# Presidential candidates trade jabs

From Associated Press reports

Republican George Bush portrayed Democrat Michael Dukakis as anti-defense Wednesday while saying,"I do not question his patriotism." Dukakis told a college audience the vice president was "right there all the time" when the administration cut grants and loans for students.

Bush caused a momentary stir at an American Legion convention in Louisville, Ky., when he mistakenly referred to the day as the anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

"I wonder how many remember today is Pearl Harbor Day," Bush told the veterans. "Forty-seven years ago to this day we were hit and hit

hard at Pearl Harbor and we were world." not ready."

He went on, but then, alerted by the murmuring among the 6,000 veterans in the audience, Bush abruptly stopped and said: "Did I say Sept. 7? Sorry about that."

The attack was on Dec. 7, 1941. Bush said Dukakis would "cancel

and delay our strategic modernization with what amounts to an undeclared unilateral freeze."

"Let me be clear," he went on. "I do not question his patriotism. But patriotism is not the issue. The issue is how best to deter war, to keep the peace, to fulfill our country's special responsibility as leader of the free osal under which the federal govern-

Democratic presidential nominee Dukakis spoke at Kean College in Union, N.J., and asked, "Where was George Bush while his administration was doing its best to slam the door of college opportunity in the face of millions of young people across this

"George was right there all the time," Dukakis said. "Not doing and not saying a thing."

The Massachusetts governor said he and his running mate Lloyd Bentsen "are going to stop the assault on college loans and grants, and we're going to stop it cold."

Dukakis described his own prop-

ment would guarantee bank loans to college students with repayment based on a percentage of future earnings and extending over a person's working life.

Bush has proposed allowing parents to earn interest tax-free on U.S. savings bonds to help pay for college, but he has not suggested any overhaul of the loan program.

The Reagan administration has already launched a small, experimental income-contingent loan program, with repayments pegged to student's income in later life.

Bentsen and Republican vice presidential nominee Dan Quayle tended to Senate business.

## Opposition forces urge strike in Burma

From Associated Press reports

RANGOON, Burma - Mobs plundered government offices and warehouses Wednesday, and state radio said security forces shot five

Opposition leaders called for a nationwide general strike against 26 years of repressive one-party rule on Thursday. Leaders hoped for the largest of the many mass protests that have driven two governments from office in less than two months.

State-run Rangoon Radio reported looting in 38 areas of the capital Tuesday and Wednesday. It said security forces shot and killed

five people, wounded six and arrested to other reports. 88 looters.

The radio urged people to report looters to police and said more than \$43 million in state property had been plundered since the beginning of

An earlier broadcast said security forces would "open fire to impose control" if looting continued, but the order would not apply to peaceful anti-government demonstrations.

Soldiers fired into crowds of unarmed demonstrators last month, killing 112 people by government count and several hundred according

In its 8 p.m. broadcast, Rangoon Radio said the government was invoking a 1987 order banning demonstrations at the Parliament building and several other sites.

Party leaders plan a special meeting Monday to consider holding a referendum on one-party rule, as promised by President Maung Maung, but opponents demand an interim government leading to democracy.

Because the situation is "sliding toward chaos," up to 100 dependents of U.S. Embassy employees will be evacuated as soon as possible, said

a Western diplomat, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Demonstrators have not threatened foreigners, and the U.S. Embassy has been a favorite rallying point, with protesters applauding the American flag.

Turmoil began in Burma with student riots in September 1987 that led to street protests in March and

Ne Win resigned July 23 and was succeeded by a hard-line former general, Sein Lwin, who lasted only 17 days. Maung Maung is the first civilian leader since 1962.

# Fire forces evacuation of geyser complex

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. - For the first time in the 116-year history of the oldest U.S. national park, officials ordered the evacuation Wednesday of the Old Faithful Geyser complex ahead of a 165,000-acre fire.

About 800 visitors calmly left the Old Faithful Inn, which park officials decided to close for the season more than a month early. Later, however, park officials decided to allow day

CARLOS SOSA

visitors in the area.

fire to expand by 20,000 acres on its northern flank, but the blaze threatened no buildings in the geyser

Fires in the Greater Yellowstone area, which includes nearby national parks in Montana, have charred close to I million acres, park spokeswoman Marsha Karle said.

