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THE DEMOCRATS • NUCLEAR AYATOLLAHS • GAY MARRIAGE

The Portland Spectator

DECEMBER 2004



Republican Leadership

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Portland Spectator is to provide the students, faculty, and staff with the alternative viewpoint to the left-wing mentality forced upon all at Portland State University. The Portland Spectator is concerned with the defense and advancement of the ideals under which our great Republic was founded. Our viewpoint originates from the following principles:

- Individual Liberty
- Limited Government
- Free Market Economy and Free Trade
- The Rule of Law

The Portland Spectator is published by the Portland State University Publication Board; and is staffed solely by volunteer editors and writers. The Portland Spectator is funded through incidental student fees, advertisement revenue, and private donations. Our aim is to show that a conservative philosophy is the proper way to approach issues of common concern. In general the staff of the Portland Spectator share beliefs in the following:

- We believe that the academic environment should become again an open forum, where there is a chance for rational and prudent arguments to be heard. The current environment of political correctness, political fundamentalism and mob mentality stifle genuine political debate.
- We support high academic standards.
- We believe that each student should be judged solely on his/her merits.
- We oppose the special or preferential treatment of any one person or group.
- We believe in an open, fair and small student government.
- We oppose unequal treatment in order to yield equality, for this violates any principle of justice that can maintain a free and civilized society.
- We oppose the welfare state that either benefits individuals, groups or corporations. The welfare state in the long run creates more poverty, dependency, and social and economic decline.
- We believe in the Free Market, and that the sole role of government in economic matters is to provide the institutional arrangements that allow the Free Market to flourish.
- We do not hate the rich; we do not idolize the poor.
- We believe in an activist U.S. foreign policy that seeks to promote and establish freedom, political and economic, all around the world.
- We believe, most importantly, in the necessity of patriotic duty consistent with the preservation and advancement of our Republic.

The Portland Spectator

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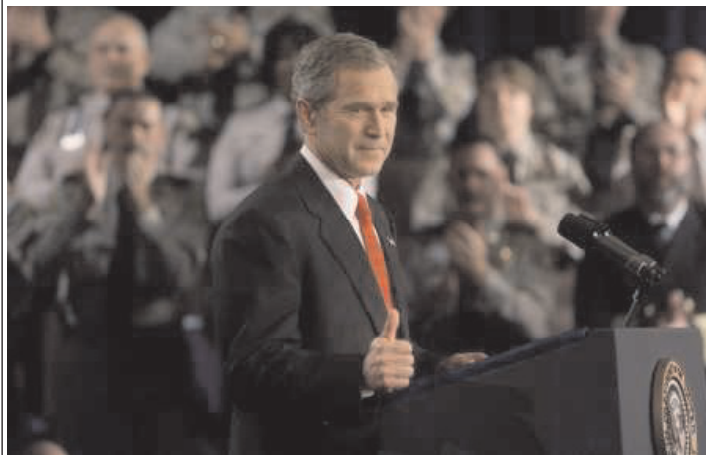
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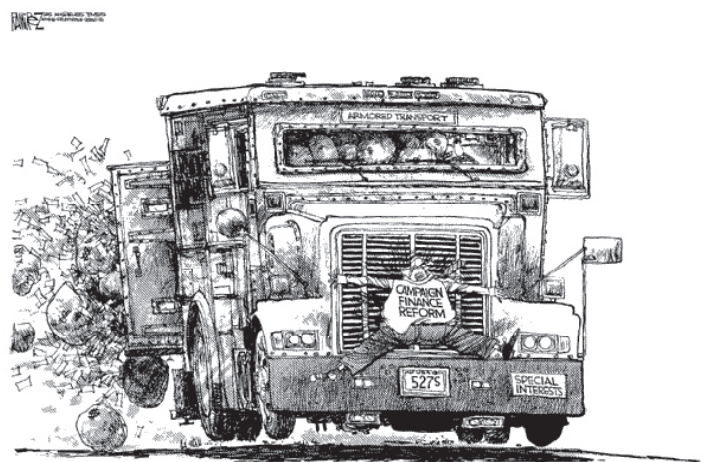
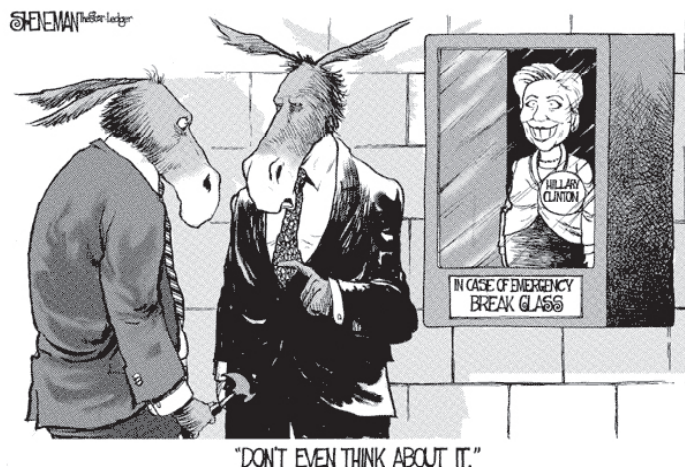
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PARENTHESIS

He Was Not!

A group of Greek lawyers are threatening to sue Warner Bros. over the new film "Alexander." The film portrays Alexander the Great as a bisexual. "We cannot come out and say that (former U.S.) President John F. Kennedy was a shooting guard for the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team and so Warner cannot come out and say Alexander was gay," one of the Greek lawyers said. Apparently, the Greeks take Alexander really seriously.

UK Stops Terrorist Plot

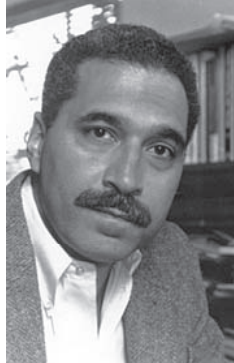
Since September 11, the United Kingdom has stopped at least four 9/11 style attempts on targets such as Heathrow Airport and Canary Wharf, a large financial center similar to the New York Stock Exchange. They were to be attacked with hijacked planes by Al-Qaeda operatives. London is not stopping there though. A series of new reforms are being presented to further their ability to combat terrorism to ensure future attempts are also unsuccessful.

Ukraine in Crisis

Thousands of people have taken to the streets in Ukraine to protest the recent elections which some are claiming was not only unfair, but rigged. The two candidates, one Pro-Western the other Russian backed, have both declared victory with the apparently defeated Pro-Westerner declaring himself President in a poorly attended and therefore non-binding session of Parliament. The White House said it was "deeply disturbed" while British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw commented that it was "very difficult to argue that this was a free and fair election." Whatever the outcome, the implications are far-reaching for Ukraine's future as a member of the European Union and possibly even NATO.

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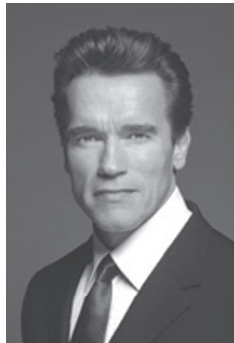
ON RACE IN AMERICA



"If my benefits come to me primarily as a black and not as an American, then the effect over time is to undermine common society—the common culture and democracy of America. I as a black don't identify with America—America is my enemy. This kind of thinking causes me not to move into the American mainstream. Which correspondingly causes me to fall farther and farther behind. That is the tragedy of that kind of power. That is the tragedy of victimization."

-Shelby Steele

ON BEING DIRECT



"The Indians are ripping us off."

When asked by a reporter if he would apologize for the comment the Governor replied:

"Read my lips. The Indian gaming tribes with Proposition 70 are trying to rip off California. I will say it again and again and again because that's what they are doing. And the reason they are upset is because the truth hurts."

-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger

"DON'T JUDGE ME, MAN"

"It is now orthodox to regard social stigma as a form of oppression, to be discarded on our collective quest for inner freedom. But the political philosophers and novelists of former times would have been horrified by such a view. In almost all matters that touched upon the core requirements of social order, they believed that the genial pressure of manners, morals, and customs—enforced by the various forms of disapproval, stigma, shame, and reproach—was a more powerful guarantor of civilized and lawful behavior than the laws themselves.

