

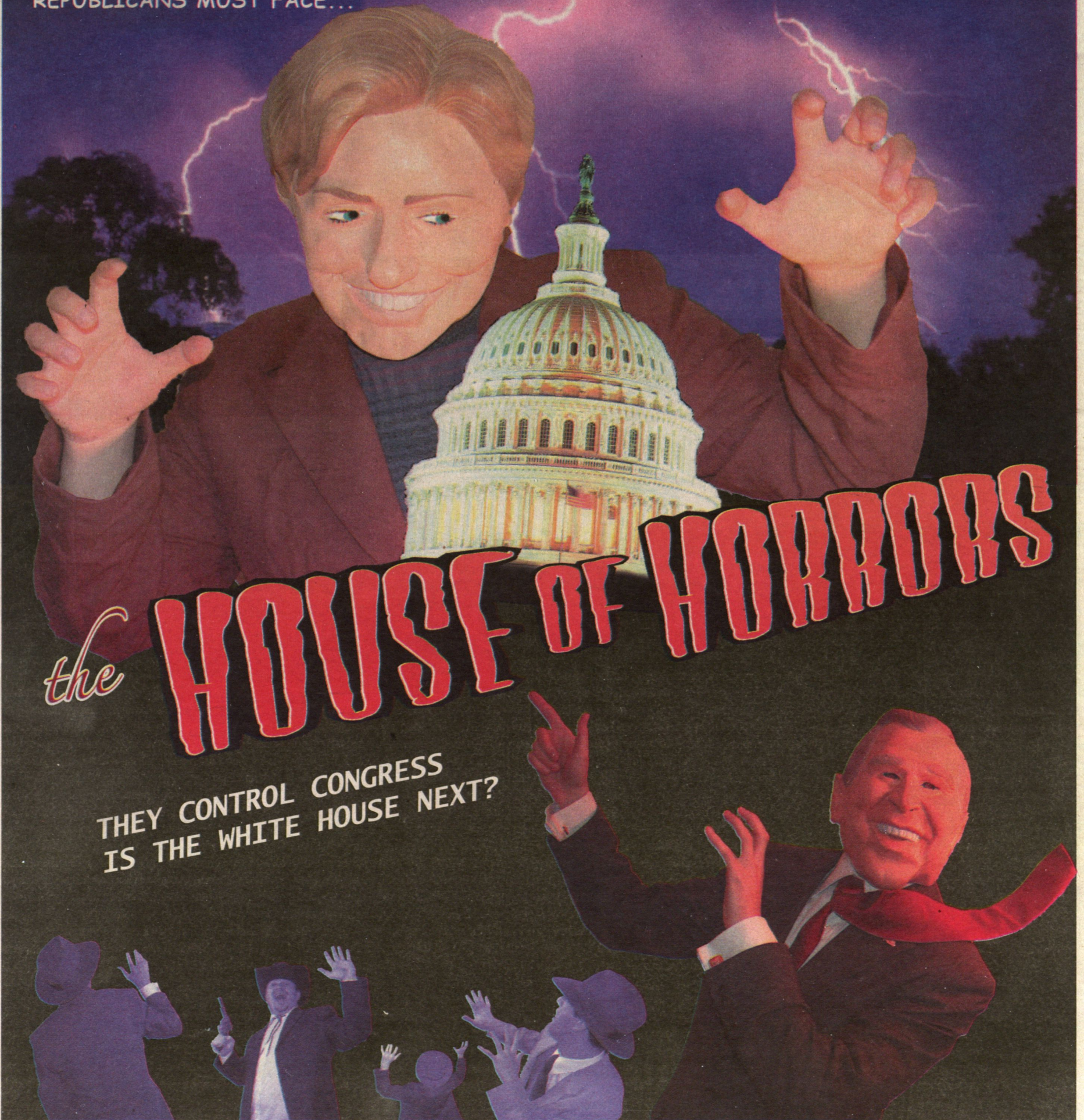
# The Patriot

Vol. 3 Issue 3

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December 2006

THE DEMOCRATS WON ON  
ELECTION DAY. NOW THE  
REPUBLICANS MUST FACE...



THEY CONTROL CONGRESS  
IS THE WHITE HOUSE NEXT?

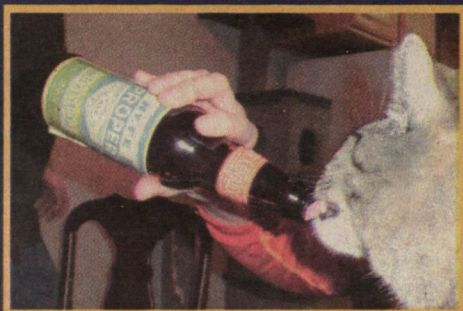


## THIS ISSUE



The Democrats Won Congress, But Will it be Hillary in 2008?

Page 10



The Legal Drinking Age: The Battle Rages on

Page 11

### Election 2006 Analysis

A Special Patriot Section on the Implications of the Recent Election

Page 4

### Gamer's Guide Returns!

Battle Between PS3 and Nintendo Wii, Plus Xbox 360 Reviews

Page 8

New! The Liberal You Love to Hate

Page 7

WTF?! Picture of the Month Returns!

Page 15

# Veterans Day Ceremony Sees Record-Breaking Attendance



Photo courtesy of Esther Kwon.

By Drew Curran

Stony Brook held its 10th annual Veterans Day ceremony on Wednesday November 8. The ceremony was one small way the Stony Brook community could honor the service of all of America's veterans.

The Office of Veterans Affairs, the Veterans Student Organizations and the other organizations worked very hard on the ceremony and their efforts paid off.

The attendance at the ceremony was the most in its history and all the speakers commented on this favorably.

The ceremony opened with a presentation of colors that was flawlessly executed. Then the national anthem was sung along with more music by the Stony Brook Red Hot Marching Band.

After the musical presentation there were inspirational speeches by New York State Assemblyman Steven Englebright and the keynote speaker Brigadier General

Michael Schweze. He gave a speech on his military career in the National Guard which was highlighted by his time spent in Iraq in 2004.

The ceremony was concluded by all the speakers receiving plaques and a well deserved round of applause for all the veterans in the audience. Even though it might be hard to see it sometimes, the patriotic spirit of the Stony Brook community is still alive and well.

# The Patriot

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**Our Mission:** The goal of *The Patriot* is to offer an alternative point of view to the students of Stony Brook University. It is a paper dedicated to raising awareness of student issues on campus, and conservative/libertarian issues on the national scene. While it does not actively seek controversy, *The Patriot* strives to offer opinions and news that will encourage the students of this campus to ask themselves what their true values are. It is dedicated to building upon and fostering the conservative and libertarian views that are strong among so many of us, yet suppressed in our community. But ideology aside, all of our news will be bound to three standards; we will always be *factual, sensible, and reasonable*.

Send questions and comments to [info@stonybrookpatriot.com](mailto:info@stonybrookpatriot.com)

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



# Illegal Immigrants Receive In-State Tuition

By Nathan Shapiro

Among other honors, Stony Brook was ranked as the 10th best public university in the United States by US News & Review. It is therefore little surprise that it attracts local students seeking reasonable college tuition as well as students from out-of-state and from around the world. But what may come as a surprise is that while out-of-state students pay more than twice as much as in-state residents, illegal immigrants living in the State of New York receive standard in-state tuition.

In 1996, the Congress passed the "Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act," which prohibited states from granting in-state tuition benefits to illegal immigrants unless the same benefits were extended to all Americans. The law often went unheeded in New York State until a 2001 review by CUNY officials discovered their tuition policy violated federal law and was temporarily suspended. With the support of Governor Pataki, however, a 2002 law re-extended in-state tuition benefits to illegal immigrants.

According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, 10 states have granted illegal immigrants in-state tuition benefits

contrary to the spirit of federal legislation. New York, like other states, avoid penalty by not asking students their immigration status. Rather they base their tuition rates on whether they graduated from a New York high school. New York also requires applicants who are eligible to sign an affidavit that they will apply for legal immigration status.

Opponents claim that because the number of available slots at universities is limited and tuition costs are rising, the law is unfairly favoring the interests of illegal immigrants over those of Americans or legal residents.

"I felt a little upset," Virginia Morgan, a resident of Pennsylvania and recent graduate of Stony Brook University, told The Patriot when she learned about New York's policy. "I spent roughly \$37,012 out of pocket for my three years at Stony Brook," she added, "yet people who have entered this country illegally and chose to remain in this country illegally paid far less than me, simply because they chose to illegally reside in New York State."

Supporters of granting illegal immigrants in-state tuition argue that minors should not be punished for their status, and that extending such benefits will help integrate immigrants into the American economy by giving them college educa-



Photo courtesy of Jimmy Davis.

tion they would otherwise be unable to afford.

However, despite fears that tuition increases would deter illegal aliens from pursuing their post-secondary education, when CUNY schools temporarily charged such

students nonresident tuition in the spring of 2002, re-enrollment for illegal immigrants did not drop beyond normal levels.

A bill introduced by Assemblyman Bill Crouch (R-Guilford) earlier this year would go a step

further and exclude all illegal aliens from admittance to public universities in New York. Neither that bill, nor its counterpart in the New York Senate, have been acted upon for several months and are not likely to be passed into law.

## Village Police in Suffolk Breaking the Law?

By Alexander Ott

In case you missed this one, the local police need to be policed. A class action lawsuit was filed and settled in U.S. District Court between Robert M. Coco and similarly situated persons and the New York Village of Belle Terre over this past summer. The lawsuit claimed that the Belle Terre Constable and/or police department issued speeding and other moving violation tickets under their authority as police enforcement agents. If you thought that they have the authority to write those tickets that put points on your drivers license, you would be incorrect.

The District Court decided that incorporated village police departments do not have the authority to write tickets for moving violation infractions. In fact, those village police departments in Suffolk County ceded their authority to the Suffolk County Police Department when the department was created in 1958. They can however issue parking and code violations within their jurisdiction. This does not rule out receiving tickets from State Police, Park Rangers or Suffolk Police whom are hired by some incorporated villages to write tickets: those tickets, I'm afraid are all legitimate... sorry.



If you had received a ticket in an incorporated village from a village police department you would have been able to receive some compensation for your troubles, but the time to file a claim has run out. You can, however, speak to the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles about

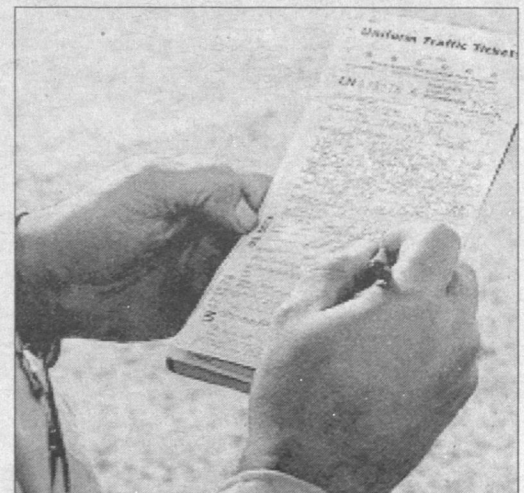
any points that accrued on your license. Some incorporated villages such as Port Jefferson and Islandia actually hire Suffolk County Police to write tickets for their towns and you actually have to go to their traffic courts to pay the fines. So heads-up people: be careful on the roads out there.

