

# The Patriot

Vol. 7 Issue 2

Winter 2010-2011

## WikiLeaks, Naughty or Nice?



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**We know we aren't perfect, let us know what you think**

**Send us suggestions at: sbpatriot@gmail.com**

**Meetings Wednesdays  
6:30-7:00 PM  
3rd Floor SAC**

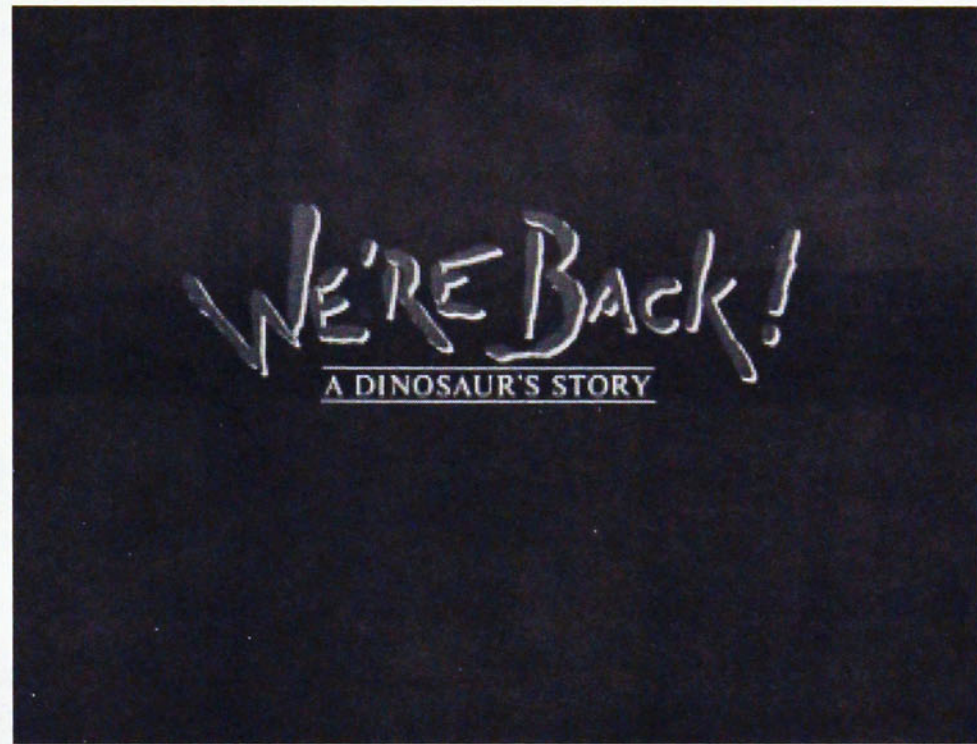
# Letter from the Editors

To the Readers of The Patriot,

It has been an unforgivable gap of time between the publication of our last issue this year and the current issue. For those of you who have become regular readers, we apologize for having failed to maintain our duty as regular writers, and for those new readers, we hope you'll be looking for each issue as soon as it hits the shelves. We offer no excuses for the delays in the past but rather reaffirm our obligation to bring you the views you won't read in the other papers or hear in your classes.

Sincerely,

The Editorial Staff of the Patriot



Note: We are not dinosaurs, we simply lack stock images.

# The Patriot

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**Our Mission:** To provide an outlet for the students of the Stony Brook community to voice their support for the founding principles of this nation, the United States of America. It shall be a non-partisan organization which promotes trust in our system of government, and to support our leaders and armed forces, who protect our freedoms from those who wish to deny them in this world. It shall not promote blind obedience but, instead, a reduction of the cynicism that we view today among many.

Send questions and comments to sbpatriot@gmail.com

The Patriot is a publication of the Enduring Freedom Alliance:  
<http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/clubs/efa/>

**Disclaimer:** The views expressed in the opinions columns are not necessarily the opinions of *The Patriot* or its editorial staff as a whole.

Dear Santa,

We here at the Patriot staff have a lot of needs this holiday season and we don't want to waste your time so we'll just lay it out flat:

Graphic Designers

Web Designers

Staff Writers

Editors

Photographers

Contributors

Supporters

Friends

Readers

Yeah we know, we're about as depleted as the Mets organization. We get that we deserve your help less than Qatar deserves a World Cup bid, the Phillies deserve Cliff Lee or Four Loko deserves to be taken away from America's youth, but we could really use the help.

Desperately,  
The Patriot Staff

# The Right to Draw Mohammad

By Jason Schaeffer



Imagine what would happen if someone drew a cartoon depicting Jesus getting crucified or if someone ran a comic of Buddha in an all-you-can-eat buffet. It would be expected that there would

be outrage at these depictions of religious figures and rightly so. There might even be some protests and calls of condemnation. However, the US has freedom of speech. Often times, court uphold rulings that protect hate speech because of this First Amendment provision (cite example). A current case in which this is being played out right now is Snyder v. Phelps, in which the Supreme Court is deciding the rights of a grieving father to sue a church that protested the war in Iraq at his son's funeral with signs that said to pray for more dead soldiers.

Last spring, South Park, an animated show for adults on Comedy Central, decided to cancel an episode in which Muhammad was to be depicted dressed as a bear. The show's creators, Matt Stone and Trey Parker, canceled the episode after death threats were made against them on a known militant Islamic magazine called Inspire, which purports to be a publication of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

Evidently, there is a double standard for Mohammad. Religious and cultural icons from Western cultures, such as Jesus, Moses, and Uncle Sam, can be mocked and denigrated. But when you draw Mohammad, the line of political correctness is crossed.

In 2005, when a Danish newspaper published cartoons of Mohammad, many enraged Muslims committed acts of violence through-

out Europe and the Middle East.

More than 100 people died in the protests. Protesters set fire to Danish embassies in Syria, Lebanon, and Iran. They also burned Danish and other European flags in protests in Gaza city. The Danish newspaper subsequently pointed out that these cartoons were an attempt to further engage people in a debate about the exercise of free speech and self-censorship.

Recently, an American cartoonist stepped up to the plate for the First Amendment and expressed her opinion that as Americans, we all have the right to make statements about Islam and Mohammad if we choose to do so. Molly Norris, 44, of Seattle, was deeply incensed by the fact that the creators of South Park felt that they had to pull the episode that she started "Everybody Draw Mohammad Day" on Facebook.

At the height of the event, which took place on May 20th, more than 100,000 members had joined. The event was marked by a massive attempt to censor the group.

A few individuals in the group received death threats. Courts in Pakistan also moved to block the website during the event. The most outrageous silencing of all was when Facebook temporarily removed the group for several hours before reinstating it the next morning.

