has Muscatine County in a stir over his race for sheriff.

Consider some of his pronouncements: — "The only difference between the police force and the Boy Scouts is the Boy Scouts have adult supervision."

— "Police officers should all wear buttons saying, 'Hi, I'm a member of the West Liberty police force. If I am lost, please call the mayor.'"

— "I regularly offend the police. I've heard a rumor that if they ever see me walking across the street, and there's no witnesses..."

Among his qualifications for sheriff, Ehl lists his expertise with a BB gun as a child and his ownership of a police dog. Turning serious, though, he proposes adding at least one Hispanic to the police force because of the large number of migrant workers who have settled in Muscatine County.

"I'm for the people who have traditionally not been represented — the normal, average man," Ehl said. "I'd much rather see an image of police helping people, instead of arresting people. Law enforcement is like an aspirin covering up the symptoms of a cold; it's our system that creates criminals."

Asked about Ehl's electoral chances, his publisher, Jerry Westra, chortled: "Have you ever heard of an ice cube in Hell?"

Still, the bearded, long-haired 29-year-old has his admirers among the upright folk in his eastern Iowa County.

\$5,000 offered for bank bandit

HOUSTON — Police today sought the bandit who fatally shot a 21-year-old woman teller in robbing a bank of an estimated \$10,000.

Madeline Rae Peters was shot in the head shortly after 11 a.m. Monday and died about an hour and 30 minutes later.

Witnesses said a man walked into the Bank of Alameda, disarmed a security guard and took money from each teller except Peters.

Peters was on the telephone and, when the bandit reached her window, he told her to hang up, she said "What?" and he shot her, witnesses said.