## Possible Loophole to Avoid Points on Your Driver License

By Alexander Ott

If you get stopped for a traffic moving violation, you may be able to avoid the points on your license! Yes...It is TRUE. Here's how it works... You get a ticket for let's say speeding and plead guilty, you then send in your ticket and payment to the traffic court, but don't pay the amount listed. You should pay a couple of dollars. So... If the ticket says pay \$75, pay \$82, they would have to issue you a refund. When your refund check arrives DO NOT CASH IT! This will insure that the system never completes the transaction and updates the database with your points. It will register that

you have paid your fine and no points will count on your license. I have done some research on this and it appears to work in all 50 states! The company that wrote the software is aware of the problem but the states do not seem to care to fix it since most people just pay the exact amount indicated on the fine!





# Special Section: The Patriot's

## The Democrats Win Congress: A Conservative's Dream?

### Divided Government May be the Solution to the Big Government Republicanism that has Plagued the Current Administration and Congress

By Erik Berte

After throwing large objects around the room, banging one's head against the wall, and sobbing while sitting on the floor of a stand-up shower eating cookies, one starts to think of the positives that could possibly come out of the 2006 election. Sure, the Republicans have lost the majority in the House and the Senate, but trust me, not all is lost, especially for those libertarian-leaning Republicans. Introducing a new tool to curb federal spending: divided government.

Many conservatives can't stand the shenanigans that went on during Clinton's presidency and the disgrace it brought to the White House, but believe it or not, those might have been some of the best years this country has seen, at least from a fiscal conservative's point of view.

The truth is, when the same party controls the executive and legislative branches, it seems that all we get is trouble. We've seen it time and again with Democrats and recently we've seen it even with Republicans, who are supposed to stand for limited government, but have somehow increased the size of our federal government at a rate nearly as fast as the ultra-leftist Lyndon Johnson with his "Great Society" and accompanying programs.



Proposed location for the infamous Alaskan "Bridge to Nowhere." Pork projects like this will likely be more difficult to pass under a divided government.

On the other hand, during times of divided government (when different parties controlled different branches), like the last six years of the Clinton administration, for example, government growth slowed great-

ly. The idea is that little will get done, which is unfortunate, but seems necessary to halt federal expansion into our everyday lives. So if the Democrat-controlled Con-

gress tries to really implement this new agenda they have, they'll face a ton of resistance not only from the Senate, which still holds 49 Republicans, but also from President Bush who, of course, still has the power to veto legislation. At the same time, Republicans who are trying to pass legislation will have a difficult time getting the necessary support they need from the new Democratic majority in the House.

Again, it's unfortunate that the only way to preserve what's left of our limited government is to tie our representatives' hands, but if that's what's necessary, then we really can't complain. Ideally, many of the fiscal conservatives would have liked the Republicans to keep their promise of real change with their control of both branches, but instead they broke them by expanding Medicare (even though it could barely be afforded before), failing to prevent pork barrel legislation (think of the bridge in Alaska), and failing to implement the reforms that were on their agenda (like social security and taxation).

So this is what it comes to now. The voters have slapped them in the face and as a result they've lost the power they've been accustomed to and abused over the last six years. We can only hope now that we'll see the same good times that we did back in the nineties thanks to this divided government.

## GOP Got what it Deserved

By Conor Harrigan

The Republicans, as they deserved to, lost the House of Representatives and the Senate, which will leave President Bush, alone in the dark.

Why did they lose? Because they became complacent. They took their supporters for granted and were too lethargic in their actions. They did not properly articulate their plans to the American people. They strayed from their conservative principles and spent like drunken sailors. They abandoned the base that put them there.

Now, the DemoNcrats control Congress. What can we expect? Well, there will be no aggressive stance or action on illegal immigration. I will expect them to pressure the president to pull us out of Iraq with our tails between our legs, leave behind millions of Iraqis who voted for something new; leaving them to the hands of those who slaughter. We can also look forward to the DemoNcrats pushing for repealing the tax cuts, or pushing to up taxes.

Where is the silver lining? She is there and she shines brightly. The DemoNcrats must now prove themselves. After six years of absolute whining, and providing no alternative plans, the party of partial-birth abortions, anti-military attitudes, and higher taxes must now show themselves to be worth something.

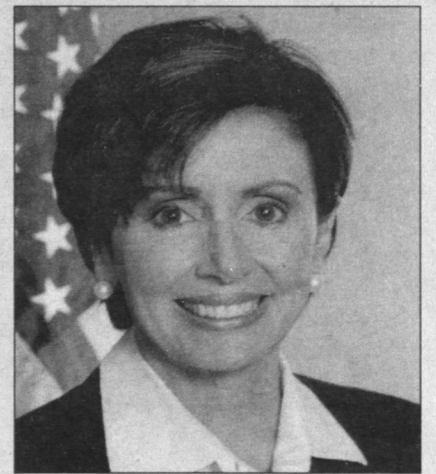
This, my friends, is a silver lining because it will show the American people just who this party is, just in time for the '08 elections. Myself and other Americans on the right can now shift to the offensive. We can examine every move the DemoNcrats make with an electron microscope. We can expose them. We have only two years to change momentum. The race for president will begin in coming months.

Despite the fact that San-Francisco liberalism has taken hold of our bicameral institutions, conservatism is not dead. Many DemoNcrats had to shift to the right to win. In North Carolina, for example, Heath Schuler won as a Democrat with conservative values; pro-gun, anti-tax, and

anti-abortion. Multiple conservative ballots won across the country. Conservatism is far from dead. However, as with any defeat, accept it wholly, and prove ourselves to be MORE mature than the limp-wristed lefties and democrats who cried, and still cry "THEFT!" after the 2000 and 2004 elections.

We must take this loss and learn. We cannot, like Michael Moore, sit for days wondering "What happened?" Unlike the DemoNcrats after 2004, asking ourselves over and over where we went wrong, we know what wrong was done, and we know how to fix it.

Despite my silver lining, I still fear. I fear inaction. I fear the 1990's coming again. I fear a pre-September 11th, 2001 attitude from the DemoNcrats in a post 9/11 world. I fear the elixir of DemoNcrats and Islamic extremism mixing. I fear the chemical reaction that will propagate from such an unfortunate event. Although I am not in hysterics, I am deeply concerned because in light of these times, lives ARE at stake.



San Francisco liberalism is not what Americans are looking for.

We cannot look back on November 7th, 2006, as a loss. In two years the storm of presidential caucuses and elections will come, and we must have the strength, vision, fortitude, and foresight to overcome it. We must overcome this storm because there is a stronger system brewing on the oceans of our horizon. It is crossing the Atlantic and we must be ready. This storm is Islamic extremism.



# Election 2006 Analysis

## Midterm Election Results and Basic Economics in Brief

By Scott Silsbe

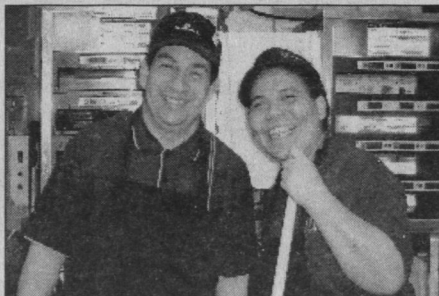
If you read my previous article then you already know I didn't bother voting. Or maybe I did? Can you tell the difference? I doubt it; because there isn't any. But that is besides the point. To be honest I was hoping the Democrats would only take one house of Congress; that way there might have been serious legislative gridlock. It's of course always preferable that our politicians get bogged down in bickering debate as opposed to actually enacting legislation; because at this late period of the republic anything they manage to accomplish must necessarily represent an infringement on our liberties, and/or the destruction of our economic well being. As to the actual results of the elections, I'll cross my fingers and hope for two years of Presidential vetoes.

The fact is that this election only represents an ever so slight shift in the legislature. Its character is now authoritarian with a slight hint of democratic socialism, as opposed to economic fascism. The National Security State will go on, as will our newest war for eternal peace. Moreover, the Welfare State will likely increase in size; though it was already doing so under Republican control, so no change there. Thus the nuances of exactly how the American people are plundered have

changed; though the violation yet continues.

I suppose I should talk about a least one of the more basic economic imbecilities we have to look forward to at the hands of the Democratic Congress. With a mandate that is apparently strong enough to rewrite the laws of nature, they seek to create economic prosperity and enrich the American people by increasing the national minimum wage. Yes I know this the minimum wage has been done to death; but I have other papers to write and this has always been easiest bit of government claptrap to refute. Thus: a mandated 'minimum wage' as a harbinger of economic well being is an absurdity. A given wage is contingent on the marginal productivity of the worker in question; end of story. Simply mandating that a person be paid more for the same amount of work will result in no economic benefit for the economy. Either the entrepreneur will raise prices to make up for the extra costs, thereby impoverishing everyone, or those workers who are not productive enough to be employed profitably at the higher wage rate will be fired.

The economist Murray N. Rothbard said it best in his *Making Economic Sense*, "[The minimum wage is] compulsory unemployment, period. The law says: it is illegal, and therefore criminal, for any one to hire anyone else below the level of X dollars an hour. This



means, plainly and simply, that a large number of free and voluntary wage contracts are now outlawed and hence that there will be a large amount of unemployment. Remember that the minimum wage law provides no jobs; it only outlaws them; and outlawed jobs are the inevitable result."

Luckily, the Democrats aren't stupid enough to attempt a raise in the minimum wage of any more than a few cents at any given time. Though if their logic does hold, one wonders why they don't simply raise it to \$10 or \$20 or \$100 an hour? We aren't dealing with complete imbeciles, and thus we are unlikely to see any serious economic strife with a minimum wage hike; though a few wage earners will feel it as they are priced out of the job market: those who are relatively unproductive, have few skills and can least afford to go without employment for long.

## Election Results

(In Case You've Been Living in that Cave with Osama bin Laden for the Last Month)

And the winners are...

U.S. Senate:  
Hillary Rodham Clinton (D)

Governor:  
Eliot Spitzer (D)

U.S. House - District 1:  
Timothy Bishop (D)

U.S. House - District 2:  
Steve J. Israel (D)

U.S. House - District 3:  
Peter T. King (R)

State Senate - District 2:  
John J. Flanagan (R)

State Senate - District 3:  
Caesar Trunzo (R)

State Assembly - District 4:  
Steve Englebright (D)

State Assembly - District 7:  
Michael J. Fitzpatrick (R)

## Power Politics Democratic Party Style

By Alexander Ott

Since the beginning of the campaign season for the mid-term elections, certain scandals have come out of the beltway as the bastard children of politics. These scandals that make headlines are directed by the liberal media at the Republicans in power, but more importantly are a direct attack on the leadership of this country and our international policies around the globe.

One of these alleged scandals challenges the very fabric of our national security; the "blame-everybody-but-Valerie-Plame-and-Joe-Wilson" game! We have been hearing about the CIA leak case around Washington DC for the past year or so when it was much ado about nothing. This grand spectacle and illusion conjured up by the Democratic party and party insiders, Joe Wilson and his wife Valerie Plame, has basically come to an abrupt and foregone conclusion; NOTHING CRIMINAL HAPPENED! So here's the run-down on how this case and power politics works inside the beltway, and it reads like a who's who in Washington political circles and has all of the trappings of a good spy novel, except this is real!

