

The Fortnightly Rant

Another War President?

Friday, February 22—Three hundred and thirty-three days from now, the American people will have a unique thrill—they will experience the final departure of the present occupant from the nation's most expensive unit of subsidized housing: 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. At least, so they have the Constitutional right to expect. Among this administration's unique achievements has been its inspiration of the gnawing fear that some time between now and January 20, they will have ginned up some excuse to stay holed-up in the White House.

Barring such a catastrophe, one hopes that the National Association of Chiefs of Police is developing strategic plans to maintain order on that happy day. Widespread displays of spontaneous jubilation are likely to erupt without warning in all but the reddest of states. Law-abiding citizens, going about their normal daily affairs, may suddenly burst into fits of uncontrollable laughter when, out of the blue, the notion goes through their heads that that night, the empty noggin of George W. Bush will lay itself to rest—by 9 p.m., of course—somewhere other than the White House. People could find themselves hugging complete strangers on the sidewalks. Random displays of fireworks may brighten winter skies. Outbreaks of glossolalia could occur. January 20 might turn out to be a secular version of The Rapture™.

Or not. Considering the Democratic Party's remarkable talent for snatching defeat from the jaws of victory, John McCain could pick up where George W. Bush leaves off. The Executive Branch could then continue unabated, spewing belligerence around the globe, but without the mitigating effects of Bush's staggering incompetence.

The drop in the toll of the dead and wounded has allowed us to be distracted by the spectre of a collapsing economy, but the Iraq War is still on. The virtually-certain Republican nominee presents himself as a radical departure from the sort of inept leadership that led us into this quagmire, but as a recent compilation by VoteVets.org* demonstrates, "a

close read of his record indicates that his position on the Iraq war has consistently matched President George W. Bush's."

We present: *Senator McCain's Real Record on the War in Iraq.***

Before The War:

- McCain co-sponsored the Use of Force Authorization that gave President George W. Bush the green light—and a blank check—for going to war with Iraq. [S.J. Res 46, 10/3/02]

- McCain argued Saddam was "a threat of the first order." Senator McCain said that a policy of containing Iraq to blunt its weapons of mass destruction program is "unsustainable, ineffective, unworkable and dangerous." McCain: "I believe Iraq is a threat of the first order, and only a change of regime will make Iraq a state that does not threaten us and others, and where liberated people assume the rights and responsibilities of freedom." [Speech to the Center for Strategic & International Studies, 2/13/03]

- McCain echoed Bush and Cheney's rationale for going to war. McCain: "It's going to send the message throughout the Middle East that democracy can take hold in the Middle East." [Fox, Hannity & Colmes, 2/21/03]

- McCain echoed Bush and Cheney's talking points that the U.S. would only be in Iraq for a short time. McCain: "It's clear that the end is very much in sight. ... It won't be long ... it'll be a fairly short period of time." [ABC, 4/9/03]

- McCain said winning the war would be "easy." "I know that as successful as I believe we will be, and I believe that the success will be fairly easy, we will still lose some American young men or women." [CNN, 9/24/02]

During The War:

Senator McCain praised Donald Rumsfeld as late as May 12, 2004, after the Abu Ghraib scandal.

- Asked if Donald Rumsfeld can continue to be an effective secretary of defense, McCain: "Yes, today I do and I believe he's done a fine job. He's an honorable man." [Hannity and Colmes, 5/12/04]

- Senator McCain repeatedly supported President Bush on the Iraq War – voting with him in the Senate, defending his actions and publicly praising his leadership.

- McCain maintains the war was a good idea.

At the 2004 Republican National Convention, McCain, focusing on the war in Iraq, said that while weapons of mass destruction were not found, Saddam once had them and "he would have acquired them again." McCain said the mission in Iraq "gave hope to people long oppressed" and it was "necessary,



achievable and noble." McCain: "For his determination to undertake it, and for his unflinching resolve to see it through to a just end, President Bush deserves not only our support, but our admiration." [Plain Dealer, 8/31/04]

Senator McCain: "The war, the invasion was not a mistake. [Meet the Press, 1/6/08]

Asked if the war was a good idea worth the price in blood and treasure, McCain: "It was worth getting rid of Saddam Hussein. He had used weapons of mass destruction, and it's clear that he was hell-bent on acquiring them." [Republican Debate, 1/24/08]

- McCain defended Bush's rationale for war. Asked if he thought the president exaggerated the case for war, McCain said, "I don't think so." [Fox News, 7/31/03]

- McCain has been President Bush's most ardent Senate supporter on Iraq. According to Michael Shank of the Foreign Policy in Focus think tank, McCain was at times Bush's "most solid support in the Senate" on Iraq. [Foreign Policy in Focus, 1/15/08]

- McCain voted against holding Bush accountable for his actions in the war. McCain opposed the creation of an independent commission to investigate the development and use of intelligence leading up to the war in Iraq. [S. Amdt. 1275 to H.R. 2658, Vote # 284, 7/16/03]

- McCain praised Bush's leadership on the war. McCain: "I think the president has led with great clarity and I think he's done a great job leading the country..." [MSNBC, Hardball, 4/23/03]

Senator McCain has constantly moved the goal posts of progress for the war – repeatedly saying it would be over soon.

- January 2003: "But the point is that, one, we will win this conflict. We will win it easily." [MSNBC, 1/22/03]

- March 2003: "I believe that this conflict is still going to be relative-

ly short." [NBC, Meet the Press, 3/30/03]

- June 2004: "The terrorists know that this is a very critical time." [CNN, 6/23/04]

- December 2005: "Overall, I think a year from now, we will have a fair amount of progress [in Iraq] if we stay the course." [The Hill, 12/8/05]

- November 2006: "We're either going to lose this thing or win this thing within the next several months." [NBC, Meet the Press, 11/12/06]

Senator McCain opposed efforts to end the overextension of the military that is having a devastating impact on our troops.

- McCain voted against requiring mandatory minimum downtime between tours of duty for troops serving in Iraq. [S. Amdt. 2909 to S Amdt. 2011 to HR 1585, Vote 341, 9/19/07; S Amdt. 2012 to S Amdt. 2011 to HR 1585, Vote #241, 7/11/07]

- McCain was one of only 13 senators to vote against adding \$430 million for inpatient and outpatient care for veterans. [S Amdt. 3642 to HR 4939, Vote 98, 4/26/06]

- Senator McCain has consistently opposed any plan to withdraw troops from Iraq

- Senator McCain repeatedly voted against a timetable for withdrawing troops from Iraq.

- Senator McCain has consistently demonized Americans who want to find a responsible way to remove troops from Iraq so that we can take the fight to al Qaeda.

- McCain: "I believe to set a date for withdrawal is to set a date for surrender." [Charlotte Observer, 9/16/07]

- McCain called proponents of a congressional resolution opposing the troop surge in Iraq intellectually dishonest. [Associated Press, 2/4/07]

The Future:

Senator McCain now says he sees

no end to the presence of U.S. troops in Iraq.

- McCain: "[M]ake it a hundred" years in Iraq and "that would be fine with me." [Derry, New Hampshire Town Hall meeting, 1/3/08]

- McCain on how long troops may remain in Iraq: "A thousand years. A million years. Ten million years. It depends on the arrangement we have with the Iraqi government." [Associated Press, 1/04/08]

News Briefs

So Much For Supporting The Troops

"Hundreds of U.S. Marines have been killed or injured by roadside bombs in Iraq" because of "gross mismanagement," according to an internal Marine Corps study, the Associated Press reported last week.

Although Marine commanders on the ground in Iraq were sending urgent requests up their chain of command, practically begging for Mine-Resistant, Ambush-Protected vehicles (MRAPs), "budget and procurement managers" in the Corps failed to understand the urgency of the requests, and in one case lost the paperwork.

Last fall the Corps got its purchasing together, and announced that it was buying 2,300 MRAPs.

Heck of Job, Sioux

Three contracts have been awarded to provide the armor for the Marines' new MRAP vehicles. One of those contracts went to Sioux Manufacturing Corporation, of Fort Totten, North Dakota.

News Briefs

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*VoteVets.org is a political action committee established "to elect veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to public office; hold public officials accountable for their words and actions that impact America's 21st century servicemembers; and fully support our men and women in uniform ... VoteVets.org was founded in January 2006 by Iraq war Veterans Jon Soltz and Jeremy Broussard. Since its inception, VoteVets.org PAC has endorsed eight candidates for office—both Democratic and Republican.

