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Friday, September 4, 1998-
Monday, September 28, 1998

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THE FIRST LADY

Hillary Clinton, Smile in Place, Hits Fund-Raisers

By ELAINE SCIOLINO

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 26 — Is she a national role model as First Lady? The President's top crisis manager determined to rescue his legacy? Or a traumatized victim deserving of America's embrace?

In a three-day, five-state fund-raising tour on behalf of Democratic candidates for Congress, Hillary Rodham Clinton was analyzed and lionized, criticized and beatified on each of these points.

Through it all, she stayed the course, smiling opaquely and assuring old friends and political allies that she was "Just fine!" as she thickly larded her speeches with praise of the President and criticism of Congress.

Her steadfast fans could not stop themselves from gushing.

"She's kind of like our American Princess Di," said Lawrence Johnson, 30, a clerk at Seattle's Westin Hotel who saw Mrs. Clinton as she swept in for an evening of fund-raising on Thursday. "They ought to leave her husband alone. And she should be our next President!"

With elections just a few weeks away and concerns that the President's sex scandal may inhibit Democrats from voting, Mrs. Clinton is getting many standing ovations as she asks audiences to empty their pockets and get out the vote.

And if there was any doubt that Mrs. Clinton was withholding support from her husband as she sorted out her own feelings, she dispelled it in her sweep through New York, Colorado, Washington, Oregon and California.

At times she seemed to be campaigning even more for Mr. Clinton than she was for the candidates, tirelessly promoting him as the President who turned around the economy, reduced crime, furthered educational change and balanced the budget for the first time since Neil Armstrong walked on the moon.

"By any objective measure, by any fair assessment, our country is so much better off because of my husband's leadership," she told a crowd of several hundred at a fund-raising dinner for four Congressional candidates in Seattle.

Most of the candidates said little about the President, and in some cases they appeared relieved that she, not he, was around.

Even so, Mrs. Clinton sits at the innermost circle of the President's crisis-management team, drafting hardball responses to the Lewinsky scandal and the Paula Jones sexual misconduct suit — and to the Republicans who have attacked the President because of them. Mrs. Clinton's loyalists believe that she is a First Lady with a future, no matter how

the Clinton Presidency weathers the impeachment debate, no matter whether the White House strategy, to which she has contributed so much, prevails.

"The attraction of Mrs. Clinton is that she focuses on the issues rather than the distractions swirling around Washington, D.C.," said Jay Inslee, who is running for Congress in Washington State. "The President is a distraction."

Despite the best efforts of Democratic candidates to change the subject from Mr. Clinton's woes to issues like child care, education, Social Security and the environment, the President's troubles kept intruding, often in unexpected ways.

At a re-election fund-raiser for Senator Barbara Boxer in the grand ballroom of the San Francisco Hilton Hotel on Friday night, the actress, Frances Fisher, of "Titanic" fame read excerpts from Mrs. Clinton's best seller, "It Takes a Village," telling the \$250-a-plate audience of 1,100 supporters how children are "a moral touchstone amidst the complexity and contentiousness of modern life."

But on the sidewalk outside the hotel, 8-year-old Carolyn Ahr carried a poster that she had drawn with a sad face and the words, "The President lies and should be fired."

"Mrs. Clinton is a setback for American women," said Catherine Ahr, 37, a homemaker, and Carolyn's mother. "I've never protested in my life — and I even went to Berkeley. But this time was different. What kind of moral message does this whole thing send to our children?"

In none of her child-related events did Mrs. Clinton answer that question. None of the candidates did either.

At Portland State University in Oregon, Mrs. Clinton appeared in front of a big poster that read, "Kids First" with David Wu, a Yale-educated lawyer and candidate for Congress whose main pitch is education and who praised his guest as "our nation's foremost children's advocate."

Asked whether there was a conflict between Mrs. Clinton's focus on children's needs and the difficulty parents are having in explaining her husband's behavior to their children, Mr. Wu said, "I will have to think about that."

So much was said in code and fraught with double meaning on Mrs. Clinton's campaign tour that it was often hard to sort out what the real message was supposed to be.

At the fund-raising dinner in Seattle, Mrs. Clinton mocked what she called "the other Washington."

"I think that's the way to look at

THE NEW YORK TIMES,

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1998

'She focuses on the issues rather than the distractions.'

it," she said. "It's like a parallel universe and sort of exists out there somewhere in outer space."

But she also said that the American people do not get enough political news, and throughout her trip described politics as a noble calling, exhorting her audiences to "persuade people that politics matters."

Unlike the First Lady, Mrs. Boxer, whose daughter is married to Mrs. Clinton's brother, said flat out in her speech at the fund-raiser in San Francisco, "The President has problems."

But she never said what they were. And she blamed the "extraordinary atmosphere we are living in" for making it impossible to get the media to focus on serious issues.

But it was not just the media that were focusing on sex. There was also Art Torres, the chairman of the California Democratic Party, introducing Mrs. Boxer and explaining how her Republican opponent in 1992, Bruce Herschensohn, was "the family values guy on every day except Friday nights."

"And then we found out," Mr. Torres continued, "he did other things in his spare time."

The audience groaned. Some people even cursed their chairman. (In 1992 the Democrats turned up evidence that Mr. Herschensohn had frequented a nude bar in Hollywood called The Seventh Veil and bought girlie magazines.)

"He didn't have to do that!" a woman said, referring to Mr. Torres's remarks. "This is not the time to bring this up."

As in San Francisco, there were competing demonstrators in Denver, where Mrs. Clinton campaigned on Thursday for Dottie Lamm, Colorado's former first lady who is running against Ben Nighthorse Campbell for the Senate, and Gail Schoettler, Lieutenant Governor and a candidate for governor.

As Mrs. Clinton shook hands with children in front of Fort Logan Elementary School outside Denver, Ilona Smith, 41, a mental health worker, shouted, "Hang in there, Hillary," as protesters down the block chanted, "Jail Slick Willy." A handmade sign read, "Lyin' King and the Queen of Denial." Another read, "It Takes a Village to Raise an Idiot."

"It's a really inappropriate forum for what these people are doing," Ms. Smith said. "It's rude, it's ill-mannered, it's embarrassing to Colorado. It's Hillary that's here, not Bill."

Mrs. Clinton spoke to safe, friendly audiences. She has avoided situations in which journalists could question her.

She was tireless in raising money and stingy with the chitchat.

In Seattle, a picture with her cost \$2,500. She took a quick hello-and-thank-you approach. "I told her we support her and the Democratic agenda," said Arun Bhagat, a consulting engineer. "She thanked us for coming. Everyone was very tactful."

At a \$200-a-head private reception for 200 in Denver, "a lot of people were doing the two-handed shake, saying thank you for what you're doing for Gail and Dottie," said Laurie Zeller, 38. "Nobody made reference to the current crisis."

Support is what Mrs. Clinton needs these days, said Brian Baird, a clinical psychologist who lost a Congressional race in Washington State in 1996 and is running again. "There was something different in the applause tonight," Mr. Baird said of the fund-raiser in Seattle. "There was a sort of effort to send some love Hillary's way. We want to help her during this trying time, in a healing way, to give her a respite from all this stuff."

Mr. Baird, who teaches psychology and treats cancer patients and other patients, said that he thought Mrs. Clinton was "doing well." But then, he added, "'Well' is a relative word."

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THE NEW YORK TIMES,

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1998

September 27, 1998 Sunday, CHICAGOLAND EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 4; ZONE: C

LENGTH: 1025 words

HEADLINE: ON CAMPAIGN TRAIL, CLINTONS PART WAYS TO CANDIDATES' RELIEF

BYLINE: By Bob Kemper, Tribune Staff Writer.

DATELINE: SUNNYVALE, Calif.

BODY:

President Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton arrived in California on Friday to raise campaign cash for their fellow Democrats.

But in an increasingly commonplace scene, it was Mrs. Clinton who stood beside the candidate and the president who stuck to friendlier party events where he shook loose the cash with little effort.

Clinton's sexual relationship with White House intern Monica Lewinsky and the fact that he lied about it for seven months has made him persona non grata among some of his party's candidates, who worry he will taint their fall campaigns despite his fundraising prowess.

One of the two candidates with whom Clinton was scheduled to appear during his three-day, three-state swing was Rep. Glenn Poshard, Illinois' Democratic candidate for governor.

But Poshard was a no-show, insisting at the last minute that he could not appear with Clinton because of pressing congressional business back in Washington.

The other candidate with whom Clinton will appear this weekend is Garry Mauro, who is in a long-shot campaign to unseat Texas' Republican governor, George W. Bush.

Clinton was expected to raise \$1 million for Mauro, four times what he raised for Poshard. But both of Mauro's fundraisers will be held out of public view.

In contrast to the president, Mrs. Clinton is a regular presence on the campaign stump in New York, Oregon and California.

The first lady's popularity has soared since her first days in the White House, when many opponents viewed her as a power-hungry feminist with too much sway over national policy.

In the wake of the Lewinsky revelations, Mrs. Clinton has become one of the nation's most popular Democrats.

It was the first lady who stood with U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) while her husband attended to party events here Friday night.

But earlier in the day, Clinton had arrived in Chicago to raise \$250,000 for Poshard, just hours after the congressman left to get back to Congress in time to vote against legislation Clinton has been laboring to defeat.

Poshard, in a telephone call piped into the luncheon where Clinton appeared, reassured the president that he was not trying to distance himself.

"I had no way of knowing, Mr. President, that the Republican leadership was going to call for a vote on these bills," including Republican-crafted Social Security reform measures as well as the fast-track trade legislation that Clinton has sought, Poshard said.

"Republicans will try to say that I'm distancing myself from you, but nothing could be further from the truth," he said.

Clinton, who has been shunned before, was gracious in excusing Poshard: "If I were a school principal today, I would give him an excused absence from this lunch because I, too, want him to be in Washington."

The president and Poshard said the need for Poshard to vote against the GOP plan to provide election-year tax cuts without mentioning that the congressman also would be casting a vote against Clinton's fast-track legislation, which was defeated.

6TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 Times Mirror Company
Los Angeles Times

September 26, 1998, Saturday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 24; Metro Desk

LENGTH: 957 words

HEADLINE: BOXER, IN TIGHT RACE, GETS FIRST LADY'S AID;
POLITICS: HILLARY CLINTON STEPS IN TO HELP THE INCUMBENT SENATOR, WHO COULD BE HURT BY PRESIDENTIAL SCANDAL.

BYLINE: AMY PYLE and MARIA L. La GANGA, TIMES STAFF WRITERS

DATELINE: SAN FRANCISCO

BODY:

Hillary Rodham Clinton came to California on Friday for the first time since her husband's public admission of infidelity, stumping for a candidate who has a lot to lose from a presidential scandal: U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer.

Liberal and strongly feminist San Francisco is crazy about the first lady--with more than its share of official Hillary fan clubs--but tends to be smitten with Boxer as well. Well-wishers holding signs expressing love for the first lady and for Boxer pressed against barricades in front of the downtown Hilton Hotel next to pickets with "Impeach Clinton!" signs.

Inside the Grand Ballroom milled a sold-out crowd of 1,100 dinner guests who had paid at least \$ 250 each to "join First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton" in supporting Democrat Boxer in her close match with Republican challenger Matt Fong, California's treasurer.

The response had been overwhelming. Half the tickets were sold before the invitations ever reached mailboxes, and the event outgrew one giant room and was moved to the largest ballroom.

Even then, dozens had to be turned away.

Bette Landis said she felt lucky to be among those inside. Landis, a member of a San Francisco Hillary Rodham Clinton fan club, described the first lady as "absolutely fabulous," but quickly added that she supports Boxer too.

Others said they were particularly motivated to come by recent polls showing Boxer in a close race with Fong.

"This race shouldn't be this close," said Peter Henschel, a former deputy San Francisco mayor, shaking his head.

Boxer campaign strategists said it was unclear who was the bigger attraction, noting that some of those who RSVPd were repeat guests from one of three

Los Angeles Times, September 26, 1998

pre-primary events featuring the first lady and Boxer.

"The combination is a tremendous draw," said Boxer campaign manager Rose Kopolczynsky.

The dinner of herbed chicken and polenta was organized weeks before Clinton's apology to the American public for his affair with intern Monica Lewinsky. And Boxer is by no means shunning the president even now, repeatedly saying she needs the financial infusion from his expected October visit on her behalf.

She plans to attend a private Democratic fund-raiser with the president today in Beverly Hills.

The timing of an appearance with the distaff side of the White House couple could not have been better for Boxer. As the stoic wife, Hillary Clinton is no longer fair political game for Republicans.

Even Fong, who has made campaign hay criticizing Boxer for partisan "hypocrisy" because she remained loyal to President Clinton through the summer, backed far away from any slight to Hillary Clinton.

"We hope the first lady has an enjoyable stay in California," said Fong spokesman Steve Schmidt. "Matt Fong does not have an issue with the first lady or with the first lady campaigning for Barbara Boxer."

At a news conference earlier in the week, state Republican Party Chairman Mike Schroeder said: "Hillary hasn't done anything to disgrace herself."

Friday's dinner was the last leg of the first lady's three-day swing on behalf of Democratic congressional candidates, which began Wednesday in New York. At each stop, she has urged voters to push for Democratic control of Congress to preserve recent gains in areas such as the economy.

The trip was organized around those considered to be in trouble, a camp that includes Boxer, who polls show could lose to Fong if Democratic voter turnout is as low as expected. A recent Los Angeles Times poll also found that Boxer has been hurt by President Clinton's disclosures.

Although resolute that she does not consider the president a liability, Boxer used her potential loss in a low turnout as a rallying cry for her supporters, saying it is their responsibility to get people out to vote.

"Get your friends out on election day if you have to go pick them up, dress them and take them to the polls!" Boxer said.

At a news conference before the dinner and again during her speech, Boxer bemoaned how difficult it is to get her message out because of the intense news coverage of the president's troubles. Hillary Clinton alluded to the same phenomenon, saying, "It is hard to get through the blizzard of stuff that's out there in the atmosphere." It was her only mention of the situation.

The first lady's message Friday was not to let conservative Fong move the country backward from what she called the Democrats' gains on the environment, education and health care reform.

Los Angeles Times, September 26, 1998

"The progress that has been made is threatened if the Republicans are successful in preventing Barbara Boxer from continuing her work," Clinton said, adding later that Boxer is "not anybody's puppet."

Northern California has become a more frequent stop for the first lady since her daughter, Chelsea, enrolled at Stanford University in 1996. And Boxer is related by marriage to the first lady, whose brother is married to Boxer's daughter. She attended Friday's dinner with her 3-year-old son, Zachary, whom both grandmother Boxer and aunt Clinton mentioned in their speeches.

Combined with her three previous trips for Boxer, the first lady will have raised more than \$ 1 million for the candidate once Friday's checks are cashed. The Hilton dinner was expected to raise \$ 400,000, but because of campaign finance limits, just half of that will go to Boxer's campaign; the other half will go to Democratic get-out-the-vote efforts that are likely to benefit her.

As the two women left the podium Friday night to a standing ovation, they paused to strike the campaigning politician's pose--arms linked and held high in the air--but with a difference: Boxer wrapped one of Clinton's hands in two of hers, then the two hugged briefly.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: September 26, 1998

First lady pushes policy, pokes GOP

Hillary Rodham Clinton promotes the president's proposals for children and chides Congress during a fundraising stop in Portland

Saturday, September 26 1998

By Nena Baker of the Oregonian staff

► Clinton promotes child-care agenda at forum

She gave no clues that she's fed up with him. But Hillary Rodham Clinton has had it with Congress.

The first lady campaigned for Democrats in Portland Friday, leaving no doubt that, politically speaking, she stands firmly beside President Clinton.

As for the specter of impeachment proceedings in the aftermath of the president's affair with Monica Lewinsky, Hillary Clinton chided Congress for wasting its time.

Lawmakers are much too busy doing other things that are of grave importance to the country, she said, using sarcasm to underscore her point.



Hillary Clinton waves to the crowd and is joined by 1st congressional district Democratic candidate David Wu during their appearance at a child care forum in Portland, Friday, Sept. 25.

Instead, they should be lowering classroom sizes, repairing crumbling schools and connecting every classroom with the Internet -- all part of the administration's education plan that has been ignored by Republican leaders.

We need to change the Congress, the first lady said to the applause of 200 partisans who turned out for a \$250-a-plate beef filet luncheon on behalf of Democratic congressional candidate David Wu.

Earlier in the day, at a Wu campaign event billed as a child-care forum at Portland State University, Hillary Clinton asked an invited audience of 100 to think carefully about how politics affects citizens in personal ways.

She praised Portland State students for voting to increase their student fees to help fund the school's Helen Gordon Child Development Center. The model program allows student families to pay 50 percent of the whole cost of child care.

What you're doing at this university is important not only for students but for the example it sets, she said.

Afterward, the first lady mingled with audience members, all of whom were invited by the Wu campaign. Some rushed toward the front to greet her.

I think she's inspirational, said Melissa Chernaik, 25, of Portland, a field organizer for the National Abortion Rights Action League who made sure to shake hands with the first lady. I wanted to thank her on behalf of those of us working on women's rights issues.

The first lady has drawn supporters and protesters around the country this week during a five-state campaign swing. She began her tour Wednesday in New York, and visited Colorado and Washington Thursday before arriving in Portland, where she spent the night at the Benson Hotel.

She made no public appearances before departing from the Portland Air Base on Friday afternoon for more Democratic fund-raisers in San Francisco and a rendezvous with the president.

Wuis running against Republican Molly Bordonaro for the 1st District seat held by retiring Rep. Elizabeth Furse, D-Ore. The race is one of the country's most competitive.

Outside the Benson Hotel, Linda Mayer and her mother Grace Fuss, 89, waited for a glimpse of a woman they both admire. They said respect for Hillary Clinton's activism as first lady outweighs any misgivings about the controversy surrounding her husband.

Mayer, 54, said the first lady's priorities -- education, health care and women's advocacy -- were important to three generations of women in her family.

We're disappointed with him, said Mayer. But he

can achieve so much with her.

Outside the Embassy Suites Hotel, where Wu's luncheon was held and where Hillary Clinton posed for photographs with financial supporters of Gov. John Kitzhaber and Rep. Darlene Hooley, about a half dozen protesters stood watch.

Pat Sharp, 49, a hairdresser from Albany, said she came to Portland to protest Clinton's visit because so many of the women in her shop wanted the Lewinsky issue to go away.

Sharp said the first lady's silence about her husband's behavior sends a message that wherever he does, you stay there, you tolerate it.

She carried a sign saying Only Nasty Old Women Support Clinton.

Kaye Alford, who traveled from Cannon Beach to support Hillary Clinton, took umbrage with Sharp's message. Alford, 61, wrote I support you Hillary on a piece of notebook paper and held it up.

Margie Rosenthal, 51, of Lake Oswego, attended the luncheon fund-raiser and said she was impressed by the first lady's poise under difficult personal circumstances.

Hillary Clinton's remarks, said Rosenthal, let us know that, yes, we all know what's going on, but she had an easy way about it that made us feel comfortable with it.

Polls taken since President Clinton admitted his affair with Lewinsky show the public feels more supportive of Hillary Clinton than ever.

Something has changed, said Nancy Samson, 61, of Lake Oswego, a luncheon guest. People don't seem so threatened by her anymore.

Since the presidential sex scandal broke, Hillary Clinton has emerged as the Democrats' best ambassador. As such, she's attracting more media attention than usual.

Her stop in Portland was attended by reporters from national newsmagazines who are scrambling to put out stories about her. They had plenty of fodder.

She's built for the job, marveled luncheon guest Nikki Kurosaki, 40.

Bravo, shouted Donna Danner, 47, of Portland, as

Hillary Clinton left the luncheon. I just love her.

Copyright 1998 Ventura County Star
Ventura County Star (Ventura County, Ca.)

September 26, 1998, Saturday

SECTION: News; Pg. A03

LENGTH: 345 words

HEADLINE: Clintons raise money in state

CAMPAIGN STOPS: Organizers say president, first lady still desirable at fund-raisers.

BYLINE: Sacramento Bee

BODY:

SAN FRANCISCO -- President Clinton, buoyed by a new round of polls showing his approval rating on the rise, went on the offensive Friday by accusing Republicans of ignoring the nation's urgent priorities and later going to California to raise money for state Democrats.

"It is time for Congress to buckle down, to send me the measures to keep the government open and to invest in education, in health care, in other needs of the American people," Clinton said at the White House before he left on a coast-to-coast trip to raise money for Democratic congressional candidates.

But such sentiments were ignored by the Republican-controlled House Judiciary Committee.

It agreed Friday to release audiotapes that Linda Tripp made of her conversations with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House intern at the center of the presidential sex scandal.

Clinton arrived in the Bay Area Friday evening with first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to test their value as campaigners at a series of Democratic fund-raising events.

Hillary Clinton was the keynote speaker at a fund-raising dinner attended by 1,000 of the party faithful in San Francisco Friday evening, while the president attended a San Jose fund-raiser with the Silicon Valley high-tech community.

Tickets to the president's affair, priced at \$25,000 per couple, sold at the same rate as last year, with no evidence of any fallout from the White House sex scandal, organizers insisted.

The president is scheduled to attend a luncheon fund-raiser today at a private residence in San Diego; a dinner in Los Angeles tonight is expected to raise \$1.3 million for national Democratic congressional campaign efforts.

Clinton is scheduled to go on to Texas.

Meanwhile, tickets for Hillary Clinton's \$500-per-couple fund-raiser for U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer in San Francisco on Friday evening sold out weeks ago and the room had to be expanded to accommodate all the guests, said spokeswoman Julie Wong.

Boxer acknowledges she is in the toughest re-election campaign of her 22-year political career.

BYLINE: JOAN RYAN

Hillary Rodham Clinton swept into the grand ballroom of the San Francisco Hilton last night like soft light. She looked like someone who had just stepped from a spa: rested, happy, energetic and glamorous in her Princess Diana-blond 'do, sleek gray suit and huge smile. As soon as she walked in, the room changed. People roared and whistled, rising from their chocolate mousse desserts to catch a better glimpse.

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer, the beneficiary of this fund-raiser, smiled. In a tight race against state treasurer Matt Fong, Boxer needed a boost, and no one can fire up the Democratic faithful like Hillary. Even now, with her husband humiliated and fighting for his presidency, Hillary Rodham Clinton is traveling the country electrifying Democratic boosters with an ebullient energy that her embattled husband cannot generate, at least at the moment.

The people in the grand ballroom had ponied up \$250 each to raise money for Boxer's re-election campaign, but many had come for Hillary. What began as a 500-seat fund-raiser grew to 800 then 1,100 and finally 1,150, after Boxer's campaign workers sweet-talked the hotel yesterday into squeezing five more tables into an already packed room.

"We got calls from people saying, I want to go and show support for the first lady," said Boxer campaign manager Rose Kapolczynski.

Outside the hotel, on streets lined with demonstrators and tourists with cameras, people chose up sides on Hillary.

"I think she represents style and integrity and strength," said Lois Carson from San Bernardino. She had emerged from a community colleges' trustees conference at the Hilton yesterday afternoon, saw the 30 or so Clinton supporters waving placards outside the front lobby on O'Farrell Street and joined in. "It's amazing to me that she's been able to carry on with this angry, murky sea swirling around her."

A block away, more than 100 anti-Clinton demonstrators shouted and chanted, having a grand time despite having been relegated to the back of the hotel on Ellis Street, where Mrs. Clinton's limo was unlikely to pass. Among the demonstrators was a group calling itself the Soccer Moms of Marin, inspired by conservative radio talk-show host Melanie Morgan, herself a Marin mom.

"It's baloney that Hillary's the victim in all this," said Julie Leitzell, a young mother of two who drove in from Larkspur. "Anyone who believes she learned of (the president's affair) through the newspaper still believes that O.J. is out looking for the real killer. She's a phony."

Inside the ballroom, the president's troubles were mentioned directly only once, when Boxer acknowledged that "yes, the president has problems -- he's been very open about it. But that doesn't change the fact he's led us out of the deepest, darkest depression. . . ."

The rest was all hope and fire. No one in the room of Boxer supporters wanted to hear bad news, and when Mrs. Clinton rose to speak, the audience roared and whistled as she smiled and thanked them.

"It's just another night in San Francisco," she joked. "The energy in this room could light this city for a year."

Then she went on, without looking at notes, to deliver the kind of rousing, electrifying pep talk that sends the faithful out singing. She spoke with such strength and power, such clear conviction, that you'd think this was just another autumn, just another election season, and not the most tenuous and humiliating stretch of her and her husband's lives.

"She loves to campaign," one Boxer staffer said of the first lady. "She really comes alive."

Mrs. Clinton spoke of the economy, crime, education, health care, abortion, Social Security, drawing applause at every turn. Boxer sat behind her on stage, listening and smiling, joining in the applause.

As candidates tread lightly around the weakened president, reluctant to share the stage with him, they're clamoring for Hillary, whose public approval ratings have never been higher. She's the match that's lighting up Democratic campaigns across the nation, and if appearances mean anything, she's somehow drawing strength and energy from the crisis, urging and cajoling voters to donate money, talk to their friends, get out the vote.

"Do ev-ry-thing possible to re-elect Bar-bara Boxer to the U.S. Senate!" she concluded, thundering each syllable above the crowd's roar. She clasped her hand to Boxer's and raised it, the way running mates do. Then she exited stage left, leaving quickly while the applause still thundered, the way the biggest stars do.

Poshard left for Washington early Friday, saying he had just learned Thursday evening that the House would be voting on these bills. Clinton said Poshard called him Friday morning before Clinton left Washington.

Poshard had started to cut back on his congressional duties and missing a variety of votes in the process so that he could concentrate full-time on the campaign.

Among the votes he missed was on the bill that authorized the release of Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's voluminous and critical report on Clinton.

The Chicago event was one of Poshard's largest fundraisers. But the need to keep contributions within Poshard's self-imposed limits on campaign contributions made it by far the smallest event of Clinton's weekend fundraising blitz.

The president was expected to raise \$3.7 million at six stops in Illinois, California and Texas between Friday and Sunday, proving that, even with his troubles over his relationship with Lewinsky, he still can pry open the wallets of the Democratic faithful.

Clinton's appearance could go a long way toward helping to generate the kind of cash needed to pay for television advertisements in Poshard's bid against his well-financed Republican opponent, George Ryan.

Clinton also may help bolster Poshard's support among key voting blocs in and around the city, including liberals and African-Americans, who have been cool to Poshard's conservative record on social issues.

Polls show that those groups, along with suburban women, remain supportive of Clinton despite his admission that he had an affair with the White House intern and lied about it.

And while even a president's popularity is not transferable, Clinton could enhance Poshard's standing with those traditionally Democratic groups simply by standing by him Friday.

The mere fact that Poshard invited Clinton and that Clinton is positioned to actually help him may be an indication of just how poorly Poshard is positioned in his race. Some Democrats in close races, including Maryland Gov. Parris Glendening, have avoided Clinton.

Others, including Rep. Charles Schumer, a Senate candidate in New York, and Boxer have invited Mrs. Clinton, instead of the president to campaign and raise money for them.

Boxer, in fact, had a fundraiser in San Francisco on Friday about the same time the president was arriving. But it was Mrs. Clinton, not the president, that Boxer wanted at her side.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and his brother, Commerce Secretary William Daley, joined Clinton at two events Friday, including Poshard's lunch and an earlier stop at Jenner Elementary School in the Cabrini-Green neighborhood.

Illinois Democratic Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun was in town

at the same time as Clinton but was absent from the two presidential appearances. Moseley-Braun had scheduling conflicts, her office said.

The senator, one of the most vulnerable Democratic incumbents up for re-election, has invited the president to headline a fundraiser Oct. 16. She said earlier that the event was "iffy" because of the controversy surrounding Clinton, but an aide said it still is scheduled.

SEPTEMBER 26, 1998, SATURDAY, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. A1

LENGTH: 981 words

HEADLINE: Clintons Stumping In State;

Bay Area gives mixed welcome to president under fire

BYLINE: Carla Marinucci, John Wildermuth, Chronicle Political Writers

DATELINE: Regional

BODY:

Thousands of fired-up demonstrators, some cheering and others jeering, turned out to greet President Clinton and the first lady last night as they returned to the Bay Area to download political donations from both high-tech and hard-core supporters.

After dozens of earlier low-key visits to the Bay Area, the Clintons drew huge, boisterous crowds in separate visits to the South Bay and San Francisco. And despite concerns that the White House sex scandal was weakening his support among Silicon Valley donors, the president took in a record \$650,000, according to John Doerr, the sponsor for the Technology Network.

But while cheering crowds of supporters showed that many in the area are sticking with the president, at least as many angry protesters made it clear that, even here, Clinton is a long way from putting his problems behind him.

"Resign swine," read one sign carried outside the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose, where a crowd of about 2,000 people, most opposed to Clinton, gathered as the president made a brief stop. "Fire the liar," said another.

There were also Clinton supporters among the crowd in San Jose, as well as among a smaller group that gathered outside a San Francisco hotel where Hillary Clinton spoke at a fund-raiser for Senator Barbara Boxer. The president also got a warm welcome from a crowd who greeted his plane at Moffett Field.

There, the president dived into the crowd of several hundred people, shaking hands and signing autographs for almost half an hour while people shouted encouragement.

Jane Parham, a NASA employee, said she met Clinton and told him, "Don't be discouraged, Mr. President." He answered, "I won't if you will all stay with me. It's still a democracy we're fighting for."

PRESIDENT THANKS SUPPORTERS

After stopping at the Fairmont -- and skirting the largely hostile crowd there -- Clinton ended the evening at the Tech Museum of Innovation, where he spoke at a Democratic National Committee dinner that was expected to raise \$600,000.

"I just want to thank you, on a very personal basis, for support during this difficult time," he said. "Even presidents have to be people from time to time."

"I entered public life because I thought it would be an opportunity to help people make the most of their lives," the president said. "Washington would be served better if we worried more about people outside of Washington."

In San Francisco, Hillary Clinton was preaching to the choir last night as more than 1,100 people jammed into the Hilton Hotel ballroom to hear her speak at a fund-raiser for Senator Barbara Boxer.

"Welcome home to California -- we love you, we stand with you," said Boxer as she introduced the first lady to an adoring crowd of Democrats, who responded with a standing ovation that lasted nearly a minute.

"The energy in this room could light this city for a year," Hillary Clinton said as she launched into a 24-minute stump speech that contained no hint of her husband's political crisis.

It was the leadership of Bill Clinton and Barbara Boxer that pulled California and the rest of the nation out of the depths of the recession, she said.

"When the president put forth his economic plan and said we had to change the economic direction of this country, it was only Democrats who voted for it," she said. "And guess what? The Democrats, led by the president, with the leadership of Barbara Boxer, were right. . . . and it's thanks to their leadership that we are now enjoying the results of the economic prosperity that we are blessed with in this country."

FIRING AT REPUBLICANS

She slammed Boxer's opponent, Republican state Treasurer Matt Fong, as a candidate beholden to right-wing interests and dedicated to overturning everything Boxer and the Democratic Party have fought for.

"We have a strategy that is working, yet there are a lot of Republicans in the leadership of the Congress that would reverse that strategy," she said. "On issue after issue, the progress that has been made is threatened if the Republicans are successful in preventing Barbara Boxer from continuing her work."

Boxer is in a close race, Hillary Clinton said, but has shown before that with support she can win a tight match.

"This race will be tough; all Barbara's races are tough," she said. "She puts her friends and families through near-death experiences all the time."

Outside the hotel, a crowd of several hundred waited. Police allowed Clinton supporters to stand behind a barricade, while forcing anti-Clinton protesters to march around the block.

"The Clintons are a disgrace to the White House," said Orlean Koehle of Santa Rosa. "The only way to restore respect is to have Bill impeached."

Koehle had little good to say about Hillary Clinton, either. "I don't have any more respect for her than I do for him," she said.

Standing among the pro-Clinton group, LaTanya Houston of El Cerrito said Clinton's infidelities were a problem for his family alone.

"Clinton is only a man, and he is doing his best to run the country," she said. "There's only one man that's perfect, and that's God."

The Clintons were slated to spend the night at the home of Silicon Valley leader Steve Jobs and then spend part of today with their daughter, Chelsea, a sophomore at Stanford.

The president then planned to continue on to political stops in Los Angeles and San Diego. Tomorrow he heads for San Antonio and Houston, while Hillary Clinton returns to Washington, D.C.

Clinton has taken swings at his Republican opponents throughout this trip. At a stop yesterday in Chicago, he accused Republicans of playing partisan politics with the federal budget.

But the fallout from Clinton's confessed dalliance with a young White House aide continues to dog the president.

Chronicle staff writers Marshall Wilson and Julie Lynem contributed to this story.

9TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The San Diego Union-Tribune

September 26, 1998, Saturday

SECTION: NEWS Pg. A-3

LENGTH: 793 words

HEADLINE: Clintons scold GOP as they come west; Both tell fund-raisers Congress shirking its duty

SOURCE: STAFF WRITER

BYLINE: Bill Ainsworth SAN FRANCISCO

BODY:

SAN FRANCISCO -- President Clinton and the first lady independently worked their way to the West Coast yesterday while striking a unified theme: Congress is preoccupied with you-know-what while dropping the ball on doing the people's business.

"It is hard to get through all the blizzard of stuff that is out there in the atmosphere . . . to engage people in the issues," Hillary Rodham Clinton said at a fund-raiser last night for U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer.

The president stopped at a political event in Chicago before appearing late last night at another fund-raiser in the Silicon Valley.

But before he left Washington, he said: "By failing to meet its most basic governing responsibility, the Republican majority in Congress has its priorities wrong: partisanship over progress, politics over people."

That theme played well to a Democratic crowd in Oregon as the first lady chastised Congress.

"They're much too busy doing other things that are of grave importance to this country," Hillary Clinton said with a sarcastic roll of her eyes, drawing laughter from some 200 people in attendance. "We need to change the Congress."

The Clintons plans to spend this morning visiting with their daughter, Chelsea, who is a sophomore at Stanford University.

Then the president is scheduled to fly into Miramar Marine Corps Air Station at 1:30 p.m. and take a motorcade to a fund-raiser at the Rancho Santa Fe home of attorney Bill Lerach. Clinton is expected to fly out of Miramar at 4:20 p.m. to Los Angeles and another fund-raiser.

In California, the president has no public events scheduled.

On this trip, Clinton will appear at six fund-raising events, including two in Texas on the way back to Washington tomorrow.

He kicked off the campaign swing with a fund-raiser for Glenn Poshard, the Democratic candidate for Illinois governor -- but Poshard was a no-show. A

The San Diego Union-Tribune, September 26, 1998

member of Congress, Poshard went back to Washington to vote on the "fast-track" trade bill.

Poshard, who spoke to the fund-raising luncheon at Chicago's Mercantile Club by telephone from Washington, said that critics would accuse him of seeking to distance himself from a president in serious political trouble. "Nothing could be further from the truth," he said, then, addressing Clinton, he added, "I'm very proud of your work. I'm very proud of your leadership."

Maryland Gov. Parris Glendening canceled an appearance earlier this month with the president and said he wanted Vice President Al Gore to attend an Oct. 2 fund-raiser instead.

The president's comments have taken on an increasingly sharper partisan tone in the wake of polls that show his job-approval rating remains strong and suggest the beginnings of a backlash against congressional Republicans for a seeming preoccupation with the Lewinsky scandal.

In his speeches late this week, there has been no mention of his affair with Monica Lewinsky or his seven months of misleading statements about the relationship.

And at one point yesterday, Clinton said that after eight months of inaction, the Republican leadership of Congress now wants to pass a popular tax cut on the eve of the midterm election.

Trent Lott, the Senate majority leader, returned fire on the president's criticism of Republicans in Congress, deriding Clinton as "fund-raiser-in-chief" and accusing him of neglecting his own responsibilities as he maneuvers to salvage his political future.

"The president comes out at a time when he needs cooperation with -- and we need cooperation from him -- with the Congress, and he takes a gratuitous slap, jumps on a plane, and runs off for three days of fund-raising," Lott said. "Now is he the fund-raiser-in-chief? Or is he the commander-in-chief?"

The president appeared last night at the Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose to raise money from Silicon Valley executives, some of his most generous allies in the past. But there have been scattered reports of some softening in his support among that crowd.

Some reports say organizers of last night's event were scrambling to find people to attend the \$25,000-per-couple reception, in some cases extending invitations for free to assure a good crowd.

About 2,000 protesters, spurred on by radio talk shows throughout the day, gathered outside the museum to criticize the president last night, according to The San Jose Mercury News. Earlier, the president was greeted by about 1,000 well wishers at Moffett Federal Field in Mountain View.

As the president shook hands with those in the crowd, he encountered Jane Parham of Sunnyvale.

"Don't be discouraged, Mr. President," she told him.

The San Diego Union-Tribune, September 26, 1998

"I won't if you'll all stay with me," Clinton replied. "It's still a democracy we're fighting for."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: September 27, 1998

First lady still gold to Oregon Democrats

Despite the presidents problems, three candidates will draw on Hillary Clintons fund-raising abilities today in Portland

Friday, September 25 1998

By Nena Baker of the Oregonian staff

Oregon Democrats are turning to Clinton for help: Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The first lady is scheduled to campaign in Portland today for David Wu, Rep. Darlene Hooley and Gov. John Kitzhaber. She will make no public appearances.

Many Democrats -- including Kitzhaber -- are distancing themselves from President Clinton, who is fighting to stay in office after admitting an affair with Monica Lewinsky, a former White House intern.

But the first lady -- typically a strong draw at partisan fund-raisers -- is a different story, said Sue Fletcher, a spokeswoman for Kitzhabers campaign.

"Shes not part of the controversy, and an event with her still allows the governor to focus on the issues, Fletcher said.

Wu is in a close race against Republican Molly Bordonaro for the 1st Congressional District seat opened up by the retirement of Rep. Elizabeth Furse, D-Ore.

Hooley is seeking a second term in the 5th Congressional District against Republican Marilyn Shannon; Kitzhaber is running for re-election against Republican Bill Sizemore.

Public support for Hillary Clinton has been on the upswing in polls taken since the president admitted his trysts with Lewinsky. But her schedule in Portland doesnt provide much opportunity to mingle with the people.

"Her schedule is very tight, said Toby Graff, the first lady's deputy press secretary. The stop is part of a three-day tour on behalf of Democratic candidates that began Wednesday in New York and is set to conclude tonight in San Francisco, where Hillary Clinton will rendezvous with her husband.

Hillary Clinton's first stop today is a 10:30 a.m. child-care forum at Portland State University. Wu has invited about 90 guests who are interested in child care or who work in the field. Wu supports the Clinton administration's initiatives to help working parents, including legislation to ensure that child-care workers do not have a criminal background.

The legislation, which has been mostly ignored by majority Republicans since Clinton unveiled it in January, includes \$21.7 billion in proposed tax breaks and federal subsidies for working parents.

Wu said voters recognize the first lady's commitment to helping children and families -- despite the president's political problems and the specter of impeachment proceedings.

"Hillary Clinton has been one of the foremost advocates for children and families, Wu said. People who stay true to their values, work hard year in and year out, those folks are able to be popular, weather storms and get their work done. She's a living embodiment of that.

Democrats plan a private welcoming rally for Hillary Clinton at 10 a.m. on the east side of Hoffman Hall at 1833 S.W. 11th Ave. on Portland State's campus.

From 11:30 a.m. until noon at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 319 S.W. Pine St., Hillary Clinton will meet with 30 Kitzhaber supporters who paid \$1,000 each for the chance to have their pictures snapped with her.

"The first lady is very popular in Oregon and a great friend to the state, Fletcher said.

Last week, Kitzhaber said he would respectfully decline any fund-raising help from President Clinton. The issue would just be the president's behavior, not the campaign, he told The Associated Press. I'm not interested in that.

Hillary Clinton also will meet with 15 to 20 Hooley supporters, who paid \$500 \$1,000 apiece for a photo opportunity, Hooley's campaign said.

Afterward, there will be a 1 p.m. fund-raising luncheon for Wu at the hotel. About 200 tickets have been sold at \$250 each, Wu's campaign said.

Earlier Thursday, Hillary Clinton campaigned in Colorado on behalf of U.S. Senate candidate Dottie Lamm and Gail Schoettler, the Democratic candidate for governor. She then headed to Seattle for three Democratic fund-raising events.

Hillary Clinton ignored protestors' signs in Sheridan, Colo., saying Time to foot the Bill and It takes a village to raise an idiot.

But she made a passing reference to Congress and its preoccupation with impeachment proceedings in the Lewinsky affair, saying members are too busy to do anything about education.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1998

The New York Times

THE PRESIDENT

Clintons Call Lawmakers to Gauge Support and Seek Comfort

By JAMES BENNET

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24 — President Clinton and his wife, Hillary, have been contacting members of Congress as they seek support and comfort during the President's predicament, White House and Congressional aides said today.

Mr. Clinton has made many more telephone calls to Capitol Hill than Mrs. Clinton has, aides said. So far, the conversations appear to be aimed more at taking the temperature of allies, they said, than at reaching out to members who might be wavering.

The President has called Senator Tom Daschle, the minority leader, but he has not called Representative Richard A. Gephardt, the minority leader, who has recently tempered his initial criticism of Mr. Clinton, said a person close to the Democratic leadership.

"You'd think he'd be on the phone with Gephardt at least once in a while to say thank you if nothing else," this person said. "But he hasn't been." One senior White House official said Mr. Clinton had spoken to Mr. Gephardt on the telephone recently.