Joe Wilson, the former Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq from 1988 to 1991 and the husband of Valerie Plame was sent to Niger on a trip

arranged by the CIA to research Sadaam Hussein's attempt to acquire Yellowcake Uranium. By purchasing Yellowcake a country can skip a step in the enrichment process in order to produce weapons-grade uranium for nuclear bombs, hence the urgency of finding out whether Sadaam Hussein was purchasing or about to purchase this material from Niger. The Italian Intelligence Service was in possession of documents that claimed to show evidence of this attempt by Hussein, and they informed the British and American intelligence agencies. The British government then concluded that Iraq was interested in purchasing Yellowcake from Niger, and Joe Wilson came back and filed a report that included evidence that the Prime Minister Mayki of Niger was asked in June of 1999 to meet with an Iraqi delegation to begin "expanding commercial relations." The Congressional Intelligence Committee had also concluded this at the time of the trip and before the president's State of the Union address, which clearly mentions the British intelligence reports that it was "reasonable to assess" Iraq's intent. After the State of the Union, Joe Wilson wrote an op-ed piece in the New York Times discrediting the statement that Iraq tried to acquire Yellowcake from Niger. This starts the "Bush lied" campaign by the Democrats and the John Kerry

campaign, who use this phrase in Internet chat rooms to challenge the Bush Administration's claim to Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

With the 2004 election season about to gear up, Wilson's wife is ousted as a CIA agent by Robert Novak in his column in July 2003. It is against the law to name a covert CIA agent and we now know that the alleged leaker, Richard Armitage said he assumed Plame's job was not a secret because it was included in a State Department memo. The memo, dated June 10, 2003, in which two government sources included a paragraph with Plame's name as, "Valerie Plame Wilson," had no indication that she was undercover or that her identity was protected. To that extent nothing even remotely abnormal happened. The Wilsons were also very involved in the Democratic Party innercircles of Washington politics. Since this alleged scandal had fallen apart, the Wilsons had filed a law suit in Federal Court seeking damages for their financial losses and missed career opportunities. I guess they didn't lose that much, being that they contributed money to John Kerry's election campaign, signed book deals, and published op-eds in the New York Times for personal financial gain, all the while jeopardizing the national security of the United States. Who

will create a lawsuit blaming them for our loss of national security!?! The most striking problem with this Plame-game is the threat to our national security that runs much deeper than this alleged CIA or State Department leak. The new name of the politics game in Washington should be connect-the-dots, and here's how it goes...

During the Clinton administration Joe Wilson served on the National Security Council with Mary McCarthy from 1997 to 1998. In 1998 the "top-secret memo stuffing in my pants" National Security Advisor Sandy Berger appointed Mary McCarthy as the Senior Director for Intelligence Programs. Mary McCarthy is the person who leaked the CIA secret prison story to Dana Priest of the Washington Post. Dana Priest is married to William Goodfellow who is the Executive Director of The Center for International Policy who collaborated with Joe Wilson on the Iraq Policy Information Project. What these two organizations' goals are is to undermine United States foreign policy around the globe. This is probably the biggest threat to our national security besides the fundamental Islamic terrorists. They are a secret government within our own government undermining our national security and using

Continued on page 12



# December In History Who is Rabbi Adam?

## December 5, 1946

President Harry Truman creates the Committee on Civil Rights. Among its recommendations is the establishment of a permanent Civil Rights Commission and Fair Employment Practices Commission and federal protection against lynching.

## December 7, 1941

The Imperial Empire of Japan attacked the U.S. Naval installation at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The United States declares war on Japan the next day.

## December 10, 1906

Teddy Roosevelt becomes the first American to win the Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating an end to the Russo-Japanese War. On the same date in 1931, Jane Addams becomes the first American woman to win the prize.

## December 11, 1961

The first delivery of U.S. military equipment with 400 personnel arrives in South Vietnam.

## December 15, 1791

The Bill of Rights, the first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution, is ratified.

## December 21, 1956

Civil Rights leaders end a yearlong bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, after the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a lower court decision banning segregation on city buses.

## December 23, 1776

Thomas Paine publishes the first of his series entitled, *The American Crisis*, which opens with the words "These are the times that try men's souls."

## December 25, 1776

George Washington and his troops cross the Delaware River to attack Hessian forces in Trenton, N.J. The Americans capture the city on the next day.



## December 29, 1851

The first chapter of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) is organized in Boston.

Although I don an untrimmed beard, wear a black hat and am called "Rabbi," I actually grew up as the average American. My childhood consisted of television cartoons, school lunches and playing kickball. As I got older, and entered high school, I searched to join a social clique, find a girlfriend and maintain an active social life that was pretty much divided between going to the movies, hanging out and occasional parties. If I thought life was great, once I got to college, life got even greater. In being that I grew up in the Boston area, the natural thing to do was to enroll in the University of Massachusetts, UMass at Amherst. For an eighteen-year-old, UMass was a dream come true: 30,000 students, all between the ages of 18 and 25, all living within walking distance of campus, and a police fleet consisting of only 30 patrol cars! In short, the rule of thumb was — you can do whatever you want. And that meant: party, party, party.

For the studious who wanted to maintain a certain grade point average, partying was to only be done Thursday through Saturday nights. For the less studious, parties could very well be every night. For at UMass, you could always find something going on. And this was besides all the nightly bands, the bars on Main Street and the infinite lecture and movie series forever being hosted by the university's clubs and academic departments. Indeed, at UMass you could more than double major in socializing.

Have you ever seen a 1000 person snowball fight? Well, that's UMass for ya'. It was like a tradition. As soon as the first major snow fall allowed for one to make a snow ball, one dormitory quad would take on another quad in a massive snowball fight. And then, as the rules of mob rule would slowly take over, one half of campus would engage the other half in a massive snow ball fight. Of course someone would always have to ruin all the fun by starting more than just a snowball fight. In such instances, a few fists would fly and others would start hiding rocks in the middle of their snowballs. As a matter of course, someone almost always would get hurt. And then the police would come, and people would get arrested. But hey, that was just the way it was at UMass — never a dull moment.

At UMass people were always demonstrating. Whatever the cause, you always had a couple of hundred of people out there with a sign pushing their views on everyone else. Most demonstrations were quite peaceful, however, sometimes the more radical groups thought they would make their point by taking over a building in protest. In my four years at UMass I witnessed two building take-overs. I was really upset, because just the year before, the students had taken over the administration building and I missed seeing the state police storm in, bash heads and take everyone away in hand-cuffs. In contrast to this, the two building take-overs during my years were quite peaceful. One was organized by a certain minority group who wanted more rights on campus. They pretty much holed themselves up in the building. The university responded by cutting off all power, water and electricity, and in the end, a compromise was worked out and everything ended pretty peacefully. A year or so later, one of the left-wing groups on campus found out that one of the labs in the ten story graduate building was doing some sort of research that had some kind of indirect association with chemical warfare. Needless to say, they took that one over too. They had it for about a week until all negotiations fell thru and the university called in the state police riot squad. I was walking to another class at the time, and I figured that I would check out the scene, just to see what was going on. Bingo!

I got there just in time to see everyone being dragged out by hand-cuffs! Just my luck!

It was hard to get a good view, as the riot police had made a half-circle around the building while holding back a crowd of 600 or so. All those arrested were loaded onto a police bus. At the time, in my mind, I was thinking: "This is so cool." And then everything changed. Someone screamed out, "Don't let the bus go!" People started laying down in front of the bus. Others starting taunting and tugging at the state police troopers. Suddenly people started to get hit, others started to scream, and in short, everyone went into a frenzied panic. Seeing this was definitely not my cause, I managed to get away from the riot unscathed. I still have a vivid memory of the College Republican club standing on a hill nearby encouraging the police to "hit 'em again!" But hey, that was just the way it was at UMass — never a dull moment.

Our student senate was nuts. Every wing of the political spectrum had their own party represented in the student government. Even the UMass communist party had some seats in the senate. Not only did the senate vote about student funds and services, the senate was often embroiled in making crazy proclamations about various world events. But hey, that was just the way it was at UMass — never a dull moment.

The dorming situation was not in the least bit any less exciting than the rest of campus. Each quad was built to create a different atmosphere based on their architectural design. One quad consisted of quaint brick buildings covered with ancient ivy. Another quad must have been set up for those who would have wanted to go to school in Manhattan, as it consisted of 5500 students who lived within 3 make-shift city blocks that contained five 26-story dormitory towers. And this is a campus that is otherwise surrounded by cornfields! Somehow, someone periodically organized "tower-wars." Each tower would be assigned to a certain FM radio station, and at a given time of the day or night, every one in each tower would blast their stereos full-blast on their respective stations. Then, as if to top it off, there was another dorm that had been successfully taken over by "hippies". Somehow, through roommate switches and the like, "hippies" had taken over the management of one of the dorm buildings such that you couldn't even hope to get a room there unless you were a guy with long hair or a girl with short hair or some other combination of the like. I remember that they had a very strict non-alcohol policy (if you know what I mean.)

So now, one must ask, if I was the type of person who would so thoroughly enjoy a campus such as UMass, what the heck happened? Why in the world am I now donning an untrimmed beard, wearing a black hat and am being called "Rabbi"?

Well, one wouldn't know this unless they experienced it — but having fun is not everything. I mean, how much can you laugh at the same old jokes? How many parties can you attend? How much hanging out can one really do? You know, after awhile, fun gets beat. You can only do it for so long, and then it gets stale.

To tell you the truth, in all my years at UMass, I never really had this feeling. For the fun had yet to get "stale" and I had yet to grow up. However, nevertheless, deep down inside, I knew the party scene was not "it." This was not the bases upon which I would lead my life.

I never was a particularly religious person, but then again, I wasn't really a die-hard atheist either. My family went to synagogue exactly two times a year — for Rosh Hashana



and Yom Kippur. And you know, I didn't really do a good job in synagogue either. I found it pretty boring. That's not to say that I didn't have a relationship with some higher being that I called "G-d." I did, sort of.

Once, when I was twelve, my dental hygienist found a cavity. It was my first and I was petrified. She said that before she did anything, she would have to consult with the dentist to get a second opinion. As soon as she left the room I started to pray like never before. I turned my heart "upwards" and prayed that I wouldn't have a cavity and that the dentist would say that it was nothing. I even resolved to pay better attention in Hebrew School, stop driving my teacher nuts and, for at least two weeks, not try to fake a bathroom trip in order to get out of class. I don't know if it was due to a miracle, or not, but my dentist double checked and found no cavities. However, just in case there was a G-d who was listening, I kept to my promises. I acted better in Hebrew School.

A similar thing once happened when I was even younger. I think I was ten. The neighbors asked me to take care of their cat. I was to fill his bowl once a day, let him out of the house in the morning, and let him back in the house at night. I was to do this for a week, and then they would return from their vacation. I don't know what happened, but for a couple of days I was very good. And then, for a couple of days, I just forgot. By the time I remembered, my neighbors were due back the next day. I quickly ran to the house. It would have been okay if all I forgot to do was to let out the cat in the morning. For at least he would have been kept safe in the house. However, such was my luck, I forgot to let the cat back in at night. I looked all over for him, but to no avail. This cat was just not around. I started to panic. What if the cat never returned? What if he was dead? With this, I started to cry. Besides the incident with the dentist, this was my only other attempt at prayer. I lifted my heart "upwards" and prayed that G-d should return my neighbor's cat. And just like my experience at the dentist, I resolved to be better the only way I know how — I would be a better student in Hebrew School and do all my Hebrew language homework. Low and behold, no sooner had I stopped praying, but that cat meowed right behind me. As happy as that cat was to see me, I was happier to see him.

Neither of these prayer experiences changed my life or left me a strong believer. For after all, I was only a kid. However, forever in my heart I knew that there was something else making the world tick. And thus, after a couple of years of intensive partying at UMass, one night my plans fell through. It's bound to happen some time. For some reason, one night, my friends were just nowhere to be found. Phones weren't being answered. I had no idea where everyone went.