— Roger Scruton

Desperate Radicals Cling to Hope

It seems Bush-hating dies hard among the faithful in Portland. Small groups of protesters have gathered to proclaim: the election is not over. Uncounted votes, miscounted votes, and a deep, far-reaching electronic voting conspiracy have handed the election to President Bush. It seems these people forgot to book their return flights home on their trip to outer space. The international monitors, every mainstream media entity and two studies done at Harvard and MIT all confirm the validity of the election. Even the Larouchies with their talk of “inevitable catastrophe” and “civilizational collapse” that is occurring “right now” have accepted the outcome of the election.

Protesters Win Foie Gras Victory

Protesters have succeeded in removing foie gras from the menu at two Portland restaurants. Some people object to foie gras because of the way the Geese are treated. They are force fed with tubes, which results in their liver becoming fatty and tender. If you’ve ever had it, you know it’s like butter. The restaurant owners, however, did not stop serving pure goodness because they felt bad. The protesters were costing them too much money. They would stand outside harassing passersby. Plainly, our local businessmen have been bullied as if they didn’t pay their protection money to the local mob. No way. Whenever we go out, we need to order as much foie gras as possible. Not only to counter the damage done by these protesters, but because foie gras is simply too good to be bullied out of town by these maniacs.

Oregon’s Values Intact

This fall, despite its poor showing in many respects, Oregon showed its moral soul is alive and well. The passage of Measure 36 illustrates the presence of values that represent more than the abstract musings of some coffee-house philosopher. In a state where so much is wrong, this fall has shown that in Oregon there is still hope.

Campus Update

YO QUIERO TACO BELL

Radicals on campus are calling for a boycott of Taco Bell. They want PSU to cancel its Taco Bell contract, as well as others. Why? Because according to them Immokalee tomato pickers in Florida work in sub-par conditions. We must, therefore, cancel our Taco Bell contract. You see, canceling the contract will help the Immokalee workers live and work in better conditions. Oh, wait, no it won’t. All that happens is that we don’t get Taco Bell. But why would somebody just want to get rid of Taco Bell? Well, its because they don’t really care about the Immokalee workers. All they really care about is bringing down a corporation like Taco Bell. The Immokalee workers are used as a ploy to get you to feel bad about eating their food. If they really cared about Immokalee workers they would take one tenth of the time they spend trying to bring down Taco Bell and actually help them in meaningful ways. So if you see these boycott petitions, tell them you don’t appreciate the Immokalee being tokenized to further their political agenda.

ASPSU & HIGHER ONE

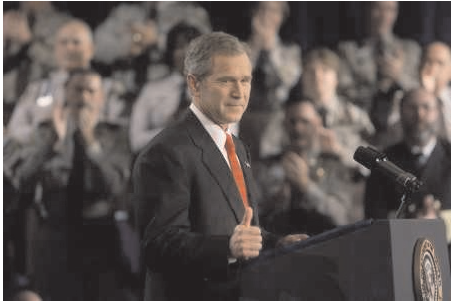
It has been impossible to ignore the student efforts against Higher One, the company the University has contracted out to administer our financial aid. With flyers everywhere, walkouts, forums and rallies ASPSU has gone all out in its fight against Higher One. Where it has gone terribly wrong is in its lack of faith and confidence in the simple merits of their case and, in turn, pandering to the radical left.

Simply put, students really are getting shafted with Higher One. Each side incurs costs and benefits of course. Higher One has to pay several costs in order to do business on campus, which in turn, it also makes money from. The University Administration, on the other hand, sees only benefits. They get their operating costs decreased and cash in their pocket. The costs of the deal are pushed on to students. With a complex process set up to avoid signing up for a Higher One account students will inevitably default into it. They are then barraged with costs and fees for all sorts of things.

The question that needs to be asked of the Administration is: How is this deal in the best interests of students. You are after all an education institution that exists to provide us with an education. You are here for us, not vice versa.

Conversely, the question for ASPSU is: Why did you abandon your professionalism, your political integrity, and pander to the far left? If as a student I do not wish to pay Higher One through the nose, why must I also “stop privatization?” What if I think privatization and freedom are awesome? The tactics and politics of the far left go nowhere. Are you trying to go nowhere with them?

EDITORIAL



Trusting In Republican Leadership

With President Bush winning reelection and Republicans extending their control of the House and Senate, the Republican Party has been charged with the task of leading the nation as a party. It is a rather unique situation in our history. Never before has a party been given such a mandate.

Perhaps it is the nation just waking up and taking a look back. From Carter's pacifism to Reagan's defense buildup the Republicans have been on the right side of history. After September 11, they were the first to stand up and recognize the enemy for what it is. They changed the paradigm of our foreign policy thinking, showed us how the nature of our enemy has changed and how we must change with it. This is no small achievement.

The Democrats, by contrast, showed that they did not buy into this new way of thinking. Their objections to The Bush Administrations foreign policy stemmed from a pre-September 11 frame of mind.

The premise of the war on terror is that conflict on a global scale is no longer territorial as it was during world war two, no longer ideological as it was during the Cold War, but cultural. Our enemies hate us because of who we are, the values that make up our identity. For many, this is an uncomfortable thought, often too uncomfortable or even traumatic to accept - especially in the case of the far left.

So it is rationalized away as the fault of global corporations or US foreign policy. The Democrats banked on this fear in a number of ways. From the way they questioned the Iraq war to the way their more liberal members questioned the US in Afghanistan, they appealed to the side of the population that finds the reality of the war on terror too uncomfortable or scary to accept. "There must be some other reason" they say.

The Republicans did exactly the opposite. What the recent elections have shown us is that however uncomfortable or scary the realities of the war on terror may be, the American people have accepted the reality we face and chosen courage and resolve. Many believe that values are what led to victory for the Republicans. While there is something to this, there is more to be said for the claim that everyone remembers where they were on September 11, what they were doing, how they felt. And everyone remembers the leadership of George W. Bush and the Republican Party. That is why they won. And until the Democrats understand this, it is why they will continue to win.



Inside the Liberal Meltdown

November 3, walking through campus had a weird twilight zone feel. Despondent students made their way from class to class, oddly silent. Others were physically ill, or suddenly leaving the country, for good. Had some terrible tragedy befallen them all? The response is a matter of perspective. George W. Bush had been elected to a second term.

Never before in our history have people taken an election loss so hard. Fifteen Kerry supporters in Florida underwent "intense hypnotherapy" and counseling for 'post election selection trauma.' A Kerry supporter even committed suicide at ground zero. The liberal reaction to the 2004 election is more akin to the Japanese reaction to surrender during world war two.

Some, in an apparent effort to avoid dealing with the mental and emotional trauma of it, have chosen denial. Even as the Larouche Youth Movement admits defeat, accepts reality and moves on, the radical left is unable. Protesters gathering in the park blocks huddle around a spark of hope that recounts in Ohio and Florida will change the results of the election. A lone, bearded hippie with a guitar stands before the group of forty or so and strums a folk theme, "Ohio's slippery, Florida's fishy, count all the votes" they sing with a hint of desperation.

A cacophony of groups has sprung up in denial of recent events. A group called Black Box Voting posts fliers proclaiming with characteristically radical littering of annoying exclamation points and gratuitous use of capital letters: "NO this is not our government! NO he is not our president! NO we will not be silent!" Is this their mantra for the next four years? If so, it's lame.

Avoiding 'post election selection trauma' may actually be worse for you than just dealing with it. Do you have 'post election selection trauma'? Florida trauma specialist Douglas Schooler describes the symptoms: "They include feelings of extreme anger, despair, hopelessness, powerlessness, a failure to function behaviorally, a sense of disillusionment, of not wanting to vote anymore - that sort of thing. We're talking about a deep, unhealthy personal suffering that can best be remedied by intensive short-term therapy."