** See: votevets.org/pages/?id=0006.

An Historic Achievement:

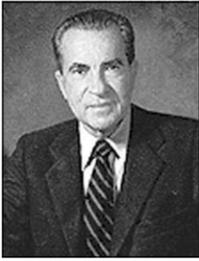
Lowest Approval Rating in History, George W. Bush, February 20, 2008: 19 percent

Previous Record: Harry S Truman, February, 1952: 22%

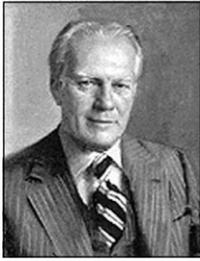
Data Source: Will Bunch, Attytood.com, American Research Group, Inc.



Lyndon B. Johnson



Richard M. Nixon



Gerald R. Ford



Jimmy Carter



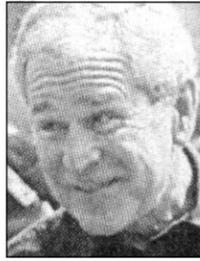
Ronald W. Reagan



George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush



William J. Clinton



George W. Bush

40
35
30
25
20
15

August, 1968
35%
Vietnam

January, 1975
37%
Pardon, Economy

July, 1979
28%
Gas prices

January, 1983
35%
Recession

August, 1992
29%
Recession

May, 1993
36%
Z. Baird, et. al.

January, 1974
23%
Watergate

February, 2008
19%
Dealer's Choice

News Briefs

from page one

Sioux Manufacturing was investigated by the government in 2006, after company whistleblowers accused Sioux of selling the Pentagon 2.2 million Kevlar™ helmets that contained about five percent less Kevlar™ than was specified. The company settled the case without admitting wrongdoing, and paid a fine of less than \$1 per defective helmet.

Last month, Sioux was awarded another contract, worth \$74 million—to make more helmets.

GOP Veep Watch

If we have learned anything from the past seven years, it is that the position of Vice President—once compared to “a bucket of warm [urine]”^{*}—must

^{*} John Nance “Cactus Jack” Garner, VP during FDR’s first two terms, is remembered today chiefly for this often-bowdlerized characterization of the office he once held. Less well remembered is that Garner ran against Roosevelt in the 1940 Democratic primaries.

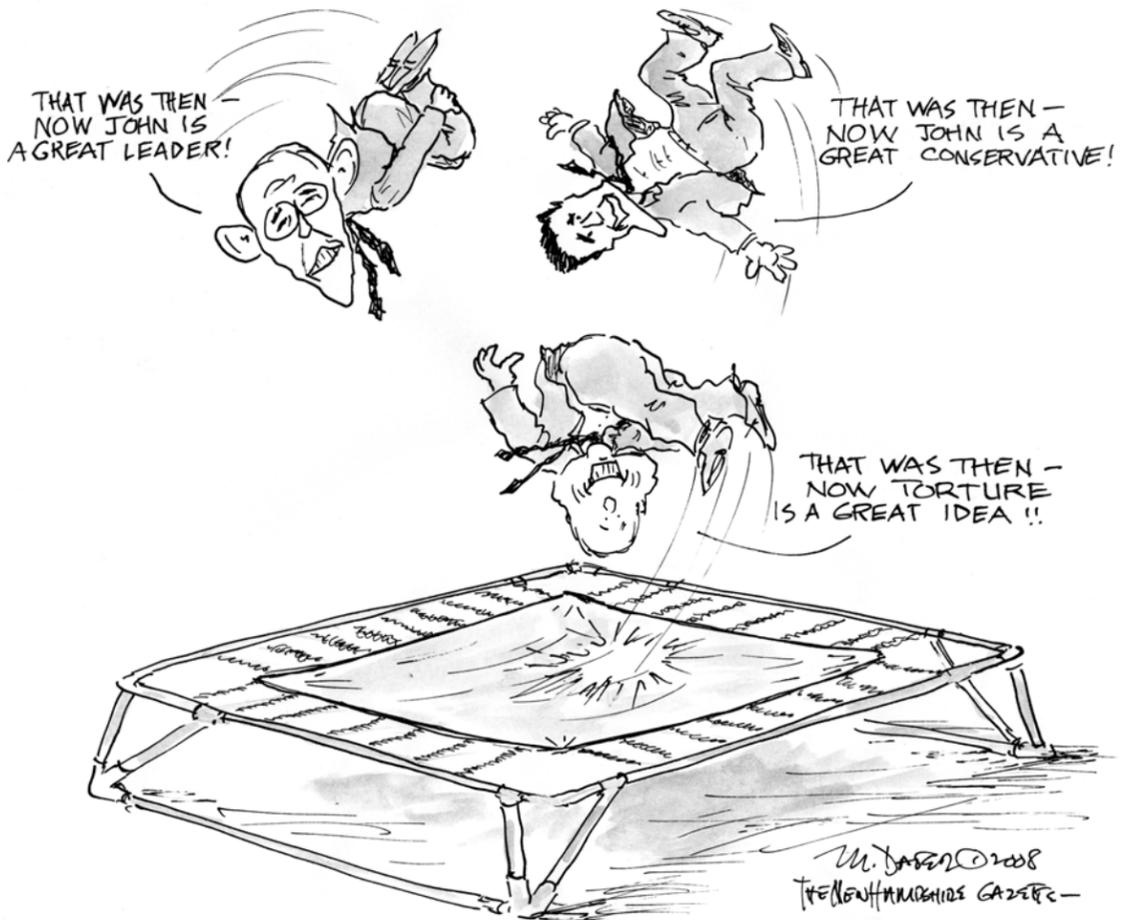
be watched with the highest degree of diligence and trepidation.

According to RealClearPolitics.com, Condoleezza Rice is the most popular contender to be John McCain’s running mate. What really gave us pause, though, was seeing the names Sarah Palin and Michael Steele at #3 and #4, right after JC Watts. Misreading those names we suddenly imagined a ticket putting forward John McCain for President, and Monty Python’s Michael Palin, for Vice President.

The strange thing was, we felt slightly less uneasy about that GOP ticket.

Intelligent Design Watch

Shortly after the polls closed on February 12, a string of extraordinarily violent Killer Tornadoes™ struck every state that went for Mike Huckabee in the Republican Primaries. Almost immediately, cynical alleged humanists began making jokes about Intelligent Design. For the record, this newspaper deplores this sort of insensitive mockery.



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Explorations in Political Depravity

How to Rig an Election, Part Deux

When last we left Allen Raymond,* fortunate son of a wealthy American family, he had resolved his youthful identity crisis by studying the craft of political chicanery at the feet of political luminaries such as Roger Ailes, and was selling his services to the Republican party—because that was where the money was. His inner compass, more attuned to money than morality, eventually led him to a federal prison, where he served three months for his role in jamming telephones to thwart the Democratic get-out-the-vote effort in Manchester in

2002. It may seem perverse—it may *be* perverse—to devote so much attention to a minor player who exudes a lack of moral sense from every pore of his being. But there are treasures glinting in the feast of swill he lays before us.

After acquiring a post-graduate degree in political management, Raymond began his decade-plus career as a vote-grubber by working for local candidates in his native New Jersey.

“My first job was about as close to the bottom as you can get in politics and still get paid,” Raymond writes, “regional coordinator for Bush/Quayle ’92 in three New Jersey counties.”

One of those counties is “basically the Miami of New Jersey,” we learn. “If you’re a Hudson [County] Republican, you’re probably Cuban. So [Lee Lichtenberger, the county’s Republican chairman] arranged a meeting for me with a few local Cuban businessmen. But first he gives Raymond “a rather mysterious set of instructions.”

“Whatever you do ... don’t say anything. Just clam up ... I’ll make it seem like I’m just doing what your’re telling me to do. If I ask you a question, just nod or shake your head.”

“After a baffling meeting conducted entirely in Spanish, Lichtenberger explains to Raymond what had just happened: “I just told those guys you were CIA ... These guys never do what I tell them to do, but now that they think you’re CIA they’ll do anything I want.”

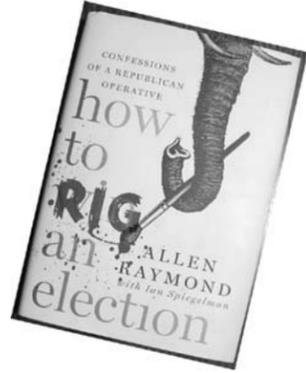
If Raymond felt any qualms at this point, he leaves them out of his narrative. Despite such

creative methods of campaigning, of course, Bush/Quayle went down to an ignominious defeat.

