

Politics

MSC VIDEO

ROBIN WILLIAMS

(MORK)

Oct. 22 & 23 7 & 8 p.m.

Rm. 350 MSC

This most famous of the Home Box Office specials features Robin Williams in his wild, furiously speedy improvisational comedy act before a celebrity crowd at Hollywood's Roxy Club (59 minutes)

Carter stumps through state

United Press International  
President Carter Wednesday put on a pair of cowboy boots and stomped through three Texas cities, hoping to add to what his pollsters have said is an even battle against Ronald Reagan with scathing attacks on the Republican and appeals to blue and white collar workers.

He opened the trip in Beaumont with a tour of a newly built jack-up drill rig at Bethlehem Shipyard and then appeared at rallies in Waco and Texarkana, appealing to working class crowds, telling them their interests would be better protected if he is elected.

"When you vote, think about your family, think about your future," he said. "We believe in people and in their welfare. The Republicans talk big, but they talk to big business mostly."

"Since I've been president, unemployment has decreased 30 percent in Texas, and the per capita income of people in this state has increased 40 percent."

Carter, however, got the most mileage from a pair of cowboy boots presented to him at the Beaumont airport by Rep. Jack Brooks, D-Texas.

He put them on during the flight to Waco and — to the obvious pleasure of the crowd — rolled up his pant leg and showed them to the crowd, and repeated his threat: "They're stomping boots to stomp Republicans on Nov. 4."

Donning cowboy boots, President Carter Wednesday told Texans that they were "stomping boots to stomp Republicans on Nov. 4," as he spoke to generally friendly crowds in Beaumont, Waco and Texarkana.

At that comment, a score of young Reagan supporters attempted to heckle him. Carter, looking straight at them, said: "Republicans have a habit of spreading a lot of horse manure around. And as you know, it's getting pretty deep all over the country."

Carter said he is running even with Reagan in Texas polls and appealed to central Texans to stay with him. He emphasized his creation of diplomatic relations with China last year as a critical move for Texas, which was opposed by the Republicans and by Reagan.

He said exports to China are now totaling more than \$2 billion a year, much of it from Texas.

"Did you know that the No. 1 buyer of Texas cotton is the Republic of China?" he asked.

The president's trip overlapped by a day that of Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy who went to south Texas Tuesday and Wednesday to get out the vitally important Mexican-American vote.

Carter gave generally friendly crowds stem-winding, anti-Republican speeches and took obvious pleasure — for the first time in the campaign — in tying Reagan with former President Richard Nixon.

"Former President Richard Nixon, one of the great Republican presidents, as you know, has been writing campaign advisory memos for Ronald Reagan," Carter said in Waco. "When I saw where Ronald Reagan was getting his advice, I began to understand a few of the things he has been saying a little better."

"Yesterday Governor Reagan announced he has a secret plan to get the hostages back. Those of you who remember when Richard Nixon ran against Hubert Humphrey probably find that sounding familiar." Carter recalled that just before the 1968 election Nixon said he had a secret plan to win the war in Vietnam.

At Beaumont, about 900 hardhats watched Carter speak from the deck of Bethlehem Steel Corporation's "Gulfdrill I" rig. Most of a sample of those workers said they would vote for Carter, but for varied reasons. Draftsman Rocky Kane, 24, a

management employee, said he believes Carter's characterization of Reagan as a warmonger.

"I'm more afraid of Reagan what he would do," Kane said. "I'm liable to go into Iran and make a terrible, terrible mess, get us something that we couldn't get out of."

A young union painter wearing a Reagan-Bush button said there was more resentment toward Carter among the workers than was expected. "I could have sold a thousand of these buttons," he said.

Dorothy Young, an administrative assistant to the plant general manager, said "We haven't heard of the recession down here yet."

The shipyard, she said, had enough orders for oil and natural gas drilling rigs to keep the plant's 2,000 employees busy through the recession of the nation hard hit by the recession.

"I want the people all over the nation, through the television, to see us and otherwise, to see what we're doing because it reassures them."

Applause followed Carter's statement praising his administration's de-regulating the price of natural gas. "The number of gas wells to be drilled in 1980 is the highest ever in the history of the country," he said.

Reagan gets money instead

TRC candidates lack funds

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Two Republican challengers for places on the powerful Texas Railroad Commission have been short-circuited by a lack of campaign funding, and in one instance personal financial woes have transformed what had been expected to be heated battles into a lackluster campaign.

Gov. Bill Clements promised almost a year ago he would find qualified and well-financed candidates to challenge the Democratic nominees for the two open Railroad Commission seats, but one of the nominees has not campaigned at all and the other says the presidential race has siphoned away all available financing.

Henry Grover, a former GOP nominee for governor who easily won the party's nomination without campaigning, is opposing Democrat Buddy Temple for a full term on the commission. But once again, Grover has not campaigned and does not respond to telephone inquiries about his campaign.

There is speculation Grover's own financial problems have forced him to maintain a low profile in the race. He has been sued six times in the last three years for failing to pay \$74,000 in loans. He did not file an answer to five of the suits, saying they all were essentially true.

"I don't like it (the debts) and I'm working like hell to get out from under it," he said. "I could have taken bankruptcy, but that wouldn't have relieved me of the moral obligation of owing money."

Despite his debts, Grover said he spent \$30,000 of his own money this year on newspaper advertisements for John Connally's unsuccessful campaign for the GOP presidential nomination.

While his campaign is almost invisible, Temple has been the leading spender among the Railroad Commission candidates. Reports filed with the secretary of state show Temple has spent \$954,212 in his campaign for the \$51,000-a-year job. Most of the expenditures were in his primary campaign against incumbent

John Poerner. Commissioner Jim Nugent, appointed by former Gov. Briscoe shortly before Briscoe's death, has spent \$601,079, more than against primary challenger Hightower.

Nugent is opposed by former publican H.J. Blanchard, a Democratic state senator, and Libertarian candidate David Hutzel. Blanchard said he was assured adequate campaign funding when he switched parties to enter the race but said his efforts have been paralyzed by a lack of money.

Blanchard contends all available campaign contributions have been channeled into Ronald Reagan's campaign against President Carter and said primary prospects for an upset would be on the coattails of Reagan the GOP nominee should win Texas Nov. 4.

"I guess maybe I'm relieved this would win the race, although I only have to get 34 percent of the vote," he said.

"As a realistic objective, I hope to get more votes than (the nominee) separate Blanchard and Hutzel. That would force the Democrats to start paying more attention to Libertarian issues."

Nugent, a former state representative from Kerrville, has campaigned extensively, trumpeting his commission's record since he was appointed and claiming significant strides in favor of consumer protection.

Temple, also a state representative, has kept his fall campaign a lower key than the primary, when he was battling the incumbent Poerner. He said he doesn't expect Grover to be able to win without campaigning



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