If this describes you, please deal with it friend. Don't join the ranks of radical lunatics drifting away from reality. Take care of yourself and remember that it was only one election. Was this your Bunker Hill or Waterloo?



Nuclear Ayatollahs

The emerging threat from Iran. BY SAMAN BADI'Í

A nuclear crisis is fast emerging, with relations deeply embedded in the world wide war on terrorism. The world's only theocracy, the Islamic Republic of Iran, is the unrivaled state sponsor of global terrorism. As the major benefactor to almost all Islamic fundamentalist movements in the Middle East and abroad, the Iranian mullahs are successfully establishing unity among terrorist organizations. Terrorism is not only ideologically and politically beneficial for the Iranian regime; it is a matter of legality. Article 154 of the Islamic Constitution of Iran mandates the Iranian regime to support "...the just struggles of the mustad'afun (freedom fighters) against the mustakbirum (oppressors) in every corner of the globe." This ideology has extended the mullahs influence into both the Iraqi War and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Since the inception of the Islamic Republic, the Iranian ulama (Islamic leadership) have attempted to export the Islamic revolution to neighboring nations.

If successful, Iran would naturally be in a position of dominance over the infant Islamic regimes, creating an organization of Islamic satellite states that would pledge their loyalties to the policies of the Iranian mullahs. The Iranians, long known for their political genius are playing the game to the fullest, mimicking the political maneuverings of the Cold War and waging a covert intelligence battle against the United States and its allies. In the oncoming and inevitably fast approaching conflict between Iran and the United States, winner takes all.

In addition to rallying and unifying terrorists to a common agenda, Iran is developing nuclear weapons and are further along in their nuclear development program than anyone had earlier assumed. Iran may very well have already procured nuclear arms on the black market for \$250 million. The IAEA reported that, "The Iranians are producing UF6 (uranium hexafluoride) like hell." In a matter of weeks, the question has changed from if the Islamic Republic is developing nuclear arms to why. This fantastic nightmare is quickly becoming reality, and the international community is largely paralyzed due to the lack of any policies in dealing with this threat. Hailed as the "Great Satan" by Ayatollah Khomeini, the United States, the Middle East and the entire world are in grave danger. Religious fanaticism is commencing a marriage made in hell to a devastating bride in nuclear arms. The international community must stop the mullahs before the materialization of nuclear power.

An Alliance of Terrorists

The mullahs of Iran have forged an unholy alliance with mujdahdeen (Islamic warriors) in Palestine, Iraq and other nations in the region. Fueled by mutual enmity and hatred for the U.S. and Israel, the Islamic Republic has linked itself and is the main support for such organizations as the Hezbollah, Hamas, Ansar Al-Islam, the Mahdi Militia, and others. One Iranian



intelligence official who defected from Iran asserted that elements inside the Iranian government had helped organize and execute the World Trade Center attacks. It has been confirmed that all 19 hijackers of September 11th had traveled through Iran leading to the bombings.

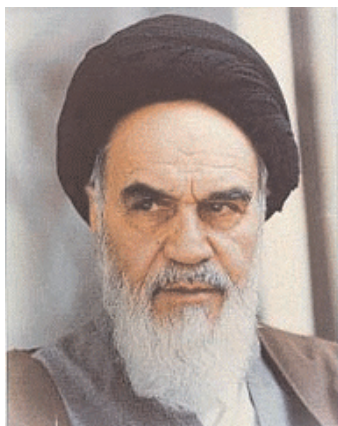
The mullahs created Hezbollah (Party of God) in 1982 and have built Hezbollah into an international organization with chapters as far as South America. The purpose of Hezbollah is clear and simple; to destroy the Zionist and American threats throughout the world, wherever they exist. "Pasdaran" camps outside of the suburbs of Tehran have been providing training and support to terrorists. The mullahs provide Palestinian "freedom fighters" with weapons, financial assistance and training to further their goals against Israel, long viewed by the Iranian Regime as a Western agent in the Middle East. The mullahs disburse \$25,000 to new Palestinian recruits and \$75,000 to the families of Palestinian suicide bombers. Such policies have also been instituted in Iraq.

The Iraqi Link

The Shiites of Iran and Iraq have traditional ties that date back centuries. Najaf and Karbala, the two most holy Shiite cities are both located in Iraq. The majority of Shiites in the world, however, live in Iran under the rule of Shiite Islam. Moqtada Al-Sadr, the leader of the Shiite insurgency in Iraq,

receives his "velayet" (daily orders) from a powerful Iranian cleric, Ayatollah Al-Hairi, who lives in the Iranian city of Qom. Furthermore, Al-Sadr's militia was funded, trained and armed by the Iranian military. New intelligence reports from the Pentagon and CIA verify that Iran has placed a \$500-\$3,000 bounty on the head of every American soldier in Iraq. Powerful Iranian mullahs such as Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati have told Iraqis that they have no other choice but to fight the U.S. forces in Iraq. Iranian secret agents have infiltrated and are actively operating in cities such as Mosul, Kirkuk, As Sulaymaniyah, Khosravi, Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, Kut, Amarah, Basra, and Khorramshahr.

Out of fear of American attacks on Iran after the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq, the mullahs adopted a policy to get the coalition forces "...stuck in the mud" in Iraq so that no future attack is plausible on the Islamic Regime. Furthermore, the politically active Shiite leaders of Iraq and Iran are attempting to establish an Islamic state in Iraq, consolidating the natural alliance that already exists. The aspirations of the mullahs to create a theocracy in Iraq is their main short-term goal. Unquestionably, the politically active Shiite establishment will be the greatest obstacle for the transition and consolidation of democracy in Iraq. By becoming the major foreign benefactor of terrorists in Palestine and Iraq, the mullahs have efficiently united an army of terrorists to fight for interests that will further their aspirations world wide.



Nuclear Terrorism

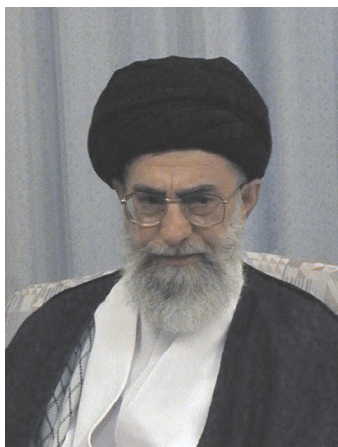
In the meantime, the Islamic Republic is racing to create nuclear arms and missiles. This will effectively enforce the deterrence of nuclear weapons and will exasperate any hope of regime change in the Islamic Republic. The Iranian mullahs' strategy is simple yet brilliant: to keep the world enflamed in conflicts in Palestine and Iraq and complete their nuclear program while the world is too busy to deal with it. Furthermore, the possibility of extending a "nuclear hand" to the terrorist organizations in order to destroy Israel and the U.S. is not only plausible, but likely, considering the contempt and hatred most hard-line Iranian clerics hold for the United States. Terrorism is going nuclear.

The International Context

The international scenario is even more disheartening. In recent weeks, Iran's mullahs have successfully closed a deal with China worth \$70-\$100 billion in which Iran would provide energy resources for the next 25 years. Although Japan has historically been the largest importer of Iranian oil and natural gas, the Islamic regime is giving preference to China over Japan. In addition, China, which holds a veto on the U.N. Security Council, has implied that it does not want to see Iran pressed nor referred to the Security Council over the nuclear program. Israel, on the other hand, has warned that they will level nuclear sites in Iran similar to its attack on Iraq's Osirak nuclear reactor in 1981. The U.S. recently sold 500 bunker busting bombs that would be capable of such a feat. The Russian Federation, helping Iran in its nuclear program, is opposed to any military strikes against the Islamic Republic. Russia is actively creating and further developing their nuclear program as well.

Nuclear disarmament is quickly becoming an ideology of the past. As the terrorists have found a major support in the Iranian mullahs, so are Iran's mullahs attempting to create an economic and political relationship with China and Russia to further neutralize any western pressure or attack.