In college, the worst thing that could happen to someone is to be condemned to spend a weekend night alone. Especially a Friday night. It's the worst. For after all, aren't Friday nights made for going out? Well, that may very well be the case for the rest of the world, but that one particular Friday night I was stuck. No friends. No social life. No party.

Continued on page 13



**Alex Ovtcharenko, World's No. 1 Man's Man, Says:**

**“Don't Be Half A Man!”**

*Alex O*



Due to circumstances outside my control, which mainly consist of my increasingly hermit-like existence and lack of Un-Manliness in my life, I will not impart my vast radiant pool of Man Knowledge upon you this month. Plus, I'm too busy to try to fix your pathetic lives. Instead, this will be a tribute. A very special tribute to a very special man. A Man who has contributed greatly to teaching those around him how to be a Real Man. And that Great man is none other than Married With Children's Al Bundy himself.

He has taught us many lessons over the years. Let us ponder on some of these wisdoms that He has imparted upon us.

**On equality in sports:**

“If God had wanted women to play ball, he would've made them men.”

**On parenting:**

“Guys may come and guys may go, but daddy's always daddy... well, at least until he jumps a freight train.”

**On other cultures:**

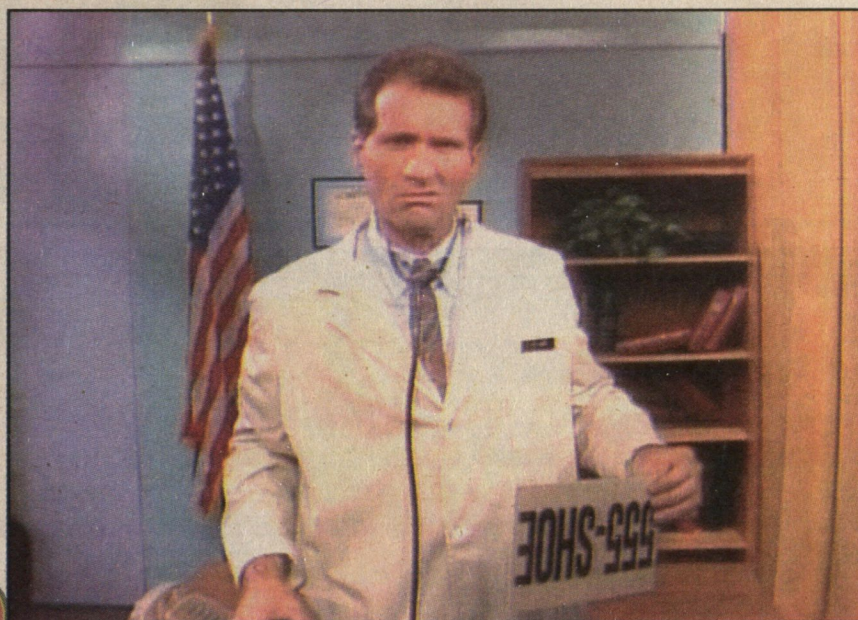
“She's got you shaking like a Frenchman in a thunderstorm.”

**On the supernatural:**

“The only power I sensed was that of the mighty forces unleashed by beans.”

**On fine arts:**

“The opera isn't over until the last het-



erosexual falls asleep.”

**On monogamy:**

“It gets better each time as long as it's never with the same woman.”

He also spoke on the One True Reason this column exists: Manliness. Below are what I'd like to think are the gems that were the true inspiration for my life's work.

**One:** “I'm going to find a real man. One who likes girls and hates women.”

**Two:** “In order for a house to be a home, only a man can make the rules.”

**And His final words to behold:** “That's what being a man is like: making mistakes and not caring.”

**Happy Holidays and Stay Manly!**

**Warning: This column should not be read by those who are easily offended and/or too dumb to realize that this article's not meant to be taken seriously.**

**ALMOST CENSORED**

**The Liberal You Love to Hate**

By Nicholas Katchen

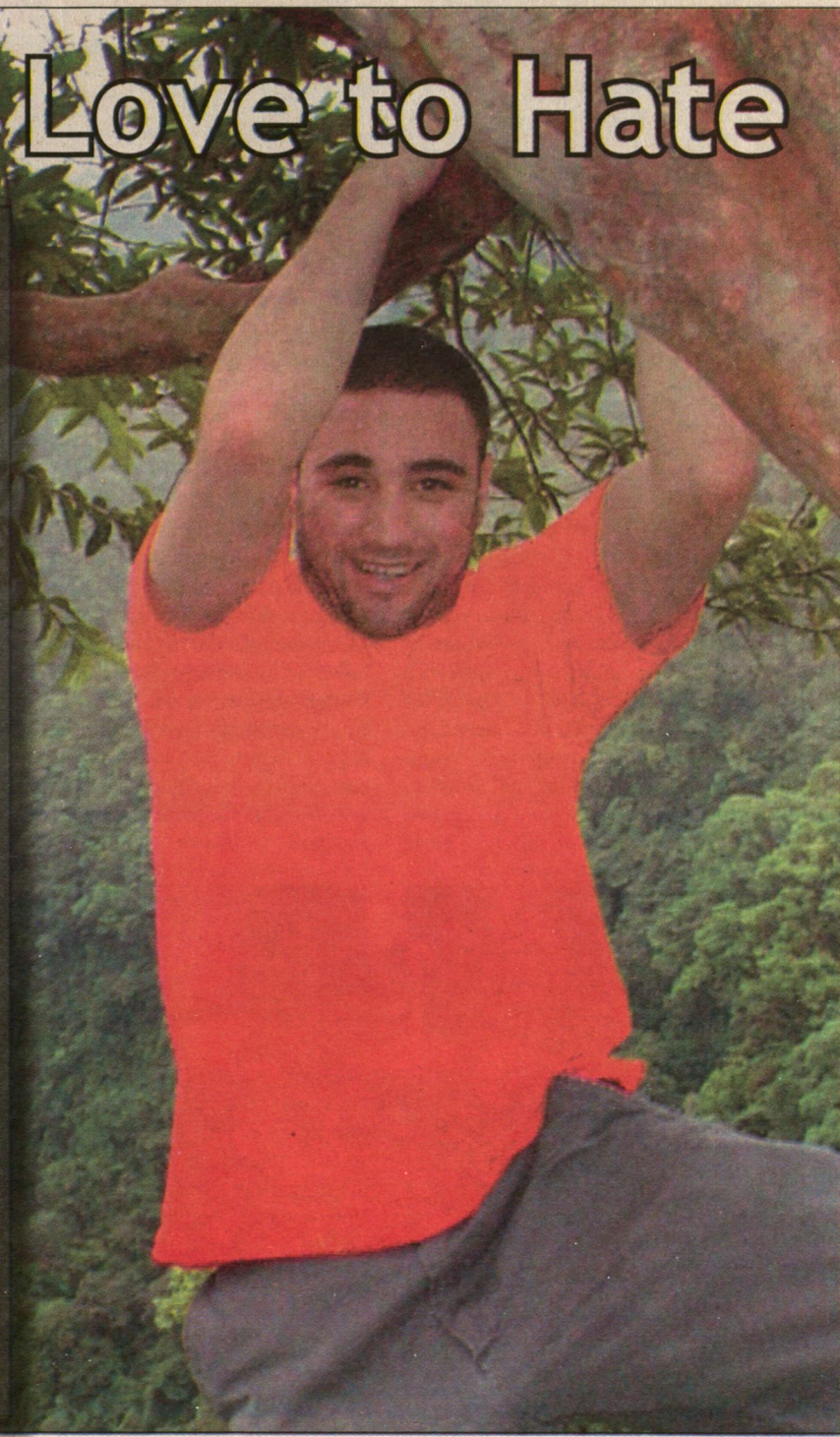
As was gleefully reported by the media, Saddam Hussein was sentenced to death for his crimes against humanity involving 148 Shia Muslims in 1982. Elected officials have agreed justice was served. President Bush has commented that the sentence demonstrates a “move towards democracy.” America's arch rival for so many years will meet his demise hanging in the wind and this scene will be an eerie parallel to a May 2004 attack on four American civilian contractors. Instead of hanging from a jail cell, these victims were hung from the Euphrates River Bridge. That day in May was deplored by the international community as barbaric. Americans were aghast at the cruelty shown toward some of her bravest sons, and they were right to feel this way. When dead bodies hang on display for the world to see, humanity shows the dark underbelly of evil. However, as anyone who has ever thought for a minute about the politics of propaganda, presentation is everything. The real message will always take a backseat to a quick sound bite or strong image.

So, Saddam will hang. Why? Because it makes the American government feel better about itself. Days before the midterm elections, Republicans can justify a war that had little true evidence to begin in the first place. Bush's “move toward democracy” consisted of a trial orchestrated by a puppet Iraqi government that saw three defense attorneys murdered, two judges leave the case, and political interference. “The problem really is that this tribunal has not shown itself to be fair and impartial - not only by international standards, but by Iraqi standards,” said Sonya Seeats, an international law expert at the Chatham House foreign affairs think tank in London. Is Saddam guilty? Absolutely. However, if I was a conspiracy theorist, I would say Bush and his right-wing myopic vision of democracy pushed the Iraqi panel, which consisted of only five judges, to have a speedy trial not for the defendant's rights, but instead to have a sentence fall days before the midterm elections.

Unfortunately, the distraction is working. Once again, the propaganda that the Bush administration pollutes our minds with is not focusing on North

Korea's emerging nuclear weapons or Darfur's continuing genocide, but instead on a symbolic trial that will do nothing to stop terrorism or find Osama Bin Laden. Bush isn't concerned where Bin Laden is anymore because killing Saddam enough to boost patriotism. The American people were content as long as someone, somewhere in the Middle East was taken out. Americans are not focused on Louisiana still torn apart from Katrina or the emerging abortion bans throughout conservative states. Instead, right wing politicians want the public to believe because Saddam is going to be murdered, that we are somehow headed in the right direction. Bush made sure to head to Nebraska, a red state for the past seven elections, for a post-sentencing rally. He can have his photo-ops while soldiers die in a war that has been profiting Bush and the oil industry for over three years.

Regardless of any possible American meddling in the trial, the Republicans are promulgating that this is a step in the right direction. The verdict is more of a step toward the right distraction. One more image to distract the American people from the chaos that we created in Iraq. One more sound bite to detract from the fact that Iraq is now a haven of anarchy, budding terrorism, and on the brink of civil war. Instead of peace and order, the hanging will inspire rage and violence. This new fuel to the fire of insurgent hatred towards the West will only make Saddam a martyr. This trial calls for a sentence of life in prison. It serves as an opportunity for the new American installed Iraqi government to show the world that the trial was more than a way to enact vengeance but instead a first step in the direction of civility. No matter how you dress up the sentence, it differs very little from public executions held during Saddam's reign of terror. Sure, the venue is different but the message is the same. If the government finds you guilty, even in a flawed trial, it has the right to kill you. The European Union has urged Iraq to not to hang the former dictator. The European Union sees that more violence is that last thing this unjustified war needs.





# GAMER'S GUIDE

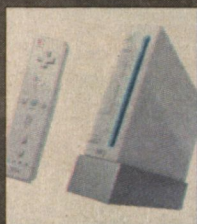
By Alex Ovtcharenko



VS.



