



INSIDE	
2	Only Libertarians on SC's ballot?
4	Badnarik could be Bob Barr's choice
11	Kahn qualifies for NH U.S. House seat race
12	Who really lost the presidential debate?
18	LP joins coalition to protect civil liberties

Badnarik arrested

Judge denies access to Arizona debate

Libertarian Party presidential candidate Michael Badnarik was arrested Oct. 8 when he crossed a police line at the debate between President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry in St. Louis, Mo.

When he was arrested, Badnarik had a court order in his pocket that he was attempting to deliver to representatives of the Commission on Presidential Debates (CPD).

The document was from Maricopa County (Ariz.) Superior Court Judge Pendleton Gaines, ordering the CPD to appear in court on Oct. 12 — to prove that a debate at Arizona State University (ASU) on Oct. 13 would not constitute illegal special treatment for the Democrats and Republicans.

In the end, Pendleton refused to allow Badnarik into the Oct. 13 debate, rejecting the LP of Arizona's arguments that the debate



■ Unidentified protesters stand in front of the police line at the St. Louis presidential debate. Michael Badnarik, LP presidential candidate, later crossed this line and was arrested.

was being illegally financed with public funds.

Green Party candidate David

Cobb also crossed the police line in St. Louis to demand access to

See **BADNARIK** Page 3

Badnarik message spreads despite media inattention

Media attention for the Michael Badnarik for President campaign kicked into high gear in recent weeks, despite a paucity of interest from the major television networks.

One of the most impressive efforts: a documentary on third-party politics by PBS, "Crashing the Parties," in which minor parties — and Badnarik in particular — are credited with forcing the two major parties to re-think the political scene.

The show was broadcast for the first time on Sept. 30, causing a spike in interest in Badnarik's campaign, said campaign Communications Director Stephen Gordon.

While it's not specifically about the Badnarik campaign, another documentary film that illustrates the difficulties facing third-party candidates does feature Badnarik and other LP candidates.

"Running Against Dick" focuses on Libertarian Dan Byington's race against incumbent Rep. Richard Ge-

hardt for Congress in 2002, but it deals with the issues surrounding all third-party campaigns for office.

The film was made "not so much to encourage the voters to vote for third parties but ... to acknowledge their love for change and the sincerity of their beliefs," filmmaker Srikant Chellappa said.

On the television front, two of the debates between Badnarik and other third-party candidates for president have aired on C-SPAN.

And on Oct. 8, Badnarik appeared on PBS's show "NOW with Bill Moyers," along with other third-party presidential candidates, to talk about being excluded from the presidential debates.

On Sept. 30, LP Communications Director George Getz appeared on MSNBC's "Battle for the White House." (See clip at www.LP.org.)

The show's producer asked Getz to appear on the show to comment on Ralph Nader's exclusion from the

See **MEDIA** Page 4

LP's Indiana gubernatorial candidate included in debates

After pointing fingers and accusing each other of wanting to exclude Indiana's Libertarian candidate for governor — Kenn Gividen — from an Oct. 17 debate, the other candidates for the office finally agreed that Gividen should join them.

All three candidates took part in the first debate on Sept. 28.

The Libertarian Party of Indiana was informed on Oct. 11 that Gividen wasn't going to be included, so they started calling newspapers and radio and TV stations to let them know about his exclusion.

And that started a wave of media coverage — with Gividen's exclusion being given more attention than the debate plans as a whole.

"What a great day to be a Libertarian!" state Libertarian Party chairman Mark Rutherford said — noting that one radio talk show spent three hours the next morning attacking the Republicans and Democrats for excluding Gividen.

"It couldn't have worked out better," said Brad Klopfenstein, executive director of the Indiana Libertarian Party. "We received two full days of statewide news coverage, first expressing outrage that we were excluded, then a second playing up the fact that the other

two sides were finger-pointing and [had] allowed us back in."

Gividen held a press conference on Oct. 12 in downtown Indianapolis to protest his exclusion — a conference that was attended by representatives of both Democrat incumbent governor Joe Kernan and Republican challenger Mitch Daniels.

The two major party candidates hoped to hold a 60-minute debate the second time around, saying they thought the shorter format would be more likely to be broadcast live on network television.

The second debate — held at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany — was to be broadcast on public television in the same 90-minute format as the first debate.

In their press release, the Indiana Libertarians said they believed that both Indiana University and the public TV station would be guilty of ethics violations if one of the three candidates for governor was kept out of the debate.

The Indiana Ethics Commission has published rules that prohibit state employees from "engaging in political activity when on duty," and the Public Broadcasting Act prohibits contributions to "any political party or candidate" — so a

See **GIVIDEN** Page 2



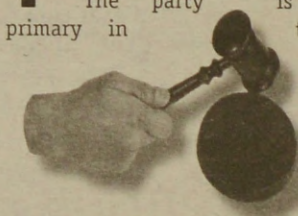
■ Indiana's Libertarian candidate for governor, Kenn Gividen, talks to radio, television and newspaper reporters during a press conference about the gubernatorial debates. The Democrats and Republicans wanted to exclude Gividen from the second debate, but later decided — following high media interest — to include him. (Photo by Dan Drexler)

NEWS BRIEFS

U.S. Supreme Court to review LP lawsuit

The U.S. Supreme Court has announced that it will review an election law case brought by the Oklahoma Libertarian Party.

The party is requesting the right to hold an open primary in the state, which permits only closed or semi-closed primaries.



"We're taking the position that it's our business, not the government's, as to who votes in the candidate selection process," said Richard Winger, a Libertarian Party member and publisher of *Ballot Access News*, which examines ballot access for third parties.

In Oklahoma, third parties must collect more than 51,000 signatures to get on the ballot, a feat none were able to achieve this year.

The case now slated to go to the U.S. Supreme Court, *Clingman v. Beaver*, was originally filed in 2000. The party lost in U.S. District Court but won in the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Oral arguments are expected in December.

If the party prevails in the U.S. Supreme Court, qualified parties who hold their own primary elections will be able to decide whether to open the primaries to voters registered with other parties.

"This is very exciting, because it's the first time the U.S. Supreme Court has taken an election-law case in which we are the primary plaintiff," Winger said. "We've tried at least 20 times before."

The national Libertarian Party has filed a separate lawsuit in Oklahoma state court in the hope of getting its presidential candidate, Michael Badnarik, on the November ballot.

V.P. candidates debate in Ohio

None of the third-party candidates for vice president were allowed into the Oct. 5 debate in Cleveland, Ohio.

So student government representatives at Baldwin Wallace College — also in Cleveland — organized a debate that included Libertarian Richard Campagna, Pat LaMarche of the Green Party, independent Peter Camejo (Ralph Nader's running mate), and Chuck Baldwin of the Constitution Party.

The third-party debate at the college's Kleist Center auditorium drew about 500 attendees, including many students as well as local radio, television and newspaper reporters, according to Chris Glassburn, a student government senator who helped organize the event.

The debate was unusual not only because so many diverse viewpoints were represented, but also because of its format: All questions for the candidates came from Baldwin Wallace College students.

Following the hour-and-a-half-long debate, the debate participants and audience watched a live broadcast of the staged, exclusive "debate" between Edwards and Cheney — after which the four vice presidential candidates from smaller political parties offered their rebuttals to the major party candidates' speeches.

"Baldwin Wallace students are proud to sponsor an event of this caliber, which will give voters an opportunity to hear all voices — the essence of a true democracy," Glassburn said before the debate.

'This Land' is JibJab land

A lawsuit against filmmakers Gregg and Evan Spiridellis — the brothers behind JibJab Media — has been dropped. This summer, JibJab released an animated parody of the presidential campaign, based on Woody Guthrie's song "This Land is Your Land."

More than 50 million people have reportedly seen the piece, "This Land," which featured President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry slinging invective insults at each other — as they each proclaimed that "this land will surely vote for me."

Ludlow Music, which claims to own the rights to the Guthrie song, sued JibJab, asking that the film be removed from the Web, where it debuted and where most viewers saw it.

JibJab's attorneys, however, said the copyright on the song has expired, and that even if it hadn't the film would be exempted because it's a parody. The film is now available on DVD from the JibJab Web site, as is their newest effort — "It's good to be in D.C.!" — sung to the tune of "Dixie."

Again, the Bush and Kerry campaigns are targeted, with newly out-of-the-closet New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey, former President Bill Clinton, Attorney General John Ashcroft, Dan Rather and Michael Moore also making appearances.

Again, the Bush and Kerry campaigns are targeted, with newly out-of-the-closet New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey, former President Bill Clinton, Attorney General John Ashcroft, Dan Rather and Michael Moore also making appearances.

■ JibJab "In D.C."

Only Libertarians on S.C.'s ballots?

If South Carolina election law is followed, only Libertarians will be on the ballot for partisan elections in many of the state's counties, according to Garry Baum, the state election commission's chief public information officer.

Responding to a letter from Jasper County Libertarian Party Chairman Michael Edward Jones, Baum told Mark Kruzweiser of *Carolina Morning News* that Jones's statements are true but that the law typically isn't followed.

The state law says, "all [political party] officers except delegates shall be reported to the clerk of court of the county and to the secretary of state prior to the election. The reports shall be public record."

State law also says that all political parties seeking to nominate candidates for office must apply to the state election commission for certification, and any "certified political party that fails to organize on the precinct level ... must be decertified by the state election commission."

"In the eight years that the Jasper County Libertarian Party has registered with the clerk of the court of this county, as required by law ... our representatives have been verbally informed, upon their filing for county precinct and party verification, that neither the Republican nor the Democratic parties of this county have filed paperwork with the clerk of the court for such

verification," Jones said in his letter.

"If this is true, then the Libertarian Party is the only registered, legal political party in Jasper County. Thus it follows that, in partisan elections, only Libertarians may be listed on the ballot."

Jasper County Clerk of the Court Margaret Bostick confirmed for the local newspaper that only the Libertarian Party had registered with her office.

Does this mean that only the LP will be on the ballot for all partisan races — including the presidential election — throughout the state?

Almost certainly not.

Baum said he "didn't think the situation will cause any problems with the November elections," the *Carolina Morning News* report says.

"Yes, parties must certify with clerks of court, but I'm not sure if it is all that common," he said.

Even the Libertarian Party of Jasper County doesn't really expect the elections to be affected by the fact that neither the Republicans nor the Democrats bother following state election law.

South Carolina LP Chair "Chris Panos and I have contacted all of the county chairs in the state to let them know about this," said Bea Jones, a Libertarian city councilwoman in Hardeeville, S.C., who is also Michael Jones's wife.

"We passed along the informa-

tion that none of the Republicans or Democrats file their paperwork with the clerk of courts in any of the counties, so they should technically not be allowed on the ballot," she said.

"We don't think the election will be overturned, but we have to bring it to people's attention that the Democrats and Republicans make the laws — then don't bother following them."

It's sad that it falls to the Libertarian Party to make sure that the other parties follow the law, Michael Jones said in his letter to the election commission, noting that it isn't the responsibility of any one party to make sure that the other parties follow the law.

"It is the election commission's responsibility to verify their legality, and to display nonpartisan and equal access to all political parties," he said. "I am deeply concerned about this display of partisanship in a supposedly nonpartisan, appointed body and request that you rectify this immediately."

Jones also pointed out that the Libertarians had not been notified of — or invited to — the county's voting machine programming, as the law requires.

"I was therefore unable to verify the accuracy or veracity of any Libertarian candidates listed, or even of their existence on the ballot for Jasper County in the upcoming gen-

Gividen to debate other candidates

Continued from Page 1

partisan debate would clearly be forbidden, Klopfenstein said.

After the conference, representatives of both major party candidates' campaigns — who had said they wouldn't show up for the debate if Gividen was included — rethought their positions, accused each other of trying to exclude the Libertarian, and went back to arguing about how the debate should be conducted.

The Democrat campaign wanted to change the order in which questions were asked because the Republican got to have the last word more often in the first debate.

The Republican campaign wanted Daniels to be allowed to stand on a riser because he is shorter than both Kernan and Gividen. Alternatively, they could all sit down for the debate, eliminating the height issue.

Gividen, meanwhile, said he isn't concerned about the format, how the questions are asked or whether the candidates sit or stand.

"Tell me where to show up and when to be there," he said. "I can say the same thing no matter what the format is. We simply want to express our positions on the critical issues facing Indiana today — and there are many. I can do that sitting

or standing. I would hope my opponents could manage that as well."

