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Madison Rally Speech

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THANK YOU, FRITZ. YOU KNOW, I THINK WE'D MAKE A GREAT TAG TEAM. I KNOW THERE'S A UNIVERSITY DOWN THE ROAD, AND YOU LOOK LIKE A PRETTY SMART BUNCH TO ME. SO LET ME GET YOUR OPINION.

DID WE WIN THE DEBATE LAST NIGHT?

DID FRITZ MONDALE BEAT RONALD REAGAN ON SUNDAY?

ARE WE GOING TO WIN IN NOVEMBER?

I THINK SO, TOO. AND THREE OUT OF THREE AIN'T BAD.

IN THE LAST WEEK, FOUR CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT HAVE DEBATED. AND I KNOW TWO THINGS: I BEAT GEORGE BUSH . . . AND GEORGE BUSH BEAT RONALD REAGAN.

But I have to say, it was a close race for 4th place, and that doesn't say much for Ronald Reagan. Because while we were talking about the arms race, he wanted to talk about the world series. I say to the man who dared to lecture me about the difference between Lebanon and Iran, there's a world of difference between baseball and the fate of the earth. Last night, we were talking about the arms race, because the American people want to stop it. And so does Fritz Mondale.

But if George Bush is really interested in baseball, we've got a plan to give him his afternoons off for the next few years, so that he can go down to the ball park and watch them play.

I understand that Senator Laxalt said the President was "brutalized by a briefing process," which smothered him with facts. Since when is it considered cruel and unusual punishment to expect a President to learn the facts he needs to govern.
WHEN WE VOTE ON NOVEMBER SIXTH, WE'LL DO MORE THAN CHOOSE BETWEEN TWO PERSONALITIES. WE WILL CHOOSE BETWEEN TWO SETS OF VALUES ... TWO PARTY TRADITIONS ... AND TWO VISIONS OF THE FUTURE.

WE ARE IN THIS ELECTION TO FIGHT FOR THE THINGS WE BELIEVE IN. WALTER MONDALE HAS SAID THAT HE WOULD RATHER LOSE A FIGHT OVER DECENCY THAN WIN ONE OVER SELF-INTEREST. AND SO WOULD I.

ON THE BUDGET, WE WILL NOT SHAVE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE TO PRESERVE TAX BREAKS FOR THE WEALTHY. WE WILL KEEP FAITH WITH WORKING PEOPLE AND MAKE SURE THE ELDERLY CAN LIVE IN DIGNITY.

WE WILL NOT EXTEND THE ARMS RACE INTO SPACE. WE WILL CALL UPON THE SOVIETS TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUAL, VERIFIABLE NUCLEAR FREEZE.

WE WILL NOT CONTINUE THE COVERT WAR IN NICARAGUA. WE WILL ALWAYS TRY NEGOTIATION BEFORE CONFRONTATION.

WE WILL NOT SEND A TEACHER INTO OUTER SPACE INSTEAD OF HELPING SCIENCE, RESEARCH, TEACHERS AND STUDENTS HERE ON EARTH. WE WILL LAUNCH A NEW INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION TO MAKE THIS THE BEST-EDUCATED GENERATION IN AMERICAN HISTORY.

ON THE SUBJECT OF RELIGION AND PERSONAL FREEDOM, WE WILL NOT APPEASE THE RIGHT-WING IN THIS COUNTRY BY GIVING UP OUR PROTECTION FROM GOVERNMENT INTRUSION. WE BELIEVE IN A GOVERNMENT THAT STAYS OUT OF OUR HOMES, OUT OF OUR CHURCHES AND OUT OF OUR SYNAGOGUES.
OUR STAND ON THE ISSUES COMES FROM THE VALUES WE ALL SHARE AS AMERICANS. I GREW UP IN QUEENS. WALTER MONDALE GREW UP HALF A CONTINENT AWAY IN MINNESOTA. BUT WE LEARNED THE SAME VALUES, AND THEY'RE THE ONES YOU BELIEVE IN HERE IN MADISON. WE BELIEVE THAT HARD WORK SHOULD BE REWARDED, THAT EDUCATION UNLOCKS THE DOORS TO OPPORTUNITY, AND THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD STAND READY TO HELP THOSE WHO NEED A HAND.

