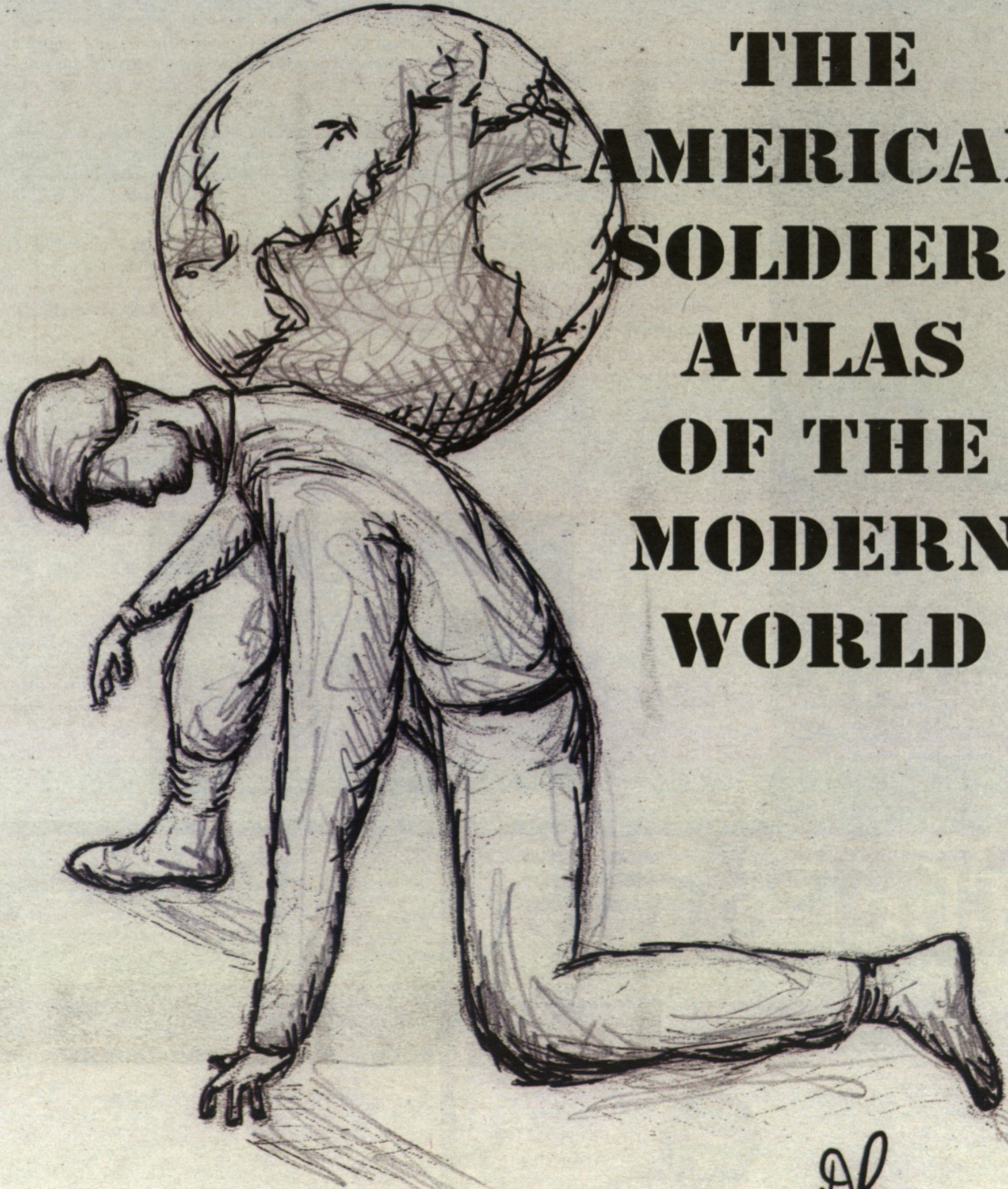


# The Patriot

Vol. 6 Issue 3

November 2009



## THE AMERICAN SOLDIER: ATLAS OF THE MODERN WORLD

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**LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?  
HATE WHAT YOU SEE?**

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**MEETINGS TUESDAYS  
6:00-7:00 PM  
SAC 312**

# Letter From the Editor

Dear Readers,

Thanks, as always, for picking up *The Patriot*! This very special November issue is dedicated to all the brave men and women who have ever served and those who continue to serve in the armed forces fighting for and protecting our great nation.

You'll notice the cover of this month's issue is of an American soldier bearing the weight of the world upon his shoulders. The parallel is to Atlas, one of the original titans in ancient Greek Mythology whose job (or burden, depending on how you want to look at it) was to hold up the sky. Some depictions show Atlas holding up the globe, such as the Farnese Atlas (an ancient Roman sculpture) or the statue of Atlas in Rockefeller Center in New York City. Regardless, either way works for our comparison.

The American soldier truly is a modern day Atlas, a great and mighty Titan making sure the sky doesn't come crashing down on us, the one whose job (or burden) it is to laboriously, exhaustingly and enduringly hold the world up on his shoulders. The American soldier has saved the world from belligerent aggression, absolute and genocidal tyranny and has done more to ensure the peace, prosperity and freedoms of peoples all across the globe than anyone or anything else in man's history.

It is because of the American soldier that the world isn't Goosestepping to the beat of a Nazi drum. It is because of the American soldier that the world is not rotting in a gulag, concentration camp or a "reform" or "re-education" camp. It is because of the American soldier that you and everyone around the world like you are able to be at a University reading someone else's words. The safety of the world truly rests in the hands, or on the shoulders of, the American soldier.

You'll see this a few other times throughout the issue but it can never be said enough. To all our veterans and to all those serving right now, we at *The Patriot* say: Thank You.

Regards,  
Derek Mordente



# The Patriot

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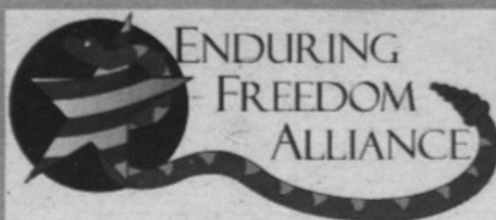
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**Our Mission:** The goal of *The Patriot* is to offer an alternative point of view to the students of Stony Brook University. It is a paper dedicated to raising awareness of student issues on campus, and conservative/libertarian issues on the national 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 [sbpatriot@gmail.com](mailto:sbpatriot@gmail.com)

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

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

The following is a letter sent to President Obama by a group called "The Military Moms of America." Rightly so, they are outraged by our Commander-in-Chief's policies (or, rather, complete lack thereof) in Iraq and Afghanistan that directly affect our troops - who happen to be their sons and daughters. We all need to be as outspoken about supporting our troops as the military moms so those in Washington give them what they need to win AND survive. It is our duty to hold Washington accountable for this.

Dear Mr. President,

Allow us to introduce ourselves: We are military moms.

As moms, we send our sons, daughters, husbands, and other family members to Afghanistan and other lands to protect the freedom of the United States. We love our country and while we can see it has problems as moms, we know they can be resolved by sticking to our founding principles, facing our problems directly and acting on sound solutions, making sure we teach our children in the process.

As the mothers of our troops, we were often our soldiers' first example of leadership. We woke them for school in the mornings, helped them with their homework, encouraged them to try again when they failed and praised them for their success. We taught them dignity, honor, decency and respect for others.

As mothers in uniform, we demonstrate to our children the measure of our devotion to our nation by fighting for its freedoms. We sacrifice a life at home with our kids so others can enjoy a life with theirs. We know our children are proud of the cause of freedom we have taken up.

As military spouses with young children, we struggle to find the words to explain why a loved one has gone away. We comfort and assure them that all is well, but we know that it is not. Often, we pick up the pieces after a family member has fallen, when we are just beginning the blessed journey of parenthood.

