

**The original documents are located in Box 4, folder “Colorado Trip, October 9, 1976” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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## Visit to Denver and Boulder

On Friday night, you will attend a reception for women leaders. Patti describes them as having been recruited from the local business and professional groups, and the hope is they will be Ford volunteers and leaders. You will mingle informally.

\*\*There will be a proposal on the ballot in Colorado to repeal the state's ERA and to rescind approval of the national Equal Rights Amendment. ERA supporters should vote "no." A recent poll in the Denver Post showed that ERA supporters are ahead. The proposal is Number Six on the ballot.

On Saturday, you will meet Ford volunteers who are passing out campaign literature at the Colorado-Nebraska game and then attend part of the game.

Nebraska is ranked fifth in the National standings. Both teams are in the Big Eight. Colorado has won three and lost one. Nebraska has won three and tied one. This is the first conference game of the season for both.

### Politics

Neither Senator, both Democrats, or the Democratic governor is up for re-election. The House delegation has three Democrats and two Republicans. The two GOP incumbents, Jim Johnson and Bill Armstrong, are expected to win, but Johnson could have a tough race, because of an independent in the contest. Johnson, who represents the 4th (Wayne Aspinall's old district), was first elected in 1972. This district encompasses both the East and West Slope of Colorado, and the environment is an important issue. Armstrong has no strong opponent.

In the 1st district, which is Denver, the RCC thinks it is running its best candidate yet against Patricia Schroeder. He is Don Friedman, a state representative.

In the 2nd, which combines suburban Denver and Boulder (home of the University of Colorado) freshman Timothy Wirth has received alot of national attention. His GOP opponent is Ed Scott, a radio owner. Wirth's 1974 opponent was Don Brotzman, and the district is considered Republican.

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In the 3rd Dr. Mel Takaki, a dentist and former mayor of Pueblo, is trying to unseat Democrat Frank Evans. Although he is seeking a seventh term, redistricting may have made Evans vulnerable.

Colorado is producing a new breed of liberal activists like Senator Gary Hart, who unseated Peter Dominick in 1974. Issues like the environment, controlled growth and energy are very important.

#### Other Political Visitors

Carter was in Denver earlier this week, but First Family campaigning in Colorado has been limited. A Newsweek poll puts the President ahead in Colorado. Since this was a Reagan state, obviously the emphasis is on gearing up GOP volunteers.