In most cases, Mrs. Clinton has simply returned calls made to her, said her spokeswoman, Marsha Berry. "She has certainly talked to some

members, making the case that she's very proud of the President," Ms. Berry said.

The President has called a number of friends in the Senate, Congressional aides said, including Robert G. Torricelli of New Jersey and Patrick J. Leahy of Vermont. One White House aide said that Mr. Clinton was calling as many as four or five members of Congress a day, including some Republicans but that the lawmakers were generally keeping the conversations private.

Leon E. Panetta, a former White House chief of staff, who has been informally advising the White House in recent days, said the President needed to convey two messages to members of Congress.

Mr. Panetta said the President must assure them that he would not cave in to the Republicans on Democratic goals for health care, education and Social Security. And second, he said, they need to hear that the President is not "just moping around" but "has a sense that he cannot only survive this but he can survive it in a way that gives him the ability to lead."

Mr. Clinton met this morning with the Congressional Black Caucus and conveyed those messages by discussing their cherished issues, including help for black farmers.

Representative Maxine Waters, a

California Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, emerged from the session to declare, "We think that this Administration is doing a good job dealing with the issues of concern to this country in the middle of whatever is going on."

The White House has rebounded in recent days together with Mr. Clinton's standing in the polls — so much so that some aides to Mr. Clinton are worried that he and his party might overplay their hand.

Asked whether the President would go along with an agreement that permitted him to escape impeachment with censure and some other penalty, one Clinton associate said, "I don't know, and the more he sees these good numbers it's hard to know where he would be."

Mr. Clinton seemed confident and determined today in the Rose Garden as he used a shouted question about whether he saw "any way out of an impeachment inquiry" to present himself as preoccupied with more elevated matters. Recent polls have shown public impatience with the inquiry into Mr. Clinton's relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky.

"The right thing to do is for us all to focus on what's best for the American people," he said. "And the right thing for me to do is what I'm doing. I'm working on leading our country and I'm working on healing my fam-

ily."

The President went on to call for "progress over partisanship" and "people over politics."

"That's the way out," he said. "The way out here, and the only way out, is for people in Washington to do what the folks in America want them to do."

In an opinion article to be published in The New York Times on Friday, four experienced Washington lawyers suggest a way out for Mr. Clinton himself — censure and a fine. Two of the writers, Lloyd N. Cutler and Abner J. Mikva, have served as White House counsels under the President, and Mr. Cutler is informally advising the White House in this scandal. One person close to the writers, who insisted on anonymity, said they had acted independently of the White House.

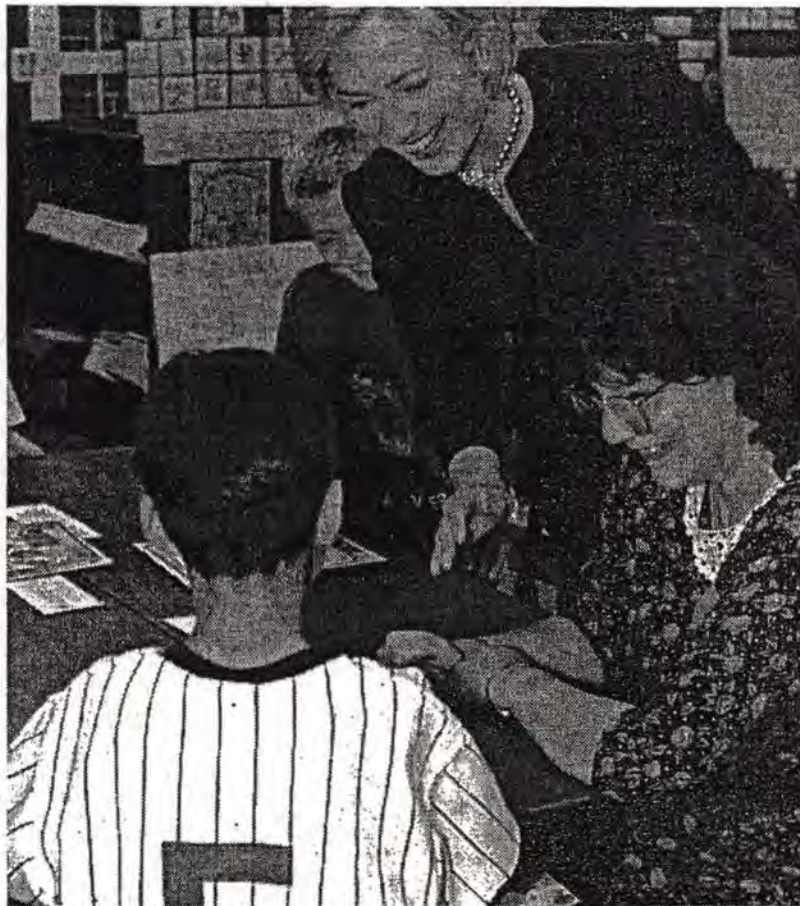
White House aides said they did not want to appear to be trying to negotiate a deal, but they were quietly sounding out members of Congress and others about how to do so.

Mrs. Clinton, in a conversation with Representative James P. Moran, Democrat of Virginia, argued that the President's mistakes did not warrant impeachment, the Capitol Hill newspaper Roll Call reported today. Mr. Moran declined to comment on his conversations with Mrs. Clinton today, his aides said.

The New York Times

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1998

A20



Reuters

Hillary Rodham Clinton talked yesterday with a student, Anthony Lucero, 8, and a student teacher, Carol Shine, in Sheridan, Colo.

September 25, 1998, Friday

SECTION: News; Pg. A05

LENGTH: 552 words

HEADLINE: Hillary first lady of fund-raising
Since scandal broke, Democrats put faith in her allure

BYLINE: San Francisco Examiner

BODY:

SAN FRANCISCO -- For Democratic candidates needing fund-raising help for the last six weeks of the campaign, there's only one name to turn to: Clinton.

Hillary Clinton, that is.

With President Clinton struggling to stay in office, Democrats are asking for the first lady, whose support in polls has grown since her husband admitted having an affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Friday, the first lady will be the featured guest at a \$250-a-person fund-raiser in San Francisco for Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif. The event is expected to raise at least \$150,000 and put the media spotlight on Boxer, who polls show is in a dead heat in her race against Republican state Treasurer Matt Fong.

The president also will be in the Bay Area, but at a lower profile, if bigger money, event: a \$25,000-a-couple fund-raiser in San Jose for the Democratic National Committee.

The first lady's visit is welcome news to Boxer, who has been dogged throughout the campaign by questions about the scandal. Though Boxer has called the president's behavior wrong and indefensible, she has said she still supports his policies and has tentatively scheduled a fund-raiser with him in late October.

Hillary Rodham Clinton's emergence as the Democrats' star fund-raiser comes, paradoxically, as she undergoes the embarrassment of seeing her husband's sex life made public.

"My personal opinion is that she would be the hottest ticket on Earth at this moment for the Democrats," said Gale Kaufman, a Democratic political consultant. "But this may also be the moment in time where she would be most resistant (to public events)."

Hillary Clinton always has been a strong draw at party fund-raisers in California. Her most fervent supporters -- liberals, feminists and partisan Democrats -- remained loyal even when her standing in the polls was low.

But the onslaught of the Starr report and the president's televised admission of infidelity have made her a more popular figure even among those less likely to support her.

"I just think people, regardless of how they come down on the conduct of this president, and I don't care what gender they are, really feel for her," Kaufman said.

A CNN-Gallup-USA Today poll last week showed 61 percent of likely voters surveyed said they had a favorable view of Hillary Clinton, while 33 percent had an unfavorable view.

"Women who have always liked her still like her," said pollster Del Ali of Mason-Dixon Political/Media Research. "Women who disliked her may even feel sorry for her. And women on the fence probably see that she is going through an awful lot, and she's still attending the White House dinner with Nelson Mandela. She really hasn't changed her public behavior."

President Clinton's problems have created a quandary for Democratic candidates: They need his fund-raising muscle, yet fear his support could give their opponents ammunition and may alienate some voters. After the Starr report was released, Maryland's Democratic Gov. Parris Glendening canceled a fund-raiser with Clinton, fearing the association could hurt him in a tight race.

Inviting Hillary Clinton provides a solution.

"People are hugely committed to her, especially those in contested races," said Troy Edwards, a Democratic fund-raiser in Los Angeles.

Amid scandal, first lady is becoming the preferred Clinton at fund-raisers

By Zachary Colle
SAN FRANCISCO EXAMINER

SAN FRANCISCO — Democratic candidates needing fund-raising help for the last six weeks of the campaign have only one name to turn to: Clinton.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, that is. With President Clinton struggling to stay in office, Democrats are asking for the first lady, whose support in polls has grown since her husband admitted having an affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

Mrs. Clinton launched a three-day national campaign tour Wednesday by campaigning for Rep. Charles E. Schumer, who is the Democratic nominee for Senate in New York, seeking to unseat GOP Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato.

Today, the first lady will be the featured guest at a \$250-a-person fund-raiser in San Francisco for Sen. Barbara Boxer, California Democrat. The event is expected to raise at least \$150,000 and put the media spotlight on Mrs. Boxer, who polls show is in a dead heat in her race against Republican state Treasurer Matt Fong.

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mained loyal even when her standing in the polls was low.

But the onslaught of the Starr report and the president's televised admission of infidelity have made her a more popular figure even among those less likely to support her, including moderate Democrats, Republicans and men.

"I just think people, regardless of how they come down on the conduct of this president, and I don't care what gender they are, really feel for her," Miss Kaufman said.

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"Women who have always liked her, still like her," said pollster Del All of Mason-Dixon Political/Media Research. "Women who disliked her may even feel sorry for her. She really hasn't changed her public behavior."

But Steve Merksamer, a Republican lawyer and strategist who ran Bob Dole's 1996 campaign in California, noted that the current vote of sympathy for the first lady might not translate into real political power.



First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton chats with a second-grader during a visit yesterday to Fort Logan Elementary School in Englewood, Colo.

"If you can believe that she did not know about [the affair], then she shares something in common with the Congress and the American people, and that's that they all were betrayed by the same man," Mr. Merksamer said. "That makes her a sympathetic figure. That doesn't necessarily make her a popular figure."

Mr. Clinton's problems have created a quandary for Democratic candidates: They need his fund-

raising muscle, yet fear his support could give their opponents ammunition and may alienate some voters. After the Starr report was released, Maryland's Democratic Gov. Parris N. Glendening canceled a fund-raiser with Mr. Clinton, fearing the association could hurt him in a tight race for re-election.

Inviting Mrs. Clinton provides a solution.

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Rocky Mountain

Judged Colorado's best newspaper for the third straight year

September 25, 1998

"Hang in there Hillary. You hang in there."

— Ilona Smith, Littleton

FRIENDS, FOES GREET FIRST LADY. 4A

■ House panel to vote by Oct. 6 on impeachment proceedings. 2A

■ Poll shows signs of backlash against GOP-driven Congress. 2A



Linda McConney/Rocky Mountain News



Democratic Senate candidate Dottie Lammi, above left, visits with first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on Thursday at Fort Logan Elementary School. At left, opponents and supporters of President Clinton and the first lady — including Linda Harsh, left, Gigi Sowers, center, and Ilona Smith — make their feelings known outside the school in Sheridan. Hillary Clinton earlier made campaign stops for Lammi and gubernatorial candidate Gail Schoettler in Cherry Hills Village.

COLORADO

First lady promotes education issues

by Steven K. Paulson
Associated Press

ENGLEWOOD — Hillary Rodham Clinton criticized Congress Thursday for dividing the nation and ignoring important issues, saying "there is no more important issue facing our country than education."

Touring a 75-year-old public school that ran out of funds for repairs, the first lady said the federal government needs to chip in and help states deal with their education problems.

Clinton was greeted at Fort Logan Elementary School by protesters with signs saying "Time to foot the Bill" and "It takes a village to raise an idiot," which she ignored.

But she made a passing reference to Congress and its preoccupation with impeachment proceedings in the Monica Lewinsky affair, saying Congress was "too busy" to do anything about education.

"Congress doesn't have time to deal with the important issues that confront our country," she said. "There is no more important issue facing our country than education."

"They'd rather spend their time dividing our country ... doing anything but focusing on the real problems of America," she told a small gathering of local school and business leaders.

Clinton also toured a 2nd grade classroom, shaking hands with children and praising teachers and children for their work.

Earlier in the day, Clinton attended a fundraising reception at \$200 a person, and a luncheon at \$999 a plate to raise money for U.S. Senate candidate Dottie Lamm and Gail Schoettler, the Democratic candidate for gover-

Bob Enyart, who held up a sign with 200 red, white and blue balloons outside the school saying "Time to foot the Bill," said the first lady is sending the wrong message by not speaking out about her husband's actions.

"Hillary is teaching women that if your husband cheats on you, sit back and take it. That sets back the cause of women 100 years," said Enyart, of the Derby Bible Church in Commerce City.

Clinton received a standing ovation from school and business leaders, who praised her for her support for education.

Ken Reiter, schools superintendent, said 90 percent of the 350 students in the school received low income lunch subsidies.

He said the school opted to spend money on education rather than on building new classrooms and reduced class size to 17 pupils per classroom, leaving little money to replace damaged windows and doors. However, student test scores rose two levels in a year's time, showing the money was well spent.

"It's a sad reminder in our nation and state that some children are not as valued as others," he said. "Our achievement may be in jeopardy."

Clinton praised her husband three times during her speech, noting that the president felt it was unacceptable for teachers and students to work in substandard facilities.

She said members of Congress need to get out and see the dilapidated schools she has visited, with plaster falling off the ceiling and cracks in the floors.

"They could not do that and the result is, you won't see them



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hillary Rodham Clinton greets second grader Anthony Lucero, 8, as she visits his class at Fort Logan Elementary School in Englewood, on Thursday. Carol Shine, center, a student teacher, looks on.

The Daily Camera of Colorado
Friday, September 25, 1998

THE DENVER POST

Voice of the Rocky Mountain Empire



The Denver Post / Craig F. Walker

FIRST LADY VISITS DENVER: First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton thanks teacher Joann Thwaites for comments during a forum on education issues Thursday at Fort Logan Elementary School. **STORY, 9A**

Friday, September 25, 1998

THE DEN

First lady rips Congress

In Denver, she urges action on 'the real problems'

By Fred Brown
Denver Post Political Editor

Hillary Rodham Clinton used a school cafeteria setting Thursday to urge that Congress turn its attention to important national issues such as education.

Mrs. Clinton never made direct reference to Washington's obsession with the bill of particulars against her husband, but she did say of Congress:

"They'd rather spend their time dividing our country, diverting their resources, doing anything but focusing on the real problems of America."

Visits grade school

She spoke to about 70 people at Fort Logan Elementary School, housed in a 75-year-old building in the southwest Denver enclave of Sheridan.

She noted that parents and teachers in the Sheridan district have worked together to reduce the number of students in each classroom, sacrificing other amenities such as better facilities.

"Let's reward places like Fort Logan that have put themselves on the line to do the right thing," she said.

She said Congress should be holding hearings on bills such as President Clinton's proposal to give local school districts enough federal money to put 100,000 more teachers in the classroom.

Instead, she said, "Congress doesn't have time to hold hearings to deal with the important issues that confront our country."

"There is no more important issue facing the our country than education."

Mrs. Clinton, appearing poised and confident, spoke for about 10 minutes after visiting a class of 17 second-graders.

In the classroom, she shook hands with the children and praised them and their teachers for their work.

Protesters on hand

Noting that one child wore a Red Sox shirt, she said "I'm a Cubs fan. I kind of like Sammy Sosa."

As she left the school, she made a brief appearance at an assembly in the building's gymnasium. Virtually all of the school's 350 first-through fifth-graders were there.

Outside, a group of 12 to 15 protesters chanted "Impeach Clinton" and held up a swastika banner, posters of aborted fetuses and signs reading, "It takes a village to raise an idiot" and "Lyn' King & the Queen of Denial."

There also were several hand-lettered signs welcoming her to Sheridan. And the students accompanying her out of the building sang "America the Beautiful," partially drowning out the chants of the protesters.

Mrs. Clinton received a standing ovation from the audience of parents, teachers and members of the Sheridan school board when she en-



The Denver Post / Craig F. Walker

The first lady leaves Fort Logan Elementary School on Thursday.

tered the school cafeteria.

She asked for a copy of an earlier address given by Ken Reiter, the district superintendent, calling it "one of the most eloquent, impassioned addresses on public education I've ever heard."

Reiter said the school, in a low-income area with 50 percent minority enrollment, has spent money to keep class sizes low instead of on repairs to the 1923-vintage building. The investment paid off, he said: Student scores on literacy tests rose two grade levels in one year.

But Reiter noted that state aid to

schools has not kept pace with inflation, and "the excellence which has been brought to Fort Logan is in jeopardy."

"It's a sad reminder in our nation and state that some children are not as valued as others."

Mrs. Clinton was in the Denver area most of the day, her second stop in a three-day tour scheduled primarily to raise money for Democratic candidates.

She was to be in Seattle on Thursday night for a dinner sponsored by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee.

Earlier Thursday, she spoke at two fund-raising events at private homes in the affluent suburb of Cherry Hills Village.

A \$200-a-ticket reception and a \$1,000-a-plate luncheon raised \$194,000 for two Democratic candidates — Dottie Lamm, who is running for the U.S. Senate, and Lt. Gov. Gail Schoettler, who is running for governor.

Mrs. Clinton gave her strong endorsement to both candidates at the noon events, and she gave another boost to Lamm's campaign later, at the school.

"Ask yourself who should be in Washington," she said. "To continue progress (in education), vote for political leaders who will support you."

Both candidates were at the school, but Schoettler had to leave early for another political event Thursday afternoon.

Friday, September 25, 1998

Denver
POST B1
Diane
Carman



Hillary still on high road

Don't cry for Hillary, Argentina or England or Russia or Japan or Denver, Colorado. Hillary Clinton won't be pitted. She won't be marginalized. And she sure won't be silenced.

She's cool under pressure, poised and focused. She works a crowd like a pro and she makes everyone in her shadow look better and smarter than they really are.

She clearly is the best thing going in the Democratic Party right now, and the fact that she remains loyal and committed — and popular — is the Republicans' worst nightmare. She may not be able single-handedly to generate the support needed to elect Democrats across the country this fall, but she's a force to be reckoned with.

And she knows it.

As she stood at the microphone in the stuffy old cafeteria at the Fort Logan Elementary School in Sheridan on Thursday, she looked every bit the empowered woman — articulate, supremely in control and unflinching as an army of media representatives trained their lenses on her every move.

She gave them absolutely nothing to gossip about. Instead she delivered a blistering attack on the Congress.

"Congress doesn't have time to hold hearings about bills on modernizing schools or increasing the number of teachers to lower class size," she said. "Congress doesn't have time to really investigate and research what you've heard are the results of a lot of work to determine how much better off our students would be if they were in smaller classes. Congress doesn't have time to deal with the important issues that confront our country."

The crowd loved it.

As she left, she took the time to shake the hands of the children gathered at the front door. Across the street, hecklers chanted "Impeach Clinton" and "Jail Slick Willy," and the children chimed in with "America the Beautiful" to drown out the jeers.

Duelling banners screamed "Welcome to Sheridan, Hillary" and "One more whore and we've got Gore."

Mothers had pulled their children out of school and waited for hours in the hot sun to see the first lady they so admired, while others brought their toddlers along as props to stand across the street and holler "Baby-killer" at the vixen they so despised.

In the middle of it all, Mrs. Clinton thanked her hosts warmly and then took her seat along with the Secret Service in her car. As they rounded the corner, she waved at the crowd of supporters that stood apart from the hecklers. They were holding their children on their shoulders and applauding.

It's a crazy mixed-up country we live in. The love and hate inspired by this first lady are palpable. The eagerness of people to cling to something they believe is positive and good about this administration while others spit vitriol and invective is stunning.

As the crowd lingered to watch the black car disappear in the distance, it seemed obvious that a completely unexpected development has occurred in this country in the last three weeks.

The tide has turned. Public opinion has shifted.

The most powerful person in the world right now isn't the president of the United States.

It's his wife.

Diane Carman's commentaries appear here Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. E-mail: dcarman@aol.com

The Denver Post
September 25, 1998

PM-CO--Mrs. Clinton-West, Bjt, 625

Mrs. Clinton deplores lack of school funding, criticizes Congress

AP Photos

By STEVEN K. PAULSON= Associated Press Writer=

SHERIDAN, Colo. (AP) Hillary Rodham Clinton received a standing ovation from school and business leaders after she jumped on Congress, accusing the nation's leaders of dropping the ball on funding for education and diverting badly needed resources.

While she wasn't specific, it was clear that she was referring to the time lawmakers are devoting to pending impeachment proceedings against her husband.

After touring a second-grade classroom at the 75-year-old Fort Logan Elementary School on Tuesday, she praised teachers and students for their achievements, despite a lack of funding for better classrooms.

"Many people in decision-making positions are not paying attention to what actually works in public education," she told a gathering of school and business leaders. "There is no more important issue facing our country than education."

Mrs. Clinton was greeted by protesters with signs saying "Time to foot the Bill" and "It takes a village to raise an idiot," which she ignored.

But she made a passing reference to Congress and its preoccupation with impeachment proceedings in the Monica Lewinsky affair, saying Congress was "too busy" to do anything about education.

"Congress doesn't have time to deal with the important issues that confront our country," she said. "There is no more important issue facing our country than education."

"They'd rather spend their time dividing our country, diverting our resources, doing anything but focusing on the real problems of America," she told a small gathering of local school and business leaders.

Ken Reiter, schools superintendent, said 90 percent of the 350 students in the school received low income lunch subsidies.

He said the school opted to spend money on education rather than on building new classrooms. The school hired more teachers and reduced class size to 17 pupils per classroom, leaving little money to replace damaged windows and doors. However, student test scores rose two levels in a year's time, showing the money was well spent, he said.

"It's a sad reminder in our nation and state that some children are not as valued as others," he said. "Our achievement may be in jeopardy."

Mrs. Clinton asked for copy of Reiter's speech to take back to Washington in her push for better funding for education.

She also took time to tour a second-grade classroom, shaking hands with the 10 boys and seven girls and praising their teachers.

Noting that one child wore a Red Sox shirt, she said "I'm a Cubs fan. I kind of like Sammy Sosa."

"It was fun meeting her," said Anthony Lucas, who noted that he also liked Sosa because "he hit long home runs."

Earlier in the day, Mrs. Clinton attended a fundraising reception at \$200 a person, and a luncheon at \$999 a plate to raise money for U.S. Senate candidate Dottie Lamm and Gail Schoettler, the Democratic candidate for governor.

Bob Enyart, who held up a sign with 200 red, white and blue balloons outside the school saying "Time to foot the Bill," said Mrs. Clinton is sending the wrong message by not speaking out about her husband's actions.

"Hillary is teaching women that if your husband cheats on you, sit back and take it. That sets back the cause of women 100 years," said Enyart, of the Derby Bible Church in Commerce City.

Mrs. Clinton praised her husband three times during her speech, noting that the president felt it was unacceptable for teachers and students to work in substandard facilities.

She said members of Congress need to get out and see the dilapidated schools she has visited, with plaster falling off the ceiling and cracks in

the floors.

"They could not do that and the result is, you won't see them (here)," she said.

BC-CLINTON-SCANDAL-HILLARY

Mrs. Clinton campaigns in Colorado for Democrats

By Judith Crosson

SHERIDAN, Colo., Sept 24 (Reuters) - Protesters screamed ``Jail slick Willy'' on Thursday as they tried to drown out the voices of school children singing for Hillary Rodham Clinton as she campaigned for Democrats in Colorado.

But if she was upset by the protesters outside Fort Logan elementary school and the threat of impeachment that President Bill Clinton faces she wasn't showing it.

Instead, she exhorted Colorado voters to send lawmakers like Democratic Senate candidate Dottie Lamm to Washington who have promised to give education top priority. Lamm has an uphill battle against the only American Indian in Congress, Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, who was initially elected as a Democrat but switched to the Republican Party in mid-term.

``There is no more significant matter in this election,'' Mrs. Clinton told officials and parents at the school in a working class neighbourhood just outside Denver.

But indirectly she did take a stab at the Republican controlled Congress.

``Congress doesn't have time to work on bills about modernising schools or increasing the number of teachers to lower class size. Congress doesn't have time to deal with the important issues that confront our country,'' she said with a smile.

``They'd rather spend their time dividing our country, diverting our resources, doing anything but focusing on the problems of America,'' she said. Mrs. Clinton flew to Seattle after her Denver appearance.

The House of Representatives Judiciary Committee will vote on Oct. 5 or 6 on whether to launch a formal impeachment inquiry against President Bill Clinton.

Committee Chairman Henry Hyde, an Illinois Republican, said if the committee approved the inquiry, the full House would vote on the measure a few days later, probably on Oct. 8 or 9.

While the first lady ignored protesters holding signs saying ``It takes a village to raise an idiot'' and ``Foot the Bill'' others were not so pleased.

``She's here to see kids. It's rude and ill-mannered,'' Ilona Smith told reporters in explaining why she repeatedly yelled out in a loud voice ``hang in there, Hillary,'' as Mrs. Clinton left the school.

About a dozen protesters led by conservative Christian broadcaster Bob Enyart stood outside the school. ``Hillary Clinton is teaching women that if your husband fools around 'Just shut up and take it,''' Enyart said.

**** filed by:RB--(--) on 09/24/98 at 20:36EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 09/25/98 at 09:39EDT ****

AM-Mrs Clinton, 1st Ld-Writethru, a0834,0359

PRECEDS Sheridan, Colo.

Solo first lady criticizes Congress, calls D.C. 'parallel universe'
Eds: UPDATES throughout with Mrs. Clinton's comments in Seattle.

AP Photos

By DAVID AMMONS= Associated Press Writer=

SEATTLE (AP) First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Democrats' most popular campaign star now that her husband is hobbled by a sex scandal, criticized congressional Republicans late Thursday for 'doing stuff that doesn't amount to a hill of beans in the long-term future of America.'

Mrs. Clinton, mid-way through a five-state tour aimed at helping congressional candidates, told a cheering partisan audience that Democrats need to gain more seats in Congress in order to protect many of the economic and social gains her husband has brought to the country.

The barb at the Republican leaders was her only apparent reference to the possible impeachment inquiry being considered against her husband. She also called Washington, D.C., 'some kind of parallel universe.'

Her press secretary, Marsha Berry, confirmed that Mrs. Clinton has been personally contacting Democratic members of Congress to lobby on behalf of President Clinton.

'She has called to tell people how much she supports the president and how her husband has done a great job as president,' Berry said.

Berry said she did not know how many people Mrs. Clinton had contacted.

Mrs. Clinton offered a forceful defense of the administration's policies, frequently referring to 'the President' and added 'the President's policies and the Democrats' policies are paying off for America. We are on the right path.'

Mrs. Clinton was the headliner at a fund-raising dinner for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and a reception at a glass-blowing studio for congressional hopeful Jay Inslee. Sponsors said the two events raised about \$250,000.

At an earlier stop in Sheridan, Colo., Mrs. Clinton criticized Congress for dividing the nation and ignoring important issues such as education as she toured a 75-year-old elementary school.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 09/25/98 at 00:02EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 09/25/98 at 09:36EDT ****

AM-WA--Mrs. Clinton-West, Bjt,540 Solo first lady stumps for Washington
Demos

AP Photos

By DAVID AMMONS= AP Political Writer=

SEATTLE (AP) First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, the Democrats' most popular campaign star now that her husband is hobbled by a sex scandal, accused congressional Republicans Thursday night of being ``too busy doing stuff that doesn't amount to a hill of beans in the long-term future of America.''

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Mrs. Clinton offered a forceful defense of the administration's policies, frequently referring to ``the President'' and added ``the President's policies and the Democrats' policies are paying off for America. We are on the right path.''

She said by any objective measure, the country is doing well economically and more and more people are moving out of poverty. The crime rate is falling and the welfare system has been overhauled, she said.

Mrs. Clinton, who has repeatedly visited this heavily Democratic city, was the headliner at a fund-raising dinner for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and a reception at a glass-blowing studio for congressional hopeful Jay Inslee.

Sponsors said the two events raised about \$250,000. Vice President Al Gore, who has campaigned here twice this month, attended a pre-event reception on Sept. 13.

At least three of Washington's nine congressional districts are on the Democrats' national target list of Republican seats they might pick up: the 3rd District, where Brian Baird is considered the early favorite to pick off the state's only open seat; the 1st, where Inslee came close to incumbent Republican Rick White in a test-run primary last week; and the 2nd, where Grethe Cammermeyer is given an outside shot at defeating GOP Rep. Jack Metcalf, who barely won re-election in 1996.

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt also has campaigned in the state, as he looks for a net gain of 11 seats across the country. That would catapult the Democrats back into the majority they enjoyed for the 40 years before the ``Republican Revolution'' of 1994.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich and the Republicans also have targeted Washington and say their only real concern is the possibility of losing in the 3rd, where Linda Smith is leaving to run for the U.S. Senate.

Mrs. Clinton, who began her campaign swing Wednesday in New York, visited Colorado earlier on Thursday. On Friday, she was scheduled to campaign in Oregon and California.

**** filed by:APW-(WA) on 09/24/98 at 23:55EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 09/25/98 at 09:37EDT ****

The Washington Post

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1998

First Lady Labels D'Amato 'A Clone of Jesse Helms'

Hillary Rodham Clinton elbowed her way yesterday into what is already the most sharp-elbowed Senate race in the country. She endorsed Democratic Rep. Charles E. Schumer and attacked his Republican opponent, Sen. Alfonse M. D'Amato, as "a clone of Jesse Helms."

While comparing D'Amato to the conservative North Carolina Republican senator, Clinton argued that D'Amato, with his voting record on Medicare and his opposition to abortion rights, is badly out of

touch in this state.

"Whether it is Medicare or whether it is choice, he is on the wrong side of New York and of women," she said.

The first lady's remarks at a fund-raising luncheon in New York City came a week after Schumer won the Democratic Senate primary and came out swinging with speeches and TV ads that characterize D'Amato as a chronic liar who is an embarrassment to New York.

While indignantly demanding an apology, D'Amato has responded in kind. Tapping into a \$10 million campaign kitty, he has purchased a series of stinging TV and radio ads that brand Schumer, an 18-year

House veteran from Brooklyn, as a "New York City liberal" who is actively hostile to the interests of upstate voters.

The most pointed of these ads—with a narrator saying, "There's more to New York state than just Brooklyn"—have only been broadcast in upstate markets.

Democrats Lag Far Behind In Funds for House Races

The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee trails its GOP counterpart 4 to 1 in money it can spend directly on House candidates.

The National Republican Congressional Committee reported it had \$7.4 million in hard money in the bank, compared with just \$1.7 million the DCCC had at the end of August, the Associated Press reported.

The DCCC shrugged off the gap by saying it is exceeding its own fund-raising goals. It still can take out loans to fund activities up to Election Day.

The DCCC's "hard money" accounts, however, are lagging behind the committee's past performance. In 1996, a presidential year, it had more than \$4 million on hand at the end of August. In 1994, when Democrats lost control of Congress to the GOP, the committee had \$3.6 million on

hand to start September.

Rep. John Linder (R-Ga.) chairman of the NRCC, yesterday urged Democrats to return a \$100,000 contribution the DCCC in August received from Bernard Schwartz, chief executive officer of Loral Corp.

Congress and the Justice Department are reviewing Loral's satellite dealings with China. "The DCCC goes to people like Bernie Schwartz," Linder said. "They took a \$100,000 check from him on Aug. 14 and frankly, I think they ought to return it."

— Blaine Harden

PM-Mrs Clinton-D'Amato,0351

Mrs. Clinton blasts D'Amato in campaign speech

AP Photos NYR126-NYR130

By RICHARD PYLE= Associated Press Writer=

NEW YORK (AP) Never mentioning him by name, Hillary Rodham Clinton unleashed a fierce attack on Republican Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, accusing him of voting to ``keep women down and back.''

The first lady's verbal attack came on behalf of Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., who is engaged in a bitter campaign to unseat D'Amato.

``I think it's fair to say that Chuck's opponent has voted in a way that puts him in the same category as those in the Senate who are consistently voting to keep women down and back,' ' Mrs. Clinton said at a \$1,000-a-head fund-raising luncheon for Schumer.

``His voting record on choice is the same as Jesse Helms,' ' she said, referring to the ultraconservative North Carolina Republican. ``The people of New York need to know that they do not need a Jesse Helms clone.''

Even a key Schumer aide called Mrs. Clinton's remarks ``unusually sharp.' ' But Howard Wolfson, Schumer's communications director, said ``it indicates how important this race is,' ' said

In response, D'Amato's campaign issued a statement that did not mention Mrs. Clinton but accused Schumer of running a negative campaign.

``Chuck Schumer has given up all pretense of running a campaign on the issues. It's sad that he's decided to go completely negative,' ' the statement from D'Amato spokesman Harvey Valentine said.

Later Wednesday, the first lady attended the season's opening night gala at Carnegie Hall, a centennial tribute to George Gershwin. Also attending the concert was attorney Vernon Jordan, a close friend and confidant of the Clintons who is a key figure in the sex scandal involving her husband.

As is her custom, Mrs. Clinton ignored reporters at each of her appearances Wednesday, offering no opportunity for questions about the presidential crisis.

The New York visit on Schumer's behalf is part of a campaign itinerary that also includes Denver, Seattle and Portland, Ore.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 09/24/98 at 04:10EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 09/24/98 at 08:26EDT ****

PM-IA--Vilsack-Fund-Raiser, Bjt,740
Vilsack gets campaign help from Mrs. Clinton
mgdmwvgcstfwdc
By MIKE GLOVER= Associated Press Writer=

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Vilsack, who has said he doesn't want presidential campaign help, got a fund raising lift from First Lady Hillary Clinton.

Calling the present "a time when too many people are putting their fingers in the air to figure out which way they should be blowing, to determine what they believe or don't," Mrs. Clinton called on support for Democratic candidates.

"I believe that when the people know about the two men running for governor and they're given the information they need to make an informed choice, that there will be a change," Mrs. Clinton said, urging campaign contributors to spread Vilsack's name.

She noted there has not been a Democratic governor in Iowa in 32 years.

Vilsack attended a fund-raiser Tuesday night at a Washington, D.C., hotel where Mrs. Clinton was the main attraction.

Sen. Tom Harkin, who also attended the fund-raiser, called Vilsack "the Mark McGwire of Iowa politics." McGwire recently broke Roger Maris' record of 61 major league home runs and has continued to add to the total.

The first lady stressed education and health care as key issues in the coming elections, saying Vilsack and Harkin are committed to improving the quality of each.

"If you look at education and health, there's a lot of good that can be done by a creative, energetic governor," Mrs. Clinton said.

The first lady did hit a personal note, mentioning the loss several years ago of close friend Tom Bell, who was the brother of Vilsack's wife, Christie.

"I'm very fortunate to have wonderful friends throughout the United States and I'm very grateful for their friendship," Mrs. Clinton said, referring to Bell's death.

Mrs. Clinton reminisced about a trip to Iowa in January 1996 when the temperatures plummeted to 30 and 40 degrees below zero.

"You felt like you were kind of in pioneer times huddling together, talking about the issues," she said, adding that she left the state with "strong admiration and just good feeling about the people of Iowa."

Campaign spokesman Ron Parker said the event, which cost between \$100 to \$1,000 to attend, was aimed at attracting the relatively large number of former Iowans living in the Washington area.

"All the comments we have gotten from the very beginning have been very positive," said campaign spokesman Ron Parker.

Earlier this month, Vilsack caused a stir when he said he did not want a visit from President Clinton, arguing the furor surrounding Clinton's affair with a former White House intern would be the focus.

"I think it would be a distraction," Vilsack said. "I don't want a distraction."

Parker said Mrs. Clinton is a different matter and that her message is similar to the one Vilsack offers. Mrs. Clinton has a solid record on children's issues, health care and education, all top Vilsack priorities, Parker said.

While a Clinton visit would be "a distraction," attention given to Mrs. Clinton likely will not focus on her husband's troubles, Parker argued.

Aides to Republican rival Jim Ross Lightfoot said the issue should be on where Vilsack is going to finance his campaign.

"I think it's more a question of who Tom Vilsack is turning to fund his campaign," said Lightfoot spokeswoman Lisa Gimbel. "Sometimes it looks more like he's running for president of the Teamsters Union than governor."

Parker said that virtually all of those showing up for the fund-raiser would be former Iowans.

He rejected suggestions that Vilsack was distancing himself from the

Clinton administration, saying Tuesday's event was only the first of many involving administration figures such as cabinet secretaries.

"We cast our net wide for help, and this was the first response," Parker said. "We expect there will be others from the White House."

Vice President Al Gore already has campaigned for Vilsack, and there is a chance he might be back before the November election.

In addition, House Democratic Leader Richard Gephardt will be the keynote speaker at the Iowa Democratic Party's biggest annual fund-raiser next month, the Jefferson-Jackson Day Dinner.

Hillary Clinton backs Vilsack in fund-raiser

Democratic candidate for governor declined help from president

Posted September 23, 1998

By The Associated Press

DES MOINES -- Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Vilsack turned to first lady Hillary Clinton for support Tuesday, despite a plan not to seek a campaign visit from her embattled husband.

Saying "too many people are putting their fingers in the air to figure out which way they should be blowing, to determine what they believe or don't," Mrs. Clinton called on support for Democratic candidates.

"I believe that when the people know about the two men running for governor and they're given the information they need to make an informed choice, that there will be a change," Mrs. Clinton said, urging campaign contributors to spread Vilsack's name.

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Sen. Tom Harkin, who also attended the fund-raiser, called Vilsack "the Mark McGwire of Iowa politics." McGwire recently broke Roger Maris' record of 61 major league home runs and has continued to add to the total.

The first lady stressed education and health care as key issues in the coming elections, saying Vilsack and Harkin are committed to improving the quality of each.

"If you look at education and health, there's a lot of good that can be done by a creative, energetic governor," Mrs. Clinton said.

The first lady did hit a personal note, mentioning the loss several years ago of close friend Tom Bell, who was the brother of Vilsack's wife, Christie.

"I'm very fortunate to have wonderful friends throughout the United States and I'm very grateful for their friendship," Mrs. Clinton said, referring to Bell's death.

Mrs. Clinton reminisced about a trip to Iowa in January 1996 when the temperatures plummeted to 30 degrees below zero.

"You felt like you were kind of in pioneer times -- huddling together, talking about the issues," she said, adding that she left the state with "strong admiration and just good feeling about the people of Iowa."

Campaign spokesman Ron Parker said the event, which cost between \$100 and \$1,000 to attend, was aimed at attracting the relatively large number of former Iowans living in the Washington area.

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Vilsack gets campaign help from first lady

QCT 1001
9/23/98

■ He had shied away from the president's aid

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Quad City Times

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Tom Vilsack
Fund-raiser
held in
Washington, D.C.



Hillary Clinton
Reminisced about
campaigning
in Iowa

CP Gazette 9/23/98

Omaha
World
Herald
9/23

First Lady Boosts Vilsack Campaign

BY JAKE THOMPSON
WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

Washington — Without once uttering the words "my husband," first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton heaped praise on Iowa's Democratic candidate for governor, Tom Vilsack, at fund-raiser for him Tuesday night.

In her first speech since President Clinton's grand jury testimony was broadcast Monday, the first lady referred to him in passing twice as "the president," discussing his efforts to improve health care and education.

But she warmly embraced the record of Vilsack, his running mate, Sally Pederson, Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, and Iowans in general for their commitment to education.

"It's important education be the primary issue not just in Iowa but across the country," Clinton said, appearing poised and smiling easily.

She said Iowans should examine the record of Vilsack and his Republican opponent, Jim Ross Lightfoot, before the November elections.

"Anybody who cares about education will vote for Tom Vilsack because he will make education the priority it needs to be," she said.

About 80 people attended the fund-raiser at the Washington Court Hotel on Capitol Hill. The Vilsack campaign declined to say how much money the event might raise. Clearly, though, the first lady's appearance brought a boost

■ Tom Vilsack, Iowa's Democratic candidate for governor, has begun airing a new television commercial focusing on education. Page 19.

that brought a broad smile to Vilsack's face.

"It energizes folks back home and it shows the importance of the race to people outside the state of Iowa, which emphasizes the race to people inside Iowa," Vilsack said.

In her roughly 15-minute speech, Clinton seemed confident, focused, pleased to delve into the nitty-gritty of issues and not the grit surrounding her husband, who may face impeachment proceedings on Capitol Hill.

In the last two weeks, the nation has heard and read lurid details from independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr's report on the president's affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and allegations by Starr that Clinton committed perjury and obstruction of justice to hide it.

Recent national publications have reported that the first lady remains committed to helping Democrats in this fall's elections, especially women.

Indeed, she singled Pederson out, noting that she has never run for public office before but brings to politics an understanding of what people are really concerned about through her work

See VILSACK Page 19

■ VILSACK

First Lady Boosts His Campaign At Fund-Raiser

Continued from Page 17
in autism. Pederson's son is autistic.

And she praised Harkin, one of the few outspoken backers of Clinton in Congress amid the scandal, as the "Energizer Bunny, who just keeps going."

Asked by a reporter what he thinks of the first lady's ability to endure the latest controversy around her husband, Harkin equaled her tone.

"She's just magnificent," he said. "She's wonderful. I think the American people have the highest respect for her."

The first lady betrayed no tension, if any existed, between the White House and Vilsack after he said this month that he would not seek to bring the president into Iowa for a campaign swing.

Polls have suggested that Vilsack is trailing Lightfoot, a former congressman from Shenandoah who ran against Harkin in the 1996 Senate contest and lost.

