

Reagan says economy to rally

United Press International
WASHINGTON — President Reagan says unemployment may rise a bit more before it starts to fall, but progress already is being made on other economic fronts and his policies will lead to total recovery.

Reagan made his pitch Wednesday in a nationally televised address, billed as a non-partisan economic update by the White House and attacked as a blatant political ploy by Democrats.

In the 23-minute speech, 20 days before congressional elections, Reagan did not mention the word "Democrats," but he clearly blamed them for much of the economic problems.

He said his sweeping program is the best bet to undo all the damage to our economy of the last 20 years.

"Unless you get at the root causes of the problem — which is exactly what our economic

program is doing — you may be able to temporarily relieve the symptoms, but you'll never cure the disease," Reagan said.

Noting improvement in reduced government spending, lower taxes, eased inflation and decreased interest rates, Reagan intoned: "We can do it, my fellow Americans, by staying the course."

While giving the Democrats' televised response, Sen. Donald Riegle, D-Mich., urged voters to change the course of the country on election day.

"We all know the proleams," he said, "and Democrats know what to do about it."

In a separate response, House Speaker Thomas O'Neill said if Reagan "thinks we should stay the course, he should ask those millions of American families who have already reached the end of the line. If he thinks Reaganomics is working, he should ask the fellow who isn't."

The president, citing a series of guideposts on the road to recovery, acknowledged that the jobless rate, now at 10.1, is likely

upward drift," Reagan said. The speech, presented to a national television and radio audience, was a focal point of con-

to carry it free of charge. But Reagan, using sophisticated video graphics to illustrate his points, said he was speaking to help people "desperately trying to make sense out of all the statistics, slogans and political jargon filling the airwaves in this election year."

Rejecting the "quick fixes" of the past, Reagan said, "Remember, you can't solve unemployment without solving the things that caused it — the out-of-control government spending, the skyrocketing inflation and interest rates that led to unemployment in the first place."

"I wish there were a quicker, easier way — some magic short cut — but unemployment is always one of the last things to turn around as an economy heads into recovery," Reagan said.

"And make no mistake, America is recovery bound and the world knows it."

Reagan said his administration has made important progress on four out of five problems the nation faced in 1980 — high taxes, runaway government spending, inflation and high interest rates.

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to go even higher before it starts to drop.

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Unemployment claims rising

United Press International
WASHINGTON — The Labor Department reported Thursday a new increase in initial claims for state unemployment benefits indicating a continuation of the nation's 10.1 percent unemployment rate.

The department said there were 695,000 initial claims for state programs during the week ended Oct. 2 — 12,000 more than the previous week. The figure was still below the record 703,000 new claimants during the week ended Sept. 18.

When the department's Employment and Training Administration issued its unemployment insurance report a week ago, it said 697,000 initial claims were filed during the week en-

ded Sept. 25, but that the report was revised over the week to 683,000.

The department also reported Thursday that a seasonally adjusted total of 4,461,000 persons claimed unemployment benefits during the week ended Sept. 25 — 64,000 more than the previous week, and increasing the insured unemployment rate from 5 percent to 5.1 percent.

West Virginia continued as the state with the highest insured unemployment rate at 7.1 percent.

Other states among the 10 highest were Pennsylvania, Oregon, Alabama, Michigan, Washington, Illinois, Mississippi, Ohio and South Carolina.

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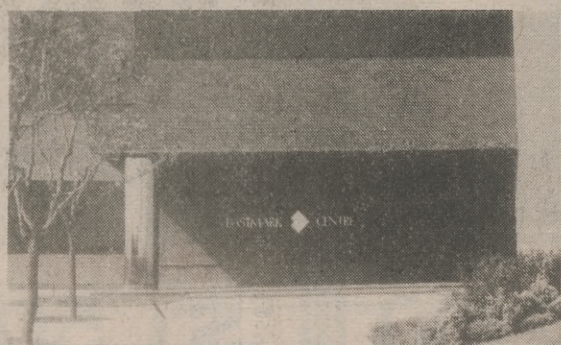
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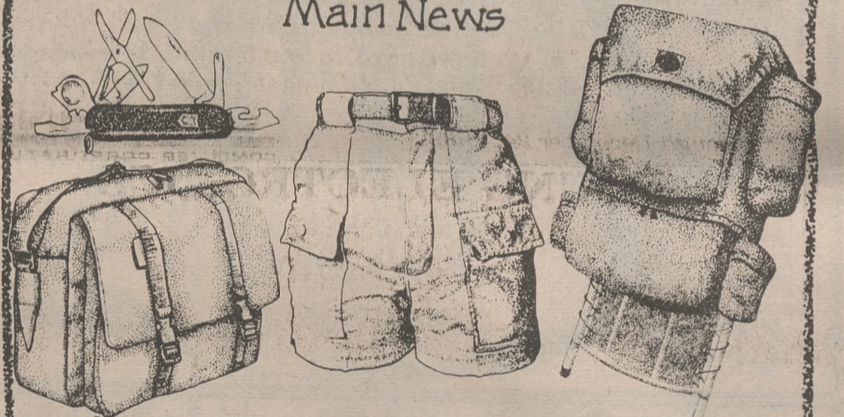
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