

For The Ladies

NNPA FEATURE

Child Watch

by Marian Wright Edelman



THE PRESIDENT IS NOT KEEPING HIS PROMISES

President Bush's 1992 federal budget reveals his lack of commitment keeping the promises he made to our children and ignores many emerging crisis. In his campaign, his speeches, and legislation he signed last year, the President made serious commitments to our most vulnerable children, but his proposed budget tells an alarmingly different story.

Last year the President signed Head Start reauthorization levels designed to serve all eligible children by 1994 and to

improve program quality, but he abandoned this promise by recommending only \$100 million more for 1992. This additional money barely provides enough funds to maintain current services. At the slow rate of the President's proposed increase it would take too many years to give every child a Head Start.

The President agreed to gradual funding increases over a three-year period for the recently passed child care legislation. But he now recommends that no new child care funds be

available until the end of 1992. He is, in effect, denying children and families an entire year of child care assistance.

In 1990 there were 16 times as many measles cases as in 1983. The President proposes an immunization initiative which is an increase over last year's proposal, but is 20 percent less than the levels recommended by the Department of Health and Human Services' own expert advisory committee.

President Bush also ignores the recession in his budget when we know the impacts of previous recessions on children are getting worse. The recession years of the 1970s and 1980s saw an average increase of 750,000 poor children a year. Since growth periods no longer reduce child poverty as much as recessions increase it, America's child poverty rates have been growing and are at levels well above any year in the 1970s. The budget offers no steps to deal with the recession or to reduce child poverty.

The budget falls short of meeting the emerging crisis in the child welfare system. There are no funds for new activities to strengthen and preserve families or to prevent or treat child abuse and neglect.

Despite enormous waiting lists and large numbers of uninhabitable public housing units in cities across the country, his budget proposes to end new public housing modernization funds that help rehabilitate existing units to house America's poor families.

The "education president" proposes to abandon much of the federal government role of supporting school improvement

Exotic Salad Captures Green As Grand Prize Beef Winner

"Pacific Rim Beef Salad," a simple yet elegant entree that's perfect for entertaining, won the BEST OF BEEF and Indoor Conventional Category awards at the 1990 National Beef Cook-Off. Annette Erbeck, of Mason, Ohio, went home \$15,000 richer, and with a top-of-the-line Tappan® range.

Eleven winners were chosen at the 17th annual Cook-Off, held this year in Seattle, Wash., but none highlighted the great taste of beef quite as successfully as Erbeck did with her light dish, inspired by Far East flavors.

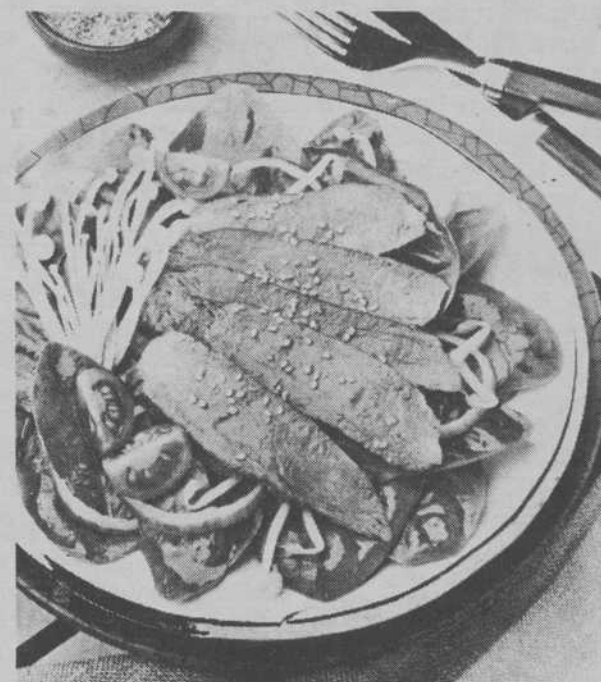
Next year's Cook-Off, to be held Sept. 22-24, 1991, in Colorado Springs, promises to be even more exciting, as 64 contestants from 50 states vie for titles as America's top amateur beef chefs. The Indoor, Outdoor Barbecue and Microwave competitions will offer winners more than \$35,500 in cash prizes. The American National CattleWomen, Inc., sponsor the event in cooperation with the Beef Industry Council and the Beef Board.