Before the event, Facebook released this statement about its policies: "Facebook is highly self-regulating, and users can and do report content that they find questionable or offensive. Groups that express an opinion on a state, institution, or set of beliefs -- even if that opinion is outrageous or offensive to some -- do not by themselves violate our policies. When a group created to express an opinion devolves

into threats or hate speech, we will remove the threatening or hateful comments and may even remove the group itself." However, during the event Facebook's actions clearly demonstrate that it felt differently.

Even after the event, problems continued for Molly Norris. Molly's regular cartoons have disappeared from her Seattle newspaper since the middle of September. The FBI also recommended that she "go ghost." Norris is currently believed to be in hiding with the prospects of being relocated and having her name changed, much like a witness in a trial. This was all in response to threats from a radicalized Islamic Cleric named Anwar Al-Awlaki, who is linked to the Times Square car bomb plot and the massacre at Fort Hood and placed a Fatwah, or death warrant, against Norris. Now he has moved to Yemen and has become the only U.S. citizen whom the C.I.A has been authorized to kill on sight.

Molly Norris dared to do what few in the United States have been courageous enough to do: to take on the cult of political correctness, and to prevent us from censoring ourselves to extreme levels. She is one of the most patriotic figures at this time for challenging the status quo in the United States. Most importantly, her virtual disappearance should be of great concern to anyone who had ever expressed themselves in an open fashion. Everyone, especially President Obama, should be speaking out for her. It is crucial and patriotic to do so because of the highly-polarized political atmosphere that exists in America today. We cannot sacrifice the freedoms we have cherished as Americans for hundreds of years for the sake of political correctness.

## Hackers 2: The Wrath of MENDAX

By Roger Craig

We've heard a lot about the whistleblower website WikiLeaks these final dog days of Autumn. We've also heard a lot about its founder, Julian Assange, formerly MENDAX the hacker.

Some people find it appalling and atrocious. They say it is a violation of the Espionage Act of 1917, meaning that the act of the website posting secret documents has and will in the future interfere with United States military and diplomatic interests. Some people say it has put our troops in an added amount of unnecessary danger -- that the release of both military and state department secret documents may have subject our troops to attacks that would never have happened sans release. They say there is a difference between free speech/free press and anti-American espionage aimed

at harming US National Security.

Some people, on the other hand, find it to be a beacon of free speech. They say Wikileaks is just an honest form of intrepid journalism. They say the release of the documents is a victory for government transparency advocates -- that it will force the government to re-evaluate what it considers "secret" and allow those on the outside to actually see how its inner cogs actually interact and work.

I, however, find all this secondary to one thing: Where was this Assange guy when I wanted to know who died in Harry Potter 7 before the book came out? I mean, come on. Wikileaks needs to get its priorities in order. Another thing, I'm tired of seeing "Julian Assange" in the headlines. His real handle is

MENDAX -- we can stop kidding ourselves and just get a grip on the reality of how cool it will sound when Bill O'Reilly says something like "WikiLeaks overlord MENDAX strikes again."

All in all, the whole debate about WikiLeaks and Jul...errr, MENDAX has been severely overlooking one important factor: that it is really that little self-absorbed rat traitorous dog Bradley Manning's fault. Besides, if the government really wanted to keep all these things on lockdown they would have stored it all with Obama's birth certificate and college transcripts. BOOOM!

The disclaimer on the second page was solely for this article.

# Liberty And Tyranny

By Elisa Savinelli

*Liberty and Tyranny*, by Mark R. Levin, is a very educated approach to explain a conservative's point of view. Levin discusses various debates within the political world and he argues for the conservative side. He has many facts to show that a conservative approach has typically been the most effective according to history. You should always use history to judge what should be done for the future. Americans need to learn from the mistakes of others in history. Levin has made it pretty clear that the conservative approach is usually what works best. Why isn't every American conservative? More people should be more educated on the history of this country so they can realize the point that Levin has tried to prove.

To be conservative is not to be old-fashioned or un-willing to make changes but rather it is to cherish the original values of the constitution of our country. A conservative wants to maintain what our founders have created and keep capitalism the way it should be by letting every individual person live their lives the way they want.

Government intervention into people's lives takes away from that privilege. Levin explains, "That we, as human beings, have a right to live, live freely, and pursue that which motivates us not because man or some government says so, but because these are God-given rights." I completely agree with this statement made by Levin. This country has been built on the idea of capitalism. We have always been a free country and when the government tries to step into our lives too much, it is taking away from our freedom. Why would anyone in this country disagree with that? Who in their right mind should allow the government to overstep their boundaries? If we let liberals run our country, America would probably end up turning into a dictatorship. As Levin said, "The conservative understands that Americans are living in a state of diminishing liberty."

There are many political issues that Levin discusses. One of these issues being the taxing system. A conservative believes that you

should not tax the public a lot and you should allow the public to do with their money for what they think is best. A statist believes that you should tax the public a lot and the government should redistribute the money to where the government feels the money should go.

Levin says, "From where does the statist acquire his clairvoyance in determining what is good for the public?" History has proven that when you decrease taxes and let the economy work naturally without government intervention, the economy will boom. Levin points out that under Ronald Reagan's free market taxation policies, "Inflation dropped from 13.5 percent in 1980 to 4.1 percent in 1988. Interest rates dropped from 18 percent on a thirty-year fixed mortgage in 1981 to 8 percent in 1987; and unemployment dropped from a peak near 10 percent in the recession of 1981-82 to 5.5 percent in 1989, once the full force of the tax cuts kicked in."

If Reagan was able to get the economy in such a healthy standing by using free market principles, then why don't we always follow Reagan's policies? Clearly, the public is capable of bringing the economy where it should be without the government interfering beyond its boundaries. Liberal loves to tax the rich and redistribute it to the poor. How is that fair? Levin believes, "Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another; but let him labor diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuring that his own shall be safe from violence when built." People should be able to keep what they work for. Why should those who work hard give their money to the poor who haven't taken the necessary steps to become rich themselves. Everyone in our country has a shot to be rich if you work for it, why give the money to those who are unwilling to work?