As the Iranian mullahs grow more bold and attempt to consolidate their influence in the Middle East, they are increasingly becoming the greatest obstacle to peace in the region. The terror that the Islamic Republic has inflicted on its own people is reflected in their foreign policy. So long as the fundamentalists stay united in their aspirations and goals to defeat the rise of modernity in the region and the international community is splintered on the war on terror, the mullahs of Iran will possess an upper hand in the conflict between modernity and fundamentalism. So long as fundamentalism is free to scourge the people of the Middle East, so will the international community eventually feel the agony of their terror.





Selma to San Francisco?

Same-sex marriage is not a civil rights issue.

BY SHELBY STEELE

It is always both a little flattering and more than a little annoying to blacks when other groups glibly invoke the civil rights movement and all its iconic imagery to justify their agendas for social change. I will never forget, nor forgive, the feminist rallying cry of the early '70s: "Woman as nigger." Here upper-middle-class white women--out of what must have been an impenetrable conviction in their own innocence--made an entire race into a metaphor for wretchedness in order to steal its thunder.

And now gay marriage is everywhere being defined as a civil rights issue. In San Francisco, gay couples on the steps of city hall cast themselves as victims of bigotry who must now be given the "right" to legally marry in the name of "equality" and "social justice." In the media, these couples have been likened to the early civil rights heroes whose bravery against police dogs and water hoses pushed America into becoming a better country. "I don't want to be on the wrong side of history," a San Francisco radio host said about gay marriage. "Maybe we're looking at thousands of Rosa Parks over at city hall."

So, dressing gay marriage in a suit of civil rights has become the standard way of selling it to the broader public. Here is an extremely awkward issue having to do with the compatibility of homosexuality and the institution of marriage. But once this issue is buttoned into a suit of civil rights, neither homosexuality nor marriage need be discussed. Suddenly only equity and fairness matter. And this turns gay marriage into an ersatz civil rights struggle so that dissenters are seen as Neanderthals standing in the schoolhouse door, fighting off equality itself.

Yet all this civil rights camouflage is, finally, a bait-and-switch: When you agree to support fairness, you end up supporting gay marriage.

But gay marriage is simply not a civil rights issue. It is not a struggle for freedom. It is a struggle of already free people for complete social acceptance and the sense of normalcy that follows thereof--a struggle for the eradication of the homosexual stigma. Marriage is a goal because, once open to gays, it would establish the fundamental innocuousness of homosexuality itself. Marriage can say like nothing else that sexual orientation is an utterly neutral human characteristic, like eye-color. Thus, it can go far in diffusing the homosexual stigma.

In the gay marriage movement, marriage is more a means than an end, a weapon against stigma. That the movement talks very little about the actual institution of marriage suggests that it is driven more by this longing to normalize homosexuality itself than by something compelling in marriage. The happiness that one saw in the faces of the newly married in San Francisco seemed to come primarily from the achievement (if only illusory) of ordinariness. After all, many of them had lived together into old age. Love does not require marriage but, for gays, ordinariness does. And happiness for these couples was in the imprimatur of ordinariness.

But marriage is only one means to innocuousness. The civil rights framework is another. To say that gay marriage is a civil rights issue is to imply that homosexuality is the same sort of human difference as race. And even geneticists now accept that race is so superficial a human difference as to be nothing

► Gay Marriage



more

than a "social construct." In other words, racial difference has been made officially innocuous in our culture, and its power to stigmatize has been greatly reduced. Evidence of this is seen in the steady, yet unremarked, rise in interracial marriage rates for all of our races. So if gay marriage, like race, is about civil rights, then homosexuality is a human difference every bit as innocuous. Thus, America should treat homosexuality like it treats race and give gays the "right" to marry as it once gave blacks the right to vote.

So gays benefit from the comparison to both race and civil rights, and this has provoked hostility and even outrage in black America. Black leaders as liberal as Jesse Jackson have distanced themselves from the gay marriage issue, and among black churches an actual movement against gay marriage is unfolding. There is a religious dimension to this, but more broadly there is a simple resentment at having blackness implicitly compared to homosexuality.

The civil rights movement argued that it was precisely the utter innocuousness of racial difference that made segregation an injustice. Racism was evil because it projected a profound difference where there was none--white supremacy, black inferiority--for the sole purpose of exploiting blacks. But there is a profound difference between homosexuality and heterosexuality. In the former, sexual and romantic desire is focused on the same sex, in the latter on the opposite sex. Natural procreation is possible only for heterosexuals, a fact of nature that obligates their sexuality to no less a responsibility than the perpetuation of the species. Unlike racial difference, these two sexual orientations are profoundly--not innocuously--different. Racism projects a false difference in order to exploit. Homophobia is a reactive prejudice against a true and firm difference that already exists.

Institutions that arise to accommodate these two sexual orientations can never be exactly the same. Across time and cultures, marriage has been a heterosexual institution grounded in the procreative function and the responsibilities

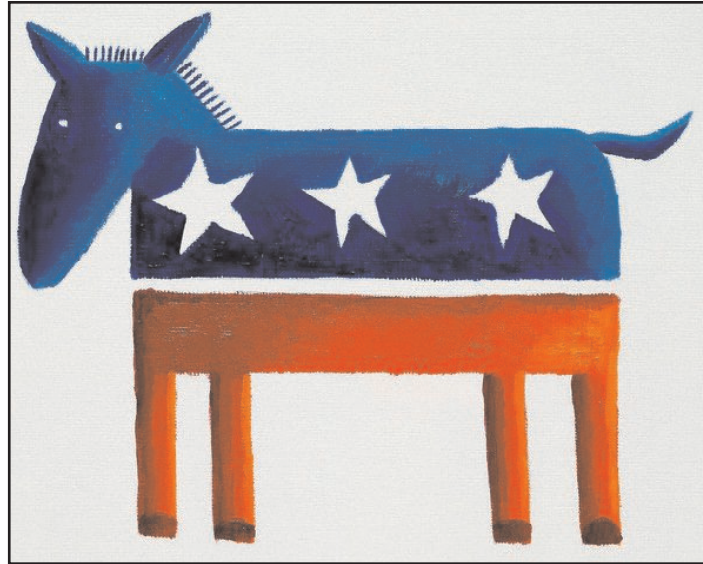
of parenthood--this more than in either love or adult fulfillment. Marriage is simply the arrangement by which humans perpetuate the species, whether or not they find fulfillment in it.

The true problem with gay marriage is that it consigns gays to a life of mimicry and pathos. It shoehorns them into an institution that does not reflect the best possibilities of their own sexual orientation. Gay love is freed from the procreative burden. It has no natural function beyond adult fulfillment in love. If this is a disadvantage when children are desired, it is likely an advantage when they are not--which is more often the case. In any case, gays can never be more than pretend-ers to an institution so utterly grounded in procreation. And dressing gay marriage in a suit of civil rights only consigns gays to yet another kind of mimicry. Stigma, not segregation, is the problem gays face. But insisting on a civil rights framework only leads gays into protest. But will protest affect stigma? Is "gay lovers as niggers" convincing? Protest is trying to hit the baseball with the glove.

The problem with so much mimicry is that it keeps gays from evolving institutions and rituals that reflect the true nature of homosexuality. Assuming, as I do, that gays should have the option of civil unions that afford them the legal prerogatives of marriage, isn't it more important after that to allow quiet self-acceptance to lead the way to authentic institutions?

The stigmatization of homosexuals is wrong and makes no contribution to the moral health of our society. I was never worried for my children because they grew up knowing a gay couple that lived across the street, or because several family friends were gay. They learned early what we all know: that homosexuality is as permanent a feature of the human condition as heterosexuality. Nothing is gained in denying this. But neither should we deny that the two are inherently different. The gay marriage movement denies this difference in order to borrow "normalcy" from marriage. Thus, it is a movement born more of self-denial than self-acceptance, as if on some level it agrees with those who see gays as abnormal.

