

TOO BAD CANADIANS CAN'T VOTE IN U.S. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS:

A COMMENTARY ON MICHEAL DUKAKIS' RUN FOR THE ROSE GARDEN

By SEAN P. RILEY

Last July I was transfixed to the television screen as the Democratic Convention in Atlanta, Georgia unfolded before my eyes. As a student of politics I could not get enough. I scoured scores of newspapers and magazines, recorded the entire proceedings on video, and praised Trudeau that my sleepy summer had been transformed by my new Democrat heroes south of the border. I hooted at Ted Kennedy's on-the-button "Where Was George?" speech, I was awestruck by Jesse Jackson's charisma, and I was easily won over by Micheal Dukakis' obvious devotion, sincerity, compassion, first-rate mind and driven confidence. At last, a happy ending to the Reagan era seemed imminent on November 8, 1988.

As a true-to-the-core, life-long Liberal, I was understandably despondent about my own party's chances in the upcoming federal election. I could not bear the agony of witnessing the Liberal misfortunes on the home-front so I eagerly turned my full attention southward to the excitement of Yankee politics. I made the Democrats my surrogate Liberals. Micheal Dukakis represented a lighthouse in the distance and I followed his beacon to what I perceived to be political salvation. A better America. A better World.

I wanted to go someplace where a liberal/democrat had a fighting chance to feel victory at the electoral polls this year, so in late August I made up my mind that I would be in Boston when the votes were counted perchance Dukakis might win the White House. Boston Massachusetts has been well-known as the heartland of the Democratic Party ever since the 1960's. It is the home of Ted Kennedy, Dukakis, and consequently - Democratic campaign headquarters. What better place on Earth, November 8, 1988?

At the time I planned the trip to Boston, things were looking as good for the Democrats as they were looking bad for our federal Liberal party. Dukakis enjoyed a 17 point lead in the polls and George Bush was saddled with a seemingly unshakeable wimp image. To top it all, beyond all reason, Bush picked Dan Quayle (a man with the grin and matching I.Q. of Odie the dog) as his vice-presidential running mate. The Democrats could not have asked for more.

Alas, as the U.S. election campaign neared the final stretch, Bush overcame his wimp image with a negative campaign blitz that Dukakis was just too slow to challenge. Incredibly, the dominant issues of the campaign seemed to be the pledge of allegiance and the Massachusetts prison furlough programme. The "L" word became a dirty word and Willie Horton somehow became the third man on the Democratic ticket. Accordingly, I began to view America as the Twilight Zone.

Regardless of the turn of events, I forged ahead with my plans and headed for Boston a few days before the election; a motley crew of adventurous political science students along for the excitement promised to them. We all went with our eyes wide open. As it turned out, Dukakis was starting to fight back in the home stretch. He was closing the gap and it rejuvenated all those who supported him. It was almost like the resurrection of John Napier Turner after the TV debate, but not quite.

Needless to say, as neutral, mild-mannered Canadians in a foreign country, we did everything we could to intervene during our all-too-short tour of duty on the frontlines of Liberal America. We carried Dukakis signs, made faces at irate Republicans - in short - we did everything we could except vote. They would not let us, damn it. The rest is history. At least we participated in a small way and got to see it all firsthand. We were even in the same room when Dukakis gave his concession speech to the outside world. Surprisingly, at that dark moment, it was strength, conviction and courage that shined through in Governor Micheal Dukakis' message. He especially appealed to youth to continue fighting for what they believed in. As far as I was concerned, it was his finest hour. I came back to Canada feeling - at least - that it had been a moral victory. With new resolve and strengthened character we picked up our battle gear to fight for yet another good cause, another good day. It was clear to me: **THE BEST AMERICA IS YET TO COME...**

In the interim, Willie Horton can just forget about ever getting another weekend pass... And as for V.P.-elect Dan Quayle, let's wish George Bush extremely good health for the next four years... Thank God I'm Canadian... I think.



Studying for Money

By DUANE E. ARBEAU

Technology education at all levels is changing. The new curriculum which is being developed for use in New Brunswick junior high schools will see compulsory modules entitled Technology 1 and 2. Optional modules will also be available. Among them will be Energy, Graphic Communications, Production and Enterprise.

Tech-Ed students at UNB, working towards their B.Ed., are being given a first-hand look at the Enterprise module. Through the course, Edvo 4979 - Canadian Industry Synthesis, education students are faced with the task of manufacturing and marketing a product. In doing so, they gain knowledge in all aspects of industry - such as raising capital, product design, market research, production, and sales to name a few.

The underlying goal of the course is to create conditions similar to which the student will encounter when they enter the teaching profession and are required to teach this module at the junior high level. By simulating these conditions, it is hoped that experiences encountered will create a capable

and more knowledgeable teacher.

There were several possibilities for a product in this year's class. Among those proposed were an electricity conservation device, a folding chair, a Christmas novelty item, and a laundry bag. After prototypes were built and market surveys were completed, the laundry bag was chosen.

The laundry bag idea came from the group president, Greg Doucette, while the "Laundrorat" concept was an effort of Duane Arbeau, with artistic help from his wife, Joanne.

The group hopes that they have created a useful and practical product. In addition to being practical, the class feels that this product may be a novelty item which is personalized and unique to this institutions and its students.

Laundrorat bags are made from 50% cotton/50% polyester red material. They measure 70 cm x 55 cm, with the "Laundrorat" insignia and definition in black on the sides.

They may be purchased at the Education Society office, Marshall D'Avray Hall, or ordered at 459-5603. The price is \$9.95 and supplies are limited.

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