As mothers of the United States Armed Forces, we have had enough of your conduct in this war. Our children and spouses have sworn an oath to uphold the Constitution in this, your most important job - protecting the citizens of this great nation. Here is our cry: Either give our military the resources to win in Afghanistan or risk the lives of every American citizen. Our silence on this issue is no more; we are determined to speak out and be heard. On behalf of our loved ones, the troops, who have long been ignored, we say:

Give our military the resources to win in Afghanistan.

As mothers, we strive not only to identify a problem, but to present a solution as well. Mr. President, we exhort you to listen to your appointed military leaders on the ground. Give them the freedom to fight this war - not only to postpone an ignominious retreat, but to declare the victory that every member of the United States Armed Forces knows we can achieve.

Mr. President, while our soldiers are losing lives, limbs, and sustaining life-changing injuries, you are blatantly ignoring the condition of our soldiers abroad.

For this, we respectfully demand an explanation.

As moms, we do not turn our faces away from painful problems, yet the situation in Afghanistan has taken a back seat in your agenda.

For this, we politely demand an answer.

We express gratitude that the First Lady has made it her personal mission to improve the lives of military families; it is valuable indeed to have an advocate so near the Commander in Chief.

We trust the women in your life have taught you well, President Obama, so we would expect nothing less than a personal response to our message.

Sincerely,

The Military Moms of America

Thank you.

# A Critique of ECO 316

By Brian Masone

Let's set the record straight: students attend university so they can earn degrees, get a job, and hopefully make a future for themselves. Unfortunately, it does not seem that all professors at this university respect that and insist on using their classrooms as soapboxes to tout their political beliefs. While I have had a great many professors who have been wise enough to keep their politics out of classroom discussions, I have also had the displeasure of taking a handful of classes in which the professor's political views found its way into lecture far too many times. (For those of you wondering, once is already more than enough.) Even if we were all to take this perversion of teaching to be a somewhat expected occurrence, it still does not justify the teaching methods employed by a certain Dr. Michael Zweig of the economics department.

Some time ago, I took ECO 316 taught by professor Zweig. The class is called "U.S. class structure" but the name is very misleading; it ought to be named "U.S. class warfare." Throughout the semester, lectures revolved around clearly biased texts and loaded essay questions. More often than not, baseless criticisms of conservative ideology or the Ameri-

can capitalist economy would surface. At the same time there would be praise for pro-labor legislation and labor unions. And if this wasn't enough to assure anyone that the class was clearly taught in a biased fashion, the professor found it necessary to distribute information on internship programs with NY-based unions such as the SEIU and the UAW. As seen in recent news, these unions have ardently supported one side of the political spectrum and have even been accused of strong-arm tactics at protests and rallies. Regardless of how true these allegations are, the mere fact that they are politically aligned can only lend credence to the claim that ECO 316 was taught with a strong ideological bias.

In no other classroom have I ever seen material from opinion columns presented as fact. It is inherently inconsistent with academic principle to present opinion-based claims as factual information. Yet in ECO 316, assigned reading assignments consisted at times of articles from liberal blogs followed with 80-minute long classroom discussions on the implications of these texts. The only implication I could ever draw was that academic integrity was an unessential prerequisite for the class. Articles

from blog sites such as [www.thenation.com](http://www.thenation.com), [www.commondreams.org](http://www.commondreams.org), [www.progressive.org](http://www.progressive.org), and [www.alternet.org](http://www.alternet.org) were amongst those passed out in the class. Some of these articles were actually written by the professor himself, but even assuming that his articles were well-researched, this still leaves the other articles to be examined. Some of these articles have clear bias ("better anyone than George Bush," in reference to potential presidents) while others sound angry ("Military propaganda pushed me off TV"). There was even one article with content that came off as over-the-top race baiting. ("What makes the United States white ... is the assumption -- especially by people with power -- that America equals white.") But regardless of the content of these articles, as clearly skewed as it is, the simple fact that they come from liberal blogs, not even credible sources, really depletes what integrity and fairness the class managed to feign.

Regardless of your ideology, no class you take should ever have to be one loaded with the political views of your professor. They are, after all, his or her views; a truly academic setting would be keen to allow you to develop your own.

## Rally And Die-In

By Derek Mordente

On October 20th, 2009 the Stony Brook community had the pleasure of seeing a protest in favor of Universal Health Care/the Public Option sponsored by the Long Island Progressive Coalition (LIPC), Long Island Jobs with Justice, the AFL-CIO, and Stony Brook's own Social Justice Alliance.

The protest was called "Rally and Die-in" and featured "protesters, wearing mock body bags and draped in white sheets, [holding] signs that read '5 people die every hour because they have no health insurance.'" It took place in front of the SAC and there were a moderate number of people holding signs and about 10-15 people lying on the ground "dieing-in." I'll grant them one thing, the protest was catching people's attention as they walked by – but that's the only thing I'll grant them.

Two of the signs being touted that struck me most included one that read "Abolish All Private Health Care" and another that read "Build on What Works – Medicare for All." Let's examine the former one first. For starters, throughout the twentieth century, the words "Abolish All Private \_\_\_\_\_" (fill in the blank) have been uttered many a

time. They were uttered in places like the Soviet Union, Cambodia, China, Vietnam and North Korea. Needless to say, it never turned out well. In fact, it either led to the eventual destruction of the nation, genocide or both. If you REALLY believe in universal health care and the public OPTION – fine. But don't make statements like the one above – it only serves to prove your complete ignorance of reality.

**HEALTH CARE FOR AMERICA NOW!**

On top of this, our protester's sign contradicts one of the quotes by Lisa Tyson, Director of the LIPC, on the flier I was handed at the event that read "There is no real choice or competition in the private health insurance market, and only giving everyone the option of a pub-

lic health insurance plan will guarantee we get quality, affordable health care we all can count on this year." So, Lisa Tyson is an advocate of choice and options – but our protester wants to eliminate all options to establish one...the public one. Further, Tyson's statement is a contradiction of sorts within itself. Private health insurance means that if you are unhappy with the one you have, you can switch to another.

This is called a "choice" and this "choice" creates what's called "competition" between private health insurers giving subscribers better "options." I guess she missed the memo. Second, universal health care and the public option will only serve to drive up the costs of private insurance to the point of obsolescence – leaving the public "option" as the only viable means to get health insurance thus killing "options" and "competition."

As for our other protester's sign, the one about Medicare, there is one major thing to consider. While Medicare may work in the sense that it gets people care, the real question is whether or not the system is sustainable. The answer is that, in its current state, it is not. What gives anyone the idea that putting everyone on it will somehow work is beyond me. Picture it

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

this way: if you saw someone in the gym lifting weights and they were having trouble, you wouldn't go up to them and say, "Hey, I think you should add more weights to that."

The flier I received also had a line saying that 73% of Americans support a public health insurance option, with the statistic quoted from Lake Research Partners, a pet project of Celinda Lake, a pollster and political strate-

gist for the Democratic Party. How unbiased. No one would take me seriously if I quoted a poll from Sean Hannity and, I'll be honest, I wouldn't expect them to. According to Gallup Polls, Americans are virtually split on the issue – with 50% in favor and 46% opposed and the remaining undecided. While these percentages remain static as time goes on, at this point at least, it's not an overwhelming majority (of 73%) who favor it.

The protest displayed an egregious amount of immaturity, naivete and ignorance that really shouldn't be displayed by "some of the brightest minds in the world." If you favor universal health care and/or the public option, do yourself and everyone else a favor – research it. You just might come to a different conclusion.

## Jurgen Habermas At Stony Brook

By Deborah Machalow

This semester, Stony Brook University is playing host to Jurgen Habermas, one of the preeminent political philosophers of the current day. A product of the Frankfurt School and post-Nazi Germany, he is known for his desire to change international structure to preserve human rights and dignity by changing the international system to get rid of the rights of nation-states. At the end of September, he spoke exclusively on the concept of human dignity; addressing an overcrowded SAC Ballroom A, stressing that "all human beings are born equal in human dignity and human rights."

