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Subject: Kennedy Books
Copyright 1996 United Press International. All rights reserved. The following news report may not be republished or redistributed, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of United Press International. By FREDERICK M. WINSHIP UPI Senior Editor NEW YORK, Aug. 7 (UPI) -- With two books published and two to go before the end of the year, the competition to get books about the romance of Jack and Jackie Kennedy into print has the potential to develop into a major book war. The first title out, "Jack and Jackie: Portrait of an American Marriage" by Christopher Andersen, was published June 21 by William Morrow, and the second, "Jacqueline Bouvier: An Intimate Memoir" by John H. Davis, was published July 17 by John Wiley & Sons. The Andersen book has been on the New York Times best-seller list for several weeks. Coming out Aug. 15 from Simon & Schuster's Pocket Books is "All Too Human: The Love Story of Jack and Jackie Kennedy" by Ed Klein, former editor of the New York Times Magazine. It is reportedly the least inhibited of the biographies of President John F. Kennedy and first lady Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy. An excerpt to be published Friday in the September issue of Vanity Fair, where Klein is a contributing editor, is sensational enough to keep gossip columns sizzling According to press leaks, Klein claims Kennedy admitted to his bride-to-be that he was a compulsive womanizer and she was unfazed, and that she considered becoming a CIA spy after graduating from Georgetown University but went to Paris as a Vogue junior editor instead. Yet to come from Little, Brown in November is Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Seymour Hersh's "The Dark Side of Camelot," which is being touted as the most scholarly of the Kennedy romance books. It is expected to have repercussions along the lines of Hersh's most acclaimed book, "The Price of Power: Kissinger in the Nixon White House," published in 1983. In addition to these four books, journalist Christopher Matthew's acclaimed "Kennedy & Nixon: The Rivalry That Shaped Postwar America" was released this year by Simon & Schuster, as was photographer Jacques Lowe's "Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis: The Making of a First Lady," a General Publishing Group picture book portraying its subject from 1956 until Kennedy's assassination in 1963. Why this continuing interest in the Kennedys 33 years after his death and two years after hers? Historians claim enough time has passed for a reassessment of the Camelot years. But some publishing industry observers say it is simply a last chance to cash in on a couple while their contemporaries still are around to buy books. James Brady, the 67-year-old editor-at-large of Advertising Age magazine, noted in a recent column that Kennedy's good looks and family money provided a "youthful and dashing change from the gray, middle- aged presidents" who preceded him. "Jack and Jackie were Scott and Zelda (novelist F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife) without gin," Brady wrote. "They may have been flawed but they were young and beautiful and bright and if

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