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Plucking a pleasing pumpkin?
Kelley Grant, a sophomore, and Chad Hackler, a freshman, look over samples of pumpkins being sold by Joan McGuire, a senior member of the horticulture club. The club will be selling the pumpkins all week in preparation for Halloween. Photo by Phelan M. Elbert

Bush assails Dukakis tactics for being socialistic, fearful

Associated Press

George Bush accused a hard-charging Michael Dukakis on Tuesday of basing his campaign comeback bid on an appeal to division, fear and envy.

The Democratic presidential candidate said, "We're just working hard and we're going to win."

Bush, possessor of a solid lead in the polls, said in Ohio that Dukakis was an advocate for economic policies far outside the mainstream and resembling European socialism more than American free enterprise.

Dukakis was campaigning on the ground in California and on television through a five-minute paid network commercial and a 90-minute appearance on ABC's "Nightline."

The most recent nationwide public opinion polls point to a big Republican lead with the election two weeks distant, and Dukakis awoke to headlines in the *Los Angeles Times* that he trails by 11 points in California, the nation's largest state.

But aides to Dukakis were busy spreading the word that his recent Populist-style rhetoric and allegations of Republican campaign lies were scoring points with the voters.

One aide said the campaign's own polls showed the national gap narrowing, and spokesman Dayton Duncan added, "Our polling shows by an overwhelming margin people are blaming Bush for this negative campaign."

Bush dispatched surrogates to rebut Democratic charges of unfair campaign tactics.

Among them was vice presidential candidate Dan Quayle, who said desperate Democrats were dishing out political sludge with Dukakis' active encourage-

"Around the world, governments are abandoning socialism, moving away from socialistic, high control experience . . . and embracing the American model of low taxation, entrepreneurship and individual initiative."

— George Bush

"far outside the mainstream of economic thinking he's broken with the American tradition of entrepreneurship and free enterprise."

The GOP nominee said Dukakis favors an economic policy of control that has been tried and rejected successfully in Europe. "Around the world, governments are abandoning socialism, moving toward socialistic, high control experience . . . and embracing the American model of low taxation, entrepreneurship and individual initiative."

Craig Fuller, Bush's chief of staff, asked for a statement calling Dukakis a socialist, said he would be going too far.

Campaign surrogates were making their rounds.

Senate GOP Leader Bob Dole was in Pennsylvania predicting a Republican victory and taunting that he deserved a "Rip Van Winkle" award. Dole sort of went to sleep there for about six or eight days and when he woke up the election was over. Dole, who lost out to Bush in the springtime of the GOP presidential nomination.

Democratic Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas said that Dukakis made a mistake by failing to respond to Bush's attacks for weeks at a time. He charged Dole that the race was over, praised the Democratic round of television commercials and said, "I have done it eight weeks ago."

Dukakis began airing a series of television commercials last weekend that charged the Bush campaign with distortions and lies.

ment. He branded the entire operation despicable and said Bush was a man of unshakable integrity and fairness.

Bush sought personally to deflect Democratic charges that he stood for the wealthy at the expense of the less well off.

"We will move forward not by succumbing to the base temptations of division, fear and envy, but by following, as Abraham Lincoln said, those better angels of our nature," he told a breakfast in Columbus.

Bush said Dukakis had been making increasing appeals to class conflict, and said that in his view there was no place in American life for philosophies that divide Americans one from another along class lines and that excite conflict among them.

The vice president charged his Democratic rival was

Cavazos hopes to better dropout, illiteracy rates

WASHINGTON (AP) — Education Secretary Lauro Cavazos said Tuesday he sees his brief, four-month tenure as a platform to speak out on the need for getting dropouts back in school and educating the illiterate, the handicapped and the dyslexic.

"The basic question is how do you position America so it can deal with the issue and how you bring it about — we must educate every person to their fullest potential," Cavazos told the Hispanic News Media Association of Washington.

Cavazos says he's been asked why he would leave his job as a university president to take on the complexities and challenges of education secretary when it's for just a few months.