Ah, 'tis the season! The holly, the candy canes, the drunken relatives... it can only be Christmas time. Soon a jolly German named Kris Von Kringle will arbitrarily decide who's been good and who's been bad, sneak into your houses and leave presents. Unless you happen to be Jewish, then you get Hanukkah Harry and I don't really know what he does. I won't even touch Kwanzaa. Getting back to the subject at hand, Christmas is the time for giving, or, as I prefer to think of it, *getting* presents. And as a self-deprecating "gamer," I can't think of any larger issue than the decision between Sony PS3 and Nintendo Wii.



**Pro:** Only 250 green-backs! Best deal on a system right now. Even Aunt Libby can spring for one. And the games are ten bucks cheaper than the competition.

**Con:** No DVD player. But then again, who the hell doesn't have one at this point? Evil commies, that's who!

**Pro:** Legend of Zelda: Twilight Princess. The game I have had dreams about for the past year. Very erotic dreams, but we won't go into that right now.

**Pro:** The weird swingy-sticks controller. You know you want to try it. Chopping off ninja parts in Red Steel looks like my kind of sexy evening.

**Pro:** Ability to download just about every cartridge-based game ever made. Now all that needs to be done is inclusion of Sega CD, so I can finally play Night Trap without going through the crippling shame of having to purchase it.



**Con:** 600 bucks! No way can grandma justify that kind of expense.



**Pro:** Blu-ray DVD player included. Those babies are about a grand alone.

**Con:** Very few worthwhile launch titles. Resistance: Fall of Man and Ridge Racer are the only ones worth buying at the moment.

**Pro:** Better hardware than the current darling of next-gen, XBOX360. Better hardware now will mean better looking games made in the long run. Plus, Microsoft can eat my ass.

And the winner is... *Nintendo Wii*: But don't come crying to me two years down the line when it becomes a dumping ground for Spongebob games.

## Marvel Ultimate Alliance



Remember X-Men Legends? Yeah, of course you do. The premise of Marvel's Ultimate Alliance is essentially the same. Hell, this has been the same premise since Golden Axe on Sega Genesis or Turtles in Time on SNES. You get a bunch of computer or second player controlled team-mates and you move in a linear fashion, distributing an ass-whooping of various degrees to a variety of goons and occasionally stopping off to eviscerate a Big Bad Boss guy. The essence of this was never

really carried onto the CD game age with the original PlayStation or Sega Dreamcast, which was until X-Men Legends came out a few years ago. Oh what fun was had by lonely dweebs who lived without any hope of female contact! Tumbleweeds rolled through comic-book stores, Warhammer figurines were unpainted and pocket protectors collected dust on store shelves. Basements across America were filled with high-pitched squeals of joy, floors littered with empty Mountain Dew bottles and Cheetos bags. And now the time has come for a repeat, especially if your inner comic-book geek hungers for some spectacular spandex on spandex violence.



## Tony Hawk's Project 8



Oooo ahhh, a new Tony Hawk game! I am still taking caffeine pills from the bore fest that was Tony Hawk's American Wasteland. Let's summarize this crapshoot of a game: you "skate" around a shoddy environment that looks like it came out of a PS1 game. Oh wait, is that the previous 20+ Tony Hawk titles? I can't tell. And by "skating around," I mean you input thirty plus chain combos, like a hyperactive Japanese pre-teen at a Street Fighter arcade cabinet in 1992. But enough about the non-existent game play, let's get down to the essence of this thing: you are paying

sixty hard-earned American dollars to have a simulated skateboarding experience. Now, I understand every video game is a simulated experience, but in games like Call of Duty you at least get to mow down Adolf's cronies (not anymore, unless you happen to find your way down to Argentina). That's not something you can do in real life! But skateboarding? Let's face it, even real skateboarding is mainly for imbeciles in wide trousers who listen to atrocious pop-punk and nu-metal. Heck, the only FUN one can have that involves skateboarding in any way is watching those above-mentioned idiots fall off those wooden contraptions and smash their noses into the concrete, which saves you from exerting any energy and having to do so yourself.





Let The Patriot's own style expert,  
Amanda Fredericks, show you what's

# HOT RIGHT NOW!

Style By Mandy\*



As poor college students and young women, we've all probably had more than one chance to adore the hottest fashion designers in a Vogue magazine or window shop at Bloomingdale's or Barney's. We've all also come to terms with the fact that we will most likely never experience the beautiful luxuries of CoCo Chanel, Mark Jacobs, Christian Dior, or Gianni Versace in our lifetimes, especially not at this age where we seem to struggle to get by on simply the bare minimums. We've all attempted at the China town knock offs and the no name Soho stores who seem to have more unique fashion trends than Kohl's or Target, but there comes a point in a young lady's life where these cheesy alternatives are no longer a sufficient fulfillment for our fashion desires.

Here I give you Ebay; The website that cures everyone of life's problems including any fashion dilemmas. This sweater dress has a retail value of \$1531.00, the winning bid on ebay was \$199.00, with guaranteed authenticity. Sweater dresses seem to be a hot commodity this fall, and waltzing around in one by Versace can make a girl feel like \$1531.00 for just under \$200.00!!

As for shoes, these beautiful Marc Jacobs peep toes, are found on Ebay with a starting bid of \$80.00, and with a retail value of \$395, clearly an astonishing deal.

Accessorize with these Dior sunglasses normally \$295.00, found on ebay with a starting bid of \$35.00!

Plenty of other high end items can be found on Ebay from clothes to jewelry, Ebay provides us with the fashion world of a model at an affordable price. Get shopping!!!



Shauna Smith's

# REPUBLICAN GEAR

FOR ALL THE GUYS WHO NEED A GIRL TO PICK OUT WHAT THEY WEAR



The only time it is appropriate for a guy to wear tighy-whities and still be attractive.



Relive Miracle on Ice, in the best American tradition of kicking commie ass in hockey!



Choose the side that always comes out on top.



# The Democrats and Hillary

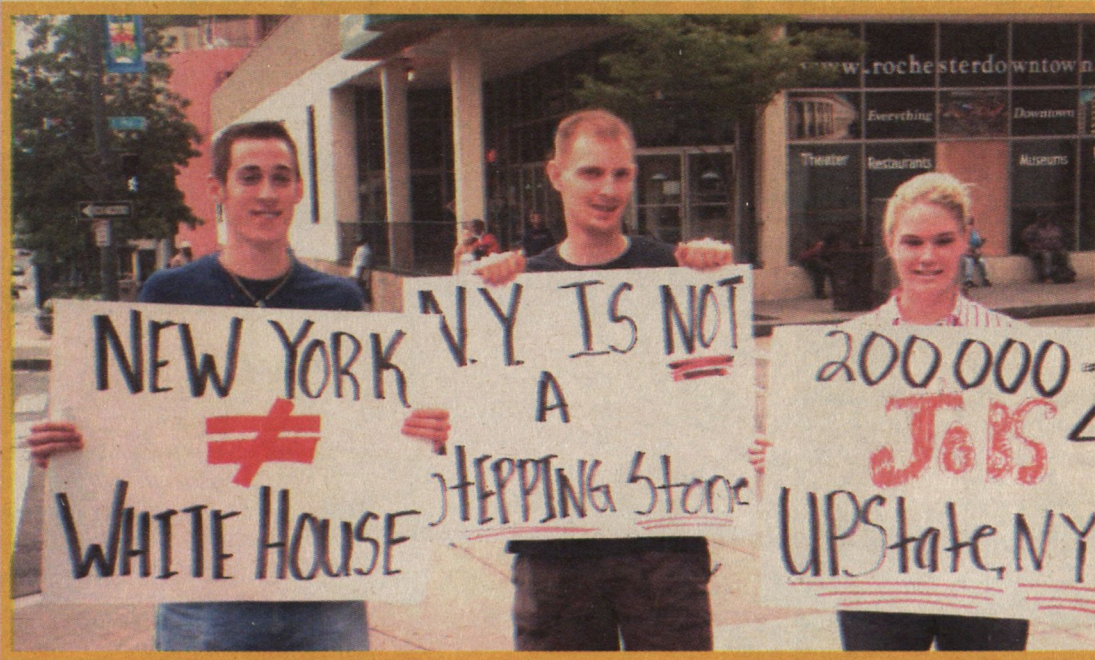
By Nathan Shapiro

Republicans nation-wide spent election night watching their television sets as the news networks slowly counted the lost Republican seats in the House until they hit the magic number which gave the Democrats a majority. It wasn't much long after that did Republicans find they had also lost the Senate.

The nation had turned on them and booted them out of power after twelve years of Congressional control of the House and four years of unified Republican governance. And the big question on their minds was: what would happen next?

In the short term, it is clear that the Republican agenda will suffer. Without the majorities in Congress, Bush will have to struggle with Democrats over policies of national defense, economic and government reforms. Democrats ran to win on the slogan that their victory would turn Bush into a lame-duck President and weaken his ability to carry out his job.

Democrats have made clear all along what they planned to do upon seizing power. The top of their agenda included making government welfare programs less market-friendly and driving up their costs, raising the minimum wage and changing the Bush tax cuts, which will likely slow down our growing economy, prevent qualified judicial nominees from being appointed to the federal bench and above all they



Upstate College Republicans protesting Hillary Clinton during the recent election.

will begin pushing to withdraw from Iraq before the job is completed.

Without the Republican majority backing him, Bush's ability to act internationally has been diminished. When he speaks, he no longer speaks for the entire nation because Democrats will be quite willing to block his initiatives, no matter how valuable they are to our nation's national and economic security. This is especially true when it comes to diplomacy to punish rogue nations, negotiating free trade agreements and resisting left-wing pressure on ineffective global warming accords

which will hurt our economy.

Republicans have also been shocked into considering the implications this election shows for 2008. If the Democrat win in 2006 represents a genuine turn against Republicans and a move towards liberalism, they must consider the possibility that they will be out of power in Congress for the immediate future, and perhaps be knocked out of the White House in 2008 in favor of Hillary Clinton, the Democrat's strongest candidate in current polls.

The prospects of Mrs. President Clinton sends chills down any Re-

publican's spine, and rightfully so. However, they can take solace in the chance that this election does not put the Clintons any closer to the White House. In fact, it may represent just the opposite.

The election of the Democrat majorities was more the result of American disenchantment with the Republican governance than an acceptance of liberalism preached by the Democrat leadership.

Many independents and a fair number of Republicans had grown tired of the leadership in Washington, believing they had abandoned

the conservative principles of limited government. This election, therefore, was punishment for their malfeasance.

A mere glance at the candidates which the Democrats offered illustrates this point. Among them included a pro-life moderate in Pennsylvania, a former Republican from the Reagan-era in Virginia and a slew of conservative Democrats in many House races. The Democrats did not run as a nationally liberal party, but clouded the field and posted candidates which crowded out Republicans with similar positions, beating moderate and liberal Republicans as well as conservative ones.