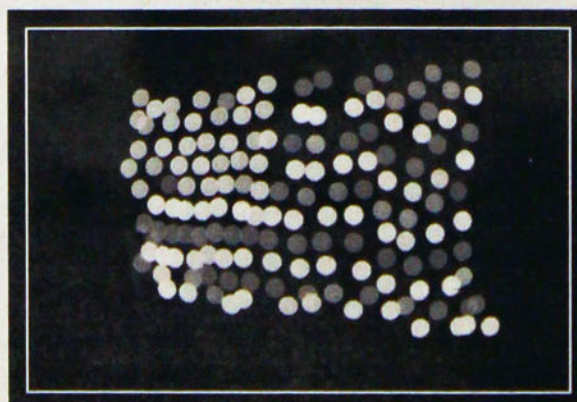
When the government steps in, it ultimately puts a huge burden on the consumer. For example, the oil industry is a perfect example of this. Gasoline is not expensive because the gasoline companies charge a lot; in fact, it is expensive because of all of the government regulations that have been put into making gasoline. These companies don't even make that much of a profit. Levin brings up that fact that, "When the statist prevents the

oil companies from drilling new wells in places such as Alaska, the Great Lakes, and most coastal areas, he is driving down the supply of domestic crude oil and gasoline. How can a nation cut itself off from most of its energy resources and hope to prosper or, in the long run, even survive?" This causes gasoline to be more expensive because we have to drill far away or buy it from foreign countries. Thanks to the government, the consumer has to suffer, resulting in less money in the consumers pocket to spend somewhere else.

The statist is also for more immigration and tolerates illegal immigration and says we should look at immigrants as role models. "The statist tolerates the illegal aliens' babies born in America are, under the current interpretation of the Fourteenth Amendment to the constitution, treated as United States." Why should we allow illegal immigrants to work in the United States? That takes jobs away from American citizens who deserve to work here. Yes, our country started thanks to immigrants but they came here and created our country legally. They also have started families who have lived here their entire lives that create the American population. Why should we let new immigrants come here and take jobs from us?

The overall message from this book is that government interference is never good and American citizens deserve to live freely with the right to do as they please as long as it doesn't harm the general public. Conservatives believe in allowing the public to decide what to do with their money. When the government taxes people more than they should to "redistribute" the wealth, it never works right. It is also going against how a capitalist society should work. There were many other issues that Levin discussed like health care and environmental issues and always argued the government does not have the right to step into people's lives. The government should sit back and trust that the economy will do well naturally. Liberals do not follow the capitalist way, they act more like socialists. They want to take freedom away from the citizen.

**LIGHT UP  
WITH THE  
PATRIOT  
STAFF!**



**Wed 6:30  
3rd Floor SAC**

# Freedom Fighter?

By Rachael Doukas

The views that many young people have of Che Guevara are appalling. It is sad to see a brutal killer get ignorantly glorified on college campuses. In an article titled, "Che Guevara: The Inspirational Freedom Fighter," by Syed Zahar, a writer for the Malaysian Digest, the author points out that Che Guevara was, "An inspiration for every human being who loves freedom." Che Guevara was not a freedom fighter. He was an international terrorist and a killer that simply enjoyed killing. He was an Argentine Marxist revolutionary who cultivated the firing squad of Fidel Castro's regime, which took part in executing thousands of innocent men, women and children in the course of his atrocious campaigns to inflict communism on many Latin American countries. While Che was living in Mexico City he met Fidel Castro and got involved in his 26th of July movement. Che, Fidel and others traveled to Cuba aboard a yacht, with the objective of overthrowing the government. He became Fidel Castro's executioner and murdered those individuals who were alleged anti-communists of the Castro regime.

Fidel Castro declared the execution of a peasant guerrilla named Eutimio Guerra who he accused of being a betrayer for Batista's forces. Guerra was a Cuban peasant army guide and is believed to be the first individual killed by Guevara. The execution was appointed to Castro's bodyguard, Universo Sanchez. Everyone was astonished when Che Guevara, a rebel soldier at the time, took it upon himself to accompany Sanchez at the execution ground. This was the first execution of a Castro rebel and Sanchez was very hesitant. He was looking for any excuse to postpone it or call it off. Then, unrepentantly, Che fired his pistol into Eutimio Guerra's temple causing him to go

into convulsions for a while until he was finally still. Guevara reflected on the event, in his Diary, "Now his belongings were mine." He later wrote in a letter to his father stating, "I'd like to confess, papa', at that moment I discovered that I really like killing." This shooting would be a sign of things to come.

Che once said, "To execute a man we don't need proof of his guilt." Often times, he was the one that shattered the skull of the



alleged war criminal by firing the "coup de grâce", or final shot causing the death of the individual. This man got pleasure out of making the condemned families watch as their loved ones were brutally executed before their own eyes. When a mother pleaded Che for mercy on her young son, he responded by ordering that the execution be carried out without hesitation and made sure that she watched her son die only so she could stop worrying about him.

Over his career, Che killed thousands of individuals. Leftists, to the point where young people admire him, have twisted his legacy. Instead he should be placed in the same category as Stalin and Mao.

In an effort to promote the truth, Stony Brook Young Americans for Freedom (YAF) participated in the No More Che Day event, created by The Young America's Foundation. Some students who attended the event explained how they had seen this man's face on T-Shirts, but they didn't know who he was, or what his face represented. On the other hand, two individuals from Stony Brook who attended the event insisted that Che Guevara was in fact a hero and should be idolized. When Young Americans for Freedom presented these two individuals with quotes said by Che Guevara himself, the two still angrily protested against the truth and stormed away from the table by saying, "Che Guevara did not kill anyone!" Other students were intrigued by the event because they never knew who Che really was. A member of YAF after the event said, "Che Guevara was not a hero- a hero is someone whose actions are to be commended and replicated with honor. I challenge any human being to justify his actions on a moral, legal or ethical basis."

Many of the student's views are due to the fact that institutions of higher learning do not teach who Che really was. Through their promotion of the left wing agenda students lack in the ability to make up their own minds on what they believe to be right or wrong. YAF used the anniversary of Che's death as an effort to encourage students to think critically. Should a man who killed countless innocent individuals really be considered a hero?



Note: Colin Firth does not write for this paper.

*Stay classy with the  
Patriot this holiday*

*season*

**sbpatriot@gmail.com**

# Gerrymandering and You

By Thomas Schlageter

Your district is going through a lot of changes and you're starting to develop demographics you've never had before. As you go through these changes it's important to remain level-headed and remember that though your vote will count for less, your district will come out of this a partisan district.

See what I did there? I made redistricting sound like puberty. Think of it like this: the United States is like your body. Your body has hormones. The United States has Democrats and Republicans. The United States recently started going through some changes this past November and pretty soon many parts of it will start changing as well. One night in the near future, your district will wake up to realize that it has gerrymandered all over the place.

decrease their influence in other electoral districts. The other strategy, cracking, involves spreading out certain types of voters, again we can use Democrats as a valid example, over many electoral districts in order to deny them a sufficient/dominant voting block in any one electoral district.

As these changes take place, you will probably find yourself surrounded by members of the opposite party for the first time and actually notice them, as opposed to just throwing carrots at them in the lunchroom. You may also find yourself surrounded by members of your own party – not that there's anything wrong with that.

Your new demographics may be

tender at first and feel strange and out of place. However, this is perfectly normal. With time, the tenderness will disappear along with the feelings that they don't belong as your district gerrymanders into a full grown partisan district. What does this mean? It means that you are not the only one. These changes are normal and everyone will be going through them.