Mr. Steele, a fellow of the Hoover Institution, is author of "A Dream Deferred: The Second Betrayal of Black Freedom in America" (HarperCollins, 1998). This article first appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, March 20, 2004.



A National Party No More?

Wither the Democrats.

By Cameron Turner

Forty years ago Democrats outnumbered Republicans 2 to 1. They controlled Congress and the White House. Now, they control neither and are struggling to find an identity while the Republican Party is in control of both and only slightly behind in numbers.

What explains such a dramatic shift? Several important differences have contributed to it. First is the way the parties are organized. The Republican Party is organized from the top down resembling a Fortune 500 company. The Democratic Party, by contrast, is not as organized and often delegates otherwise vital roles to third parties such as 527's like moveon.org.

A second contrast lies in party building. Republicans, especially George W. Bush, are more interested in building and advancing the party as a whole. President Bush used his political currency to campaign for Republican candidates during the 2002 mid-term elections. The Democrats have not exhibited the same enthusiasm for party building.

Their base, unions, have dwindled to less than half their numbers of forty years ago. Their funding base today is primarily made up of trial lawyers who are too few and far between to be an effective base. Their other base groups consist of single-issue interest groups who are more interested in their own causes than the Democratic Party.

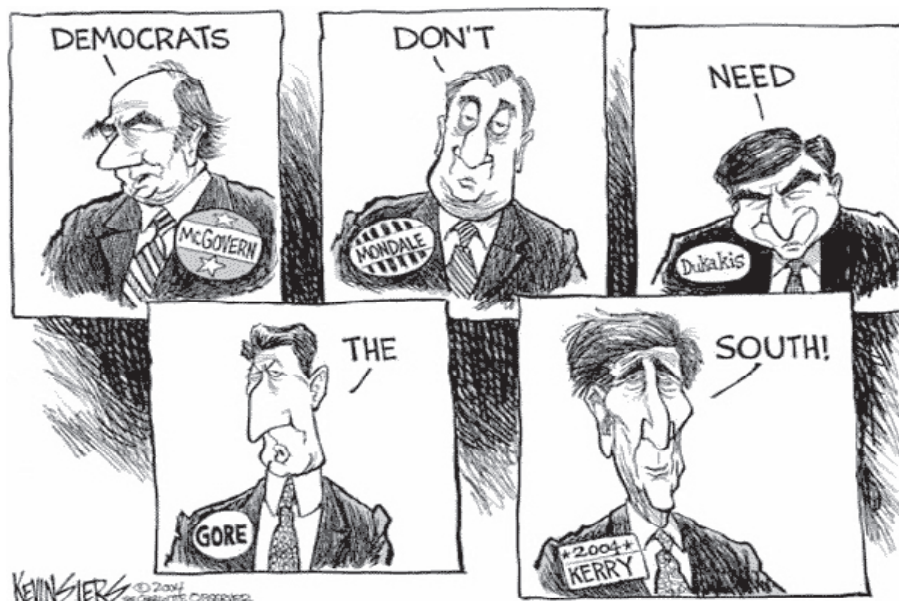
The Republican base is made up of the Republican faithful whose mission is to further the party. In addition, what's left of the Democratic Party base is under attack by Republicans. The Republican Party is now contracting out thousands of federal jobs, introducing tort reform (seriously cutting the income of trial

lawyers), and right to work laws that allow workers to opt out of union dues. The Republican Party is not only building itself up, but cutting the Democratic Party down.

This helps explain the fierce attacks on George W. Bush and the Republican Party. The Democrats are fighting for their place as a national party. This election was not just a referendum on the Republican Party but also on their attacks against the Democratic Party - an indication as to why the election meant so much to the Democrats. They put all of their hope, all of their values behind this election. It was a championship bout and they were knocked out of the ring.

For many of them it was just too much to handle. My dear friend who was a member of the Kerry Edwards 04' campaign, has taken the loss so seriously she is in the process of moving to Cypress and was not able to leave her home for a week. She would throw up in the mornings and was, in her words, "not emotionally stable enough to talk to anyone, especially you." She is currently still screening my phone calls. A professor the Spectator knows has been physically ill since the election loss. In Florida 15 people have received trauma therapy for 'post election selection trauma' from a licensed psychologist. Even more horrifying is that a Kerry volunteer committed suicide at ground zero.

It begs the question, how did the Democratic Party get to this point? The answer lies at least partly in their lack of attention to historical data. The Democratic Party has been losing elections at all levels of government. They have lost five out of the last seven presidential elections and their historical advantage in the south has been completely erased.



Since 1980, Democrats have won only nine Southern states despite the fact that Jimmy Carter, Bill Clinton, and Al Gore were sons of the South. In this election the Kerry/Edwards campaign lost all thirteen states and 168 electoral votes, putting George W. Bush only 102 electoral votes away from recapturing the White House. The southern states used to be a stronghold of the Democratic Party. They are putting little emphasis on reclaiming them.

Not only have they lost their former stomping grounds, they continue to bank on a youth vote that never seems to turn out. Although polling showed a large advantage, it never materialized. In fact, only 1 out of 10 voters were in the 18-24 year old age group, nearly identical to the 2000 election.

And their obsession with Massachusetts liberals continues. In 1984 Ronald Reagan handily defeated Massachusetts Senator Walter Mondale 525 to 13 in the Electoral College. Then in 1988 the Democratic nominee was none other than Michael Dukakis, Massachusetts Senator. The party has now

gone 0-3 with liberal Massachusetts Senators with the defeat of John Kerry.

They continually make the same mistakes, over and over, and it has cost them dearly. If they are to ever overcome their current quandary, they must exemplify something more than what Dick Arney referred to as the "triumph of hope over reason." They must reclaim the South. They must field a viable candidate that can accomplish this goal, preferably *not* from Massachusetts. And they must abandon the far left, which has hurt them more than anyone could have imagined. America is rejecting the far left. It is up to the Democratic Party to decide whether they want to be rejected with it.





The New Liebrary

Shining Clinton's tarnished legacy.

By Dustin Rose

Well, the Clinton library is finished and open for visitors. With Carter, Bush 41, and Dubya by his side, Clinton celebrated his triumphant legacy. The rainy day drew 30,000 people, including the likes of John Kerry, Robin Williams, Morgan Freeman, Kevin Spacey, half of U2 and many other “moderate” public figures. With the two Bushes present, this became a real bipartisan celebration.

Jimmy Carter expressed much admiration for Clinton's “insight, wisdom and determination.” He claimed Clinton “was a leader who could inspire other people to go beyond what they thought were their own limits in accomplishing great goals.” A teacher, Sister Judith Dalesandro, was among four nuns who arrived from a Roman Catholic convent stating “Bill Clinton is the best president we've ever had in the United States. He was wonderful. He wasn't at all snooty. He would come and talk with the kids.” Is that all that it takes to be the greatest president? Under these strict guidelines, Bush would have looked like a saint while reading “My Pet Goat” during the 9/11 tragedies. Evidently this scale was enough for the sisters to spend the afternoon in the rain to celebrate former president Clinton.

So what about Clinton's Legacy is there to celebrate? The day's event does seem to leave out a lot of Clinton's well known attributes and great accomplishments. There was no mention of the impeachment, Whitewater, Travelgate, Waco, the slaughter of thousands of innocent civilians in Kosovo, all of the questionable criminal pardons, or even our beloved Monica. Those dirty scandals were just the product of that

“vast right-wing conspiracy” and they must remain unmentioned at this euphoric fictional epic. This is just like an utopian heaven for ol' Willy.

Inside the library there is an exhibit detailing the impeachment of Clinton with a placard saying that it was “not about the Constitution or rule of law, but was instead a quest for power that the president's opponents could not win at the ballot box.” The “ballot box?” I think that Billy Boy was obviously mistaken about the implications of the 1994 elections. If the Republicans had run a halfway legitimate candidate for the 1996 presidential election, we would only know Clinton as the little Democrat amongst a whole generation of Republicans. As it is, he is the sleazy President stuck between two Bushes, both known as war presidents.