After numerous introductions, Habermas came to the microphone and began by offering his seat to any one of the multitude of standing individuals amongst the crowd near the entrances. He continued with a self-deprecating remark: "I hope I won't disappoint you too much." He then began a discussion of the evolution of human dignity; human dignity currently is being linked by the United Nations to human rights, but it wasn't a legal concept in the 18th and 19th centuries. At this point, the distinction between rights and dignity was illustrated: human rights are defined as the resistance to despotism (i.e. that no one can be subjected to torture, inhumane or unreasonable punishment); while human dignity grows from human rights and is the essence of being a human.

As his discussion progressed, the concept of human dignity became tied to that of morality. He explained that morality allows

for a shift from the perspective of respect for others and for our own autonomy to concern for others. Human dignity serves a mediating function, shifting claims and generalizations of the concept of dignity. Through morality, uni-



versalized dignity preserves respect based on social recognition, allowing people to perceive their fellow citizens as having equal rights.

According to Habermas, there are two fatal flaws right now; two major components lacking in the recognition of human dignity. The first is that universalization of human dignity must be followed by individualization. All human beings need to be recognized as human beings. The second flaw existing right now is that people don't view each other as equals. People need to see the absolute value of each individual person, and not view people's values as relative.

Towards the end of his discussion, Habermas discussed the modernization of individual liberty. He reminded those in attendance that people shouldn't treat others merely as the means to their goals, but simply as ends in their own right. The lack of human dignity for all is a mistake for everyone. Human rights and dignities must be implemented in order to form a community. This is exactly why nation-states will fail in the end – human rights should be international, and shouldn't be measured differently in different countries. That is why the constitutionalization of international law is impossible without leading to a future with a world republic. Habermas closed out with a reminder that even today there is a struggle to fully implement human rights, both here in the United States, and across the globe.

Spending an hour listening to Jurgen Habermas was an incredibly enlightening and enjoyable experience. His lecture was so popular that the standing-room only crowd of professors, students and community members gave the eighty year old speaker a standing ovation at the close of his speech.



JOIN THE PATRIOT! MEETINGS  
TUESDAYS IN SAC 312 AT 6:00PM



## A Salute to Our Veterans

By Derek Mordente

The annual Veterans Day Ceremony at Stony Brook has been and is, in my opinion at least, one of the school's nicest and most important traditions. The ceremony honoring those who have fought and continue to fight for American freedom held on Wednesday November 4th in the SAC auditorium was no exception.

The ceremony is simple and clean in structure and lasts only about one hour. However, it is packed with immeasurable emotion, importance and remembrance that the words of this article, or any article or book for that matter, could not possibly fully capture. But discussed it must be, for we must never forget those who have sacrificed so much for us.

The SAC auditorium was filled virtually to capacity with Stony Brook's own student veterans (including many members of VESO - Stony Brook's Veteran Student Organization), local veterans of wars past and present, family members of the veterans in attendance and several people such as myself. The ceremony featured a presentation of colors by the Air Force JROTC Color Guard of Patchogue Medford High School, a great rendition of our national anthem by Sergeant Veronica Gonzalez (by great I mean REALLY great), some rather touching remarks and an even more touching prayer by Reverend Mark Miller of Temple Baptist Church regarding the remembrance of POW/MIA (Prisoners of War/Missing in

Action), a great and energetic speech about Student Veterans by VESO President Staff Sergeant Byung Sa and a Drill Presentation by the Air Force JROTC Drill Team of Patch-Med High School.

Following the drill presentation a short video was shown of several soldiers in Iraq, one of which was from Stony Brook, saying hello and thank you to Stony Brook for supporting the troops and veterans. Following remarks by Assemblyman Steve Englebright, State Senator John Flanagan spoke and brought the video up and expressed one of the most important sentiments anyone could have expressed. He said he almost felt embarrassed of himself that those soldiers in the video would express gratitude to us. He said that rather it is us, every single one of us, who should be expressing gratitude to them and I could not agree any more.

Contrary to popular belief, the most important issue right now isn't health care, the economy, the Olympics, the Tea Party movement...name something. Our troops are fighting two wars in Iraq and Afghanistan - they should be our top priority, our most important issue. Without them and their sacrifices - both past and present - there would be no health care debate, no economy to recess or boom, no Olympics to possibly come to Chicago and no freedom for people to form a political movement. The reason I can sit here in my college

dorm and write this article and publish it in this newspaper is solely because those in the armed forces have fought for and continue to protect my right to do so.

The keynote speaker was Colonel Geoffrey J. Slack, both highly decorated and highly accomplished. His manner was disciplined, his voice steady and strong. He spoke about the hardships veterans face after coming home from battle - about the images engraved on their minds both of the horrors of war and the horrors of seeing the grief stricken faces of family and friends whose loved one made the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Someone once wrote a letter to us here at The Patriot declaring that he was sick of hearing us spew truisms such as "Freedom isn't Free." However, there are some things that are always worth mentioning, always relevant and forever necessary. Realizing, honoring and genuinely appreciating why we are free, why we are safe and why we are even here is one of them.

To those who have fought and continue to fight for American freedom, peace and prosperity, who have protected us from nightmarish tyranny and absolute misery and who ensure the very existence and future of our freedom, peace and prosperity: thank you - we are forever indebted to you.

# SUPPORT OUR TROOPS NOW!

Because Without Them, You Wouldn't Even Have The Freedom To Demand Anything Else

# THE POW/MIA TABLE



At the veterans day ceremony, as well as at other similar ceremonies, a small table was set up in the back of the room in remembrance of our POWs and MIAs. The table was explained as follows:

THIS TABLE SET FOR ONE IS SMALL... IT SYMBOLIZES THE FRAILTY OF ONE PRISONER AGAINST HIS OPPRESSORS.

THE TABLE CLOTH IS WHITE... IT SYMBOLIZES THE PURITY OF THEIR INTENTIONS TO RESPOND TO THEIR COUNTRY'S CALL TO ARMS.

THE SINGLE ROSE DISPLAYED IN A VASE REMINDS US OF THE FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES OF OUR COMRADES IN ARMS WHO KEEP FAITH AWAITING THEIR RETURN.

THE RED RIBBON TIED SO PROMINENTLY ON THE VASE IS REMINISCENT OF THE RED RIBBON WORN ON THE LAPEL AND BREASTS OF THOUSANDS WHO BEAR WITNESS TO THEIR UNYIELDING DETERMINATION TO DEMAND A PROPER ACCOUNTING FOR OUR MISSING.

A SLICE OF LEMON IS ON THE BREAD PLATE... TO REMIND US OF THEIR BITTER FATE.

THERE IS SALT UPON THE BREAD PLATE... SYMBOLIC OF THE FAMILY'S TEARS AS THEY WAIT.

THE GLASS IS INVERTED... THEY CANNOT TOAST WITH US TONIGHT.

THE CHAIR IS EMPTY... THEY ARE NOT HERE.

REMEMBER... ALL OF YOU WHO SERVED WITH THEM AND CALLED THEM COMRADES, WHO DEPENDED ON THEIR MIGHT AND AID, AND RELIED ON THEM... FOR SURELY... THEY HAVE NOT FORSAKEN YOU.

# Letters to The White House

By Alex Niculescu

[Editor's Note: Below is an actual letter written to President Obama by Alex Niculescu and the actual response he recieved from the administration.]

Mr. President, I am writing to inform you on the many dangers of starting a health care reform in the middle of economic turmoil. It has been simple Democratic economic policy since FDR to spend money in order to make money, but I feel as though your health care plan conflicts with Keynesian economic theory. I am well aware that if the government sponsors projects to build more roads and bridges, then the economy goes up.