You will most undoubtedly have many questions about your changing district. They may include, "Why is Kendra's district changing faster than my district," "Why is my district so long/short

and fat/thin," "I'm in a blue district but it's starting to turn red," and "Why hasn't my district changed yet?" You may always go talk to your local representatives about the changes, as they can provide invaluable advice and guidance.

Demographic groups may begin to appear inside your district which you may not like. They may be spreading all over your district and no matter what you do just won't seem to go away. Don't feel embarrassed about these demographic groups as they are a part of the redistricting process and irritating them may only cause them to spread further. Remember, by the time you are a fully grown partisan district these unwanted demographic groups will be gone and you'll be able to look back and laugh that they had ever settled in your district.

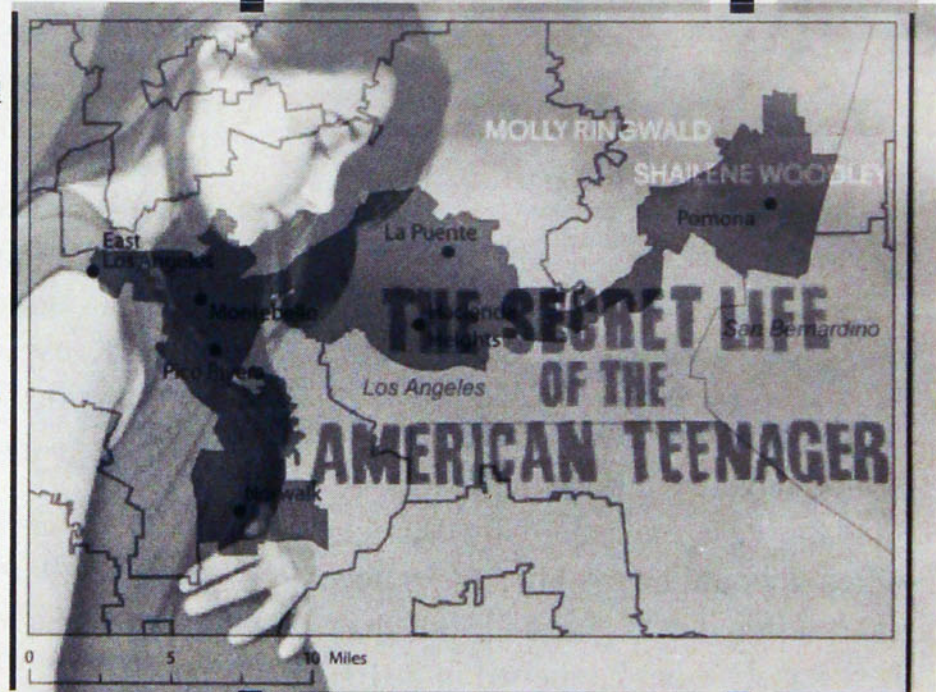
Some districts will start to go through "election cycles." These cycles come periodically and are associated with the washing out of old politicians and the bringing in of a new politician who may grow to be President!

When you meet the right political party, he will insert you with his demographic group, packing you full of it, and thus gerrymandering you. It's your job to take care of your district and make it a safe seat for the budding politician.

Most importantly, don't let anybody pressure your district into gerrymandering before you're ready, because your demographics are your demographics and nobody else's. Many people may tell you to wait till census before gerrymandering, but abstinence isn't always the answer. You're ready to be gerrymandered when one party becomes powerful enough to sneak its way past your convictions with lines like "I'm not like other political parties," and

"Of course I'm not just gonna go to another district after we gerrymander," and sometimes that happens before census.

In the coming months, just know this: districts all over the United States will be gerrymandering all over each other in glorious acts of contorted bliss with the dominant Republican hormones pumping through their veins urging them to gerrymander harder, more often and faster.

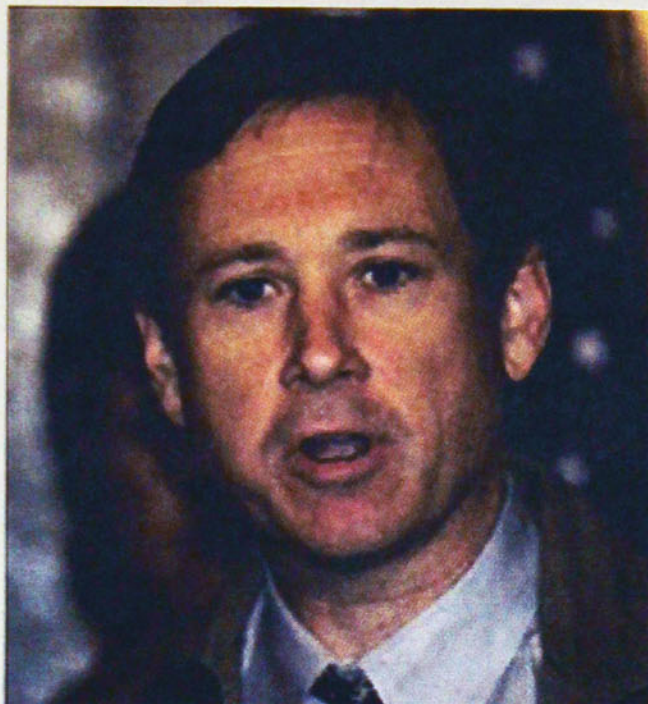


November 2010

Senate Outakes

By Aditya Ramanathan

Since we missed it when it happened, here are the races that mattered.



Mark Kirk

Illinois

Reason why it was important: It would have been difficult to believe that the seat once held by Barack Obama would be in play a mere two years after it was vacated, but that is precisely what happened in 2010.

Key Players:

Republican - *Mark Kirk*

Two time house member and Navy Commander, Kirk is a moderate republican who voted in favor of cap and trade in the house but has taken hard stances against the Stimulus bill and current healthcare legislation.

Democrat - *Alexi Giannoulias*

The current state treasurer had few missteps in a race that was his to win however information linking a bank Giannoulias managed to mob loans has allowed Kirk to frame Giannoulias as a mafia kingpin despite the questionability of the

allegations.

What it means: Kirk wins. The tea party looks to take credit for 2010's wins, however, moderate Republican's, like Kirk, truly won seats the party was hard pressed to win.

West Virginia

Reason why it was important: The passing of democrat senate staple Robert Byrd left an opening for Republicans to pick up the seat for the first time since 1959.