Gividen also said he wouldn't get involved in the argument about who decided it was a good idea to shut him out of the debate.

"I am confident this was merely an oversight on the part of the entrenched parties," he said. "It is not the right of Governor Kernan, Mr. Daniels or Indiana University to exclude us. The truth is the voters have spoken. We've been very busy with the radio shows and press interviews. We owe a great thanks to those who phoned in and let their voices be heard."

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The Mission Statement of the Libertarian Party: "To move public policy in a libertarian direction by building a political party that elects Libertarians to public office."

Badnarik arrested for crossing police line



■ Wearing gags in their mouths symbolizing how the CPD has attempted to silence Badnarik, members of central Virginia's Jefferson Area Libertarians protest the candidate's exclusion from the debates.

Continued from Page 1

the debate, and was arrested. The two candidates were placed in handcuffs and taken to jail where they spent several hours before being released.

Planned protest

Badnarik's arrest wasn't a surprise; the campaign had announced on Oct. 8 that either he would debate Kerry and Bush in St. Louis or he would go to jail.

"The CPD, as a non-profit, has received special treatment from government on the requirement that they be non-partisan in their activities," Badnarik said in a press release.

But "bi-partisan" is not the same as "non-partisan," he noted.

"Unless I am allowed to participate, the debates become a massive campaign contribution to two of the candidates, illegal under the very campaign finance laws those two candidates have passed and signed as senator and president."

When Gaines issued his "order to show cause" why an injunction should not be filed against the CPD and the university on Oct. 8, Badnarik supporter Joel Beckwith easily served the order to ASU representatives.

Staff members from the LP's national headquarters in Washington D.C. were able to serve the court order at the CPD office in D.C. Later attempts to serve additional papers were rebuffed by the CPD, when security officers refused to allow the Libertarians into the building or to bring CPD staff to the front desk.

The paperwork was left in the building, though, and that — combined with audio recording and photographs as evidence that they attempted to serve the papers — was enough to satisfy the judge, who agreed to hold the Oct. 12 hearing.

LP, ASU and CPD in court

At the Oct. 12 hearing, David

Euchner, the attorney representing the Arizona LP, argued that ASU violated the state constitution by giving public funds to two presidential candidates — Bush and Kerry — while excluding Badnarik, who is the only other presidential candidate on the ballot in the state.

Gaines ruled that the LP should have filed earlier: The suit was filed on Oct. 1. But that would have been impossible, said Stephen Gordon, communications director for the Badnarik campaign.

"The Washington Post reported that Bush did not even agree to debate until Sept. 20," Gordon said. "The CPD did not announce who would be excluded until Oct. 6. We did this in the most timely manner possible. Additionally, we filed in enough time that this hearing could have occurred earlier than the day before the debate."

In the suit, the party sought one of two possible resolutions: Either the debate could be called off unless Badnarik was included, or the 17,000 registered Libertarian voters in Arizona could be reimbursed — since tax money was being used to fund a debate from which their candidate had been excluded.

The Libertarians had been unable to find out exactly how much public money is being spent on the debate, but representatives of the university admitted that they had not received enough private donations to recoup the estimated \$2.5 million spent to host the event.

Also, the Tempe City Council contributed \$20,000 to help defray the costs of the debate — and that money was certainly public funds, Gordon said.

Gaines's ruling left the party free "to seek compensation for damages" in a civil suit, Gordon noted.

No decision has been reached as to when such a suit would be filed, exactly who the defendants would be or how much compensation would be sought — but "it is safe to

assume that you may expect more actions from us," Gordon said.

A wise decision?

Not all LP members thought Badnarik's decision to get arrested was a good one.

Richard Burke, executive director of the LP of Oregon, spoke for many in the party who felt Badnarik's move could damage the party's credibility with voters.

Like others in the party, Burke said, he is "frustrated by Badnarik's exclusion" from the debates.

"But I believe Badnarik's plan for crashing tonight's presidential debate in St. Louis ... is reckless and irresponsible. Getting arrested does not engender feelings of confidence among the mainstream electorate for presidential candidates."

A better solution would be to continue building the LP's registered voter base, to win ever more elections by grassroots effort, and to earn more credibility with voters, Burke said — noting that "real growth and a successful track record will do more to dismantle the CPD than any arrest" could.

Others disagreed, saying they thought Badnarik's decision to cross the police line could be as significant as the civil disobedience demonstrated by Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights activists.

As David T. Terry, chairman of the LP of Yamhill County, Oregon, said, "The world has always been changed by small acts of insignificant people whose courage and commitment to principles made their acts significant. I suggest that after tonight, the two-party system will never be the same!"

Terry and others said that Badnarik's decision to "put himself on the line to further a cause" should show voters that he is serious — and draw media attention to the fact that Libertarians and other third parties weren't in the debates.

THE ISSUES

EDITOR'S NOTE: "The Issues" highlights recent Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of LP press releases, send a message to announcerequest@lp.org with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line.

America can learn from Bush's Guard scandal

Here's the lesson that Americans should learn as a result of the controversy over George Bush's service in the National Guard, Libertarians say: When governments wage futile, unnecessary wars — like Vietnam and Iraq — Americans will try to avoid them.

"The scandal isn't that so many Americans tried to avoid going to Vietnam; it's that their government tried to send them there in the first place," said Michael Dixon, LP national chair.

While Democrats and Republicans spar over Bush's Guard service, the LP says Bush's service as president is a far more important issue.

"We may never know whether Bush entered the National Guard to avoid service in Vietnam," Dixon said. "But we do know that thousands of men his age did so, or sought college deferments, or even fled to Canada, to avoid getting killed or maimed."

"And who can blame them? More than 58,000 Americans who fought in this mindless military misadventure never came back."

"The tragedy isn't that Bush, the Guardsman, may have avoided Vietnam. The tragedy is that Bush, the president, is sending Americans to fight an equally senseless war in Iraq."

"Fortunately, there's a way for Bush to salvage something positive from the controversy, while ensuring that no American is ever again accused of 'hiding out' in the Guard," Dixon says. "Quit waging wars that have nothing whatsoever to do with national defense, and start by pulling our troops out of Iraq."

Badnarik wins 'Battle of the Ballot'

Libertarian presidential candidate Michael Badnarik is soundly defeating Ralph Nader and all other third-party candidates in the "battle of the ballot," as his name currently appears on 48 state ballots, compared to just 39 for Nader.

"Later, Nader!" said Badnarik campaign chairman Fred Collins. "Even if this publicity hound wins all of his legal challenges, he will be on 43 ballots at the most. Voters may see more of Ralph Nader on television, but they'll see more of Michael Badnarik on their ballot, where it really matters."

Badnarik is now confirmed on 48 state ballots plus the District of Columbia, compared to just 39 for Nader, 37 for the Constitution Party's Michael Peroutka and 27 for the Green Party's David Cobb.

Collins calculates that by getting on 48 ballots, 98.4 percent of voters will see Badnarik's name when they go to the polls.

"Americans who are fed up with tax-and-spend Democrat John Kerry and borrow-and-spend Republican George Bush will have a meaningful choice on Election Day," he says. "Anyone who wants a smaller, less expensive government is wasting their vote on Bush or Kerry."

Bush nor Kerry fit to be commander-in-chief

The argument on Iraq between President George Bush and Sen. John Kerry in the presidential debates proves that neither man is qualified to be commander-in-chief, Libertarians say.

"The president stubbornly defended his decision to launch an unnecessary war that has claimed over 1,000 American lives and plunged Iraq into chaos and anarchy," said Joseph Seehusen, executive director of the Libertarian Party. "John Kerry correctly pointed out that the war was a mistake, then vowed to continue it."

"Since presidents are supposed to protect American lives — not recklessly endanger them — neither man is fit to serve."

As the war in Iraq dominated the discussion in the first presidential debate, held at the University of Miami, Bush defended launching the pre-emptive war and said, "It's essential that we not leave."

Though Kerry pointed out that Bush made "a colossal error of judgment" in invading Iraq, he pledged to continue the error if elected and said "we don't have enough troops there."

Libertarians say America is in deep trouble when its two best-known presidential contenders can spend 90 minutes arguing over the best way to perpetuate a failed government policy.

"Unfortunately neither man had the courage or the common sense to admit the obvious: Starting this war was a colossal mistake, and the next president should stop making that mistake," Seehusen said.

"As a direct result of Bush's actions, over 1,000 Americans have lost family members, and hundreds of billions of tax dollars have been wasted. And if either Bush or Kerry is elected, we'll get more of it. What kind of choice is that?"

POLITICS 2004

Reason, Ruger and 'Highway Bloggery'



Reason

■ This summer, *Reason* magazine was once again listed in the *Chicago Tribune's* list of "50 Best Magazines," moving up eight slots from last year to number 13. "In an era of smashmouth, left vs. right political discourse, the libertarian *Reason* is a fresh and nuanced antidote, with a frequent a-plague-on-both-their-houses approach," the *Tribune* staff noted. A recent *Reason* cover that was personalized for each of the magazine's 40,000 subscribers helped clinch the high honors.

■ Libertarians in Wayne County, Ind., are running for five county offices. Cheryl Heacox and Rex Bell are opposing Republicans for two county commissioner seats, while Dale Purvis, Mark Smith and Mark Burton are running for the three Wayne County Council seats — against three Republicans and two Democrats. Among other things, all of them are running on a low-tax platform. Property taxes in the county have doubled in each of the past two years.

■ A former chair of the LP of Denver County, Colo., died recently in a freak accident. David Segal's car got stuck on some tree stumps, he got out of the vehicle to try to free it, and it broke loose and crushed him. At various times, Segal had written a weekly column for the *Colorado Daily*, hosted a public television show, run as a Libertarian candidate for U.S. Senate and led his county party. He was 57.

■ Sturm Ruger & Co., the largest firearm manufacturer in the United States, cannot be held liable for a 2001 gunfight in which two policemen were wounded, a West Virginia judge ruled on Sept. 30. The officers sued the company, the estate of the shooter, and the pawnshop that sold the weapon. The 9mm pistol eventually ended up in the hands of Shuntez Everett, who shot the policemen and was killed in the fight. The judge said it would be "a real stretch" to hold the gun maker responsible for the use of a gun that had been sold three times and given away once before the pawnshop sold it.



■ Ruger 9mm

■ Hardy Machia, the Libertarian candidate for Vermont governor, has released two radio commercials. One targets gun owners by highlighting the Gun Owners of Vermont's endorsement of Machia, while the other calls attention to Republican incumbent Gov. Jim Douglas's poor record on government spending. In mid-October the ads were running on several stations around the state.



■ Tom Cox

■ A radio talk show host in Oregon recently wrote in a column for the *Hillsboro Argus* that Libertarian Tom Cox "is an impressive spokesman for fiscal restraint." Cox, who is running for a state House seat, is opposing Mary Gallegos, a freshman Republican legislator who earlier this year supported a major tax hike. "He is an indefatigable campaigner," Jayne Carroll wrote. "Couple Cox's strengths with Republican exasperation ... and [Gallegos] may never see the light of a second term."

■ On Oct. 12, California Superior Court Judge Jim Gray — who is running as a Libertarian for U.S. Senate — hosted a forum at the Anaheim United Methodist Church, calling for "people of all faiths and political beliefs to meet with open minds in order to promote peace and justice for all people in the Israel/Palestine area." Speakers at the event included representatives of the Methodist church, two rabbis from area Jewish temples, a former Iranian diplomat and a director of the Council on American Islamic Relations. Many of those who attended signed a resolution condemning all acts of terrorism.

■ On Oct. 13, more than 1,000 activists were expected to take part in "Freeway Free Speech Day" by hanging hand-painted banners on freeway overpasses around the nation — inspired by one individual known as The Freeway Blogger, who has posted more than 2,000 such signs over the past year. "The founding fathers gave us everything we need to keep our democracy alive and healthy in the First Amendment," the Blogger said. "But it only works if we use it."

Bob Barr voting for Badnarik?



■ Michael Badnarik and Bob Barr shake hands following a June meeting at LP national headquarters in Washington, D.C.

A surprising column in which former GOP Congressman Bob Barr expresses "deep dissatisfaction" with President Bush and hints that he may vote for Libertarian Michael Badnarik is good news for every American who wants smaller government.

"It appears that Bob Barr isn't going to waste his vote on George Bush, and we commend him for that," said LP Executive Director Joseph Seehusen. "The best way for frustrated conservatives to send a message is by voting for Badnarik."