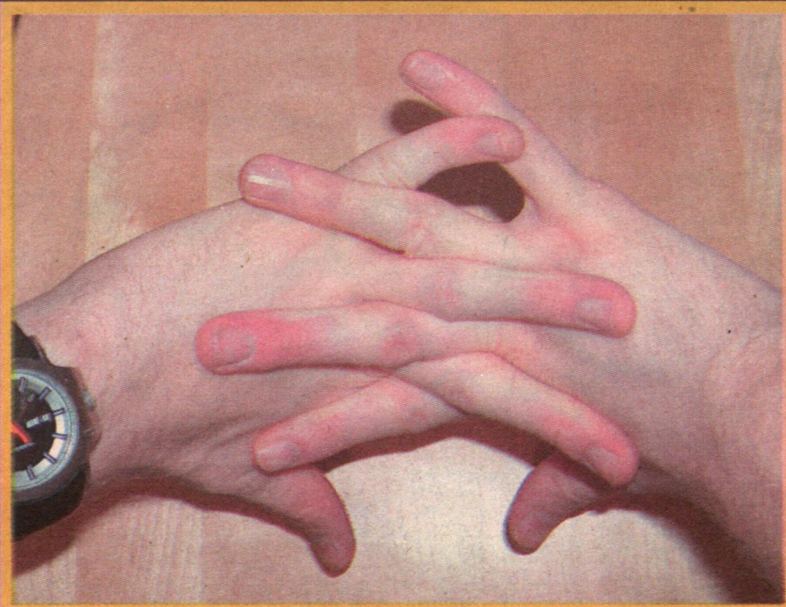
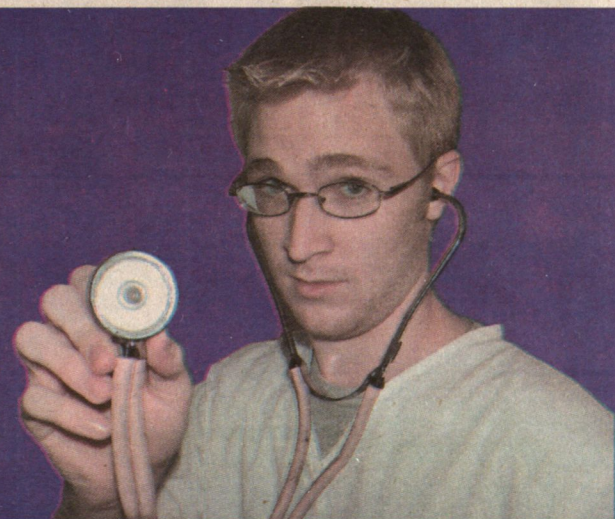
If that's the case, Hillary is no closer to the White House than she was in 2004. The nation doesn't necessarily want liberal policies enacted as much as a change in Washington's leadership. But come 2008, punishing Republicans will no longer be an election strategy. The Democrats will have been in power, once more giving the Republicans the chance to show the nation why they deserve to be in power instead of the liberals which have just been given control of our nation's legislature.

Any battle between Hillary Clinton and the Republican nominee will be on equal footing, and the election will be on the issues, not based on any resentment of the Republican Party's leadership. As the nation did in 2002 and 2004, they may once more choose the conservative candidate over the liberal Clinton.

Patriot Labs Presents:

## Medical Myths Exposed

With "Doctor" Erik



### Does cracking your knuckles cause arthritis?

Twenty-five percent of Americans crack their knuckles, including myself. Though it's not all that well understood, a process known as cavitation occurs when you pull or bend your fingers in a certain way. What happens is this lubricant between your joints, synovial fluid, gets stretched, causing bubbles to form in it. The bubbles make a popping sound and this practice actually gives the person some relief and makes their fingers (or toes - you'd be surprised how many things you can "crack") feel like they move more easily.

Arthritis is not caused by this cracking and experiments and studies have been conducted to show this. However, it is possible that you could damage your joints. The practice could possibly cause a person to lose his or her grip slightly. Doing this a lot might also cause weakening of the fingers. But so far I'm fine and I've been doing it for over ten years!

You might be surprised to know that there's a group on the internet specifically for knuckle-crackers, <http://www.jointcrackers.com/>.



# Opinions

## 18 Vs. 21: The Battle Over the Right to Drink Continues

By Andrew Herrman

Since the passing of the 18th Amendment, which created the prohibition of alcohol, and the 21st Amendment, which repealed prohibition and permitted the distribution and consumption of alcohol, the debate over the legal drinking age in the United States has been raging on for the better half of the 20th century and into the 21st.

Currently in all 50 states, the legal drinking age is 21 years of age, as a result of The National Minimum Drinking Age Act of 1984. The argument for lowering the drinking age to 18 years of age has many in an uproar, however, it bears logic. On the one hand, organizations such as Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) wish to keep the drinking age at 21 in order to maintain civility and prevent drunk driving accidents among teens and minors. MADD believes that under-age drunk driving related accidents are too high in the country and wish to strictly maintain the drinking age at 21. However, age should not be a determining factor in measuring the responsibility of an individual. MADD and the representatives of MADD seem to turn a blind eye to the number of drunk driving accidents that occur among individuals over 21, which is also a serious issue. Numerous U.S. Senators alone have been charged with drunk driving. No matter what the legal drinking age, drunk driving and drinking related accidents will always be an issue, which is why it is important to inform people early of the ways to responsibly consume alcohol. By lowering the drinking age to 18, young people will learn in school and in their homes, how to



properly consume alcohol. If 18 year-old American citizens can vote for political representation and die for their country, they should be given the right to drink at their own discretion.

Lowering the drinking age to 18 has its benefits, as crazy as that might sound. For one, many young people drink who are not yet 21. By lowering the drinking age, schools would be encouraged to teach the youth earlier on, how to drink moderately. Parents would also be more involved in their children's lives and would have more influence over teaching their children how to properly consume alcohol, because at 18, many still live at home. And by the time many reach college, students will enter their college and partying careers with a better sense of how

to safely consume alcohol.

In Europe, the drinking age in all countries is either 18 or younger. By lowering the drinking age in the United States, the appeal and the idea of Europe being a crazy "sexed" up continent would dissipate, possibly resulting in more nationalistic pride at home. Movies such as "Eurotrip" would no longer contribute to the desires of many college students to want to embark on "crazy European sex odysseys." Hometown bars and restaurants would also flourish with the influx of new and eager drinkers whose only wish is to connect with their neighborhood businesses.

Probably the most obvious yet powerful argument for lowering the drinking age is the fact that if 18 year-olds can vote for the politicians that are molding their society (the 26th Amendment of 1971 which reduced the voting age to 18) and can die for their country by serving in the United States military, they should also be given the right to drink and indulge in one of the country's guilty pleasures.

The truth is, the consumption of alcohol, when regulated and used in moderation, can liven up a party, it can reveal one's true identity and personality, which for some can make people more funny and enjoyable to be around. Lowering the drinking age will make people more aware and conscious of alcohol and will undoubtedly do away with its current taboo.

## A Decline in Civility

By Jorge Sierra

Lately it seems that simple civility has flown out the window. We had this horrible religious group plan a protest calling the Amish school shooting victims whores who deserved to die. Then this group of Columbia students stormed a stage and forced the termination of a Minutemen speaker event sponsored by fellow students. And we can speak of more disturbing incidents. Many more.

We can speak of political commentators and books: Ann Coulter seemed to see herself as a hero for writing the following about a group of 9/11 widows in her book *Godless*: "I've never seen people enjoying their husbands' deaths so much."

Of blogs: Mike Rogers, who according to his site, *blogactive.com*, outted Mark Foley as a gay, anti-gay Republican in 2005, responded thusly to the congressman's resignation: "He is a homophobe." "Another DOMA supporting Congressman tossed out of the closet. Ta ta... NEXT!" Actually, that's a lot tamer than what was on his site a year ago.

Of Minutemen founders speaking on Hannity & Colmes about students who throw pies at conservatives and disrupt their events: "I call them the fascist liberal anarchists." "The true face of the 21st century KKK is... a multi-spirited conglomerate of college students."

Of Columbia University anti-Minutemen protesters in a press release soon after the Minutemen protest: "We are proud to send the message to the country that racist and fascist groups are not welcome at Columbia or in New York City."

Sheesh! Give it a rest already!

Radical politics, scandalizing rhetoric, and confrontational tactics are nothing new. Since the 2000 election, however, more and more people in and around politics, the media, and college campuses have been eschewing civil disagreement and tolerance. In their place they are promoting hatred, snide disdain, and a rabid, apocalyptic fervor.

Continued on page 12

## Large Misconceptions on Illegal Immigration

By Erica Smith

Three elephants led by a mariachi band illegally crossed the Mexican border into the United States, last month. The stunt was organized by a Pennsylvania congressional candidate trying to make a point. He succeeded in making it when border patrol didn't show up for a full hour.

Each year 500,000 people illegally enter the United States and join the 12 to 20 million illegal immigrants already here, cutting in front of the millions of people who wait months and even years on wait lists to enter this country legally. This cannot be allowed to continue. It is the responsibility of our government to take action and seal the border.

One of the most prevalent myths about illegal aliens is that they help our economy. Nothing could be further from the truth. Ac-

cording to reporting by Lou Dobbs of CNN, illegal aliens cost American taxpayers \$50 billion dollars in government services last year, in areas like incarceration, health care, education, and welfare. Some estimate that we spend upwards of \$70 billion. While one may argue that immigrants make up for the cost by paying taxes, this is just not the case. According to the Center for Immigration Studies, illegal aliens paid only \$16 billion in taxes last year, leaving Americans with at least a \$34 billion bill.

There is also the popular conception that our economy needs undocumented immigrants because they perform the jobs Americans won't do. This is also not true. The fact is most illegal aliens are in direct competition with Americans for jobs in farming, construction, transportation, food services, cleaning and even business management. One study published in the National

Bureau of Economic Research found that the surge of immigrants over the last two decades lowered the wages of American high school dropouts by 8.2 percent. The study concluded that Mexican immigration had played a role in the widening gap between the rich and the poor. A study by the Center for Immigration Studies reached similar conclusions: Between 2000 and 2005, the employment of immigration workers with a high school degree or less rose by 1.5 million, while the employment of American workers with the same education dropped by 3.3 million. In other words, illegal immigrants are taking American jobs, hurting the American class.

Another misconception of illegal immigrants is that they are only here to work. Unfortunately this is not always the case. A significant portion apparently has come here to commit crimes. According to CNN

reporting, while illegals make up only four percent of our population, they make up 30 percent of our federal prison systems. That's huge! And only 20 percent of them are here for immigration offenses. That leaves 80 percent who are imprisoned for crimes like drugs, stealing, rape and murder. When you have people freely crossing over the border, you can't screen them, and you don't know who you are getting. Incidentally three of the 9/11 hijackers were illegal aliens.

Illegals also bring disease to our country. Unlike legal immigrants, our government obviously doesn't have the opportunity to screen illegal aliens for communicable diseases, and as a result, our country is seeing a resurgence of contagious diseases that had previously been totally or nearly eradicated by our public health system. Some of those include tuberculosis, hepatitis, dengue fever, chagas, and

even leprosy.

In conclusion there shouldn't be anything holding our government back from sealing our borders. One can debate until they're blue in the face about what to do with immigrants already in the country, but any proposal is irrelevant as we are unwilling to stop any more from coming. Currently, we are spending only \$10 billion for border patrol, and the high estimates of the wall planned to cover 700 feet of the Mexican border is only \$2 billion.

That's nothing compared to the overall price illegal immigration is costing our country. Congress needs to spend more money, something they certainly haven't been shy of in the past, and increase the security along our border.

"No civilization in history has survived that couldn't enforce its borders."



Mr. Hankey and The Patiot would like to wish you...

*Merry Christmas!*  
*and Happy Holidays!*



## A Decline in Civility

Continued from page 11

Now we have large and dueling groups of people who have become convinced that just because they're hurt or angry, just because they're for diversity or love this country, they have a license and duty to hurt their countrymen and relish their pain. Many of us who care about what direction this country moves in have become caught up in the brawl. We buy the hate artists' books, listen to news stories fed by their websites, and sneer at our enemies. In some universities students invite them to campus and administrators give them teaching positions. We have cultivated a culture that degrades our common humanity over our differences. You can see from the Westboro Baptist Church's rage against the most innocent community in this country where this kind of exclusionist thinking and exhibitionism is leading us.