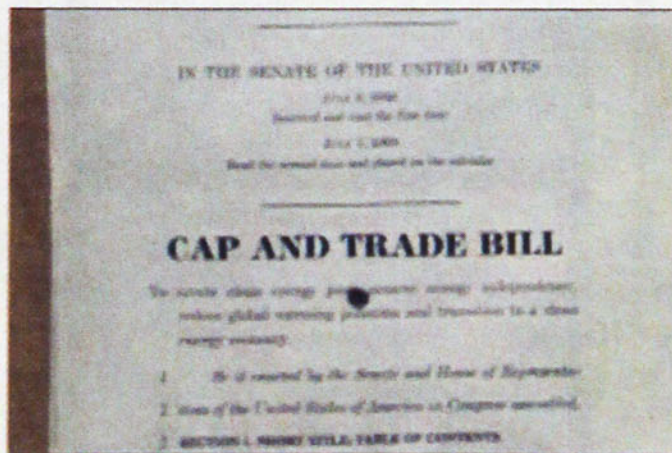
Key Players:

Republican - *John Raese*

After repeated unsuccessful bids for the senate and governorship in WV, all around conservative businessman Raese returned for another shot at the title.

Democrat - *Joe Manchin*

West Virginia's own pro-life, pro-gun, anti same-sex marriage and fiscally conservative Democrat governor is looking to take his moderate stances to Washington after literally shooting a hole through his copy of the cap and trade bill.



Machin's copy of the Cap and Trade Bill

What it means: Manchin wins. In 2010's republican sweep, most blue dog democrats either fled or

lost their reelections, unable to paint themselves as the necessary outsiders. A new wave of newly elected anti-government Democrats could surface in 2010 following Manchin's unorthodox lead..

Nevada

Reason why it was important:

Senate majority leader Harry Reid fought for re-election in another highly symbolic race.

Key Players:

Republican - *Sharron Angle*

Pro-life, pro-gun, pro-church, anti-drug, anti-UN, anti-Federal reserve, anti-Federal education assemblywoman Sharron Angle rebounded from an unsuccessful 2006 house bid to run against the incumbent senate majority leader.

Democrat - *Harry Reid*

Socially moderate Reid has taken shots from both Republicans and Democrats through his tenure as Senate Majority leader under the Obama Administration. They took toll.

What it means: Reid wins in one of the only upsets this cycle. Glaring unpopularity made projections lean toward a referendum against Reid. Angle's views, seen as radical, derailed her campaign. A tea party candidate, Angle stands with O'Donnell, Hoffman and Miller as testaments to the tea parties ability to lose races that Republicans had essentially already won. In an age of polarizing politics and over glorified polsters, Reid stands as a political statement for tradition and moderatism.



**Colorado**

Reason why it was important: Obama's selection of former senator Ken Salazar for the position of Secretary of the Interior left Republicans another opportunity at previously safe senate seat.

Key Players:

Republican - *Ken Buck*

Seemingly anti-tea party and gaffe prone Republican DA Ken Buck took an underdog outsider approach all the way through a tough Republican primary to face his Democrat challenger.

Democrat - *Michael Bennet*

Former superintendent of Denver public schools and current vocal supporter of Obama administration policies, Bennet fights for reelection in an anti-establishment cycle.

What it means: Bennet wins by a hair. The region, once a relatively safe area for Republicans hammers in its new role as a swing state with this neck and neck race.

**Wisconsin**

Reason why it was important:

Most toss-ups are generally as a result of open seat races or appointed/special election senators seeking reelection. Wisconsin senator Russ Feingold is at risk of losing his seat despite few mistakes of his own.

Key Players:

Republican - *Ron Johnson*

Businessman and political outsider, Johnson rode an anti-incumbent wave, pouring his fortunes into an election bid against his long-standing senate opponent.

Democrat - *Russ Feingold*

One of Feingold's most memorable bills in the Senate was one that limited corporate money in elections. In 2009 the Supreme court

struck down the act and Feingold is now paying the price.

What it means: Johnson wins. Feingold, a moderate Democrat who has battled his party tooth and nail on countless occasions was painted as a party insider. This election made two things clear, no politician is truly safe in the era of smash-mouth politics, and Republican's hold the mike on politics for the time being and it doesn't matter what they are saying.

**Washington**

Reason why it was important:

The election was an excellent opportunity for Democrats to protect a vulnerable seat.

Key Players:

Republican - *Dino Rossi*

Two time gubernatorial candidate and former state senator, Rossi has run in some difficult races but has did run since 2004. In an outsider's year, her hiatus helped her greatly.

Democrat - *Patty Murray*

Murray has been a senator since 1992 and found herself in a similar position to some of her fellow democrat senate colleagues.

What it means: Murray wins. An area that has been safe for Democrats came into play this election and came close. Look to changes within the state and in the region as it could become a swing area at the local level.

**California**

Reason why it was important:

This one was another opportunity for Democrats to protect against a republican power player.

Key Players:

Republican - *Carly Fiorina*

Formerly considered one of the most powerful women in business and a potential 2008 VP pick, Fiorina ran against incumbent Boxer with a massive self-funded war chest.

Democrat - *Barbara Boxer*

In Washington since 1983, Boxer is as much an outsider as she is a moderate, which made her seat highly vulnerable.

What it means: Boxer wins. Spending more and running strong, California is a blue state and Boxer is a Senate staple. Republicans were wrong to have thought otherwise.

In summary: Republicans made some big wins in 2010 but lost many of the close races which were thought to be in play. Largely, on the national level, 2010 played out just as many suspected with few upsets. Election forecasters and their methodologies gained traction as effective models going into 2012.