At the fund-raiser, Vilsack tried an Iowa metaphor as a reason to vote for him. Iowa farmers don't plant the same crop year after year. They rotate crops because that delivers healthy yields.

But Iowa has had a Republican governor for 32 years, Vilsack noted.

"It's time for Iowa to rotate its political crops," he said to applause.

DMR
9/23

First lady is raising funds for Vilsack

By KENNETH PINS

REGISTER WASHINGTON BUREAU

Washington, D.C. — Hillary Clinton told Iowans to "rotate those political crops" by electing a Democratic governor as she helped Iowa Democrats raise money here Tuesday night.

She avoided any mention of the release of her husband's taped testimony the day before in the Monica Lewinsky case, though she did say at one point "I'm very fortunate to have wonderful friends throughout the United States."

Clinton was helping Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Vilsack raise cash for his campaign despite Vilsack's comments earlier this month that he would rather the president stayed in Washington, fearing an Iowa appearance would be distracting.



Clinton
First lady

A spokeswoman in the first lady's press office said Hillary Clinton has a tie to Vilsack. His late brother-in-law, Tom Bell, worked on the Watergate investigation with Clinton when they were recent college graduates.

Clinton is doing several fund-raisers this fall despite her husband's troubles. On Thursday and Friday she will fly west to help raise money for Democrats in Denver, Portland, Ore., Seattle, and San Francisco.

The last event will be for Sen. Barbara Boxer, whose daughter married Hillary Clinton's brother. Boxer has expressed her own concern about President Clinton's behavior. Clinton has acknowledged an inappropriate relationship with Lewinsky, a former intern.

Many who attended the fund-raiser at a hotel here seemed to believe the president was helped by the taped testimony.

"I think... Clinton showed he's as good a communicator as (former President Ronald) Reagan," said U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Ia.

Harkin also said he believes Vilsack has a good chance despite polls that show he's down about 20 percentage points. Harkin noted that Republican Jim Ross Lightfoot had the support of only about 51 percent of the electorate, according to the most recent Register Iowa Poll, despite spending some \$5 million over the past three years including on his unsuccessful run against Harkin in 1996.

"I'd be concerned if that were me," Harkin said.

Iowa Democrats have not said how much they hope to raise from the event. Tickets ranged from \$100 to \$1,000.

Reporter Kenneth Pins can be reached at (703) 907-5006 or at pinsk@news.dnreg.com

First Lady praises Vilsack

SCJ
9.23-98
P44

DES MOINES (AP) — Democratic gubernatorial candidate Tom Vilsack turned to first lady Hillary Clinton for support Tuesday despite a plan not to seek a campaign visit from her embattled husband.

Calling the present "a time when too many people are putting their fingers in the air to figure out which way they should be blowing, to determine what they believe or don't," Mrs. Clinton called on support for Democratic candidates.

"I believe that when the people know about the two men running for governor and they're given the information they need to make an informed choice, that there will be a change," Mrs. Clinton said, urging campaign contributors to spread Vilsack's name.

She noted there has not been a Democratic governor in Iowa in 32 years.

Vilsack attended a fund-raiser Tuesday night at a Washington, D.C.,

hotel where Mrs. Clinton was the main attraction.

Sen. Tom Harkin, who also attended the fund-raiser, called Vilsack "the Mark McGwire of Iowa politics." McGwire recently broke Roger Maris' record of 61 major league home runs.

The first lady stressed education and health care as key issues in the coming elections, saying Vilsack and Harkin are committed to improving the quality of each.

Sioux City Journal



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COVER



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THE FIRST LADY

Before Public, Armor Is Showing No Cracks

By ELAINE SCIOLINO

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20 — At the dedication of the new Peace Corps headquarters last week, Hillary Rodham Clinton cut a long red ribbon with two-foot-long scissors and nearly signed up.

When the Peace Corps director praised the First Lady for her character and said she would be a great volunteer, Mrs. Clinton deadpanned: "Maybe I'll just leave this afternoon. Point me in the right direction."

But if Mrs. Clinton really wants escape from Washington, or from the humiliation and betrayal her friends say she feels, she is not showing it. Nor is she talking about forgiveness, leaving her husband to do all the atoning and confessing on his own for the sex scandal that may doom his Presidency.

Instead, she is playing her role as First Lady with a no-time-to-waste-hello-goodbye intensity that is both breathtaking and unnerving, struggling to change the subject with passionate talk about health care, education and family, and fighting to win back disillusioned voters, especially women.

To outsiders, paradoxically, the First Lady has never looked better, sounded stronger or even seemed happier. Her popularity rating is high. Her loyalists say that no matter what happens to Bill Clinton, she is a lady with a future. Every day seems to be a good-hair day.

She is said to feel pressure, not to leave Mr. Clinton or to come to his defense, but to get a lot of things done, before her tenure ends, whenever that may be.

"She gets up in the morning and takes a shower and puts on her makeup and a nice dress and does her events," said Sara Ehrman, a Middle East expert who has been one of Mrs. Clinton's closest friends since the 1968 McGovern campaign. "She went on vacation and probably ate chocolates and pulled the covers over her head and pitched her fits. Have you ever said to yourself, I want to have a nervous breakdown but I don't have the time now? It's enough already."

Marsha Berry, Mrs. Clinton's spokeswoman, said, "She doesn't wallow."

So Mrs. Clinton has made her already full fall schedule even fuller. On Thursday, for example, she appeared with the pop singer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds to accept a grant to buy musical instruments for public schools, met at the White House with educators and executives to promote corporate support for the arts in public schools and gave a speech that evening on the need for American engagement around the world as she picked up an award for "raising consciousness" globally for family issues.

To raise her own foreign policy consciousness the day before, she called in senior officials like the national security adviser, Samuel R. Berger, and more than a dozen outside experts, including former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, to brief her on America's role in the post-Cold War world. She plans to travel to Chile, Haiti, Uruguay and the Dominican Republic later this month to promote development and women's issues.

"She gets sustenance from her work, sustenance from her friends and this is the cloth through which she has her support system," said Melanne Verwee, her chief of staff.

Mrs. Clinton's most immediate goal is to stanch the damage of her husband's errant sex life at the polls this November.

While Democratic candidates are shunning the President, they are clamoring for her. And this week she is slated to campaign for Democratic candidates for Congress in New York, Colorado, Washington, Oregon and California.

Last Tuesday, two dozen female lawmakers who came to the White House for 90 minutes of tea and conversation prevailed on her to do even more.

They referred to the scandal as "the clutter," telling Mrs. Clinton that there was an urgent need to cut through it and focus on issues that mattered to their constituents.

"We told her that as women, we know that women can do more than one thing at a time in an emergency," said Representative Lynn Woolsey, Democrat of California. "So we asked her to get on a plane and stop at places where her voice so desperately needs to be heard."

Mrs. Clinton is so seized with this fall's elections that at a Democratic fund-raiser in New York last Monday she wasted no time in gathering intelligence. "I hadn't been with her two minutes when she asked me to evaluate what the state-by-state prospects might be," said Senator Robert G. Torricelli of New Jersey. "We didn't focus on the problem."

But sometimes the "problem" intrudes.

At a National Council of Negro Women black-tie dinner for 2,000 people honoring Dr. Dorothy I. Height, there was Mrs. Clinton all dressed up in a black, V-necked, sequined St. John knit.

And there was the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, the sometimes White House confessor, using his invocation time to tell Mrs. Clinton that no one knows exactly what to say to her during this crisis. The crowd applauded as he

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To outsiders, Mrs. Clinton has never looked better.

praised her as a woman of "uncompromising dignity." He then prayed to God to "forgive us for our sins and the foolishness of our ways."

Mrs. Clinton put on her serenely opaque face. While Mr. Jackson may feel like talking about forgiveness, she is keeping quiet.

In a 1994 news conference, Mrs. Clinton spoke of her desire for "a zone of privacy" and has always struggled to keep up a thick wall that few are allowed to penetrate.

After a Clinton confidante suggested earlier this month that Mrs. Clinton might make a Stand-by-Your-Man statement, one of her close allies asked her about it. "Her answer was, 'Look, this is a purely private issue and we're working it through, and if I have anything to say it's going to be if and when I say it,'" the ally said.

Neel Lattimore, who was the First Lady's press spokesman for five

years, said that there is a political motive. "If she went out there and said, 'I forgive my husband,' well, what woman so quickly does forgive and forget? She is very smart politically and this has political ramifications. She will choose her moment."

When reporters ask about the First Lady's marriage, Ms. Berry repeats the mantra authorized by her boss: "She has made it clear that she supports her husband, she loves him and she forgives him."

According to the First Lady's aides, she has not shared even with them her feelings about either the investigation or her husband. "She has not talked about her personal situation, and all of us to a person honors the fact that that is absolutely private," Ms. Verveer said.

But in the aftermath of the Starr report, Mrs. Clinton has abandoned her verbal war against her husband's enemies. She is no longer publicly blaming the scandal on a right-wing conspiracy against him.

That is because she now knows the facts about Monica S. Lewinsky, her supporters say. "She was not privy to the information," Ms. Berry said.

In public, the Clintons are giving the impression that they have never been closer.

At the state dinner at the White House for Czech President Vaclav Havel last week, Mr. and Mrs. Clinton smiled and cooed and held hands throughout the evening. She waved her arms and he mouthed the lyrics as they danced to the Marine Band's rendition of "Mustang Sally."

In her speeches, she talks frequently about her "husband" and "the President" in promoting his policies.

And what she is doing is greatly appreciated. "She has been very supportive of the President publicly in terms of her events and that's been great," said Douglas Sosnick, the President's counselor. "It's not my place to suggest anything else."

Her close associates insist she has not read the Starr report with its salacious allegations about Mr. Clinton and Ms. Lewinsky, including Ms. Lewinsky's account of a conversation in which the President told her he had had hundreds of lovers.

"It's a report in large part that is designed to embarrass and humiliate," Ms. Verveer said. "Why would she spend her time reading it?"

Ms. Berry said that Mrs. Clinton was scarcely reading the newspapers or watching television, except for Chicago Cubs games.

The Washington Post

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20TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 Times Mirror Company
Los Angeles Times

September 20, 1998, Sunday, Home Edition

SECTION: Part A; Page 30; National Desk

LENGTH: 676 words

HEADLINE: FIRST LADY IS CENTER OF (POLITICAL) ATTENTION;
CAMPAIGN: CONGRESSWOMEN ARE FLOCKING TO HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON TO HELP DRUM UP
INTEREST IN NOVEMBER ELECTIONS.

BYLINE: FAYE FIORE, TIMES STAFF WRITER

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

From the vantage point of Hillary Rodham Clinton's living room, things suddenly weren't looking so hideous.

Democratic congresswomen arrived from all over the country, juggling schedules and catching red-eyes. Ten of them took a bus from the Capitol. They gathered in the elegant White House residence early last week, drinking coffee from china cups and eating danish. Nobody mentioned the M-name. They knew what to say, and they knew what not to say.

It was as if the girls had come over with a quart of Ben and Jerry's to say we know your husband's a skunk, but life goes on. Only in this scenario, it was hard to tell whether Mrs. Clinton needed the congresswomen as much as they feel they need her.

With Democrats possibly in deep political trouble but with the first lady enjoying her highest public approval ratings, the 25 or so lawmakers and Mrs. Clinton agreed to join forces in a series of campaign stops between now and Nov. 3. Their goal: Energize the female voters they believe can tip the scales to the Democrats' advantage.

"The margin of victory in this election will be women," predicted Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald, the Carson Democrat whose idea it was to invite Mrs. Clinton to link up with them. "We must fight with all our might to reach the core of the Democratic Party. And who better to do it than women?"

And who better to do it with than Hillary Clinton--a magnet to women's issues.

Those who plan to hit the campaign trail with her include Reps. Nancy Pelosi of San Francisco, Zoe Lofgren of San Jose, Lois Capps of Santa Barbara and Lucille Roybal-Allard of Los Angeles.

Los Angeles Times, September 20, 1998

While they have hardly pledged their allegiance to President Clinton as the House considers impeachment hearings stemming from his affair with Monica S. Lewinsky, these lawmakers are spending a lot of time reminding themselves of the pro-women policies he has shepherded: from abortion rights and child care to family leave and appointment of the first female secretary of State.

They are equally aware that Clinton's reckless sexual behavior has helped jeopardize the reelection chances of three Democratic women senators--Barbara Boxer of California, Patty Murray of Washington state and Carol Moseley-Braun of Illinois--and given Republicans a shot at a bigger margin in the House.

But if the president helped put them there, it may be the president's wife who is best equipped to help repair the damage. Indeed, the first lady already is campaigning vigorously, with a stop planned Friday at a San Francisco fund-raiser for Boxer.

"We honest-to-goodness need her," said Rep. Lynn C. Woolsey (D-Petaluma). "We don't want the issues in this country to be buried because we get buried with them."

Part of the strategy is to target so-called soccer moms--suburban women expected to be among those most demoralized by the scandal. With Mrs. Clinton as the star attraction, the touring Democratic congresswomen hope to energize them with reminders that women have much to lose in this election.

"The issues closest to the core of women's lives are on the chopping block," said Elizabeth Toledo, vice president of the National Organization for Women. "And having a group of the most powerful women in the country collectively coming together to say, 'Wake up, there are other issues out there,' could be very effective."

An estimated 1 million female registered voters in California do not vote, an untapped bloc that exists in many states, according to Millender-McDonald. "American women need to step up to the plate now and let their voices be heard," she said. "We want to make sure women recognize that we will be the ones who make the difference."

Discussing last week's White House gathering, which stretched from a planned half-hour to an hour-and-a-half, Millender-McDonald said: "Women feel the pulse of women, and it was pounding hard in that room We have had disasters in our lives, in our children's lives, and we have been able to step up and change the cycle. That's what we're doing here."

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: September 20, 1998

The Washington Post

METRO

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1998



BY JUANA ARIAS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Krystle Shelton, 12, left, gets handshake from Antoinette Mmoh, 13, during game before ceremony led by Cora Barry and Hillary Clinton.

2 First Ladies Say the Game Is Life

By JOHN W. FOUNTAIN
Washington Post Staff Writer

East of the river, down on Mississippi Avenue, the grass surrounding the Hart tennis courts across the street from Barbara Bailey's house used to grow long and wild. Until three years ago, the asphalt courts were cracked and full of potholes, the nets were ripped, the fences conspicuously absent.

That's when Cora Masters Barry stepped in with the D.C. Recreation

Wish List Committee and helped give the outdoor courts near Hart Elementary School in Southeast Washington cosmetic surgery, added two more courts and made promises of much more to come.

Joined by Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday, the city's first lady unveiled a large sign at the edge of the vast field in the 700 block of Mississippi Avenue SE, touting it as the future home of a \$3 million tennis and learning center. Adjacent to the outdoor courts renovated three years ago, the sprawling

15-acre, campuslike complex will be a place where District youngsters can hone tennis skills and academics.

Calling the plan a "spiritual revelation from God," Barry said the mission of the planned recreation center reaches beyond the sport.

"Our goal is not to just develop Arthur Ashes and Pam Shrivvers, although that's really possible," Barry told the more than 100 people. "Our goal is to develop a child who can be all

See TENNIS, C5, Col. 1

First Ladies Announce Tennis, Learning Center

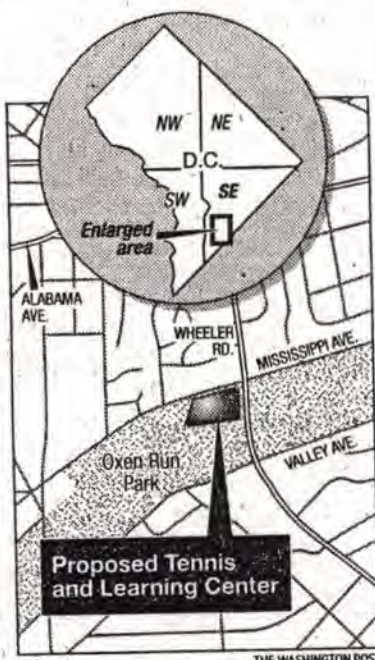
TENNIS, From C1

that they want to be. If they never play tennis again ... they can graduate from high school, perhaps get a tennis scholarship and be very productive citizens."

The Southeast Tennis and Learning Center, planned for the District's Ward 8, could be completed by the end of next year with groundbreaking next spring, said Larry Brown, spokesman for the D.C. Department of Recreation and Parks.

The design for the recreation part of the complex features six outdoor and four covered tennis courts, a walking and fitness trail through Oxon Run Park, a golf driving range, a tot lot, a wellness center and locker rooms with showers.

The learning center, where children will receive academic tutoring and mentoring, will include a computer learning lab, a communications and multimedia facility, four classrooms and a multipurpose room for use by



THE WASHINGTON POST

the center and community.

"I've come here to celebrate this particular center and this experience," Clinton said. "I've come here to salute leaders like Cora Barry and all of you who understand we're doing much, much more than just encouraging tennis when we create an environment in which every child has a chance to learn about life and create a better future for themselves."

The two first ladies were joined at yesterday's event by former tennis star Pam Shriver, D.C. Democratic mayoral nominee Anthony A. Williams and several youngsters who participate in several neighborhood tennis clubs. It was a festive occasion, complete with balloons and music by the brass band from Hart Middle School.

"Well, I think it's good for us black kids to grow up and be something," 11-year-old Richard Williams said of the proposed center. "I think it will be a good experience."

Organizers have raised \$1.8 million for the facility, officials said. A fund-raising tennis tournament, called the Heart to Hart Tennis Experience, will be held today from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the courts on Mississippi Avenue. Organizers said it will become an annual event.

The center will be bordered by Fourth Street and Wheeler Road and Mississippi Avenue to Valley Road SE. Proponents of the plan, including Barry, say the planned center is vital to the community because it will provide a viable alternative for youths. Neighbors, such as Bailey, say they already have witnessed the impact of improved recreation facilities.

"Every court is filled. We play until it gets so cold that we can't play anymore," Bailey said. "Isn't it amazing how black kids are getting into that sport now?"

Barry founded the Wish List Committee, a nonprofit organization, in 1995 to raise money to improve the city's crumbling recreation centers. Since then, at least \$500,000 from local businesses has gone toward renovating play-



BY JUANA ARIAS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Hillary Rodham Clinton and Cora Masters Barry, right, greet a guest at the site of the future tennis and learning center in Southeast Washington.

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IN THE LOOP

Al Kamen

Life Begins at 41

President Clinton's odd suggestions the other day that the uproar over his affair with **Monica S. Lewinsky** might somehow be good for families and kids generated universal guffawing.

But there's a building consensus among aging baby boomer males that House Judiciary Committee Chairman **Henry J. Hyde** (R-Ill.) may have done a public service in his response to allegations that he had a five-year affair with a married woman in the 1960s.

Hyde issued a statement that "the statute of limitations has long since passed on my youthful indiscretions." Let's see, Hyde was 41 when the affair began and about 45 when it ended.

"Youthful indiscretions"? For five years? Some might have called it a midlife crisis. Still, if Hyde's view gains momentum, we may be able to scrap the odious term "middle-aged" altogether. And while it's unlikely that **Bob Dylan's** "Forever Young" vision will catch, maybe "youthful" could stretch a bit longer—perhaps until 55? After that our membership in the American Association of Retired Persons would force a "senior citizen" designation."

This Number Dedicated to Alan Greenspan

On the rock n' roll front, folks at the state dinner Wednesday night for Czech Republic President **Vaclav Havel** saw **Hillary Rodham Clinton** in great party form, clearly enjoying the music and dancing the night away.

At one point she even grabbed a startled National Economic Council chairman **Gene Sperling**—not heretofore known as a party kind of guy—and said, "You *have* to dance." Apparently to convince the terrified Sperling, she added: "We'll dance for stronger international currencies."

Well, you can't turn down the first lady. They danced to the Marine Band playing the old Sly and the Family Stone's "We Are Family." Several people nearby noticed some very odd gyrations being thrown in, moves never before seen in economic councils, let alone dance floors. This was because Sperling proposed to "call this move 'the rupiah.'"

The first lady rejoined: "How about this? The real." Sperling did his best to keep up, but he confessed to friends afterward that he was embarrassed, not by how he looked on the dance floor but because she suggested a more topical currency, the faltering Brazilian coin, than he did.

Youthful Indiscretions Reversed

The House overwhelmingly passed, 310 to 93, a resolution yesterday urging states not to go the way of California and Arizona and allow the use of marijuana by people in life-threatening or painful illnesses. Those voting for the resolution included Rep. **Bill McCollum** (R-Fla.) while House Speaker **Newt Gingrich** (R-Ga.) rhetorically supported it.

One backer of the legislation was glad to see those two come around. Both sponsored a bill 17

years ago, good old H.R. 4498, that would have allowed for "the therapeutic use of marihuana" and would have had the federal government dealing out "adequate supplies."

Preparing for the Fall

The Republican National Committee is bringing in heavy timber to help in the run-up to the Nov. 3 elections. **Andrew Malcolm**, a former New York Times reporter and assistant national editor who has been working for Gov. **Marc Racicot** (R-Mont.), is coming on as a senior writer. **Genevieve Wood**, a former radio talk host and anchor and producer for the conservative America's Voice TV, is RNC deputy press secretary. Both Malcolm and Wood expect to return to their jobs after the elections.

At the White House, **Paul Glastriis**, former U.S. News & World Report journalist who left in the recent shake-up there—but not before taking a public shot at publisher **Mort Zuckerman**—is joining the staff as a senior presidential speech writer.

Amy Weiss, who was managing matters for the press office, now moves to spokesman-in-waiting **Joe Lockhart's** deputy job. Deputy head of scheduling **Jennifer Palmieri** replaces Weiss, and legislative affairs aide **Jeff Forbes** takes Palmieri's duties.

Eric Farnsworth, who was senior adviser to former White House chief of staff and envoy for the Americas **Thomas F. "Mack" McLarty**, has moved over to the international trade group at Manatt, Phelps & Phillips as a strategic consultant.

Less Than Youthful Indiscretion

She has only been in the job a month but the National Science Foundation's new director, **Rita Colwell**, is off to a fast start. She captured the medals for fastest female agency head and fastest female in her age group (over 60) in Wednesday's Sporting Goods Manufacturers' Association Capital Challenge three-mile team charity race.

But this may be a case when running faster isn't necessarily better. She came in ahead of Sen. **Conrad Burns** (R-Mont.), who sits on the two committees that authorize and appropriate funds for NSF. Worse, she's two months older than he is, turning 64 in November.

Next year, Colwell may want to take a few minutes to look over the field before heading to the starting line.

Mathematical Indiscretion

Yesterday was not the three-year anniversary of the Clinton tax hike, as some Republicans thought and as we wrote on Wednesday. It was the 35th-month anniversary, a chagrined GOp said, saying someone typed in the wrong date on a calendar. Those folks are acting more like Democrats every day.

The Washington Post
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1998

A Definite Focus on Public Policy

Hillary Clinton Speaks Out, but Not on Husband's Problems

By JOHN F. HARRIS
Washington Post Staff Writer

All the people who had been clamoring to hear from Hillary Rodham Clinton in the wake of her husband's admission of an extramarital affair have gotten their wish—sort of.

Recent days have yielded a wealth of words from the first lady, none of them on the subject that happens to be consuming official Washington. Despite the yearning of many of the president's political advisers that she speak out publicly with words of forgiveness for him, aides and friends say she is determined that the best way to chase away scandal clouds is through immersion in policy, not through an emotional undressing on national television.

Yesterday offered a vivid example.

While the president was on the road at fund-raisers, Hillary Clinton started the day at the District's Marie H. Reed Community Learning Center, where she appeared with pop singer Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds to promote the importance of arts instruction in public schools.

A few hours later she was at the White House with educators and business executives speaking on the same theme, spotlighting new research showing that musical exposure and training can enhance the "spatial understanding and analytical abilities" of youngsters.

And last night she delivered a wide-ranging address on the need for U.S. activism overseas. She reiterated the administration's usual arguments in favor of paying the U.S. dues to the United Nations, and for generous foreign aid to developing and former communist nations making the transition to democracy and capitalism. But she did so in blunter terms than her husband often uses.

"I have seen first-hand how American programs overseas have helped fuel progress," she told the liberal Center for National Policy, but due to insufficient congressional interest and funding, "we have not played the role we could have played."

The group gave her an award for "raising consciousness" internationally about issues relating to women and children.

"This is definitely what her focus is on," press secretary Marsha Berry said of the first lady's recent sprint of policy and political appearances, which will be extended later this month with heavy domestic and foreign travel. With the administration now in its sixth



At Marie H. Reed Community Learning Center here, Hillary Clinton and sixth-grader Troy Boston applaud gift of \$100,000 for musical instruments.

year, Berry said, "there's limited time, and she wants to make use of all the time on issues that people elected this administration to do."

"She thinks the rest of it is private," Berry added.

Clinton feels this way strongly enough to snub her husband's own advisers, many of whom believe that the president's precarious political situation could be improved if his wife were to publicly affirm in her own words what Berry has already released in a written statement: that she forgives him for his extramarital affair with former White House intern Monica S. Lewinsky.

The first lady, according to a variety of people who have talked with her, is neither personally ready to speak out nor believes that it is wise politics. To the contrary, one outside Clinton adviser said, she wishes the president would put an end to his repeated statements of contrition and focus strictly on policy.

"She's going to keep her powder dry," said one family friend who has spoken to both the president and first lady. "I think she will speak eventually, but she does not feel this is the time."

There are hints, meanwhile, suggesting that the apparent freeze in the Clinton marriage may be thawing a bit, even though her disappointment in him remains deep, according to some confidants. At the White House state dinner Wednesday night honoring Czech Republic President Vaclav Havel, the couple strode hand-in-hand to the stage to thank entertainer Lou Reed, and later took to the floor together for rock-and-roll dancing.

"Hillary and I, we're doing fine," Clinton said at an appearance in Cincinnati yesterday. "We're working on what we need to be

working on, and we're doing fine."

Both Clintons remain united in their anger toward those that have treated them unfairly, friends say. In addition to independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr, both Clintons are fuming at their former aide, ABC News commentator George Stephanopoulos, for his recent suggestion that perhaps Clinton could bring closure to the case by agreeing to pay a large monetary fine.

Friends say the first lady's pronouncements on policy serve as a retreat, both from a strained family situation and from the political community's incessant attention to scandal.

On Wednesday, she summoned a group of senior administration officials, including national security adviser Samuel R. "Sandy" Berger, and outside foreign policy experts, such as former secretary of state Henry A. Kissinger, for a wide-ranging discussion of world affairs, partly in preparation for last night's speech. Later this month she will travel to Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Chile and Uruguay to talk about development and women's issues.

At her appearances yesterday, audiences poured out longer-than-usual applause. When Gordon M. Ambach, executive director of the Council of Chief State School Officers, told her from the podium that "education has never been given such prominence from the White House" as it has under the Clintons, there was a standing ovation that some in the audience later said was a way of showing the first lady that they support her during the current turmoil.

"My tribute is to both of them," Ambach said later. "There's a diminished recognition of how powerful their advocacy for education has been."

The Washington Post

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1998

FINAL

Dinner for Havel has '60s feeling

Stevie Wonder,
Lou Reed attend

By Ann Geracimos
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Perhaps the most emotional moment of last night's White House state dinner honoring Czech President Vaclav Havel occurred before the evening began.

After the afternoon news conference with President Clinton and before donning his tuxedo for the night, Mr. Havel had a warm reunion with his friend Lou Reed, the singer-songwriter famous for the '60s band the Velvet Underground. Mr. Reed was doing a sound check in the East Room for his after-dinner performance that had been requested by the 62-year-old Czech president.

Mr. Reed immediately kissed Dagmar Havlova, 36, the president's wife of one year, whom first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton presented with a 5-foot potted magnolia that had been grown from a seedling from the oldest tree on the White House grounds.

It was an unusual break with tradition for a visiting head of state to take time for so personal a moment offstage.

"Lou is my old friend, and I am very thankful that they invited him today here," the soft-spoken Mr. Havel said in cautious English to the assembled press.

"The Velvet Underground became the Velvet Revolution," Mrs. Clinton said, referring to the influence the band had on a Czech group that was instrumental in fomenting the movement for human rights led by the playwright-president in his homeland in the 1970s. One of the Czech group's members, bass player Milan Hlavsa, was also performing.

Most of Mr. Clinton's Cabinet secretaries were absent last night, although all are normally invited to such functions. Attending were Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, a native of Czechoslovakia and friend of Mr. Havel's. The list of dignitaries included six senators — four of them Republicans — and eight representatives, only one of whom was a Republican.

The celebrity quotient was supplied by several Czech-Americans of note, including actress Mia Farrow, accompanied by her son Matthew Previn, 28, a Washington lawyer; model-actress Paulina Porizkova; professional hockey player Jaromir Jagr; and Lubomir

Kavalek, international chess grandmaster.

Mr. Havel requested the presence of Mr. Jagr and Mr. Kavalek, as well as entertainer Stevie Wonder, who was not scheduled to perform; author Kurt Vonnegut; and Washington theater personality Robert McNamara, artistic director of Scena Theatre, which has performed a number of Mr. Havel's plays.

When the acoustically charged five-member rock 'n' roll group took over, even Mr. Clinton may have forgotten his troubles under the spell of its rhythmic rollicking beat, led by Mr. Reed on the guitar.

The evening was at times a sentimental journey back to the more idealistic 1960s.

"As a playwright, you could hardly have written a [more] dramatic scenario than the one you have lived the past 10 years," Mr. Clinton said in toasting Mr. Havel. "Your presidency has reminded people around the world that words do matter; that creativity has a place in politics."

Mr. Havel, speaking in Czech, said he was "grateful" that his country was included in the NATO enlargement and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Clinton and "the American nation." He singled out Mrs. Albright for special praise, calling her "one of the greatest diplomats of all time."

He then presented Mr. Clinton with his country's Order of the White Lion.

A large contingent of Clinton supporters and White House staffers were among the diners, as well as two familiar diplomatic faces from the past — former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and former National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

The menu was prepared by chefs Walter Scheib and Roland Mesnier.

Roasted salmon was chosen in deference to Mr. Havel, who is said to favor fish rather than meat, especially since he only came out of the hospital three weeks ago. The accompanying carrot and corn risotto was fat-free.

Guest list for Havel state dinner

- President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton
Vice President Al Gore and Tipper Gore
Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic, and his wife, Dagmar Havlova
Jan Kavan, minister of foreign affairs
Vladimir Vetchy, minister of defense
Josef Tosovsky, governor of the Czech National Bank
Alexandr Vondra, Czech Republic ambassador to the United States, and his wife, Martina
Jaramir Novotny, first deputy minister of defense
Ladislav Spacek, spokesman for the president
Jiri Pehe, director of the political department, office of the president
Ladislav Mravec, director general of the political section II, ministry of foreign affairs
Miroslav Sklenar, chief of protocol, office of the president
Helena Opolocka, director general of the section for the minister of foreign affairs
Roman Leszczynski, director general of the secretariat for the Czech National Bank
Jerry Abramson, mayor of Louisville, Ky., and his wife, Madeline
Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright, and Katherine Silva, special assistant, office of elementary and secondary education, U.S. Department of Education
Bruce Babbitt, secretary of the Interior, and his wife, Harriet, deputy administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development
Rep. Douglas K. Bereuter, Nebraska Republican, and his wife, Louise
Samuel R. Berger, assistant to the president for national security affairs, and his wife, Susan
Robert L. Bernstein, founding chairman, Human Rights Watch, and his wife, Helen
Diane D. Blair, chairman, Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Erskine B. Bowles, chief of staff, White House, and his wife, Crandall
John Broder, White House correspondent, the New York Times, and Carolyn Broder, independent television producer
Zbigniew Brzezinski, counselor, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Emilie Brzezinski, sculptor
Harvey Cauthen Jr., chairman and CEO, Cauthen Associates, and Florence Cauthen, U.S. marshal, Middle District, Alabama
Lee Clancy, mayor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Robert J. Clancy Jr., sales representative, Clancy Co.
Betsy Cohn, executive board, New Dramatists, and Alan D. Cohn, managing director, Schroeders
Sen. Kent Conrad, North Dakota Democrat, and Lucy Calautti, chief of staff for Sen. Byron Dorgan, North Dakota Democrat
Rep. Pat Danner, Missouri Democrat, and C. Mark Meyer, businessman
Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen and his wife, Janet Langhart Cohen
Rep. Norman Dicks, Washington Democrat, and Susie Dicks, general secretary, U.S. Capitol Historical Society
Thomas A. Dine, president, Radio Free Europe-Radio Liberty Inc., and his wife, Joan
Robert W. Daubek, president, American Friends of the Czech Republic, and Karen Kendig
Archie Dunham, president and CEO, Conoco Inc., and his wife, Linda
Mia Farrow, actress, and her son, Matthew Previn, attorney, Wilmer, Cutler and Pickering
Rep. Vic Fazio, California Democrat, and his wife, Judy
Stephen Flanagan, special assistant to the president and senior director, Central and Eastern European Affairs, and Lynn Flanagan, attorney-adviser, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mary Mel French, chief of protocol, and Matthew A. Gorman, senior vice president, capital markets, Blaylock & Partners
Charles Gali, senior vice president, Interinvest, and Toby T. Gali, senior international adviser, Alken, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld L.L.D.
Mark Gearan, director, Peace Corps, and his wife, Mary Herlihy-Gearan
Rep. Sam Genderson, Connecticut Democrat, and Mary Jane Burt, entrepreneur
Rep. Benjamin A. Gilman, New York Republican, and his wife, Georgia
Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, photographer and film director, and Karin Greenfield-Sanders, filmmaker and lawyer
Marc Grossman, assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs, and Mildred Patterson, managing director, Office of Visa Services, U.S. Department of State
Sen. Chuck Hagel, Nebraska Republican, and his wife, Lilibet
Rep. Jane Harman, California Democrat, and Sidney Harman, chairman and CEO, Harman International Industries Inc.
John F. Harris, staff writer, The Washington Post, and Ann O'Hanlon, staff writer, The Washington Post
Paul T. Havilinka, Esq., Havilinka & Associates, and Kimberly Havilinka, senior vice president, Healthcare Insurance Services Inc.
Eric Holder, deputy attorney general, U.S. Department of Justice, and Dr. Sharon Malone, Fatchall Ob-Gyn Associates
Jaramir Jagr, forward, Pittsburgh Penguins
Lubomir Kavalek, international chess grandmaster, and Irena Kavalek, librarian, U.S. Geological Survey
Lane Kirkland and his wife, Irena
Henry Kissinger, chairman, Kissinger Associates Inc. and former secretary of state, and his wife, Nancy
Howie Klein, president, Reprise Records, and Bryan Scott Johnson, University of Washington
Kevin Klose, director, U.S. International Broadcasting Bureau, and Deborah Taylor Ashford, partner, Hogan & Hartson L.L.P.
Charles J. Koch, chairman emeritus, Charter One Financial Inc., and his wife, Elizabeth
Rep. Tom Lantos, California Democrat, and his wife, Annette
Rep. Shelia Jackson Lee, Texas Democrat, and Gerald Womack, her district director
Sen. Carl Levin, Michigan Democrat, and his wife, Nancy
Barbara Levin, Energy Conservation Devices, Troy, Mich.
Sen. Richard Lugar, Indiana Republican, and his wife, Charlene
Lewis Manilow, chairman, Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy
Kathleen McGinty, chairwoman, White House Council on Environmental Quality, and Karl Hausker, project director, Center for Strategic and International Studies
Robert McNamara, artistic director, Scena Theatre, and Amy K. Schmidt, managing director, Scena Theatre
Jan Nowak, former vice president, Polish American Congress
Paulina Porizkova, actress-model, and her husband, Ric Ocasek, music producer-artist
Thomas A. Poullot, commander in chief, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and his wife, Shirley
Lou Reed, artist, and Laurie Anderson, artist
Andrew Reyes, CEO, Wilson, Reyes & Associates, and Nathan Shane Wolf, executive vice president, Seyer Communications Inc.
John M. Richard, president, Czechoslovak National Council of America, and Anne Marie Richard
Jeremy Rosner, vice president, Greenberg Quinlan Research, and Laurie Duker
Sen. William V. Roth Jr., Delaware Republican, and John M. Duncan, his administrative assistant
Gen. John Shalikashvili, former chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his wife, Joan
Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and his wife, Carolyn
Eric Sklar, CEO, Burrito Brothers Inc., and his wife, Erica
Gene Sperling, assistant to the president for economic policy and director, the National Economic Council, and Michael Sperling
James Steinberg, deputy assistant to the president, national security affairs, and his wife, Sherburne Abbott
Sen. Ted Stevens, Alaska Republican, and his wife Catherine Stevens, executive director, the Terra Foundation for the Arts
Stephanie Streett, assistant to the president and director of presidential scheduling, and Donald Erbach, political director for the office of Sen. Tom Harkin, Iowa Democrat
Strobe Talbott, deputy secretary of state, and his wife, Brooke Shearer, senior adviser, U.S. Department of the Interior
Mark Tallsman, president, Project Judaica Foundation, and his wife, Jill
Charles A. Vanik, former U.S. representative from Ohio, and his wife, Betty
Kurt Vonnegut, author, and Jill Krementz, author-photographer
Jenanne Walker, U.S. ambassador to the Czech Republic
Marion Wiesel, vice president, Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, and Arnold Thaler, vice president, Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity
James L. Wilt, director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and his wife, Lea Ellen
Stevie Wonder, entertainer, and Brian LaRoda, personal assistant to Mr. Wonder, and Kelta Morris

The Washington Post

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

BY KHUE BUI—ASSOCIATED PRESS

President and Mrs. Clinton chat as they await the arrival of Czech President Vaclav Havel and his wife for last night's dinner.

International Velvet

Clinton Finds Respite at Fete With Revolutionary and Rocker

By ROXANNE ROBERTS
and LIBBY INGRID COPELAND
Washington Post Staff Writers

Last night the White House rocked with something other than scandal. We're talking real rock-and-roll music with a real rock-and-roll star: Lou Reed. Stodgy old state dinners may never be the same.

Less than a week after the Starr report sent Washington into a tizzy, the White House mustered its forces to display a more appealing side of the

presidency—the impressive pomp and pageantry of a state dinner for Czech Republic President Vaclav Havel. The evening also gave President Clinton a brief time to think about something other than you-know-what.

The Clintons were in fine form: the president smiling if slightly subdued; the first lady effusively greeting guests. They heard plenty of encouraging words, although Stevie Wonder was the only one to bear-hug both Clintons.

"I told the president a long time ago that I was his friend," the singer said.

"And I am of the belief that when you say you are someone's friend, it doesn't mean that you're a fair-weather friend. You're there all the time."

The dinner honoring Havel, the playwright turned politician, offered plenty of dramatic diversions. The cast included actress Mia Farrow, bon vivant Henry Kissinger, author Kurt Vonnegut, model Paulina Porizkova and chess grandmaster Lubomir Kavalek as well as administration officials

See DINNER, D10, Col. 1

Dinner, Czech

DINNER, From D1

and staffers.

The guests were bent on supporting their host. "It's certainly none of my business," Farrow said of the president's problems. "I'm said that Starr made it all of our business."

"I think what's being done to him is terrible," Reed said. "Your private life should be your private life. I think it's a smear campaign."

This is the second time a foreign leader's visit has been thoroughly dominated by domestic affairs. Shortly after the Lewinsky investigation first broke in January, Clinton hosted a White House dinner for British Prime Minister Tony Blair. A star-studded guest list was loaded with Clinton supporters, who hotly defended his innocence—as did the president himself.

Seven months later, the climate has clearly changed. In the wake of Clinton's admission, most of the politicians last night kept their thoughts to themselves.

"I've been here in crisis periods before," said former Nixon Cabinet member Kissinger as he slipped away.

"I don't want to comment on that tonight," said former national security adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski. "I'm here to honor President Havel."

The dissident who played a central role in the 1989 "Velvet Revolution" against communist rule was elected earlier this year to his second five-year term as Czech president. Havel, 61, has most recently been at the fore of his country's efforts to gain NATO membership and in other security matters.

But those efforts have been hampered by poor health. He has been hospitalized several times since undergoing lung cancer surgery in late 1996, and recovered from life-threatening pneumonia just in time to make this visit to Washington, with a doctor and nurse in tow.

"You have never lost the honesty, sponta-



BY NANCY ANDREWS—THE WASHINGTON POST

Model Paulina Porizkova and husband Ric Ocasek arrive at the dinner.

neity, the contagious friendliness of your writing," Clinton said in his toast to Havel.

In his reply, Havel spoke of the relationship between the two countries and singled out his friend, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who was born in the former Czechoslovakia. "With her fine feeling for European affairs, she represents to me—among other things—a guarantee of the much-needed U.S. presence on the European continent," he said. Havel then turned to Clinton and presented him with the Order of the White Lion, the highest decoration of the Czech Republic.

Havel's own unofficial decoration was his wife of one year, actress Dagmar Havlova, who is nearly 20 years his junior. She made a colorful addition to the dinner in a purple satin and chiffon gown. Hillary Rodham Clinton wore a St. John silver sequined gown.

In support of Havlova's efforts to build a botanical garden back home, Mrs. Clinton presented her with a small magnolia grown from a seedling of the oldest tree on the White House grounds, which was planted by Andrew Jackson.

The first lady selected an early-autumn theme for the dinner. The color-scheme was green and gold, the menu a nod to the fall palate: "less herbs, more spices, bigger flavors," said White House chef Walter Scheib. Guests were served pheasant consomme, roasted "full-bodied" salmon with carrot and corn risotto, greens with baked artichokes and goat cheese, and caramel rum raisin ice cream with poached pears.