I will not badger you from an ideological standpoint; because I think universal health care is an over idealistic attempt to please the lower class. But under our economic circumstances it is fair to call universal healthcare idealistic and careless at best. Despite the urban myth that big business hates providing health care, the truth is that big business gives one the opportunity to have a private doctor. I once smashed my temple open and had to seek help at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in order to get stitches. I waited in line for 3 hours because the children's emergency hospital was packed with kids waiting for a checkup. In this crisis there is no possible way that the tax payers can take the burden of big business to support health care. Public health care doesn't work too well and without being well funded, my doctor's office will become just like the hospital. I can't get stitches without waiting on a line the length of a welfare line, so I can't wait until I wait on a soup line to get antibiotics from my doctor.

Given all these factors, it is safe to say that the government cannot oversee health care in such times. Since Democrats do have majority I understand the urgency to pass such a bill, but I digress. Our nation has a huge debt, and I don't understand how universal health care helps with our attempt to decrease our national debt.

Sincerely,  
Alex Niculescu

Dear Friend:

Thank you for taking the time to share your views. I appreciate hearing from you and value your input.

My Administration is working to address the serious challenges our Nation faces. Some say we are moving forward on too many issues too quickly, but given our unprecedented circumstances, swift, deliberate action is needed. I am committed to taking immediate steps that generate job creation and economic recovery, and I am determined to make investments that lay a new foundation for real and lasting progress.

To build this new foundation, I have called for health care reform--this year--that reduces costs, protects health care choices, and assures quality, affordable care for all Americans. I am committed to building a clean energy economy that creates millions of jobs, helps to achieve energy independence, and reduces pollution as we tackle the effects of global warming. To prepare our children to thrive in the global economy, we must guarantee every child a complete and competitive education. We need to secure our homeland against threats by preventing terrorist attacks while planning for and responding soundly to emergencies. We also have an obligation to rein in our budget deficit by cutting wasteful spending and ineffective programs. We can do all this, and change the way business is done in Washington, by building the most open, transparent, and accountable government in our history.

Ultimately, the only way to solve the problems of our time is to involve all Americans in shaping the policies that affect our lives.

Thank you again for writing. I encourage you to explore [www.WhiteHouse.gov](http://www.WhiteHouse.gov), which

is regularly updated and more interactive than ever before.

Sincerely, Barack Obama

**\*\*As many people may already know, the Obama administration has made it clear that they would like feedback and questions regarding the new health care plan. I disagree with the idea that it may be used to blackmail anyone, but I also disagree with the idea that it will prove a point. The administration is trying to prove to be open minded to criticism, but the Senate majority in congress proves otherwise. Since Obama failed to answer any of my inquires, I will go on to say that health care is a bi-partisan ideological conflict at best. There is no Republican in his right mind that would ever agree with the health care plan and Obama is using his FDR reign of power to do as he pleases. After our president has been recognized for his Jimmy Carter-esque peace prize stature, we stray even further and further from reality...When did socialism become the new left?\*\*\***



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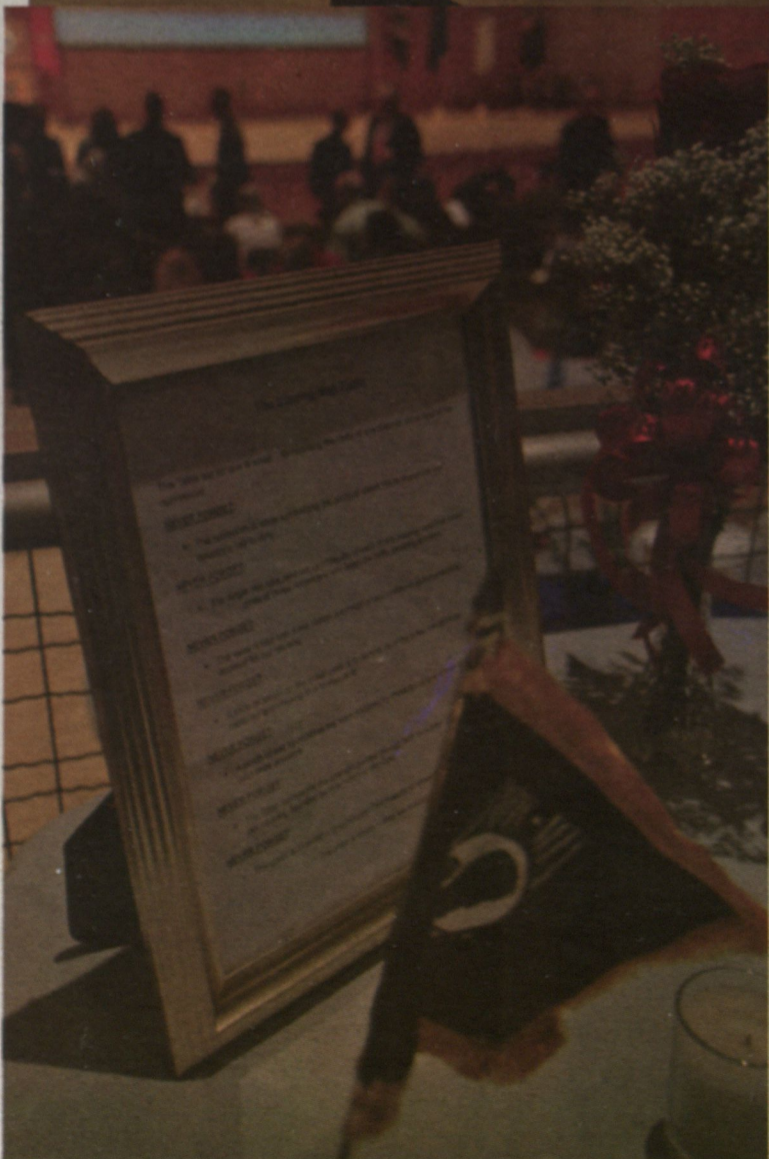
- \* To raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of severely injured service men and women,
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# Veterans Day 2009!

All Photos by Priscilla Pennino





# Conservatism Is Alive!

By Jason Schaeffer

One year ago on Election Day the Republican Party was in one of its darkest hours. President Bush was dismally unpopular; the financial system was in ruins, the United States had just voted to elect Barack Obama as President by an electoral college margin of nearly two-to-one, and the Democrats controlled both houses of the legislature and were close to securing a filibuster-proof 60 seats in the Senate. Barack Obama came into the White House as famous as a rock star with a 65% approval rating. As expected, these numbers slipped once the so-called honeymoon period of his presidency passed, but as Obama struggled with the economy, the war on terror, and the healthcare debate his numbers have been slipping precipitously. This year is the first election since his election as President and many people saw it as a test of his success. Critical races in Virginia and New Jersey proved that Americans deeply disapprove of our President and one particularly unique race in upstate New York raises interesting implications about where the Republican Party should be heading.

On this past Election Day in the Garden State the seeds of a Conservative rebirth were sown. Chris Christie defeated incumbent Governor Jon Corzine 49% to 45%. This is in light of the fact the President paid New Jersey multiple visits over the summer and Corzine outspent Christie by a margin of two to one. In addition to this, Christie was slandered by Corzine's attack ads on an almost nonstop basis with claims of corruption, being against mammograms, tax breaks for the rich, and unflattering pictures that portrayed him to be obese and rude during a congressional hearing. Christie barely put up a fight and primarily battled Corzine on the issues of property taxes and job creation, citing the fact New Jersey has the second highest taxes in the nation. I think that the argument could be made that Christie's election to the Governorship of New Jersey is a referendum on Obama as well as Corzine. New Jersey went for Barack

Obama by 12 points in the recent Presidential election and the last time this ultra-blue state went red was 1988, but the Reagan Democrats came out to play this year. Exit polls showed that Christie's voters rated the economy as a primary issue of concern. In addition, Rasmussen reports that's Obamacare is supported by a mere 42% of Americans, only 33% of Americans think that the stimulus helped the economy, and confidence in the war on terror is at its lowest level in 3 years. It seems clear to me that the results obtained in such a liberal state are a clear indication of a referendum on Obama's policies and will have interesting implications on his political future.

