

*The President.* It's warming up, Patsy [Patricia Wilson, Reuters].

*Q.* [Inaudible]—about 30 degrees warmer.

*The President.* Yesterday was fantastic.

*Q.* Yes, it was gorgeous.

*Q.* Do you believe how fast it does go, though? I mean, it's—

*The President.* A few months. Some of them are already talking about '04.

*Q.* Did you see Edwards—[inaudible]—this morning?

*The President.* No.

*Q.* He announced on the "Today" show that he's going to be—[inaudible].

*The President.* Oh, really?

*Q.* I haven't caught my breath from—

*The President.* Well, if you think about it—if you think about it, remember the '98 campaign, that was the—the beginning of the '98 campaign there was a lot of speculation about whether or not I was going to run. And got through the session and '99, it was right after that we all got on the plane.

*Q.* I remember—

*The President.* [Inaudible]

*Q.* Yes, I remember—[inaudible]. I remember Jamie Gangel [NBC News] did that piece about you, and you—were you out fishing somewhere?

*The President.* That was in Austin. But that was before—I mean, that was in—[inaudible]—Texas. That was when we had the place in east Texas.

*Q.* But that was early on, right? I mean, you weren't—

*The President.* No, I wasn't—[inaudible]. That was a nice piece.

This is it for mud. [Laughter] Down here—[inaudible]. We go out to the tree line, way out there.

*Q.* You know, this summer was the first time I've been to Kennebunkport. That was just fabulous.

*The President.* It's nice, isn't it? It's not as nice as Crawford, but it's nice. [Laughter] Yes, Kennebunkport is a beautiful place to—[inaudible].

*Q.* [Inaudible] But it is a lot more boxed-in than this, you know? You can't come some place and just—

*The President.* Hang out. There's—[inaudible]—he's looking at his cows.

*Q.* They seem like they do a good job of not shutting the place down at all.

*The President.* Kennebunkport?

*Q.* Yes.

*The President.* Yes, I guess. How do I know?

*Q.* It's a lot flatter here.

*The President.* Yes. It's not going to be flat here in a minute.

*Q.* [Inaudible]—didn't go anywhere yet.

*The President.* Well, that's a different—that's your pink route. We've got a lot of turkey live on this ranch. It's really fun to see them.

*Q.* They're pretty.

*The President.* Oh, they're fantastic. There's a tank right there. Right on the other side there's—[inaudible].

*Q.* When you bought it, did you have a pretty good idea what you were getting? Or have you discovered—

*The President.* No, I discovered a lot. I really did. It was a—I knew we were getting some dramatic country that was very rare for Texas, but I wasn't sure about all the little nooks and crannies.

*Q.* Right. A lot of them still covered up?

*The President.* Yes, there are some. You'll see. You'll see some of the—

*Q.* There seems to be a fair amount of water on the property.

*The President.* A lot of water right there. But you'll see some of the places that we have cleaned out, and you'll see some of these cliffs that have got unique little structures to them. I discovered an interesting rock formation the other day when we were up here scouting around on this cliff.

There's a cottonwood tree. See that isolated tree right there? The cottonwood is a fantastic tree. It grows along the riverbed, and somehow this thing ended up here alone. It must have a source of water.