In an Oct. 7 opinion piece headlined, "An agonizing choice: Conservatives have plenty of cause to abandon Bush," Barr rattles off a long list of ways that Bush has betrayed conservatives, such as "record levels of new spending," skyrocketing deficits and a raid on civil liberties.

He concludes by saying, "Hmmm. Who's the Libertarian candidate again?" The column by Barr, who served in Georgia's Congressional delegation from 1995 to 2003, appears in the Atlanta-based

Creative Loafing, the largest alternative paper.

While acknowledging that this column is not an explicit endorsement of Badnarik, Seehusen says, "It comes pretty darned close. It's been clear for a long time that Barr is fed up with the Republican Party's reckless fiscal policies."

"He's also been sharply critical of the Bush administration's attack on civil liberties and has been leading the charge against the Patriot Act."

Seehusen noted that Barr disagrees with Libertarians on several key issues, such as censorship laws, immigration and the War on Drugs — which the party believes is one of the greatest threats to Americans' privacy and individual liberty.

"Nonetheless, we're happy to have the support of reformed Republicans or Democrats who are moving in a pro-freedom direction," he says.

Barr spoke at the Georgia LP's convention in March, remarking afterward that the party "has staked out a position strikingly in accord with what I perceive to be positions favored by mainstream Georgians."

In May he attended the LP's national convention in Atlanta, delivering a speech on the threat to privacy rights posed by the Patriot Act. He followed up with a June visit to LP headquarters in Washington, D.C., to meet with Badnarik and his campaign staff.

And in mid-October, Barr stopped by the office again, asking Seehusen to appear as a guest on his Radio America Network talk show. The interview is scheduled for Oct. 31 — two days before the election.

"Mr. Barr invited me to explain to his largely conservative audience why they should consider voting for Badnarik instead of Bush," Seehusen said. "That shouldn't be too difficult — and who knows, I may get plenty of help from Mr. Barr as well."

Media leave Badnarik in the cold

Continued from Page 1

ballot in Oregon. She wanted to find out whether Libertarians were sympathetic to his plight.

"This gave us an opportunity to use Nader as a springboard to publicize our own candidate," Getz said. "I was able to mention several times that Badnarik was the Libertarian candidate, and to point out that he was polling well enough in several battleground states to pose the same threat to Bush that Nader posed to Kerry."

"This shows that while it's true that the media is fixated on covering the horse-race aspect of the Bush-Kerry race, we can get coverage as well if we pick our issues carefully," Getz said.

One disappointment was the dearth of coverage resulting from Badnarik's arrest in St. Louis, Mo., at the second Bush/Kerry debate.

"We didn't get any coverage from that at all," Gordon said. "Of course, now that it's over, we are getting coverage from many media outlets — including the British Broadcasting Corporation — about the lack of coverage of that event."

One notable exception was the

Alex Jones Radio Show, on which Badnarik was interviewed shortly after his arrest — and where he was able to talk about being excluded from the debates, about his arrest, and about his campaign in general. The show is carried on radio stations in at least 16 states around the nation.

Badnarik stories are beginning to appear more regularly on newspapers and radio news programs.

"We're not even able to keep up with the number of radio and newspaper interviews Badnarik has done, and with the good coverage he's gotten," Gordon said.

Many of the newspaper stories are available at www.LP.org, including recent coverage in such publications as the *New York Sun*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Washington Times* and the *L.A. Times*.

The *Washington Times* story, for instance, gave Badnarik a chance to tell readers that in this election the LP is reaching out to "the conservatives who do not have a party to vote for."

In addition to earning coverage by the mass media, the Badnarik campaign has also been purchasing

air time: Television ads have been run in several states, including New Mexico, Nevada, Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama. More ad buys were in process as *LP News* went to press, and ads should run in Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Arkansas and other states before Election Day, Gordon said.

The campaign is also purchasing ad time on nationally broadcast programs — including the Fox News programs, he said.

All told, approximately \$350,000 has been spent on Badnarik's television ads, most of which came from campaign contributions, campaign representatives said. Donations to the LP's national candidates ad campaign fund have resulted in approximately \$32,000 for the Badnarik campaign's effort.

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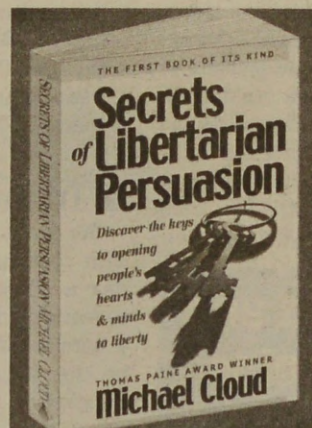
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TALKING POINTS

Statesman, Greenpeace, hepatitis and role models

■ Bored with pot

In Amsterdam, using marijuana is legal. Holland now has hundreds of "coffee shops" where marijuana is officially tolerated. Clients pick up small amounts of marijuana the same way they would pick up a bottle of wine at the store.

The police regulate marijuana sales — shops may sell no more than about five joints worth per person, they're not allowed to sell to minors, and no hard drugs are allowed.

What has been the result of legalizing marijuana? Is everyone getting stoned? No. In America today 38 percent of adolescents have smoked pot — in Holland, it's only 20 percent.

What Amsterdam police did was take the glamour out of drug use The Dutch minister of health has said, "We've succeeded in making pot boring."

—JOHN STOSSEL
ABC News
July 30, 2004

to interest students in government. He was there when AIDS protestors tried to disrupt a speech by White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card. Traslavina stood up to get a photograph of the protest for his high school newspaper, which he edits. That's when Secret Service grabbed him. They turned him over to New York City police, despite the protestors telling them he wasn't part of their group and despite his credentials, which were seized along with his camera. He was handcuffed and his film thrown away. Traslavina was hauled off to jail. For the next 12 hours his family tried to find him. Police didn't let him make a call until after midnight. He was arraigned on a felony charge of inciting a riot and misdemeanor charges of assault and disorderly conduct and released the next afternoon. No word on what this did to his interest in government.

—CHARLES OLIVER
Reason.com
September 17, 2004

American response to 9/11 has been almost exclusively military. Other instruments of American policy — political, economic, social, allies — have fallen by the wayside. All other priorities of government have been subordinated to the "war on terrorism."

Schooled by the failure of liberal democratic institutions to head off either Nazism or Soviet communism, neoconservatives argue that there is no point in analyzing the root causes of a phenomenon like terrorism; the only thing to do is to get your shot in first and worry about the consequences later.

Under this model, military force trumps all else, and input from the international community counts for little.

The cry of war will echo around the world and, opportunistically, the war-makers will invoke the American model in so doing. The facts do not matter. The prospects of Russian restraint in Chechnya, never rosy, are now minimal. American appeals for politically based solutions will seem hypocritical.

—JONATHAN CLARKE
Los Angeles Times
September 22, 2004

■ Junior statesman

Benjamin Traslavina, a 16-year-old high school student, got an important lesson in politics and criminal justice at the Republican National Convention. Traslavina, vice president of his school's Honor Society, was selected to attend the convention by the Junior Statesmen Foundation, a group that tries

■ USA: Role model?

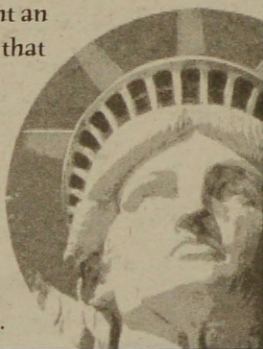
Over the past weeks, the Russian people have been subjected to terrorist assaults and losses on a scale broadly equivalent to 9/11. In critical ways, therefore, the two countries are coping with a parallel challenge. If Russia's leaders looked to the U.S. response to 9/11 as a model, what would they see?

[T]hey would note that the

"Tyranny is always better organized than freedom."

—CHARLES PEGUY, FRENCH PHILOSOPHER (1873-1914)

That's not all: It's got more people working for it, too. And it's better funded. That's where you come in. If you want America to someday live up to its noble libertarian ideals, the Libertarian Party needs to be able to mount an effective challenge to the political parties that are more interested in pushing us towards tyranny than towards liberty. How can you help? By naming the LP in your will or insurance policy. For a private discussion of this option, call National LP Treasurer Mark Nelson at (563) 344-0013. Or e-mail him at: treasurer@lp.org, and include "Planned Giving" in the subject line.



cent of public school teachers chose private schools for their children; 33 percent in New York City and New Jersey suburbs; and 29 percent in Milwaukee and New Orleans.

Public school teachers told the Fordham Institute's surveyors that private and religious schools impose greater discipline, achieve higher academic achievement and offer overall a better atmosphere.

"Across the states, 12.2 percent of all families — urban, rural and suburban — send their children to private schools," says the report, based on 2000 census data.

—GEORGE ARCHIBALD
The Washington (D.C.) Times
September 22, 2004

■ Illegal invasion

Disease and crime are concentrated in areas where undocumented immigrants are more commonly found. An estimated 7 million undocumented immigrants now reside in the U.S. While the nation wastes its money and energy planning to thwart or combat imagined terrorism via the Department of Homeland Security, carriers of biological and other threats walk over the southern border into the U.S. on a daily basis. Over 1 million Mexicans will attempt entry this year. It's an invasion.

Recently an outbreak of hepatitis traced to a Mexican restaurant in Pennsylvania was inexplicably traced to contaminated green onions, not the most obvious cause — undocumented food workers who harbored hepatitis. For the most part, hepatitis is a blood-borne, not a food-borne disease. The hepatitis outbreak infected over 650 individuals, caused 9,000 Americans to undergo immune globulin shots, and killed four people. If Americans found out restaurants can commonly infect their customers from food workers, it would be a blow to the restaurant industry. Better blame the green onions.

Let's concede the onions, grown in Mexico, were contaminated from fecal material. Did all the green onions imported from Mexico end up in one single restaurant? There were no other outbreaks of hepatitis elsewhere from green onions. There were 13 restaurant workers who had hepatitis. They were the likely source of the transmitted infection.

—BILL SARDI
LewRockwell.com
October 7, 2004

■ Training al Qaeda

We're not at war with a state, but with an armed ideology with murderous adherents in more than 60 countries. Responses appropriate to a state-based threat will only rarely be effective against a private, self-organizing, adaptable enemy that can operate without state support or central direction.

Indeed, such responses may exacerbate the problem, drawing new recruits to jihad.

Sept. 11, 2001, should have concentrated the mind wonderfully as to the type of enemy we're fighting.

It's hard to understand how regime change in Iraq aided the war against anti-American terrorism. Iraq appears to have had few, if any, genuine al Qaeda links and no weapons of mass destruction stockpiles to speak of, much less a plan to pass off WMD to anti-American terrorists.

"Anonymous," the author of *Imperial Hubris*, a 22-year CIA veteran who ran the Counterterrorist Center's Bin Laden station from 1996 to 1999, is nobody's peacenik. But he says that "there is nothing Bin Laden could have hoped for more than the invasion and occupation of Iraq."

His assessment is echoed by former counterterrorism chief Richard Clarke, who says that the war on Iraq "delivered to al Qaeda the greatest recruitment propaganda imaginable."

—GENE HEALY
StarTribune.com
September 12, 2004

■ Education funding

In recent years, much of the public debate about Mississippi's education budget has been focused on the need to pay teachers more. But when the amount of money spent on K-12 public education in school year 2002-2003 is compared to the amount spent 10 years earlier, more than three-fourths of the additional money was spent on items other than teacher compensation.

As legislators grapple over the most appropriate ways to fund teacher salary increases to which they have committed through school year 2005-2006, they should consider whether such raises could be funded in significant measure by money already available to school districts.

—FOREST THIGPEN
Mississippi Center for Public Policy
September, 2004

■ Tax-funded sports

We are living in strange times. The city of Sacramento is taking police officers off the street to save money at the same time it is considering paying millions for a new arena for the Sacramento Kings.

Where are the city's priorities? [T]he City Council has been negotiating with the owners of the Kings to find a way to build a new arena using up to \$175 million in tax dollars.

And it appears that the team's owners, who are rich enough to own their own casino in Las Vegas, want the taxpayers to contribute even more. When the City Council voted to cap the taxpayers' hit at \$175 million, the Kings' representative walked out of the meeting in a show of disappointment.

None of this is new, nor is it unique to Sacramento.

City leaders agree to these bizarre deals believing that the prestige and economic activity created by a professional sports team more than compensate for the cost to taxpayers. They ignore the obvious — this prestige and economic activ-

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ity would take place even if no tax dollars were involved. ...