A few years later Raymond successfully managed a Congressional campaign for Jerseyite Bill Martini. Here’s his own description of how he did it: “by ruining one man’s credibility while possibly wrecking the financial future of a handicapped ex-cop.”

It may sound a bit rough, but according to Raymond, it was the right and honorable thing to do.

“[N]ot taking every available swing at your opponent is actually the irresponsible thing. Your



candidate is paying you to bring in votes, not to be their priest or psychologist. Every vote has a specific monetary value, and every one that you let slip away is money you’ve stolen.

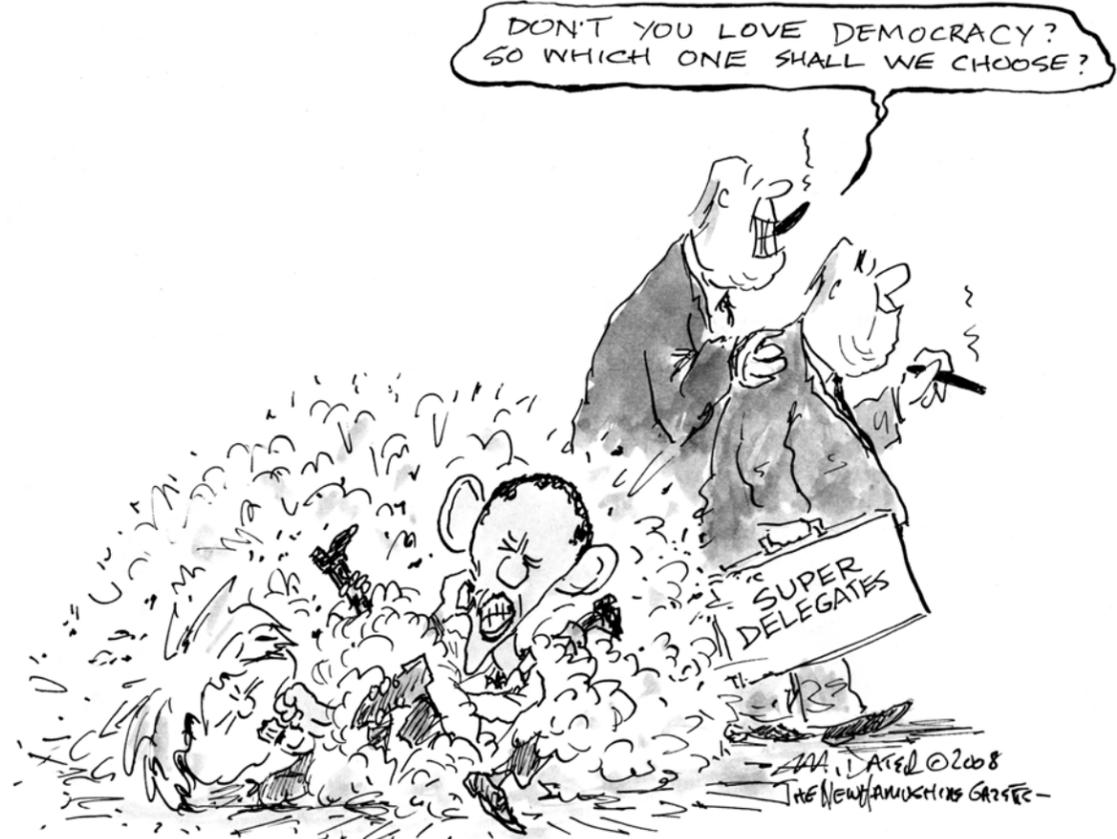
The minute you lose sight of that, you’ve lost the whole game.”

Congressman Martini rewarded Raymond with the position of Chief of Staff, but Raymond found the tedium of governance boring. When he saw that his boss was doomed to failure in the next election, he left him in the lurch and bugged out for a luca-

How to Rig an Election

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* Page One, “An Insider Spills the Beans on a Criminal Organization,” January 25, 2008. We had originally intended to complete this review of Mr. Raymond’s *How to Rig an Election: confessions of a Republican operative*, in our issue of February 8, but the press of other business prevented that; our apologies.



Temperatures have been relatively mild this winter, which has been a relief given the astronomical price of oil and gas. Daily low temperatures have tended to fall in the middle of the normal range, only rarely dropping below twenty degrees. Earlier this month, though, it seemed to be snowing every other day. Our most recent storm dropped a few inches of white stuff, then devolved into a downpour, which was quickly followed by a hard freeze. This turned the town’s sidewalks into obstacle courses, and left cement-like encrustations in a variety of inconvenient locations. Here we see—and not for the first time—a case wherein the judicious application of good old all-American brute force triumphs over nature.



“WHEN THE POWER OF LOVE OVERCOMES THE LOVE OF POWER,
THE WORLD WILL FINALLY KNOW PEACE.” -- JIMI HENDRIX



Northcountry Chronicle

Sub Libris

by William Marvel

I don't know why I keep buying books. The other night, as I tucked a fat tome back into one of my newer bookshelves, it occurred to me that I probably don't have enough time left on this planet to read all the ones I already have, let alone all the ones I would like to have. That would be true even if I were not so slow a reader and even if I had more time for pleasure reading than I do now.

But still I buy them, either for myself or my wife, who seems to share my compulsion. The house is already full, though, and has been for quite some time. Bookshelves dominate the second floor of the house, filling every foot of wall space in my office, the walk-in closets that line both sides of the house, and the landing at the top of the stairs. They crowd our bedroom where there is floor space, and hang from the walls above the bed; one of

the clothing closets was long ago sacrificed for shelf space. Years ago I built floor-to-ceiling shelves in the living room, partly for the books they would hold and partly to support the library upstairs, and the only bare walls in the spare bedroom have been dedicated to books. As new ones come in now I have to cull others, the most recent of which wait to go to the library in a little pile beneath a 1920s radio cabinet that was turned into a bookcase.

I take my authors in binges. Before I left Kennett High School I had already read all the long historical novels of Kenneth Roberts. I think I've read everything Mark Twain wrote, including *The American Claimant* and *Letters From The Earth*, and I believe I've finished off both Thomas Wolfe and William Faulkner. Of Herman Melville I have only *The Confidence Man* waiting to amuse me through some days-long convalescence. I've read most of Na-

thaniel Hawthorne, Jack London, Stephen Crane, Willa Cather, Ernest Hemingway, John Dos Passos, Sherwood Anderson, and John Steinbeck. I'm probably halfway through William Dean Howells, Upton Sinclair, Edith Wharton, Sinclair Lewis, Theodore Dreiser, Scott Fitzgerald, Robert Penn Warren, and Carson McCullers, each of whom has novels hovering over my head at night, tempting me with glimpses of long-vanished cultures that brought us the world we have today. I harbor a secret ambition to read more of Hamlin Garland, a forgotten local-color chronicler of the Plains, and the short-lived activist Frank Norris, both of whom found different ways to describe the conquest of the American farmer by capitalist industry.

That's just the fiction, and only from this continent. Hiding in my library are numerous chronicles of past eras that deserve

further attention. Some were written by better-known independent historians like Henry Adams, and some by astute private diarists like George Templeton Strong, who recorded life in 19th-century New York much as Samuel Pepys did that of 17th-century London. I still itch to



read a few more books by that amazing *hausfrau*-turned-historian, Barbara Tuchman, who detailed the combination of idiots and allegiances that ignited the First World War, and I've barely managed to browse a couple of Jared Diamond's chilling cross-disciplinary studies of human folly. Tapping into a readership that includes precious few Americans born after the Nixon era, trained historians and independent writers are turning out fair-to-fascinating accounts of mankind's various wars, natural disasters, and epidemics every year, and if I could only find the time I'd like to digest the major-

ity of them.

With two centuries' worth of books already available, and so many more coming out that two or three remainder catalogues land in the mailbox every month, one might wonder why anyone would try to add to that literary tsunami. It would seem as though there were nothing new to write about. From a sampling of the junk fiction our teenagers have devoured in the past six years, I suspect that fiction may have reached the limits of imagination, even in the realms of science fiction and fantasy. There yet remain many unstudied aspects of our past, though, and the chauvinism of the victor has always left forgotten perspectives buried under mountains of self-congratulatory nationalism. In the decades that may be left before nuclear cataclysm, pandemic pestilence, or environmental collapse, therefore, there is plenty of opportunity to examine what fools we mortals have been.

