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Article appeared
on page D-22**Jack Anderson****'Greek's' Odds Favor Carter, Reagan**

Let others rely on George Gallup, Elmo Roper and Louis Harris for guidance in next year's presidential sweepstakes. We prefer "Jimmy the Greek" Snyder, who calculates the political odds exclusively for us.

While Jimmy's reputation as an oddsmaker is based on sports, he applies the same skills to political prospects: He talks to the insiders—the state party chairmen and other seasoned political pros.

At this point, nine months before the first presidential primary in New Hampshire, Jimmy rates President Carter as the odds-on favorite to win the 1980 Democratic nomination, and gives Ronald Reagan an almost even chance to be the Republicans' standard bearer.

Here is Jimmy's "early morning line" for Democrats and Republicans on the race for the White House:

Carter: 4 to 5. Though his popularity among party leaders is low (Snyder talked to nine key state chairmen and not one wanted Carter as their candidate) the president has the enormous advantage of incumbency. Rarely have political parties dumped a sitting president, to do so would be a confession of failure that would taint the party's image with the voters.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy: 7 to 5. Kennedy was the unanimous choice of the state chairmen Jimmy talked to; all Kennedy would have to do is say "Okay." But Kennedy fears that an open challenge would split the Democratic Party and give the GOP the presidency. If Carter continues to slip

in popular esteem, however, Kennedy might be prevailed upon to run. Intimates say he has a low opinion of Jerry Brown and wouldn't want him to pick up the nomination by default.

Gov. Edmund G. (Jerry) Brown Jr.: 12 to 1. The California governor is ready to challenge Carter in the primaries. While his mod lifestyle, chameleon-like politics and general flakiness turn a lot of people off, Brown did beat Carter four times after a belated entry into the 1976 primaries. Brown's stock would also go up dramatically if he were the only alternative to Carter.

Back in the pack at 20 to 1, Jimmy the Greek rates the other Democratic possibilities as definitely dark horses—Vice President Mondale, Sens. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (N.Y.), Robert C. Byrd (W.Va.) and Frank Church (Idaho), Rep. Morris Udall (Ariz.) and Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph A. Califano Jr.

The Republican odds:

Reagan: 6 to 5. The 68-year-old former California governor is still the darling of the Republican right. His age is his biggest drawback, but his charm and conservatism still cause flutters among the little old ladies. He also has a professional campaign organization, virtually intact from the 1976 race.

John Connally: 3 to 1. The silver-haired former governor from Texas is coming on strong. He has an effective campaign team, he exudes a presidential aura of strength and confidence, and his views are conservative enough to pick up Reagan delegates should

their favorite falter. But he is still remembered as a Democrat-turned-Republican, and his connection with Richard M. Nixon gives him a Watergate tie that is no advantage. He was acquitted on charges of taking bribes from the dairy lobby, but the fact that he was indicted at all can hardly be considered a plus.

Sen. Howard H. Baker: 7 to 1. The Senate minority leader from Tennessee is offering himself as a moderate alternative to the conservative favorites, and he might be a compromise candidate in a deadlocked convention.

George Bush: 10 to 1. Another moderate dark horse, Bush is a Texan with strong ties to the eastern establishment. His tenure as head of the Central Intelligence Agency is regarded as a drawback.

Gerald R. Ford: 15 to 1. Though his personal popularity remains high, and he could well be the kingmaker at the convention, the former president stands little chance of getting the nomination unless he fights for it. And this he apparently won't do.

Rep. Philip Crane: 15 to 1. The Illinois congressman is overshadowed by fellow conservatives Reagan and Connally. But he has youth and personal charisma, and if he manages to upset Reagan in New Hampshire, he might make it.

The longshots at 50 to 1 include Illinois Gov. James Thompson, Sens. Bob Dole (Kan.), Lowell Weicker (Conn.) and Paul Laxalt (Nev.), and Reps. John Anderson (Ill.) and Jack Kemp (N.Y.).