WE BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE STRONG, BUT AS FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT SAID, WE DON'T HAVE TO BE CRUEL TO BE TOUGH. WE BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS NOT ONLY IN POLAND, BUT ALSO IN SOUTH AFRICA.

WE BELIEVE IN JUSTICE. TO MAKE THAT POSSIBLE, WE BELIEVE IN ENDING DISCRIMINATION SO THAT ALL AMERICANS CAN RISE AS HIGH AS OUR TALENTS WILL TAKE US.

AND THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELANOR ROOSEVELT'S BIRTH IS AN APPROPRIATE TIME TO REMEMBER THAT WOMEN IN THIS SOCIETY STILL DON'T HAVE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY.

I WANT TO CHANGE THAT. WHEN I TAKE THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR MY SECOND TERM AS VICE PRESIDENT, I WANT TO SWEAR TO UPHOLD A CONSTITUTION THAT INCLUDES THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT.

RONALD REAGAN WENT TO THE OLYMPICS TO CONGRATULATE OUR ATHLETES, INCLUDING MANY OUTSTANDING FEMALE ATHLETES. BUT HIS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SIDED WITH THOSE WHO WOULD DISCRIMINATE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE GROVE CITY CASE.

I, TOO, CONGRATULATE OUR OLYMPIC ATHLETES. BUT THEY NEED MORE THAN A PATRONIZING PAT ON THE BACK AFTER THEY'VE CROSSED THE FINISH LINE. I WANT TO HELP THEM GET TO THE STARTING BLOCK BY OUTLAWING DISCRIMINATION IN ALL FEDERALLY FUNDED INSTITUTIONS.
to speak is uphold a Constitution that includes the Equal Rights Amendment.

It takes a leader to understand those values, and to govern by them. To call forth what is best in the American people, it takes a leader who can touch, in the words of Abraham Lincoln, 'The better angels of our nature.'

Throughout his life, Walter Mondale has demonstrated those qualities. When he was a Senator, he led the fight for expanded day care, child nutrition, and child development programs. He travelled rural America, investigating and brainstorming the problems of migrant workers. He wrote the Fair Housing Act of 1968. He was the leader in Congress for establishing a strong and independent legal services program for the poor. And as Vice President, he championed the cause of the Boat People.

Each time, Fritz Mondale stood for what was right, not what was easy. Children cast no votes. Migrant workers are not a powerful constituency. The poor are not powerful.

But each had a wrong that deserved to be righted, and Fritz Mondale was there to lead the cause. Every now and then, a leader must swim against the tide to be true to his beliefs. Every now and then, a leader must remind us not only what is great in America, but that we can be even greater. Fritz Mondale is that
Walter Mondale has also had the vision to understand that the arms race must be controlled. In 1969, he was one of a handful of Senators who opposed putting multiple warheads on our missiles because he said the Soviets would catch up and do the same thing. If we had listened to Walter Mondale then, we would be safer today.

Fritz Mondale has fought for arms control for as long as Ronald Reagan has opposed it. We want a leader who not only knows how to stand up to the Soviets, but how to sit down with them as well.

Name the last time Ronald Reagan took the lead on an issue in advance of his time. A leader must. Name the last time President Reagan took a chance for social justice. Walter Mondale has. Time and again, he has put his career on the line to secure the rights of others.

And the most recent chance he took was to select me to be his Vice President. Everyone talks about equal opportunity. Only a few stand up for it. When I become America's first female Vice President, we can thank Walter Mondale.
FOR THAT DAY TO COME, YOU HAVE TO GET TO WORK.
NONE OF US CAN FORGET THAT WE'RE IN A FIGHT OVER THE HEART AND SOUL OF THIS COUNTRY.

THIS IS A BRAND NEW RACE. IT'S GETTING HOT AND THEY'RE FEELING THE HEAT. IT'S GETTING CLOSE, AND THEY'RE GETTING WorRIED.

LET'S KEEP IT UP, AND WE WILL WIN.

FOR OUR COUNTRY, FOR OUR FUTURE, FOR THE PRINCIPLES WE BELIEVE IN, WALTER MONDALE AND I HAVE JUST BEGUN TO FIGHT.

END.