How to Rig an Election

from previous page

tive position with the Republican National Committee (RNC).

At the age of 29, he was making \$90,000 a year. "For the first time in my life," he writes, "I was making money instead of spending my inheritance." It's like a Horatio Alger story, only without the hardship, the pluck, or the good works.

Eminent Republicans

At the RNC, Raymond met many of the leading lights of the Grand Old Party. Sadly, he appears to have found damn few who were worthy of his respect.

First Lady Barbara Bush was "hardly an endearing figure."

Dan Quayle—no surprise—was "considered such a dimwit

that we suspected a double-secret alternative succession plan existed in case anything ever happened."

Karl Rove was "the king of direct mail smear campaigns."

Rove's top client gets no respect, either. "[O]f all the dubious things I did throughout my career," he writes, "at least I can honestly say that I did nothing to put George W. Bush in power."

Raymond's contempt for his fellow Republicans was by no means restricted to the upper echelons. In his book, many of the votes he's trolling for are cast by "[t]he mouth-breathers who decide GOP primaries," aka "the Jesus-loves-guns crowd."

Tired of being treated like a red-headed stepchild, Raymond

took all the tricks he'd learned, borrowed some money from power-broker Haley Barbour, and set himself up as a political entrepreneur. Before long he found himself making a million bucks in just three weeks, just brokering telephone calls. Nirvana.

Unfortunately for our hero, it didn't last. Jim Tobin, a former co-worker with Raymond at the RNC, came along and offered him a job that was too good to pass up. Tobin, now the New England Regional Director of the National Republican Senatorial Committee, wanted help jamming some Democratic telephones in New Hampshire (thus improving John E. Sununu's odds of getting elected to the Sen-

ate). Hey—it's new, it's weird, it's thoroughly unprincipled—no reason not to try it!

Raymond insists that the New Hampshire phone-jamming job had to have been approved by Tobin's superiors. And he argues that he was a guinea pig—maybe lab rat would be a better term—for the Mayberry Machiavellis, because if it had been safe, they'd have paid one of their own to do the job. Hard to believe that a man so cynical could have been shocked to learn there's no honor among thieves, but shocked he was.

Readers who slog through to the end of this political sewer are eventually rewarded with Raymond's one honorable act: he pleads guilty to several felony

charges and spends three months in the federal slammer. By his account, that experience wasn't all that bad. "After 10 full years inside the GOP," he writes, "90 days among honest criminals wasn't really any great ordeal."

Despite his recent crash course in remedial ethics, it's hard to see that his moral compass has been re-calibrated. "If you can find an issue that turns off 49 percent of the voters," he writes, "your guy gets 51 percent and you win. 'Quantitative methods' is about using the polls to find—or, better yet, create—the negative issue that turns off the right segment of voters. That's Wedge Politics."

"The objective was to get them to throw up their hands and stay home on Election Day."

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Moving Pictures

Daniel Day-Lewis

by Rodman Philbrick

That background noise you keep hearing isn't one of those pesky government wiretaps (those are silent) but the tsunami-like roar of the approaching Academy Awards, scheduled to inundate your widescreen on Sunday night. A lot of that noise surrounds Daniel Day-Lewis, who gained widespread acclaim for his role in *There Will Be Blood*, the adaptation of the Upton Sinclair novel *Oil!*, and who, according to pollsters hiding in Dixville Notch, stands the best odds to win. And as we know, pollsters are never wrong, and if they are, have lots of really good excuses. So keep your big chin up, Mr. Clooney, and stop lobbying those superdelegates.

Fifty-year-old Daniel Day-Lewis is the product of a distinguished British family. His father, Cecil Day-Lewis, was poet laureate, his mother is the actress Jill Balcon, and his grandfather Sir Michael Balcon ran the famed Ealing Studios. Not a surprise then, that young Daniel developed an interest in acting.

Mr. Day-Lewis is famed, not to say notorious, for his intense preparation for a role. He built his own canoe and spent weeks trapping and skinning animals prior to stepping before the cameras in *The Last of The Mohicans*. Lunch break on *The Gangs of New York* found him glowering at the crew and sharpening his butcher knives. In his first Oscar-winning role, he crammed his 6'1" frame into the tiny wheelchair used by the cerebral-palsied genius Christy Brown, and made the audience believe he was the little man who wrote *My Left Foot*. He built his own house for *The Crucible* and learned Czech (and to be unbearable) for *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*. There are rumors, never substantiated, that between movies (and he's extremely picky) Mr. Day-Lewis moonlights as a cobbler, a kind of Dr. Manette figure, buried alive in his own mind, waiting to be recalled to life in his next role.

The method in his madness makes a Day-Lewis performance burn into the viewer's brain, lingering long after the final credits

have run. His first solid screen role was in *The Bounty*, the retelling of the famous mutiny in the South Seas, directed by Roger Donaldson. Mel Gibson may have done much of the smoldering as Fletcher Christian, opposite Anthony Hopkins' Captain Bligh, but Day-Lewis got in his innings as the craven, cowardly John Fryer. (Okay, okay, Pauline Kael panned him as an actor without talent, but then she thought *Nashville* was the best movie ever made.) Made in 1984, *The Bounty* stands up remarkably well, with terrific performances all around, including Liam Neeson and Laurence Olivier, and cinematography that's even better than the infamous Marlon Brandon version that nearly bankrupted MGM in 1962.

It hardly seems possible that *My Beautiful Laundrette* is twenty-four years old, or that most of us must have watched the character of the sly, manipulative Johnny, gay white boyfriend to Omar, without ever having heard of chap named Daniel Day-Lewis. The Stephen Frears film,

set in the Thatcher London of the 1980's, is about the violent clash of cultures between Pakistani immigrants and right-wing activists who resent the influx of Moslems into Britain. Omar (Gordon Warnecke) just wants to get along, not only with his family but with life in England in particular. The great Saeed Jafrey plays his conflicted dad, who

loathes the English but chooses to live amongst them. It's Day-Lewis's character who provide the spark that will ignite all that forbidden passion. Those of you with delicate sensibilities are advised not to think overmuch on what the ultimate method man might have done to get in character.

Many of you will not have come across *Stars And Bars*, a great little fish-out-of-water comedy based on the novel by William Boyd. Daniel Day-Lewis got the unambiguous lead as Henderson Dore, a veddy British art expert who finds himself way, way over his head in the deep American South, dealing with an eccen-

tric, cunning Harry Dean Stanton, who has somehow come into possession of a genuine Renoir. Okay, it's a bit of a wacky fling and suffers from a meandering screenplay, but check out the cast: Daniel Day-Lewis, Harry Dean Stanton, Maury Chaykin, Joan Cusack, Glenna Headly, Laurie Metcalf, Will Patton, Martha Plimpton, Rockets Redglare, and yes, the late and lamented Spalding Gray in one of his rare film roles. Heck, it even has a walk-on from deadpan genius Steven



Wright. What's next for Mr. Day-Lewis? Once the Oscar smoke has cleared away, can we expect to find him back at his cobbler's bench, making shoes? Learning transplantation techniques for *Dr. Frankenstein, MD*? Slaughtering whales and applying his own tattoos so he can really, really get into the role of Queequeg in *There Will Be Blubber*?

Stay tuned, and don't believe everything you read about actors, or cobblers for that matter.

America's #1 Populist

Cashing In on America

by Jim Hightower

Roger Chapin calls himself a "non-profit entrepreneur." You might call him a money-grubbing huckster—or worse.

This San Diego business operator with big-name Republican connections has found a way to profit handsomely from the natural impulse of the American people to "support our troops." Chapin runs a number of military-themed charities under the

umbrella of a group with the heart-tugging name of Help Hospitalized Veterans. Who could resist that appeal? Indeed, in a two-year period, Chapin's groups collected \$160 million in donations from generous Americans.

One of his groups is called The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, and it has had the help of a couple of retired generals to give weight to its solicitations. "I am proud to con-

tribute my time and financial support to Salute America's Heroes," wrote retired Brigadier General Arthur Diehl III in a fundraising letter. Actually, Diehl didn't exactly "contribute" his time, and much of the financial support flowed to him—he was paid \$5,000 a month by Chapin's charity. General Tommy Franks, who commanded George W's Iraq invasion, has also cashed in. Franks got \$100,000 from Chapin for use

of his name and for promoting the Salute group.