Just like in New Jersey, the same scene was repeated nationally last night. In the state of Virginia, Republicans fared even better than New Jersey. This is excellent news considering that Virginia has been somewhat of a purple state, having two previous Democratic governors and having just gone for Obama by 6%. Republican Bob McDonnell was elected governor by winning 59% of the vote against Creigh Deeds's 41%. Republicans also won seats in the House of Delegates, won the race for attorney general, and won the race for Lieutenant Governor. Mayor Michael Bloomberg was reelected for a third term as Mayor New York City. Also of note was Maine's decision to move conservatively and repeal its law allowing for same-sex marriages to be performed. One needs to wonder what exactly this all means for the President and his policies. I think the good news is definitely that the Democrats will need to walk on egg shells with universal healthcare and other economic issues. Blue-Dog Democrats will have fear instilled in them from the shock of what happened in New Jersey and will need to stick by their principles and not cow to the left. Also, the President will need to focus on reducing the deficit and securing Afghanistan in order to viable when it comes time for his reelection

campaign.

One particular race in upstate New York sheds light on a growing debate within the Republican Party. In the 23rd district the congressional seat was vacated after President Obama nominated its occupant for a position in his administration. This is one of the most conservative districts in the nation and has not voted for a democrat since the 1800s. A special election was held to fill the seat, which pinned Republican Dede Scozzafava against Democrat Bill Owens and Conservative Doug Hoffman. Scozzafava, who was nominated by her own party, is what some people like to call a RINO. She doesn't have horns, but she definitely isn't a Republican. Scozzafava ran on a platform of support for the stimulus, cap-and-trade, and Obamacare. Since the local GOP did not conduct a primary, local businessman Doug Hoffman ran on the Conservative party ticket and won the endorsement of several national conservatives including Sarah Palin, Fred Thomson, and Dick Armey. Hoffman quickly outpolled Scozzafava and the weekend before the election was held she dropped out of the race and endorsed Owens. Ultimately, to everyone's surprise, democrat Bill Owens was actually able to win the seat because of the schism amongst Republican and Conservative voters. The question now becomes what is happening to the Republican Party? We need to decide if we want liberal Republicans to be in the party or if we should try to push them out since they don't generally reflect our values. It is also disturbing that this infighting led to us losing the election. Some might also suggest that we need to keep a wider tent in order to remain mainstream. I'm honestly not sure what the right answer is, but personally I believe that history shows that we win when we stick to our principles of conservatism. What happened in this district is indicative of a struggle that Republicans face nationwide and has yet to be resolved.

## Join The Patriot

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7:00PM

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Advertising Managers  
Event Coordinators  
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BECAUSE MICHAEL MOORE STILL SUCKS

## Their Sur-Prize Objective

By Lindsey Claps

The 2009 Nobel Peace Prize Committee's objective to award President Barack Obama for his "extraordinary effort" is questionable.

The Nobel Peace Prize is a prestigious award bestowed upon a distinguished person, who, according to Alfred Nobel's will, "during the preceding year, shall have

conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." Obama was sworn into office on

January 20th, and the award nominations were due on February 1st. For those of

you who don't have a calculator on hand, Obama was President of the United

States for twelve days. This means that, in the eyes of the Committee, during these

twelve days Obama executed to the greatest of his ability "the best work for

fraternity between nations." Upon realizing this, I was curious as to what he actually did to promote peace during his first twelve days to deserve this.

On his seventh day in office and in an interview to an Arab news network, Obama addressed only his optimism about a peace agreement between Palestine and Israel. He did not say how or when this would be achieved. But, just four days earlier, Obama pledged to shut down the Guantanamo Bay detention facility within a year. The whole purpose of the deten-

tion facility was to protect the world by keeping known terrorists imprisoned.

So, what did the Nobel Committee see



in these efforts? That he hoped, someday, Palestinians and Israelis would make peace with one another? And the first step

to doing this is to release the terrorists currently imprisoned in Guantanamo

Bay? Impressive.

It is more than evident that the award was not given for any significant accomplishment, but rather, for Obama's intentions. The Committee likes his rhetoric. By awarding him for his goals, it guarantees to the Committee that their pacifist agenda will ensue.

The Peace Committee thinks that if all other countries end their nuclear programs, terrorists and terrorist harboring countries will do the same. This would then render Barack Obama as the one who saved the world from future war and destruction. What they also do not consider is that the technology would still exist, so what is to stop terrorist organizations from secretly possessing such weapons? Their true motivation is to promote their left wing "messiah" in charge.

The deterrent power that a nuclear weapon represents deserves a Nobel Peace Prize on merit alone. Its standing presence has kept overall peace, and its use has ended massive wars. By removing weapons of mass destruction worldwide, it will create the desire to secretly create weapons because it makes America vulnerable for attacks.

The opportunity of having President Barack Obama dismantle his country's nuclear weapons was too enticing for the Nobel Peace Committee not to take advantage of, even if they appeared foolish. By awarding President Barack Obama, they have ensured that their Nobel Peace Prize will never be taken as seriously again as it once was. But for their true objective, a promotion of their left wing agenda, this was a sacrifice they were willing to make.

## Patriot of the Month

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT JOHN GEBHARDT



[Editors Note: The following is from a forwarded e-mail we received in October]

"John Gebhardt's wife, Mindy, said that this little girl's entire family was executed. The insurgents intended to execute the little girl also, and shot her in the head...but they failed to kill her. She was cared for in John's hospital and is healing up, but continues to cry and moan. The nurses said John is the only one who seems to calm her down, so John has spent the last four nights holding her while they both slept in that chair.

The girl is coming along with her healing.

He is a real Star of the war, and represents what America is trying to do.

This, my friends, is worth sharing. Go for it!! You'll never see things like this in the news. Please keep this going. Nothing will happen if you don't, but the American public needs to see pictures like this and needs to realize that what we're doing over there is making a difference. Even if it is just one little girl at a time.."

-James Gates, US Navy

## The RINO's Right

By Rachel Jaffe

Olympia J. Snowe, Republican of Maine, recently became a "RINO", a Republican In Name Only, because of her support for the controversial healthcare bill. Though she might be criticized as a traitor now, Britain once viewed Americans as traitors to the Crown. But history books are ultimately chronicles of winners, and so though Snowe might be the traitor of today, rest assured that she will be the victor of tomorrow. Snowe supported the bill because she saw in it the potential to help a lot of her constituents, a fact too few politicians remember on either side of the aisle. Snowe has made Obama's call for bipartisanship more than a noble veneer, and come tomorrow, she is going to be the one every Republican wishes they were.

For one thing, she is a highly prized commodity to the Democrats, for which she represents a key vote. Her position gives her more power than thirty extremely conservative Republicans, and so when she pushes for changes that will assure that the health care bill stops the U.S. from accruing more debt (which is the strongest argument on the Republican side, af-

ter their threats that Grandma is going to get killed) the Democrats have taken note and have made several concessions to keep her support. No conservative Republican has been able to change policy with their bickering and pricey



propaganda the way Snowe has been able to with compromise.

Secondly, should the health care bill pass and be a success, the Republicans will be sorely regretting not having shown more cooperation. Rather than call her out, the Republicans might want to laud her courage in doing what will be best for her constituents rather than what will easily advance her political career, and stop criticizing her for being more sensible than Glenn Beck. Ms. Snowe is rational when she says "Is this bill all that I would want? Far from it. Is it all that it can be? No. But when history calls, history calls. I happen to think that the consequences of inaction dictate the urgency of Congress taking every opportunity to demonstrate its capacity to solve the monumental issues of our time."

Luckily, in this instance history is calling slowly enough that the Republicans have enough time to pick up the phone and call some shots of their own, if only they will learn to talk rather than quarrel.

