

Hart surprises even his fans

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By Kathy Parrish
staff writer

Craig Winkelman has been a Gary Hart fan for a long time. But until three weeks ago, the West Bloomfield resident thought it was "silly" to support the Colorado senator for president. Now the University of Michigan sophomore is so convinced of Hart's potential that he is the candidate's Michigan "visual director." Among other chores, that meant taping a "Gary Hart for President" sign on a podium Wednesday for a news conference in the Westin Hotel in Detroit.

"I've always liked Hart, but I just didn't think he could win," said Winkelman, a 20-year-old Andover High School graduate.

"But he's going to get the nomination. Hart's the guy who can beat Ronald Reagan."

ONE OF MANY who have jumped on the Hart bandwagon as a result of the senator's recent victories in primaries and caucuses around the United States, Winkelman was on hand to help his candidate do as well in Michigan's caucus voting Saturday.

But in the news conference before his speech to the Women's Economic Club, Hart admitted that job won't be easy.

"I think we've gone a long way toward proving this is a national, moving campaign. We're very pleased with the way things have been going," said the 47-year-old lawyer.

His campaign is still underfunded and lacks endorsements from groups like the United Auto Workers — which favors candidate Walter Mondale, Hart said.

Also going against Hart are his Senate votes against the Chrysler loan guarantees and UAW-backed domestic content legislation requiring portions of foreign cars sold in the United States to be produced here.

The senator expressed concern over



DAN DEAN/staff photographer

Speaking to 1,500 at the Women's Economic Club, Democratic presidential hopeful Gary Hart was described as being "definitely on a roll."

the Michigan Democratic Party's new caucus system.

"We're going to do our very best in Michigan. But I think it will be extremely difficult to win here — especially considering the process."

"As I understand it, it's neither a primary or a caucus."

"Speaking to 1,500 at a Women's Economic Club lunch, Hart was introduced as being 'definitely on a roll. And that seems especially appropriate in the city that put the world on wheels.'"

"There was a time when the idea of a Women's Economic Club was about as probable as Gary Hart for president," said the smiling candidate, who talked about bringing women into full part-

nership in the American economy.

"Women have made great strides over the last 20 years, or we would not be here together."

"But there has also been a feminization of poverty, and women still make three-fifths of what men make for the same work."

Hart told his audience he favors passage of the proposed Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, equal pay for comparable work, equal education and training opportunities for all, and fair tax, pension and insurance laws.

BUT HE STRESSED the underlying solution must be a "fundamental revitalization of the American economy."

And while acknowledging some economic recovery, he said more people are out of work today than when Reagan became president.

"Our auto companies are reporting some of their greatest profits in history — and we are glad for their recovery. But there are still thousands of Americans who will never work again in that industry. And our safety net of social programs has been hacked right out from under them."

URGING A "New Democracy" for this country in the 1980s, Hart said his ideas really are based on old principles — economic growth, economic opportunity and economic justice.

To turn the country around, he said he would cut the federal deficit and "turn to a new economic agenda." It would include lower interest rates, a fair market value for the dollar, and federal incentives to get businesses investing in new equipment and worker retraining.

Hart told his audience he would work with both management and labor to iron out "contracts or compacts" on such issues as guaranteed jobs, deferred wage demands and reinvestment of profits.

BUT HE STRESSED his opposition to protecting American industry by restricting imports.

"In my judgment, the only way to make American labor grow again is to open up our markets to products abroad and insist on those markets being open to us."

Hart urged a "new era of labor/management relations," with workers preparing for new jobs instead clinging to old ones.

"Fifty years ago, women and men in cities like Detroit and Flint put their lives on the line for change."

"Organized labor will once again be on the forefront and cutting edge of change."



As "visual director" for Hart's Michigan campaign, U-M student Craig Winkelman of West Bloomfield prepares campaign literature and special effects like banners and "Gary Hart for President" signs.

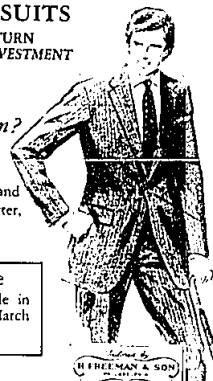
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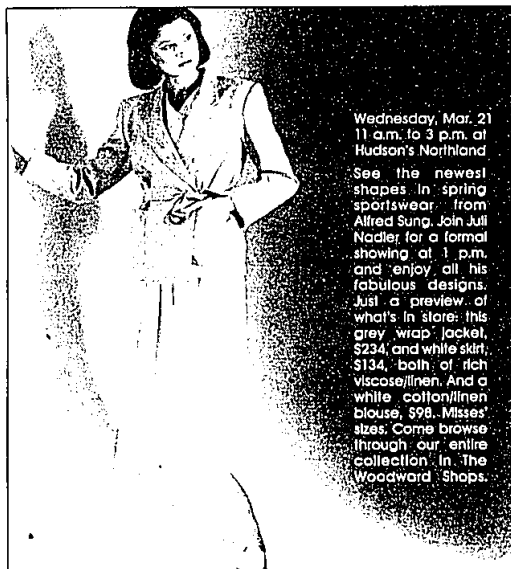
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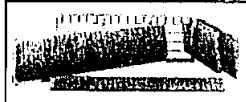
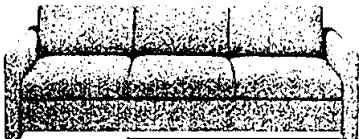
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