This proven winner serves six and is easy to prepare. Here's the \$15,000 salad:

Pacific Rim Beef Salad

Preparation time: 40 minutes
Marinating time: 2 to 4 hours
Cooking time: 16 to 20 minutes

- 2-pound boneless beef top sirloin steak, cut 1 1/2 inches thick
- 3/4 cup reduced-sodium soy sauce
- 1/2 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar, divided
- 1 tablespoon plus 1 1/2 teaspoons finely grated fresh ginger
- 3 large cloves garlic, minced
- 1 pound fresh spinach, stems removed and torn into bite-size pieces
- 4 ounces fresh bean sprouts
- 6 center-cut thin red onion slices, separated into rings
- 1/4 cup each catsup and rice wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1/8 teaspoon hot pepper sauce
- 2 teaspoons Oriental dark-roasted sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds, toasted*
- Fresh enoki mushrooms or button mushrooms
- Cherry tomatoes



Trim excess fat from boneless beef top sirloin steak. Combine soy sauce, 1/2 cup sugar, ginger and garlic, stirring to dissolve sugar. Place steak and marinade in plastic bag, turning to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator 2 to 4 hours, turning occasionally. Remove steak from marinade; pat dry with paper towels. Reserve 2 tablespoons marinade; discard remaining marinade. Heat large heavy frying pan over medium-high heat until hot. Add steak and sear 4 to 6 minutes, turning once. Reduce heat to medium. Continue cooking 10 to 12 minutes or until steak is rare (140°F) to medium-rare (150°F) or to desired doneness, turning once. Let steak stand 10 minutes before carving. Meanwhile combine spinach, bean sprouts and onion in large bowl. Combine catsup, vinegar, vegetable oil, pepper sauce, remaining 2 tablespoons sugar and reserved 2 tablespoons marinade in small saucepan. Carve steak into thin slices. Bring dressing to a

boil over medium heat, stirring constantly. Remove from heat; stir in sesame oil. Pour hot dressing over spinach mixture and toss. Place spinach mixture on platter. Arrange beef on top of salad; sprinkle with sesame seeds. Garnish with mushrooms and cherry tomatoes. 6 servings.

*To toast sesame seeds: Heat sesame seeds in small pan over medium heat until golden, stirring constantly.

Nutrient data per serving: 361 calories; 15 g fat; 444 mg sodium; 101 mg cholesterol.

Your favorite original beef recipe(s) could be worth more than \$15,000 in cash and prizes in the 1991 National Beef Cook-Off! To enter, just mail your Indoor, Microwave or Outdoor Barbecue recipes by March 1, 1991, to: National Beef Cook-Off Entries, 444 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL 60611.

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for underserved populations, and wants to divert large amounts of resources into efforts to support school choice experiments that will disproportionately benefit middle-and upper income students.

The budget claims to have an \$8 billion infant mortality program, which is nothing more than the total of estimated spending on infants that the Administration is obligated to make. Also, this new "targeted" infant mortality initiative is fully funded for 1991 and most of 1992 by reducing the funds of two of the largest maternal and child health service delivery programs for poor and underserved children.

Looking over President Bush's budget it is very clear he has chosen not to invest in our most vulnerable citizens. They cannot survive on promises—

they require immediate help.

If this country hopes to keep its leadership role in the world, America has to make an important decision. Do we invest in children today, or do we wait until tomorrow? Each day that passes with little commitment from President Bush, the harder it is to reverse the damage children experience without the proper education, health care and family support they need to live.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund, a national voice for children.

Keep Hope Alive... STOP THE VIOLENCE