The real treat, however, was the entertainment. Reed, a founding member of the Velvet Underground, was invited at the special request of Havel, a fan for 30 years. Havel has credited the rocker with inspiring the Czech people and the Velvet Revolution. In an unprecedented stop, he dropped by a rehearsal earlier in the day with Havlova and Mrs. Clinton. Reed and Havel embraced; the first ladies were fascinated by the singer's glasses, which featured lenses that flipped up. "Have you patented that?" Clinton asked.

At one end of the very grand East Room last night, Reed performed classic Velvet Underground hits in his irreverent, laconic style.

The audience was attentive but seemed subdued, except for Vice President Gore, whose chair rocked constantly during Reed's 35-minute performance.

At the conclusion, a smiling President Clinton said, "If you had as much fun as I did just now, you should give President Havel all the credit."

Reed was unfazed by the stately surroundings. "We're just musicians, so we play a lot of places," he said of the unusual venue, teasingly noting that his was just another "New York band."

Different city, same old gig.

The guest list for last night's dinner:

The vice president and Mrs. Gore
Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech Republic, and Mrs. Dagmar Havlova
Jan Kavan, minister of foreign affairs

Vladimir Vetchy, minister of defense
Josef Tosovsky, governor of the Czech National Bank
Alexandr Vondra, ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States, and Martina Vondrova
Jaromir Novotny, first deputy minister of defense
Ladislav Spacek, spokesman for the president
Jiri Pehe, director of the Political Department, office of the president
Ladislav Mravec, director general of the Political Section II, ministry of foreign affairs
Miroslav Sklenar, chief of protocol, office of the president
Helena Opolecka, director general of the Section for the Minister of Foreign Affairs
Roman Leszczynski, director general of the secretariat for the Czech National Bank
Jerry Abramson, mayor of Louisville, Ky., and Madeline Abramson
Madeleine K. Albright, secretary of state, and Katherine Silva, special assistant, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, U.S. Department of Education
Bruce Babbitt, secretary of the interior, and Harriet C. Babbitt, deputy administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development
Rep. Douglas K. Bereuter (R-Neb.) and Louise Bereuter
Samuel R. Berger, assistant to the president for national security affairs, and Susan Berger
Robert L. Bernstein, founding-chairman, Human Rights Watch, and Helen Bernstein
Diane D. Blair, chair, Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Erskine Bowles, chief of staff, the White House, and Crandall Bowles
John Broder, White House correspondent, the New York Times, and Karolyn Wallace, independent television producer
Zbigniew Brzezinski, counselor, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Emilie Brzezinski, sculptor
Harvey Cauthen Jr., chairman and CEO, Cauthen & Associates, and Florence Cauthen, U.S. marshal, middle district of Alabama
Lee Clancey, mayor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Robert J. Clancey Jr., sales representative, the Clancey Co.
Betsy Cohn, executive board, New Dramatists, and Alan D. Cohn, managing director, Schroders
Sen. Kent Conrad (D-N.D.) and Lucy Calautti, chief of staff for Sen. Byron Dorgan
Rep. Pat Danner (D-Mo.) and C. Mark Meyer, businessman
William Cohen, secretary of defense, and Janet Langhart Cohen
Rep. Norman Dicks (D-Wash.) and Susie Dicks, general secretary, U.S. Capitol Historical Society
Thomas A. Dine, president, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Inc., and Joan Dine
Robert W. Doubek, president, American Friends of the Czech Republic, and Karen Kendig
Archie Dunham, president and CEO, Conoco Inc., and Linda Dunham
Mia Farrow, actor, and Matthew Pravin, attorney, Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering
Rep. Vic Fazio (D-Calif.) and Judy Fazio
Stephen Flanagan, special assistant to the president, senior director, Central and Eastern European affairs, and Lynn Flanagan, attorney/adviser, U.S. Department of Agriculture
Mary Mel French, chief of protocol, and Matthew A. Gorman, senior vice president, Capital Markets, Playlock & Partners
Charles Gati, senior vice president, Interinvest, and Toby T. Gati, senior international adviser, Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP
Mark Gearan, director, the Peace Corps, and Mary Herlihy-Gearan
Rep. Samuel Gerdenson (D-Conn.) and Mary Jane Burt, entrepreneur
Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) and Georgia Gilman
Timothy Greenfield-Sanders, photographer/film director, and Karin Greenfield-Sanders, filmmaker/attorney
Marc Grossman, assistant secretary of state for European and Canadian affairs, and Mildred Patterson, managing director for the Office of Visa Services, U.S. Department of State
Sen. Charles T. Hagel (R-Neb.) and Lilbet Hagel
Rep. Jane Harman (D-Calif.) and Sidney Harman, chairman and CEO, Harman International Industries Inc.
John F. Harris, White House correspondent, The Washington Post, and Ann

O'Hanlon, staff writer, The Washington Post
Paul T. Hlavinka, Hlavinka & Associates, and Kimberly Hlavinka, senior vice president, Healthcare Insurance Services Inc.
Eric Holder, deputy attorney general, and Sharon Malone, Foxhall OB-GYN Associates
Jaromir Jagr, NHL forward, the Pittsburgh Penguins
Lubomir Kavalek, international chess grandmaster, and Irena Kavalek, librarian, U.S. Geological Survey
Lane Kirkland and Irena Kirkland
Henry Kissinger, chairman, Kissinger Associates Inc., former secretary of state, and Nancy Kissinger
Howie Klein, president, Reprise Records, and Bryan Scott Johnson, University of Washington
Kevin Klose, director, U.S. International Broadcasting Bureau, and Deborah Taylor Ashford, partner, Hogan & Hartson LLP
Charles J. Koch, chairman emeritus, Charter One Financial Inc., and Elizabeth Koch
Rep. Tom Lantos (D-Calif.) and Annette Lantos
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee (D-Tex.) and Gerald Womack, district director for Rep. Lee
Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) and Barbara Levin, Energy Conservation Devices of Troy, Mich.
Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) and Charlene Lugar
Lewis Manilow, chairman, Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy
Kathleen McGinty, chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality, and Karl Hausker, project director, Center for Strategic and International Studies
Robert McHamara, artistic director, Scena Theatre, and Amy K. Schmidt, managing director, Scena Theatre
Jan Nowak, former vice president, the Polish American Congress
Paulina Porizkova, actress/model, and Ric Ocasek, music producer/artist
Thomas A. Pouliot, commander in chief, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Shirley Pouliot
Lou Reed, musician, and Laurie Anderson, performance artist
Andrew Reyes, CEO, Wilson, Reyes & Associates, and Nathan Shane Wolf, executive vice president, Seyer Communications Inc.
John M. Richard, president, Czechoslovak National Council of America, and Anne Marie Richard
Jeremy Rosner, vice president, Greenberg Quinlan Research, and Laurie Duker
Sen. William V. Roth Jr. (R-DeL.) and John M. Duncan, administrative assistant to Sen. Roth
Gen. John Shalikashvili, former chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Joan Shalikashvili
Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Carolyn Shelton
Eric Sklar, CEO, Burrito Brothers Inc., and Erica Sklar
Gene Sperling, assistant to the president for economic policy; director, National Economic Council, and Michael Sperling
James Steinberg, deputy assistant to the president for national security affairs, and Sherburne Abbott Steinberg
Sen. Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) and Catherine Stevens, executive director, Terra Foundation for the Arts
Stephanie Streett, assistant to the president, director of presidential scheduling, and Donald Erbach, political director for the office of Sen. Tom Harkin
Strobe Talbott, deputy secretary of state, and Brooke Shearer, senior adviser, U.S. Interior Department
Mark Talisman, president, Project Judaica Foundation, and Jill Talisman
Charles A. Vanik, former U.S. representative (D-Ohio), and Betty Vanik
Kurt Vonnegut, author, and Jill Kremenetz, author/photographer
Jenornie Walker, U.S. ambassador to the Czech Republic
Marion Wiesel, vice president, the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, and Arnold Thaler, vice president, the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity
James L. Witt, director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Lea Ellen Witt
Stevie Wonder, entertainer, and Brian LaRoda, personal assistant to Stevie Wonder, and Kelta Morris

The Washington Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1998

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THE WASHINGTON POST

THE RELIABLE SOURCE

By Annie Groer and Ann Gerhart

NOW YOU KNOW . . .



Clinton at Peace Corps headquarters with a gaggle of Kennedys.

BY DOUG MILLS—ASSOCIATED PRESS

■ The Peace Corps has a new headquarters downtown, and first lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** and Jordan's **Queen Noor** were on hand yesterday to dedicate it. **Arnold Schwarzenegger** and his wife, **Maria Shriver**, were there to watch.

"The Peace Corps has already made a very tangible and real contribution to making clear that America is seen as we would like to be seen around the world, as people who want to bring tools and opportunities to those who can then build a better life for themselves," said Mrs. Clinton.

One of the halls at 1111 20th St. NW is named for **R. Sargent Shriver**, Maria's father, the first

director of the Peace Corps. His wife, **Eunice**, also spoke yesterday.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1998

THE RELIABLE SOURCE

By Annie Groer and Ann Gerhart



BY SUSAN BIDDLE—THE WASHINGTON POST

Kathleen Kennedy-Townsend gets a boost from the Clintons.

A Clinton Loyalist's Well-Earned Fete

■ When Maryland Gov. **Parris Glendening** decided to skip President Clinton's visit last week to Pine Crest Elementary School, Lt. Gov. **Kathleen Kennedy Townsend** gladly stepped forth. She greeted Clinton warmly at the Silver Spring school and praised his education efforts.

Returning the favor—and recognizing that Townsend has her own political identity and future—first lady **Hillary Rodham Clinton** will headline a fund-raiser for her good friend next month.

To further show how much the Clintons value Townsend, the \$1,000-and-up event will be hosted by lawyer **Terry McAuliffe**, who these days usually shakes the money tree

only for the president's legal defense fund and his presidential library.

The Oct. 21 fete at McAuliffe's McLean home is expected to raise about \$250,000 from major Clinton donors.

Townsend's is the only candidate fund-raiser McAuliffe is doing this year, and he must tread a fine line, openly rewarding her loyalty without directly dissing her ticket-mate.

Said one well-wired Maryland Democrat of the Clintons' view of the Glendening-Townsend duo: "They see them as a team but with two separate political careers, and there are not many women leaders in the Democratic Party, unfortunately."

NOW YOU KNOW . . .



BY DOUG MILLS—ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Washington Post



BY SUSAN BIDDLE—THE WASHINGTON POST

The first lady with "our hero, leader, role model," Dorothy Height.

For Dorothy Height, A Night of Lofty Praise

By ROXANNE ROBERTS
Washington Post Staff Writer

What becomes a legend most? Glowing tributes and serious star power, to name two things.

Last night's "Uncommon Height: The Legends Celebrate the Legend" honored 86-year-old Dorothy Height, the grande dame of the civil rights movement. The evening was a four-hour lovefest with some of the most talented

and influential women in America: Hillary Rodham Clinton, Rosa Parks, Oprah Winfrey, Maya Angelou, Jessye Norman, Camille Cosby and Marian Wright Edelman, to name but a few.

The accolades were thick, heartfelt, and well deserved. One night, said Mrs. Clinton, would never be long enough to enumerate all of Height's many, many accomplishments. But, the first lady

See HEIGHT, D2, Col. 1

Dorothy Height

HEIGHT, From D1

noted, "I think we have to spend a minute talking about her contributions to style." And everyone who ever saw Height wearing one of her distinctive hats let out a happy and knowing laugh.

Height, the longtime president of the National Council of Negro Women, has received too many awards and honors to count. But last night's gala at the Grand Hyatt, which raised more than \$1 million for the NCNW, was undoubtedly the glitziest for the self-effacing guest of honor.

"They call it 'Uncommon Height,'" she said. "But I have to say I've been the beneficiary of many uncommon opportunities."

But her legions of fans, including the thousand present in the ballroom, gave her full credit.

"She has been my lifetime role model," said Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, who has been a member of the NCNW since she was 13. "I don't make a move without consulting her."

Like many young African Americans, Herman was inspired by Height's quiet but relentless ability to improve the lives of women, men and children for more than 60 years. "She has a saying: If the times aren't right, you have to ripen the times," Herman said. "In other words, you can't wait for things to come to you. You have to make them happen."

Height is best known for her work at the NCNW, where she served as president from 1957 until February of this year. In that role, she met just about everybody who was anybody and established a reputation as a graceful and effective voice in the civil rights and women's movements. In 1996, the NCNW launched a \$30 million fund-raising campaign and established the Dorothy I. Height Leadership Institute to teach her techniques of political and social activism.

"She's caring," said singer Gladys Knight. "Absolutely caring."

"She's very smart and she's very strategic," said Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.). "She's got a lot of respect for her great dignity." But beneath that silk glove is a steel hand, Norton said. "She's a radical feminist, straight on down the line.



BY SUSAN BIDDLE—THE WASHINGTON POST

Gladys Knight and Jesse Jackson at last night's tribute.

Black women were a little confused about if they should be feminists or not. It was the leadership of women like Height who made it okay to be feminists."

New York activist Al Sharpton was among those who made the trip to Washington to pay tribute. "I think Dorothy Height represents the ultimate in civil rights activism," he said.

Last night's program began with Jesse Jackson, who acknowledged the strength and power of the women assembled, especially Height and Clinton.

"All of us want to say something to you but we can't quite say it," Jackson said to the first lady. Instead, he called for a "loving round of applause." The audience gave Clinton the first two standing ovations of the night. "Give it up, give it up," Jackson encouraged.

After that, it seemed everybody got standing ovations. It was that kind of night.

Clinton's remarks traced Height's life work from the civil rights movement in this country to helping women and children in Africa. "Her influence has been felt around the world and I have seen it firsthand."

The first lady also made a passing reference to Height's not-so-secret talent: limbo dancing. (Seems Height was a guest on Oprah Winfrey's birthday cruise for Maya Angelou earlier this year. "Not only was she on the cruise, but she did the limbo," reported Winfrey pal Gayle King. Height "got out of that chair and did the limbo not once but twice. And she did it very well.")

Clinton then introduced Height, "our hero, leader, role model who has kept us all going." Height, who spent most of the evening in a wheelchair, stood during her speech.

"When you honor me, I have to give thanks for the ways all of you and all those I have worked with have been instrumental in my development," she said.

Then the speeches ended and the other legends took to the stage. Winfrey and Angelou recited two poems in Height's honor. Ashford & Simpson performed their greatest hits, backed up by—why not?—Angelou in one of her public singing moods. Then a professional diva—that would be opera star Norman—performed gospel standards and "Our Love Is Here to Stay."

The party finally ended near midnight—a long, inspiring evening for Height, who left the crowd with this promise: "So long as God shall let me live, I want to be in the struggle for justice and equality."

Democratic Women Rally to First Lady

By **TERRY M. NEAL** and **PETER BAKER**
Washington Post Staff Writers

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton met with two dozen Democratic female lawmakers at the White House yesterday and assured them that she would use her popularity to get out the party's message and help Democrats get elected in tough elections around the country in November.

The House members sought out the first lady amid concerns that the sex and perjury allegations against President Clinton were obscuring much of his party's agenda with crucial midterm elections seven weeks away.

But those who attended the meeting said there was no mention of Monica S. Lewinsky or the report of independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr or the possibility of impeachment hearings against the president. "There

was no discussion of the scandal," said Rep. Zoe Lofgren (Calif.). "There was a discussion about how do we get our message across, how do we accomplish this for the American people."

And there was no attempt on the members' part to comfort her or soothe any pain she might be experiencing. "We wouldn't have patronized her by assuming that she was anything but what she appeared to be, which was ebullient and engaged," said Del. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D.C.).

Since returning on Labor Day from a trip to Russia, Ireland and Northern Ireland with the president, Hillary Clinton has kept up an active schedule on her own and with him. Yesterday morning, she helped inaugurate the new Peace Corps headquarters in downtown Washington with Queen Noor of Jordan. She addressed a Jewish organization in the afternoon and attended a dinner honoring

civil rights leader Dorothy Height in the evening.

During her major appearance of the day, a 35-minute speech to the Lion of Judah, the first lady made no direct reference to the controversy that continues to hang over the White House, although some of her comments could be taken as hints of her thinking.

Adopting the term "family feminist," Hillary Clinton gave a full-throated exhortation on the rights of women.

She condemned the Taliban fundamentalist movement that controls Afghanistan, called on the Senate to ratify an international convention opposed to discrimination against women and decried attempts by conservatives to condition payments to international organizations on new restrictions on family planning services.

See **HILLARY**, A32, Col. 1

HILLARY, From A31

In comments that could apply to her current situation, the first lady talked about women who had endured extraordinary adversity and persevered, particularly citing a woman who lost most of her family during the Holocaust. "We haven't, most of us, been challenged like that," she said. "But we have been challenged, haven't we? And for us the challenge is how do we build lives of meaning and purpose."

House women are hoping to draw on Hillary Clinton's perceived strength. Polls show her popularity has increased significantly since the Lewinsky scandal broke in January.

Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald (Calif.) began organizing the meeting last week after returning from her district, where her constituents expressed concerns that issues—including education, health care and Social Security—were being ignored in Washington. She enlisted the help of several other high-ranking Democratic women to organize the White House meeting.

"I said, 'You know what, women, we've got to go see Hillary Clinton,'" Millender-McDonald

said. "We've got to not be in this mode where people see us as defeatist. She is critical to our agenda."

Rep. Nita M. Lowey (N.Y.) said: "We really think if the women can get out there en masse with Hillary, we can really talk about the issues that most people care about in this country—education, health care, the environment, Social Security."

Holmes Norton said the first lady agreed to step up her campaign appearances with House Democrats, particularly but not exclusively female candidates, in competitive races.

At the news conference after the meeting, some of the House members accused the media of making it difficult for them to focus on other important issues.

"Let me respond by challenging you," Rep. Lynn Woolsey (Calif.) said. "If the issues that are important to the people in this country are to be discussed, then the press of this country has to talk about something else besides Monica Lewinsky."

Staff writer Kevin Merida contributed to this report.

The Washington Post

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1998

First lady calls for expansion of Peace Corps ranks by 2000

By Chiharu Kamimura
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Clinton administration is seeking to sharply increase the number of Peace Corps volunteers overseas, Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday at the inauguration of the new Peace Corps headquarters on 20th Street in Northwest.

President Clinton intends to launch a new national recruiting drive to meet the goal of 10,000 volunteers serving by the year 2000. Currently, 6,500 people are serving in 80 countries.

But Peace Corps Press Director Brendan Daly said in an interview that due to cuts in the budget for foreign policy, "it would be difficult for us to get an increase, even though we have strong bipartisan support."

Budget concerns, however, did not spoil the day for 25 seventh-graders of Garnet-Patterson Middle School in Northwest, wearing blue and white outfits, who had a tour of the new Peace Corps building and welcomed Mrs. Clinton

and Jordan's Queen Noor to the facility's inaugural ceremony.

"I'm excited," said Shadon Bibb, one of the students, after the ceremony as she left for afternoon classes. "I've never been in the Peace Corps building before ... and [seen] lots of famous people."

The students will correspond with Peace Corps volunteers who are leaving for Malawi today, as part of a program called World Wise Schools. The program started in 1989 and aims at giving American students an opportunity to share experiences with current and former Peace Corps volunteers.

Mrs. Clinton praised the program at the ceremony yesterday.

"I am very pleased to hear [about the correspondence program] because one of my hopes is that more young Americans will see the world as the Peace Corps volunteers see it through their eyes," Mrs. Clinton said at the ceremony.

Queen Noor, born in the United States, said that she always dreamed of joining the Peace Corps when she was a young girl.

"My life has moved in another direction," said the queen, who is the wife of King Hussein of Jordan.

"But what I have tried to achieve reflects the same concerns and owes a great deal to that early inspiration."

The ceremony was partly to dedicate the Peace Corps' new visitors center, Shriver Hall. The center was named after R. Sargent Shriver, who was the first director when John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps in 1961.

At the ceremony, Sen. Paul Coverdell, Georgia Republican, Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, Connecticut Democrat, and Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna E. Shalala each gave a speech. Mr. Coverdell was a director of the Peace Corps from 1989 to 1991. Mr. Dodd served in the Dominican Republic during the 1960s. Mrs. Shalala was a volunteer in Iran in 1962.

Hillary's next

"One big reason Hillary is so vocal in defending her husband and attacking Starr is that she is likely to be next on the griddle," says Dick Morris, who used to be President Clinton's top political adviser.

Mr. Morris, writing in the New York Post, predicts that Mrs. Clinton will be indicted in the Whitewater investigation.

As proof, Mr. Morris cites the following sentences in the Starr report to Congress: "Evidence is being gathered on . . . the Rose Law Firm's representation of Madison Guaranty Savings & Loan Association. . . . All phases of the investigation are now nearing completion."

Hillary Rodham Clinton was the Rose Law Firm lawyer who represented Madison Guaranty in the Castle Grande real estate deal. And it was her long-missing billing records that turned up in the White House residence with Mrs. Clinton's fingerprints on the cover page.

"If Starr finds Hillary did something wrong, there would appear to be no legal obstacle to stop him from indicting her," Mr. Morris said. "For Hillary, Monica is a sideshow. Castle Grande is the main event."

Bully Biden

Rep. Gerald B.H. Solomon, New York Republican and chairman of the House International Relations Committee, yesterday referred to Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr., Delaware Democrat, as a bully.

The occasion: William Scott Ritter, the former Marine and arms inspector for the United Nations in Iraq, came before the committee to repeat charges that the Clinton administration had lost its nerve in dealing with Saddam Hussein.

"Technically, Scott Ritter had to

of appeasement at the highest levels of the Clinton administration," Mr. Solomon said.

"But for showing courage in resigning over principle, Scott Ritter was attacked by small-minded people in big offices who should know better — and ought to be ashamed of themselves."

"To belittle Scott that 'He doesn't have a clue' insults him directly and by inference all men and women in the field, both those in uniform and those in civilian capacity, all fighting against the forces of totalitarianism and evil," Mr. Solomon said in a clear reference to Mr. Biden's remarks at a recent Senate hearing.

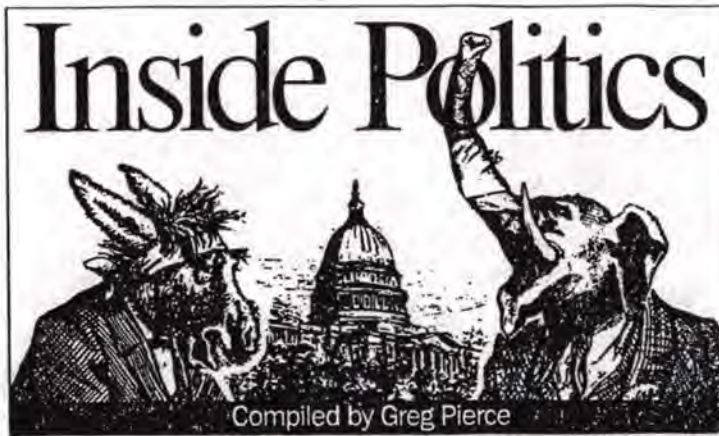
"It is also petty and arrogant by those who have never worn a uniform to mock Major Ritter's name and attack him personally from an untouchable position of power. This is the action of a bully."

FEC vs. coalition

The Federal Election Commission wants a judge to rule that the Christian Coalition improperly aided Republican candidates through its voter guides and other activities.

The government agency filed papers Monday with U.S. District Judge Joyce Green, six days after the Christian Coalition filed its own motion asking the judge to dismiss the FEC suit filed in July 1996. The FEC also asked the judge to fine the organization and prevent it from making further campaign-related expenditures, the Associated Press reports.

The FEC accused the Christian Coalition of spending thousands of dollars to promote the candidacies of Republican politicians, including former President George Bush, Sen. Jesse Helms of North Carolina, Virginia Senate candidate Oliver L. North and House Speaker Newt Gingrich of Georgia.



"groundless," saying their activities did not specifically urge a vote for or against a particular candidate and therefore cannot be regulated by the federal government.

Traffic violations

Paula Jones was stopped by police in Long Beach, Calif., in June and cited for minor traffic violations, Agence France-Presse reports.

The incident occurred in the Los Angeles suburb, where Mrs. Jones now lives, on June 6 when she was stopped for driving with an expired registration, without a seat belt, and without a California license, according to Sgt. Steve Filippini of the Long Beach police.

Mrs. Jones showed an Arkansas driver's license to the officers, but California law requires that residents have a local permit, Sgt. Filippini said.

'We need an adult'

Monica Lewinsky's rabbi lashed out at President Clinton, accusing him of shaming the nation and paralyzing the government with his immature sexual behavior.

leader of the United States we need an adult," Rabbi David Wolpe, senior rabbi of Sinai Temple in the city's Westwood section, said yesterday in recalling his 20-minute message to his congregation on Saturday.

The Lewinsky family didn't attend, and Rabbi Wolpe didn't criticize Miss Lewinsky, the Associated Press reports.

Rabbi Wolpe, author of such books as "Teaching Your Children About God," "Why Be Jewish?" and "The Healer of Shattered Hearts," said, "The leader of her nation is a source of shame."

Evident glee

As if Democrats didn't have enough to worry about, they had to spend yesterday defending the use of marijuana.

"It's hard to believe that at a time when the entire nation is abuzz about the kind of moral leadership that is coming out of Washington, that we have to debate this motion," Rep. Mark Souder, Indiana Republican, teased the Democrats.

Republicans introduced a resolution declaring that "marijuana is a dangerous and addictive drug and should not be legalized for medical use."

states, two of which have legalized marijuana for medical use. But Democrats also found themselves in the unenviable position of seeming to minimize the danger of marijuana.

Republicans seemed delighted at having maneuvered the Democrats into this spot.

"A vote against this is a vote to legalize marijuana," Rep. Bill McCollum, Florida Republican, said with evident glee, "because that's what is going to happen."

Late last night, the resolution passed 310-93, with 207 Republicans voting yes and six voting against it. Among Democrats, 103 voted yes and 86 voted no. Independent Rep. Bernard Sanders of Vermont also voted no.

Race narrows

A new poll released Monday showed the gap narrowing slightly in the race for California governor, with Democrat Gray Davis 9 percentage points ahead of Republican Dan Lungren. A separate poll a week earlier found Mr. Davis 12 points ahead.

The poll also found U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer and Republican challenger Matt Fong in a statistical tie, just as they were in a poll released in early August.

Mrs. Boxer, fighting to hold onto a seat won in 1992's "Year of the Woman," led Mr. Fong, the state treasurer, by 45 percent to 43 percent.

Lt. Gov. Davis, a career politician whose ads have stressed his experience, led Lungren, the state attorney general, by 47 percent to 38 percent.

The poll conducted Sept. 1-7 by the Public Policy Institute of California of 1,613 registered voters has a margin of error of 2.5 percentage points.

Hair-trigger temper

to unseat Republican Rep. Dan Burton of threatening to shoot up an Indianapolis banking center with an Uzi submachine gun.

Candidate Bobby Kern, who was unarmed when he went to the Bank One branch Thursday, was not arrested, and a sheriff's officer said there probably isn't enough evidence to support a criminal charge.

"The question is, 'Did he do anything to further the threat?'" Marion County Chief Deputy Michael Hoak told the Associated Press.

Mr. Kern, 34, entered the branch and needed help getting access to his account, bank employees told police.

While he was being helped, he "continued to rant and rave, using obscenities," then said he was going to get an Uzi and "go back to the banking center downtown and shoot the man that opened the account and every time I pull the trigger, spell my name," the police report said.

Internet frenzy

Independent counsel Kenneth W. Starr's report of President Clinton's offenses in the Monica Lewinsky scandal drew far more readers to the Internet than the legal defense issued by the White House.

A market research company, Relevant Knowledge, estimated about 10 times as many people downloaded the 445-page Starr report than the 73-page White House response, the Associated Press reports.

The company, which tracks Internet traffic, estimated that 5.9 million people read Mr. Starr's report on the Internet, compared with 606,000 people who read the defense by Mr. Clinton's lawyers.

"The frenzy to see the Starr report is like nothing we've ever seen before," said Jeff Levy, chairman of Relevant Knowledge. • Greg Pierce can be reached at 202-336-3305.

news

PEACE CORPS NEWS

First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Queen Noor of Jordan To Dedicate New Peace Corps Headquarters on September 15

Contact:

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Washington, D.C., September 14, 1998--First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and Her Majesty Queen Noor of Jordan will be guests of honor tomorrow at the dedication of the new Peace Corps headquarters in downtown Washington.

Mrs. Clinton will also launch the agency's new recruitment campaign and newly designed World Wide Web site.



First Lady with Volunteers in Chile

"The generation of Peace Corps volunteers who will serve in the new millennium are the leaders of the future," said Peace Corps Director Mark Gearan. "As the world becomes smaller, Peace Corps volunteers are strengthening the ties of friendship and cross-cultural understanding between Americans and the people of other countries. By helping people help themselves, the work these volunteers do in developing countries will pave the way for generations to come."



The President and Mrs. Clinton with Volunteers in Ghana

Mrs. Clinton and Queen Noor are strong supporters of the Peace Corps. When the first group of volunteers left for Jordan in April 1997, Mrs. Clinton hosted a send-off ceremony at the White House. She has also visited Peace Corps volunteers in more than 13 countries.

As a young girl growing up in the United States, Queen Noor wanted to become a Peace Corps volunteer. More recently, she was instrumental in bringing the first Peace Corps volunteers to her country. She has established a foundation to help poor women in rural Jordan and several Peace Corps volunteers are working with the foundation.

A Full Day of Events

The new Peace Corps building is located at 1111 20th Street, NW, in downtown Washington. The dedication ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, September 15. Mrs. Clinton will also dedicate

RELAUNCH

Peace Corps Unveils New Web Site

IN THE FAMILY

Three PCVs in Samoa are Second Generation Volunteers

40 YEARS APART

BU Grads Find Each Other in Peace Corps

Shriver Hall, a multi-purpose visitors center in the new building named in honor of the first Peace Corps Director, R. Sargent Shriver. The visitors center will allow visitors and school groups to learn more about the Peace Corps' history, world geography, and other cultures.

A panel discussion focusing on volunteerism will begin at 2 p.m. Panelists include Director Gearan, Congressman Harold E. Ford Jr. (D-Tenn.), Harris Wofford, CEO of the Corporation for National Service, Vanessa Kirsch, president and founder of New Profit Inc., Stephen Friedman, vice president of public affairs for MTV, writer and editor Eric Liu, and Ursula Hawe, a Peace Corps volunteer from San Francisco who is now serving in Jordan.

At 5 p.m., a reception will be held for friends of the Peace Corps and returned Peace Corps volunteers.

Since 1961, more than 150,000 Americans have joined the Peace Corps, serving in 132 nations. Currently, more than 6,500 Peace Corps volunteers are working in 80 countries around the world to bring clean water to communities, teach children, protect the environment, help start new small businesses, and prevent the spread of AIDS.

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AM-Peace Corps,300

Mrs. Clinton urges Americans to join Peace Corps

AP Photo WX110

WASHINGTON (AP) First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton urged Peace Corps volunteers Tuesday to inspire more Americans to join and get involved in the world.

"The Peace Corps has already made a very tangible and real contribution to making clear that America is seen as we would like to be seen around the world, as people who want to bring tools and opportunities to those who can then build a better life for themselves," said Mrs. Clinton.

Mrs. Clinton inaugurated the new Peace Corps headquarters in downtown Washington with Queen Noor of Jordan.

The queen, American-born Lisa Halaby, said that as a young girl growing up in the United States she always dreamed of joining the Peace Corps.

"My life has moved in another direction," the queen said. "But what I have tried to achieve reflects the same concerns and owes a great deal to that early inspiration."

She quoted Islam's Prophet Mohammed as saying that the best of men are those who are useful to others.

"In that light, Peace Corps volunteers are surely the best of the best," said Noor.

Mrs. Clinton said the Peace Corps spirit should infuse every American "with the idea that we are interconnected, we have a stake in the success, the prosperity and the peace of people throughout our world."

"If we can believe that and act on it then the fondest dreams ... about what the Peace Corps really means will have a chance to come through in the next century," she added.

President John F. Kennedy founded the Peace Corps at the start of his administration in 1961 as a way for Americans to teach skills in the developing world. Nearly 6,500 Peace Corps volunteers are now serving in 80 countries.

**** filed by:APE(--) on 09/15/98 at 15:52EDT ****

**** printed by:WHPR(SCOH) on 09/16/98 at 11:35EDT ****

2ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 The Detroit News, Inc.
The Detroit News

September 16, 1998, Wednesday

SECTION: NationWorld; Pg. Pg. A5

LENGTH: 496 words

HEADLINE: NationalBriefs

BODY:

First lady inspires Peace Corp workers

WASHINGTON -- First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton on Tuesday urged Peace Corps volunteers to inspire more Americans to join and get involved in the world.

"The Peace Corps has already made a very tangible and real contribution to making clear that America is seen as we would like to be seen around the world, as people who want to bring tools and opportunities to those who can then build a better life for themselves," she said.

Hillary Clinton inaugurated the Peace Corps headquarters in downtown Washington with Queen Noor of Jordan. The queen, American-born Lisa Halaby, said that as a young girl growing up in the United States she always dreamed of joining the Peace Corps.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch, September 16, 1998

Mrs. Clinton urges Americans to join Peace Corps

Hillary Rodham Clinton urged Peace Corps volunteers Tuesday to inspire more Americans to join and get involved in the world. "The Peace Corps has already made a very tangible and real contribution to making clear that America is seen as we would like to be seen around the world, as people who want to bring tools and opportunities to those who can then build a better life for themselves," she said. Mrs. Clinton inaugurated the new Peace Corps headquarters in downtown Washington with Queen Noor of Jordan. The queen, American-born Lisa Halaby, said that, as a young girl growing up in the United States, she always dreamed of joining the Peace Corps.

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1998 Bulletin Broadfacing Network, Inc.
The Bulletin's Frontrunner

September 16, 1998, Wednesday

SECTION: WASHINGTON NEWS

LENGTH: 114 words

HEADLINE: First Lady Calls For Peace Corps Expansion.

BODY:

The W. Times (9/16, A14, Kamimura) reported, "The Clinton Administration is seeking to sharply increase the number of Peace Corps volunteers overseas, Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday at the inauguration of the new Peace Corps headquarters...in Washington. President Clinton intends to launch a new national recruiting drive to meet the goal of 10,000 volunteers serving by the year 2000. Currently, 6,500 people are serving in 80 countries. But Peace Corps Press Director Brendan Daly said in an interview that due to cuts in the budget for foreign policy, 'it would be difficult for us to get an increase, even though we have strong bipartisan support.'"



The Washington Post

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THE WASHINGTON POST

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1998

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1998

The First and Second Couples' Manhattan Money Hunt

Despite it all, the fund-raising show must go on.

The once fabulous four, the two boomer couples who bonded on buses while stumping the country, are back together again Monday in New York in the hugest Democratic National Committee fund-raiser this election cycle. **President and Hillary Rodham Clinton** and **Vice President and Tipper Gore** shove off to Manhattan expecting to raise more than \$3 million.

The extravaganza starts with a luncheon for 100 at the three-story, art-studded apartment of songwriter and socialite

Denise Rich. Ticket price: \$50,000 a couple. Once married to fugitive financier **Marc Rich**, who fled to Switzerland after his 1983 indictment on racketeering, fraud and trading-with-the-enemy charges, she received multitudes of millions in her divorce settlement last year.

After a decent interval for digestion, the quartet will move to the Supper Club for a larger feed, then on to the New Amsterdam Theatre for a special sold-out performance of the smash puppet musical "The Lion King." Some folks have paid up to \$150,000 for the day's trifecta, said DNC spokeswoman **Melissa Bonney Ratcliffe**.

In the works for a couple of months, the fund-raisers mark the first time the Clintons and Gores have spent so many hours in public together since the president admitted his affair with **Monica Lewinsky**.

Asked if Mrs. Gore has been in touch with the first lady, Tipper's press secretary **Jennifer Devlin** said she did not know and would not ask.

"My sense is that their communication is personal and private," said Devlin, "and she would not want to share that with the press. They are close friends."

NATION/WORLD

First Lady shines amid European spotlight

By Ann McFeatters

Scripps Howard News Service

It wasn't President Clinton's picture in color on the front page of the Irish Times Thursday as he arrived here. It was a smiling, waving Hillary Rodham Clinton.

When the first lady gave a flawless, extemporaneous five-minute speech about the "vital voices" of women in the Northern Ireland peace process, 2,000 women rose to their feet as one in applause.

Since the first lady emerged from the seclusion of a searing two weeks of pondering her husband's unfaithfulness, every word she has said on this trip to Russia, Northern Ireland and Ireland has been parsed. Every gesture has been scrutinized. The body language of the Clintons is analyzed around the globe.

Was she the slightest bit chilly at the state dinner in Moscow when Clinton lightly touched her shoulder and she breezed past him without responding?

And what did she mean when she said at the announcement of an environmental playground here that she hoped it would be possible for her to return for the dedication?



Clinton

The whole world, it seems, wants to know. Is she wounded? How can she act as if nothing is wrong?

A breathless reporter for the BBC literally was sinking into the mud at the playground site here as she solemnly told her TV audience, "She shows no sign of her personal troubles."

A reporter for the Daily Mail was desperate. "I have to write a story about what she's wearing. Does anybody know the designer?"

Nobody did. All business, the first lady took command of the children, helping them release iridescent balloons into the sky. Then she gave a speech about the importance of safe play for children, especially in a strife-torn place like Belfast or a crime-ridden neighborhood in Washington D.C.

Two women who shook hands with her said they were gliding on air. "She's quite lovely, isn't she?" said Michelle Eastwood in delight.

Her new friend, Margaret Lynn, who is from Omagh, where on Aug. 15 the deadliest paramilitary attack in Northern Ireland's history took 28 lives and injured 200, said of

the Clintons: "That's their own personal business. Besides, he's been a good friend to Ireland."

Hillary Clinton still refers to "my husband" in her talks to praise an initiative he's taken, especially in crime, education and health care. She says nothing about her private life and seems as resolutely cheerful and upbeat as she was before Aug. 16, when her husband told her that the story about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky was more sordid and humiliating than he had led her to believe.

During their vacation on Martha's Vineyard, Clinton did not play golf as he loves to do, and the couple was seen only sporadically, once on Walter Cronkite's sailboat. Clinton in Moscow characterized the vacation as "a lot of very valuable time with my family."

The first lady clearly relished the company of Cherie Blair, the cheerfully competent, friendly wife of the British prime minister. As fellow lawyers, mothers and wives of ambitious politicians, the two women have become good friends.

The first lady's staff, which does not talk to her about the gossip or the affair, is no longer downhearted and bleak but performing up to her standards of efficiency. Her aides were elated when C-Span broadcast a tape of her Belfast speech about the power of women in pushing for peace.



“No one need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.”

**Hillary Rodham Clinton, quoting
*Holocaust diarist Anne Frank***

HER BEST DEFENSE: BRING OUT THE VOTE

BY KAREN TUMULTY

IT IS UNDERSTANDABLE IF YOU HAVE NEVER HEARD OF DAVID WU OR MOLLY BORDONARO, neither have half the voters in Oregon's First Congressional District, and both are on the ballot. But while people in western Portland and its environs seem profoundly uninterested in who will represent them come January, the decision is getting plenty of attention in Washington. For the district, home to roughly equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans, is the sort of place that will determine the makeup of the next Congress, and probably with it Bill Clinton's future.

The latest and biggest in a parade of big names to campaign in Oregon's First District: Hillary Clinton, whose tribulations have helped make her the hottest ticket on this season's fund-raising circuit. More than 200 Oregonians paid \$250 each to Wu's under-financed campaign to hear the First Lady declare over lunch, "We need to change the Congress!" The biggest favor Clinton did for Wu

WAKE-UP CALL Wu, in background, welcomes the First Lady in Oregon.



was to remind Democrats there is an election coming up and offer them a rationale for voting in a year when turnout promises to set a record low. Even in Oregon, where mail-in balloting makes voting convenient, two-thirds of those registered sat out the May primary. "This is the least interested electorate in my 20 years of polling," says independent pollster Tim Hibbitts. The numbers show, moreover, that the people most inclined to vote are disproportionately Republican. Recent polls give Democrat Wu a 6-point lead overall, but

among those likely to vote, the G.O.P.'s Bordonaro has a 5-point edge. Nationally, in a TIME/CNN poll last week, registered voters favored Democratic congressional candidates 48% to 41%. But the results were dramatically different among likely voters: G.O.P. candidates held a 49% to 45% advantage.

Those are the sorts of numbers that explain why the President's approval ratings are of little comfort to Democrats. For now, at least, only the most desperate Republican candidates seem inclined to try to turn the election into a referendum on the President's behavior. But Democrats sense that the sex scandal is contributing to a general alienation

that will keep voters—particularly their voters—away from the polls. This concern is underscored by the fact that Democratic fund raising is not meeting expectations while G.O.P. coffers are bulging to the point where the party is able to give even its long-shot candidates the maximum amount allowed by law. Its election committee has decided to subsidize a dozen races in which G.O.P. candidates were considered lost causes just a month ago.

Enter Hillary. In the days after her husband's confession of an "inappropriate" relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the First Lady resisted—wisely, in now appears—the pleas of her husband's allies and advisers for her to bestow her forgiveness ostentatiously in a nationally televised interview. Instead she is making the case for her husband's survival in private. Two weeks ago, she served coffee and danish and reassurance to about two dozen adoring women lawmakers at the White House. She also lobbied Capitol Hill by phone to shore up Democratic support for the President, helping quiet the grousing of at least one of his more outspoken critics, Virginia Congressman James Moran. There is talk that she may even address the House Democratic Caucus.