And the taxpayers could either save their money or use it to put more police on the street to round up the looters and rioters after the championship game.

—DAVID KLINE
Metropolitan News-Enterprise
(Los Angeles)
August 11, 2004

■ Environmentalists

The environmental activist group Greenpeace faces civil and criminal penalties for allegedly disobeying an order to keep one of its ships, the Arctic Sunrise, at anchor after it sailed into Alaska waters without an oil-discharge prevention plan and a certificate of financial responsibility.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requires non-tank vessels larger than 400 gross tons to file an oil-spill response plan application five days before entering state waters. State law also requires a ship of Arctic Sunrise's size to provide insurance information and an application for a certificate of financial responsibility in case of an oil spill, at least 15 days before entering state waters.

The ship arrived in Alaskan waters July 13 without the required documents. The next day, the DEC faxed the crew a notice of violation and ordered the ship to stay at anchor in Ketchikan until the paperwork was completed. However, one hour after the vessel agent signed an affidavit saying he had read the letter and would comply with the order, the ship left Ketchikan ...

The actions of the ship's master would appear to violate the spirit of a statement Greenpeace issued on November 13, 2003, commemorating the first anniversary of the sinking of the oil tanker Prestige off the coast of Spain.

"In order to prevent new oil spills," said Paul Horsman of Greenpeace, "regulations need to force both the shipping industry and the charterers to operate under the highest standards of ships and crews."

—STEVE STANEK
The Heartland Institute
October 1, 2004

■ Pro-taxers booted

Republican tax hike advocates lost several high-profile races in the Aug. 3 Kansas primary. Among those defeated were the grandson of a former presidential candidate and the governor's brother-in-law, who received barely 40 percent of the vote in losing his contest.

In Kansas, this practice of rejecting high-taxers is not new.

Defeated incumbents included ... the two GOP legislators who led the recent, unsuccessful push for higher state taxes.

The chairman of the state senate tax committee, David Corbin, was overwhelmingly defeated in his primary by Augusta realtor Peggy Palmer, receiving only 37 percent of the vote. In 2002, Corbin had been a leader in passing a statewide tax hike ... costing taxpayers more than \$300 million a year.

Palmer attributed her victory to voters' uneasiness over taxes. "People were tired of tax increases."

—KARL PETERJOHN
Budget & Tax News
September 1, 2004

■ Reclassify pot

Medical marijuana activists are trying a new approach to getting the drug reclassified so it can be legally prescribed: A petition charges the Department of Health and Human Services with violating the Data Quality Act by disseminating [bad] information about cannabis.

Among other things, Americans for Safe Access notes HHS is wrong

when it asserts that "there have been no studies that have scientifically assessed the efficacy of marijuana for any medical condition." Indeed, David Murray of the Office of National Drug Control Policy tells *The Washington Post* "it is 'beyond dispute' that marijuana's efficacy has been assessed and potential benefits identified."

But that doesn't mean marijuana has an "accepted medical use" — one of the criteria for ... making drugs available by prescription. This requirement is a bit of a Catch-22, since it's hard for a drug to be ac-

cepted as a medicine when it's entirely illegal.

—JACOB SULLUM
Reason.com
October 3, 2004

■ G-8 conference

Estimated total number of protesters at the June G-8 conference in Georgia: 310.

Estimated number of police per protester: 10.

—HARPER'S INDEX
Harper's Magazine
September 2004

TOM COX. A SERIOUS CANDIDATE. A SERIOUS OPPORTUNITY FOR VICTORY.

This is a winnable race.

Tom Cox is running against a self-titled "fiscal conservative" — who voted for the largest tax increase in Oregon's History — in a district that defeated that same tax 60 to 40. With a proven campaign team and tremendous volunteer support, Tom has the opportunity to do what no Libertarian in Oregon has: *Win at the state level!* Cox has already put in \$50,000 of his own money and raised contributions and pledges of tens of thousands more!

Tom Cox is serious about this race.

As a statewide candidate in 2002, Tom pulled 5% of the vote in a race decided by 1%. With *some of the best name recognition in Oregon's political arena*, Tom Cox can win for state representative and bring Libertarian principles to "The Left Coast!" A professional campaign team has been established for this race. Campaign Manager Richard Burke, also Executive Director of the LP of Oregon and former Gubernatorial candidate in 1998, has run fifteen winning Libertarian campaigns. His media consultant Ken Montone has worked on two winning campaigns for U.S. Senate.

Vulnerable opponent.

The incumbent against whom Tom is running barely won in her fiscally conservative district, touting "fiscal conservative values". With vote after vote, she showed her true colors by voting for the largest tax increase in the state's history. She is vulnerable and the field is open to someone with real answers.

Principled and Qualified.

Tom Cox is uniquely qualified to address the central issue of

this race — principle. His background and broad experience are simply unmatched by any other candidate. Tom has worked for IBM Global Services as a management consultant, and has *consulted on four continents over the past decade. Simply put, he is a critical thinker and often his "outside-the-box" strategies are copied and implemented by others.*

Bottom line

Tom is a leader. In his race for Governor, he was the only candidate to have a detailed budget, a *38-page plan for cutting taxes, cutting wasteful spending and fully funding vital services.* In his bid for State Representative this year, Tom has outlined his Five Elements of Agency Reform, based on proven strategies that have shrunk government — not just slowed its growth — and collected numerous endorsements from fiscally conservative groups and individuals.

Help us make history!

Tom Cox can win this election. But he must have your financial support. The Republicans and Democrats realize that Tom Cox is a very real threat to their power. They've already started to attack him and the Libertarian Party publicly. As the campaign progresses we expect the attacks to increase. They are losing their endorsements to the real player in this game, Tom Cox.

We need your help.

We're going to confront our Big Government opponents head to head. *Will you give us the tools that we need to fight back?* We must raise at least another \$300,000 for radio and television advertisements to make our message heard. *We're counting on your support.*



I want to help Tom Cox! Here's my generous contribution of:

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AFFILIATE NEWS

Road work, Cuban Americans, debates and ABATE support

■ COLORADO

TV station includes LP in debates

A locally owned, viewer-supported, public television station in Denver has allocated five hours of broadcast time to congressional race debates and has invited minor political parties to participate.

Debates for the five most competitive of Colorado's seven congressional districts have been taped and are expected to air on KBDI prior to Election Day. Libertarians and other minor party candidates, including the LP's Norm Olsen, have participated in their respective debates.

"KBDI has been wonderful over the last 18 months," said Olsen, who is state chair of the Libertarian Party.

"Minor party activists and candidates have been on the air several times. KBDI may very well be the national leader in providing TV coverage to minor parties."

A spokesperson said KBDI "has always sought to include all sides in political discussions. This allows for all sides to be heard, be they left, right or middle of the road."

The station has scheduled several shows highlighting the minor parties.

An hour-long live call-in show was aired on Oct. 6, with leaders or representatives of four minor parties in Colorado discussing how the current election is going.

Desiree Hickson, media director for the Colorado LP, said she hopes it will inspire other media outlets to begin similar coverage.

■ CONNECTICUT

Dodd challenged by state chair for Senate

Frequently described as one of the four most liberal members of the U.S. Senate, Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.) has a Libertarian challenger this year.

Lenny Rasch, an IT consultant and educator who is chairman of the Connecticut LP, has already met Dodd in one televised debate — along with Republican Jack Orchulli and Timothy Knibbs of the Concerned Citizens.

Another debate was scheduled for Oct. 18 — after *LP News* went to press.

The first debate was televised by Connecticut Public Television on Oct. 10 and Oct. 17, and the second — sponsored by the League of Women Voters and *The Day* newspaper — was televised on CBS affiliate stations in Connecticut.

During the first debate, Rasch expressed his concern over the escalating national debt.

"You don't sit down, as adults, have a grand feast, then get up and leave the check on the table for your three-year old," he said, noting that this is exactly what a big-spending Congress is doing to the youth of America.

When questioned about closing military bases here, Rasch said overseas bases should be closed first.

"It's time to end the occupation of Japan," he said, going on to itemize nearly \$80 billion dollars spent annually to maintain U.S. troops in countries other than Iraq.

He added that when these troops are brought home, they should not be sent to Iraq, but should defend our own borders and shorelines instead.

■ FLORIDA

Cuban outreach helps LP spread message

Frank Gonzalez, the Libertarian Party's candidate for U.S. Congress from Miami, Fla., has appeared on several radio and television interviews in his area in recent weeks, including an Oct. 8 hour-long Spanish language radio show on WOCN.

This show targets one of Gonzalez's primary audiences — the Cuban population in south Florida.

The Cuban community makes up 55 percent of Florida's 21st House District, and Gonzalez's sole opponent — incumbent Republican Lincoln Diaz-Balart — has become unpopular with that group because of his support for President Bush's new restrictions on travel to Cuba.

Gonzalez also took part in an Oct. 3 event sponsored by the Cuban American Commission for Family Rights, which was formed in May in response to the restrictions.

"This year many of us [in the Cuban American community] will vote for candidates who oppose the cruel Bush anti-Cuban family measures," said Alvaro Fernandez, president of the commission.

The *Miami New Times* recently ran a story about Gonzalez's race, noting that he "seems bent on personally meeting every single resident of Miami's District 21, and engaging them in one-on-one debates about why he should beat" Diaz-Balart.

In addition to his media appearances, Gonzalez has been endorsed by the National Taxpayers Union's Campaign Fund, NORML and the Pink Pistols, an organization for pro-gun-rights gays.

■ IDAHO

Street fair reveals possible Libertarians

Energized after their summer convention and election of a new executive committee, Idaho Libertarians took the World's Smallest Political Quiz to the annual Hyde Park Street Fair in Boise.

Hyde Park is known as more liberal than most of the predominantly Republican state, but workers at the LP booth were surprised to discover many people with libertarian tendencies.

During the fair, hundreds of visitors at the LP booth took the World's Smallest Political Quiz, which is structured to show people whether their social and fiscal beliefs place them in the statist, liberal, conservative or libertarian quadrant.

Of the approximately 480 fair goers who took the quiz, 168 "scored well inside the Libertarian quadrant on the chart," LP Idaho Vice Chair Patty Hautzinger said. "Another 50 scored along the quadrant border."

■ NEVADA

Road work provides a captive audience

Two years ago, the Nevada LP and particularly that of Clark County (Las Vegas) was decimated by an internal fight that ended with a lawsuit.

The state party has recovered, though, and is now waging the biggest and best campaign in its history, representatives say.

Nevada's four candidates for federal office — Tom Hurst for U.S. Senate and Jim Duensing, Brendan Trainor and Joe Silvestri for U.S.

House — are running on a unified platform with a single Web site: www.VoteForAChange.US.

These candidates got together to "hammer out a platform which highlights currently popular libertarian positions without compromising our principles," Duensing said, noting that the platform is available on the Web site — and in 35,000 brochures that were printed.

"It may sound impossible to distribute that many brochures," he said. "But the government has helped us out in that department. They build the roads — continuously. Traffic jams and clogged intersections are unavoidable obstacles."

With the clogged intersections as inspiration, the Libertarians in Clark County created the Cross Roads Project. At the county's worst intersections, a team of Libertarians gathers for four-hour-long stretches, Duensing said.

At the rallies, the Libertarians "speak directly to the public with the most powerful megaphone we could find, and pass out our brochures to motorists [who have] nothing else to do but read," he said.

"We're holding at least two of these rallies a week. The weekend before the election, we will hold two per day. By then we expect there to be between 30 and 50 activists at each of the four rallies."

■ NORTH CAROLINA

Killian stands alone on air quality issue

All five candidates for Lincoln County (NC) commissioner attended the county's Air Quality Awareness Meeting in August. But of them, only Libertarian Shane Killian has criticized the policy — which he did at a candidates' forum in Lincolnton on Sept. 28.

"The EPA has really put us in a hopeless position," Killian said, pointing out that the scarcity of ground-level ozone detectors in the

county would make it impossible to know if clean air policies in the county would have any effect on measured ozone there.

Killian said he understands that a major reason for studying ozone is the potential for health hazards — an issue that came up during the air quality awareness meeting.

"We were presented with statistics on hospitalizations due to respiratory problems, particularly childhood asthma. Yet, when pressed, they couldn't provide any studies even linking these health issues to ground-level ozone concentrations, much less showing the magnitude of the problem," he said.

Actually, Killian said, a study conducted by the John Locke Foundation found that while there are negative health effects associated with ground-level ozone, there is no correlation between EPA ozone measurements and hospitalizations.