These are not the values on which this country was founded. Our second president, John Adams, and his party, the Federalists, were all but destroyed in their 1800 re-election against Thomas Jefferson. Yet they gave up power peacefully and allowed themselves to lose. They saw that their dreams might have to die, and inflicting much misery on the losers, in order for this country to survive. Would that we had the faith to remember that example today.

The people who most exemplify civil-



Jim Gilchrist, founder of the Minuteman Project.

ity in this country almost never capture the limelight outside their own neighborhoods.

They are the community activists, leaders, and diligent people back home. The ones who try to build people up and would make you, a stranger, the center of their universe no matter who you are.

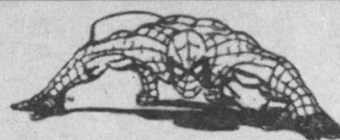
How many of them are part of a list of faceless enemies

propagated by one group or another? Talk to any one long enough and you'll differ with them sharply.

In our college campuses, too, there is something to be said about a culture that encourages people to express their own identity and value what others have to offer, even if half the students secretly hate each other. One meets students from all kinds of backgrounds, from pot smokers to the chaste, urbanites to small-towners, and all the people one's family and friends are prejudiced against. Most of all, the vast majority of radicals and confrontational activists one meets are genuinely nice people. When two people who are most unlike engage in a simple human relating, the world changes. One must confront the fact that one's adversaries are people, too.

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## Power Politics

Continued from page 5

the media as well as informants who leak classified information in an attempt to discredit the Bush Administration. Their main goal is to seize back power lost over the past six years and these Washington insiders including Richard Clarke, who also served with Mary McCarthy at the NSC, will stop at nothing to achieve their goals. Mary McCarthy was fired from her post at the CIA for the alleged leak. Joe Wilson went to Niger for the Bush Administration to investigate Sadaam Hussein's interest in Yellowcake uranium used in building nuclear weapons. He then wrote an op-ed

piece for the New York Times against the Bush Administration's use of that intelligence, even though he assisted in the process. Sandy Berger was caught at the national archives stuffing top-secret memos down his pants --- what was on them we will never know, or just how many times did he do this? There are more connections here than on a Facebook webpage, but the Democrats will just have to fabricate another scandal in order for them to attempt to regain power in Washington. It must be eating away at the very fabric and liberal core of their party in order for them to choose political power over national security. Now that's politics, Democratic Party style!



# Another Casualty of War: Factual Knowledge

By Matthew Reisch

As I participate in conversations both inside and outside the classroom, I realize just how feeble minded people can be when quoting "factual" knowledge and making undocumented assessments of public officials and policies.

Every week in one of my political science classes, the professor opens the floor to discussion and it is too bad that this good intentioned attempt at intelligent conversation is injected with unintelligent and misinformed complaints about articles of politics that are often not even germane to the original discussion. They compare apples to oranges and do not even provide evidence when making statements that always have an ideological spin.

Just for kicks, I would like to provide an actual example from one of my more notoriously conspiracy theory prone classes. In this particular class, we were supposed to be discussing the relationship between the president and the media. One of the more notable purveyors of conspiracy theories claimed that the "shock and awe" tactics of the military in the early days of the Iraq war were staged conventional fireworks and that these fireworks were a ploy by the government to accrue public support.

Firstly, I think that our servicemen and women would find this quite offensive. Secondly, where is the supporting evidence? Apparently these pearls of wisdom did not strike the professor as too untruthful and she reacted with a dumb smile and nod of accep-



Typical hippy-type girl, making statements that meet wide acceptance in the classroom, despite not being backed up.

tance.

Just another example, this one outside of my academic life. Recently I had a conversation with someone on the train about the president. She complained that the president was a fascist and compared him to Hitler. She even went as far as to say that he personally ordered Military Police (MPs) guarding prisoners in Iraq to torture them

with castration. Firstly, I do not see how anyone who has any background understanding in history can compare Bush to Hitler (believe me, I am no fan of all of Bush's policies). Yes, Hitler was popularly elected and he did use constitutional war powers to obtain totalitarian control of the country, but it was the weakness of the constitution and the insanity of the man that proved to be deadly. Thanks to our constitution, the president is constantly checked and re-checked. Secondly relating to Iraqi torture, I wish that she would have backed up her comment with hard factual evidence, because if she did I would not have had a problem.

I have absolutely no problem if you disagree with a politician, particularly the president, or the war for that matter, but for my continued sanity please at least cite factual information and provide a legitimate source—not some web blog or your factually-polluted mind. Instead maybe reference a little something called a newspaper or a scholarly book. I know, it is far too difficult to open a book or a newspaper, especially when you can selectively search Google for propaganda, or take things out of context and use them to "pad" your argument. All of the aforementioned fall into the category of slander, and in my opinion this is unaccept-

able fodder for debate.

While it might not be the best debate material, perhaps it would make an excellent television show. Maybe MTV will allow us to revamp its hit show, Yo Momma, by injecting some politics into the show's standard slander formula of "dissing" the opponent's mother. Wilmer Valderrama would still host it, of course, but maybe we'll change the name of the show to "Yo Unsubstantiated Politically Ideological Hostile Statement." I admit it, the show name needs some fine tuning, but it is the thought that counts. The show would be great, the name of the game would be to produce the most absurd politically motivated conspiracy theory based on false or fabricated "factual" knowledge. The best part, the prize, would be a job as a writer for the Daily Show with Jon Stewart or The Colbert Report. And let us not forget about the loser, who will be educated in proper research and debating techniques, rendering him unable to promote slander ever again.

Okay, maybe that's going a little too far. That is why I propose that whenever people speak, especially about politics or history that they should verbally cite information, and if they do not, they should be charged with academic dishonesty when in class. I feel if you cannot get away with this in writing, why should you get away with this egregious slander in verbal speech, without being penalized for misinformation. I do understand that our country was founded on the basic principle of free speech, however people should be more accountable for their misinformed verbal expressions of "fact",

## Who is Rabbi Adam?

Continued from page 6

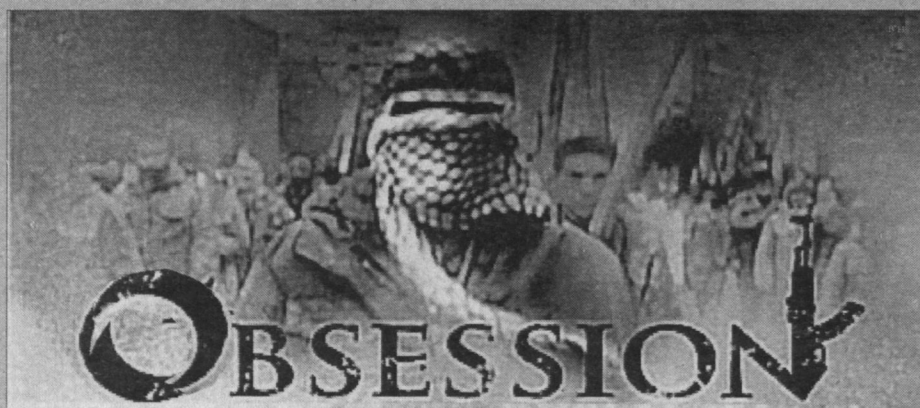
I had always wondered what was going on at the UMass Chabad House. I would often see the Rabbi on campus and sometimes we would even talk. Although he looked very Chassidic, he was actually very friendly and generally a great guy. He would have a table in the center of campus, and people would kind of just approach him and engage in conversation. Personally, I never had the guts to do that, but whatever the case, I certainly wouldn't knock anyone who did. The Rabbi would always invite me for a Friday night Shabbat dinner, but as usual, I had to decline. I was just too busy having fun. Don't you know that this is UMass? Home of the party nickname, "ZooMass"? Who had the time or interest to go to Chabad?

Well, that attitude would have been true every other Friday night of my four year college career except for this one lonely Friday night. Where could have all my friends gone? Was there a pre-party that I did not know about? Who knows, but whatever-the-case, I was certainly not going to spend a Friday night in my room. And studying was definitely out of the question. So you know what I did? I went to go check out what was going on at the Chabad House.

I didn't really know what time they started, but I figured I would just show up and see what happens. I remember walking through the door. It was like there was a party going on. Everyone was laughing, people were sharing different experiences and it was clear that

the people there really enjoyed being together - with each other, the Rabbi and his family. It wasn't like the other parties that I knew in which one could only feel like for another after too many beers. No, for these people it was real. The conversation was more spiritual in nature, always with a twist on how one could better themselves. People laughed not because another was being put down, but rather, because something was actually funny. There was a purity in the air. And there was a strong sense of family, a strong sense of belonging.

That night, I stayed throughout the meal, spending the time learning various Hebrew melodies and talking about the inner meanings of Jewish rituals. I left fulfilled, in body and soul. The food was great, the company was comforting. And from then on, I made sure that every Friday night I would go to the Chabad House for a weekly shot of Jewish spirituality. Of course, I would often have to excuse myself and leave early - for after all, this was UMass, and my friends and parties weren't going to stop just because Chabad was having a Friday night dinner. However, I always managed a way for both to go together. Eventually as time went on, my appreciation of the Friday night dinners at the Chabad House grew. Upon graduating, I decided to take a year off before applying to grad school and spend it by living in Israel. In Israel I made sure to continue the beauty of Shabbat dinners, and well, the rest is just history. A history which I hope to share with you at another time.



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# The Military Class

By Jorge Sierra

Quick question. How do you see military service members and veterans: are they A) high class, B) low class, or would you say C) I don't give a damn?

This is the time of year when all the veterans are complaining that they don't get enough recognition. You know, no one goes to the Veterans Day parade, none of the younguns know what December 7 is. On top of that, we have a lot of people who when they do think about the military, look down on them with pity or scorn, as John Kerry's remarks some weeks ago inadvertently revealed. Conservatives and patriots, in contrast, love to shore up our service members and veterans as something authentically American and heroic.

The issue isn't whether we actually believe our men and women in uniform are honorable Americans who deserve recognition. Most people will recognize our service members and their sacrifices one way or another if you can just get their attention, just not always the so-called patriotic way. They're lazy, ipod-y, and overall rat racy, and they get it. If *Flags of Our Fathers* doesn't get people's attention, the Iraq casualties will. But most people are viewing the military with a certain distance. Thus our military service members and veterans are drifting out of touch with the rest of America.

To give a brief synopsis of the ideological front, in November ABC aired an expose that taped military recruiters telling potential



enlistees that the War in Iraq was over and that they probably would not see active combat. In 2004 pro football player Pat Tillman died in Iraq, having given up fame and fortune to enlist. One side hears stories about military people who are either liars or so gullible and uneducated that they get suckered into active combat. The other side hears stories about heroes who sacrifice personal gain and even their lives to serve their country out of a sense of love.

Obviously most Americans don't see themselves as suckers or cheats, and that image of the military does not help recruitment. But how many Americans imagine themselves as "the few, the proud," or being "all that you can be", let alone giving up a multi-million dollar career to die in combat? Hero worship may also set our service members apart from most Americans as the goody two-shoes. With recruitment so low that they're lowering the standards and lying even

more blatantly to enlistees, it's clear that Americans are putting more and more distance between themselves and our armed forces one way or another.

This shouldn't be very important. War is a brutal exercise and the less we encourage it, the better. We have lots of honorable civilian professions competing with the military for recognition and praise. But we have to live in the real world. We're not going to protect the United States from terrorists by asking them very nicely to leave us alone. We have to be able to marshal enough people to fight them. If we cannot understand or respect the ways of warfare, or if those we entrust with the power to fight our enemies simply do not share our way of thinking, this country becomes less secure.