Much can be said of the numerous scandals but what about Clinton's policies? It is noteworthy that there are two issues that he was steady on. One of his first initiatives after being elected was to push for the “don't ask, don't tell” policy for gays in the military. Another of his later “accomplishments” was his veto of the partial-birth abortion ban. The two issues he remained solidly liberal on were to promote the homosexual agenda and to keep abortion legal at any price.

When taking a closer look at his eight-year span as president, a shift in the direction in which he moved becomes clear. He has his progressive-liberal campaign and election in 1992, to the “centrist” outgoing president he was in 2001.

The change in Clinton's policies occurred after the 1994

► National

Republican sweep. From that point on, Clinton proceeded to sign pretty much everything that Newt Gingrich and the Republican congress sent to him. He became a real fiscal conservative. The great Democrat president was a conservative? That is correct. Welfare reform, tax cuts, a balanced budget, being tough on crime, Defense of Marriage Act. He was a born again Republican. 80% of the Republican's "Contract With America" was put into law all under his watch. I am still wondering why his name did not make it on the final signed draft of the "Contract with America" document. America actually became more conservative, if you will, under Bill Clinton's two terms. Now that is a legacy.

Clinton's shift after the 1994 Democrat loss in the House of Representatives, Senate, and a majority of the state Governor races can be seen as a major defeat. The American people spoke up in the voting booths. They did not want the country to go in the direction that the Democrats were going. This is in stark contrast to the recent re-election of George W. Bush. Not only did Bush get the most votes of any presidential candidate in U.S. history, he also got a huge boost with newly elected Republicans in the congress. Clinton never received over 50% of the vote in either of his elections. So it is hard to say that Clinton was an overly popular president according to those statistics.

Despite the blatant disregard of the reality of Clinton's presidency, there was much that was said about the actual library. "The building is like my husband: It's open, it's expansive, it's welcoming, it's filled with light," Hillary Clinton said. "And the exhibits tell a story of someone who loves his fellow man, who cares deeply about the future of all of our children, who recognizes our common humanity."

Interestingly, there was much speculation as to all the implications of the ceremony, too. "Yesterday's events in Little Rock had less to do with a library retrospective of the Bill Clinton years than a campaign launch for the prospective presidency of Hillary Clinton," said Dick Morris.

What will this library accomplish? "I want young people to want to see not only what I did with my life but to see what they could do with their lives," Clinton said, "because this is mostly the story of what we the people can do when we work together."

Will people remember Clinton as the great conservative President? I do not think so. Will they remember the pimps, sluts, and dead bodies? Possibly. With the building of this \$165 million library and the liberal love fest that took place at it's opening, we are once again forced to give Bill Clinton the spotlight. It only proves that he has worn out his "legacy" if he could not even get all the members of U2 to appear in his dog and pony show. (What are the chances that only half of Brooks and Dunn would show up for Dubya's Library opening? Slim to none.) There is one detail that everyone will remember though. William Jefferson Clinton will always be known as the guy who "did not have sexual relations with that woman... Miss Lewinsky."



College Republicans at PSU

Feeling Hostile?

By Brian Danielson

For nearly four years, I have walked the halls of Portland State University mumbling profanity and ill thoughts as I absorb the lies and disinformation so thoroughly spread across this campus.

For nearly four years, I have wondered how conservative students like me relieve the stress of going to such an oppressive liberal school. Historically, Portland State has had a very small and underwhelming College Republicans chapter that has done little to promote conservative ideas on campus.

For nearly four years, hundreds if not thousands of conservative students on this campus have taken this abuse for long enough. No longer will conservative students not have an outlet on campus to voice their frustrations and talk about politics in a friendly and mature environment. No longer will the conservative voice at Portland State be silenced.

August 2004 marked the start of a conservative uprising at Portland State. A handful of volunteers worked with me to recruit members and more Republican campaign volunteers to not only create the largest group of College Republicans in Portland State history, but also one of the largest chapters in the Pacific Northwest. With a member group of over 300 strong, the Portland State University chapter of the College Republicans has been recognized as a powerful political force in Oregon's higher education system.

The aim of this group is to change the nature of political discourse on campus. It is truly a shame when almost every conservative student has a story about a teacher berating Republican ideas or a conservative student overhearing a group of other students comparing the Bush administration to Hitler's Third Reich. When they are afraid to speak their minds or identify themselves.

The vision and mission of the College Republicans is to create an atmosphere of tolerance and civility towards all political ideologies, especially those silenced by the far left.

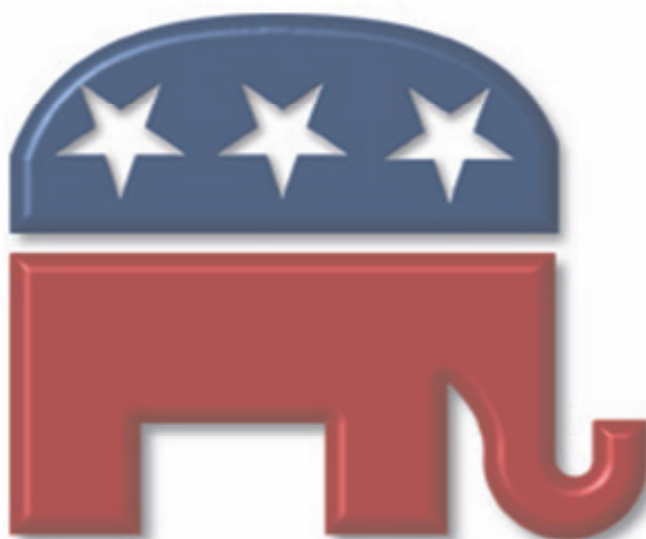
Over the coming months you will start to see College Republicans signs, flyers and advertisements all over campus. College Republicans will be hosting several events on and off campus to support our ideas as well as running "The More You Know" print campaigns on campus to combat the insane lies of the radical left here on campus.

In order for our campaigning and efforts to be successful, your support is definitely needed. The College Republicans would like to invite all conservative students on campus to come and be active, to debate, to meet with others and make their voices heard. It is imperative for you to be vocal and unafraid to speak up in class when students and teachers demean what we so proudly believe in. Let them know it is not acceptable for our viewpoint to be ignored or misrepresented with pejoratives or stereotypes.

When you are roaming the halls and see ridiculous signs spewing lies, write the lies down and bring them to the next College Republicans meeting as a point of discussion.

The College Republicans will make a significant difference on campus this year. With your help we can make our voice a strong and lasting one. Political discourse on campus must be mature and civil. New students must be exposed to more than what the liberal orthodoxy currently offers them. America's campuses must again become open to a variety of ideas so that students can maximize their education and grow as individuals. With your help and vigilance this will be achieved at Portland State and political freedom and tolerance will once again grace this campus.

For more information on Portland State's College Republicans chapter, please visit their web site at www.gop.pdx.edu. College Republicans meetings are held every Thursday at 4:00 PM in the Smith Center. See the web site or Smith Center scheduling for room locations.



College Republicans
We Meet Weekly. Check the Web Site.

www.gop.pdx.edu
psurepublicans@gmail.com

The Importance

In this golden age of enmity

What you need are a pal and a nemesis

by Chuck Keeler

"It's not what you know," they say. "It's who you know." We have all heard this sentiment, and we all reflexively agree with it. This is because "they" are hard to debate, especially since "they" never seem to be in the room whenever anyone makes reference to them. Yet they have a secret shame, and it's a shame they can't deny: They are losers. They are failures. They don't realize that life is—almost without exception—an absolute meritocracy, and everyone who succeeds completely deserves it.* The only people who disagree with this are people who will never succeed at anything. You see, "they" want you to believe the passageway to power is all about cultivating allies, so they spend all their time trying to make friends and influence people. And this is why they fail. It rarely matters who is on your side; what matters is who is against you. Unlike Gloria Loring, you don't need a friend and you don't need a lover. What you need is a) one quality nemesis, and b) one archenemy. These are the two most important characters in the life of any successful human. We measure ourselves against our nemeses, and we long to destroy our archenemies. Nemeses and archenemies are the catalysts for everything.