"In fact, [researchers] found asthma problems tended to be worse in counties with little or no ozone problem," Killian said. "This is what happens when you enact a policy without having all of the data."

■ NORTH CAROLINA

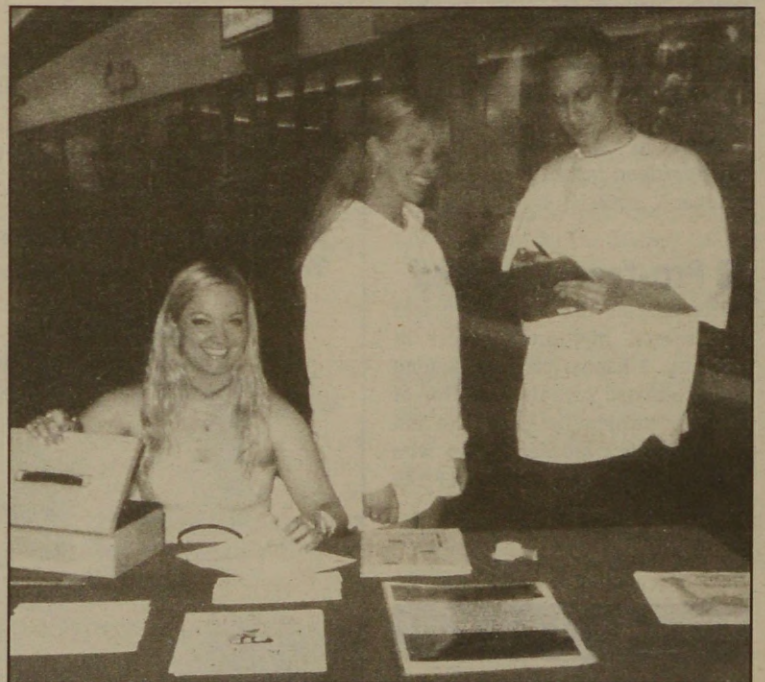
FCC complaint filed against WRAL-TV

Barbara Howe, chair of the North Carolina LP and Libertarian candidate for governor, filed a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission against WRAL-TV, which at press time planned to exclude her from a scheduled Oct. 15 gubernatorial debate.

In the complaint, Howe charges that WRAL engaged in "viewpoint discrimination" by not including her in the program.

She learned of the debate through media reports and asked to be included in the program.

In response, WRAL News Director John Harris said the station would include only candidates who "have



■ Libertarian activist Cortnie Gagnon, seated, and Alaska LP Treasurer July Leslie help a prospective voter register during an outreach activity in August at an Anchorage mall. "We have an agreement with the mall to do this anytime we want," Leslie said. "Now that it's winter again, we plan to go there every Saturday."

Online Resources for LP Members

■ Find contact info for your state Libertarian Party or your State Chair
Visit: www.LP.org

Click on: Organization
Click on: State Parties
Click on: [Your state]

■ Find contact info for the National Committee
Visit: www.LP.org

Click on: Organization
Click on: National Committee
Click on: LNC Directory

■ Renew your membership
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See: Special Features (left side)
Click on: Renew



■ **Norm "Firecracker" Westwell, who is running for three offices this year in California — Huntington Beach City Council, Ocean View School District and California Assembly Representative, District 67 — found a way to get his campaign signs noticed. While most candidates use small signs, Westwell has put up 40 signs, each on four-by-eight-foot boards, around the area. And by using recycled materials, he did so for a total cost of about \$150.**

a realistic chance of being elected."

"We look at two main factors to determine that viability: the candidate's seriousness of purpose and whether the candidate has significant support," Harris said.

Both these factors are "impermissibly subjective," according to the complaint.

Both of Howe's opponents — Democrat incumbent Mike Easley and Republican state Sen. Patrick

Ballantine — supported Howe's inclusion in the debate.

On Oct. 9, about 20 Libertarians held a sidewalk rally outside the WRAL studios, "holding signs and distributing flyers to passing cars — suggesting that people contact the station and ask them to let me participate in the debate," Howe said.

And while they were there, a WRAL crew filmed the protest, in-

terviewed Howe, and later aired a story about the rally, she said.

"To them, that is the extent of coverage that my campaign is worth," she added.

■ OKLAHOMA LP: Voters, leave your ballots blank

The LP of Oklahoma is encouraging voters there not to mark their ballots for either George Bush or John Kerry on Election Day — and since those names will be the only two on the ballot, the presidential ballot should simply be left blank, leaders say.

Oklahoma is one of only two states where LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik is not expected to be on the ballot. Libertarians collected more than 26,000 petition signatures earlier this year to get on the ballot; in 40 states that would have been enough to ensure ballot access, but it was only about half as many as Oklahoma requires.

The LP joined the Green and Constitution parties in advising all voters in Oklahoma against voting for either the Republican or Democrat candidate, pointing out that every other state in the nation has at least three presidential candidates on official ballots.

Even those who say they can still vote for Badnarik or one of the other "third-party" candidates by writing in their names will be disappointed: Oklahoma is one of the few

states that doesn't allow write-in candidates.

Voters who don't mark their ballots for one of the two candidates for president may find their ballot rejected by the optical scanner machines. If that happens, they should ask for assistance from election workers.

"Are they going to force you to vote for one of the state-approved candidates?" Galpin asked.

■ SOUTH CAROLINA Candidates support helmet choice

Representatives of the South Carolina LP joined with members of ABATE (A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments) recently to oppose changing that state's current helmet laws, which allow freedom of choice by adult riders.

ABATE opposes the helmet law, not the use of motorcycle helmets.

On Oct. 10, hundreds of motorcyclists rode into Columbia and swarmed onto the steps of the state capitol building to express their support for the current helmet law, which recognizes people's right to choose whether or not to wear helmets.

Libertarians who spoke at the event included U.S. Senate candidate Rebekah "Reb" Sutherland, state Chairman Chris Panos, state Speakers Chair Tim Moultrie and state Press Coordinator Ed Haas.

Other Libertarian candidates in

attendance were Lexington County Clerk of the Court candidate Elizabeth Moultrie and Victor Kocher of Richland County, candidate for SC House, District 76.

The Libertarians were able to show the connection between libertarian principles and ABATE's quest for personal choice.

■ WISCONSIN Mohn gains legitimacy in debates

In a victory for democracy, Libertarian candidate Craig Mohn has been included in all public debates and forums for Wisconsin's 29th Assembly District race.

His inclusion shows that the private organizations sponsoring the events see Mohn as a legitimate, viable contender for the office.

In recent months, Mohn has appeared in a WQOW-TV profile, on Wisconsin Public Radio's "The West Side," at Tavern League meetings and in candidates' discussion meetings held by the Menomonie Chamber of Commerce and the Hudson Health Hospital, campaign workers said.

"In the past, our candidates couldn't get a fair hearing before the public," said Tim Krenz, a Mohn campaign advisor. "The fact that Craig is now in the debates shows the unique opportunity voters in the district have to send an earth-shaking message — by sending a Libertarian to Madison."

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THE REVIEW

Bush vs. freedom

■ *The Bush Betrayal*, by James Bovard. 330 pages. Published by Palgrave Macmillan. Hardcover, \$26.95. Available at www.amazon.com.

Reviewed by Bill Winter
ADVOCATES FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT

The *Chicago Tribune* once described humorist P.J. O'Rourke as "a trophy hunter let loose in an unguarded zoo." They should have saved that description for James Bovard. In *The Bush Betrayal*, Bovard opens fire on President George W. Bush with a thunderous barrage of facts and revelations that proves, beyond any doubt, that Bush has broken every small-government promise he ever made.

The premise of the book is simple: Bush is a terrible president who is shredding the liberties of the American people.

"Bush is expanding federal power and stretching prerogatives in almost every area that captures his fancy," Bovard writes. You want specifics? The only question is where to start, because the Bush administration is such a target-rich environment. A few samples:

■ On free trade: Despite claiming that he is a "fierce free trader," Bush slapped a 30 percent tariff on imported steel in 2002. One expert estimated that the move destroyed eight American manufacturing jobs for every one steel-producing job it saved. But as Bovard notes, the tariff was never about fair trade — it was about "the president's own political advantage," since some steel-producing states are up for grabs in the upcoming election.

■ On education reform: Bush claimed that his "No Child Left Behind" program, which mandated standards and testing for schools, was

"the boldest plan to improve our public schools in a generation."

However, Bovard notes that the law only requires schools to improve their "baseline" standards — so most states immediately dumbed-down their existing standards so they could easily show future gains. For example, the NCLB baseline standard in Delaware required only 33 percent of children to test at grade-level in math.

■ On health care: In 2003, Bush pushed through Congress a \$400 billion-a-year Medicare bill to provide prescription drugs to seniors. (Later, more accurate estimates said the annual cost was \$576 billion.) Bovard notes that the program is the "worst financial blow Medicare ever suffered" — and pushed Medicare's bankruptcy forward by seven years, to 2019.

■ On extra-constitutional powers: On Nov. 13, 2001, Bush signed an executive order giving himself the power to designate Americans as "enemy combatants" and put them on trial before secret military tribunals. The move was necessary to fight terrorism, Bush declared. In fact, Bovard counters, if Bush can, by imperial decree, deprive Americans of fundamental civil liberties at his whim, it means the president is no longer "bound by the Constitution" — which is potentially more dangerous than any terrorist.

■ On waging unnecessary war: Bush invaded Iraq after claiming that Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction. After intensive postwar searches turned up no such thing, Bush backpedaled slightly and claimed the invasion was justified because of the "possibility" that Hussein might acquire such weapons. In reality, Bovard notes, "Bush was determined to demagogue the American people into war" — no matter how feeble the evidence was.

Add up all the president's anti-freedom actions, and you can't help but to agree with Bovard when he writes: "The monarchization of America is proceeding by leaps and bounds under Bush."

As I read *The Bush Betrayal*, I thought about the peculiar little group called "Libertarians for Bush," which supports the president's re-election. After finishing the book, I am tempted to write to them and suggest — in the interest of accuracy — that they change their name to "Libertarians for Massive Government." As Bovard makes clear: any Libertarian who votes for Bush is voting for an expensive, un-Constitutional, war-mongering, civil-liberties-smashing, anti-free trade, pro-Drug-War federal leviathan. Could you please explain how any so-called Libertarian would support that?

With *The Bush Betrayal*, Bovard cements his place as America's journalistic superman — fighting for truth, justice and the American way. We may have been stuck with Bush for four years, but at least we have Bovard on our side. And that evens the odds just a bit.

■ About the reviewer: Bill Winter is the communications director for the Advocates for Self-Government. From 1997 to 2004, he was editor of LP News.



Whitfield travels from Korea to volunteer

By Jessica Neno Wilson
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

George Whitfield is an example of how every Libertarian can make a meaningful contribution — even from halfway around the world.

In October, he traveled all the way from South Korea — nearly 7,000 miles — to volunteer at LP national headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Actually, the longtime LP member was already in D.C. on business for his executive search firm, but found a few extra days to help out the staff before flying back to Seoul, where he has worked for 18 years.

Whitfield, a Virginia native, opened incoming mail for the party for two days and found the experience very revealing — saying he was surprised by the amount of support coming from women, since the party is viewed as being almost exclusively male.

"We are very thankful for George Whitfield's help," said Affiliate Services Coordinator Sam New. "As the election draws closer, our staff has been inundated with phone calls and mail. Mr. Whitfield's volunteer efforts were a tremendous blessing, freeing hours of staff time to focus on pressing issues."

Whitfield attended this year's convention in Atlanta and said that the presidential nomination was particularly exciting. He had donated to all three contenders for the LP's presidential nomination and was proud to participate as a del-

egate to the convention.

"The delegates to the Democratic and Republican conventions must have felt like mere spectators," he said, whereas the LP's delegates actively participated in the process.

The fact that Whitfield lives abroad is one reason he contributes every month to the LP — via the pledge program — and recently upgraded his support from \$50 to \$60 per month.

Living so far away "is frustrating because many activities that I would like to participate in, such as petition signature gathering or campaigning door to door, are impossible," he says. "Pledging is one way to stay connected."

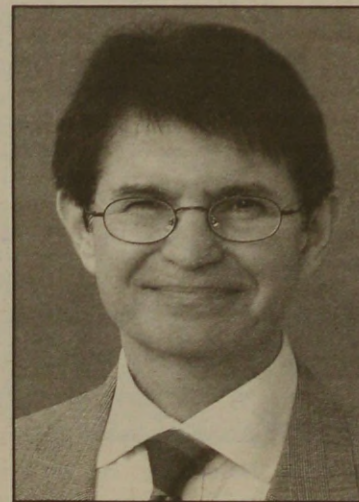
Whitfield has been involved in the party since its earliest years, joining in 1979.