## An Oath For Every Republican Candidate

By Pierre Albert

President Obama has recently been criticized in the media on shows like "Saturday Night Live" for having done little if nothing at all for the country thus far. This is clearly false but the goal of this article is not to defend him as I have done in the past. I would like to instead outline what the Republicans define as taking immediate and swift action. True change takes time in what the Democrats are trying to do to rebuild this country. Our last Republican President and face of the Republican Party took immediate and decisive action in ruining this country. The results are well documented, so in honor of former President Bush I propose that each Republican candidate take an oath before they even consider running for President.

Bushanomics Oath of Honor: Performed by Chief Justice

Repeat after me!

1. I swear to never let my Vice-President run this country and keep the job of the Vice-President as it was intended for, a do nothing position while they wait for the President to die.

2. I swear to wear a helmet with an American flag during speeches just in case a shoe comes flying my way.

3. I swear to preach and perform missionary duties around the world to prove that I am not a devil.

4. I swear to take an IQ test and show the results to the public to prove that I am not a dummy.

5. I swear to care or even if I really don't I swear to pretend to care about people during a national crisis like Hurricane Katrina.

6. I swear to not be greedy and share the oil profits if I invade the Middle East again as

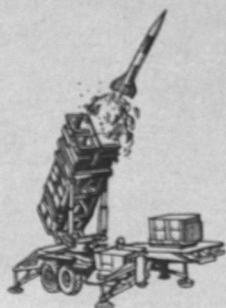
to avoid a recession.

7. I swear to never ever, even if I really wanted to win, I swear to never steal an election because the ballots never lie and I would make a terrible President if I did steal an election.

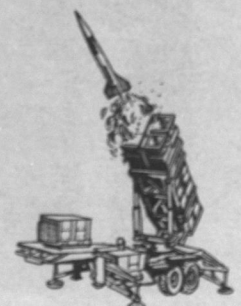
8. I swear to never ever say I am a war time President when I don't even know my geography and can't tell that Iraq is not in fact in Afghanistan

9. I swear to become a spy and find weapons of mass destruction myself next time I think a country is hiding them.

10. I swear to turn myself over to the military tribunal court the next time I bring the world prematurely on the brink of Armageddon - that is grounds for crimes against humanity.



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# Actions Speak Louder Than Appearances

By Chris Cloonan

John Lennon once wrote "All you need is love." And it's true; there is no happier feeling than being in love. This is why I support the rights of gays and lesbians to have their relationships legally recognized through domestic partnerships/civil unions and be able to gain many of the rights afforded to married couples that are not currently given to them due to the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), signed in 1996, including next-of-kin status, joint insurance policies etc. To deny them these rights is simply intolerant and discriminatory. There is no logical argument as to why a gay person should not be given bereavement or sick leave to care for a partner or not be able to inherit their partner's pension.

I must, however, make a point to differentiate myself from equal rights gay marriage supporters. They like to compare their own struggle with the struggle African-Americans went through during the Civil Rights Movement in the sixties. They forget that there is a huge difference. African-Americans were discriminated against largely based on appearance. Homosexuals are discriminated against largely because of their actions. That is why the LGBT struggle is not simply a matter of equality. It is a much more complex situation that involves

the children and future of America, which is why I fall short of supporting equal rights marriage for gays and lesbians- just as all 31 states who have had the opportunity to vote on the issue through a statewide referendum do.

Take the matter of adoption by LGBT people. I believe the best place for a child to be raised is a stable home with a mother and a father. Legalizing equal rights gay marriage would put thousands if not millions of children in homes without a mom or dad all across America. This is not what is best for America's future. It is important for the future of the country to see that the maximum number of children are raised with a mom and a dad in a stable loving home because, let's face it, America's children are America's future. Obviously, though, a stable home with gay parents is better than one in an abusive home with straight parents. There is no argument there. I'm not even saying LGBT parents would make bad parents. I'm saying neither situation is the ideal setting for a child to be raised in.

Now you may be saying to yourself, "What about single parents?" The answer is that the fact remains that those parents can remarry and once again create the stable mother-father environment; a gay single parent cannot. I'm

sure many of you reading this grew up in a home without a mom or dad. You know how hard that can be. Why wouldn't you want to give every child for whom it's possible the opportunity to be raised with both a mother and a father?

Education is another area where questions about LGBT topics arise. What should be taught about homosexuality to young children? What is appropriate for what age group? Children certainly should be taught to respect each others' differences and personal choices (I'm not saying homosexuality is a choice (I believe it's genetic); this is rather just a blanket statement about what should be taught to young children). But the decision whether or not to agree with those differences, as opposed to just respecting them, should be left to the children and their parents. This can include anything from clothes someone wears to the type of car someone drives, not just an LGBT lifestyle.

That is why the question of what rights should be given to gays and lesbians, including marriage, goes beyond rights for LGBT people. It is embedded in the future of our country through the children of America.

# An Oath For Every American President

By Jon Pu

President Bush has been criticized so much in the last eight years that it seems almost difficult for most liberals to detach themselves from this old lifestyle. While some have taken the path less traveled and begun the criticism of President Obama, the stigma still remains that Obama has done so little that it is near impossible to criticize his actions. As others who defend him have said, this is simply not so. Obama sets a national example for all Presidents to adhere to and here is an oath for all future US Presidents to take in order to best follow in his image.

The American Oath of Honor: performed by the Wisest Justice of the Supreme Court

Repeat after me!

1) I swear to pick a Vice President who knows how to keep his mouth shut.

2) I swear to wear an American Flag lapel pin for the sake of political expediency.

3) I swear to preach and perform peace-keeping around the world regardless of my understanding of international relations or lack thereof.

4) I swear to take my birth certificate and present the document to the public to prove my natural-born citizen status.

5) I swear to care about national crises that I invent such as the "swine flu epidemic."

6) I swear to not be greedy and share the health care industry with all of the public sector.

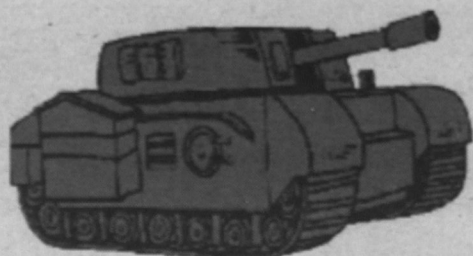
7) I swear to never ever, even if I really wanted to win, drop everything else in order to present a weak case before the International Olympic Committee.

8) I swear to use my enumerated powers of Commander-in-Chief to ensure that the US Army has trouble doing their job.

9) I swear to become a diplomat and find goodwill in men such as Colonel Gaddafi and Chairman Kim Jong-il regardless of their record on weapons of mass destruction.

10) I swear to turn in my authority and allow the honorable representative from California save us all from the brink of Armageddon; she has only benevolence for humanity.

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SAC 312

# The American Solutions To Health Care

By Maroof Ali

There is a great debate currently going on in Congress as to how to best fix the current health care system in America. Spending on health care has skyrocketed over the past couple of decades and currently represents 18% of our economy. There are also 45-47 million Americans currently without health insurance. Some believe that we need more government to solve all of our problems but the truth is government intervention is causing the current problems and is definitely not the solution. President Barack Obama is correct when he says that we need to introduce more "competition and choice" in the health care market. The best way to do this is with a few reforms including equalizing the tax code for all Americans, letting Americans buy health insurance across state lines and Medicare reform.

### Equalizing the tax code for all Americans:

Currently, the tax treatment for purchasing health insurance is not treated equally. Employer-provided health insurance is not taxed under the current federal tax code while buying directly from an insurance company is. For example, if you get health insurance from your employer worth about \$12,000, you pay no taxes on it. But if you buy it directly from an insurance company, you will have to buy it with after-tax dollars. This means that you, on average, have to pay an extra \$5,000 to the government for not getting it through your employer. Not surprisingly, 163 million Americans are covered through an employer while only 18 million Americans are covered through the private market. Giving all Americans the same tax break will give many a huge tax cut and break the tie between having a job

and health insurance. So if you lose your job, you do not at the same time lose your insurance. Equalizing the tax code will give more Americans access to high-quality and affordable health insurance because they will not be penalized for buying insurance on the health care market.