Meanwhile, the American Institute of Philanthropy gives Chapin's operation a grade of "F," because only 25 percent of the money he collects ends up going to programs helping vets. The other 75 percent has gone to administrative costs, including a \$426,000 payment to Chapin in 2006, \$113,000 to his wife for serving as "newsletter editor," \$444,000 to buy a condo

for the Chapins, \$340,000 for such expenses as meals and entertainment, and even \$17,000 for Chapin's golf club membership!

These outfits seem confused on the concept of charity. It's "support" our troops—not exploit them.

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New Hampshire Veterans Getting Short End of the Stick

To the Editor:
New Hampshire is the only state without a full-service Veterans Affairs hospital—forcing veterans to choose between traveling to either Boston or Vermont for medical care.

Senator Judd Gregg has been in Congress since 1980 and Senator John E. Sununu since 1996. These two men have served a combined thirty-eight years in Congress and still have not delivered a full-service Veterans Affairs hospital to New Hampshire. The New Hampshire State Senate approved a resolution calling for the restoration of the hospital in Manchester into a full-service facility. To this date, all Senator Sununu has done on the matter was to write a letter to the Veteran's Affairs Secretary James Peake in support of the hospital. I am not aware of any work that Senator Gregg has done.

As an Iraq veteran, and on behalf of our returning veterans, I must say it is absolutely shameful that both Senator Gregg and Sununu supported the President's call for war with Iraq, but have not delivered a full-service Veterans Affairs hospital to New Hampshire. That's not supporting the troops.

Joshua David Denton
New Hampshire State
Team Captain, Vote Vets
(VoteVets.org)
Portsmouth, NH

Justice for Torturers

To the Editor:
It is not surprising that the Prevaricator-in-Chief and his Dark Lord would deny that waterboarding is torture, and now further assert that they have a legal right to order such practices. Neither Pol Pot, Slobodan Milosevic, Idi Amin, Augusto Pinochet, nor the rulers of Nazi Germany admitted that their actions were illegal torture. But it was not for them to say. The International Criminal Court has that authority, and obligation. Someday, the human rights abusers currently running our country will be taken to the bar of justice as well. Soon, I pray, very soon.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, CA

Corruption

To the Editor:
The media taking heads are filling their bank accounts with huge amounts of money given to them by the elite rich and corrupt corporations and individuals. They are spinning and twisting the truth and facts again seeking to degrade and weaken and are mounting villainous attack against Senator Clinton's character and her righteous and courageous stand on most all serious issues of our times. The Republicans have ruined so many lives with their spitefulness, hatefulness, and lawlessness throughout the years the voters in my opinion this time around will not fall for all their crafty, corruption, and lawbreaking or their propaganda lies as was the case in the past. The Republicans are always attacking the most down trodden people who even think of getting in their way of their greedy and corrupt schemes and scams that they are still today perpetrating upon the hardworking American men and women and those who can't help themselves. It is about time the Democrats along with the American people put a stop

to this lunacy and corruption of the Republican Party.

William Alford Perry
West Blocton, AL

The Real Reasons Liberals Don't Love Evangelicals

To the Editor:
Mr. Nicholas D. Kristof's column on "Evangelicals a liberal can love," was in my Foster's Daily Democrat of Dover, NH, Feb. 7th. I must correct his assumption that contempt of "conservative right" Christian evangelicals is based on their professed religion. It is not.

The true basis for any enmity towards "conservatives" is that many of them, encouraged by the likes of Pat Roberson, the late Jerry Falwell, James Dobson, etc., have worked to systematically deny the private rights of individuals. I am speaking, of course, of the spectacular political and public campaigns against legal marriage, adoption—even guardianship of their own biological children—for same-sex or transgender couples; and their support of anti-abortion groups.

Efforts to have prayer in public schools and encourage Christian student group meetings have missed the point that the First Amendment's "separation of Church and State" clause insists on. If one religion is admitted to taxpayers' money, all other private groups—including Wiccan, "pagan," Satanic, Islamic, Shinto, Buddhist, or any other religion or philosophy may claim that right. Saying "no," to all religion is not discriminatory. Saying "yes," to some but not others—is.

There's also the "Intelligent Design" smokescreen to corrupt the teaching of scientific methods with a Biblical version of the myth of creation. Religions each have their own versions of that myth. Could we possibly cover all of them in an elementary school or high school "Religions of the world" course?

I know there are individuals in any group that are as much a hindrance as any amount of help they provide to their cause. One of the founding members of the GLBT movement was a misogynistic, (anti-female,) controversial and antagonistic male who gave the movement its rainbow flag and ACT UP its bad name for "outing" persons "in the closet." A clear invasion of their privacy.

The offense against human dignity that these Christian missionaries will continue to perpetrate upon the poor will—as it has for millennia—destroy their attainment of independence. "Conservative right" faiths—including some sects of Islam—continue to lobby for and enforce anti-contraceptive and anti-abortion laws and control social acceptance for—all—the citizens of the countries they hold influence in. These deny women the right to live, determine their own fate and their families' finances; their choices in work and health care and how they are treated in their own societies. Gay and transgender persons are likewise left out of consideration unless they perform as perfect hypocrites. This endangers their self-respect and mental health. "Do no harm," indeed!

I dislike intensely the use of religion to cause pain to others. Particularly when those claiming to perform "God's Will" remain completely closed to any information or proof of empirical nature that they are wrong. I strenuously object to "conservative right" associates who profit by castigating the "sins" of people who are just different and use it to influence the government I live under. The very same one that gave them freedom and tolerance to flourish—which they seem bent to deny everyone in disagreement with them.

Diane M. Starkey
Rochester, NH

Miracle Of The Fish?

To the Editor:
When Mike Huckabee won the all impotent—whoops, I mean important—Iowa caucus, he claimed that the Bible God must have had something to do with his glorious victory. As I recall, the Huckster revealed that his upset victory reminded him of a twelve year old boy who once fed a multitude of people with two fishes. As we all know, this twelve year old boy was none other than Mike's lord and saviour, Jesus.

Anyway, the reason that I bring this up is that when Jesus supposedly fed thousands of people with two fish and five loaves of Wonder Bread, he would have had to have been way older than twelve. This miracle, the only one mentioned in all four gospels, occurred after Jesus had started his ministry and was nearly thirty years old, according to the Bible. I hate to be picky, but if Mike is a preacher man, and he is contending for the nomination to the presidency from the Party Of God (that's GOP backwards), then he should be more religiously correct!

Furthermore, the *first* miracle of Jesus was the old turning water into wine trick, according to the inspired author of the book of John. So we know that Jesus must have been at least 21 (legal drinking age) when he performed his first trick, therefore, all the other stuff, including the loaves and fishes act, must have come way later than at twelve years old.

Incidentally, the water to wine act involved involved six stone water jugs holding from twenty to thirty gallons each. Holy hangover, that's at least 120 gallons of wine, and this was after the wedding party (including Jesus, his disciples, and his mom) had already drunk all the wine presented by their host! Anyway, that was the first miracle of Je-

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sus. His second miracle came on the morning after when he created Alka-Seltzer. Oh what a relief it was!

Since Huckleberry Mike seems to be the only remaining viable contender to Deputy Dog McCain, one hopes that he will fine tune his Bible thumping before it is too late. Amen.

Gary Walker
Campton, NH

Gary:

Your letter reinforces our long-standing suspicion that you will eventually find yourself repenting of your blasphemy in someplace particularly hot. We look forward to your company.

The Editor

Impeachment

To the Editor:

Dennis Kucinich has submitted a 50-count indictment of Mr. Bush and, separately, an indictment of Mr. Cheney, both for treason.

Nancy Pelosi is the roadblock to any activation of these measures of impeachment, out of personal cowardice, or political cowardice. These things need be done, prior to Mr. Bush & Mr. Cheney leaving office.

Why would the Speaker of the U.S. House, at this late stage of the Presidential primary process, resist the temptation to become President, even if for just a few days? Especially when the likely successor to Mr. Bush will be just as bad, or worse, at violating the shredded remains of the U.S. Constitution & Bill of Rights, and need impeachment upon attaining office?