Now, I know that you're probably asking yourself, How do I know the difference between my nemesis and my archenemy? Here is the short answer: You kind of like your nemesis, despite the fact that you despise him. If your nemesis invited you out for cocktails, you would accept the offer. If he died, you would attend his funeral and—privately—you might shed a tear over his passing. But you would never have drinks with your archenemy, unless you were attempting to spike his gin with hemlock. If you were to perish, your archenemy would dance on your grave, and then he'd burn down your house and molest your children. You hate your archenemy so much that you try to keep your hatred secret, because you don't want your archenemy to have the satisfaction of being hated.

If this distinction seems confusing, just ask your girlfriend to explain it in detail; women have always intuitively grasped the nemesis/archenemy dichotomy. Every woman I've ever known has had at least one close friend whose only purpose in life is to criticize her actions, compete for the attention of men, and drive her insane; very often, this is a woman's best friend. Every woman also has a former friend (usually someone from high school with large breasts) whom she has loathed for

years (and whom she will continue to loath with the intensity of a thousand suns, even if she sees her only once every ten years). This is her archenemy. Women intrinsically understand human dynamics, and this makes them unstoppable. Unfortunately, the average man is less adroit at fostering such rivalries, which is why most men remain average. Males are better at hating things that can't hate them back (e.g., lawn mowers, cats, the 1986 Denver Broncos, et cetera). Most men fail to see a world beyond themselves; if given the choice, they



e of Being Hated

ty, friends are for suckers.

air of well-chosen foes.

Klosterman

would connect themselves to nothing. But greatness cannot be achieved in a vacuum, and great people know that.

In the 1980s, Larry Bird's nemesis was Magic Johnson, and it was always beautiful when they tangled. But Bird's arch-enemy wasn't Magic; it was Isiah Thomas. When the Celtics played the Pistons, it was a train wreck, and it went deeper than basketball: In 1987, Isiah supported Dennis "Rush" Rodman when he claimed Bird was famous only because he was white. Larry forgave Isiah in public, but he still iced

him in the end; the first thing Bird did after becoming president of the Pacers was fire Zeke as head coach. Steve Jobs is Bill Gates's nemesis, but if Gates had only one bullet in his revolver, he'd shoot David Boies. J. R. Ewing was at war with nemesis/brother Bobby for twelve seasons (thirteen if you count the year Victoria Principal dreamed he was dead), but Cliff Barnes was the true Minotaur of Southfork. Jack White turned Von Bondies singer Jason Stollsteimer's face into a speed bag, but Stollsteimer barely even deserves nemesis stature; White's archenemy is Ryan Adams (although he'd be better off if it were Julian Casablancas of the Strokes). The Joker was Batman's nemesis, but—ironically—his archenemy was Superman, since Superman made Batman seem entirely mortal and generally nonessential. Nobody likes to admit this, but Batman hated Superman; Superman is the reason Batman became an alcoholic. **

This fall, George W. Bush will seek reelection, and whoever the Democrats end up nominating will become Bush's "nemesis by default" (although not his true nemesis; that will always be John McCain). But none of the candidates has a shot at becoming Bush's archenemy; that designation is inflexible. W's archenemy is Bill Clinton (mostly because Bill beat up his dad in '92). George W. Bush will never face the man he hates most; this is why George W. Bush will never achieve greatness. However, when we get to 2008—when Clinton's wife faces the little brother of her husband's archenemy—it will be a bloodbath. When the families of archenemies collide, skulls get pounded into pulp. Jeb–Hillary will be like Frazier–Ali III.

I was sitting in the passenger seat of my nemesis's Buick Skylark when he punched me in 1992; I jacked his jaw at a keg party in '94. These days I mostly just read his blog, although we did have a pressure-packed lunch at the Fargo Olive Garden over Christmas. Meanwhile, I've had the same arch-enemy since eighth grade: He's a guy named Rick Helling, and he grew up in Lakota, North Dakota. Last year, Helling pitched a few innings for the Marlins in the World Series; in 1998, he won twenty games for the Rangers. I went to basketball camp with Rick Helling in 1985, and he was the single worst person I'd ever met. Every summer, I constantly scan the sports section of USA Today, always hoping that he got shelled. This is what drives me. I cannot live in a world where Helling's career ERA hovers below 5.00, yet all I do for a living is type. As long as Rick Helling walks this earth, I shall never sleep soundly.



► Commentary



I realize there are those who don't think it's necessary (or even wise) to consciously create adversaries; Will Rogers claimed that he never met a man he didn't like. But what is Will Rogers famous for, really? For telling jokes that don't have punch lines? For wearing a bandanna like an ascot? Who wants that for a legacy? There is a reason they say, "Keep your friends close, but keep your enemies closer." Granted, "they" usually don't know what they're talking about, but sometimes "they" get lucky, you know?

*The exceptions being Dale Peck, MTV on-air personalities who aren't Kurt Loder, Al Franken, and myself.

**This is speculative.

HOW TO MAKE ENEMIES

As the accompanying essay makes clear, you'll need a nemesis and an archenemy if you wish to be successful in this world. The good news is, it's entirely possible that you already have each of these entities in your life; perhaps you just don't realize it (or maybe you can't tell them apart). As a public service, here are a few signs.

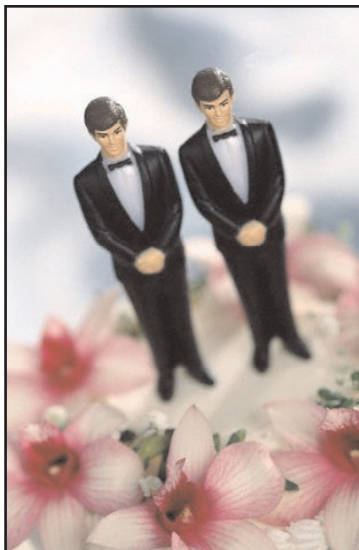
RECOGNIZING YOUR NEMESIS

- At some point in the past, this person was (arguably) your best friend.
- You have punched this person in the face.
- If invited, you would go to this person's wedding and give him a spice rack, but you would secretly hope that his marriage ends in a bitter, public divorce.
- People who barely know both of you assume you are close friends; people who know both of you intimately suspect that you profoundly dislike each other.
- If your archenemy tried to kill you, this person would attempt to stop him.

RECOGNIZING YOUR ARCHENEMY

- Every time you talk to this person, you lie.
- If you meet someone who has the same first name as this person, you immediately like him less.
- The satisfaction you feel from your own success pales in comparison to the despair you feel at this person's triumphs, even if those triumphs are completely unrelated to your life.
- If this person slept with your girlfriend, she would never be attractive to you again.
- Even if this person's girlfriend was a hateful bitch, you would sleep with her out of spite.

This article first appeared in *Esquire* Magazine, April '04.



The Lessons of Measure 36

By Robert Hyett

On March 3, 2004, following the example set by the state of Massachusetts, county commissioners led by Dianne Linn and Basic Rights Oregon announced they would begin issuing marriage licenses to gay couples. Stubbornly, the county continued issuing licenses even as Oregon citizens and senior state officials were up in arms. 2,550 marriages were granted before a federal judge halted the process.

Had they not acted so recklessly, perhaps Oregon voters would not have introduced or approved Measure 36 and we would not be in a position where gay marriage and gay rights as a whole have taken two steps back.

Many polls show American citizens were primarily concerned with social issues and that they had a tremendous impact on the election. Snuggly wrapped in our urban bubble, it had come as a surprise that the majority of Americans hold traditional social values.

The issue of gay marriage was thrust upon us by the reckless granting of gay marriages by a select few in city government. The process by which the issue was decided resulted in a cultural backlash across the country that impacted a number of other issues, including the presidential election. Oregon and 10 other states have all passed measures banning gay marriage bringing the total of states banning gay marriage to 48. The other two, Arizona and Texas, are introducing their own initiatives that are likely to pass easily. Oregonians, including many of those who voted for John Kerry and John Edwards, were not ready to embrace gay marriage with open arms. In

a state where the Kerry/Edwards ticket won 52% - by margin of 4 points, Measure 36 was approved by 57% of Oregonians boasting a 13 point margin of victory.