### Letting Americans buy health insurance across state lines:

Some states (New York, New Jersey, and Massachusetts) have high health insurance premiums because of their many regulations while other states (Pennsylvania and Iowa) have extremely low premiums because they have less regulations. Government regulations are of course necessary to protect consumers from being mistreated and abused by health insurance companies but some of these regulations have driven up costs without adding benefits to the majority of the population. Some of these unnecessary regulations mandate that all health insurance must cover marriage counseling, acupuncture, contraceptives, and breast reduction. Letting people buy insurance across state lines will bring down costs and cover more people. For example, it will cost a New Yorker roughly \$6,000 to buy individual insurance but if he were allowed to buy insurance from Pennsylvania, he could get it for as little as \$1,200 annually. A study done by Stephen Parente from the University of Minnesota actually estimates that 17 million more Americans will be covered if they were allowed to buy across state lines – insuring a third of the uninsured without increasing the federal deficit by one dime.

### Medicare reform:

Medicare has an unfunded liability of \$38 trillion dollars over the next 75 years. This is the total amount the American government is projected to be short in paying for senior citizens' health care. At some point the government will either go bankrupt or will have to cut funding to Medicare. This will most likely be done by cutting reimbursements to physicians, which will lead to rationing because physicians will accept less Medicare patients. The only way to avoid rationing in Medicare and still drive down costs is to introduce competition. The best way to do this is to convert the current Medicare system into a voucher system. Giving senior citizens vouchers worth \$4,000-\$12,000 to buy their own health insurance directly from insurance companies will provide better coverage and save tax payers billions of dollars. About \$60 billion annually are wasted in Medicare because of government inefficiencies and this will be eliminated by giving senior citizens full control of their health care dollars. They will also be more cost-conscious because they would be allowed to keep any money not used towards buying health insurance. Utilizing the free market will give senior citizens access to high-quality and low-cost health care.

These reforms and others including changing Medicaid into a voucher program and tort reform will bring down the cost of health care spending and insure more Americans. This is because it uses the American principles of freedom and personal responsibility. Only a few politicians these days actually believe in these virtues and it is up to us to vote these people in.

## Old Soldiers Never Die

"There is an old cookhouse, far far away

Where we get pork and beans, three times a day. Beefsteak we never see, damn-all sugar for our tea And we are gradually fading away.

Old soldiers never die,

Never die, never die,

Old soldiers never die

They just fade away.

Privates they love their beer, 'most every day.

Corporals, they love their stripes, that's what they say.

Sergeants they love to drill. Guess them bastards always will

So we drill and drill until we fade away."





# THANK GOD I DON'T LIVE IN: VENEZUELA

Happy with the way things are going in the United States? According to a recent Gallup poll, 63% of Americans would answer that question with a resounding no. For those of you in this somber majority, The Patriot invites you to join us each month in exploring some countries which may just reinvigorate your faith in the good 'ol red, white and blue.

Unemployment in the United States has passed ten percent. Many critics have blamed these problems on failed government intervention and have begun pointing to the free market for solutions, but why not just make unemployment illegal? Solution oriented Hugo Chávez has done just that, making firing employees all but illegal. What's that? Nobody wants to hire new employees? Where there's a problem there's a law to fix it, such as rigidly enforcing work hours and creating a "people's army" to crush dissenters. An army of the people, by the people and for the people – that's a man and a country with values.

Value's alone won't put food on the table though, which is why Chávez's Venezuela has secured it's oil reserves, the world's largest, and control over the world's fourth largest river. Yes it's true that power and water shortages are common and the economy is in a deep recession, but hey, there are sales opportunities in water-storage tanks and portable generators, so entrepreneurs, hire your permanent employees and get cracking. Besides, President Chávez is already taking care of it with his beautiful oratory, stating "Some people sing in the bath for half an hour. What kind of communism is that? Three minutes is more than enough!" Absolutely, stop singing about the lack of power and start scrubbing ye over-consumers around the world.



## HUGO CHAVEZ

Of course you have to be able to get the message out to the kids to make any real change, and low-quality teaching, crumbling buildings and widespread student absences

from state schools have been a problem in the past. Don't let this discourage you however, because President Chávez is willing to change the image of these institutions into something better – himself. Now kids from all incomes can learn about the world around them though Papa Hugo's eyes without interference from the newly banned media outlets which he believes hurt their mental health and causes them terror. For those thinking this is just a political ploy to indoctrinate the youth and not seriously about education, the President made it abundantly clear it's about the kids by tear gassing the University rectors who opposed his education reform – they were there when this problem started so they have to be punished.

Now there's the rule of law in action. So if you want a life with a secure job, maybe a chance to suppress some dissent, a healthy three-minute shower, and a real education for your kids, let Hugo Chávez know that the type of communism you want is his kind.

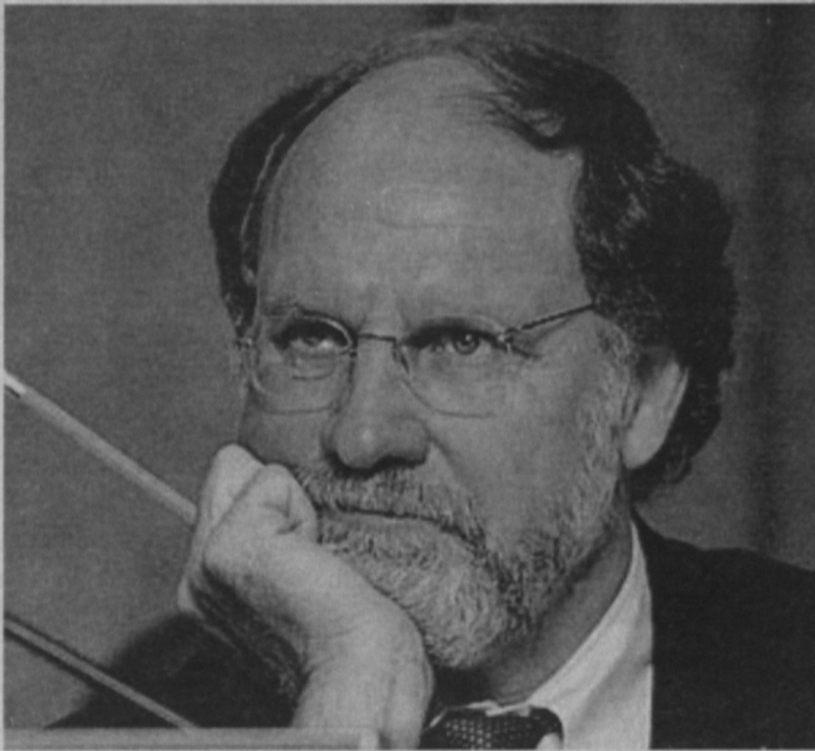
## Top Ten Nobel Prize Worthy Accomplishments of Obama