If members of the U.S. House refuse to aid Dennis Kucinich they must keep in mind that calls from the several states for impeachment are on the rise (I have heard of many at the Town/City level, in Vermont). The New Hampshire House has an impeachment article (HR 24) scheduled for February 19, at

1 p.m., in room 305-307 of the Legislative Office Building, before the State and Federal Relations Committee. Given some of the material available online, and the fear and hatred of the federal government, this pressure will only increase.

Is it not time to respond to the will of the people? Contact Dennis Kucinich for his articles, or me. I can supply people with the articles referred to in HR 24, as drawn up by Rep. Betty Hall (Hillsborough, District #5). After the hearing on HR 24, the State and Federal Relations Committee, should have a damn tall stack of ammunition towards articles of impeachment.

Howard L. Wilson
Andover, NH

Bill Clinton:

"More Davos Than Democrat"

To the Editor:

Last month I wrote saying I planned to follow the primary campaign to compare it with the 1992 Clinton campaign. Last Sunday I voted in the local caucus, as I did when Jerry Brown won Maine. This year the Opera House was packed with mostly Obama voters, a bursting crowd that also turned out across the state.

Jerry Brown's campaign had limited donations to \$100 per person, and in New York had to borrow money while Bill Clinton seemed to have plenty. Wondering where he got it, I read that billionaire Sam Walton, head of Wal-Mart and a G.H.[H.]W. Bush supporter, gave him some; but not until reading a 2006 magazine article, "The Party of Davos," did I learn more.

The invitation-only Party gathers every year in a Swiss ski resort to discuss the world's problems as defined by the world's rich global corporations. Bill Clinton goes often, and when he was president he delivered a big Party gift: the North American Free Trade

Agreement. The then-chairman of American Express is quoted as saying, "NAFTA happened because of the drive Bill Clinton gave it. He stood up to his two prime constituents, labor and environment, and drove it home over their dead bodies."

A recent article tells how the 1994 imposition of NAFTA wrecked Mexico's system of small self-sufficient farms and drove two million farmers from their lands, some to work for \$2 an hour for the huge corporations that now control Mexico's agricultural production. U.S. corporations also control 40% of other jobs, Wal-Mart is the biggest employer, and 19 million more Mexicans live in poverty than when Clinton pleased the Party with NAFTA.

The 2006 article said NAFTA was only the beginning that was followed by the World Trade Organization agreement and a deal that traded off more U.S. industrial jobs for benefits to U.S. investors in China. Clinton's record of eagerly pushing the Party agenda shows he fits the article's description: "more Davos than Democrat."

Marjorie Gallace
Camden, ME

A Different Sort of Stimulus Package

To the Editor:

Looking for a good way to spend your newfound riches under W's "economic stimulus package"? I've got a couple of good ideas. Instead of spending all of that cold hard cash on consumer goods from your nearest boxy temple of sweaty plastic wares, why not give the money to something that really matters?

Buy a share at you local community supported agriculture (CSA) farm. The idea is that by buying a share from a CSA you ensure a supply of nutritious local products, while helping the local farms raise the money up

front in the spring when there is not a steady supply of income but much expenditure. You get a weekly supply of goodies and the farmer gets an insurance policy against a poor harvest or other calamity. Already a gardener? I'm sure your local food pantry would take a share in your name.

Give it away. My choice is The Second Vermont Republic. An organization dedicated to the nonviolent separation from the union. I mean who on the federal level cares really about Vermont anyway.

Other worthy causes may include: The Black Panthers, The Wobblies, Witness Against Torture, The Center for Constitutional Rights, North Eastern Federation of Anarcho Communists, or your favorite radical organization. A sure bet is any organization skilled in getting George and Dick's hackles up.

Save it. You weren't planning on having an extra six hundred bucks to spend anyway so don't. Put it in a box, bury it or if you can't resist buying something get the supplies to bake a gazillion pies and show up to the GOP convention armed and ready to go.

Reduce your productivity. Look it as an all expenses paid trip to Canada. How long does it take you to make \$600 after taxes? It takes most of us in the target group at least a week to make six hundred bucks, so take a week off on Uncle Sam's dime. You deserve it.

Jonathan Szalewicz
Durham NH

Sununu Changes His Tune—Again

To the Editor

Senator Sununu has once again changed his tune. Voting against the original economic stimulus package, he claimed he did so because it would have allowed for tax cuts for coal and oil companies. This package, however, would have provided great



er investments for green collar jobs, unemployment extensions, and home heating assistance. The irony of this is that Sununu was the decisive vote in killing an energy plan that would have gotten rid of the tax subsidies to big oil companies just a few weeks ago.

This re-election year ploy is something we should all get used to. Sununu will try to cast himself as in line with the priorities of the people of New Hampshire, when in fact, he is simply in line with the Republican Party. With the issue of clean energy and big oil, Sununu has a pretty consistent record of voting against our interests.

Barbara Frake
Newton, NH

Of Lies and Liars

To the Editor:

Representative Henry Waxman is leading a Congressional kerfuffle about lies and liars in the game of baseball. Either Roger Clemens or his ex-trainer is lying before Congress.

Sure, lying about drug use is a terrible thing. But why is Congress spending so much time investigating baseball drug liars while failing to hold Cheney, Rumsfeld, and the Prevaricator-in-Chief accountable for the lies that have trapped us in Iraq's tar pit of debt, death, and disgrace? Their lies before Congress are far more grave, harming a generation of Americans.

Bruce Joffe
Piedmont, CA

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ADMIRAL FOWLE'S PISCATAQUA RIVER TIDAL GUIDE (NOT FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES)

Portsmouth is bounded on the north and east by the Piscataqua River. Depending on which tour boat captain you believe, it's the second, the third, or the fourth fastest-flowing navigable river in the country.

The Piscataqua's remarkable current is caused by the tide which, in turn is

caused by the moon. The other major player is a vast sunken valley, about ten miles upriver. Twice a day, the moon drags roughly seventeen billion gallons of salt water from the ocean, up the river, into Great Bay. (If the moon ever stopped moving that water for us, it could be replaced with 2,125,000

tanker trucks.)

The moon's meddling creates a roving hydraulic conflict as incoming sea and outgoing river collide. The skirmish line moves from the mouth of the river, past New Castle, around the bend by the old Naval Prison, under Memorial Bridge, past the tugboats,

and on towards Great Bay. This spectacle can best be seen when the chart below shows the tide rising. A good place to watch is the little deck near the sterns of the tugboats, off Ceres Street. Twice a day, too, the moon lets all that water go. All the salt water that just fought its way upstream goes back

to rejoin the ocean. This is when the Piscataqua earns its title for xth fastest current. A good place to observe this is from Bow Street, up by St. John's church. Look up the river, from one of the little parking lots between the buildings. (Don't try to drive or park there, that won't work.) You'll see a red

buoy, at the upstream end of Badger's Island, bobbing around in the current. That buoy weighs several tons, is nine feet wide, and it bobs and bounces in the current like a cork! The river also has its placid moments, around high and low tides. Often when the river rests, its tugboats and drawbridges

work their hardest. Ships coming in heavily laden with coal, oil, and salt generally do so at high tide, for maximum clearance under their keels. When they leave empty, riding high in the water, they tend to go at low tide, for maximum clearance under Memorial Bridge.