The passing of measure 36 has also taken an emotional toll on the opposition. As results were reported on election night many, including students at PSU, began crying openly. And the Portland Police Sexual Minority Roundtable is now changing its focus, concerned that the passing of Measure 36 may cause some young sexual minorities to consider suicide.

It would have been nice to see thoughtful solutions to the issue attempted and perhaps a progressive public relations campaign take place, if anything, more time. For some, research brought only more questions and ultimately indecisiveness... which results in people defaulting on their traditional social values. More time would have been ideal.

What occurred, simply, was political suicide. History has taught us time and again that it is inherently dangerous for individuals or small groups to assume or exercise power that has such an effect on the larger culture. Measure 36 is now another lesson. Such actions have little in common with democracy.

Concerned citizens on both sides of the issue will continue to utilize their democratic rights and processes, which we should all value. The lessons of Measure 36, however, are clear.

Moderate Republicans (yes they really do exist)

By Patricia Elliot

Some would argue.....

Comments from a Moderate Republican

Perhaps there is no such thing as a moderate Republican. In order to discuss this, a definition is in order. A moderate Republican, according to former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, "is someone who believes strongly in foreign policy and the economy in a conservative manner, but that all other issues are open to debate and that no one political entity or party has a monopoly on the solutions." There are more moderate Republicans among you than you may realize. Scared yet? Moderate Republicans don't believe that by virtue of the recent Presidential election that has God has talked to W43, and given him mandates to push a religiously right oriented policy, internationally and domestically. That is precisely the problem. Current administrative tonics to redress America's social ills are not working, and international concerns are pursued at the cost of betterment at home.

My fellow Liberal Americans, we need you. We need you to participate. We need you to vote. We need you to be involved in the political process. After all, the vote is an exercise of force or will, albeit a political one. You must honor the reciprocity between the citizens and the elected officials of the United States of America per the Constitution of the United States of America.

What we are not looking for are your very interesting theories on conspir-

acy and the recent election. For those in the know, the California Institute of Technology, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, released reports that concluded the Presidential election was valid in its outcome. Rumors and speculation of conspiracies is really not warranted in this case. Just because you read it on the Internet, or someone's blog, does not make it factual, however realistic you may interpret it. It's time to move on. It's time to go to www.mynext-cause.com, so that you may personalize some sort of injustice or outrageous acts and plots forwarded by a multi-level co-governmental and corporate secret Republican agenda. Seriously.....

There are many in the Republican Party and in the United States Military who personally believe that some of our current policies are flawed. This does not mean they are wrong, but rather that they can be corrected before they end up producing costly outcomes.

Where all of our efforts can be jointly combined, is in the area of domestic policy. We all need to work on issues in our home country. Here's a little clue for you, if the Democrats are ever to regain a majority in the House, the Senate, or the Executive branch, social and civic issues and domestic policy are the keys. W43 seems to continue in a policy of redundant focus internationally, and we all know God will take care of the rest.

Another note to Liberal America and Ecotopia, if you so much as use plastic gladware to bring your lunch to school or work, guess what? You are participating in the subsidization of the petroleum

industry. It does not matter if you just ride Tri-Met, or just bike around, "where did those rubber tires come from?" It's all the same. We are all involved in a petroleum-based economy. So, please do us all a favor, and drop the "blood-for-oil" argument. Everyone knows oil is part of the reason we are in the Middle East period.

And for you Larouche folks, tell us all please, when is the space ship coming, so we can enjoy the Park Blocks without being subjected to the link between Satan and our elected officials because Satan is a concept and the elections are part of our reality. Thanks. Later.

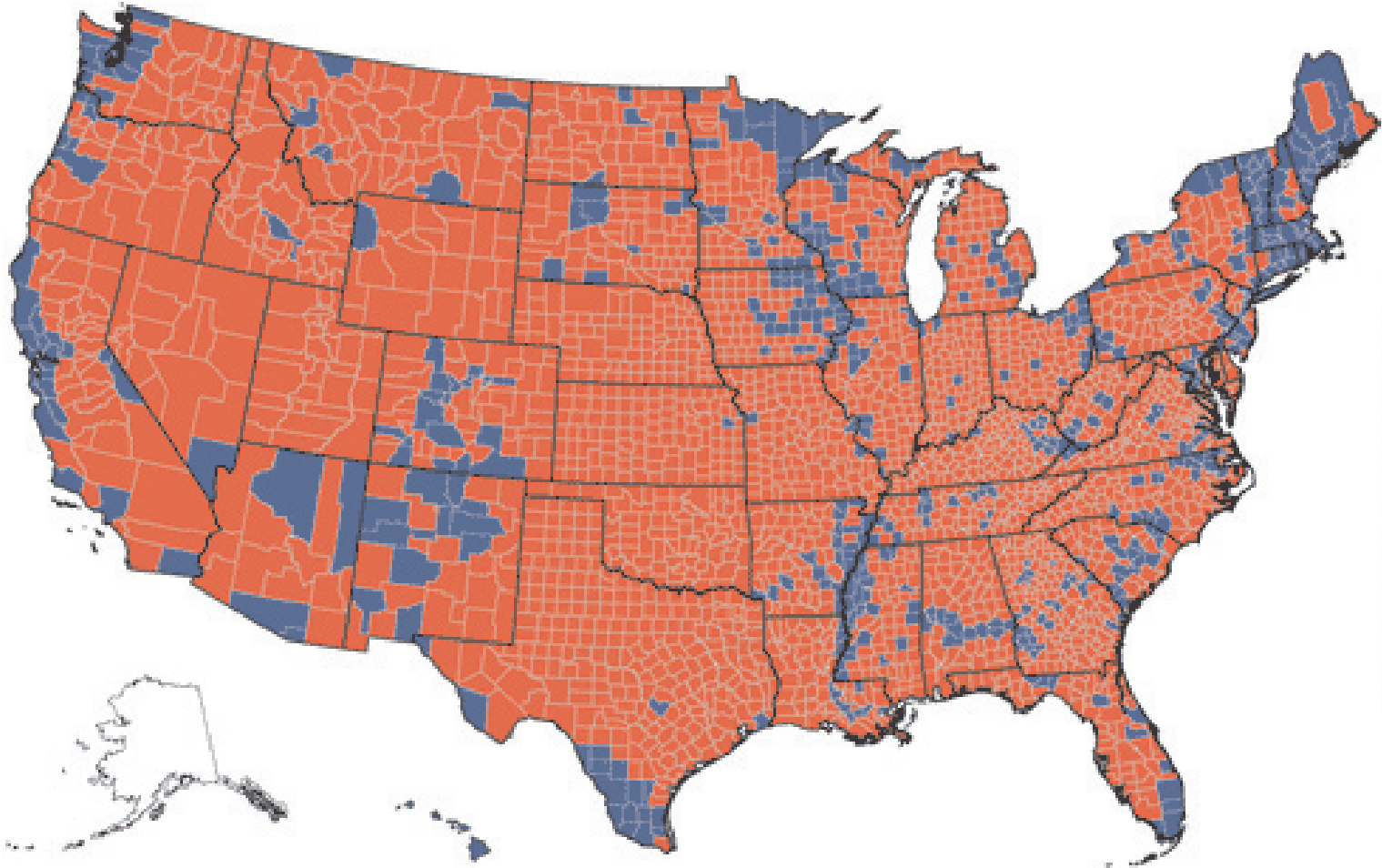
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“Guilty of not believing in the Gods the City believes in, and of introducing other strange divinities; and he is guilty of corrupting the young.”

The
Portland
Spectator

Guilty



America the conservative?



“The dogma of conservatism ... [is] startling and even offensive to many whose feelings it none the less quite accurately describes.” -Roger Scruton