Democrats do battle in New Hampshire debate

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trade practices that consistently ran bilaterally trade surpluses.

Gore immediately attacked Os- pher's stand as "protectionist" and pointed out that the $5 bil- lion US foreign debt would pro- riate several years of trade sur- plus to pay off. "Al Gore is a protectionist," Babbitt said, be- cause of Gore's support for an oil import fee. When Gore promis- ed, Babbitt said, "I'll give you a chance to deny it in front of every- body... in Texas," raising chuckles from the audience.

Jackson addressed a student who questioned his ability to handle administrative details at a presidency, given his frequently- repeated claim of being a "tree- shaker, not a jelly-maker," the fact that he has never held elect- ed office and the financial diffi- culties of Operation PUSH, which Jackson led. Jackson pointed out that in the past, four US presidents have held the office without previous elected experi- ence, and that he viewed the presidency as a "moral plat- form.

Dukakis came under fire for his proposal to balance the bud- get by extending the 18% tax collec- tion when Chancellor referred to several economists' studies that such moves could not collect even a tenth of the revenue Dukakis claims he would receive. Al- though Dukakis said that "no re- sponsible candidate can rule out new taxes," Babbitt accused him of "film-flamming" on the issue, raising once again the issue of fiscal honesty.

Gore also attacked Dukakis for his self-proclaimed "Massa- chusetts miracle." He remarked that Dukakis wanted to be presi- dent because Massachusetts has a 2.5 percent unemployment rate, but New Hampshire has 2.1 per- cent unemployment and "certain- ly (New Hampshire governor) John Sununu 'is shouldn't be presi- dent." Babbitt pointed out that Arizona has had the top- ranked economy in the country for the past five years, and made a plea for "workplace democra- cy," vowing to fight for worker ownership of factories and limita- tions on executive bonuses and "golden parachutes.

Simon touted his public sector jobs program, which he would "scorn and lift" people from their despair to work. He called for a structural change in the US economy, greater private investment in manufacturing, and greter public investment in the nation's infrastructure.

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