Sworn in Sept. 20, Cavazos is the first Hispanic member of a president's Cabinet and serves until Jan. 20, unless renominated by the next president.

"I see it as an opportunity, a platform so to speak, as you folks in Washington call it — a window of opportunity — to say something, to give some leadership to the things I've been saying all along as a university president," Cavazos, who is on leave from Texas Tech University, said.

In his first speech after taking over as president of the Lubbock university in 1980, Cavazos said he used the occasion to talk about the dropout rate, especially among Hispanics.

In Texas, he said, 45 percent of Hispanic students drop out before finishing high school, while the rate for blacks is 32 percent and for Anglos, 30.

"I learned long ago that people don't necessarily listen to a university president, and I'm not sure they listen to secretaries of education, but we're going to speak up," he said.

Principal issues, he said, include helping the highly motivated student excel and move ahead; getting the dropouts back in school and into the mainstream of society; teaching the illiterate how to read; educating the handicapped to their fullest level of independence; and helping the dyslexic overcome their learning disability.

"That is the agenda of America: That you educate everyone to their fullest potential," he said.

"If one person drops out, we're all the poorer for that reason," he said. He said he hopes to position the Department of Education to "start thinking about these issues . . . start thinking about the future — where do you want this place to go, so regardless of who is secretary of education, the agenda is pretty well laid out."

Choir sells pizza for Carnegie trip

SILSBEE (AP) — The Silsbee High School choir is busy planning pizza sales, bake sales, garage sales and other kinds of fundraisers to get \$40,000 needed in order to perform in New York's historic Carnegie Hall.

A New York City production company selected the 40-member school choir to sing in the famed 2,000-seat music hall as part of the Big Apple High School Chorus Festival March 30 to April 3.

But the choir first must raise the money to cover the expenses for the four-day trip.

Baylor University music professor Hugh Sanders, who became aware of the Silsbee choir during a workshop this past summer, recommended the choir to the New York production company selecting students to take part in the concert.

Sanders will conduct the Silsbee students as they perform with a 275-member choir made up of students from high schools all over the country.

"It's hard to comprehend that we're going," 14-year-old freshman Jill Norwood said. "You think things like this don't happen to Silsbee."

The school's chorus room looks more

like a warehouse these days as choir teacher Susan Kilcrease and choir students sort through shipments of frozen pizzas they plan to sell to help pay for the trip.

The students said the work is worth the chance to sing at Carnegie and see New York.

The choir received a big boost this month when Temple-Inland Foundation in Diboll donated \$6,000 for the trip.

"Other people have made small contributions," Kilcrease said. "We hope to have a drawing for a pickup truck by the first of March."

Kilcrease said students already have raised \$4,000 through various sales.

Crash kills near Andes

LIMA, Peru (AP) — An airplane carrying 69 people crashed near the Andes shortly after takeoff Tuesday, killing at least 19 people, authorities reported.

They said the 50 other passengers and crew were injured.

Some passengers were believed to be foreign tourists, the official reported, but they did not release identities or nationalities of the injured and injured.

Lima police said the injured were foreigners.

Officials said the cause of the crash had not been determined. A Peruvian congressman on Aeroperu Flight 603 said there was an explosion just after takeoff.

Reports on the number of fatalities conflicted.

Puno state Gov. Victor Llanos said the toll at 22. He spoke in a radio interview after visiting the crash site, 540 miles southeast of Lima.

Dr. Percy Cadenas, chief physician at the Juliaca hospital, where 19 injured were taken, said as many as 50 people perished.

Jose Guerra, president of the airline, said the plane was overloaded to capacity with 69 people on board.

The twin-jet plane crashed after the Dutch-built Fokker F-27 hit the Manco Capac airport on the Andes. The twin-jet plane was en route to Arequipa, Peru's second largest city 120 miles southeast of Juliaca.

Tourists often take the plane to visit Lake Titicaca, in Bolivia.

Officials said many passengers suffered burns when the plane burst into flames.