

THE BEST U.S. BACKPACKING

Backpacker

MAY 1983

\$2.95

**BACKPACKING
U.S.A.**

**Including
The Rockies,
Trinity Alps,
Appalachian Trail,
and more.**

PLUS:

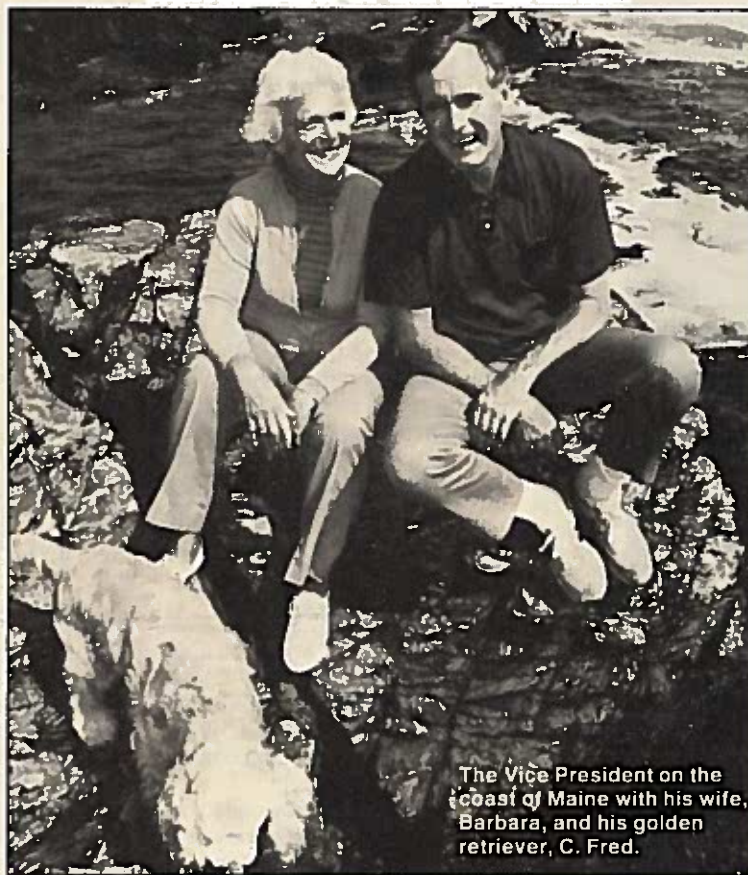
- **Frame Packs**
- **Three-Season Bags**
- **Backpacking Binoculars**



A MESSAGE FROM

GEORGE BUSH

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES



The Vice President on the coast of Maine with his wife, Barbara, and his golden retriever, C. Fred.

As an avid outdoor enthusiast, I'm delighted to have this opportunity to salute *Backpacker* on its tenth anniversary issue.

Backpacker readers represent an exciting trend in America. Despite tremendous demands on your time, something I can appreciate, you are people who have made a conscious effort to keep yourselves physically fit—through backpacking, jogging, bicycling, and other vigorous activities—and to reinvigorate yourselves after the pressures of your daily regimes. And you're also people who have a deep appreciation of our environment. You are individuals whose perspectives have been honed through your firsthand experiences hiking our magnificent lands.

We Americans are fortunate to live in a land blessed with great natural beauty; and, as a nation, we have made a commitment to protect these lands. Since the establishment of the first National Park in 1872, our National Park System has grown to 335 units. Some eighty million acres of federal land have been set aside as Wilderness, in addition to the countless acres of parklands dedicated by state and local governments.

During this, the third century of our young and still vital country, we must continue to provide abundant, high quality outdoor experiences for Americans. And, just as important, we need to urge Americans to see the beauty of our land firsthand.

Backpacker is helping us to do just that.☉