But where Clinton's influence may count most is outside Washington, where she is the party's most popular draw, particularly among the faithful. Having already made almost 50 campaign appearances this year, the First Lady stepped up her schedule last week to hit five states in three days. In New York City for Senate nominee Charles Schumer on Wednesday, she told 250 thousand-dollar donors that Republican Senator Alfonse D'Amato is "a Jesse Helms clone" who has voted "to keep women down and back." In San Francisco, organizers who had expected 400 people at her \$250-a-head appearance for Senator Barbara Boxer on Friday night had to make room for 1,150.

Perversely enough, her appearances are most needed in the precincts where Democratic candidates have become leery of

appearing with her husband. Wu, for instance, insists he was misquoted in a New York Times story that suggested he would prefer Clinton stay away. But asked whether that means he would like to see the President make a stop in Portland, the lawyer replied, "Didn't say that either." Oregon's Democratic Governor, John Kitzhaber, has put it more bluntly, saying he would decline any offers by the White House to send Clinton into the state. "The issue would just be the President's behavior, not the campaign," Kitzhaber said. "I'm not interested in that."

Even without the scandal's static, voters might have more trouble than usual drawing distinctions between the two parties. Democrats have consciously fielded a more conservative team of candidates, and Republicans are downplaying the social issues that have cost them votes in the suburban districts, where the most important battles are being fought. In Oregon, Wu and Bordonaro, neither of whom has ever held office, are jostling each other for the middle. Bordonaro, 30, having run in the 1996 election primary as a Newt Gingrich acolyte, now soft-pedals her personal anti-abortion stand and her opposition to gun control. Wu, 43, who immigrated from Taiwan when he was seven, has styled himself in Clinton's New Democrat mold, stressing fiscal discipline. Both candidates say education is their top priority.

Ideas may matter, but in this disaffected political moonscape, organization matters more. Democratic strategists are quietly urging candidates to move their money out of advertising and into get-out-the-vote efforts. That may mean winning voters one at a time. On Friday in Portland, retiree Judy Carlson Kelley ignored admonishments from the First Lady's staff and asked her to sign a copy of her book. Thrilled when she did, Kelley asked, "What can we do for you in return?" Hillary nodded at Wu and said, "Get this man elected."

With reporting by Cathy Booth/Portland, David S. Jackson/San Francisco and Melissa August/Washington

EXCLUSIVE POLL: HOW AMERICANS VIEW HILLARY CLINTON

U.S. News & World Report

SEPTEMBER 28, 1998

Can She Save Him?



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Can She Save Him?

One major problem confronting the first lady: A poll shows that the public has a very cynical view of her, too

BY KENNETH T. WALSH

Hillary Rodham Clinton is back on duty with the shovel brigade. Her simmering anger at Bill Clinton has been overtaken by her fury at Kenneth Starr, and she once again is taking part in strategy sessions on how to clean up the political mess created by the Lewinsky affair. Last week, she joined her husband and his advisers in brainstorming ways to prevent disastrous losses by their party in November's elections. In a phone conversation the Clintons had with one prominent Democrat, she issued rapid-fire instructions while the president meekly deferred to her. She also met with Democratic congresswomen, vowing to campaign for them and defend administration policies.

But there now is a difference in her damage-control approach. She is less eager for battle, some advisers say, because her husband's conduct has curbed her options. And she sees little chance that anyone can keep the Republican-controlled Congress from launching impeachment proceedings.

Most important, since the president's statement

that he misled her and the nation about his encounters with Monica Lewinsky, Mrs. Clinton knows she no longer can command a high moral ground on his behalf. His confession drained much of the vinegar from her attitude. "Like most everyone else at the White House," says a confidant of the Clintons, "she is baffled by what to do next."

A *U.S. News* poll shows the limits on what the first lady *can* do. Americans, the survey indicates, have deeply cynical opinions of her motives: They tend to think that she knew about Lewinsky all along, that the Clinton marriage is one of convenience, that she doesn't love her husband and just wants the power and glory of being first lady. But they also believe she should stay with him, although they suspect she will divorce him once his presidency ends.

The official view from the White House is much different. "She supports him. She loves him. She forgives him," says Marsha Berry, the first lady's press secretary. "She remains committed to her marriage and her family."

But Republican pollster Ed Goeas, who conducted the *U.S. News* survey with Democrat Celinda Lake,

■ How do you view the Clintons' relationship?

40% A practical business and political relationship

18% A loving marriage that has troubles

13% A marriage held together for the country

13% A marriage kept together for their daughter's sake

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believes the first lady will have a hard time appearing so supportive. "Voters are satisfied with the way Hillary handles certain policy issues, like women's issues, but they recognize that the relationship she shares with her husband is more of a business partnership than a loving marriage," Goeas says. "More and more voters feel she is motivated purely by her own political interests and not what is best for her family." Adds Lake: "Americans think [the president] did something wrong to them, not just to his family, and there's little Hillary Clinton can do to change that."

Mrs. Clinton is in a quandary over what should be done to ease her husband's plight. If he yields to pressure from Congress and the news media to stop "legal hairsplitting" and admit lying under oath, she is convinced that Starr will try to indict him. Relying on the mercy of the independent counsel and the GOP, she tells friends, would be folly.

Yet the first lady feels that, while she will travel the country in support of her husband's public record, she is not ready to defend his private behavior. That, she believes, would make her look phony, foolish, and desperate to keep power. She agrees with aides who argue that speaking out in detail on the president's private conduct won't convert any Republicans or pundits who turned against him. "It would only subject her to more humiliation," says a confidant.

She believes it is up to the president to turn things around for himself, friends say. And her advice to him is to avoid discussing the Lewinsky affair. Talk instead, she urges, about what's important to core constituencies, especially women and African-Americans: the healthy economy, his support for affirmative action, improved health care, and more federal aid to education.

Starr-stung. What most offended Mrs. Clinton about Starr's report to Congress were the "gratuitous" details of her husband's liaisons. She believes, friends say, that Starr designed his report to inflict maximum damage on the president and the first lady personally, to drive a wedge between them, and undermine their marriage.

Mrs. Clinton was upset that Starr's account had Clinton telling Lewinsky he had "hundreds of affairs" earlier in his marriage. But what angered her the most was Starr's description of an emotional meeting between the president and a weeping Lewinsky on July 4, 1997. Clinton is quoted as telling his ex-intern that he wished he had more time for her and adding that when he was no longer president, he might be "alone." "And then I

said something about . . . us sort of being together," Lewinsky told prosecutors. "I think I kind of said, oh, I think we'd be a good team . . . And he . . . jokingly said, well, what are we going to do when I'm 75 and I have to pee 25 times a day?"

Most of the first lady's views on the scandal are kept to herself. Some of her staff members are troubled that she won't even tell *them* how she feels. "The bunker mentality has set in in a big way," a friend says. Several presidential aides, according to a senior administration source, urged her in the past two weeks to "come out and bless him again" with a vigorous public defense. She angrily told them, through her own staff, to "back off." Instead, she will speak out publicly on her own terms and on her own timetable.

"What people see in her current response is a quiet dignity," says Democratic pollster Geoff Garin. "It gives her personally more credibility than if she gave a full-throated expression of support. . . . You get the impression of a woman looking at the full context of [her husband's] life, balancing the good and the bad."

Friends and advisers who met with the first lady last week came away with the impression that she was more "upbeat" than a month ago when her husband told the country he had strayed. "She is determined to maintain

her family, her privacy, and the Clinton presidency," says a prominent Democrat who talked with her.

Retaining control. The Starr report isn't her only dislike. She hates being portrayed as a victim because it runs counter to the image she wants to project of a strong, confident woman. In a way, says a friend, staying with her husband makes her less of a victim. "She retains more control that way," says an ally. "[She knows that] when this is over, she will have her reputation intact and he won't."

To cope, she immerses herself in her work and her causes. "Work is a comfort zone," says an adviser. "She retreats to it." In coming weeks she will campaign actively around the country—mostly without her husband—and focus on female candidates. This week, she travels to Col-

orado, Washington State, Oregon, and California. Next week, she visits Latin America, including a summit of first ladies in Chile.

She seems most at ease when she is far from Washington, on her own, shuttling from one cheering crowd to another without the entourage and ceremonial obligations that envelop her husband's trips. She delights in sitting in a swivel chair in her Air Force jet, surrounded by her staff, nearly all of them women, cracking jokes, talking about their families, and discussing issues. Her aides have a word for such experiences: "Hillaryland."

While the public sees Mrs. Clinton as a supportive partner praising the president's record, friends say that in private she remains angry at her husband. Their relationship is, according to one family friend, "brittle." Some news

photographers who constantly view the Clintons through their telephoto lenses long ago noticed that the couple never seemed particularly close. Once the two believe they are no longer in camera range, their hand-holding tends to stop, and they keep a distance from each other.

White House aides paint a different picture, a loving couple that openly displays affection through hugs and lingering looks—and a first lady who appears committed to her marriage despite her husband's transgressions.

Mrs. Clinton, says one friend, is "the most forgiving person I know." Pardoning others is a trait that springs from the first lady's Methodist belief that individuals should strive to improve the world by performing good works, struggling for social justice, loving everyone, and forgiving people for their weaknesses.

Her attitude also was shaped by an experience in the 1960s, when she was a teenager working with a Methodist group in Park Ridge, Ill. The congregation's youth minister, Don Jones, told the young people: "In the midst of life tragedy comes, and it strips away our illusions. Those moments are times to realize our potential, our possibilities." It is advice that Hillary Rodham took to heart. And it may have special relevance today for Hillary Clinton. ■

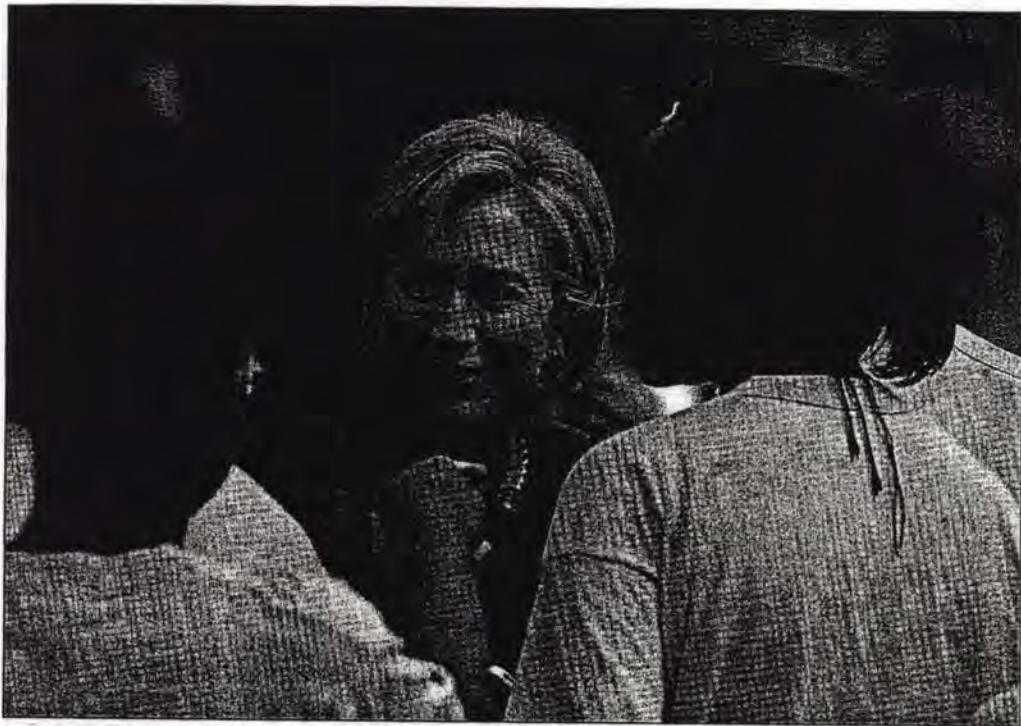
■ Americans who think it likely or very likely Hillary Clinton will divorce Bill Clinton when he leaves office:
Now: 55% April: 32%

■ Americans who think Hillary Clinton looked the other way as her husband cheated on her: 58%
Americans who think she was an unknowing victim: 20%

■ Americans' responses when asked at what point she found out about Clinton's relationship with Lewinsky:
37% say she knew all along
26% say when the story broke in January
13% say just before his speech in mid-August

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For love or loyalty?

Conflicting views on her decision to stand by her man

BY VICTORIA POPE

First comes the high-octane smile, then the upward gaze. Then the pitch—"I am proud to present my husband"—as if Monica Lewinsky did not exist.

But the fact is that the doe-eyed former intern is alive and well at the Watergate, and videotapes of President Clinton testifying before the grand jury are making the rounds. Those realities make Hillary Clinton's on-camera persona excruciating, sometimes, to watch. "There's one good actress," says Lynne Larkin, a 40-year-old lawyer from Vero Beach, Fla. But Larkin understands the need for the first lady's pasteboard mask and applauds the self-control it reflects. "She is being so stoic. She could have played Diana, Princess of Wales, the elegant victim. But she has something to preserve. She is his partner in this and has to be businesslike. She has her 'vice president status' to think about."

In a new *U.S. News* poll, the first lady

emerges as a woman who is popular with men and women and widely admired for her loyalty to her husband. The poll, conducted by Democrat Celinda Lake and Republican Ed Goetz, shows that she remains a strong role model for many Americans at precisely the time her husband is not. It also shows that the public, at least for now, wants to see more of her, not less: Fifty-eight percent of those queried said the first lady should stay and work things out with her husband, even though, when asked what should happen if they or their spouse were to have an affair like the president's, only 49 percent chose the "stay and work it out" option. Despite this, 56 percent said it was either very likely or somewhat likely that Hillary Clinton will divorce her husband once he leaves the White House.

Few of those surveyed believe her loyalty is driven by personal attachment to the president. When asked why she put up with his behavior, 47 percent said she was motivated by public objectives—such as wanting to remain the first lady and enjoy-

ing policy making; 35 percent said it was for personal reasons, specifically love for her husband and concern about their daughter. One stark departure: Fifty-six percent of all African-Americans said she was staying in the relationship for love.

There is also a measure of cynicism. Sixty-eight percent of respondents said the first lady looked the other way when faced with her husband's betrayal; only 20 percent, by contrast, thought she was a victim. And most believe she knew about the affair well before the president's grand jury testimony.

The bulwark of the first lady's support

■ Women who see Hillary Clinton as a good role model: 66%

■ Men who see her as a good role model: 54%

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"Most first ladies are like Barbie dolls, cute wives and all. But Hillary has her own life outside of being first lady. She doesn't just do the charity thing." —LAVERNE CHRISTIAN

has always been college-educated women, but now noncollege women have surpassed the college-educated group as her strongest supporters, the poll shows. This shift reflects the first lady's own odyssey from a sometimes prickly political wife who didn't want to be branded as merely a baker of cookies to a first lady who has responded to a personal crisis in a traditional rather than radical way.

Businesslike. These findings mostly square with the views of several dozen women interviewed by *U.S. News* reporters last week. Interestingly, some of those queried described Hillary Clinton in ways that might be construed as negative, especially when viewed through a feminist lens (Page 35). In the interviews, the word most associated with her was businesslike. The president's spouse is also

seen as a silent sufferer who harbors hopes of securing her proper place in history. But women, indeed all Americans, read Mrs. Clinton's actions in often contradictory ways. Her marriage is viewed by many as a sham; her public behavior contrived and calculated. But she is also

"I'd like to see her come out and be... more forthright about it... Maybe not rake him over the coals publicly but say, 'I'm not happy about this.' "

—JAN ZIMMERMAN

seen as someone who has stood by her man in the very way she swore not to in the 1992 campaign.

Confusion or not, few of the attributes ascribed to Hillary Clinton are perceived as minuses. Rather, they have enhanced her image in the eyes of many women. "I have more respect for her than I did before because she has held her head high," says Kris Mohn, 39, a supervisor at the Port of Seattle's American President Line. The longshoremen Mohn works with are staunchly behind President Clinton and blame the affair on Lewinsky, but she feels only qualified sorrow for the first lady. "She must have known all the time," Mohn says. "What a slimeball this guy was. Besides, she's extremely bright and extremely strong. It's Chelsea who needs a lot of attention in this situation. You know how girls feel about their daddies."

Instead of shunning Mrs. Clinton as a sellout, women admire her steely exterior. Where Bill Clinton seems to lack control, Hillary Clinton exudes it. She is seen as the responsible one, the grown-up, the headstrong adolescent. If anyone in the White House is acting presidential these days, women say, it's the first lady.

But that doesn't make it any easier to watch her on her public forays. For Jan Zimmerman, a Minneapolis travel consultant, the adoring look Hillary gives her husband "encompasses a lot of things. It's

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"[Hillary] can take a stand without divorcing him, but to say she's proud of him—that's another thing. She's kind of taking his tack and not telling the truth." —CAROLYN MOORE

not just loving him. It's loving where she's at. She's gotten to her position through her husband, so it's the love of the position, the love of the power, the love of things she can do that are worthwhile. Part of it is years of practice. I think she's known about these [affairs] for a long, long time." Zimmerman says when she sees Mrs. Clinton's picture-perfect poses, she cannot imagine herself choosing the kind of marriage that the first lady appears to have, and she isn't sure she could fake that kind of affection.

Many younger women find little sympathy with such views—and have definite ideas about what the first lady should do. "Leave him. Definitely leave him. I don't think I would stay just because he was the president," says Tara Esposito, 27, as she takes a lunch break outside New York's Rockefeller Plaza. "It's not the first time. It makes Americans look foolish. He's not a movie star. He's the president. She's still young. She could move on and she could make enough money by herself." A saleswoman and office manager for a Manhattan diamond retailer, Esposito lives in the Bronx and is single with no children. She is even tougher on Lewinsky: "I think she's trash. It doesn't matter if it's the president—he's a married man. It's her own fault."

Others of the 20-something generation

are most concerned about whether this affair will hobble the first lady. Tamsen Schultz, 24, who works for a private foundation in Cambridge, Mass., had been a fan of Hillary Clinton's since enrolling as a freshman at Mount Holyoke in 1992. "For a young woman starting at a wom-

en's college," Schultz said, "Hillary was a role model of what women can be and can do. She was part of the reason I voted for Clinton. After Nancy Reagan and Barbara Bush, her commitment to social change, her social conscience were so appealing." It was Schultz's good fortune to shake Hillary Clinton's hand at one of the first lady's first public speeches after the president's Oval Office *mea culpa* in August. "People were saying it was really ironic that Hillary's first public appearance [after Clinton's speech] was her talking about women's rights and role in society to a group of women, but I thought she was great," says Schultz.

Many women single out her direct involvement in the affairs of state as a salutary reshaping of the first lady's role. "Getting two for one," as President Clinton promised Americans would happen if they voted for him, has been a boon to the country. If anything, they wish she had carved out a wider brief.

Mohn believes that when the first lady spoke out on health care she was put down by White House advisers who didn't like the extent of

her power. "She was qualified to do a lot of these things on her own, but she had to accept a shittails situation," she says.

If Mrs. Clinton is faulted at all, it is for her reluctance to be more open with the public. "I guess I'd like to see her come out and be a little more forthright about it, be a little more honest," says travel consultant Zimmerman, sitting on a park bench in Central Park during a recent visit to New York. "Maybe not rake him over the coals publicly but say, 'You know, I'm not happy about this. This doesn't make me happy. This doesn't make my family life real good. I am in some pain.' Have some of her own feelings."

Unguarded moment. And signs of defiance would also be welcome. When Schultz studied the television footage of Mrs. Clinton, she looked for signs of independence as well as composure. "I sometimes wonder how she can find that kind of happiness with him. I hope, for her sake, that it is sincere when she is beaming at him, laughing with him." But in an unguarded moment in one piece of footage, Schultz caught Mrs. Clinton rolling her eyes. "I must admit I did like her rolling her eyes. It was nice to see that reaction, that she was not happy with what he did. It showed that she can be angry with him but her anger doesn't get construed to mean that she is leaving him. He did

■ Women who think Clinton is doing an excellent or good job on women's issues: 48%

■ Who think Clinton's actions have turned back the clock on what is considered acceptable treatment of women: 45%

■ Who think the scandal has hurt Clinton's credibility on women's issues like health care and equal pay: 34%

■ Women's response when asked what would have happened to Clinton if he were the head of a major company:
41% say he would have been fired
31% say he would have been reprimanded
22% say nothing would have happened

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something despicable within the marriage and she can choose to work through it."

Zimmerman says women really relate to emotion and become confused when Mrs. Clinton holds hers back. Carolyn Moore, a Denver kindergarten teacher, thinks the first lady wouldn't risk much by showing more emotion. "I think maybe she should speak out a little more. I think she's not saying what she really feels. ... She should say: 'I'm hurt too. I don't think he did what was right.' You can take a stand without divorcing him, but to say she's proud of him—that's another thing. ... She's kind of taking his tack and not telling the truth."

But no one wants her to revert to the helpmate behavior that made many former first ladies seem inaccessible to modern women. "Most first ladies are like Barbie dolls, cute wives and all," says LaVerne Christian, a systems analyst for an insurance company. Christian, 44 and African-American, is eating at Gladys' Luncheonette, a hangout for City Council members on Chicago's South Side. "But Hillary has her own life outside of being first lady. She doesn't just do the charity thing. I admire her."

Fellow Chicagoan and new mother Kaki Voss agrees. "In the past, there was a code of women who supported their men but in somewhat of a passive way," says Voss, 29, as she navigates the children's section at Barbara's Bookstore in upscale Old Town with 6-month-old Ella in tow. "Women would always do things to promote their husbands' efforts but in more of a token role. ... Until we have a female president, this is a good opportunity for women to show what she can do. This is different from first ladies of the past." Voss hopes that Americans will grow more open to an expanded role for future presidential spouses, especially when, as with Mrs. Clinton, the skills are in place. "I don't think I thought of [Hillary] as a copresident when I cast my own votes, but perhaps it will be something we see in our political futures. People will consider the wife's agenda like a vice president's."

But while praising Mrs. Clinton, Voss also respects the first lady for staying with her husband. "With the right help, they can get through something like this."

No one expects the first lady to escape

"I don't think I would stay just because he was the president. That's basically what it looks like to the public. It's not the first time. It makes Americans look foolish." —TARA ESPOSITO

emotionally unscathed from the scandal, but what of her political legacy? Will that survive? Voss ventures the guess that she will be remembered "as a woman who has been through this, known as the woman who stood her ground despite her husband's wrongdoing." Zimmerman is convinced that Mrs. Clinton won't manage to escape the taint of her husband's wrongdoings and that her place in the history books will be next to her husband's. "It is going to be as sorry as his is. Because of her knowing about it, maybe because of her not walking, maybe her settling—maybe she's going to look less human. More of a politi-

cal advocate and political woman, but less human."

If Bill Clinton taints his spouse with his own ignominy, the loss will be political as well as private, say a number of women interviewed. "Maybe it was a pipe dream, but I thought if people could get used to a first lady who asserted her power, they could also become more comfortable with electing more women to the House and Senate—and someday even elect a woman president," Schultz muses.

Indeed, given the stark message of the times—that political men seem to have trouble with fidelity—several women openly wondered whether the era of women in politics has arrived. Attorney Larkin, who worked in Congress and later as a case officer for the CIA, says that given the male conduct she saw in both of those work environments, she has no doubt that a large influx of women would have a salutary effect on our political culture. And she thanks the first lady for preparing the path. "I doubt if Hillary were president, that these sorts of things would happen. Women don't mess around a lot." ■

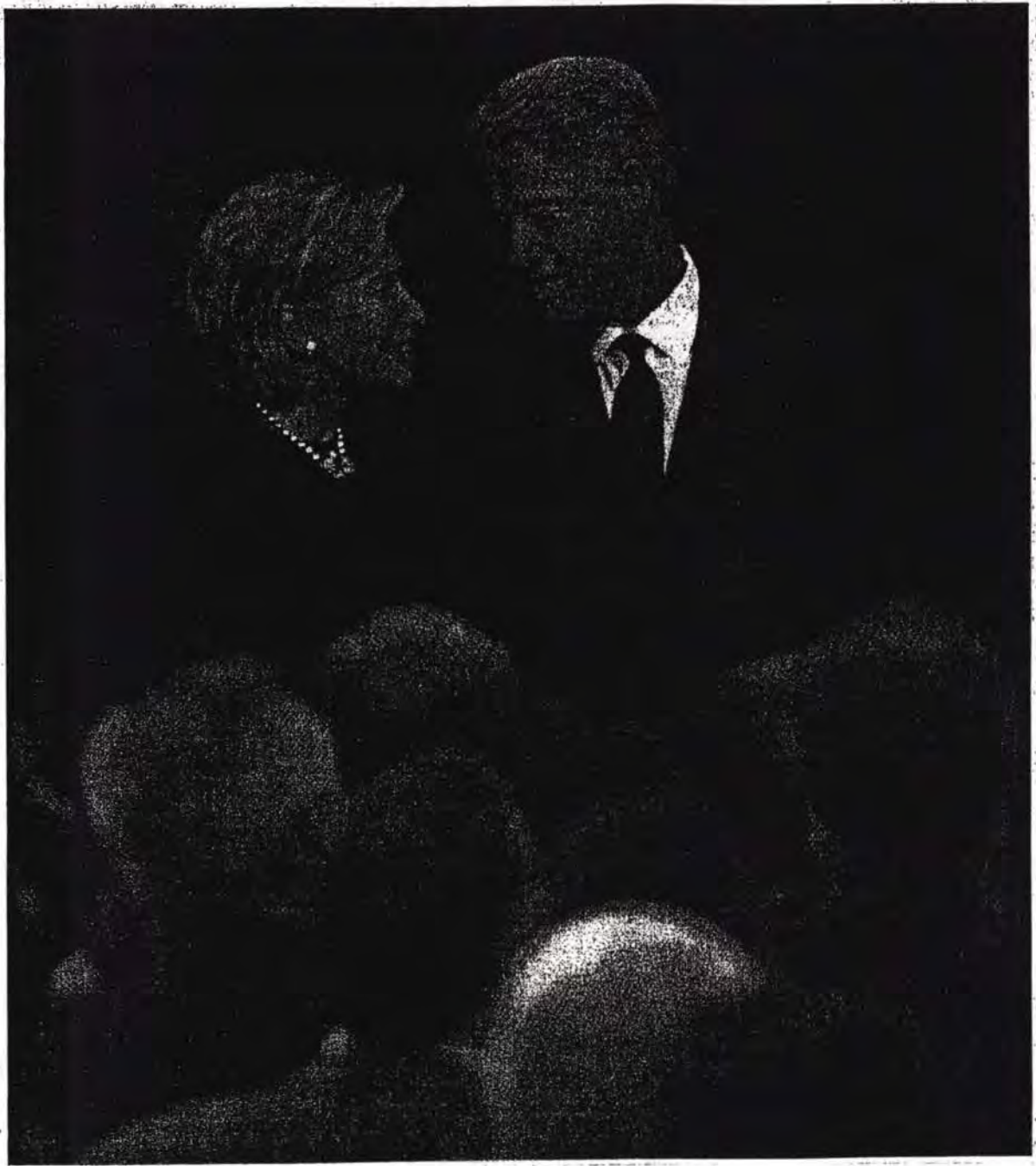
With David Whitman, Sara Hammel in New York, Warren Cohen in Chicago, and Karen Roebuck in Denver

- Women who say Hillary Clinton should leave Bill Clinton: 26%
- Who say she should stay with him and try to work it out: 53%
- Women who say they would leave their partner if he had cheated on them: 35%
- Who say they would stay and try to work it out: 48%

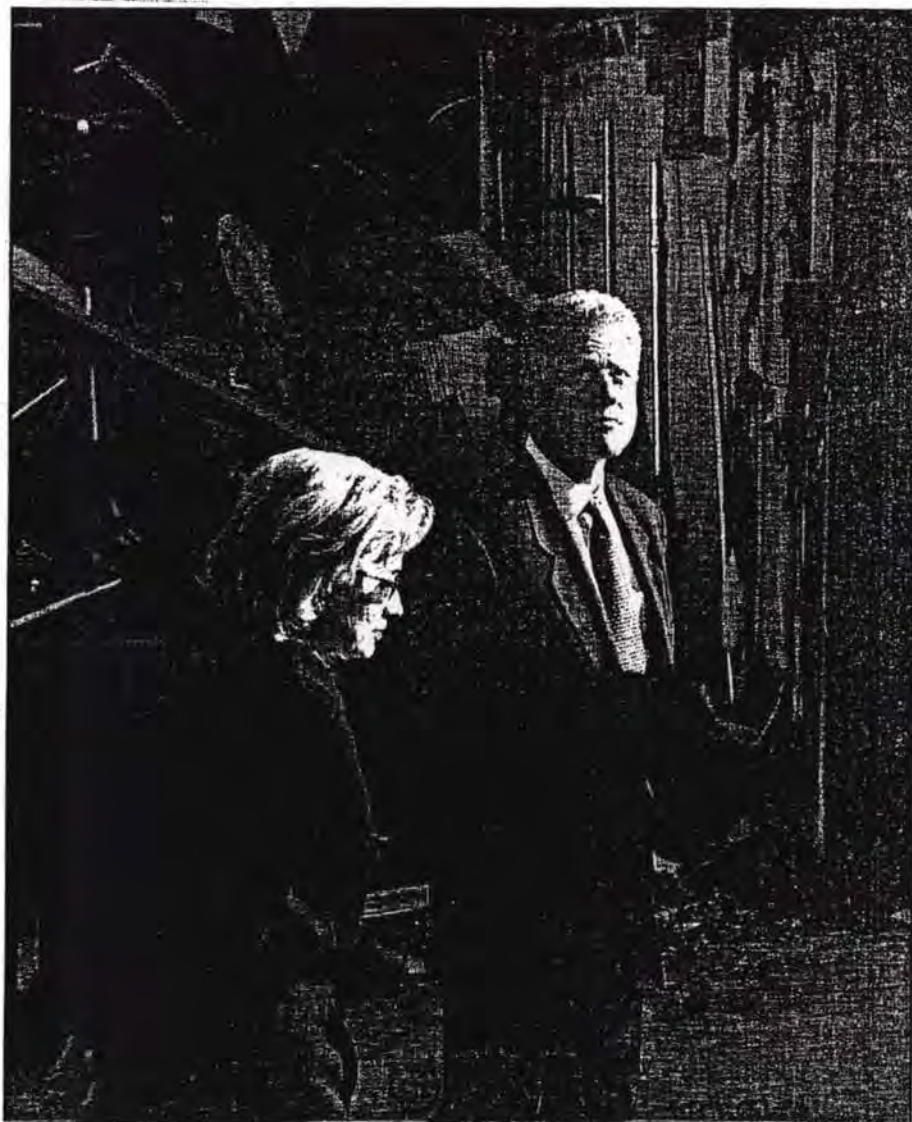
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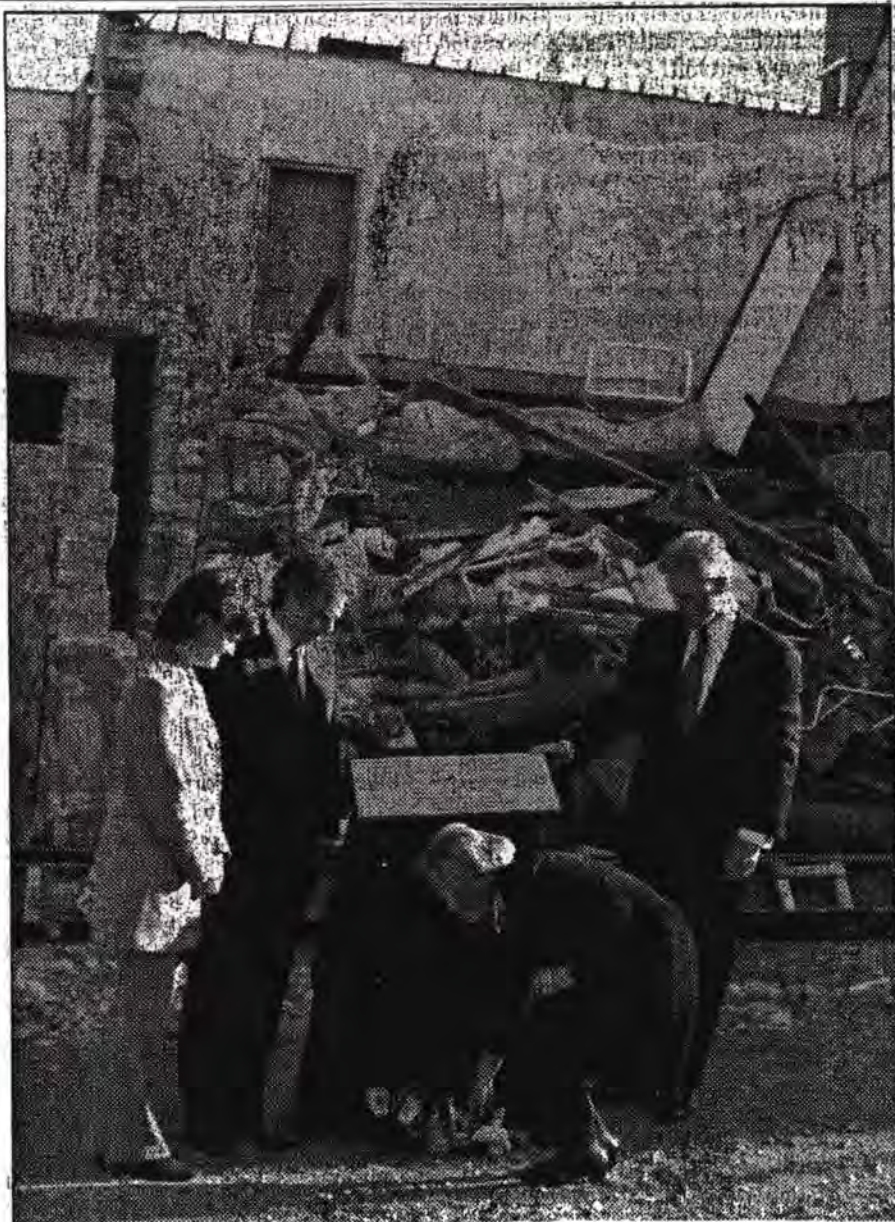
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Reuters

The Washington Times

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First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton signs autographs for Catholic and Protestant children after opening a playground in Belfast yesterday. Reuters

First lady inaugurates playground in Belfast, doesn't discuss scandal

BELFAST (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton, opening a playground for Northern Ireland's youngest — but no less divided — generation, said students here and in the United States are learning difficult lessons about dealing with violence.

"In America, we have many children who, like children of Northern Ireland, also have seen friends and relatives gunned down because of gang wars or drug problems," Mrs. Clinton said yesterday, speaking to Protestant and Catholic students seated in the grassy field. "So they, too, need to learn from what has been done here in Northern Ireland in dealing with the problems of violence."

Mrs. Clinton and Cherie Blair, wife of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, embraced each other

amid the crowd of children from a Catholic elementary school and from a state school whose students are predominantly Protestant.

The new playground along the River Lagan in Belfast's largely affluent and green south side will be used to bring different school groups together.

Since arriving in Northern Ireland on Wednesday ahead of her husband, Mrs. Clinton hasn't commented on personal strains caused by the Monica Lewinsky scandal — a fact noted on a front-page headline of a newspaper President Clinton was handed at the airport today when he arrived.

"Hillary avoids state of Clinton union," said the Independent.

The first ladies' club

■ **Women:** Mrs. Clinton and Mrs. Yeltsin have common issues despite their vastly different backgrounds.

By KATHY LALLY
SUN FOREIGN STAFF

MOSCOW — One endures endless gossip about a philandering husband. The other puts up with constant and nasty speculation about her husband's drinking. One is a tough-minded lawyer, the other a grandmother who boasts about her homemade dumplings.

They grew up in different generations, a world apart, in cultures with wildly conflicting ideas about gender. And yet, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Naina Yeltsin insisted yesterday, they are profoundly alike. They are both women with the same kinds of cares. The two first ladies had their own summit yesterday, while the men were off giving speeches and not solving the problems of the world. There was a panel discussion called "Russian Women on the Threshold of



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Summit: Hillary Rodham Clinton (left) and Naina Yeltsin discuss women and family in a conference in Moscow.

the 21st Century."

The meeting, held in a small auditorium before an audience of several hundred charmed women, began with talk of kids and dogs and favorite recipes — this is Russia, where women are expected to cherish the traditional values, and the sponsor was the magazine *Domashny Ochag*, Home's Hearth (the Russian version of *Good Housekeeping*).

The magazine's editor, Yekaterina Stupakova, introduced Yeltsin as a grandmother and mother of two daughters. She introduced Clinton as the mother of a 19-year-old daughter. And she introduced the other six panelists as doctors, lawyers, government officials, advocates for children and abused women — but especially as mothers.

One [See Wives, 5F]

U.S. and Russian first ladies find common ground

[Wives, from Page 1F]

panelist quickly asked Clinton how she spent time with her daughter. Did she cook with her?

"There are so many ways mothers and daughters spend time together," Clinton said, mentioning sports, travel, discussing movies and, yes, even cooking. "We cook together. Not well, I might add."

What worries her, she said, is that in today's busy world, time spent at home with children has become threatened, and children aren't getting the love and attention and discipline they need.

"What do you cook together?" Stupakova persisted.

"I thought I said enough," Clinton said pleasantly, repeating she doesn't cook well. But she obliged with an anecdote about how she always cooked homemade applesauce for her daughter when she didn't feel well. Shortly after the family moved into the White House, such an occasion arose, and Clinton began searching for

the proper pots and pans.

"You would think I had asked for the nuclear code," she said. Aides went about, saying meaningfully, "She wants to cook." Clinton finally succeeded in making the applesauce, but decided there was too much heat in that particular kitchen. "There are a lot of people whose jobs depend on me not cooking," she said.

Clinton-watchers, who have been scrutinizing the first lady's body language for clues to her feelings toward her husband, will want to know this: "We just got back from a vacation where we were able to cook for ourselves," she said.

Naina Yeltsin spoke enthusiastically about cooking *pelmeni*, the dumpling-like and hugely labor-intensive national dish. "I never use mechanical devices," Yeltsin said. "Sometimes we do thousands. My children and grandchildren love to eat what I cook. My family loves the product of my own hands."

Stupakova, a striking businesswoman, said she hoped she could get the recipe.

Domestic violence

Marina Pisklakova, director of a women's crisis center in Moscow, made a heartfelt plea on behalf of the women here and around the world who suffer from domestic violence, an issue that was hushed up during the Soviet years.

And, according to the official line, women were not discriminated against either. They were expected to work just like men — though they never had equal representation in the Kremlin or elsewhere among the elite. "You should not keep silent," Pisklakova told the audience. "Each of us personally should feel responsible for helping his neighbor."

Yeltsin said that as far as she knew, domestic violence and discrimination were something new, brought on by the pressures associated with the transition to a new way of life.

"We never heard about discrimination, as far as I remember," she said. "I worked equally with men. Now I know life has become more difficult. Now I know the salaries of women are lower."

The law doesn't offer them sufficient protection, she said, and they're unfairly burdened, expected to do all the work at home and have jobs outside the home as well.

"A woman is like a vase of the finest crystal," Yeltsin said. "We should protect it so that it doesn't crack."

Then the conversation began to head where Clinton had been diplomatically nudging it.

"I think many American women have the same difficulties combining work outside the family and work inside the family that women in Russia do," Clinton said.

"We are working to increase the supply of quality, affordable child care," she said, among other efforts to give women the support they need so they can make deci-

sions in their life that are best for them.

"We should support each other and do more to help each other," she said. "In effect, most women are holding down two full-time jobs, one they get paid for and one they do for love."

Influence with husbands

Here in Russia, the Yeltsin family has been under attack from critics who say that the financial oligarchs who pull strings from the shadows manipulate President Yeltsin through friendships with his family.

"No," Naina Yeltsin said firmly, "he has never listened to my advice. They say on television the president listens to his family too much. But he doesn't. Only an expert in diplomatic science could give him advice he will listen to. He's a difficult man to deal with."

Hillary Clinton said her husband gets advice from a wide range of people, so it's impossible to say he takes the advice of any one person.

"My husband and I have worked together, I guess about 27 years," she said, ever since law school. They've spent a lot of time on the same projects, she said.

"We talk together constantly," she said. "Of course, given the position he's in, the ultimate decision is his."

Then someone wanted to know about the Clinton dog. Hillary Clinton quoted Harry Truman: "If you want a friend in Washington, get a dog."

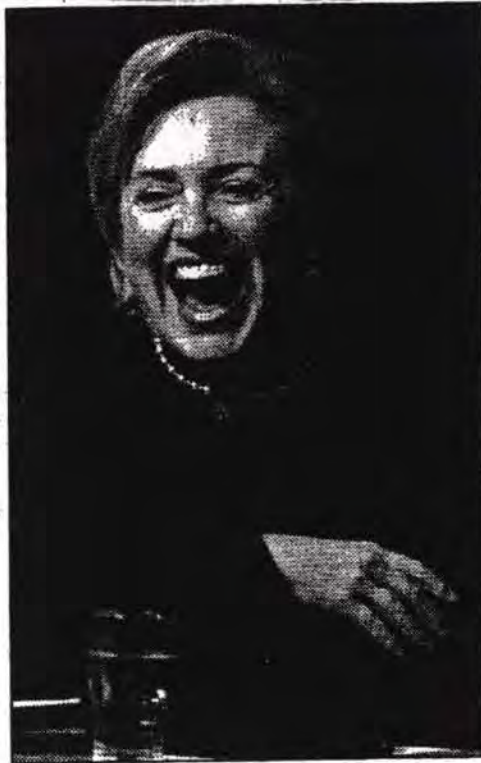
She nudged the conversation once more, going on to announce a series of programs America will sponsor here, setting up 10 law clinics, training judges in handling domestic violence cases, expanding Junior Achievement programs.