Ever since Vietnam this country has been antsy about reinstating the draft. We should at least consider it as one of several ways to reintroduce Americans to service or defense of this country as something to which we can all aspire, and in which we are all invested in.

Israel has compulsive military service for just about everyone, some European countries compel a period of either military or volunteer service. In this country, which values individual choice, any compulsory service will be a hard sell, and perhaps we'll find a different way.

The bottom line, however, is that allowing the people and the armed forces to drift apart into radically different cultures puts all of our freedoms at risk.

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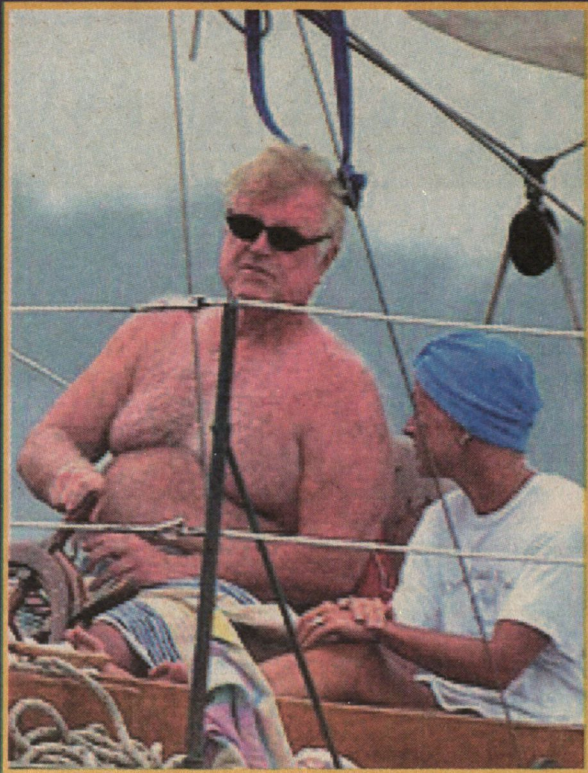
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# Ted Kennedy's Drink of the Month

Satire By Virginia Morgan and Rachel O'Brien



## Black Cactus

When not ambling through the halls of Congress or filibustering judicial nominees on the floor of the Senate, there's nothing Senator Kennedy likes more than kicking back on the shores of Chappaquiddick with a nice, cold drink in his hand.

Each month this column will highlight one of Senator Kennedy's favorite drinks. This month's drink: Black Cactus

### Ingredients

1 oz Tequila (Sauza)  
1 oz Blackberry brandy  
1 oz Club soda

### Directions

Pour tequila and blackberry brandy together. Add club soda. Drink like a shooter.



Not intended for the weak of stomach, faint of heart or those who are under 21.



## Picture of the Month



"Caution: Borat crossing nearby"

"Remember Peter Griffin's 'Peter Logs'?"

"Mr. Hankey stopped by to say Merry Christmas"

## Depressing Poetry Corner

For the times when you think *your* life sucks

### Good Morning Heartache

By Alexandra Borodkin

Preacher was a man of twenty-five  
Three tattoos and a ford to drive  
No more will left to thrive  
Just a pair of blue eyes keeping him alive.

Morning and the veins run dry  
A prick in the skin and an unnatural high  
Watching her through the window as he'd drive by  
Eyes the color of blue sky.

Good morning heartache, how have you been?  
Bible in hand, lips red as sin  
Black ribbons on pale white skin  
Wouldn't look twice at a man like him.

Bottle in hand, Greeks in his head  
Church windows glowing outside red  
Listening to her voice instead  
Hearing how even Christ bled.

Good morning heartache, how have you been?  
Bible in hand, lips red as sin  
Black ribbons on pale white skin  
Wouldn't look twice at a man like him.

Morning and the veins run dry  
A prick in the skin and an unnatural high  
Watching her through the window as he'd drive by  
Eyes the color of blue sky.



# The Patriot | Sports



Sean Martin

## SPORTS MINUTE

Ever since watching the Giants get humiliated by the Bears on national television the other night I have had the pressing need to vent about something, so I'll take some time to do that now.

Something must be done in the NFL about the referee's over-protection of the quarterbacks. Week after week, throughout the league, momentum in games is significantly hampered because some defensive lineman breathes too hard on these guys. Take, for example, in the recent Giants game when the Giants had a huge defensive stop reversed because a hand had inadvertently brushed against the top of Bears quarterback Rex Grossman's head.

Now, I understand that the

league feels it needs to protect the quarterbacks because they are the faces that people pay to see, but it has gotten to the point where they are expecting defensive players to be super-human.

The most aggravating part about this is that there is a simple remedy for the situation. The NFL allows referees to use their discretion when calling a penalty for a facemask or roughing the kicker. Both penalties have the option of a fifteen yard/automatic first down for a flagrant foul and a lesser variety that is for five yards/no automatic first down, and this could easily apply to roughing the quarterback calls as well. This or you can just keep expecting men that are built like buses to defy laws of

physics, whatever works better for you.

In other news: it was reported that NBA star, Allen Iverson, would be paying for the funeral of Kevin Johnson, a 22-year-old man from Philadelphia. Johnson had been on life-support for nearly three years after being shot for refusing to give up his Iverson Jersey to a group of attackers. Iverson said that he is tired of reading about senseless murders in Philadelphia and wanted to do something about it.

Considering Iverson's wealth, someone may brush this off as not a big deal. However, it is nice to hear about an athlete who is often portrayed in the media as the poster-child for what is wrong with Ameri-

can basketball.

In other news: after watching the Boston Red Sox win the World Series in 2004, I felt that it was pretty safe to say that the Sox would be in great shape for years to come with GM Theo Epstein running things. However, after the moves the Red Sox have made in the last five months I am quickly starting to reconsider that assessment.

It was recently announced that Boston won the rights to bid on Daisuke Matsuzaka, the Japanese pitching star. The winning bid reportedly will cost the Red Sox 51 million dollars, and that is just to negotiate with his agent! The bid was at least 10 million dollars higher than the second place bidder, and

will not count at all towards Matsuzaka's salary (which will probably be somewhere near the range of A-Rod.) That's a pretty big investment on a guy whose numbers in Japan are eerily similar to what the 'Fat Toad' Hideki Irabu's were.

Boston also signed former Dodger outfielder J.D. Drew to a four-year contract that will guarantee Drew over 10 million dollars per season. This is the same J.D. Drew that has had exactly one season in his career when he did not miss significant time due to injury. It seems that the team that used to refer to the Yankees as the "Evil Empire" may need to take a look in the mirror before it questions the business practices of any other organization.

# BIGGEST SPORTS SCREW-UPS

---OF THE DECADE---

**O.J.** Simpson. There, we mentioned his name. Why would we do that? Because what better way could there be to start off The Patriot's list of the biggest sports F\*\*\* ups of the past decade than by mentioning the name of the undisputed king of them all. Sure, the double homicide that he claims, "If I did it, here's how it happened" may have occurred in the mid-nineties, but as we all know by now, he's back in full force these days and with him comes our recollections of the Who's Who of the Biggest Sports F\*\*\* Ups!

By Sean Martin

First up we have a fine young athlete by the name of *Rae Carruth*. This outstanding gentleman starred for the University of Colorado and was a first round draft pick of the Carolina Panthers in 1997 who was signed to a contract that paid him more than a million dollars a year. Carruth was a solid receiver during his three seasons with Carolina, but he was hampered by injuries throughout his time there.

By late 1999, however, Carruth's career was in jeopardy because of his nagging injuries and what coaches considered to be a bad attitude. He was living a lifestyle beyond his means and he had gotten a girl, who he was casually dating, pregnant. The pressure caused Carruth to snap and in November of that year he decided to cut off his girl, Cherica Adams, who was eight months pregnant with his child. He hired a man to fire a hail of bullets into her vehicle.

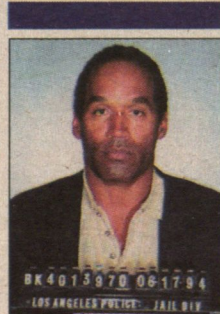
Adams died from her injuries a month later, but not before she was able call 911 and implicate Carruth in the murder. Carruth

initially turned himself into police, but became a fugitive after posting bail. Like any good crazy person worth his salt, he would eventually be found hiding in the trunk of a car outside a Tennessee motel with jars of urine and candy bar wrappers at his side.

*Maurice Clarett* was another one of those special kinds of guys who could have had it all, but lost it in less than a year. His talent transformed him from a mere high school student to hero status in the state of Ohio. As a freshman for the Ohio State Buckeyes in 2002, Clarett rushed for 1,237 yards and led his team to a National Title. However, beginning in December of that year the relationship between Clarett and Ohio State began to sour as he publicly trashed the University for not letting him attend a friend's funeral in his hometown.

Things got worse from there as Clarett would be suspended the following season and ultimately never play another game for Ohio State. In 2004 Clarett lost his lawsuit against the NFL that would have allowed him to enter the draft that season and by 2005 he found him-

01 O.J. Simpson



self out of football completely.

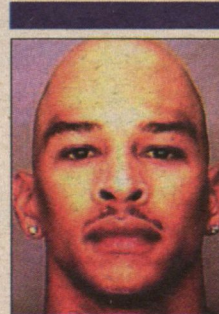
2006 would prove to be the most catastrophic year for Maurice Clarett, however, as the former star was arrested twice. In January, Clarett was arrested for armed robbery after he allegedly robbed two people with a handgun, stealing cash and a cell phone.

Seven months later, while waiting to stand trial for the robbery charges, Clarett was arrested again. This time Clarett was pulled over for making an illegal U-Turn. Big deal, you may say. But the police not only found him to be drunk driving with an open container, but also going all Mel Gibson in Mad Max by wearing a Kevlar vest and brandishing three loaded guns in the SUV that he was driving.

What was he doing while seemingly preparing for the apocalypse? He promises to let the whole world know when he gets the right book deal but until then only LeBron knows for sure.

*Mike Danton* was a quiet Ca-

02 Rae Carruth



nadian kid who played left wing for the NHL's St. Louis Blues. Only the hardcore hockey fan outside of St. Louis would have even recognized his name before 2004. But not after July of that year when Danton was arrested after attempting to hire an undercover FBI agent to murder his agent, David Frost.

This case is particularly peculiar because of the odd nature of the relationship between Danton and Frost. Some believe that Danton became estranged from his family because of encouragement by his agent. There is also a taped conversation between the two that was recorded after Danton's arrest. On the tape, Frost tells Danton that he must plead guilty to the charges and refused to hang up until Danton told him that he "loves him," which he then did.

Mike Danton is currently serving seven and a half years in prison and upon his release will be sent back to the land of Terrance and Philip where he will then be prohib-

03 Maurice Clarett



ited from ever entering the United States again.

In January 2004, the Oakland Raiders were forced to prepare for the Super Bowl without their two-time Pro-Bowl Center, *Barret Robbins*, after he had gone AWOL from the team in the week leading up to the game. Robbins ended up in the hospital before the game in order to deal with depression and his bi-polar disorder.

Robbins would never again play in the NFL and in January of 2005 he was almost killed when he was shot multiple times after attacking police officers in Miami. Robbins was sentenced to five years probation as long as he continued to receive treatment for his depression and bi-polar disorders and avoided alcohol.

So there you have it. Our brief recollections of some of the most bizarre sports characters in recent memory. No Strawberrys or Goodens were hurt while making this list.

04 Mike Danton