Like many others, Whitfield discovered the LP in college. While attending Old Dominion University as a graduate student, Whitfield saw a flyer that said, "Jump on the new political bandwagon."

"I was intrigued by its humorous and audacious approach," he said, and having been politically engaged as a Republican volunteer, he decided to check it out. It turned out that the LP was the perfect vehicle for achieving his political goals: peace, prosperity and liberty.

Like many young Libertarians, Whitfield at first had more enthusiasm than money.

"My early financial contributions were small," he said. "As I watched the party face challenges and opportunities, I realized that for us



■ George Whitfield

to deal with these effectively, we needed a stable, dependable base of financial support."

He encourages others to find the right level of support for them.

"All Libertarians have a unique combination of resources and talents, but the critical point is that if we want to effect change and reach our goals we must do it ourselves," he said. "We must work and donate to what we love."

He says every member should feel personally responsible for the success of the movement.

Though he cannot run for office while living in Korea, he keeps in touch with other Libertarians through the Internet. He helps facilitate communication among Libertarians living in Seoul, and hopes to continue using the Internet to increase the Libertarian presence.

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New Hampshire Libertarian qualifies for U.S. House race

Despite the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire's failure to qualify presidential candidate Michael Badnarik and other Libertarians for the general election ballot, there will be one congressional seat in the state with a Libertarian contender.

Richard B. Kahn is the LPNH's candidate for the 2nd District U.S. House seat. He needed 1,500 valid petition signatures to get on the

District U.S. House candidate, Dan Belforti, also fell short in the petition signature collection.

Libertarians had to turn in 1,500 valid signatures in each of the two congressional districts in order to get the presidential and senatorial candidates on the ballot.

According to the secretary of state, LPNH officials turned in only 929 valid signatures in the first district and 1,263 in the second dis-

trict by the Aug. 11 deadline — not enough to get Badnarik on the ballot. And even though petitioners turned in more than 3,000 signatures to get Blevins on the ballot, 1,136 were for the first district and 2,076 were for the second, instead of at least 1,500 in each.

Kahn apparently learned his lesson the last time he ran for office: He ran for executive council in New Hampshire's fourth district in 2002

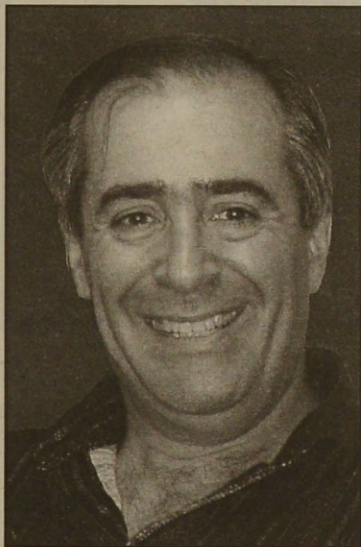
and wasn't allowed on the ballot because he didn't get enough signatures.

"I needed 750 certified valid signatures to get on the ballot," he said of that race. "After the rejects, I had only 739. Ouch!"

Since being certified for the Nov. 2 ballot, Kahn has appeared on radio programs out of Nashua and Keene, NH, and at a candidates' forum in Amherst. He has been putting up

yard signs around the area and is actively campaigning through e-mail and Internet in his race against 10-year Republican incumbent Charlie Bass and the Democrat challenger, Paul Hodes.

Kahn, 46, is married, with one child. He is a landscaper, runs an Internet business and is currently pursuing his master's degree in elementary education at Rivier College in Nashua, N.H.



■ Richard Kahn

ballot, and was recently certified to have 1,543 — assuring him a spot on the Nov. 2 ballot.

"I personally got about 200 raw signatures, and I will be on the ballot as a Libertarian," said Kahn, who has been a Libertarian since 1980. "Fifty-two of my signatures came from standing in front of the Hudson, NH, town hall on the last day of petitioning. And from the looks of things, I needed every one of them."

On his Web site, Kahn explains that he is running for office in large part because of the Bipartisan Campaign Finance Reform Act of 2002.

Unfortunately, Kahn's race is not one through which the Libertarian Party can regain its standing as an official political party in New Hampshire, thereby gaining a spot on future ballots without needing to collect petition signatures.

To qualify as an official party, the LP would have to get at least 4 percent of the general election vote in one of three races: for president, governor or U.S. Senate. Votes in the U.S. House race can't win major party status for the LPNH.

The LPNH didn't run a gubernatorial candidate, and the party didn't collect enough signatures to get the party's candidates for president (Michael Badnarik) or for U.S. Senate (Ken Blevins) on the ballot. The 1st

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THE FORUM

Who really lost the presidential debate?

There's nothing I love better than a good fight!

So it was with pleasant anticipation that I settled down with my bowl of popcorn to watch the first presidential debate. While I wasn't looking for a "winner" exactly, I was expecting one candidate to score enough points to help me decide which candidate I would vote for, if, in fact, I intended to vote for either one — which I don't.

I felt uniquely qualified to judge this particular competition since, unlike the media pundits whose pens were already poised to claim victory for their personal favorite, I could honestly claim a complete lack of pre-debate bias — I disliked both candidates equally.

I felt confident that I would be able to declare a winner in the opening rounds. But the first few volleys left me uncomfortably undecided. As I found my support flip-flopping from one candidate to the other, I began to worry: Was I turning into another John Kerry?

While I strongly agreed with Kerry that our involvement in Iraq was

a grievous mistake and that we need to bring our troops home, I also realized that Bush was correct when he countered that, back in 2003, Kerry supported the war.

I agreed with Kerry that Bush failed to fully explore alternate solutions to the problem in Iraq or to gather sufficient international support before committing our troops to war, but why didn't Kerry — and the other members of Congress — refuse to authorize that commitment? After all, the power to declare war belongs to Congress, not to the president.

And while I agreed with Kerry that Bush doesn't have a viable plan for exiting Iraq, or for preventing future similar "mistakes," I soon realized that Kerry doesn't have one either. On the contrary, Kerry wants to increase the size of the army to "meet our global obligations," he supports the concept of "pre-emptive" strikes, and he would willingly send American troops to Africa to "prevent another Rwanda."

Ultimately, I called the rounds on foreign policy a tie: Both candidates were losers.

As for minute amount of time spent on domestic policy, there was no debate. Both candidates declared their intention to ignore the

Constitution, with Bush calling for a renewal of the Patriot Act — on the same day the Supreme Court declared even more sections of that act to be unconstitutional — and Kerry calling for even more stringent "security" and "police" activities.

All of which left me realizing that, once again, the American people have been left with a choice



THERE WAS NO winner in this first presidential debate. But there was a clear loser. That loser was us.



between Tweedle-dee and Tweedle-dumb. Or is it Tweedle-dumb and Tweedle-dumber?

Of course, there are presidential candidates out there who have a truly different point of view, and who might have offered a viable strategy for getting us out of the mess the two major parties have gotten us into.

But somewhere in the 32 pages of debate rules the two major par-

2004 General Election

☐



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ties submitted to the media must have been the rule that these other candidates be excluded from the debate. And, as usual, the media happily complied.

So the Libertarian, the Green, the Reform, the Constitution and all the other presidential candidates were prohibited from expressing their views, as the two major parties and the press once again decided what the American people would — and would not — be allowed to hear, and for whom they should — and should not — be allowed to vote.

Throughout the debate, Bush frequently stated the world would be better off with a "free Iraq" and a "free Afghanistan."

I couldn't help but think how much better off the world would be with a "free America" — an America that has the same fair and democratic elections that Bush supposedly advocates for Iraq.

As far as I'm concerned there was no winner in this first presidential debate. But there was a clear loser. That loser was us.

■ **About the author:** Ed Thompson is the chairman of the Libertarian Party of Wisconsin. In a 2002 campaign for governor of that state, he startled the political pundits by garnering 10.4 percent of the vote — despite being kept out of three of the five gubernatorial debates.

Help make constitutional compliance an issue in 2004

There is a glaring omission from the issues addressed in not only the presidential debates, but also the debates and campaign literature of almost every candidate for public office in the United States.

It is also missing from media coverage, polling, debates on the floor of Congress, and most public discussion.

That issue is constitutional compliance.

People who don't like some policy or official act will sometimes call it "unconstitutional," but usually without much explanation of why it might be unconstitutional. Too often they are just asking that the policy be dismissed as such without bothering to show how it is unconstitutional.

Determining what is and is not constitutional is not just a duty of lawyers and judges. It is a duty of every citizen, in the way he or she lives and works and in the ways he or she votes. Corruption begins with every voter who votes for

what is good for his pocketbook instead of for what's good for the country in the long term.

President Bush has promised to nominate only "strict constructionists" to the federal bench.

But do his nominees qualify? Or are they just conservatives whose copies of the Bill of Rights are missing the First and Ninth Amendments?

On the other side, many of his nominees have been blocked by Democrats who claim they are trying to protect Roe v.

Wade, but who privately seem more concerned that much of the legislation and spending programs favored by their constituents might be struck down as unconstitutional by true strict constructionists.

Their copies of the Bill of Rights seem to be missing the Second and Tenth Amendments.

The media and pundits seem focused on process over substance. They try to fit every issue into a left-right ideological spectrum, which ignores concerns about constitutional legitimacy, regardless of how the burdens and benefits of governmental action might be distributed.

Too many people, perhaps even the readers of this message, are all too willing to ignore the constitutional restrictions on delegated powers when they want government, especially the federal government, to solve some problem. They then complain that government is threatening civil liberties, forgetting the warnings of the Founders that rights could not be protected against government if there was not strict enforcement of the limits on powers.

Perhaps it is time to rethink our positions on what we want government to do, or whether there may not be unacceptable risks and costs to having government do things that we should accomplish in the private sector.

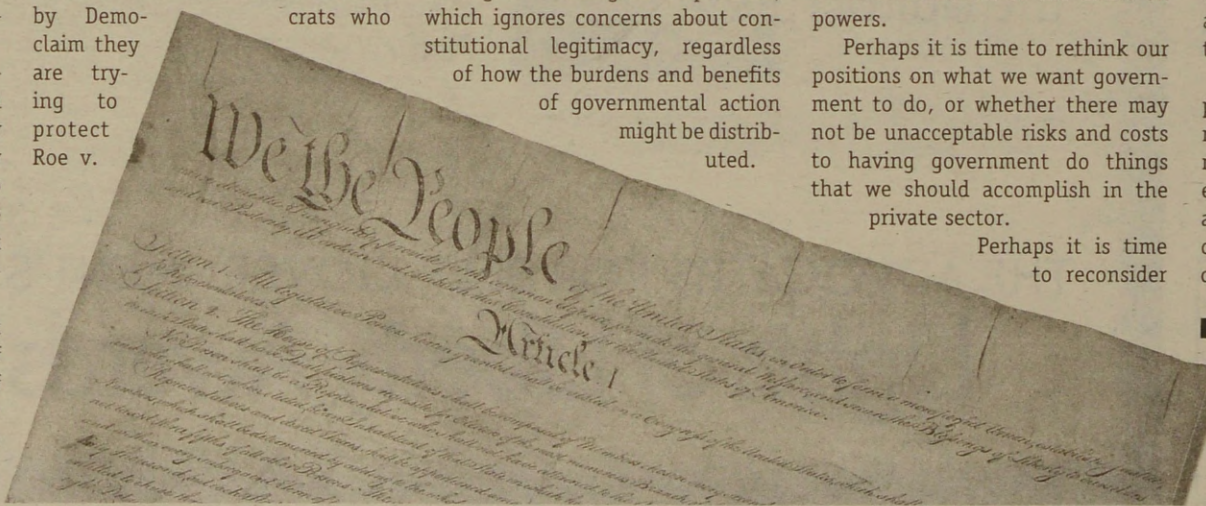
Perhaps it is time to reconsider

whether the corruption and abuse of power that comes with giving more powers to government may not be too great to be offset by the imagined benefits. Those benefits may not in fact be as great as we think.

Honest people can and do disagree about what is and is not constitutional, but I think we can all agree that the debates in every election should make constitutional compliance a critical issue, ranked as high or higher than all the others that now get most of the attention.

