

Bush applies "theme of the week"

President Bush plans to take the high road in his re-election bid by focusing on a handful of issues and will try to ignore vocal attacks from Democrat Bill Clinton.

Fresh from an Easter weekend at his Maine holiday home, the Republican president will apply the advice of his campaign team for a "theme of the week" strategy that was successful for former President Reagan, aides say.

It is a strategy that allows Bush to appear presidential and save campaign money, political commentators say.

Bush plans to make a limited number of trips that for the most part will be listed as nonpolitical and thus will not cost the campaign anything.

Arkansas Gov Clinton, the front-runner for the Democratic presi-

dential nomination, is Bush's most likely opponent in the Nov 3 presidential election.

The coming week's theme for Bush is international trade, and it will be the focus of a speech Monday in Columbus, Ohio, to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the Americas.

On Wednesday, Bush will have a high-profile White House meeting with European leaders in an effort to break the deadlock on world trade talks, stalemated over US insistence that Europe cut the amount of subsidies to farmers.

In coming weeks, Bush will focus on reforming the legal system, Congress, health care, and welfare as the incumbent tries to define himself as a candidate of change with a slogan along the lines of "No more business as usual."

Abortion debate heats up in Buffalo

Militant feminists vow to keep abortion clinics open

Leaders on both the pro-choice and pro-life sides of the abortion debate say they will avoid violence during protests set to begin in Buffalo, New York, today.

But a women's group threatens to use any means necessary to keep abortion clinics open.

The national anti-abortion group Operation Rescue is planning massive protests aimed at shutting down abortion clinics in Buffalo. It says the protests, scheduled to last two to four weeks, are patterned after last summer's siege outside similar abortion clinics in Wichita, Kansas, that resulted in 2600 arrests.

Abortion-rights leaders and activists say they will demonstrate in force to keep the clinics open.

Organizers on both sides say they expect thousands of people to take

part in the protests.

The National Women's Rights Organizing Coalition, a group that describes its members as militant feminists, has vowed to do anything and everything necessary to keep abortion clinics open.

"We are here to militarily defeat Operation Rescue and show them they are not welcome in the streets of Buffalo," says Tania Kappner, a spokeswoman for the group.

The National Women's Rights Organizing Coalition claims responsibility for a confrontation Saturday where a pastor opposed to abortion was roughed up as he prayed outside a clinic. No one was arrested.

Operation Rescue says its demonstrations will be peaceful. The group's founder, Randall Terry, urges activists to refrain from violence.

Harris goes to the gas chamber

A federal appeals court late Sunday overturned a stay of execution for double murderer Robert Alton Harris.

This ruling opens the way for California's first execution in 25 years. Harris' execution was scheduled for tomorrow.

A 9th US Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a 10-day restraining order issued by US District Judge Marilyn Hall Patel. She agreed Saturday with Harris' lawyers that there was sufficient evidence to consider whether death by lethal gas is unconstitutional under protection against cruel and unusual punishment.

The decision, announced in a statement read by court spokeswoman Guen Baptiste, means Harris could be executed as planned for the 1978 murders of two San Diego teenagers. California's gas chamber hasn't been used since 1967.

Defense attorneys had appealed another federal judge's ruling Saturday in San Diego. That judge rejected a separate request to block the execution based on contentions that prosecutors withheld evidence that his brother, and not Harris, may have shot 1 of 2 boys.

No mention was made of that appeal. Baptiste said no other information would be available until later this morning.

Harris was given the death penalty for the 1978 murders of 2 San Diego teenagers. His death sentence has provoked public debate in California, where nobody has been put to death since 1967.

The ruling by Patel came in a class-action lawsuit filed on behalf of all 328 inmates on California's death row in San Quentin state prison. Her action could have prevented his execution until June at the earliest.

The Daily Crusader

Just a Thought... by Brian Reckling

Everyone fails at one time or another, so what's the big deal? I knew that there was a chance that I wouldn't succeed. In fact, I kind of expected it.

But we all fail at some time don't we? The tough part isn't avoiding failure, that's impossible; the hard part is picking yourself up after failure. How do you do it? What can be done? I'm not sure, but I keep looking up.

They say that every cloud has a silver lining, and I believe it. If it is impossible to see the lining, then maybe you are focusing too much

attention on the cloud, instead of looking for the silver.

I admit it. I focus on the clouds more than I ought to. But now I want a ladder, or a rope, anything; that will help me up. I want to see the lining.

Are you focusing on the cloud? Where do you need to look to find your lining? It's there somewhere, I know it. Be patient, and keep looking up.

You won't be alone. There are a lot of people looking for silver, and I will be there too; staring at the sky, waiting for the end of the clouds.

SportsLook

National League

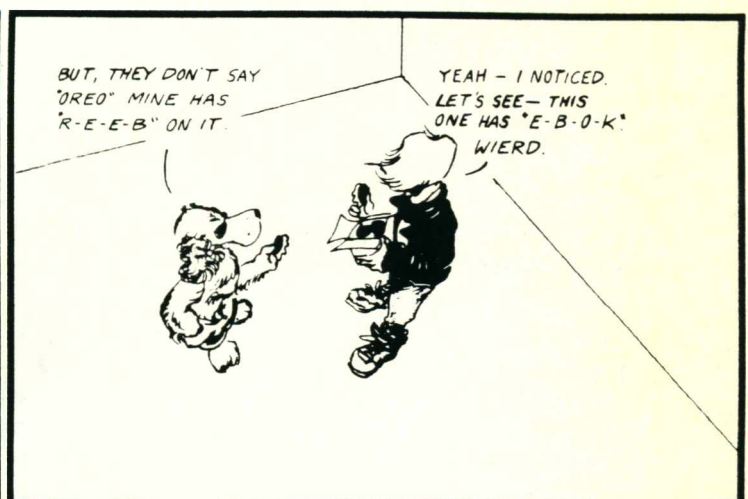
Pittsburgh 11, Philadelphia 0
New York 11, Montreal 6
St. Louis 4, Chicago 3
Houston 1, San Diego 0
San Francisco 8, Cincinnati 2
Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 2

American League

Boston 5, Toronto 4
New York 5, Cleveland 3
Baltimore 3, Detroit 0
Chicago 4, Minnesota 1
Seattle 12, Milwaukee 9
Texas 6, Oakland 4

Colonel Skipper

by Matt Johnson



Fishbowl

by Eric Ellis



DANG! YOU KNOW, I THINK I JUST SHOT MY EAR OFF...