The women in the audience loved it.

"I like Hillary Clinton very much," said Galina Alexandrova, a 45-year-old bookkeeper. "We have the same problems. Her support is very important to us. Talking about dogs, children, discrimination ... It's our real life."

Yekaterina Bashina, a 26-year-old financial analyst, agreed.

"You can't solve all the world's problems in one hour," she said.



Reuters photo

Chicago Tribune

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1998

Hillary Clinton lauds women's role in Ulster pact, urges more work

By John O'Farrell
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

BELFAST — Arriving in Northern Ireland a day ahead of her husband, Hillary Rodham Clinton yesterday praised women for leading the divided island toward peace and urged greater involvement to solidify

democracy here.

Receiving a rapturous reception from women leaders in politics, business and community groups, Clinton traced the roles of many women in creating last spring's Good Friday peace agreement. They included Mo Mowlam, the British Cabinet minister responsible for Northern Ire-

land, and Joyce McCartan, the peace campaigner and "family feminist" who hosted the First Lady when she visited Northern Ireland in November 1995.

"It was women whose whispers of 'enough' became a torrent of voices that could no longer be ignored," the first lady told 600 female activists, community workers, and politicians at a conference yesterday.

"It is up to you, the women of Northern Ireland, speaking out whenever injustice arises, to point out opportunities, to face up to challenges, and to speak for those who are still voiceless," she said.

Speaking in Belfast's Waterfront Hall, a luxury development that would have been unthinkable during Northern Ireland's three decades of conflict, Clinton brought together not only grass-roots Protestant and Catholic activists, but once-deadly political opponents — virtually all of them men.

Sitting in the front row of one balcony were Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness and Pat Doherty, leaders of Sinn Fein, the Irish Republican Army's political wing.

Behind them sat members of the Ulster Unionists, the major Protestant party that also backs the compromise accord, signed in April, on how Northern Ireland should be governed — but refuses to talk directly with Sinn Fein.

Referring to last month's bombing in Omagh, in which 28 people

ing in Omagh, in which 28 people were killed, Clinton spoke of the "enemies of peace" behind the attack - and noted that many of the victims were women and children out shopping.

Today, she and President Clinton are scheduled to meet in Omagh with many of those injured in the blast as well as relatives of the dead.

Referring to the Good Friday agreement, she said: "We have chosen democracy, not division. We will only move forward, and America will stand with you."

The first lady's speech closed a three-day conference titled "Vital Voices: Women in Democracy," a State Department initiative launched by US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to promote women as a US foreign policy objective.

Clinton also paid tribute to the 14 women elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly, calling that representation a good start. She argued that, on the 50th anniversary of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, some "basic goals" had to be fought for - education, health care, and loans and credit for business ventures.

She announced that \$2 million had been committed by US "business partners" at the conference to local women for developing business and community projects.

Geraldine McAteer, who directs the Springvale development in west Belfast that the Clintons are expected to visit today, was "very impressed" by both the content of the speech and Clinton's grasp of the complicated politics of Northern Ireland.

"Now it's up to us to make it happen," McAteer said.

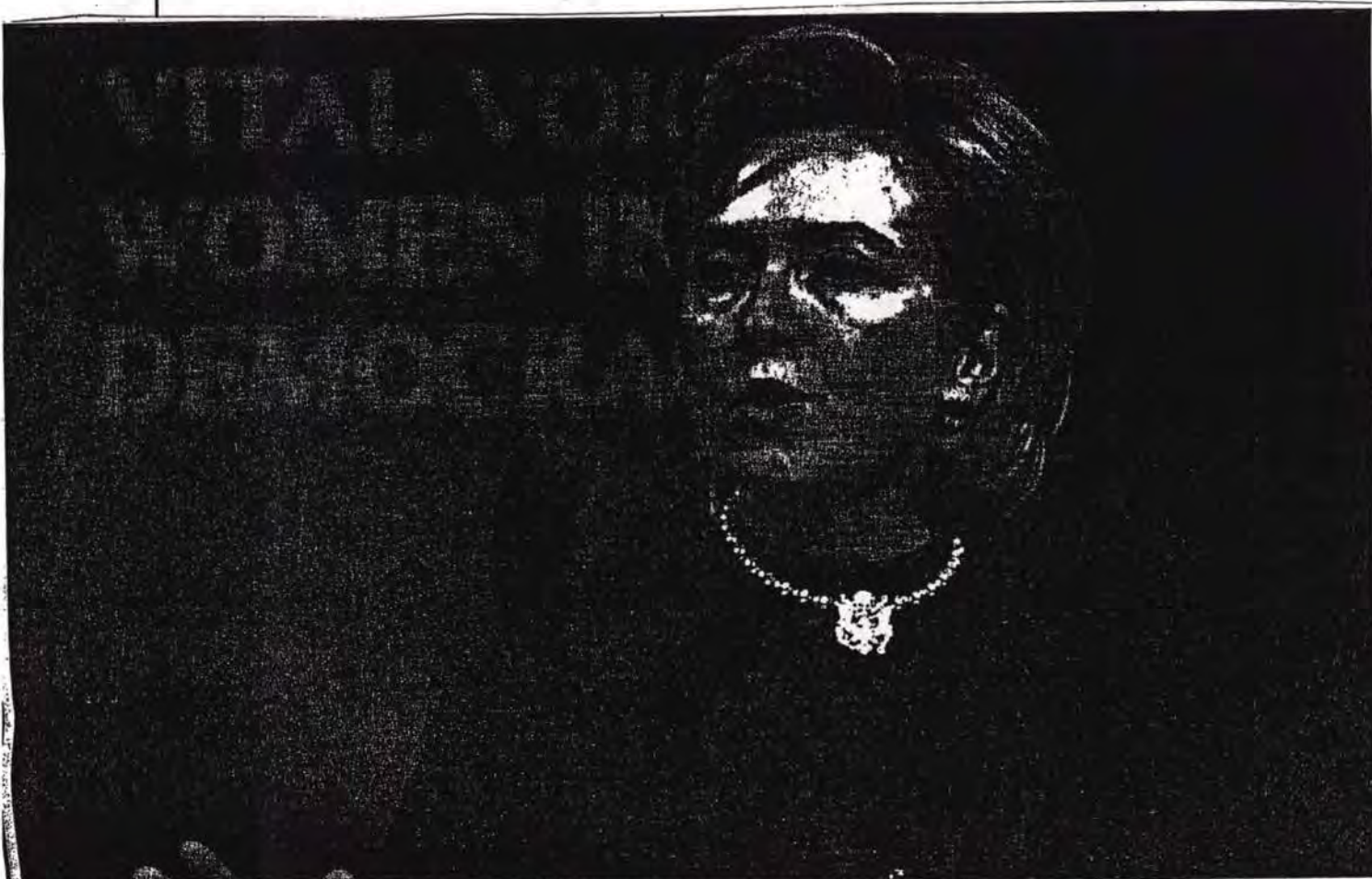
The Progressive Unionist Party, which has links to the paramilitary Ulster Volunteer Force, called Clinton "a role model for all of our women," who "highlighted the fact that women in Northern Ireland had been brushed aside for too long."

Roisin McDonagh, chairwoman of the cross-community Ulster People's Collage, hailed Clinton as "a powerful deliverer," who had "a huge presence" and "commands respect among all women."

From south of the border, No-reen Byrne, chairwoman of the National Women's Council, praised the "inspiring, intelligent, forward-looking" speech by a "great feminist."

Although Clinton was obviously a hit among local women, it is not that surprising. Fourteen women were elected to the Assembly, but there are 108 members in all. There are no women among the 18 Members of the Parliament at Westminster.

The last woman member, Bernadette Devlin McAliskey, lost her seat in 1974. Given such statistics, it is not surprising that the women of Northern Ireland who have managed a small part of the pie should so admire what may be the world's most powerful woman.



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POISED: Hillary Clinton speaking at the Women in Democracy Conference at the Waterfront Hall yesterday

Hillary takes the stage to win women's hearts

HILLARY Clinton had Belfast City Hall in the palm of her hand last night when she admitted: "I'm not shy. I take any excuse I can find to come back to Northern Ireland."

Three busloads of women from the Vital Voices Conference were instantly recognisable by the souvenir blue shoulder-bags they proudly clutched as they entered the Great Hall where politicians had already made some headway on the wine and nibbles.

Martin McGuinness looked almost dapper in his new gold-rimmed spectacles as he tapped his toe to the raucous jazz band. But he was a mere bystander though as the female dominated crowd surged towards the stage to welcome the First Lady.

There was applause too for Lord Mayor David Alderdice when he echoed a familiar catch-phrase saying events over the past few days suggested the worst may now be "over, done with and gone".

With a noticeable spring in her step Hillary Clinton strode to the podium and told the crowd: "I feel uplifted and energised by the courageous men and women with whom I have met."

People around the world have told the First Lady how much they admire the difficult steps towards peace being taken in Ulster.

By LARA BRADLEY

She said: "People are looking and hoping and praying and trusting that what you have set in motion will be realised because if it is they too can hear that they too can move beyond whatever divided them and become stronger together in the future than they ever could have separate in the past."

"What you are doing puts you definitely on the right side of history and many of us will be there cheering you on and supporting you. Thank you for the example of your courage and hope."

Dr Mo Mowlam accompanied the First Lady onto the stage but did not address the crowd. Flanked by the President's men, Hillary took time to shake as many of the outstretched hands as possible.

The consensus of opinion among the audience was that Hillary is a genuine and gracious woman who is blessed with impressive presentation and people skills.

The First Lady made her exit and the jazz band struck up again with gusto. As at all the best functions, a couple of the women began to dance together, fired by the elation of shaking hands with the world's most famous woman.

Thursday, September 3, 1998

First Lady keeps her cool in face of snap crazy admirers

By MARTINA DEVLIN

WHO would have guessed that the day's pitfall for Hillary Clinton lay after her speech was safely delivered and the standing ovations graciously acknowledged?

And it was a literal pitfall at that. For campaign worker Nancy Gracey was so determined to have her photo taken with the First Lady that she came close to pulling her off the stage.

A posse of twitchy secret service minders watched in horror as Nancy gripped Hillary by the hand and nearly brought her toppling into a sea of admirers.

But the Leader of the Free World's wife showed the sort of presence of mind that must come in useful at camera-happy election rallies.

She recovered her balance and crouched down on stage at Belfast's Waterfront Hall so that her head was virtually level with Nancy's, five feet below.

DAZZLING SMILE

Then she flashed a dazzling smile, a grin which belied her gravity-defying contortions, and Nancy had her photograph.

The American agents weren't long hustling Hillary away after that, however. Never mind snipers or crazies, their charge was in danger of being adored to death.

But Hillary seems moved by the warmth of her welcome — she lingered after her speech as people strained upwards to shake her hand.

Nancy, from Downpatrick, even managed to press a Tyrone Crystal shamrock on her which Hillary opened and admired before passing it on to an aide.

"I'm a pushy little devil," admitted Nancy, "I'm surprised the secret service men didn't shove me away."

"I'm a great fan of hers — she has her problems and still she takes the time to come here."



© America's First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton smiles and applauds with enthusiasm while attending the "Vital Voices Women in Democracy" conference in the Waterfront Hall, Belfast last night.

Irish Independent

Vol. 107 No. 209

Thursday, September 3, 1998 (75p-Stop in N. Ireland and Britain) Price 85p



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Hillary praises the vital role of women in the peace process

By Suzanne Breen,
in Belfast

MRS Hillary Rodham Clinton has said the peace process in Northern Ireland would have been impossible without the courage and strength of women.

She was addressing the Women in Democracy conference at a packed Waterfront Hall in Belfast yesterday. She looked relaxed as she delivered a keynote address on women's rights and achievements.

It was her first public speech since her husband admitted his "inappropriate" relationship with Ms Monica Lewinsky. It was delivered in a cool, professional style.

Mrs Clinton did not refer to the scandal and showed no signs of strain. Looking confident and elegant in a navy suit, she received a standing ovation.

Those present included the wife of the First Minister, Mrs Daphne Trimble; the RUC Chief Constable, Mr Ronnie Flanagan; the Sinn Féin leaders, Mr Gerry Adams, Mr Martin McGuinness and Mr Pat Doherty; Ulster Unionist representatives Mr Jim Wilson and Mr Peter Weir, the US ambassador to Ireland, Mrs Jean Kennedy Smith; and the chief executive of the Northern Ireland Fair Employment Commission, Mr Bob Cooper.

Mrs Clinton said women's voices could not be ignored. "If you listen you can hear the voices of women who withstood jeers

and threats to make themselves heard in the political world once reserved primarily for men."

She praised the Northern Secretary, Dr Mo Mowlam, for her "vision and dedication". She said the role of women in the search for peace in Northern Ireland could not be ignored and she paid a warm tribute to all those involved.

"None of this would have been possible were it not for the courage and strength of generations of women."

She expressed optimism about the future and promised that the US would continue to do all it could to support the North and the peace process. "You will only move forward, and as you do please know that America will stand with you."

She said women's voices must be heard in the new Northern Ireland, "a Northern Ireland people have lived for, died for and, yes, finally voted for".

In one of her few references to her husband, Mrs Clinton spoke about their joint visit to Omagh, Co Tyrone, today. "When my husband and I visit Omagh, we will pay tribute to those who were murdered by the enemies of peace."

"They were mostly women and children, Catholic and Protestant, unionist and nationalist, young and old. They were people simply living their lives, working in a drapery store, hanging out with friends, buying school uniforms for their children."

"The terrorists targeted the people of Northern Ireland, and in response it was the people, all the people, who bravely stood side by side to say hatred and violence will no longer have a place here."

"We have chosen ballots not bombs, democracy not division. We have resolved to live in peace. We will never go back. We will only go forward."

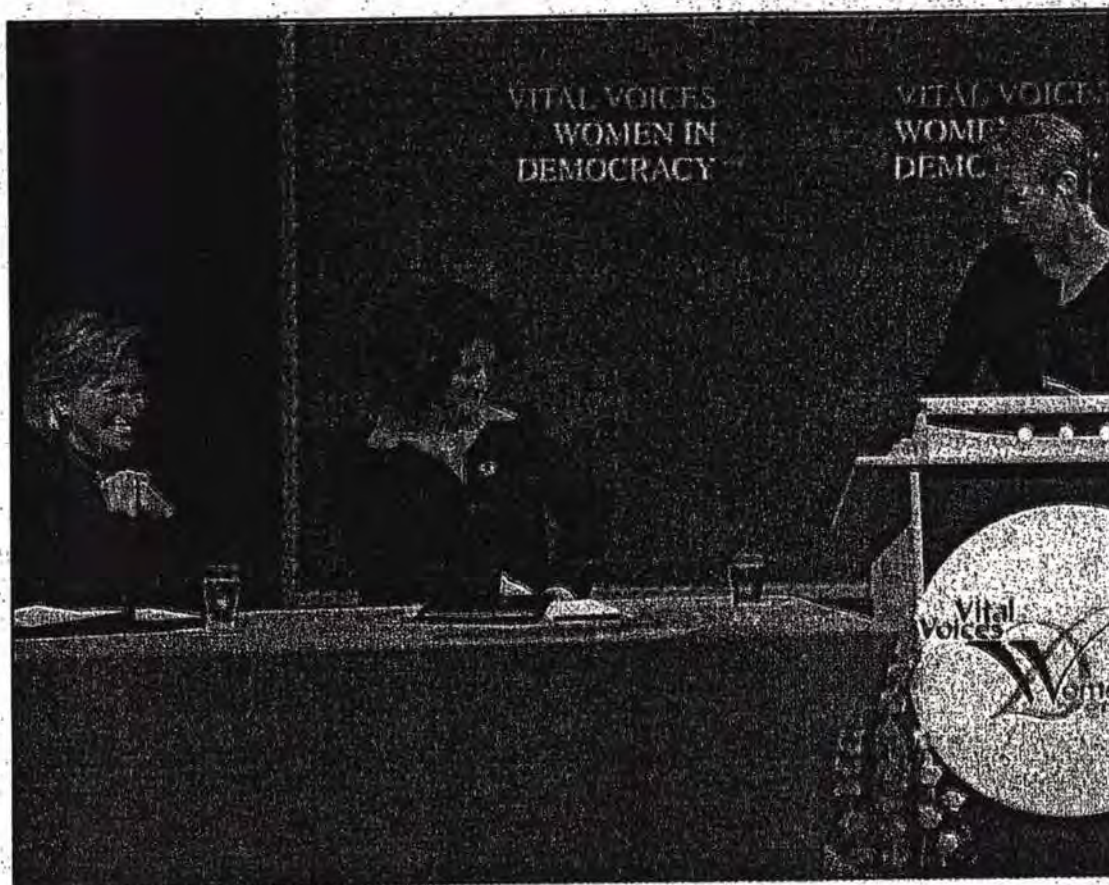
She said the last few months had shown that the road to peace was not easy, but she had no doubt that the bombs and terrorists would not prevail.

She expressed delight when she was praised by a Derry student, Ms Fiona Hughes, who introduced her as a "role model to me and to young women around the world".

There was no opportunity for journalists to interview Mrs Clinton, although the media scrutinised her every gesture for signs of stress. She did not seem concerned and smiled broadly.

As she arrived at the conference, she turned and waved to photographers and reporters who had gathered, and shouted: "Hello". She told her audience she was delighted to be back in Belfast.

Mrs Clinton said it was important that people shared ideas to transform their hopes for peace into reality. The new state-of-the-art Waterfront Hall symbolised everything wonderful that was happening in Northern Ireland.



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Relaxed first lady shows she's no fashion victim

AS Hillary Clinton flew in from Moscow over the healing landscape of Northern Ireland she thought to herself: "This is the most beautiful place on God's Earth."

She shared that personal thought with the large audience gathered to hear her in Belfast.

The First Lady arrived a little later than expected at the Waterfront Hall in Belfast where hundreds of women and fewer men

By KATHLEEN O'CALLAGHAN

awaited her presence at the Vital Voice conference.

Hillary was greeted with a warm and welcoming standing ovation. She looked relaxed and comfortable in a designer French-navy, three-piece ensemble. The outfit comprised of a Chanel-style cardigan with gold buttons on the pocket worn over a

sleeveless, fine-knit top and matching shapely trousers.

Her blonde hair which has seen so many changes has now found its signature style that hasn't changed despite the recent personal traumas. The sleek style is parted to the side and swept behind the ears. In a conference stressing the importance of female confidence, power and progress she was the picture of self-esteem and composure.



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Radiant First Lady Hillary gets a standing ovation

By MARTINA DEVLIN

A RELAXED and smiling Hillary Clinton delivered a keynote speech to hundreds of women in Belfast last night and showed no sign of any strain.

Mrs Clinton spoke for 40 minutes about the rights and achievements of women and afterwards received a standing ovation from the 450-strong audience in the Waterfront Hall.

It was Mrs Clinton's first speech since her husband admitted his "inappropriate" relationship with Monica Lewinsky and it was delivered in a strong, unfaltering style.

Poised and relaxed in a smart blue

trouser suit, she told the Women in Democracy Conference that it was women's voices which could not be ignored.

"If you listen you can hear the voices of women who withstood jeers and threats to make themselves heard in a political world once reserved primarily for men."

With intense interest focused on the scandal surrounding her husband, the First Lady's every gesture was being scrutinised.

But if she has her troubles, she was keeping them to herself in Belfast - her smile never wavered, her composure never faltered.

She radiated confidence, she radiated serenity, she radiated a woman who's just had her blonde bob styled to within an inch of its life and who knows she's looking good.

Hillary mentioned the H-word - "my husband" - three times. Completely straight-faced each time.

And as First Ladies go, she was positively presidential, which was the consensus among delegates at the conference.

"She could be president herself - in fact she should be," said one woman.

Hillary's entourage certainly shrieked

VIP: Five motorbike outriders signalled her arrival, followed by a cavalcade of cars.

Security men were tripping over themselves to open the door of her stretch limousine. "How many people does it take to help one woman out of a car?" wondered a watcher.

Indoors at the Waterfront, the audience was overwhelmingly female and male politicians stood out like sore thumbs among the power-dressed women.

"The last time I was in such female dominated company was at the maternity ward," said ex-Belfast Lord Mayor, Alban Maginness. And that's a place he

has visited eight times with his wife.

"It's intimidating", admitted UDP leader Gary McMichael, looking around the room in a break from signing autographs for schoolgirls. Then he realised this could be misconstrued and hastily added that there should be more women in politics.

But Sinn Féin's Martin McGuinness claimed he was used to being surrounded by females because there were so many in his party. "We're very progressive," he said with a twinkle. Or it could have been the reflection of so much jewellery in the room.

Mrs Clinton drew cheers when she

Continued on Page 13



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Clintons expect peaceful visit to Ireland

By Richard Willing
and Mimi Hall
USA TODAY

President Clinton, tossed like a cork in a sea of world and personal problems, arrives today in Northern Ireland, of all places, for a welcome respite.

Clinton's welcome, while more subdued than the outpouring of warmth that greeted him when he visited in December 1995, is likely to be friendly and free of references to the falling ruble, fallen interns and other problems that recently have beset him.

"He deserves to be greeted as the best friend this province has ever found outside these islands," said the *Belfast Telegraph*, in an editorial prepared for the eve of Clinton's arrival.

Both Catholic and Protestant politicians in the divided province credit Clinton with applying the political and economic pressure that has brought both sides close to forming a power-sharing government.

"He steered a middle course; we owe him a lot," said

Malachi Curran, a pub owner of Catholic and Protestant descent who helped negotiate the power-sharing agreement last April. A coalition government based on the agreement is scheduled to begin meeting this month.

Clinton arrives on the heels of good news that he helped create. On Wednesday, David Trimble, chief officer of the new government and leader of the largest Protestant party, issued an unprecedented invitation to Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams to join talks aimed at organizing the government.

Adams, whose party is affiliated with the Irish Republican Army, had been cut out of previous face-to-face meetings because of Trimble's objections to Adams' IRA connection.

A day earlier, Adams had denounced political violence as a "thing of the past, over, done with and gone."



Clinton: On third visit to N. Ireland

Clinton is scheduled to meet with Trimble, deputy chief officer Seamus Mallon and British prime minister Tony Blair. He'll give speeches to Northern Ireland's new governmental assembly, elected after the April accord, to a citizens' group in Belfast and

to reconciliation workers in Armagh.

Arriving a day ahead of her husband, Hillary Rodham Clinton on Wednesday called Northern Ireland's women a quiet catalyst for the Belfast peace agreement but said they must play a bigger role in politics for real reconciliation to take root.

"It was women whose whispers of 'Enough!' became a torrent of voices that could no longer be ignored," she told 600 women's activists, community workers and politicians at a conference called *Vital Voices: Women in Democracy*.

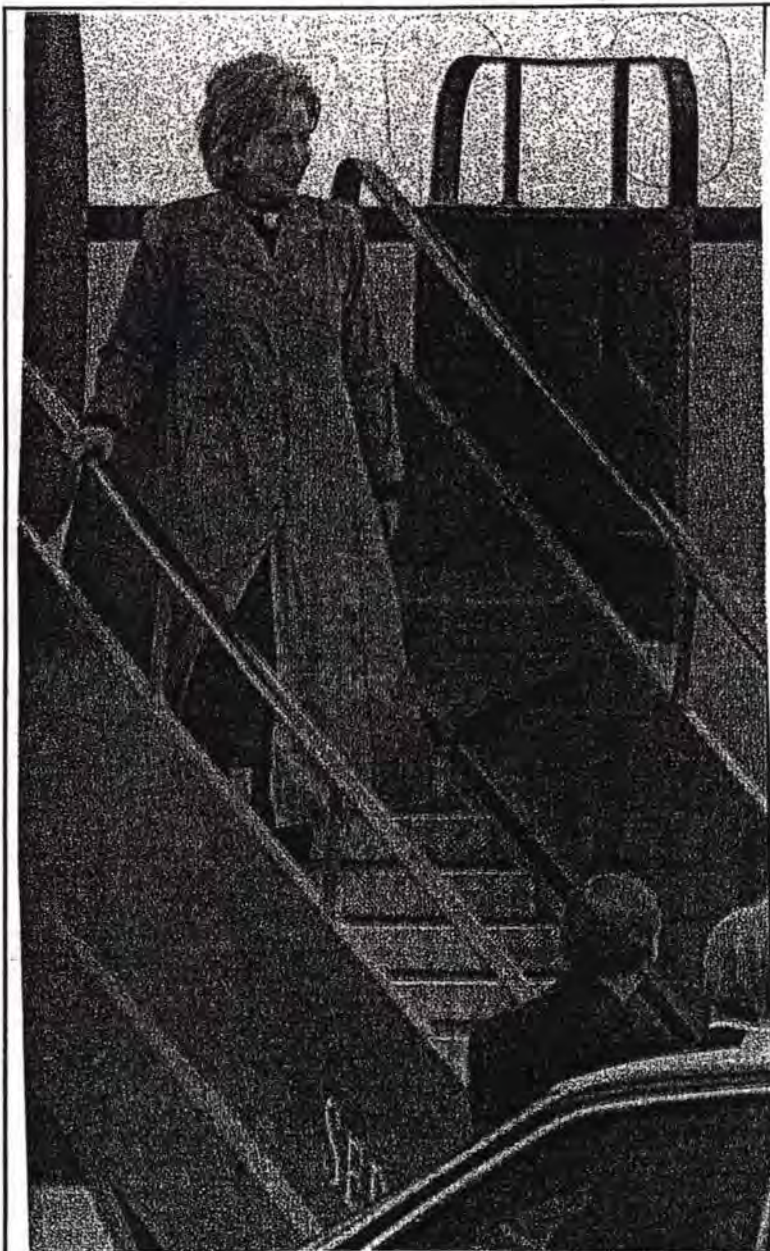
"It is up to you, the women of Northern Ireland, speaking out whenever injustice arises, to point out opportunities, to face up to challenges and to speak for those who are still voiceless," she said.

After her speech, Hillary Clinton attended a reception in her honor in Belfast City Hall along with the outgoing U.S. ambassador to Ireland, Jean Kennedy Smith.

She was staying overnight at Hillsborough Castle southwest of Belfast as a guest of Mo Mowlam, Britain's first female secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Today, the first lady planned to open a playground for Protestant and Catholic children in an underprivileged part of Belfast, then appear with her husband for his keynote speech.

The Clintons will also help dedicate a memorial to 28 people killed in Omagh on Aug. 15 by a renegade element of the IRA. The first lady said the visit would be to "pay tribute to those who were murdered by the enemies of peace."



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ULSTER EDITION

President flies in to honour victims of Omagh atrocity

CLINTON TRIBUTE



EMOTIONAL VISIT: President Bill Clinton

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton will pay his own personal tribute to the people of Omagh when he visits the shattered town this afternoon.

On what is certain to be an emotional occasion, the President and his wife Hillary will meet survivors of the blast and the families of those murdered when the 500lb bomb tore through the centre of the town nearly three weeks ago.

It is understood Mr Clinton will unveil a plaque to the bomb victims and meet members of the emergency services who battled to rescue survivors.

The visit is scheduled to take place after the couple perform a number of engagements, including a visit to the proposed University of Ulster site at

**By RICHARD
SHERRIFF**

Springvale. They will be accompanied throughout the day by Prime Minister Tony Blair and his wife Cherie.

Mr Blair will greet the President on his arrival in the Province a day behind Mrs Clinton, who yesterday said she and her husband would be paying tribute to those who were "murdered by the enemies of peace".

Speaking at a Women in Democracy conference in Belfast's Waterfront Hall, she paid tribute to the work done by women in the search for a lasting peace, claiming: "You will only move forward and as you do please know that America will stand with you."



APPLAUDED: Hillary Clinton pays tribute to women's work in the search for peace in Northern Ireland

See Pages 10, 11, 12 and 13

Women in N. Ireland hail Hillary Clinton as survivor

First lady commands spotlight at conference

By BILL GLAUBER
SUN FOREIGN STAFF

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — Around here, they're standing by their woman — Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Flying into Northern Ireland yesterday a day ahead of her husband, President Clinton, the first lady received a rousing welcome when she spoke to 600 delegates attending a Vital Voices: Women in Democracy conference.

In the spotlight and in command, the first lady talked of women's rights, equal opportunities and the hope that the promise of peace can be fulfilled in Northern Ireland.

"This is one of the most beautiful places on God's earth," she said to cheers.

Northern Ireland's verdant landscape seems a world away from the Washington scandal that has threatened her husband's presidency. While the inside-the-Beltway crowd is engrossed with Clinton's admission of an improper relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the Belfast crowd doesn't much care.

Still, there was an air of expectancy inside the glittering Waterfront Hall as the crowd waited for the speech. Gathered were the movers and shakers among Northern Ireland's women — politicians, business leaders, community activists.

"Everyone is dying to see how she looks and reacts," said Frances Donaghy, board secretary of the Royal College of Nursing. "This is a very tenacious woman who can keep her head up against all odds. It can't be easy for her at this moment."

Dressed in a dark navy suit, appearing calm and composed, the first lady showed that she can still work a crowd. She avoided the scandal completely, took the high road, and talked about the issues that engross a society that has been battered by 30 years of terrorist violence.

The biggest worry here is how to make sure a fledgling peace deal among Roman Catholics and Protestants sticks.

"It is up to you, the women of Northern Ireland, speaking out whenever injustice arises, to point out opportunities, to face up to challenges, and to speak for those who are still voiceless," she said.

The Clintons, who first ventured here in November 1995, remain popular in Northern Ireland.



AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

In Northern Ireland: First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton waves to the news media as she arrives at Waterfront Hall in Belfast.

They are seen by many as honest brokers who can be turned to in times of trouble.

"They didn't have just a one-off, fly-by-night visit here," said Monica McWilliams, leader of Northern Ireland's Women's Coalition political party. "Everyone else flies off after peace is created. But not the Clintons."

The delegates threw their support to the first lady.

"I'm not surprised that she has lifted her head up," McWilliams said. "She is an independent woman with her own independent projects, no matter what is happening in America. By standing up there, she showed that you can have your own profile."

"She is a really good role model for women," McWilliams added. "She is a survivor."

Others agreed.

"She has shown that women given a real voice can make a lasting contribution to their communities, their countries and the world," said Fiona Hughes, a 17-year-old student who introduced the first lady.

Valerie Kingham, a local political leader, said the first lady showed grace under pressure.

"Hillary deserves a medal," Kingham said. "She is a tough woman. If I were Hillary Clinton, I would have put him [the president] down the lavatory and pulled the chain."



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WOMEN'S VOICE: Hillary Clinton applauds one of the speakers at the Waterfront Hall.

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Each person has role to play

Ulster's peace challenge

By Dan McGinn

FIRST Lady Hillary Clinton has praised the crucial role played by courageous women in holding Northern Ireland together during the darkest days of the troubles.

She was speaking after a warm reception at the Vital Voices' conference at the Waterfront Hall yesterday.

An audience of politicians, civil servants and women and children from a wide spectrum of society heard Mrs Clinton speak of the courage of women in the face of almost 30 years of violence.

She also told an audience which included Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness and the UDP's Gary McMichael there was an onus on everyone in society to translate the hopes for peace into practical economic and social action.

"The hopes for peace will have to be translated into the hard work of practical action and political compromise, not only in the Assembly, but in every corner of society.

"So the real challenge of this conference starts as we leave. How will each of us work to fulfill the promise of peace? "That, of course, will be up to the men and women of Northern Ireland to decide. But, based on what we know about the conditions that promote peace and prosperity, we, I think, can agree on basic goals," she said.

Mrs Clinton added: "All people must have access to the tools of opportunity good education, quality healthcare, good jobs, loans and credit.

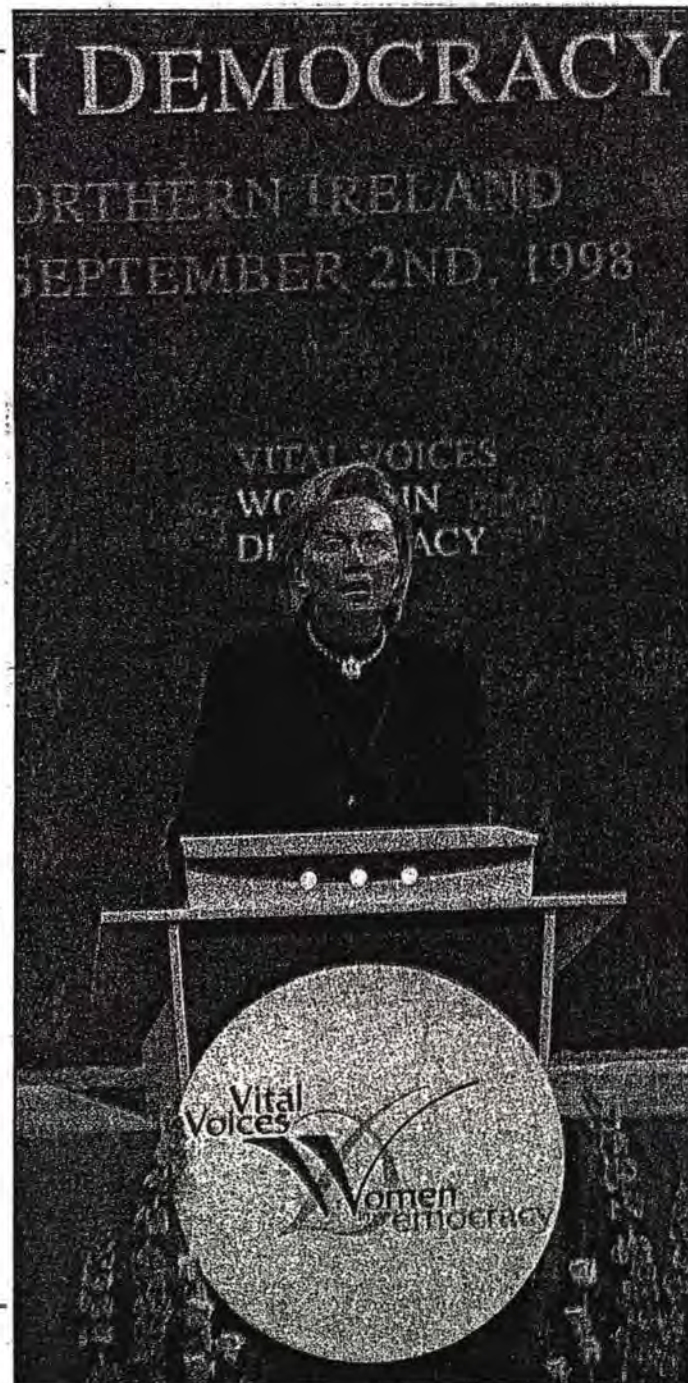
"The kind of opportunities that will give responsible people of whatever backgrounds the chance to move forward into the 21st century with confidence." Issues from creating an effective education system to dealing with the problem of domestic violence would have to be addressed as the new political system took root, she said. But she also acknowledged the difficulties the province was facing in creating a climate of peace.

"When my husband and I go to Omagh tomorrow, we will pay tribute to those who were murdered by the enemies of peace.

"They were mostly women and children. They were Catholic and Protestant, unionist and nationalist, young and old.

"They were people simply living their lives, working at a drapery store, hanging out with friends, buying school uniforms for their children.

he terrorists targeted the people of Northern Ireland and in response, it was the people all the people who bravely stood side by side to say: Hatred and violence will no longer have a place here." During the



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Eloquent First Lady makes her hall mark

Hillary says it's great to be back

By Gail Walker

I AM, said a strident First Lady, not shy.

The comments were not, however, an invitation to any public discussion of errant husband Bill's marital misdemeanours.

Instead, they were a reference to the fact that she would seize any excuse "I can find to come back to Northern Ireland." But what a difference a few years makes...

November 1995. Oh what a night. The President and Hillary outside Belfast's City Hall amid massive security; tens of thousands of well-wishers stretched out on a cold, starry night as far as the eye could see to welcome them.

Last night, roughly same time, same place, yet a radically different atmosphere surrounding a reception for the First Lady to mark the end of the Vital Voices conference.

There was no tangible buzz of excitement; no discernible sense of expectation or anticipation.

Only a couple of members of the public had bothered to ring the City Hall to find out details of the visit, said the public relations officer handing out press passes.

Only a few wilting bouquets left in memory of the 28 people murdered in the Omagh atrocity and, more recently, to mark the first anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, hung languidly on the ornate gates to greet that visitor.

Still, the First Lady, her neat blonde bob immaculately coiffeured as ever and dressed in an elegant navy suit, was the low-key reception notwithstanding delighted to be back.

"I feel uplifted and energised by the courageous men and women with whom I have met," she said, her strident tones filling the Great Hall.

"We know how difficult the journey is.

"I bring a message not only of support and encouragement but also of admiration for what you are doing puts you on the right side of history." Her words won rapturous applause.

The other big burst of clapping of the evening came when Lord Mayor David Alderdice, introducing the First Lady, reiterated Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams' comments of the previous evening that violence must be "over, done with and gone." Sadly, as the media were shepherded onto a balcony at the rear of the hall to overlook proceedings, it was impossible to accurately gauge the reaction of Mr Adams to this reference to his soundbite.

Speaking afterwards, the Sinn Féin leader was in fine fettle.

He had found the conference on the advancement of women "very, very important." Pausing briefly, he told me with great conviction:

very important." Pausing briefly, he told me with great conviction:
"Women are the majority on the island of Ireland and yet are massively discriminated against."

province's grimmest hours women held their families together, Mrs Clinton acknowledged.

Seven days a week, she said, they "carried on with hope and prayer that the future would be brighter, free of troubles and heartbreak". But drawing a parallel with a new green space for children planned by PlayBoard with an American group called KaBOOM, she urged men and women to work together to create a new political environment. "You are ultimately those who will determine whether the children of Northern Ireland can play like children should ... without respect to religion or politics, without stereotyping or name calling, without fear or violence."

She came, she saw, and she conquered
Rapturous welcome for First Lady

By Martina Purdy

"I'D chuck him out," said the freshfaced teenager when asked what she would do if she were Bill Clinton's wife.

While views on her husband were mixed, there seemed to be nothing but sympathy for Hillary Clinton from the 2000-strong guests who packed the Waterfront Hall.

As she stepped onto the stage, Mrs Clinton, wearing a sleek navy suit, chunky gold jewellery, won the first of three standing ovations.

One delegate mused that Hillary was now more powerful than ever following the painful episode with Monica Lewinsky.

"Bill owes her a lot and she's got him over a barrel," said the woman.

"He needs her now more than ever she can crack the whip now!"

Hillary was all charm and smiles however for the Belfast audience.

They lapped up her response to 17-year-old Fiona Hughes from Bellaghy who introduced the First Lady.

Ms Hughes, a sixthformer turned to the First Lady, and announced to a delighted audience: "I had to use your name to advantage as well, Mrs Clinton, because I had to be at school today." The First Lady assured Fiona that there were around a "a thousand of us" who would be glad to provide her with a note.

Ms Hughes was among the speakers who were only given a few hours notice. One Belfast woman declined at the thought of it.

Inez McCormack, vice-president of the ICTU, braved the audience and got a wry chuckle out of Mrs Clinton when she expressed relief she hadn't been given the task of the previous speaker.

"I wasn't asked to talk about my past thank God!" Secretary of State Mo Mowlam was supposed to introduce the First Lady but was delayed at Westminster.

Mrs Clinton paid tribute to the first woman Secretary of State, who was her host at Hillsborough. Referring to a reception Dr Mowlam had held the previous night for the delegates, she said she had reports of Dr Mowlam's "skills as a party hostess and dancer par excellence." The lighthearted mood turned sombre at times particularly as Mrs Clinton spoke of Janette Rooney, an Omagh teenager who was taking part in a cross-community project in Washington and watched the television coverage of the bomb in horror when she saw her friends injured.

One of her best friends was killed in the blast.

Mrs Clinton closed with a message of support. "May God bless you...and the future you build together."

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL WELCOMES
**VITAL VOICES
WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY**

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 1998

VITAL VOICES
WOMEN IN
DEMOCRACY



AP Photo

Newsday

September 3, 1998



The Boston Globe

A5

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1998

Thursday, 3 September 1998

First Lady pays surprise visit to blast injured

By Nigel Gould

THE First Lady visited some of the Omagh bomb victims today during a surprise trip to the Royal Victoria Hospital.

Mrs Clinton, accompanied by Cherie Blair, toured the hospital's accident and emergency wing and the burns unit.

She chatted to both blast victims and their families during a 45-minute visit.

A Royal spokeswoman said: "She also spoke to staff who had helped in the aftermath of the blast.

"They felt it was recognition of the work they like many other medical staff across the province had done.

"They really appreciated the visit.

"She was genuinely interested in our health service and spoke to both our chief executive and chairman about the health service's overall structure." The visit was not part of Mrs Clinton's official itinerary - and no media were invited.

The First Lady travelled to the Royal after an hour-long visit to Lagan Meadows in the Stranmillis area of Belfast where she met both Protestant and Catholic primary schoolchildren.

The visit was arranged by PlayBoard - the lead agency for children's play in Northern Ireland.