| Sunday, February 24 | Monday, February 25 | Tuesday, February 26 | Wednesday, February 27 | Thursday, February 28 | Friday, February 29 | Saturday, March 1 |
|---|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| <p>2001—"My plan reduces the national debt, and fast," says G.W. Bush. "So fast, in fact, that economists worry that we're going to run out of debt to retire."</p> <p>1991—Ground war against Iraq begins, amid concerns about anthrax and botulism sold to Iraq by U.S. companies with Commerce Department approval.</p> <p>1989—Nine passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 811 from Honolulu to New Zealand are sucked out a hole in the plane.</p> <p>1988—At 1:17 a.m., Capitol police carry Sen. Robert Packwood (R-OR) into the Senate chamber feet first to make up a quorum.</p> <p>1988—Supreme Court upholds Larry Flynt's right to portray Jerry Falwell as a man who lost his virginity to his mother, in an outhouse, while intoxicated.</p> <p>1942—In LA, a massive U.S. anti-aircraft barrage, mistakenly prompted by a weather balloon, sparks a panic; three are trampled to death, dozens injured.</p> <p>1868—House of Representatives impeaches Andrew Johnson.</p> <p>1809—The New Drury Lane Theatre burns to the ground. Owner Richard Sheridan (<i>The School for Scandal</i>) having a drink at a neighboring coffeehouse, calmly says "A man may surely be allowed to take a glass by his own fireside."</p> | <p>1988—Sam Donaldson broadcasts excerpts from President Reagan's private schedule for the day, making it clear the Chief Executive is still reading scripts for a living.</p> <p>1968—"I do not believe Hanoi can hold up under a long war," says Gen. William Westmoreland.</p> <p>1964—Cassius Clay KO's Sonny Liston.</p> <p>1919—Oregon becomes the first state to tax gasoline.</p> <p>1913—The IWW's Paterson, NJ silk strike begins.</p> <p>1913—The 16th Amendment establishes an income tax.</p> <p>1870—Hiram Rhoades Revels (R-MS) is sworn in as a senator, becoming the first black person in Congress.</p> <p>1862—Congress authorizes the first "greenbacks." In one year, their value is down to 39 cents.</p> <p>1837—In Vermont, Thomas Davenport is granted the first patent for an electric printing press.</p> <p>1836—Samuel Colt patents the six shooter.</p> <p>1836—Joice Heth is autopsied before 1,500 paying spectators in New York City, at the behest of P.T. Barnum. Before her death, Barnum, had exhibited Heth as George Washington's 162 year-old "Mammy."</p> | <p>1993—A truck bomb explodes beneath the World Trade Center in NYC; 6 are dead, 1,000 injured.</p> <p>1991—George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush admits the U.S. has been supporting the Khmer Rouge for over a decade.</p> <p>1991—The U.S. Air Force drops fuel-air bombs, killing thousands of Iraqi troops fleeing Kuwait on the Basra Road.</p> <p>1987—The U.S. Senate's Tower Report on the Iran/Contra drugs and gun-running scandal confirms widespread rumors—President Reagan is confused and uninformed.</p> <p>1974—A Senate report details close ties between the Ford Motor Co. and the Nazis.</p> <p>1972—Pittston Coal's cheap-jack dam on Buffalo Creek in West Virginia collapses, killing 118, injuring 1,121, and leaving 5,000 homeless. The company ends up paying less than \$15,000 per casualty.</p> <p>1970—National Public Radio incorporates.</p> <p>1954—In Huntington, Tennessee, a C-119 buzzes the county courthouse, then crashes.</p> <p>1932—Birth of Johnny Cash.</p> <p>1928—Birth of Fats Domino.</p> <p>1870—New York's first subway opens. It's propelled by compressed air.</p> | <p>1986—Ferdinand and Imelda Marcos are chased out of the Philippines by their own people.</p> <p>1977—Keith Richards is busted for possession of heroin and cocaine by Canadian Mounties.</p> <p>1975—The FDA announces the recall of a batch of GE pacemakers. Too late, though: all 1,241 have been implanted.</p> <p>1973—American Indian Movement occupies Wounded Knee.</p> <p>1970—The <i>New York Times</i> reports that the U.S. Army no longer conducts illegal domestic surveillance; untrue then, now.</p> <p>1962—Renegade South Vietnamese pilots bomb the Presidential Palace in Saigon with American planes.</p> <p>1939—The Supreme Court declares sit-down strikes illegal.</p> <p>1938—Britain and France recognize Franco's fascist government in Spain.</p> <p>1933—Nazis burn the Reichstag and blame the Communies.</p> <p>1902—Speaking to the firing squad about to shoot him after a bogus court martial, Harry "Breaker" Morant says "Shoot straight, you bastards. Don't make a mess of it."</p> <p>1534—A "New Jerusalem" is established in Germany. In order to create a community bound by love and free of sin, Lutherans and Catholics are driven out.</p> | <p>1997—Two heavily armed—and armored—men hold up a bank in North Hollywood, CA. Twelve police are wounded, the two robbers die.</p> <p>1993—The ATF bungles an assault on a half-baked but heavily armed colony of religious wackos in Waco.</p> <p>1986—Ronald Reagan is heard to call reporters "sons-of-bitches" for asking questions during a photo-op; press aide Larry Speakes explains he really said, "It's sunny and you're rich."</p> <p>1958—In New York, the first of 27 people die after drinking "King Kong" moonshine.</p> <p>1921—The Kronstadt Revolt begins in Russia, criticizing bolshevism. "Shoot them down like partridges," orders Leon Trotsky.</p> <p>1893—Birth of Ben Hecht, author of <i>The Front Page</i>.</p> <p>1877—The U.S. seizes the Black Hills, in violation of a treaty.</p> <p>1854—A group of political activists meet in Ripon, WI, and may or may not found the Republican party.</p> <p>1732—Portsmouth merchant John Rindge sets off for London to present a petition to the King asking him to settle the boundaries of New Hampshire.</p> <p>1574—The Spanish Inquisition burns its first victims in the New World.</p> | <p>1972—Columnist Jack Anderson exposes ITT's \$400,000 bribe to Republican Party.</p> <p>1960—JFK announces a non-existent "missile gap" during presidential campaign.</p> <p>1952—"Walk" and "Don't Walk" signals for pedestrians are introduced in New York City.</p> <p>1940—Hattie McDaniel wins a Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her performance as "Mammy" in <i>Gone With the Wind</i>.</p> <p>1924—Charles R. Forbes, head of the Veterans Bureau, is indicted for defrauding the federal government out of \$250 million.</p> <p>1916—South Carolina raises the minimum age for employment from 12 to 14.</p> <p>1869—Birth of W.E.B. DuBois.</p> <p>1840—Birth of John Philip Holland, builder of <i>Turtle</i>, the first practical submarine.</p> <p>1736—Birth of Mother Ann Lee, founder of the Shakers.</p> <p>1720—Queen Erike Eleonora of Sweden resigns.</p> <p>1704—French Canadians and Indians, seeking a church bell stolen by a profiteer, massacre 47 settlers in Deerfield, Mass.</p> <p>1504—Christopher Columbus defrauds Native Americans of supplies by predicting an eclipse.</p> <p>468—Death of Pope Hilaricus.</p> <p>45 BC—Julius Caesar fixes the calendar, creates Leap Year.</p> | <p>2002—U.S. begins Operation Anaconda in Afghanistan.</p> <p>2001—The faith-based Taliban government of Afghanistan begins destroying two 1,500-year-old Bamiyan Buddhas.</p> <p>1977—Sara Lowndes Dylan files for divorce from her hubby Bob.</p> <p>1971—The Weather Underground explodes a bomb at the U.S. Capitol, but there is no resulting improvement.</p> <p>1954—After surviving 39 combat missions in Korea, Ted Williams breaks his collarbone at spring training.</p> <p>1954—The Pentagon blows up a Bikini with an H-bomb. The same day, Puerto Rican nationalists shoot five U.S. Congressman on the floor of the House. There is no resulting improvement in either case.</p> <p>1932—Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., aged 20 mos., is kidnapped; by whom is still disputed.</p> <p>1906—Emma Goldman publishes the first issue of her anarchist newspaper, <i>Mother Earth</i>.</p> <p>1872—Yellowstone, the world's first national park, is created.</p> <p>1847—Michigan becomes the first state to stop killing convicts intentionally.</p> <p>1562—In Vassy, France, Catholics massacre between 30 and 1,000 Huguenots, kicking off 37 years of religious warfare.</p> |