**Barbara Boxer**

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# Keep DREAMing Act

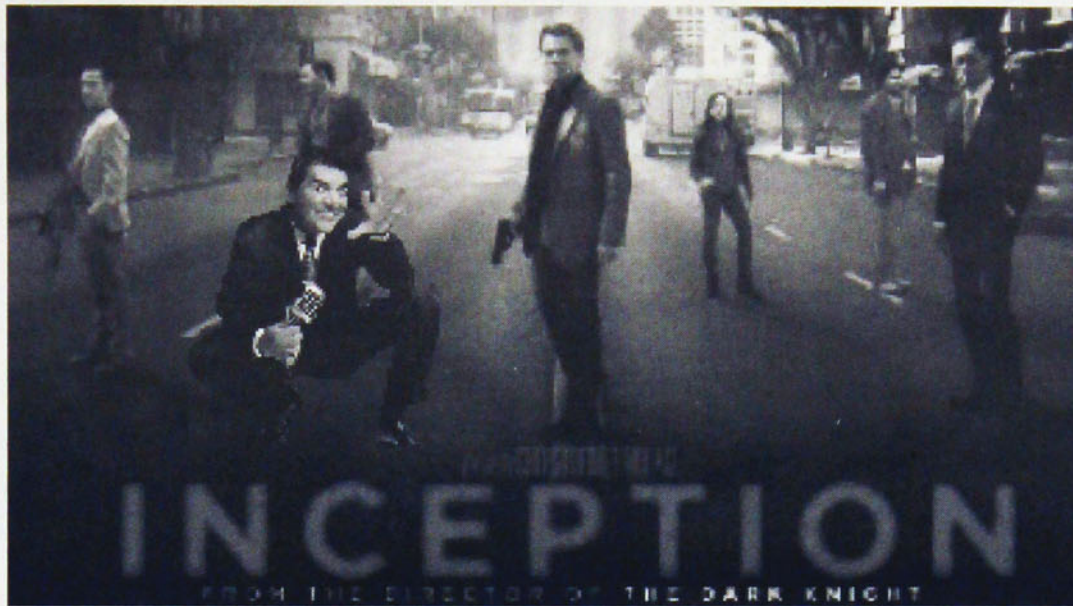
By Charlie Neal

Many of us saw Christopher Nolan's 2010 science fiction thriller *Inception*, in which Leonardo DiCaprio enters the dreams of Cillian Murphy (played by Scarecrow) in order to plant an idea into his head. These implanted ideas take such deep root into the dreamer's mind that his own wife who he incepted earlier commits suicide. The DREAM act is a lot like *Inception* in that it's name is relevant. Also, supporters and opponents of the act have views so unwavering that many (none) have called for Leonardo DiCaprio's arrest.

Unlike the movie, however, the act is relatively straightforward rather than the clumsy premise of Nolan's film. The bill allows for illegal immigrants who came here before the age of sixteen, and have lived here for five consecutive years or more to apply for residency status. These applicants are given "conditional residency," during which period they must prove that they have graduated from an American High School or received a GED from an American institution, have been an individual of good moral character since entering the county as determined by the Department of Homeland Security, have undergone background checks and a medical exam, are not over 29 and have registered for the selective service. They must then either enter an institution of higher education or join the military until receiving a degree or being discharged following two years active service. In addition, applicants must pay the entirety of their application costs and back taxes owed while waiting 12 years before being able to begin sponsoring a direct family member. Unlike previous versions of the bill, applicants will not be able to pay in state

tuition to schools and will not be eligible for Federal Pell grants or any other form of governmental assistance.

Supporters of the bill include the President who has touted the CBO's conclusion that the bill will help cut deficits, the Secretary of Defense, who looks to the act to help



boost military recruitment numbers with the influx of new volunteers, the Secretary of Education, who believes the act will help achieve the United State's higher educational goals, the Secretary of Homeland Security, who believes law enforcement should only focus on illegal immigrants who commit crimes rather than students, and my own personal secretary who upon reading this article was misled to believe that the bill is similar to *Inception*, which she somehow believes is a good film.

Vocal supporters of the bill throughout government and media outlets, however, have failed to explain how the bill has not passed since it was first proposed in 2001 and why it failed again this year. Many point to hate, which though providing a seemingly reasonable explanation, such as those explanations

given to Ellen Page throughout the film *Inception*, fails to explain much of the bill's political shortcomings. For example, the failure of Democrat senators Baucus (MT), Hagan (NC), Nelson (NE), Pryor (AR), Manchin (WV) and Tester (MT) to support the bill, let alone vote for it. In addition, the bill has been proposed twice under Presidents who have supported immigration reform and failed both times.

Senator Jeff Sessions (AR) has argued that much of the bill is deeply flawed and the process of repeatedly bringing new versions to the floor "is an abuse of the process and on that basis alone members ought to oppose cloture." Members of the Department of Homeland Security argue that application for DREAM residency alone, whether or not the application is legitimate, is enough to halt deportation until the application can be

processed, frustrating efforts to enforce immigration laws. Republican opposition insists that the DREAM act be a part of comprehensive immigration reform rather than as a stop-gap pathway to residency, with Sessions stating "We have failed to secure the border, and passage of this legislation would signal to the world that we are not serious about doing so."

For those in support of the DREAM act, they will have to keep waiting for the day this landmark program will pass, while systemically labeling all opposition as hate speech. While those who oppose the bill must now propose immigration reform to assuage a population growing more and more agitated with governmental delays on true reform. Agitated enough to watch *Inception* and think it was good.



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# I Didn't Ask But Feel Free to Tell

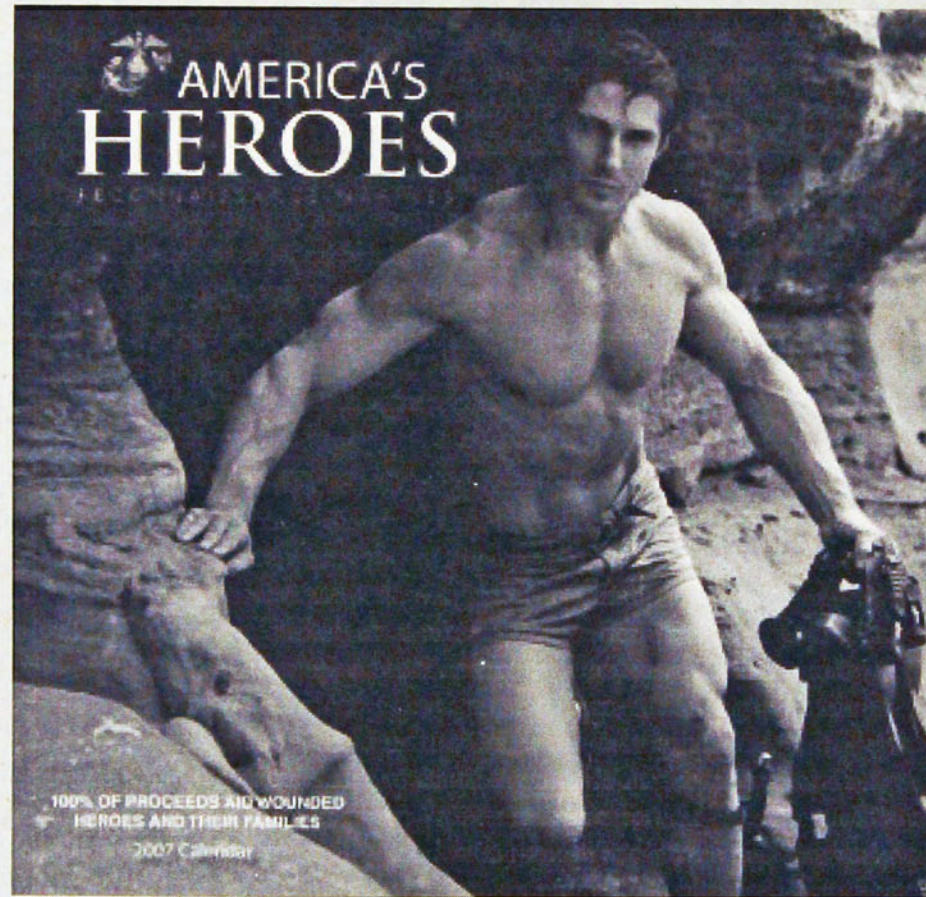
By Frank Thomas

Don't Ask Don't Tell was a progressive policy. Not in the modern political sense of the word, in which "progressive" describes radical social policy suggestions which fail to give thought to actual social or economic consequences, but in the sense that it truly was an improvement, a progression, from its predecessor policy. No, Jim Crow did not rise up and gather together the league of white supremacists for one last battle against the homosexual threat; rather, Democrats and Republicans under President Clinton's lead reached a compromise between the existing ban on homosexual service members and a movement towards allowing openly gay men and women to serve in the military.