The Philadelphia Inquirer

Thursday, September 3, 1998

A 24

Thursday, 3 September 1998

Balloons for peace as wives meet children

By Nigel Gould

PROTESTANT and Catholic primary school children together released 100 white peace balloons after meeting up with America's First Lady today.

Hillary Clinton, accompanied by Tony Blair's wife Cherie, greeted around 40 children during a visit to Lagan Meadows in Belfast, organised by the charity PlayBoard.

The children were aged between nine and ten and were P6 pupils of neighbouring Stranmillis and St Bride's Primary Schools.

During her hour-long visit Mrs Clinton revealed a new partnership between PlayBoard and KABOOM!, an American community development organisation.

In her speech the First Lady said that KABOOM! would help PlayBoard to get the equipment it needed for a unique environmental play area exclusively for children.

The Play Space initiative aims to provide an environmental haven for children to play with a series of natural elements such as a waterfall or river and animal life.

The Lagan Meadows site was chosen for today's meeting as an ideal example.

Antoinette McKeown, PlayBoard's chief executive, said she was delighted that the First Lady was demonstrating her support for the charity.

"Undoubtedly, children are the most adversely affected victims of the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

"We must not forget that three generations of children have been exposed to traumatic acts of political and sectarian violence within their communities.

"Children represent our future and play has a crucial role in the healing process." For more than an hour before the visit police using metal detectors carried out an extensive security sweep of the area.

A team of presidential security personnel also accompanied the entourage.

Mrs Clinton and Mrs Blair were expected to make a private visit to the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast later today.

It is understood that Mrs Clinton wanted to visit the Omagh bomb victims.



WELL DONE: Mrs. Clinton congratulates Fiona Hughes, 17, for the schoolgirl's welcoming speech yesterday.

12 NEWS LETTER, Thursday, September 3, 1998

Talking It Over

By Ellen F. O'Brien, Editor



U.S. needs to be there for Russia, N. Ireland

This week, my husband and I traveled to Russia and Northern Ireland. In light of Russia's political and economic crisis, many have wondered whether this was the appropriate time for the president to make this trip.

Actually, a visit by the American president may carry particular significance for the Russian people now as they confront the difficult challenges ahead. The United States has an enormous stake in Russia's future, and as Russia struggles to build democracy and economic reform, we must remain engaged and demonstrate our support of its effort.

In addition, there are important foreign policy and security challenges facing the global community, in which Russia must play a key role. And the Russian people must know that, in times of difficulty, the United States will not turn its back on them.

Likewise, in the face of the recent violence in Northern Ireland, the president's visit stands as a tribute to the courage and determination of the people of Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic, who voted to make the Good Friday peace agreement possible. The president's presence also signals his support for the rapid implementation of the agreement and demonstrates that the United States will continue to be deeply involved in supporting the peace process and economic development, both in the Irish Republic and Northern Ireland.

While in Northern Ireland, I will have the opportunity to announce the creation of a different kind of partnership — smaller but, in many ways, just as important to the future of the region. It's a partnership designed to bring the children of Belfast one of the fundamentals of childhood — a safe place to play.

This new partnership will join together PlayBoard, a group based in Northern Ireland and dedicated to improving the quality of children's lives by providing opportunities to play, with KaBOOM, a \$2.3 million non-profit corporation based in Washington that brings individuals, organizations and businesses together to build safe and accessible playgrounds in some of this country's toughest neighborhoods. Their goal is to build 1,000 playgrounds in the United States by the end of the year 2000.

Darell Hammond, the chief executive officer of KaBOOM, explains why he thinks playgrounds are so important: "At KaBOOM, we believe in play because it is the 'work' of children. When we take away opportunities for children to test their physical skills, develop self-esteem and interact constructively with their peers, we effectively make these chil-

dren 'unemployed.' By building playgrounds, we invest in our children and the safety of the communities on which our businesses depend."

Sadly, millions of the world's children don't have safe places to play. Instead, they play in the streets or other dangerous places that are often littered with garbage, broken glass, abandoned cars and discarded drug paraphernalia. In some parts of the world, the dangers include even bombs, snipers and land mines.

For eight years, PlayBoard has studied the impact of violence and sectarianism on the children of Northern Ireland, where 70 percent of 9- to 11-year-olds have witnessed a bombing or shooting, and where children as young as 3 manifest sectarian hatred when they play.

PlayBoard's chief executive, Antoinette McKeown, says, "Our goal is to create an environment to bring out children's natural instinct to play freely — to work out their negative experiences through play and to find a way of exploring their own true identities. We hope to rid our children of stereotyping and name-calling."

Now, with the support of its American partner, KaBOOM, PlayBoard hopes to create a unique new play space in the middle of Belfast. As Miss McKeown describes it, "It won't be a traditional playground with swings and roundabouts. It's intended to be an environmental haven with a series of natural challenges designed by children themselves."

For many of Belfast's children, this play space will give them their first opportunity to play with children of other faiths.

In exchange, PlayBoard will work with KaBOOM to share what it's learned about the value of therapeutic play with communities in this country. The two groups also hope to host an international conference next year on the value of play.

Mr. Hammond and Miss McKeown know that KaBOOM and PlayBoard are not only building safe places for children to play. They are also building community spirit and pride, bringing people together, breaking down barriers and inspiring hope.

The partnership between KaBOOM and PlayBoard reminds us that what the children of Northern Ireland need is not so different from what the children of our inner cities need — or for that matter, what children everywhere need. They need to play — to explore their environments freely, without fear or prejudice.

Only then will they develop the skills to become the leaders of nations that work together so their children can play in peace.



THE BELFAST TELEGRAPH
Thursday, September 3, 1998
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The Washington Post

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1998

Hillary Clinton Reaps Praise at Two Stops

By T.R. RZID
Washington Post Foreign Service

BELFAST, Sept. 2—A cool and polished Hillary Rodham Clinton barnstormed through two European cities today, meeting cheering crowds that hailed her as a role model for the women of the world.

If the first lady was bothered by the fact that her husband's infidelity has been reported, and ridiculed, around the planet, there was nary a sign of it as she answered questions with Naina Yeltsin, wife of Russian President Boris Yeltsin, in Moscow and received boisterous support at two speeches here in Northern Ireland.

In both locales she talked easily about working and traveling with the man she called "my husband." In Moscow she described her marriage with President Clinton as a working partnership, the Associated Press reported.

"My husband and I have worked together, I guess, for about 27 years, ever since we met in law school. So we have spent a lot of time on common projects and issues that we both are very concerned about," she said.

In her first solo appearance since the president admitted to an improper relationship with a White House intern, Hillary Clinton left Moscow a day ahead of her husband to participate in a conference she initiated here, "Vital Voices—Women in Democracy." She was introduced by Fiona Hughes, a high school junior, who called her "a role model to me and to young women around the world."

The president is to join his wife in Northern Ireland on Thursday.

Among the 300 women from Northern Ireland participating in the three-day event, there seemed to be almost universal admiration for Hillary Clinton, and a willingness to ignore her problems with her husband.

"It's sad that Americans are so focused on my namesake, the younger Monica," said Monica McWilliams, a key female political leader here and one of 14 women elected in June to Northern Ireland's new assembly. "If that were the only problem our media had to report on, we'd consider ourselves lucky."

Clinton was poised, crisp and flawless in a lengthy keynote address to the women's conference here and a seemingly off-the-cuff greeting to political leaders beneath the ornate vaulted dome of Belfast's city hall. She praised this year's peace agreement in the troubled British-ruled province and said that women deserve much of the credit for demanding an end to 30 years of civil war.

"Women came together, as they have always done," she said. "It was the women whose whispering became a torrent that could no longer be ignored."

In Moscow, at a women's forum, the two first ladies agreed women should command more respect. But Mrs. Clinton left the audience's curiosity unsatisfied about the state of her marriage.

Asked what the Yeltsins will do when her husband is no longer president, the Russian first lady said, "I think that we will live like all people do. Like normal people. Finally."

Mrs. Clinton said only, "We have no plans yet."

Correspondent Sharon LaFraniere in Moscow contributed to this report.



THE BELFAST TELEGRAPH
Thursday, September 3, 1998
PAGE 10

Radiant First Lady Hillary gets a standing ovation

By MARTINA DEVLIN

A RELAXED and smiling Hillary Clinton delivered a keynote speech to hundreds of women in Belfast last night and showed no sign of any strain.

Mrs Clinton spoke for 40 minutes about the rights and achievements of women and afterwards received a standing ovation from the 450-strong audience in the Waterfront Hall.

It was Mrs Clinton's first speech since her husband admitted his "inappropriate" relationship with Monica Lewinsky and it was delivered in a strong, unfaltering style.

Poised and relaxed in a smart blue trouser suit, she told the Women in Democracy Conference that it was women's voices which could not be ignored.

"If you listen you can hear the voices of women who withstood jeers and threats to make themselves heard in a political world once

themselves heard in a political world once reserved primarily for men."

With intense interest focused on the scandal surrounding her husband, the First Lady's every gesture was being scrutinised.

But if she has her troubles, she was keeping them to herself in Belfast - her smile never wavered, her composure never faltered.

She radiated confidence, she radiated serenity, she radiated a woman who's just had her blonde bob styled to within an inch of its life and who knows she's looking good.

Hillary mentioned the H-word - "my husband" - three times. Completely straight-faced each time.

And as First Ladies go, she was positively presidential, which was the consensus among delegates at the conference.

"She could be president herself - in fact she should be," said one woman.

Hillary's entourage certainly shrieked VIP: Five motorbike outriders signalled her arrival, followed by a cavalcade of cars.

Security men were tripping over themselves to open the door of her stretch limousine. "How many people does it take to help one woman out of a car?" wondered a watcher.

Indoors at the Waterfront, the audience was overwhelmingly female and male politicians stood out like sore thumbs among the power-dressed women.

"The last time I was in such female dominated company was at the maternity ward," said ex-Belfast Lord Mayor, Alban Maginness. And that's a place he has visited eight times with his wife.

"It's intimidating", admitted UDP leader Gary McMichael, looking around the room in a break from signing autographs for schoolgirls. Then he realised this could be misconstrued and hastily added that there should be more women in politics.

But Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness claimed he was used to being surrounded by females because there were so many in his party. "We're very progressive," he said with a twinkle. Or it

could have been the reflection of so much jewellery in the room.

Mrs Clinton drew cheers when she announced: "I'll take any excuse to come back to Belfast!"

She emphasised the path to peace constructed in Northern Ireland may one day serve as a blueprint for other troubled countries.

"This is truly a special moment for me," said Mrs Clinton privately before greeting the crowd.

"The smiles and everyone mean so much to me right now," she said gazing at the many outstretched hands that sought her own.

The Americans came to build partnerships, to listen and to learn, she said.

The conference was part of an ongoing global initiative promoted by the US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright as a foreign policy agenda observing and strengthening democracy around the world, Mrs Clinton said.

The first was held in Vienna in 1997 and in October the third conference will take place in Uruguay.

Belfast, she said, put Northern Ireland and the women of Northern Ireland on the world map. The conference had succeeded in bringing people together.

Nothing can compare she said to the powerful voices heard in Belfast over the past few days. "There is a powerful chorus calling for women to become full democrats in a secure Northern Ireland."

She said the road to peace would never be easy but that bombs, bullets and terrorists will never turn people back. "Hatred and violence no longer have a place here."

Mrs Clinton promised the audience that Americans would stand with Northern Ireland when it moved forward.

She paid tribute to generations of women who had the courage, strength, the hope and prayer for a brighter future.

Women gathered around kitchen tables, at markets and "gatherings like this" she said and their torrent of voices could no longer be ignored.

The jeers and threats, the prejudices and violence that women withstood to make themselves heard would be no more.

PROGRESS

Mrs Clinton said economic progress, democratic progress and human rights affected women's progress and women's rights. She said that on the 50th anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights what women want is to help them create a better world.

In the words of Madeleine Albright to advance the cause of women is not just the right but the smart thing to do, she said and in Northern Ireland it was smart because women have a central role to play in the reconstruction of society - a society that is truly inclusive.

The conference was about practical things to fill in the peace.

The hopes for peace have to be translated into the hard work of practical action and political compromise in the Assembly and elsewhere, Mrs Clinton said.

September 3, 1998



The Philadelphia Inquirer

SEPTEMBER 3, 1998
COVER PAGE



POWERFUL WORDS... first lady Hillary Clinton addresses the Vital Voices Women in Democracy conference at the Waterfront Hall in Belfast yesterday at which she praised the role of women in the search for peace

First lady speaks out with style

A RELAXED Hillary Clinton breezed into Belfast yesterday showing no signs of the scandals which have dogged America's first family.

Making her first public appearance since the Monica Lewinsky story broke, the first lady smiled as she arrived at the Waterfront Hall to address a conference on women's advancement.

Clearly at ease as she stepped from her official limousine, Mrs Clinton smiled and waved to waiting reporters and photographers.

Wearing a stylish navy-blue trouser suit and pearls, Mrs Clinton joined the platform party for the final session of the Vital Voices Women in Democracy conference and said women's voices could no longer be ignored.

It was the first lady's first official speech since her husband admitted his "inappropriate" relationship with White House aide Monica Lewinsky.

And with intense interest focussed on the scandal

September 3, 1998

surrounding her husband, the first lady's every gesture was scrutinised.

But she rose to the occasion and smiled her way through the hour-long conference before delivering a powerful speech on empowering women to meet the challenges of the future.

Mrs Clinton told delegates she was privileged to see the rebirth of Northern Ireland which she first witnessed during their first trip back in October 1995.

She paid a lengthy tribute to the role of women in the search for peace and said the women's conference provided an opportunity for powerful voices to blend to be part of a new democratic Northern Ireland. "That which people have hoped, lived, died and finally voted for."

Mrs Clinton, who referred to the Omagh bombers as "enemies of peace", warned the road to peace would never be easy.

But she vowed that America would be behind the peace process every step of the way.

"You will only move forward and, as you do, please know that America will stand with you."

America's first lady paid tribute to the unbending resolve of Northern Ireland women to carry on despite years of heartbreak and misery.

But she said that women kept faith and prayed that peace would become a reality.

"It was women's whispers which became a torrent of voices..."

Mrs Clinton, delivering her speech in a clear unfaltering style, warned women that the struggle for democracy would not be easy.

"Democracy is hard work. There is no perfect democracy; it depends on the attitudes and values and getting on with people with whom you have profound differences."

But she said that if basic goals were agreed it would give everyone the chance to go forward together.

She spoke movingly about America and the world's will to see Northern Ireland succeed in achieving peace.

But the audience clapped when she spoke of her

feelings as she watched Ireland from her private plane flying into the country.

"It is one of the most beautiful places on God's earth... let us pledge that this is only the beginning."

Mrs Clinton told the audience, which included Assembly members and David Trimble's wife Daphne, that the people were now the architects of a new environment.

Summing up her 40-minute speech Mrs Clinton said: "We all know that women's voices played a vital role in the quest for peace."

During the final session Mrs Clinton listened intently as other speakers outlined their reasons for taking part in the Vital Voices conference.

She laughed openly as one of the speakers, summing up her role as a woman, declared: "I'll bend but I will not be manipulated."

Her speech was given a warm welcome by delegates as they left for a reception at Belfast city hall.

SDLP assembly member Brid Rodgers described it as "excellent and very encouraging".

"She stressed the importance of women...she is a very impressive speaker."

Shankill community worker May Blood said the speech was "very emotive".

"She came across well and seemed to mean what she said."

"I thought she looked quite well given what she has been through recently."

"She looked better than ever."

And west Belfast delegate Bridie Hawkins said she was very impressed by the first lady's speech.

"Every word came from the heart. She touched on a lot of subjects and left no relevant issue out."

Mrs Clinton then attended a reception at Belfast city hall where she was given a rapturous reception.

The first lady will join with her husband, who arrives in Belfast today, to urge all sides to make further political progress.

September 3, 1998

The New York Times

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1998

WOMEN'S VOICES

First Lady Draws Cheers at Women's Conference in Belfast

By WARREN HOGE

BELFAST, Northern Ireland, Sept. 2 — Introduced by a 16-year-old student as “a role model for young women around the world,” Hillary Rodham Clinton told a cheering gathering of women in Belfast tonight that it was their “courage and strength” that had secured the new Northern Ireland peace settlement.

“Wives. Mothers. Sisters. Daughters,” she told the 450 delegates to the “Vital Voices: Women in Democracy” conference. “Few were household names. But having seen their lives and communities torn apart by violence, women came together as women have always done — around kitchen tables, at the market, in gatherings like this. It was women

whose whispers of ‘Enough’ became a torrent of voices that could no longer be ignored.”

Mrs. Clinton arrived here today from Moscow a day ahead of President Clinton. The speech was her first since his televised admission on Aug. 17 of an “inappropriate relationship” with a White House intern. She strode onto the stage of Waterfront Hall to a burst of applause.

With only two fleeting mentions of the President’s pending arrival, Mrs. Clinton talked for 40 minutes of the rights and achievements of women and the duty toward the next generation.

“Ultimately, our children are why we are here,” she said.

It was Mrs. Clinton’s third trip to

Northern Ireland in four years, and she is a known and appreciated figure here, particularly among women. Her defense of her husband, which has raised some questions among women elsewhere, has not diminished enthusiasm for her here.

“My God, where have those women in America been?” said Monica McWilliams, 44, a professor at the University of Ulster who is a founder of the Women’s Coalition political party and a member of the new Northern Ireland Assembly.

“Women have to have survival skills, and people have to put things back in place when mistakes get made, and we know about that only too well in Northern Ireland,” Ms. McWilliams said in an interview.

Ms. McWilliams and her fellow negotiators in the 26-month-long peace talks were called “silly women,” “dogs” and “scum” by their male counterparts from other parties. Some mooed like cows when the women took their seats.

Ms. McWilliams said that the President’s behavior and Mrs. Clinton’s response to it had come up in a meeting before the conference and that the women present had agreed that the most important thing for a woman is to have “an independent project” to turn to at such times.

“This is a very traditional male-dominated society and they don’t know how to handle a Hillary Clinton,” she said, adding, “Oh, do we need this woman here now.”

Our perspective **In Belfast**

The Clintons' impressive teamwork

Those who knew enough or were lucky enough to be watching C-SPAN Wednesday evening were treated to a first-rate speech that Hillary Rodham Clinton had delivered to a conference of women in Belfast earlier that day. In the new Waterfront Hall, the First Lady spoke of the "courage and strength of generations of women" who helped bring Northern Ireland to the beginning of peace — and the equally significant role that women will play in ensuring that peace endures.

It was a powerful speech, full of substance, delivered well, received well. Of the women who have contributed to peace in Northern Ireland, she said, "Wives. Mothers. Sisters. Daughters. Few were household names. But having seen their lives and communities torn apart by violence, women came together as women have always done — around kitchen tables, at the market, in gatherings like this. It was women whose whispers of 'enough' became a torrent of voices that could no longer be ignored. If we listen carefully, their voices still echo through this room and lift ours up today."

Speaking of a playground she was scheduled to dedicate Thursday, the First Lady told the assembled women, "You are ultimately those who will determine whether the children of Northern Ireland can play like children should — without respect to religion or politics, without stereotyping or name calling, without fear or violence. That is for me the ultimate dream I see in my mind's eye...."

The next morning in the same room, President Clinton addressed members of the newly elected Northern Ireland assembly. With Hillary

Clinton in the audience, he delivered a speech equally powerful, equally designed to inspire the people of Northern Ireland to hold fast to the principles of peace and reconciliation through the difficult times they inevitably will face.

As the president worked the crowd after his speech, he stopped for several moments to ensure that two schoolgirls got their photo taken with him. It was a tender, observant thing to do, the sort of action that cannot be faked and which brings no accolades.

Later, the Clintons traveled to Omagh, where they met privately with relatives and victims of the Omagh bombing. Everywhere they went, the president was thanked profusely for his role in guiding the peace process toward success. It is an effort, as the people of Northern Ireland know well, that will bring him little political gain.

A strong impression during the Clintons' short visit to Northern Ireland was of how well they do their jobs and what an excellent team they make. It is possible to imagine Hillary and Bill delivering each others' speeches in Belfast. It is impossible to imagine that same circumstance for any other White House couple save the Roosevelts.

Through their six years in the White House, the Clintons have endured challenges and scurrilous attacks that would have laid low most other couples. How remarkable that they still can marshal the thought, the skill and the empathy they demonstrated in Belfast. It is unfashionable to say so, but they make a very good team for America.

September 3, 1998

Newsday

THE LONG ISLAND NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY, SEPT. 3, 1998 • NASSAU

BELFAST CITY COUNCIL WELCOMES VITAL VOICES WOMEN IN DEMOCRACY

BELFAST, NORTHERN IRELAND
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND, 1998



AP Photo

First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, speaking at conference in Belfast, exhorts women to play a role in peace process.

First Lady Touts Belfast Pact

COMBINED NEWS SERVICES

Belfast — Hillary Rodham Clinton called Northern Ireland's women a quiet catalyst for the Belfast peace agreement, but said they must play a bigger role in politics for real reconciliation to take root.

"It was women whose whispers of 'Enough' became a torrent of voices that could no longer be ignored," she told 600 female activists, community workers and politicians yesterday at a conference called "Vital Voices: Women in Democracy."

"It is up to you, the women of Northern Ireland, speaking out whenever injustice arises, to point out opportunities, to face up to challenges, and to speak for those who are still voiceless," she said.

The first lady, who flew here from Moscow a day before the president, mourned the victims of last month's car-bomb attack, which killed 28 people in Omagh. "When my husband and I go to Omagh tomorrow, we will pay tribute to those who were

murdered by the enemies of peace," she said.

Her speech brought together not only grass-roots Protestant and Catholic activists, but once-deadly opponents in Northern Ireland's three-decade-old conflict — virtually all of them men.

Sitting in the front row of one balcony were Gerry Adams, Martin McGuinness and Pat Doherty, leaders of the IRA-allied Sinn Fein party. Behind them sat members of the Ulster Unionists, the major Protestant party that also backs April's accord on how Northern Ireland should be governed — but refuses to talk directly with Sinn Fein.

Sinn Fein yesterday kept up the momentum for peace by signaling its readiness to tackle the politically vital issue of guerrilla disarmament.

The move was one of a series of apparently choreographed advances timed to capitalize on today's 13-hour visit by President Bill Clinton, a staunch supporter of peace efforts in the province.



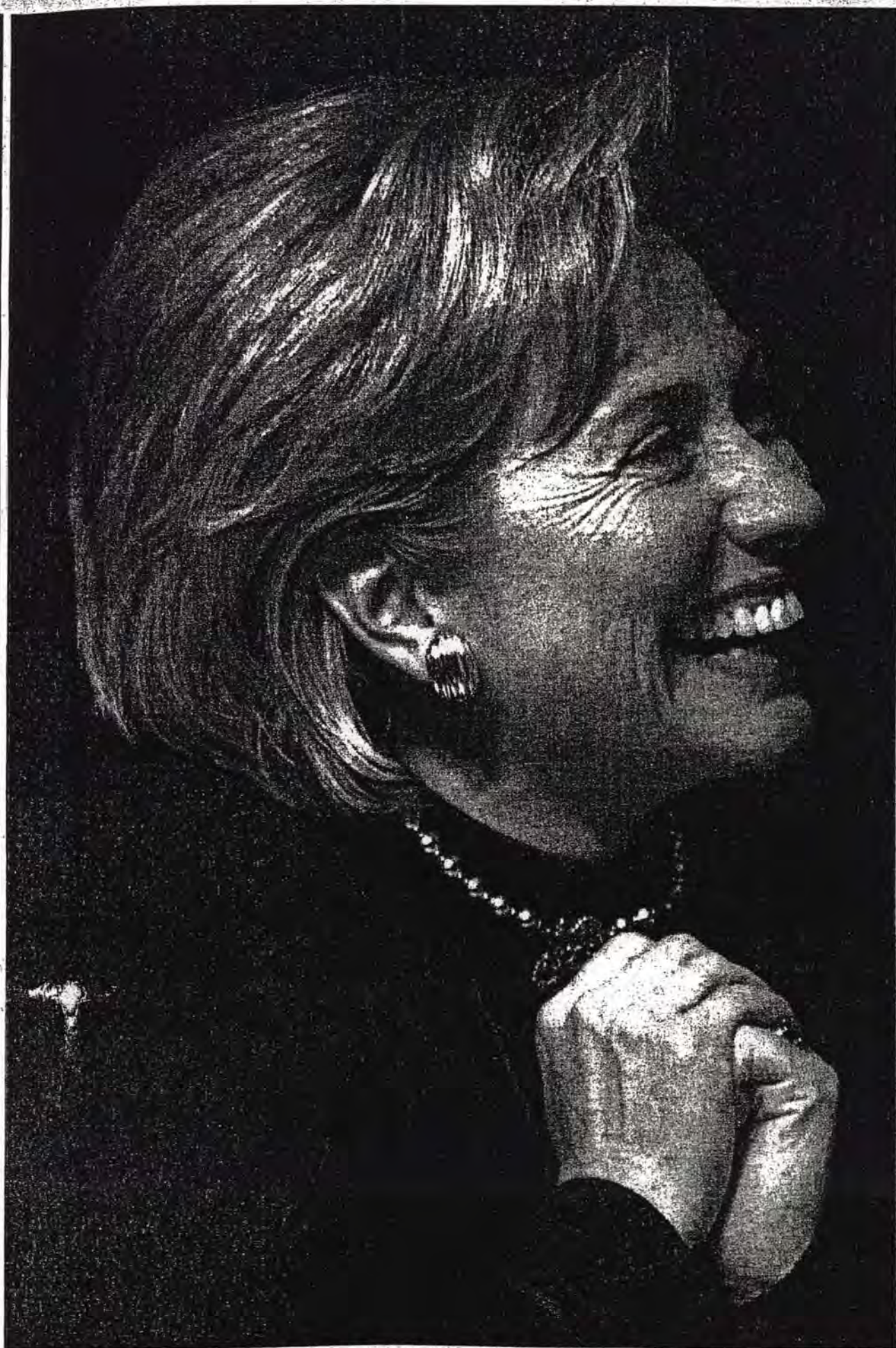
THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,706

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COVER PAGE



Hillary Clinton paying tribute to the 'courage and strength of generations of women' who had helped in the Irish peace process. Speaking yesterday in Belfast to nearly 600 delegates at the Vital Voices - Women in Democracy conference, she reiterated the United States' firm stance on terrorism

Dan Chang/Reuters

Belfast Telegraph

Newspaper of the Year

The National Newspaper of Northern Ireland

Thursday, September 3, 1998

She came, she saw, and she conquered

By Martina Purdy

"I'D chuck him out," said the freshfaced teenager when asked what she would do if she were Bill Clinton's wife.

While views on her husband were mixed, there seemed to be nothing but sympathy for Hillary Clinton from the 2000-strong guests who packed the Waterfront Hall.

As she stepped onto the stage, Mrs Clinton, wearing a sleek navy suit, chunky gold jewellery, won the first of three standing ovations.

One delegate mused that Hillary was now more powerful than ever following the painful episode with Monica Lewinsky.

"Bill owes her a lot and she's got him over a barrel," said the woman. "He needs her now more than ever — she can crack the whip now!"

Hillary was all charm and smiles however for the Belfast audience. They lapped up her response to 17-year-old Fiona Hughes from Bell-

Rapturous welcome for First Lady

aghy who introduced the First Lady.

Ms Hughes, a sixthformer turned to the First Lady, and announced to a delighted audience: "I had to use your name to advantage as well, Mrs Clinton, because I had to be at school today."

The First Lady assured Fiona that there were around a "a thousand of us" who would be glad to provide her with a note.

Ms Hughes was among the speakers who were only given a few hours notice. One Belfast woman declined at the thought of it.

Inez McCormack, vice-president of the ICTU, braved the audience and got a wry chuckle out of Mrs Clinton when she expressed relief she hadn't been given the task of the previous speaker.

"I wasn't asked to talk about my past — thank God!"

Secretary of State Mo Mowlam was supposed to introduce the First Lady — but was delayed at Westminster.

Mrs Clinton paid tribute to the first woman Secretary of State, who was her host at Hillsborough. Referring to a reception Dr Mowlam had held the previous night for the delegates, she said she had reports of Dr Mowlam's "skills as a party hostess and dancer par excellence."

The lighthearted mood turned sombre at times — particularly as Mrs Clinton spoke of Janette Rooney, an Omagh teenager who was taking part in a cross-community project in Washington and watched the television coverage of the bomb in horror when she saw her friends injured.

One of her best friends was killed in the blast.

Mrs Clinton closed with a message of support. "May God bless you . . . and the future you build together."



First Lady Hillary Clinton signs autographs for children during a visit to Lagan Meadows in Belfast today.

Belfast Telegraph

Newspaper of the Year

The National Newspaper of Northern Ireland

Thursday, September 3, 1998

Wives send peace balloons soaring

By Nigel Gould

PROTESTANT and Catholic primary school children together released 100 white peace balloons after meeting up with America's First Lady today.

Hillary Clinton, accompanied by Tony Blair's wife Cherie, greeted around 40 children during a visit to Lagan Meadows in Belfast, organised by the charity PlayBoard.

The children were aged

between nine and ten and were P6 pupils of neighbouring Stranmillis and St Bride's Primary Schools.

During her hour-long visit Mrs Clinton revealed a new partnership between PlayBoard and KABOOM!, an American community development organisation.

In her speech the First Lady said that KABOOM! would help PlayBoard to get the equipment it needed for a unique environmental play area exclusively for children.

The Play Space initiative aims to provide an environ-

Hillary reveals new help for children

mental haven for children to play with a series of natural elements such as a waterfall or river and animal life.

The Lagan Meadows site was chosen for today's

meeting as an ideal example.

Antoinette McKeown, PlayBoard's chief executive, said she was delighted that the First Lady was demonstrating her support for the charity.

"Undoubtedly, children are the most adversely affected victims of the Troubles in Northern Ireland.

"We must not forget that three generations of children have been exposed to traumatic acts of political and sectarian violence within their communities.

"Children represent our

future and play has a crucial role in the healing process."

For more than an hour before the visit police using metal detectors carried out an extensive security sweep of the area.

A team of presidential security personnel also accompanied the entourage.

Mrs Clinton and Mrs Blair were expected to make a private visit to the Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast later today.

It is understood that Mrs Clinton wanted to visit the Omagh bomb victims.

Belfast Telegraph

Newspaper of the Year

The National Newspaper of Northern Ireland

Thursday, September 3, 1998

First Lady pays surprise visit to blast injured

By Nigel Gould

THE First Lady visited some of the Omagh bomb victims today during a surprise trip to the Royal Victoria Hospital.

Mrs Clinton, accompanied by Cherie Blair, toured the hospital's accident and emergency wing and the burns unit.

She chatted to both blast victims and their families during a 45-minute visit.

A Royal spokeswoman said: "She also spoke to staff who had helped in the aftermath of the blast.

"They felt it was recognition of the work they like many other medical staff across the province had done.

"They really appreciated the visit.

"She was genuinely interested in our health service and spoke to both our chief executive and chairman about the health service's overall structure."

The visit was not part of Mrs Clinton's official itinerary — and no media were invited.

The First Lady travelled to the Royal after an hour-long visit to Lagan Meadows in the Stranmillis area of Belfast where she met both Protestant and Catholic primary schoolchildren.

The visit was arranged by PlayBoard — the lead agency for children's play in Northern Ireland.

'Speech prep' so no time for chat

By Peter McVerry

HILLARY Clinton's arrival in the province was very low-key compared to that of her husband.

The First Lady's DC-10 plane, emblazoned with a United States of America ensignia, touched down on the tarmac at Belfast International Airport at precisely 2.34pm yesterday.

There to greet Mrs Clinton were US Ambassador to the UK Philip Lader, US Consul General for Northern Ireland Ki Fort, Northern Ireland Office minister Paul Murphy and airport chief executive Stanley Thomas.

Passengers in nearby departure lounges mingled with staff eager to catch a glimpse of the First Lady and her entourage as armed security personnel maintained a rooftop vigil.

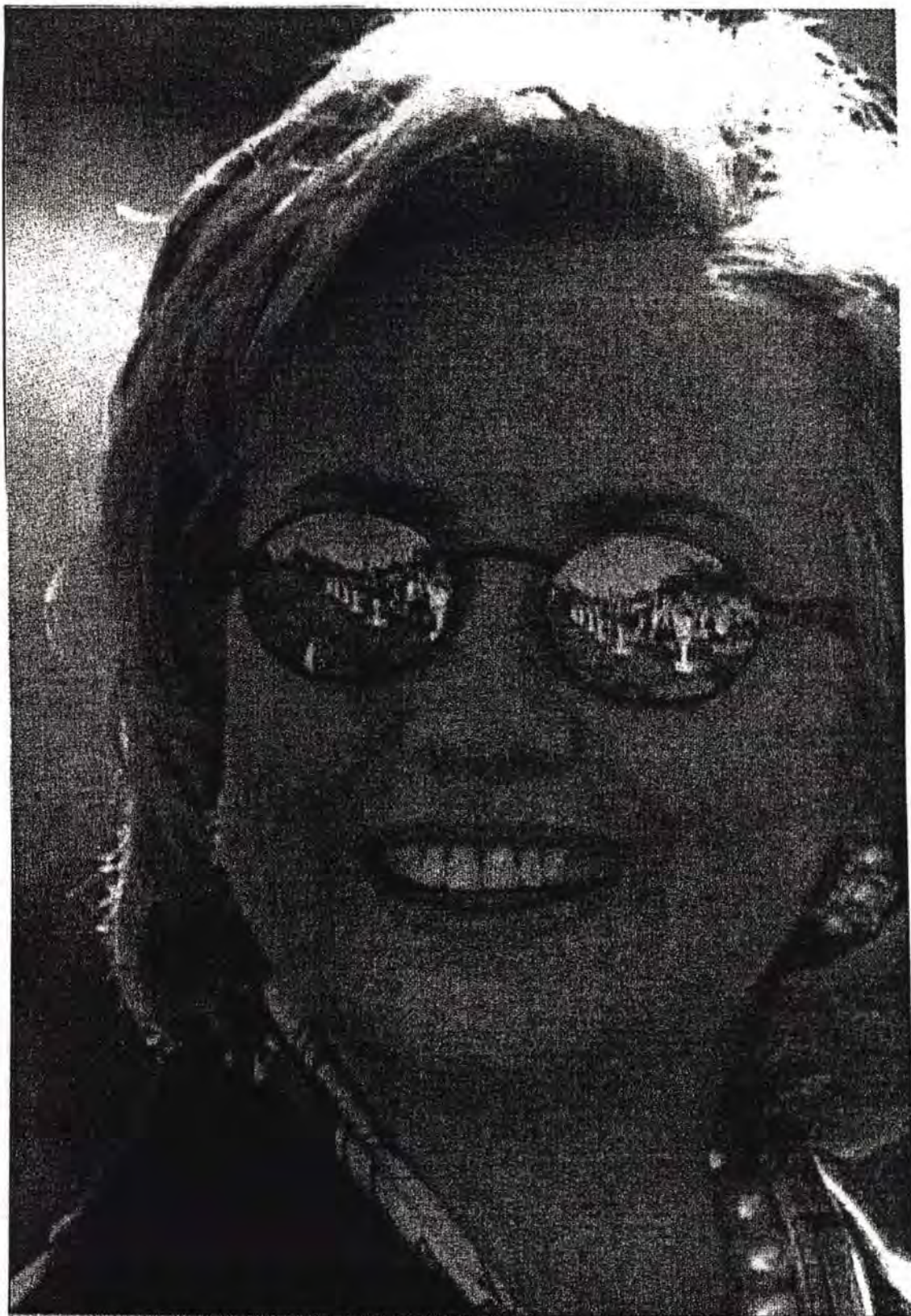
Inquisitive reporters interested in finding out if Mrs Clinton would be free for a quick chat before her 5pm keynote address at the Waterfront met with no success.

"Those next two hours are scheduled as down-time and speech prep," the polite but firm White House information officer informed them.

THE BELFAST TELEGRAPH

Thursday, September 3, 1998

PAGE 9



Glass act: US First Lady Hillary Clinton dons sunglasses on a visit to Lagan Meadows today.

Belfast Telegraph

Each person has role to play

By Dan McGinn

FIRST Lady Hillary Clinton has praised the crucial role played by courageous women in holding Northern Ireland together during the darkest days of the troubles.

She was speaking after a warm reception at the Vital Voices conference at the Waterfront Hall yesterday.

An audience of politicians, civil servants and women and children from a wide spectrum of society heard Mrs Clinton speak of the courage of women in the face of almost 30 years of violence.

She also told an audience — which included Sinn Féin's Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness and the UDP's Gary McMichael — there was an onus on everyone in society to translate the hopes for peace into practical economic and social action.

"The hopes for peace will have to be translated into the hard work of practical action and political compromise, not only in the Assembly, but in every corner of society.

"So the real challenge of this conference starts as we leave. How will each of us work to fulfill the promise of peace?

"That, of course, will be up to the men and women of Northern Ireland to decide. But, based on what we know about the conditions that promote peace and prosperity, we, I think, can agree on basic goals," she said.

Mrs Clinton added: "All people must have access to the tools of

opportunity — good education, quality healthcare, good jobs, loans and credit.

"The kind of opportunities that will give responsible people of whatever backgrounds the chance to move forward into the 21st century with confidence."

Issues from creating an effective education system to dealing with the problem of domestic violence would have to be addressed as the new political system took root, she said.

But she also acknowledged the difficulties the province was facing in creating a climate of peace.

"When my husband and I go to Omagh tomorrow, we will pay tribute to those who were murdered by the enemies of peace.

"They were mostly women and children. They were Catholic and Protestant, unionist and nationalist, young and old.

"They were people simply living their lives, working at a drapery store, hanging out with friends, buying school uniforms for their children.

"The terrorists targeted the people of Northern Ireland and in response, it was the people — all the people — who bravely stood side by side to say: Hatred and violence will no longer have a place here."

During the province's grimmest hours women held their families together, Mrs Clinton acknowledged.

Seven days a week, she said, they "carried on with hope and prayer that the future would be brighter, free of troubles and heart-break".

But drawing a parallel with a new green space for children planned by PlayBoard with an American group called KaBOOM, she urged men and women to work together to create a new political environment.

"You are, ultimately those who will determine whether the children of Northern Ireland can play like children should ... without respect to religion or politics, without stereotyping or name calling, without fear or violence."



The First Lady arrives at the Waterfront Hall for the Vital Voices Conference.

Eloquent First Lady makes her hall mark

By Gail Walker

I AM, said a strident First Lady, not shy.

The comments were not, however, a invitation to any public discussion of errant husband Bill's marital misdemeanours.

Instead, they were a reference to the fact that she would seize any excuse "I can find to come back to Northern Ireland."

But what a difference a few years makes...

November 1995. Oh what a night. The President and Hillary outside Belfast's City Hall amid massive security; tens of thousands of well-wishers stretched out on a cold, starry night as far as the eye could see to welcome them.

Last night, roughly same time, same place, yet a radically different atmosphere surrounding a reception for the First Lady to mark the end of the Vital Voices conference.

There was no tangible buzz of excitement; no discernible sense of expectation or anticipation.

Only a couple of members of the public

Hillary says it's great to be back

had bothered to ring the City Hall to find out details of the visit, said the public relations officer handing out press passes.

Only a few wilting bouquets left in memory of the 28 people murdered in the Omagh atrocity and, more recently, to mark the first anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, hung languidly on the ornate gates to greet that visitor.

Still, the First Lady, her neat blonde bob immaculately coiffured as ever and dressed in an elegant navy suit, was — the low-key reception notwithstanding — delighted to be back.

"I feel uplifted and energised by the courageous men and women with whom I have met," she said, her strident tones filling the Great Hall.

"We know how diffi-

cult the journey is.

"I bring a message not only of support and encouragement but also of admiration for what you are doing puts you on the right side of history."

Her words won rapturous applause.

The other big burst of clapping of the evening came when Lord Mayor David Alderdice, introducing the First Lady, reiterated Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams' comments of the previous evening that violence must be "over, done with and gone."

Sadly, as the media were shepherded onto a balcony at the rear of the hall to overlook proceedings, it was impossible to accurately gauge the reaction of Mr Adams to this reference to his soundbite.

Speaking afterwards, the Sinn Féin leader was in fine fettle.

He had found the conference on the advancement of women "very, very important."

Pausing briefly, he told me with great conviction: "Women are the majority on the island of Ireland and yet are massively discriminated against."

Washington when Mrs Clinton emerged from her office with the Secretary of State Mo Mowlam.

They exchanged pleasantries before Mrs Clinton welcomed them to her office.

They sat on a patterned sofa while the First Lady took the armchair. Her assistant, Melanne Verveer, recorded the conversation.

Ms Sagar was immediately struck by how warm and friendly Mrs Clinton was.

"You expect these people to be like card-board cutouts and speak a certain way — but now and again it's nice when a human being comes through."

The conversation soon moved from smalltalk towards the wider political scene. Mrs Clinton, who was clearly well-briefed, wanted to know the Coalition's views on the current political stalemate.

Ms Sagar recalled: "She seemed to have a very clear understanding about Northern Ire-

land and didn't see everything as a black and white issue."

Mrs Clinton was even aware of the abuse the Coalition had endured during the lifespan of the Northern Ireland Forum, where the women were told to sit down and shut up — and stick to knitting.

Ms McWilliams spoke about the Coalition's efforts to overcome the abuse.

"We explained to her how they hunt in packs, that this was a kind of pack mentality, a male-boding exercise."