Therefore, I urge all of you to privately raise the issue in communications with candidates, the media, pollsters and opinion leaders generally — and let them know about the specific issues involving constitutional compliance that concern you.

■ **About the author:** A Libertarian who lives in Austin, Texas, Jon Roland was the LP's candidate for Texas Attorney General in the 2002 election. He founded the Constitution Society and the Constitution Foundation in 1994.



THE FORUM

Can libertarians also be nationalists?

A number of voices on the far right are calling for a renewed nationalism among the American citizenry.

Libertarians often quickly dismiss the views of people like Pat Buchanan and Michael Savage, whose ideas on many issues including nationalism seem incompatible with libertarian philosophies.

But are nationalism and libertarianism mutually exclusive? Is it possible to hold both the free trade and open immigration stances associated with libertarianism while at the same time exalting one's country and culture above all others?

Nationalism does not require racism, socialism or totalitarian fascism. It does not require a relinquishing of individual rights and civil liberties on the part of the citizenry. Nationalism simply requires that one exhibit devotion and loyalty to one's country, along with an acknowledgement of the country's pre-eminence among nations.

The question of a possible connection between libertarianism and nationalism is important because it has the potential to attract more Americans to the libertarian philosophy, as well as to generate more votes for Libertarian candidates.

The world continues to move toward a global and supranational future. There exists today a global interconnectedness the likes of which has never been seen. Many Americans find this global interconnectedness to be full of uncertainty and fear.

The global economy creates fear and indignation in the hearts of southern textile workers who have watched as their plants closed, their jobs eliminated.

America's public health experts continually warn of future worldwide epidemics, citing SARS as one example of the coming plagues. Many parents don't understand why their children are learning foreign languages in the early elementary grades.

People fear this encroaching globalism because they don't fully understand it, and they feel powerless to control it. A Libertarian Party featuring a nationalist orientation would be very attractive to these people, many of whom see the Re-

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publicans as beholden to global capitalism and the Democrats as tied to global multiculturalism.

Merriam-Webster Online defines a libertarian as someone who "upholds the principles of absolute and unrestricted liberty especially of thought and action." This same definition would be applicable to an American nationalist, a true champion of "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Libertarians highly value individual liberty and personal freedom, two characteristics central to the founding of the United States of America.

If America was founded upon the principles of liberty and freedom, and libertarians value liberty and freedom above all other attributes, libertarians should be pro-American and nationalist.

Libertarianism, by its very nature, implies and includes a strong strain of individuality. Hence the

emphasis on personal responsibility and individual freedom. However, the very process of running a political party and fielding candidates for office implies that there is something to be "governed," a collective group of people that the candidate, if elected, will oversee.

The American people want to know what a candidate will do for their country, state or city — not just for individuals. Libertarian candidates need to lower the emphasis on "individual" and spend more time talking about how their plans would benefit an entire group.

So many uninformed citizens believe that the Libertarian Party is the free-for-all, anything goes party. The party of unlimited individual freedoms. This perception must be turned around by emphasizing what Libertarian candidates could do for the good of an entire group of citizens, not just the benefits at the individual level.

If Libertarians truly love liberty, then they should love America more than any other country. The "shining city on a hill" has stood for freedom, liberty and democracy for over 200 years.

All Libertarian Party positions and libertarian issues should be rooted in the bedrock idea of the greatness of America and couched in terms that would illustrate how the positions and issues best benefit our country.

■ **About the author:** Jay Stephens, of Danville, Va., said he recently rejoined the LP "after being away from the party for several years [because] the LP is the best alternative currently available to the two entrenched major parties in the United States."

By Jay Stephens

Badnarik's media blackout

"Badnarik who?" That's what some of my friends say when I mention who I'm proudly and enthusiastically voting for.

You can go to www.badnarik.org to read the latest about the media blackout on Michael Badnarik, the Libertarian candidate for president.

I recently ran a search on CNN's Web site, with Badnarik as the keyword, and nothing came up. I did a Google News search for him, and one of the first sites to pop up was BBC — the British Broadcasting Corporation.

How embarrassing. Other coun-

tries find this candidate interesting and newsworthy, yet CNN still says "Badnarik who?" to a legitimate presidential candidate who is on the ballot in 48 states.

Just think about the situation if the media were consistent in their metrics, as they chose which stories to cover.

When the Laci Peterson story broke: "Laci Peterson? Has anyone ever heard of her? What do the polls say? I don't think anyone is familiar with her.

Let's not cover that story."

Or when Chandra Levy went missing: "Chandra Levy? What's her name recognition? Does anyone know Gary Condit outside of his own district? I guess that's a local story then. Ignore it."

"Robert Durst? Derrick Todd Lee? Morgan Tsvangirai? Malcolm Glazer? Curt Schilling? Anil Kumble? Never heard of them. Let's just cover celebrities and the weather." (These were all names in the news today.)

The media's job is to inform and alert us to what is going on in our country and the world. How would See **MEDIA** Page 18

By Rachel Mills

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- Ending the Welfare State
- What Happened To Your Family Budget?
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Buttons
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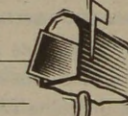
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Free-market environmentalism

By J. Daniel Cloud
LP NEWS EDITOR

In 2002, the state of Georgia gave \$28,146,687 in grants to counties and cities around the state, to be used for the preservation of "green space." The assumption, of course, is that tax money must be used for environmental preservation because people won't otherwise protect their environment.

The state legislature in 2000 signed the "Community Greenspace Program" into law, promising to set aside \$30 million per year to help communities preserve at least 20 percent of the land and water within their communities — to protect it from development either by getting permanent conservation easements or by purchasing it outright.

And Georgia isn't alone. Many other states have instituted similar programs, as has the federal government, though on a much larger scale.

But are such programs really necessary? To hear bureaucrats and pro-big government environmentalist cheerleaders tell the tale, you'd think Americans are willing to sacrifice the earth's future for a few bucks.

Not so: Private groups like the National Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy and hundreds of other, smaller organizations are responsible for much of the current wildlife protection — doing a much more effective job than government has.

To elaborate, the Audubon Society has more than 60 wildlife sanctuaries and preserves covering more than 250,000 acres, Ducks Unlimited protects more than a million acres of land each year through easements that preserve the habitats of waterfowl, and The Nature Conservancy has established more than 1,000 nature sanctuaries in its 53-year existence, preserving more than 2.4 million acres.

Although it does receive some public funds, The Nature Conservancy is primarily privately funded, relying heavily on donations to continue its projects.

Looking back, private conservation efforts have been in effect since long before the majority of the American public became concerned about environmentalism or the government got involved in the preservation of endangered species.

Today, hawks and sea lions are protected by federal and state laws. It wasn't always so, however.

In the early years of the 20th Century, the state of Oregon offered

Libertarian SOLUTIONS

a \$5 bounty for sea lions, which were considered pests because they harmed the state's salmon industry. In 1920, Sea Lion Caves, a tourist attraction on the Oregon coast, began protecting sea lions from the government that would later protect the animals.

And Pennsylvania's Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association, privately formed in the 1930s, pro-

one-fifth — 1 million acres — is conserved by land trusts working in concert with public agencies. The rest is privately held.

What leads people to designate their private property as a permanent conservation area? A combination of altruism, environmental concern and love for the land is certainly at work, in many cases.

In many instances, such environmental philanthropy is an outgrowth of capitalistic success: The more wealth people have, the more they are willing to donate to environmental conservation and other charitable work.

Or as Michael De Alessi, director of the Center for Private Conservation, said in a February 2000 preservation forum at the Independent Institute, "Wealthier is healthier. We've proven it in this country with how much more we care about environmental quality."

And the converse is true, as well, he says: "Try asking someone living on the street in the Third World just where saving the snail darter lies among their priorities, and I think you'll get a very different answer."

As people become more wealthy — as Americans for the most part consistently do — they can afford to spend more on "quality of life" pursuits, like going to college, buying better cars and even preserving their own small slice of the environment.

The title of an April 2003 article by Jerry Taylor, director of natural resources studies at the Cato Institute, says it all: "Happy Earth Day? Thank capitalism."

"Environmental amenities," Taylor said, "are luxury goods."

"There are dozens of studies showing that, as per capita income initially rises from subsistence levels, air and water pollution increases correspondingly. But once per capita income hits between \$3,500 and \$15,000 (dependent upon the pollutant), the ambient concentration of pollutants begins to decline just as rapidly as it had previously increased."

This relationship between wealth and pollution is found in every corner of our planet, he explains.

And it wasn't government regulation that prompted most of the environmental protection and pollution control in America.

"In the United States, pollution declines generally predated the passage of laws mandating pollution controls," Taylor said. "In fact, for most pollutants, declines were greater before the federal government passed its panoply of environ-

See **FREE** Page 18



tected hawks when the birds were commonly shot because they ate people's chickens.

Wildlands and wildlife are being protected much more widely now than ever before by private organizations and corporations — and they manage to do so without government intervention or assistance.

Just to the west of Chattanooga, Tenn. (my hometown) is the Tennessee River Gorge, a 26-mile-long stretch of the Tennessee River that is considered a unique natural treasure. It is home to many unusual, rare or endangered species of animals, birds and plants.

The land along the river is being protected, and it's being done by a private organization — the non-profit Tennessee River Gorge Trust, which is operated by a volunteer board and professional staff.

Since the trust was founded in 1981, more than 16,000 acres in the 27,000-acre waterfront have been protected via direct purchases, donations and conservation easements, which are a means by which the owner of the land can promise not to develop the land and ensure that no one else in the future can develop it, either.

The Tennessee River Gorge Trust is not alone. Local and regional land trusts throughout the United States now protect more than 5 million acres, according to Andy Zepp of the Washington, D.C.-based Land Trust Alliance.

Of this 5 million acres, about

LOOKING BACK

EDITOR'S NOTE: LP News has been published continuously since 1972. Each issue, we'll showcase a few top stories from 10, 20 and 30 years ago.

November-December 1974

HEADLINE: LP CANDIDATES ACHIEVE HIGH VISIBILITY IN 1974

"Led by the highly-visible senatorial candidacy of Kathleen Harroff in Ohio, Libertarian Party candidates and LPers running as independents throughout the nation generated massive amounts of publicity for libertarian ideas over the past several months. While election results were mixed in terms of vote objectives, virtually all LP campaigns received more news coverage than had been anticipated.

"Jerry Millet received 7,152 votes in his race against the incumbent Democrat in Louisiana's 7th Congressional district. That was 11 percent of the total votes cast. This is the highest percentage ever received by an LP candidate for national office."

FROM THE CHAIR, BY ED CRANE

"If the libertarian political movement is to succeed, it must become a grassroots movement of activists. Roughly speaking, there are probably 100,000 individuals in the United States who thoroughly understand, believe in and can articulate the libertarian philosophy. Approximately 5 percent of them are dues-paying members of the Libertarian party. Of those 5,000 party members about 10 percent, or 500, are what could properly be termed 'activists.'

"Let me assure you that there is not a single state or county LP organization in the country that cannot productively put to work volunteer labor. If you haven't been asked to lend a hand in your area it doesn't mean that there is nothing to do — what it probably means is that there is a need for leadership to get things organized and moving."

November 1984-February 1985

HEADLINE: TRYON WINS BY ONE

"One vote can make a difference. Libertarian candidates don't often have close races of any kind. But rancher Tom Tryon managed to squeak out a one-vote victory in his bid for Calaveras County Supervisor in what is undoubtedly the closest election victory in history for an LP candidate.

"Along with Placer County Supervisor Erik Henrikson, who was elected during the June primary, Tryon's win marks the second California county supervisor post gained by an LP member this year, and the first two ever in this state."

The story goes on to explain that Tryon was almost defeated due to a miscount. When the county clerk ordered a recount based "on woman's intuition," she found that a malfunction in the vote counting machinery had somehow missed 228 votes. The votes were recounted by hand, then again, and yet again, until the county clerk and both candidates were satisfied that the count was accurate.

Tryon won by taking 1,309 votes to his opponent's 1,308.

November 1994

HEADLINE: CAMPAIGNS — TEXAS

"Recently, the Texas Republican Party chairman suggested that LP gubernatorial candidate Keary Ehlers should drop out of the race to give GOP candidate George W. Bush a better chance at victory.

"Jay Manifold, LP state chair, responded with a letter to Bush stating, "I have decided the concept has merit. I therefore am requesting your withdrawal from the gubernatorial race in order to improve Keary Ehlers's chance of being elected."