On Yellowstone's northern border, a river of fire flowed within feet of

**GRANT JONES** 

two small tourist towns, and firefight-High wind caused the North Fork ers hoped winds would continue to shepherd the Storm Creek fire past Cooke City and Silver Gate, Mont.

> A North Fork, Idaho, fire extended a finger of flame toward Old Faithful, but firefighters expected to be able to steer the flames around the southern perimeter of the complex, said incident commander Denny

> "It's still sitting up on the ridge, about half a mile away from us,"

> > SUSAN KRUSE

Bungarz said. "We expect the tire, if it does run into our lines, will hit us very lightly. It will not be a big wall of flame."

The Boise Interagency Fire Center, the coordinating office for firefighting in the West, said fires this year have charred 3.65 million acres, an area larger than Connecticut. Slightly more than 2 million of the acres are in Alaska. The fire center has called this the worst fire season in 30 years.

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## Soviet space capsule lands after trouble-filled flight

From Associated Press reports

MOSCOW — A Soviet space capsule floated safely to Earth on Wednesday after 26 hours stranded in orbit with dwindling air and food, but a flight control official said the commander delayed the landing by making mistakes.

Deputy flight chief Viktor Blagov said commander Vladimir Lyakhov should have switched to manual controls to fire braking rockets aboard his Soyuz TM-5 capsule, according to the government daily Izvestia.

The tiny capsule parachuted to a landing at 4:50 a.m. Moscow time 100 miles southwest of the town of Dzhezkazgan in the republic of Kazakhstan.

Izvestia, which reported the space-to-ground radio exchange, noted that despite the earlier problems with the guidance system, the spacecraft landed within only a few dozen miles of the intended target, and only 24 hours

Abdul Ahad Mohmand, the first Afghan in space, and Soviet crewmate Lyakhov spent 26 hours aboard the cramped capsule that had enough air for only two days, dwindling food supplies and no toilet.

Candidates debate road funding

RALEIGH — While declining to rule out higher taxes, Gov. Jim Martin and Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan avoided committing themselves Wednesday to specific measures for raising billions of dollars for road construction that both said were desperately needed.

Martin, the Republican candidate for governor, and his Democratic challenger Jordan faced off at a candidates' forum before the North Carolina Highway Users Conference. The conference represents trade associations, companies and individuals ranging from equipment distributors to retail merchants to truckers.

The candidates lined up along partisan lines over the \$450 million bond issue Martin unsuccessfully pushed during this year's General Assembly session. Martin criticized the Democrat-dominated Legislature for rejecting it and said **News in Brief** 

that if re-elected he would recommend it again next year.

Repeating a phrase he has used to characterize the Legislature's attitude toward his election-year initiatives, Martin said the Democratic leadership's response to his bond plan had been "not now."

"That proposal is still valid and is still on the table and it's a good way to finance the capital needs, despite what timid critics would say to the contrary," he said.

Banks rake in record profits

WASHINGTON - The nation's commercial banks enjoyed their most profitable six months on record through June this year, despite continuing losses in Texas, the government said Wednesday.

Commercial banks earned \$10.5 billion in the first and second quarters this year, topping the \$9.7 billion in net income for the second and third quarters of 1985, which had been the most profitable six months since the FDIC began keeping track in 1934.

In the first half of last year, banks lost \$5.4 billion. The big loss was almost entirely attributable to huge reserves set aside by the largest banks for expected losses on loans to Third World countries.

Banks haven't seen the need to build those reserves further this year and are thus earning strong profits. Banks set aside \$916 million on foreign loans in the first six months of this year, compared with \$16.4 billion in the same period a year ago.

Stock market up slightly

NEW YORK - The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials, up more than 10 points in the early going, settled for a 0.53 gain at 2,065.79.

Advancing issues outnumbered declines by about 5 to 4 on the New York Stock Exchange, with 816 up, 639 down and 488 unchanged.

Big Board volume came to 139.59 million shares, against 122.25 million Tuesday.

### For the Record

parking permits could be eliminated,"

In Tuesday's article, "Sophomore permits. They will be sold on Tuesday, Sept. 13. The DTH regrets the

the DTH incorrectly reported the date of the sale of extra parking

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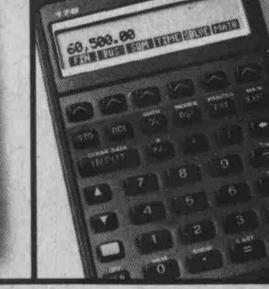
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