As the First Lady quizzed them further on the abuse, Ms Sagar was unsure Mrs Clinton understood how robust the Coalition could be. She added: "I put it in a way I would normally put it and said 'we've actually got more balls than they have' — she understood that very clearly."

The First Lady laughed heartily.

Their 15 minute session extended into an hour as Mrs Clinton asked if the Coalition

involved their children in politics. Both explained they had been reluctant to do this.

"As a feminist," said Ms McWilliams, "I was concerned not to fall into this trap that the only thing women could talk about was kids."

But the reference stayed with them and when it came to the referendum and elections a few weeks later, their children were at the forefront of the successful campaigns.

Ms McWilliams also stressed the women's growing impatience with having women's rights put on hold while the historic conflict between nationalism and unionism was resolved.

Only a fraction of the 90 Forum members were women even though females make up over half the population.

And just 9% of the senior jobs in the Civil Service are held by women who do not even

have a voice on 20-plus influential government backed boards in Northern Ireland.

Ms McWilliams told the First Lady:

"We are saying 'no'. The two — political development and women's rights — have to walk hand in hand."

Mrs Clinton nodded her approval and inquired as to how she could help forward equality for women. The Coalition invited her to Belfast.

She agreed. Mrs Clinton kept her promise with State Department officials setting to work on a Vital Voices conference. Ms McWilliams, Ms Sagar and Ms O'Neill were among 400 British, Irish and American women who have spent three days at the conference in Belfast.

Mrs Clinton was due to add her voice to the call for equality today when she made the keynote address.

the IRISH NEWS

Thursday September 3 1998

First lady speaks out with style

A RELAXED Hillary Clinton breezed into Belfast yesterday showing no signs of the scandals which have dogged America's first family.

Making her first public appearance since the Monica Lewinsky story broke, the first lady smiled as she arrived at the Waterfront Hall to address a conference on women's advancement.

Clearly at ease as she stepped from her official limousine, Mrs Clinton smiled and waved to waiting reporters and photographers.

Wearing a stylish navy-blue trouser suit and pearls, Mrs Clinton joined the platform party for the final session of the *Vital Voices Women in Democracy* conference and said women's voices could no longer be ignored.

It was the first lady's first official speech since her husband admitted his "inappropriate" relationship with White House aide Monica Lewinsky.

And with intense interest focussed on the scandal surrounding her husband, the first lady's every gesture was scrutinised.

But she rose to the occasion and smiled her way through the hour-long conference before delivering a powerful speech on empowering women to meet the challenges of the future.

Mrs Clinton told delegates she was

privileged to see the rebirth of Northern Ireland which she first witnessed during their first trip back in October 1995.

She paid a lengthy tribute to the role of women in the search for peace and said the women's conference provided an opportunity for powerful voices to blend to be part of a new democratic Northern Ireland: "That which people have hoped, lived, died and finally voted for."

Mrs Clinton, who referred to the Omagh bombers as "enemies of peace", warned the road to peace would never be easy.

But she vowed that America would be behind the peace process every step of the way.

"You will only move forward and, as you do, please know that America will stand with you."

America's first lady paid tribute to the unbending resolve of Northern Ireland women to carry on despite years of heartbreak and misery.

But she said that women kept faith and prayed that peace would become a reality.

"It was women's whispers which became a torrent of voices..."

Mrs Clinton, delivering her speech in a clear unfaltering style, warned women that the struggle for democracy would not be easy.

"Democracy is hard work. There is no perfect democracy. It depends on the attitudes and values and getting on with people with whom you have profound differences."

But she said that if basic goals were agreed it would give everyone the chance to go forward together.

She spoke movingly about America and the world's will to see Northern Ireland succeed in achieving peace.

But the audience clapped when she spoke of her feelings as she watched Ireland from her private plane flying into the country.

"It is one of the most beautiful places on God's earth... let us pledge that this is only the beginning."

Mrs Clinton told the audience, which included Assembly members and David Trimble's wife Daphne, that the people were now the architects of a new environment.

Summing up her 40-minute speech Mrs Clinton said: "We all know that women's voices played a vital role in the quest for peace."

During the final session Mrs Clinton listened intently as other speakers outlined their reasons for taking part in the *Vital Voices* conference.

She laughed openly as one of the speakers, summing up her role as a woman, declared: "I'll bend but I will not be manipulated."

Her speech was given a warm welcome by delegates as they left for a reception at Belfast city hall.

SDLP assembly member Brid Rodgers described it as "excellent and very encouraging".

"She stressed the importance of women... she is a very impressive speaker."

Shankill community worker May Blood said the speech was "very emotive".

"She came across well and seemed to mean what she said."

"I thought she looked quite well given what she has been through recently."

"She looked better than ever."

And west Belfast delegate Bridie Hawkins said she was very impressed by the first lady's speech.

"Every word came from the heart. She touched on a lot of subjects and left no relevant issue out."

Mrs Clinton then attended a reception at Belfast city hall where she was given a rapturous reception.

The first lady will join with her husband, who arrives in Belfast today, to urge all sides to make further political progress.

President Clinton is also expected to lay a wreath in the devastated village of Omagh before addressing a huge open-air peace rally in the Mall area of Armagh.

Thursday September 3 1998

Hillary gives a helping hand to women in the business world

By Jim Fitzpatrick
Business Editor

AMERICAN First Lady Hillary Clinton's visit to Northern Ireland yesterday spurred the launch of the first all-Ireland organisation for women in business.

Network Ireland, which is currently a major organisation for female entrepreneurs and executives in the Republic, is launching a recruitment drive in Northern Ireland later this month.

Network Northern Ireland will be headed by Sharon O'Connor, who is director of the Learning Centre in Belfast. She said the organisation would be aimed at women who own their own firms, or work in companies.

Speaking at the Waterfront Hall where she was attending the Vital Voices conference, Ms O'Connor said: "The visit of Hillary Clinton to Northern Ireland highlights the need for Northern Ireland women to make their voices heard nationally and internationally."

"The launch of Network Northern Ireland, the organisation for women in business, is about creating opportunities for women to build these essential networks."

In support of the new initiative the *Irish News* is sending two readers, nominated by their respective business colleagues, to this year's Network Ireland conference in Dublin next month.

The package includes two nights accommodation in the Burlington Hotel, pre-conference dinner on Friday October 9, the conference itself on Saturday October 10, gala dinner attended by the Tanaiste Mary Harney on Saturday night, and Sunday morning brunch in the Burlington.

The conference is entitled "Do we Want an Economy or a Society?" with the sub-heading "Bringing a feminine intelligence to our working and living".

But the organisers are keen to stress that they expect many men to attend

the event, and the *Irish News* welcomes nominations from both sexes in equal numbers.

According to conference organiser Paula Downey, who is keynote speaker for the afternoon session, the conference examines issues from the global to the personal perspective.

First speaker at the conference is Sabina Spencer, a consultant to multinational companies in the area of strategic leadership. She opens the event with a look at the truly global issues pushing change in the world of business.

"Not just environmental issues, but sustainability in every sense," according to Paula Downey.

The second speaker is Irish "futurist" Gerard O'Neill, who will look at national issues facing Ireland: the impact of the Internet, the Euro, and the realities of the Celtic tiger economy.

The conference then takes a sideways look at the role of business organisations, through the eyes of a man who has turned the concept on its head.

Andy Law bought out the London advertising agency which he ran for £1 from the parent company and turned it into a trust owned equally by all the employees. He believes advertising is redundant, yet runs one of the most successful agencies in London - he explains the apparent paradoxes.

Next up are two women who wrote a book which was the 90's antidote to 80's yuppieism entitled "Getting a Life - the Downshifter's Guide to Happier, Simpler Living".

In the afternoon the conference explores personal themes, led by Paula Downey who focuses on the importance of communication in organisations.

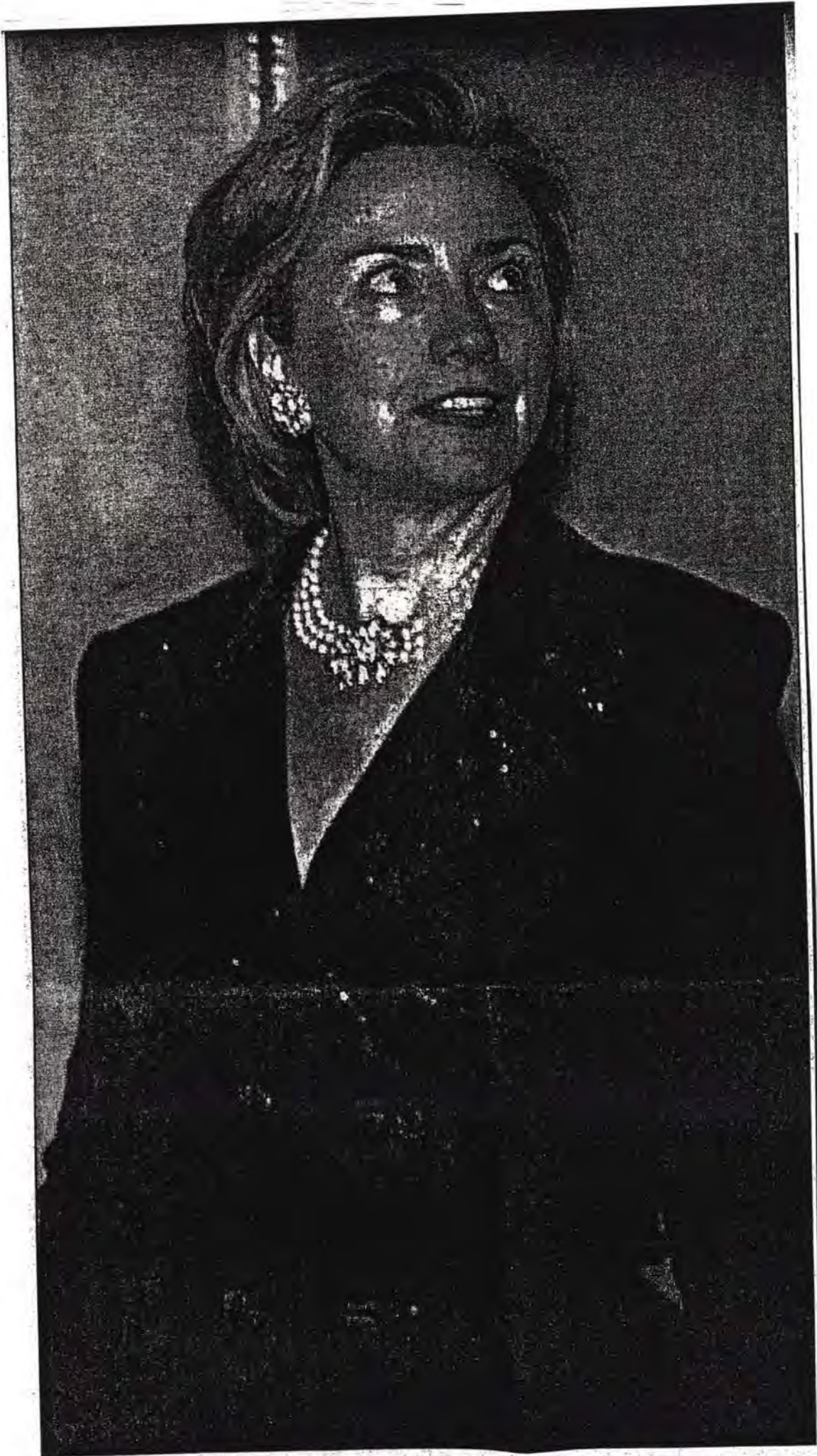
According to the organisers the conference sub-heading does not imply that only women have the necessary intelligence to address the issues of today, but rather that the "feminine" side in everyone needs to be nurtured.

Belfast Telegraph

Newspaper of the Year

The National Newspaper of Northern Ireland

COVER PAGE



Hillary Clinton: Making her third trip to Belfast today.



QUEEN OF BELFAST

Delighted crowds take Hillary to their hearts

By DON MACKAY

HILLARY Clinton is not just the First Lady of America.

She became The Queen of Belfast last night in all-smiling, majestic style.

The woman betrayed by her husband arrived in a presidential motorcade with armed police chase cars, personal bodyguards and motorbike outriders.

But when she stepped from her stretch limo she was as far from being a shamed woman as you can get.

Her blonde bobbed hair was immaculate, the blue trouser suit straight from a top designer shop – and the smile was as bright as her gold necklace.

Beamed

It was a smile that beamed and her wave to the crowd outside the city's Waterfront centre was as bold as it could be.

This was a woman fighting back, a mother, putting a young woman and her Delilah delights firmly in her place.

Gone was the embarrassment that your husband has admitted his sexual peccadilloes to the Free World. Instead, there was poise, confidence – and authority.

This was the strength of the woman behind the man – the power behind the US throne – and it won the hearts of the people of Belfast.

SEE PAGE 3

THE MIRROR
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PAGE 3



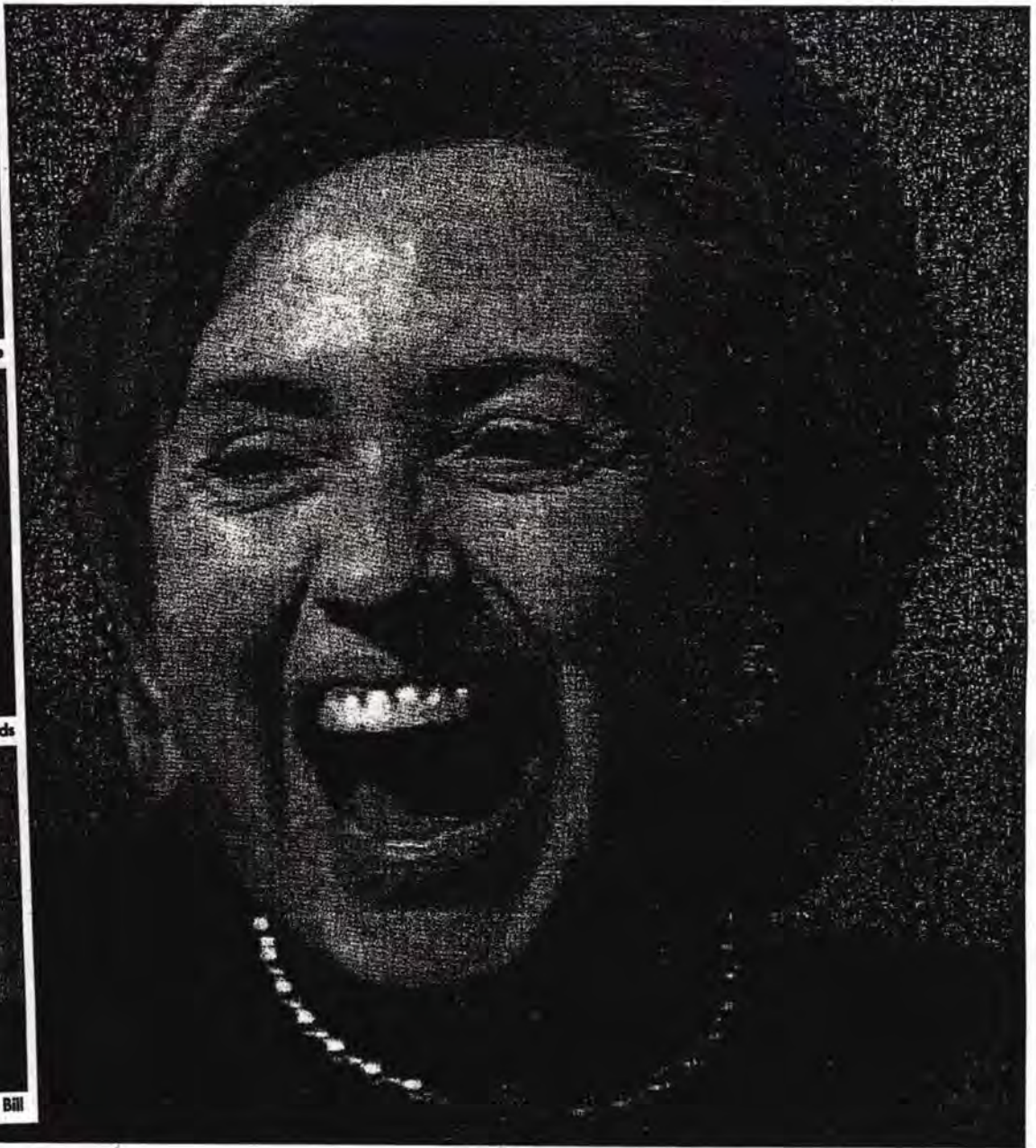
TAKE ONE: Hillary sees the funny side



TAKE TWO: She beams for the crowds



TAKE THREE: The joke must be on Bill



FIRST LADY FLIES INTO ULSTER

Hillary leads the advance party for President's visit

By Janet Devlin

HILLARY Clinton was due to fly into Northern Ireland today for the first leg of a whirlwind Presidential visit.

And the First Lady, who has made her first public appearance since the Monica Lewinsky scandal broke, says she feels "just fine".

Mrs Clinton was due to speak at a major conference in Belfast this

afternoon on the advancement of women.

Before leaving Russia, where she and her husband were lending support to beleaguered leader Boris Yeltsin, she told a reporter who asked her how she had been doing in recent weeks: "I've been doing just fine".

Appearing jet-lagged, but otherwise happy, she deftly parried the first reference to the scandal, which is bound to cast a shadow over the Presidential tour.

The federal judge in the Paula Jones sexual-harassment case yesterday hinted she may hold President Clinton in contempt for failing to tell the whole truth about Ms Lewinsky.

Today's engagement will be first of a number by Mrs Clinton before she is joined by her husband tomorrow.

The President is returning to the city to urge all sides to make political progress. He will also lay a wreath at the site of the Omagh bombing atrocity.

This is Mrs Clinton's third visit to Northern Ireland.

A spokesman for the US administration said: "She has been keeping her eye on the situation here because it's an area where she has a keen interest and, for personal reasons, looks

on it with a warm heart."

The President's wife was due to deliver a keynote address at the Women in Democracy conference at Belfast's Waterfront Hall this afternoon, then spend the night at Hillsborough.

Tomorrow she is due to open a playground for Protestant and Catholic children in the greater Belfast area

before meeting up with her husband back at the city's Waterfront Hall where he will deliver his own speech to the people of Northern Ireland.

The address will be transmitted live on big screen television in the grounds of the Waterfront Hall at 11am. Pedestrian access will be available via the entrance to the Dunloy-Ewart plc car park at

Queen's Bridge from 9am. Other car parks in the immediate area will remain closed.

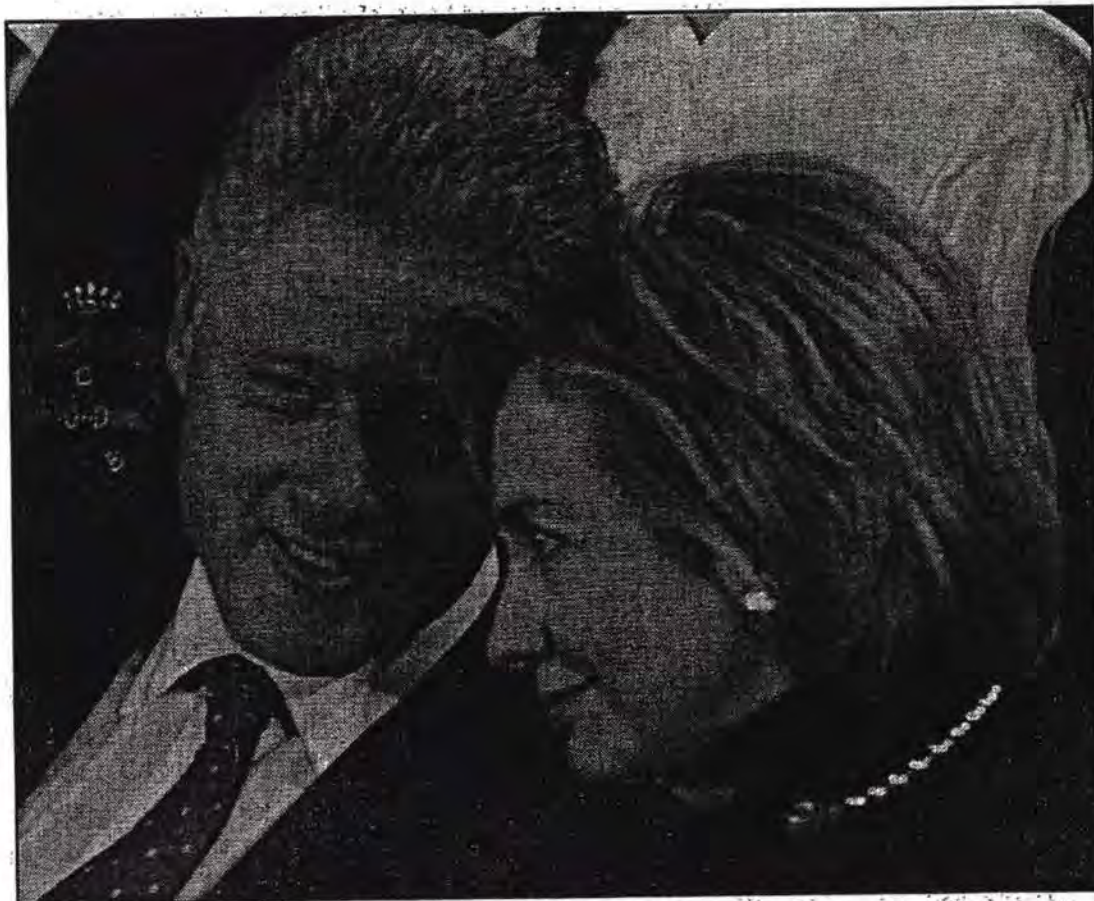
It was also confirmed today that Mary Black will play at Armagh's 'Gathering for Peace' tomorrow, and huge crowds are expected for Mr Clinton's peace address.

Car parking will be sited on approach roads, with free buses

into the city centre. The city gates are open from 5pm and Mr Clinton will arrive after the concert.

Prime Minister Tony Blair is expected in Belfast later tonight and he will personally greet the President when he disembarks from Air Force One tomorrow morning.

● See pages 6, 10 and 11; Viewpoint, page 12



LOS ANGELES TIMES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998

Reuters

Hillary adds her voice in battle for equality

IT was a drizzly St Patrick's Day in Washington when Monica McWilliams and Pearl Sagar arrived at the White House.

A telephone call that morning had confirmed First Lady Hillary Clinton would meet the two Women's Coalition negotiators for 15 minutes at 4pm sharp.

The meeting was a sign of the fledgling Coalition's growing influence in politics — and a powerful network of women at work.

Mrs Clinton was already aware of the

First Lady Hillary Clinton was keeping a promise to Belfast women when she visited today. **MARTINA PURDY** and **EILEEN FLEMING** report

Women's Coalition when she received a telephone from Rosemary O'Neill asking if she would meet the two Women's Coalition representatives.

Ms O'Neill, a State Department official, carried considerable clout in Washington, as the daughter of Tip O'Neill, the legendary

speaker of the House of Representatives.

She came to know the Coalition through mutual acquaintances, and made it her business to help out.

"A force to be reckoned with," was how Ms Sagar described her.

Mrs Clinton readily agreed to the meeting.

A lifelong feminist, she had refused the traditional role reserved for the First Lady — hosting teas, redecorating the White House and promoting safe issues.

Like her husband, she was keenly interested in the ongoing political talks at Stormont and was kept informed via the National Security Council (which often had the minutes of the talks even before the delegates.)

Mrs Clinton had already travelled to Belfast twice since 1995, once with her husband and a second time to deliver the Joyce McCartan memorial lecture at the University of Jordanstown.

In her speech, she had singled out the Coalition for special mention.

Afterwards she had been introduced to Ms McWilliams, who along with Ms Sagar had raced to the White House that day in between meetings with Washington power-brokers, congressman Peter King, Richard Neal, and Senator Edward Kennedy.

Ms McWilliams, a university lecturer, and Ms Sagar, a community worker, had little time to reflect on their growing political clout as they entered the heart of one of the world's most famous buildings.

They stood by a photocopier making small talk with the British Ambassador to

The Philadelphia Inquirer

September 2, 1998

A close-up view of Russia's crisis

Hillary Clinton visits with a struggling businesswoman.

By Elizabeth Shogren
LOS ANGELES TIMES

MOSCOW — Hillary Rodham Clinton had a street-level view of Russia's economic crisis yesterday, visiting a privately owned clothing factory that has been hard hit and talking to a rare breed — Russian female entrepreneurs — about the struggles they confront.

Because it was the first time Hillary Clinton had faced reporters since her husband's televised admission of marital infidelity, she also answered a delicately worded question about how she was coping with the personal impact of President Clinton's political crisis. "I've been getting along fine," she said with what appeared to be a forced smile.

That was more of a mask than her Russian hosts put on their own very different crisis, which began Aug. 17, the same day the President made his admission of an improper relationship after seven months of denials.

Sitting next to Hillary Clinton, Russian President Boris N. Yeltsin's wife, Naina I. Yeltsin, opened the meeting with businesswomen by referring to her country's economy collapse. "In this difficult time," she said, "much lies on women's shoulders."

The director of the small textile factory where the meeting took place, Tatyana Nedzvetskaya, was even more direct. "Before the crisis, we had such high hopes," she said. But since it hit, she added, there was only uncertainty.

Nedzvetskaya's business grew from a mom-and-pop shop in 1988 to a factory with 60 full-time workers. Demand for her reasonably priced clothes had been so high in recent months that she had contracted with three other factories — with a



Associated Press / MIKAIL METZEL

Hillary Clinton and Naina Yeltsin (left) toured the State Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow yesterday.

total of about 500 seamstresses — to keep up with orders from across the country.

All that changed Aug. 17, when the ruble was devalued and payments on some government debts were frozen. Since then, political upheaval has caused the value of the Russian currency to plummet further.

The price of the imported fabric that Nedzvetskaya uses for her suits and dresses soared overnight. Her targeted market — Russian women with modest incomes — cannot afford to pay more than her current prices, so she faces a formidable dilemma: If she raises prices, she will lose customers; if she doesn't, she will be unable to make ends meet.

"We had planned to introduce two new lines this fall because everything was going so well this sum-

mer," Nedzvetskaya said in an interview. Now, for the first time in a decade as a pioneering private businesswoman, she faces serious doubts that she will be able to keep the doors of her enterprise open.

Hillary Clinton's visit with the businesswomen offered her a glimpse of the problems facing many thousands of private enterprises that have struggled into existence as Russia makes the transition from the Soviet-era command economy toward a free-market system.

Given the Russians' deep economic fears, it was incomprehensible to Nedzvetskaya and the workers in her factory that the U.S. political system was in crisis over the relationship between President Clinton and former White House intern Monica S. Lewinsky.

"I feel such sympathy for Mrs. Clinton," said Lyuda Kalinina, 40, who was sewing a woman's suit jacket as the American started her tour of the tidy, cheery enterprise. "It's such a delicate situation. If one of us was going through it, maybe our best girlfriend would know about it. But in Mrs. Clinton's case, the whole world knows. I feel so sorry for her."

Nedzvetskaya scoffed at all the attention given to the Clintons' personal problems and said it showed that Americans must "have nothing else to worry about."

She offered a suggestion for what President Clinton should do if the U.S. political establishment decided to take the extreme step of impeaching him or demanding his resignation.

"If they kick him out, have him come to Russia," Nedzvetskaya said. "We would gladly welcome him as our president. We could sure use a good one."



The Philadelphia Inquirer

September 2, 1998
A 16

First Lady Gets Earful of Businesswomen's Woes

■ **Entrepreneurs:** At a clothing factory, Mrs. Clinton hears how doldrums are affecting free-market pioneers.

By ELIZABETH SHOGREN
TIMES STAFF WRITER

MOSCOW—First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton had a street-level view of Russia's economic crisis Tuesday, as she visited a privately owned clothing factory that has been hard hit and talked to a rare breed—Russian women entrepreneurs—about the struggles they confront.

Since it was the first time Mrs. Clinton had faced reporters since her husband's televised admission of marital infidelity, she also answered a delicately worded question about how she is coping with the personal impact of President Clinton's political crisis.

"I've been getting along fine," she said with what appeared to be a forced smile.

That was more of a mask than the first lady's Russian hosts put on their own, very different crisis, which began Aug. 17—the same day the president made his admission after seven months of denial.

Sitting next to Mrs. Clinton, Russian First Lady Naina I. Yeltsin opened the meeting with businesswomen by referring to her country's economic collapse.

"In this difficult time, much lies on women's shoulders," she said.

The director of the small clothing factory where the meeting took place, Tatiana Nedzvetskaya, was even more direct.

"Before the crisis, we had such high hopes," she said. But since it hit, she added, there is only uncertainty.

Nedzvetskaya's business grew from a mom-and-pop shop in 1988 to a factory with 60 full-time workers. Demand for her reasonably priced clothes has been so high in recent months that she contracted with three other factories to keep up with orders from across the country.

But all that changed Aug. 17, when Russia's currency, the ruble, was devalued and payments on some government debts were frozen. Since then, political upheaval has caused the value of the ruble to plummet further. The price of the imported fabric that Nedzvetskaya uses for her suits and dresses soared overnight. Her targeted market—Russian women with modest incomes—cannot afford to pay more than her current prices,

so she faces a formidable dilemma: If she raises prices, she will lose her customers; if she doesn't, she will be unable to make ends meet.

"We had planned to introduce two new lines this fall, because everything was going so well this summer," Nedzvetskaya said in an interview. Now, for the first time in a decade as a pioneering private businesswoman, she faces serious doubts that she will be able to keep the doors of her enterprise open.

"The situation is much more critical than it has ever been before," Nedzvetskaya said. "It was not so difficult in the beginning. We had nothing to lose. Now, 60 women will be on the street if we fail. What is so sad and frustrating is that none of this depends on you. It's all up to the idiotic decisions of the government."

Mrs. Clinton's visit with the businesswomen offered her a microcosm of the problems facing many thousands of private enterprises that have struggled into existence as Russia has been engaged in a transition from the Soviet-era command economy to a free-market system.

Given their deep economic fears, it was incomprehensible to Nedzvetskaya and her employees that the U.S. political system is in crisis over the relationship between Clinton and former White House intern Monica S. Lewinsky.

"I feel such sympathy for Mrs. Clinton," said Lyuda Kalinina, 40, who was sewing a woman's suit jacket as the American first lady started her tour of the tidy, cheery enterprise. "It's such a delicate situation. If one of us was going through it, maybe our best girlfriend would know about it. But in Mrs. Clinton's case, the whole world knows. I feel so sorry for her."

Nedzvetskaya scoffed at all the attention given to the Clintons' personal problems and said it shows that Americans must "have nothing else to worry about."

She offered a suggestion for what Clinton should do if he faces impeachment or a congressional demand that he resign.

"If they kick him out, have him come to Russia," Nedzvetskaya said. "We would gladly welcome him as our president. We could sure use a good one."



Associated Press

Los Angeles Times

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998

Clinton Sees 'No Painless Solutions'

By Barry Schweid
and Maura Reynolds
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

With a message of support but no financial help, U.S. President Bill Clinton urged Russians on Tuesday to "reject the failed policies of the past" in coping with their current economic crisis.

"Given the facts before you, I have to tell you that I do not believe there are any painless solutions," Clinton told a new generation of Russian leaders at Moscow State University of International Relations.

Clinton spoke after he and President Boris Yeltsin had opened a two-day summit unlikely to deliver sweeping agreements from the politically wounded presidents.

Clinton offered no specific ideas on how the infant democracy could weather the tailspin of its currency, but he repeatedly said that Russia must "play by the rules" of international commerce and get rid of corruption.

"I believe you will create the conditions of growth if — but only if — you continue to move decisively along the path of democratic, market-oriented constructive revolution."

Clinton traced America's own two centuries of democracy and said "the road has not always been easy," referring to the Civil War, Great Depression and two world wars.

Despite the poor outlook for meaningful progress, Yeltsin declared just before his summit meetings that "Russian-American relations are developing successfully."

He greeted Clinton with a bear hug and handshake in the Kremlin's presi-



Naina Yeltsin, left, and Hillary Clinton, center, visiting a Moscow clothing factory Tuesday in support of women entrepreneurs.

dential study. The first agreement to trickle out was a joint pledge to eliminate some stockpiles of plutonium taken from dismantled missile warheads, and to exchange information on anti-missile alert systems.

While the two presidents visited schools and universities, their wives had tea with Russian businesswomen Tuesday. For Hillary Rodham Clinton, it was her first public appearance since her husband admitted an inappropriate relationship with a White House intern. She gave a brief firm response

when asked how she's been.

"I've been getting along fine," the first lady said to journalists, emphasizing "fine" with a nod of her head.

Mrs. Clinton appeared jet-lagged but otherwise happy to be hobnobbing about Moscow with Naina Yeltsin. The two toured a private women's clothing factory and took part in a discussion with women small-business owners before setting off for a tour of the Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow's premier art museum. Mrs. Clinton walked slowly through the brightly lit factory floor, admiring the

signs hanging on dress models and watching the blue-aproned women stitch and iron.

"It's a very nice work environment," she said.

The visit was designed to highlight the work of women business owners, something Mrs. Yeltsin said deserves more attention.

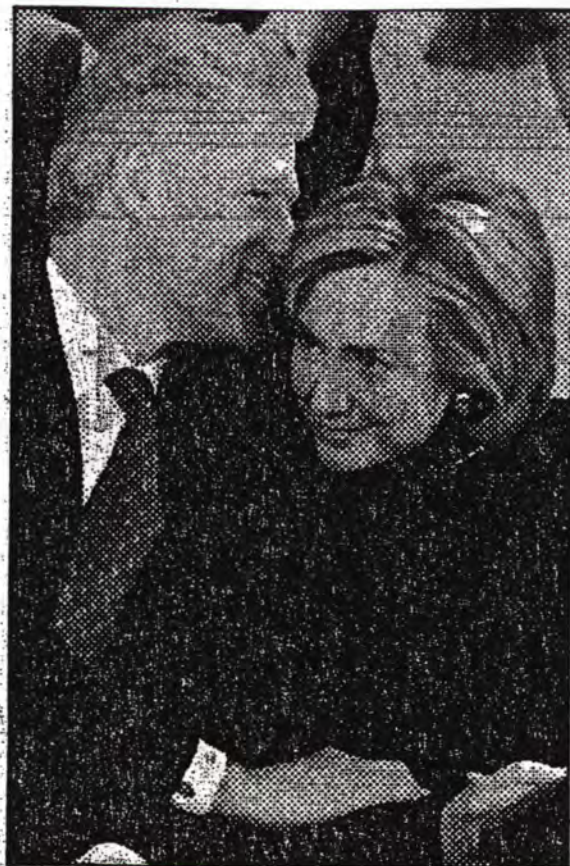
"It's a pity that so many of our business owners are men," Mrs. Yeltsin said, noting that only 18 percent of Russian businesses are owned by women. "Men



The Washington Times

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998

President and Mrs. Clinton applaud a young student in a sailor's suit performing on the first day of school in Moscow yesterday. Reuters



BY LARRY RUBENSTEIN — REUTERS

**President Clinton shares an aside
with wife Hillary during appearance
at Elementary School No. 19.**

The Washington Post

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998



Chicago Tribune

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Summit Meeting Teeters On Edge of Self-Parody

By MICHAEL WINES

MOSCOW, Sept. 1 — As President and Mrs. Clinton prepared to retire tonight at the Marriott Hotel near the banks of the Moscow River, a car pulled over not far from the hotel entrance. The doors opened, and Vladimir Zhirinovsky, the ultranationalist who controls a bloc of seats in Russia's Parliament, climbed out.

Mr. Zhirinovsky turned toward the hotel and yelled, in so many exceptionally unprintable words, "Clinton, you are an idiot!" After applying the coarsest description of sexual relations to the President, he added, "Your dollar is dirt, and this dirt is all over the world!"

He then produced a dollar in his hand and told his supporters, "Burn it." They did.

This evening, Moscow television broadcast videotape of the event in its entirety, barely-bleeped epithets and all.

This sort of disgrace would never have happened if Leonid Brezhnev still ran things. But Brezhnev and the Soviet Union are dead, Boris N. Yeltsin is alive and, by several accounts still kicking, and Russian-American summitry — still somber and inflated as ever — now teeters at times on the slippery brink of self-parody.

Depending on one's point of view, Moscow right now is either no place for such a worldly event or the perfect place. The contrast between former summit meetings and the current state of the two countries — and their leaders — is simply too great to ignore.

The public aspects of this summit meeting have been scripted almost entirely for television; some events, such as a wreath-laying in Red Square this morning, were staged solely for cameras and a small pool of reporters.

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Yeltsin dutifully mugged for the cameras all day, exchanging bear hugs, gifts and tributes to the enduring friendship of their nations at almost every public opportunity.

Mr. Yeltsin, looking reasonably hale, good-naturedly stiffed news photographers by turning his back on them during one ceremony.

Mr. Clinton, ever gregarious, practiced staff-written Russian-language platitudes on crowds all day. Beyond the range of the lens, however, the economy is unavoidable.

As the Clintons and the Yeltsins and some 115 other luminaries dined in the Kremlin tonight on pike rasstegai, salmon, roast-beef-stuffed omelet and the obligatory wine and caviar, Muscovites a few blocks away were resting after a day of methodically picking grocery shelves clean of food and dry goods they fully expect will soon disappear.

Moscow newspapers reported today that ships loaded with imported goods, now a huge share of Russian purchases, were turning away or refusing to unload because of the fiscal uncertainty. Non-perishables like grain, oils and, in St. Petersburg, refrigerators were vanishing from stores, and prices in some instances had reportedly doubled.

Olympic-quality runners, fearful of being injured in a coup, threatened to desert a world-class track meet this weekend. The Russian Olympic Committee was hampered in responding because its electricity had

been turned off for nonpayment.

And that was merely the Russian side of the equation. Moments after Mr. Clinton finished cutting a fat loaf of Russian bread this morning in Mr. Yeltsin's marble-and-bronze Kremlin study, the two men were jerked back to reality by a CBS News correspondent who suddenly asked: What about the economy?

The correspondent, Scott Pelley, was seeking a response from Mr. Clinton about Monday's 500-point drop in the stock market. But the question could just as easily have been asked of Mr. Yeltsin, whose nation's own stock market has shed 60 percent of its blue-chips' value in the last two months alone.

Mr. Pelley was escorted from the room by Russian officials and briefly stripped of his press credentials for breaking a promise to be silent.

As Mr. Zhirinovsky demonstrated, the respect usually accorded to summit participants has gone largely by the boards this week.

Mrs. Clinton played a decided second today to Naina Yeltsin as the two toured a factory, and Mrs. Yeltsin



Hillary Rodham Clinton with Valentina Chernomyrdin in Moscow.

decried the lack of women's roles in business. Mrs. Clinton was even asked point-blank about her outlook in the wake of the President's admission that he carried on a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

"I've been getting along fine," Mrs. Clinton responded; reporters later analyzed her body language and facial expressions during a joint appearance with Mr. Clinton — their first since his admission — at a Russian public school. Mr. Clinton also suffered his share of slings. In downtown Moscow, a British manager of a fine-arts reproduction company was selling a special edition of Russian nesting dolls, featuring the likenesses of Mr. Clinton, Ms. Lewinsky and three other women with whom he has been said to have had — or tried to have — some involvement.

The manager, David Segal, said the \$35 dolls "are being produced as fast as the people can get the stock for them."

Mr. Segal said he was merely doing his part for the Russian economy. "We're going to have most of one village turning them out," he said in an interview this week.

The New York Times

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998



Reuters

Hillary Rodham Clinton with Valentina Chernomyrdin in Moscow.

The New York Times

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998



NEWSDAY, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1998

A Subdued First Lady

REUTERS

Moscow — Bill and Hillary Clinton spent time trying to heal their marriage after the intern affair, but the strains showed yesterday at a joint appearance.

"I've been getting along fine," Hillary Clinton said about the weeks since the president admitted to an "inappropriate" relationship. She was sharing tea with Russian businesswomen and first lady Naina Yeltsin.

Later, she joined her husband at School No. 19 for a ceremony at the opening of the school year.

It marked the first time the two had appeared together at a public event since before Aug. 17, when Clinton retracted his seven-month-long denial on television.

Neither Clinton made any reference to the scandal yesterday.

The couple sat side by side on the stage, both with fixed smiles. The usual free exchanges between the two were missing.

Hillary Clinton told the children how pleased she was to visit the 118-year-old school. Her style grew more formal as she neared the close of her remarks. "It is my great honor to introduce to you Bill Clinton, the president of the United States," she said.

White House officials said the Clintons had used a vacation at Martha's Vineyard as a time for healing emotional wounds inflicted by the president's infidelity. Aides said the vacation, which ended Sunday, exposed the depth of the pain inflicted by the affair. The Clintons spent much of the time in seclusion, but not necessarily together.

A source close to the couple said the few times they were with others, the first lady virtually ignored her husband and spoke only to other people at their table.



AP Photo
In their first public appearance since Aug. 17, the Clintons share a smile over a doll presented them by students of an elementary school in Moscow.

"I'll tell you, looking at them makes you think twice about cheating," one White House official said.

Sympathy was with Hillary Clinton in the small clothing factory she toured with the Russian first lady.

"On a human scale, I feel sorry for her," said presser Tonya Salkina. "She's a woman above everything else, not just the president's wife."



The Boston Globe |

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By J. Scott Applewhite, AP

First couple: The Clintons attend a student performance at a school in Moscow.

**USA
TODAY**

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1998



Reuters photo

Chicago Tribune

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