| <p>1:00 1:20</p> <p>7:05 7:22</p> | <p>1:39 2:01</p> <p>7:47 8:01</p> | <p>2:19 2:45</p> <p>8:31 8:42</p> | <p>3:02 3:33</p> <p>9:18 9:27</p> | <p>3:50 4:28</p> <p>10:11 10:18</p> | <p>4:44 5:30</p> <p>11:10 11:15</p> | <p>5:45 6:35</p> <p>12:14</p> |
| Sunday, March 2 | Monday, March 3 | Tuesday, March 4 | Wednesday, March 5 | Thursday, March 6 | Friday, March 7 | Saturday, March 8 |
| <p>2004—UN weapons inspectors report Saddam had no WMDs.</p> <p>1965—Operation Rolling Thunder begins: non-retaliatory U.S. bombing of North Vietnam.</p> <p>1946—Ho Chi Minh is elected president of North Vietnam.</p> <p>1944—Fumes from a stalled locomotive kill 521 in an Italian train tunnel.</p> <p>1942—Lt. Gen. John DeWitt announces all Japanese-Americans will be required to move away from the West Coast, & should do so voluntarily for their own good.</p> <p>1940—Elmer Fudd debuts.</p> <p>1904—Birth of Dr. Seuss.</p> <p>1901—By way of the Platt amendment, Congress informs Cuba our troops are staying and they're a "protectorate."</p> <p>1877—Bribed by Republicans, the Electoral College selects Rutherford B. Hayes over Samuel Tilden.</p> <p>1836—Texas declares independence from Mexico.</p> <p>1807—Congress votes to prohibit the importation of slaves; only 250,000 or so are subsequently imported illegally.</p> <p>1805—Aaron Burr—the first Vice President to shoot a man—resigns from the Senate for other, unrelated reasons.</p> <p>1789—Pennsylvania legalizes theatrical performances.</p> | <p>2005—Hauled from the depths off Nantucket, and spared from the fate of a plate due to his size, Bubba the 23 lb. lobster expires from stress or bad water on his way to Ripley's freak show.</p> <p>1991—A troublemaker videotapes Los Angeles Police officers chastising Rodney King.</p> <p>1973—A badly designed door latch fails on a DC-10 over France. The door blows off, six passengers are sucked out the ensuing hole, and the plane crashes killing all aboard.</p> <p>1955—Elvis Presley appears on television for the first time, fatally undermining Western Civilization.</p> <p>1949—The Tucker automobile company crashes.</p> <p>1938—Oil is discovered in Saudi Arabia.</p> <p>1934—John Dillinger busts out of prison with a fake pistol.</p> <p>1933—Mt. Rushmore is dedicated.</p> <p>1931—Congress adopts "The Star-Spangled Banner" as the national anthem.</p> <p>1927—Doing 170 mph during a land speed record attempt in Wales, J.G. Parry-Thomas is decapitated by a broken drive chain.</p> <p>1873—In the "Salary Grab Act," Congressmen raise their salaries retroactively.</p> | <p>2001—Harold Stassen stops running for President.</p> <p>1987—Ronald Reagan admits trading arms for hostages.</p> <p>1966—In a remark that costs his group considerable popularity, Beatle John Lennon says, "We're more popular than Jesus."</p> <p>1960—FCC chairman John Doerfer's six day trip to Florida courtesy of Storer Broadcasting is exposed during a payola investigation.</p> <p>1960—Baritone Leonard Warren, 48, on stage at the Met and about to sing the aria, "to die, a momentous thing," from Verdi's <i>La Forza del Destino</i>, dies of a heart attack.</p> <p>1937—The UAW wins a sit-down strike in Flint, Mich.</p> <p>1933—"We have nothing to fear," says FDR, "but fear itself."</p> <p>1917—Senator Robert La Follette (Progressive Rep.-WI) is prevented by Democrats from heaving a brass spittoon at the presiding officer of the Senate.</p> <p>1917—During a contentious filibuster in the Senate, Harry Lane (D-OR), girds himself to stab Ollie James (D-KY) in the neck if James pulls out the pistol under his coat, but the day ends without bloodshed.</p> <p>1910—The IWW begins a fight for free speech in Spokane, Wash. Incredibly, they win it.</p> | <p>2003—Dixie Chick Natalie Maines says she's ashamed that George W. Bush is a Texan.</p> <p>2003—In a White House press conference, Helen Thomas tells Ari Fleischer "There is no imminent threat" to the U.S. from Saddam Hussein. Apparently he fails to pass that information along to his boss.</p> <p>2001—A Nor'easter begins which will dump 40 inches of snow on Rockingham County.</p> <p>1963—Patsy Cline, singer of "I Fall to Pieces," is killed when her plane crashes.</p> <p>1953—Stalin dies.</p> <p>1933—In Germany, the Nazi party wins a majority in the Reichstag.</p> <p>1927—U.S. Marines land in China.</p> <p>1890—Birth of B. Traven, author of <i>Treasure of the Sierra Madre</i>, publisher of anarchist magazine <i>The Brick Thrower</i>.</p> <p>1877—"Rutherford" B. Hayes is sworn in as the nineteenth U.S. president.</p> <p>1871—Rosa Luxemburg is born.</p> <p>1770—Heinous British troops slaughter innocent Bostonians in the Boston Massacre. (Or, provincial terrorists attack duly constituted authority.)</p> <p>1740—The boundary between Massachusetts and New Hampshire is settled.</p> | <p>2003—George W. Bush claims in a press conference that Saddam Hussein's operatives have "biological and chemical agents" they are moving "to different locations every 12 to 24 hours, or placed in vehicles that are in residential neighborhoods."</p> <p>1991—President George Herbert [Hoover] Walker Bush claims that his defeat of Saddam Hussein has created a "new world order."</p> <p>1981—After 19 years as anchor, Walter Cronkite casts off from the CBS Evening News.</p> <p>1966—Sgt. Barry Sadler's "Ballad of the Green Berets" hits No. 1 on the charts.</p> <p>1964—Cassius Clay takes the name Muhammad Ali.</p> <p>1930—Clarence Birdseye invents a method of quickly freezing food.</p> <p>1922—Babe Ruth signs a three-year contract with the Yankees worth \$1,000 a week.</p> <p>1896—Charles B. King drives the first automobile ever seen in Detroit.</p> <p>1857—The Supreme Court rules in <i>Dred Scott v. Sandford</i> that the unhappy black race [never possessed] rights which the white man was bound to respect."</p> <p>1836—The Alamo falls.</p> <p>1831—West Point gives Edgar Allen Poe the boot.</p> | <p>1981—An 18 year-old is stabbed to death in Disneyland's first homicide.</p> <p>1965—Six blocks into a 50-mile, Selma-to-Montgomery voting rights march, 600 marchers are attacked by state and local police on the Edmund Pettus Bridge.</p> <p>1955—The Commissioner of Baseball, Ford Frick, says the he favors legalizing the spitball.</p> <p>1932—Detroit police fire on a hunger march of Ford workers, four of whom die.</p> <p>1911—Twenty thousand U.S. troops are dispatched to the Mexican border to protect "American interests."</p> <p>1908—In Cincinnati, Mayor Mark Breith announces that "women are not physically fit to operate automobiles."</p> <p>1906—In Finland, the Senate approves of universal suffrage—except for the poor.</p> <p>1876—Alexander Graham Bell patents the telephone.</p> <p>1850—New Hampshire native Daniel Webster argues in the Senate that slaveholders are entitled to be secure in their ownership of their slaves.</p> <p>1799—In Bethlehem, PA, John Fries and a mob of four hundred insurgents and onlookers free 19 property tax protestors from a federal marshal and his 13 deputies.</p> | <p>1971—Jimi Hendrix's "Star-Spangled Banner" plays on Radio Hanoi.</p> <p>1966—In Dublin, an IRA bomb destroys Nelson's Column.</p> <p>1965—As the first U.S. combat troops—U.S. Marines—hit the beach at Danang ready to fight, Vietnam, they are welcomed by Vietnamese girls offering leis.</p> <p>1958—William Faulkner says American schools have degenerated into babysitters.</p> <p>1950—The USSR announces it's got an A-bomb.</p> <p>1927—Babe Ruth signs a two-year contract with the Yankees worth \$160,000.</p> <p>1913—The IRS begins collecting taxes.</p> <p>1906—U.S. troops in the Philippines attack a Moro stronghold, killing them all regardless of age or sex. Teddy Roosevelt calls it "a brilliant feat of arms [that upheld] the honor of the American flag."</p> <p>1890—Birth of Gene Fowler, who wrote, "Writing is easy; all you do is sit staring at a blank piece of paper until the drops of blood form on your forehead."</p> <p>1862—Captain Nathaniel Gordon is hanged for a pirate; last such execution in the U.S.</p> <p>1782—In Ohio, a militia kills 90 Native Americans in the Gnadenhutten Massacre.</p> |
| <p>6:48 7:36</p> <p>1:17 1:15</p> | <p>7:45 8:28</p> <p>1:18 2:10</p> | <p>8:36 9:13</p> <p>2:13 2:57</p> | <p>9:22 9:54</p> <p>3:01 3:39</p> | <p>10:05 10:32</p> <p>3:47 4:19</p> | <p>10:47 11:11</p> <p>4:30 4:57</p> | <p>11:29 11:50</p> <p>5:14 5:37</p> |

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