By Dan Rubin

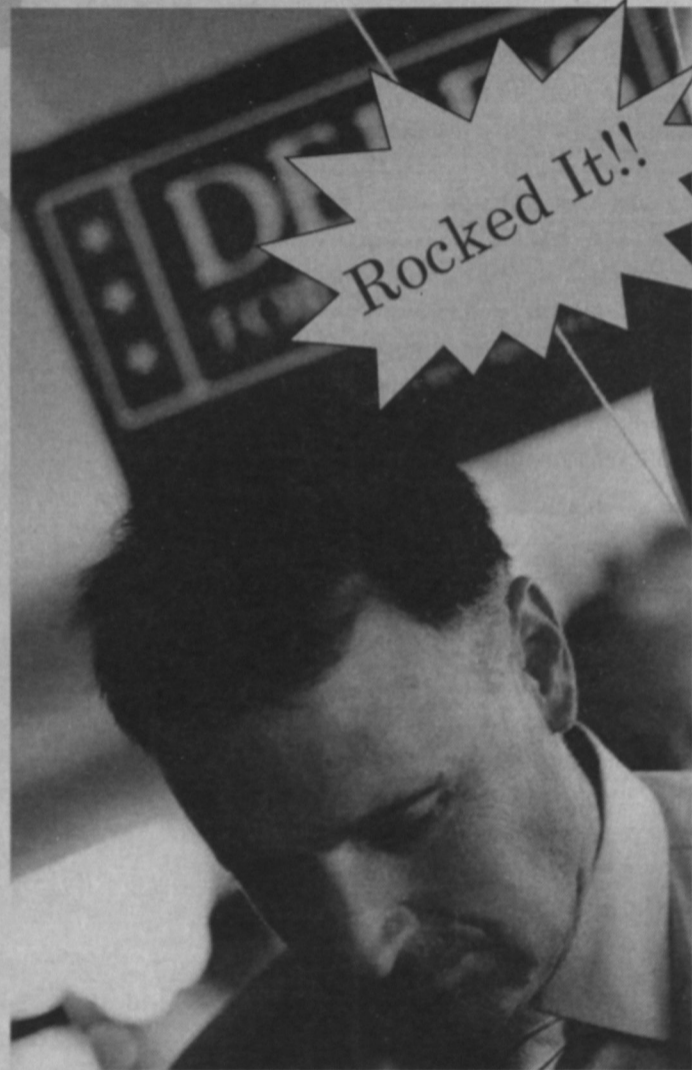
- |     |    |    |
|-----|----|----|
| 10) | 6) | 2) |
| 9)  | 5) | 1) |
| 8)  | 4) |    |
| 7)  | 3) |    |

# Who Wore It Better?

## THE FACE OF DEFEAT



Jon Corzine



Creigh Deeds

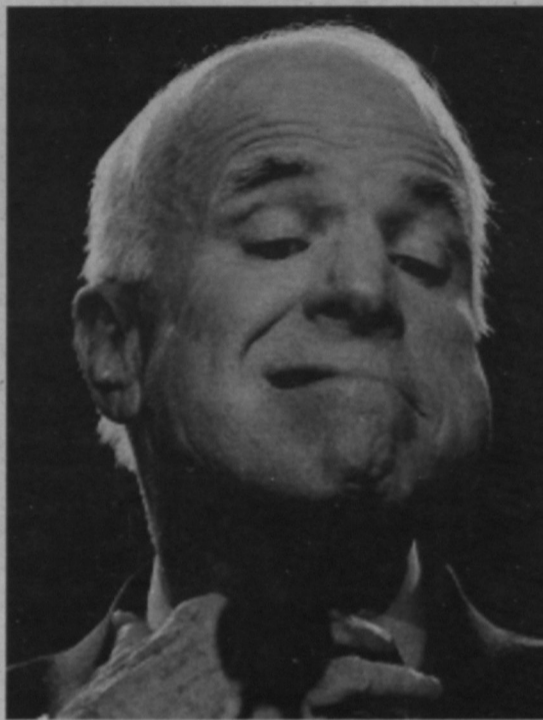
Former New Jersey Governor Jon Corzine sports his look of defeat with a frustrated, indignant frown coupled with a number two pencil for flair. 2009 Democrat nominee for Virginia Governor, Creigh Deeds, on the other hand, needs no flair. His simple downward, somber countenance match his closed eyes and slouched position perfectly. In the end, we have to give it to Creigh Deeds look of childhood dejection which strips years away while Corzine's cliché grumpy old man look just seems worn out.

# MatchGame '09!

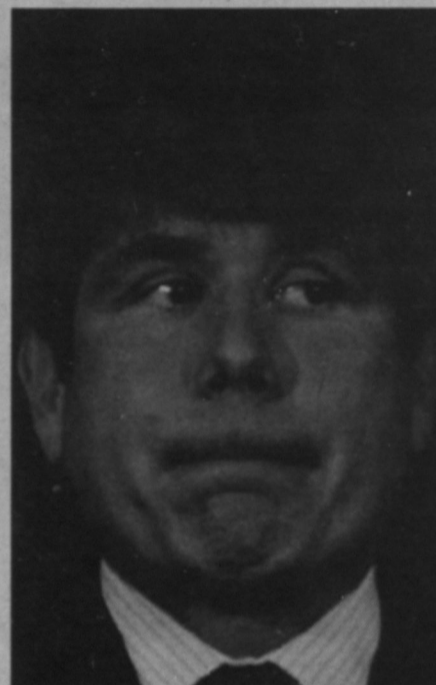
- 1.) "I Thought About Mandela, Dr. King, And Gandhi"
- 2.) "Remember kids, the Quail-call is NOT a toy!"
- 3.) "We're going to California and Texas and New York! And we're going to South Dakota and Oregon and Washington and Michigan! And then we're going to Washington D.C. to take back the White House! BYAHHHHHHHH!"
- 4.) "The third lesson and tip actually comes from two of my favorite political philosophers: Mao Tse-tung and Mother Theresa."
- 5.) "I want to cut his nuts off."
- 6.) "You need to work on your pecs."
- 7.) "I will veto every single beer."



A) Howard Dean



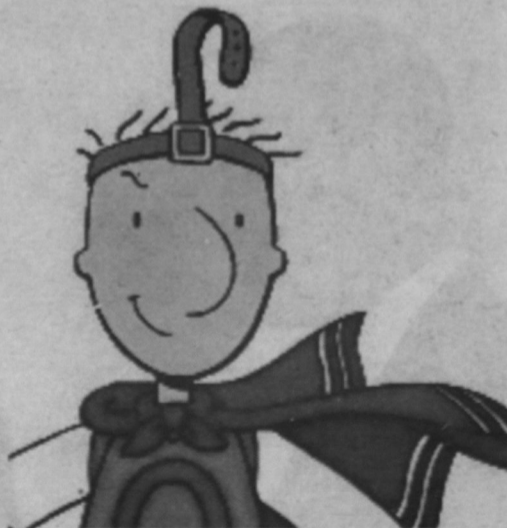
B) Sen. McCain



C) Blagojevich



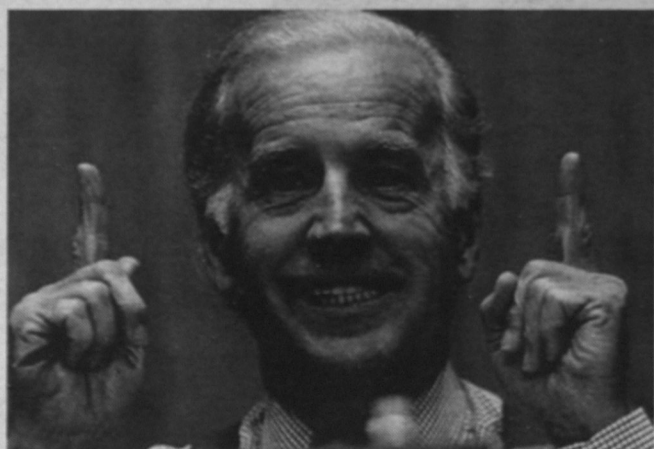
D) Anita Dunn



E) Quailman



F) Rev. Jackson



G) Joe Biden

Answers:

1) C 2) E 3) A 4) D 5) F 6) G 7) B



## The Last Word

"THE SOLDIER ABOVE ALL OTHERS PRAYS FOR PEACE, FOR IT IS THE SOLDIER WHO MUST SUFFER AND BEAR THE DEEPEST WOUNDS AND SCARS OF WAR."

"OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE. THEY JUST FADE AWAY."

~GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR



Listen General, You Ever Hear  
of the "Quiet Game?"