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Tell-all book came up during fundraisers attended by Bush

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(AP Photo/Ron Edmonds)

Adam Thomas and Associated Press reporting

While in Utah, President Bush didn't avoid questions about a former press secretary's tell-all book.

Kirk Jowers, the director of the Hinckley Institute of Politics, says the topic came up during the fundraisers Mr. Bush attended yesterday.

According to Jowers, Bush said it was "unfortunate" and that "politics is a place where you really get to see the best and the worst of people." Bush also said he was obviously disappointed in it.

The president doesn't like the timing of McClellan's criticism. Jowers said, "He [Bush] said, you know he [McClellan] was in a position where he could have voiced any of those concerns at any time and never did. And so he's disappointed, if he actually thought that some of those things were true, that he didn't do his responsibility and make his case against some of these criticisms."

McClellan's new book is called "What Happened: Inside the Bush White House and Washington's Culture of Deception." In it, he says Bush decided to invade Iraq at least a year before it happened.

McClellan also says Bush "signed off on a strategy for selling the war that was less than candid and honest."

E-mail: athomas@ksl.com

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