

Slouch

By Jim Earle



"Here's one for you! Did you know that we've handled more drop-adds than the total number of students registered?"

Time in jail for youth 'justified'

United Press International

ST. LOUIS — A judge Sunday defended his decision to put a 16-year-old boy in a jail cell to give him a taste of prison — even though the boy tried to hang himself.

St. Louis Circuit Court Judge Michael J. Hart ordered Anthony Jackson, who was in court to discuss a probation violation, to a holding cell Friday to give the youth a sample of life behind bars.

Jackson tied his shoe laces around his neck and attached the laces to bars on the cell door in an apparent attempt to hang himself. Two St. Louis sheriff's deputies found Jackson before the youth killed himself.

He was taken to City Hospital where his condition Sunday remained guarded.

The boy had been sentenced to 15 years in prison but placed on five years probation April 27 after pleading guilty to a charge of first-degree assault for wounding another youth with a firearm in August 1983.

The judge Sunday said it is not uncommon to give a person a look at life behind bars.

"You never want anyone to take their own life, of course," Hart said. "But it amounts to about one hour in that holdover (cell). It's a common thing to run young people through a penitentiary so they can see the situation."

Jackson's probation required that he enter and remain in St. Louis' private Logis Academy and pay \$10,000 in restitution to the shooting victim.

Mondale attacks Reagan's policies

United Press International

MINNEAPOLIS — Walter Mondale said Sunday President Reagan has raised doubts whether he respects the division between church and state and if his view is encouraged it "will corrupt our faith and divide our nation."

Mondale, giving his regular weekly radio address before leaving for New York to kick-off his campaign today blasted the Republican platform and condemned President Reagan's statements connecting religion and politics.

Mondale, who joins running mate Geraldine Ferraro today in New

York to begin a coast-to-coast campaign swing, played down the significance of polls showing him far behind Reagan.

Until Sunday, Mondale had carefully avoided directly criticizing Reagan on the religion issue. He changed that policy Sunday shortly after attending his home church, Grace Trinity Presbyterian.

"The Republicans in Dallas raised doubts whether they respect the wall our founders placed between government and religion," Mondale said. "In America, our faith has always been intensely personal. It is between the individual and God, be-

tween families and their churches and synagogues, with no room for politics in between.

"That freedom has made America the most religious nation on earth. And no matter what they said in Dallas, government must not be permitted to dictate the religious life of our people."

If that force is unleashed, it will corrupt our faith and divide our nation. That future is not the American way."

Mondale said polls showing him far behind are too early to be significant. He said polls are "all over the map."

A UPI survey showed Reagan ahead in 39 states with 412 electoral votes and Mondale ahead in three states and the District of Columbia with 26 electoral votes. Each state with a total of 100 electoral votes were rated toss-ups.

If the Reagan margin should hold, Mondale could be trounced worse than Reagan beat Jimmy Carter in 1980 when Reagan got 498 electoral votes and Carter 49.

Mondale promised he and Ferraro will lay out detailed plans for what they would do in a new administration.

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