2010's DADT repeal was hardly the first attempt of its kind to allow openly gay service members to serve. Before DADT was proposed Clinton had hoped to simply repeal the existing ban, however, he met stiff opposition from his own party members in Congress. Though President Clinton had the support of most Congressional Republicans, he was forced to abandon his goal when Congressional phone lines were swamped with anti-gay callers who insisted on maintaining the ban. As a result, Congress voted to maintain the ban on homosexuals serving in the armed forces largely along partisan lines, with Democrats upholding the ban and Republicans voting against it. As part of the compromise, the Clinton administration issued a directive to the military to withhold any investigations into the sexual orientations of service members. So while openly gay men and women were barred from the military, those who did not disclose their sexual orientation were protected by law from being discharged from the armed forces. And thus the progressive policy we now know as DADT was born.

"But why compromise?" some may ask, "I want my freedoms now!" The answer is simple; steamrolling opposing views is something which only the majority can do to the minority in a Democracy. In 1993, when DADT was passed, only 44 percent of those polled believed gay service members should be allowed to serve at all, with that number changing to nearly 75 percent today. Support for change extends throughout all major political groups and religious denominations, the courts and the Department of Defense. Labeling DADT homophobic reminds me of those critics who

watch John Wayne film's and complain about women's rights and the portrayal of Injuns – the movie is from the 1940's, put your copy of Crash away and try and understand that John Wayne's audience didn't sit around drinking Jamba Juice and reminiscing about their study abroad experiences in Tuscany. Besides, even



**Despite the ridiculousness of this picture, this article is actually pretty serious.**

despite the popular majorities for repeal among the public, more military members oppose the repeal than support it. A 2006 Zogby poll of respondents who had military experience with gays in their unit, 6% said their presence had a positive impact on their personal morale, 66% said no impact, and 28% said that it had a negative impact, but times have changed and those who polled against DADT are the new steamrolled Injuns.

On top of this, freedom has its costs. The phrase is often a condescending truism; however when speaking about adjusting military policy, security, rather than public opinion, should be the number one concern. Brutal attacks on gay service members no doubt speak volumes more about troop moral than polling or arbitrary psychological evaluations ever will. Rhetoric which declares unit moral unaffected by allowing openly gay service members puts shame to DADT's attempts to save gay service members and their families the pain of discrimination.

Take for example the case of Petty Officer Allen Schindler Jr. In October of 1992, Schindler was found dead in a public bathroom in Japan where his ship was harbored. He had been murdered by two shipmates, Terry Helvey and Charles Vins. Though the two shipmates denied that the murder was discriminatory against gays in nature, evidence was presented during the trials that supported the claim that Schindler was targeted for his sexual orientation. DADT was passed in the aftermath of this tragic act, hoping to end the often violent and hateful discriminatory effects that the previous ban's investigations into sexuality had imposed on gays.

At the same time, threatening discharges based on sexuality leaves the gay service members at risk of blackmail by foreign intelligence. At the end of WW2 and into the 1950's, five British spies with access to a plethora of sensitive intelligence defected to the Soviet Union and provided them with everything they knew. Known as the "Cambridge Five," they were responsible for the most damaging intelligence leak in British history. Four of the five were gay servicemen who were blackmailed on that basis. WikiLeak's source PFC Bradley Manning himself reported feeling isolated as a result of his homosexuality under DADT with his friends stating their belief that his "desperation for acceptance" may have prompted his document dump. This puts lives at risk in a very different way with unit moral and cohesion doubtlessly being affected by the demand that members keep secrets from their unit in fear of dishonor.

There is a balance that must be maintained in military decisions. Is it more important to increase recruitment as the DOD would suggest or to increase the efficacy and loyalty of each unit? In today's America, recruitment is the priority in, with DADT discharges shrinking every year since 2001 to make up for failed recruitment quotas. Labeling all those who support DADT homophobic denies this ever shifting balance in American politics and simplifies the complexities of gay relations. For those who really do need a simplification, DADT was birthed by Clinton in 1993 and was buried in 2003 when George W. Bush sent troops into Iraq. The terrible standard which labels DADT homophobic then implies that Clinton was our most anti-gay president while George W. Bush did more for homosexual rights than any president prior.

## Founding Facts



Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze's *Washington Crossing the Delaware* was painted by the German-born American to inspire his fellow German reformers during the European Revolutions of 1848. Portrayed in the picture is not only George Washington but President James Monroe, a black revolutionary and a native American revolutionary. Though the picture contains numerous historic inaccuracies, it conveys Leutze's image of the rugged American revolutionary so well that it has become one of the premier images of the revolution.

## Patriot of the Year

NASR HAMID ABU ZAYD



Though not an American, Egyptian thinker Abu Zayd, who passed away this July, thoroughly exemplified American patriotic values and is the Patriot's Patriot of the year. Abu Zayd wins our accolades for the personal sacrifices he made throughout his life in order to help Muslims bridge their ideologies with those of the modern world, insisting that women's rights, minority rights, human rights, democracy and globalization be an active part of Islam. Maintaining that the current crisis of identity in Islam stems from misunderstandings in the way the Qur'an has been interpreted in the past, Abu Zayd was quick to expose what he saw as flaws in Islamic thought. He saw Islamic fundamentalism not as a product of western civilization's ills, as many even in the United States have come to believe, but rather as a result of political corruption within the Muslim world and broader social goals of demanding that the world live under Islam's rules. For his views Abu Zayd was declared an apostate and divorced from his wife by Egyptian Sharia law, unfairly denied professorship based on his religious views and finally exiled from Egypt. Abu Zayd's trials helped spark a revolution in Muslim thought and helped other liberal thinkers speak out and come forward. Standing up to your own countrymen shows a level of courage and integrity which our founding fathers would have understood well. Abu Zayd died a proud Muslim and proud defender of free thought. No, Abu Zayd was not an American but he died heralding the very causes for which American's have fought and died for for centuries.

