

## Nomination for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting

June 28, 1993

The President announced his intention today to nominate University of Arkansas political scientist Diane Blair to be a member of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

"Diane Blair is one of the most capable and committed people I know," said the President. "She is one of the most respected people in

our State and a dear friend of mine and of Hillary's. I think that she will do an excellent job of maintaining the Corporation for Public Broadcasting's outstanding record."

NOTE: A biography of the nominee was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

## Remarks at the Democratic National Committee Presidential Gala

June 28, 1993

Thank you very much. Thank you so much. First, let me say a special word of thanks to Scott Pastrick for this wonderful dinner and all those who worked on it, to Roy Furman for agreeing to take on this enormous responsibility in the Democratic Party. I don't think the first time he came to my attention or, rather, I came to his—he hosted me in his office—if he had known then that he'd wind up on this stage tonight, I'm not sure he would have done it. And I thank him. Like so many others, he came into the leadership of this party because of the campaign of 1992.

I thank my dear friend David Wilhelm for his leadership and all of those who work in the vineyards of the Democratic Party. I thank David especially for what he said tonight. Many of the beneficiaries of the efforts we make today are people who may not even understand entirely what we're doing, and they don't have an organized force in the Congress.

I thank the leadership of Congress. Let me say without hesitation that I have literally been awestruck at the demonstration of courage repeatedly by the leadership and by many of the freshmen and by many in between in our party in the United States Congress. And you ought to give them a hand tonight. *[Applause]*

You heard that the Vice President, of course, broke the tie the other night in the Senate on the economic program. What you ought to know is that I was furiously working the phones, and a couple of Senators—Senator Murray from Washington was not well, and so we thought we had enough votes to pass the bill, and so

she stayed home in bed. And two of the people we thought would vote for it said, "Well, I won't let it die, Mr. President, but if the Vice President can break a tie, that's okay with me." So, we were there at the end. And right before the vote came down to the end with the time running off, the Vice President sent a note to Senator Mitchell, our Democratic leader, and he said, "George, I'm wavering." *[Laughter]* But conviction overcame him at the end, and so here we are tonight with a big crowd instead of an empty house.

Let me say to all of you that a lot of speeches have already been made tonight, and the entertainment was marvelous: Little Texas and Whitney Houston and my good friend Kenny G, who let me play with him in the campaign. That was the biggest thrill I got in the whole election. I tell you, I always liked Kenny G because I was running third in the polls when he agreed to play with me in the campaign.

This has been a great night for us and a great night for our party. But I want to remind you that we are engaged on a great struggle to change this country. A year and 8 months ago I entered the race for President when no one thought the incumbent could be defeated and few thought I could be nominated. And I didn't have any idea how it would come out. I just knew that I had a couple of simple convictions. I felt very strongly then that we were not doing what it takes to compete and win in a global economy. I felt very strongly then that we were not facing up to the honest problems we have at home. I felt very strongly that