

TAPE FOR WEEK OF MARCH 1

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.

AS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TOLD TO "WAIT" FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY TO TAKE POSITIVE AFFECT, THE JOBLESS RATE IN THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA CREEPS UPWARD.

FOR 1981, OUR STATE RANKED 7TH IN THE NATION IN UNEMPLOYMENT, A RATE OF 7.8 PERCENT.

IN THE FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, INDIVIDUAL COUNTY UNEMPLOYMENT RATES RAN FROM 7.1 PERCENT IN RALEIGH COUNTY, TO A HIGH OF 11.6 PERCENT IN MCDOWELL COUNTY.

FURTHERMORE, WEST VIRGINIA SHOWED ONE OF THE MORE MAJOR DECLINES IN THE HOME BUILDING INDUSTRY--A DROP OF NEARLY 49 PERCENT.

SOME SUPPORTERS OF THE ADMINISTRATION'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM SAY THAT THERE WILL BE SUNSHINE ON THE HILLSIDE IN THE SPRING OF THE YEAR. BUT, EVEN THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF IS UNWILLING TO PREDICT WHEN THE RECOVERY WILL TAKE PLACE.

AT THE PRESENT TIME, ALTERNATIVES ARE BEING PRESENTED TO THE REAGAN ECONOMIC PROGRAM, *each of which will receive my careful study.* AND I PLAN TO STUDY THEM ALL VERY CAREFULLY, ~~KNOWING THAT~~ WE CAN'T WAIT MUCH LONGER.

THIS IS CONGRESSMAN NICK RAHALL.