"I'm sure that I'm a Muslim. My worst fear is that people in Europe may consider and treat me as a critic of Islam. I'm not. I'm not a new Salman Rushdie, and don't want to be welcomed and treated as such. I'm a researcher. I'm critical of old and modern Islamic thought. I treat the Qur'an as a naṣṣ (text) given by God to the Prophet Muhammad. That text is put into a human language, which is the Arabic language. When I said so, I was accused of saying that the Prophet Muhammad wrote the Qur'an. This is not a crisis of thought, but a crisis of conscience."

## News Abroad

### KOREA

North Korea threatened to strike South Korea again if it went ahead with live fire drills. For days preceding the drills North Korea insisted that retaliation would follow. After South Korea did it, North Korea didn't.

### WORLD CUP

Russia received the 2018 bid whilst Qatar was given the opportunity to host the international event in 2022. With its population of 1.7 million, lack of stadiums, 100 degree weather, lack of a competitive soccer team, relatively low soccer interest and strict restrictions on alcohol, Qatar makes for the perfect world cup hosting site.

### NOBEL PRIZE

Liu Xiaobo was awarded the Nobel peace prize for his peaceful works against China's government. For those works he is currently in prison and was unable to collect the prize and his wife has been placed under house arrest and is also unable to accept the prize in his stead. The Chinese media has failed to report that he won the award and Chinese government failed to acknowledge the award as legitimate but did succeed in creating their own version, the Confucius Peace Prize. The *Beijing Daily* asked why WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange was not given the award. Ironically, WikiLeaks is a banned website in China.

### GILGO KILLER

Four women's bodies were found

in burlap sacks on Gilgo Beach forty minutes from Stony Brook's campus.

### IVORY COAST

Côte d'Ivoire held elections in November between President Laurent Gbagbo and Prime Minister Allassane Ouattara. The elections were peaceful and celebrated as free of corruption. Ouattara was declared the winner 54 to 46 over Gbagbo who then rejected the election and had the country's borders sealed.



### PRINCESS MIDDLETON

Prince William of Wales and Kate Middleton announced their engagement in November. She is known for her keen sense of fashion which has landed her on numerous best dressed lists.

### JULIAN ASSANGE

WikiLeaks editor and founder Ju-

lian Assange was arrested in London for questioning in regards to sexual encounters with two women in Sweden. He is under house arrest on bail for charges of unlawful coercion.

### ITALIAN CONFIDENCE VOTE

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi won a confidence vote in parliament 314-311, which doesn't really show much confidence at all.

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The Emirates Palace hotel in Abu Dhabi has expressed regret over its extravagant spending on an 11 million dollar Christmas tree adorned with gems and gold.

### MEXICO

A massive pipeline blast killed 22 and injured 32 others in Puebla, Mexico. In Juarez, Mexico the murder rate has reached 3000 victims, ten times the rate in 2007. In Michoacan, following a shootout, Mexican police were able to bring down top drug lord Nazario Moreno Gonzalez.

### VENEZUELA

Venezuela's lame-duck National Assembly has granted President Hugo Chavez the power to pass laws by decree for 18 months. Seen largely as a response to the ruling parties losses in the September elections, Chavez has retorted that the power has been granted to him to allow him to respond to recent flooding.

## Who Wore It Better?

The Holiday Sweater



William Henry "Bill" Cosby, Jr.



Glenn Lee Beck

Bill Cosby is often considered to be the father of the modern patterned sweater. Like all things which black people used to do and old people currently do, hipsters have found a new love for the holiday sweater and have brought it back in a big way - so big in fact that Glenn Beck, with whom hipsters share little in common, was spotted donning one of these majestic wool giants. Beck matches his sweater with a button down shirt, top button undone. Despite his seemingly relaxed appearance, his eerily patriotic stitches and demeanor lead one to believe he may start crying at any moment from a love of this nation's founding principles. Cosby wears his sweater with no collar, preventing one from being distracted from the wonderful 80s carpeting designs adorning his sweater. His smile, closed mouthed and wide, speaks volumes as to the comfort of the outfit and the pudding that could be behind those lips. In the end, Bill Cosby brings the casual sweater look together with flawless lack of attention. The father of the sweater continues to be its greatest steward.

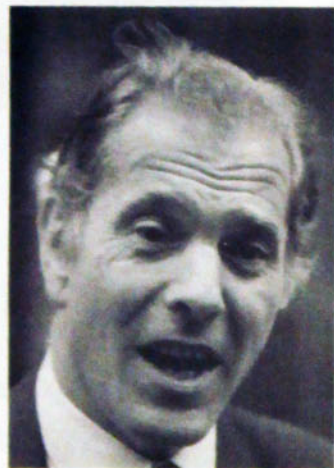
# The Matching Game

Match the Man to His Words

1. "In the White House you can either be on the pitcher's mound or in the catcher's position."
2. "I don't know that all of you are Latino. Some of you look a little more Asian to me."
3. "Obviously, we gotta stand with our North Korean allies."
4. "God rest her soul. Wait...Your mom's still alive? Your dad passed? God *bless* her soul."
5. "I am not a witch. I'm you."
6. "We're going to have a system where the middle classes are discouraged from breeding because it's jolly expensive."
7. "God, what is that hair? Soooo yesterday."
8. "It's my life. It's now or never. I ain't gonna live forever. I just wanna live while I'm alive. 'Cause it's my life"
9. "Bring a chicken to the doctor."
10. "There's a very attractive girl in the second row, dark... and dusky. We'll maybe put a wee word out for her. She's got that Filipino look. You know... the kind you'd see in a Gauguin painting. There's a wee bit of culture."



A)Sharon Angle



B)MP Howard Flight



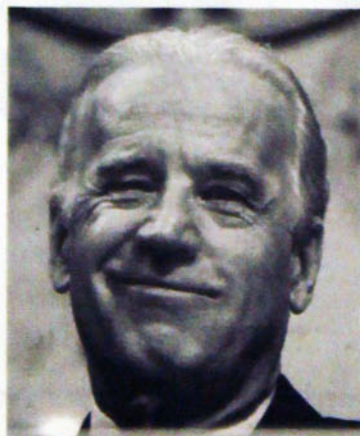
C)Rahm Emanuel



D)Christine O'Donnell



E)Sarah Palin



F)VP Joe Biden



G)MP Frank McAveety



H)Sue Lowden



I)Carly Fiorina



J)Jon Bon Jovi

Answers: 1)C 2)A 3)E 4)F 5)D 6)B 7)I 8)J 9)H 10)G



## The Last Word

BE ALWAYS AT WAR WITH  
YOUR VICES, AT PEACE  
WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS,  
AND LET EACH NEW YEAR  
FIND YOU A BETTER MAN.  
-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



Sir I wanna  
buy these  
shoes. For  
my momma  
please.