"Reports are that the Bush campaign turned down Manifold's request."

HEADLINE: SUPERB EFFORT PUTS LPNY ON BALLOT

"Candidates for the Libertarian Party of New York are back on the ballot for this month's elections.

"And not only that, but for the first time in state party history, an LP statewide candidate, Bob Schulz, participated in a debate with all of the other gubernatorial candidates. The debate was carried live statewide by National Public Radio (NPR) and also taped for state public broadcasting television stations."

Schulz had almost been removed from the ballot for the general election because there weren't enough valid ballot access signatures. But through a lawsuit he filed in federal court, the LP was able to get certain petitioning requirements overturned.

"The judge ruled that [the requirements] constituted an undue burden to the party, and gave us three days to collect signatures needed to make the ballot," state LP Chair Gail Bova said.

In less than 72 hours, 9,044 signatures were collected to put the state LP candidates back on the ballot.

THE DIRECTOR

Outward bound

More than once, we as a party have been accused of being an inward looking "debating society" that isn't really interested in politics or willing to do the hard work of winning elections. Political parties that win elections do the hard work of politics. They build coalitions, they knock on doors, they raise money and they don't insist people pass an ideological purity test before they take their vote, take their money or let them join the party.

Steven Greenhut, senior editorial writer for the *Orange County Register*, penned a front page op-ed piece for that paper's Oct. 3, 2004, issue. The title was "Freedom at issue: Is the Libertarian Party growing up?" The opening reads, "I'm a libertarian, working for an editorial page that espouses libertarianism, yet I've never cast a vote for any member of the Libertarian Party because these guys don't strike me as serious."



By Joe Seehusen

It hurts my ears to hear this stuff.

Just for the record, the Sunday section of the *Register* has a readership that approaches 1 million. Their market is prosperous, influential and trend-setting Orange County, Calif.

"The LP fields an endless string of ne'er-do-wells who would rather argue with each other than win converts," Greenhut continues. "Most parties try to build coalitions, whereas Libertarians are so devoted to purity that they eat their own when anyone strays from the officially sanctioned party-line position."

Last week I bumped into a senior editor of the *Wall Street Journal* I had met back in my radio days. After I told him what I was doing, he said: "The party is a supper club and is not serious

about being in politics."

I told him things are changing, and I believe they are.

I see lots of evidence we are getting serious about doing the hard work of winning elections. One night after work I turned on the tube and saw Indiana LP gubernatorial candidate Kenn Gividen in a three-way debate on a nationally televised program on C-SPAN. The show was rebroadcast later on the nationally syndicated C-SPAN Radio.

With the leadership of LPIN Chair and LNC member Mark Rutherford, the Indiana LP is on the attack against the status quo of a two-party monopoly, and they are having an impact. The media is getting behind them and so are the voters. It's happening in Indiana because they are doing the real world, hard work of politics.

Scott Bludorn, a candidate for Illinois state representative, has knocked on more than 12,000 doors in his district asking for votes. He showed me the worn-out soles of his shoes to prove it. That's the hard work it takes to be taken seriously.

In Oregon, Tom Cox has put more than \$50,000 of his own money into his campaign for a seat as a state representative and is campaigning night and day. The Oregon crew has been doing the real work of politics for years. They have earned the media coverage, the community's respect and the vote totals they get.

Greenhut goes on to praise Judge Jim Gray, running for U.S. Senate in California, saying that "Gray has serious positions, a serious demeanor, a serious resume and wears a nice gray suit. No flies buzzing around his head, no weird stuff on his Web site. He is running full-time, has a professional and intelligent staff and is trying to raise money."

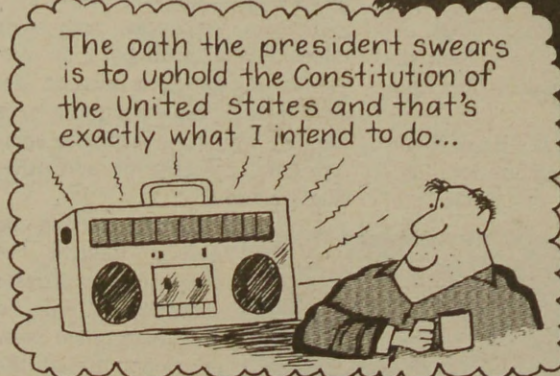
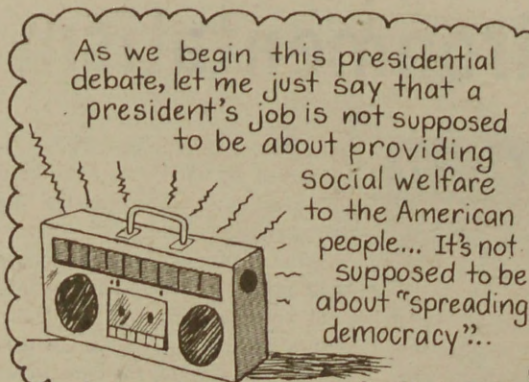
We are reaching out to begin to build relationships outside the party at the national level.

LNC Chair Michael Dixon, personally, out of his own money, bought a table at the recent Heartland Institute Gala in Chicago. The event was attended by more than 600 libertarian-leaning media members, donors, business and civic leaders. Joe Bast, president of the Heartland Institute and friend of the LP (he received the LP's Champion of Liberty award at our convention this spring), publicly acknowledged our presence in front of this important audience. It's part of spreading the message that we are on the move and open for business in the real world of politics. I am reaching out to groups like the American Civil Liberties Union, Citizens For A Sound Economy, NAACP, Heritage Institute and The Bill of Rights Institute to see where our interests might intersect.

And a final word from Mr. Greenhut: "If the [LP] chooses to play in the political arena, then it needs to play by the political rules, which means realizing that the goal is selling freedom to the average voter, not scoring points for ideological purity."

There are signs of change at every level of this organization. We are an institution in the process of choosing to embrace the hard work of real world political victories — raising funds, building coalitions and making friends everywhere we go.

The Libertarian Party is outward bound.



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THE MAILBOX

■ Jesse Ventura

There is only one kind of person who could possibly describe Jesse Ventura as "Libertarian," like Tony Correnti did in the October 2004 issue, and that is the kind of person who doesn't live in the People's Republic of Minnesota.

During "Jesse the Joke's" one term as governor he expanded the state budget by one-third, from \$21 billion to \$28 billion per year. He was also the driving force behind the Light Rail Line that currently defaces south Minneapolis.

—STEPHEN J. BAKER
Hopkins, Minnesota

■ Instant run-off voting

I have just learned that Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. has introduced a bill (H.R. 5293, the Majority Vote Act of 2004) which calls for mandatory use of Instant Run-Off Voting in all federal elections by 2008. I believe that the passage of this type of legislation is key to actually getting Libertarians elected to Congress and to the presidency.

I urge all Libertarians to contact their Representatives and urge them to become co-sponsors of this bill.

For those not familiar with the IRV, you will find lots of information at www.FairVote.org which is run by the Center for Voting and Democracy.

We need to start thinking about the most productive use of our ef-

forts at the national level before the next presidential election. I personally feel that IRV should be a major focus of our effort.

Only when people do not feel that they are wasting their vote on us or that we just want to be a spoiler to get publicity (like Nader) will enough people vote Libertarian to elect us.

—JUNE GENIS
Woodside, California

■ Immigration

Presently, we have about 3 million illegals coming into the USA every year. We can't stop them. Putting our soldiers at the border is a dumb solution. With 2,000 miles of border, it would require approximately 120,000 soldiers for one shift alone! Never mind the 2nd and 3rd shifts!

Where are we to get the manpower to "control" the U.S./Mexican border?

And how long do you think it is going to take the illegal immigrants to figure out a way to the USA by way of the Pacific/Atlantic oceans or the Gulf?

Soon all of us will stand guard or be in support of the guards! Well, we'll have full employment if nothing else.

Here is a much better solution: The illegals pay the smuggler (coyote) about \$1,500 to get them into the United States. Why don't we charge them \$1,000 to get in? We

reduce the cost to keep them out, less personnel, no headache and no stress on the border.

We register all the immigrants and invest \$3 billion per year from the immigration fees. And in the meantime, we track the illegals already here and give them a choice: Register and pay up or ship out!

—WENCESLAO M. HEVR
Lawton, Oklahoma

■ Immigration II

The national Libertarian Party is now considering reforming the national party platform plank on open borders and open immigration.

Does this platform plank promote liberty, or is it deeply flawed both in principle and practice?

My fellow Washington state libertarian, John Mills, has written in defense of the present open borders-open immigration plank [*LP News MailBox*, September 2004]. He argued that because Americans can cross city limits and state lines with ease, therefore millions of foreigners should be allowed to cross our national borders and come into our country unhindered.

Mr. Mills's argument is akin to saying that because I can pass from room to room inside my house with the ease of turning a doorknob, that I should then take the locked front and back doors off of my house and throw them away so that strangers and neighborhood gangs can come into my home with the same ease

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THE MAILBOX

that I go from room to room.

Foreigners do not have the right to come into our country unhindered. Our country is owned by the American people and they have the right to invite in or keep out whoever they choose. And people cannot exercise that right without a border patrol.

Secure national borders are a necessary corollary to the right of self defense, which is the first law of nature and a foundation stone of libertarian ideology.

We could not have picked a more unpopular plank to try to run on. Ninety percent of the American public opposes open borders and open immigration. If you don't believe this, try proselytizing the LP to our natural constituency — blue collar workers and small business people — at a gun show or other forum.

The people know something at an instinctual level that Libertarians do not recognize; they know that open borders will bring overcrowding, infrastructure collapse, chaos, crime and poverty.

These are the conditions that promote a police state and the extinction of American liberty. With unilaterally open American borders, foreign politicians will be more eager to export their poor people to the United States than to institute reform in their own countries.

If you want to know what happens to a people who cannot or will not control their borders, just ask any American Indian. They lost their country to open borders and unrestricted European immigration.

—TOM STAHL
Ellensburg, Washington

■ Deception

I am 16 years old and was recently introduced to the LP. I'm excited and interested by the goals it pursues. It's taken my brother many hours to convince me that supporting the party was a logical pursuit, at least ideologically.

But, in terms of the logistics of the party succeeding, I have still been quite wary. It took me so long to be convinced because I didn't think the public would or ever could respond in great enough numbers and that the ideals of the party are too ... idealistic.

I have a proposal. The LP, as deceitful as it may sound, should infiltrate the two-party system. I don't know if it would work on a major scale, like say, the presidency. But on some local level, it is certainly possible.

We would run candidates posing as either Republicans or Democrats. It really doesn't matter, as long as they can appeal to the people and get the vote. Once in office, they could begin to push for Libertarian legislation and downsize the government.

I really do hate to make it sound like such a deceitful enterprise to pursue, but I feel it's the only way.

—JAMIE WEISSMANN
Los Angeles, California

■ Confederacy

Lee Nason's letter (September 2004 LP News Mailbox) contains statements regarding the War of Northern Aggression that should be agreeable to Libertarians and statements regarding the Confederate flag that should be disputed.

He tells us we should not offend anyone. Surely Mr. Nason knows that the Republicans and Democrats find the existence of the Libertarian Party to be offensive. Should we disband? Despots throughout the world are offended by our freedoms. Should we adopt their ways, or surrender to their control?

Nason declares that those in the northeastern part of the country lack an understanding of history.

We who revere and display the Confederate flag are not obligated to pamper their failings.

Born in northern Virginia, my schooling and employment was in a northeastern Ohio steel town. The area was multi-ethnic: Poles, Slavs, Italians and others. Living among them was a rewarding experience — one I cherish.

My southern origin and reverent embracement of the Confederate flag was well known and accepted without rancor. It seems those good people were better educated — and had a better appreciation of diversity — than those in Mr. Nason's neck of the woods.

—DARLINGTON M. FADELEY
Dunlap, Tennessee

■ Let it burn

Normally, fires sweep through the grass and underbrush, thinning the forest of excess tress and leaving the large and healthy trees intact, much like predators cull the young and sick from a herd. The grass quickly re-grows to protect the topsoil.

Since 1910, the various federal agencies responsible for the public forests have been protecting brush from fire, not trees. In the process, they have put the trees at risk.

Despite repeated warnings by private land owners of the deleterious effect of the 100 percent fire suppression policy, the bureaucracies remained unmoved. This policy was reinforced by pious city dwellers who just want to believe that there are green forests somewhere. The votes of these ignorant people overwhelmed those of the land owners who know how to properly maintain a healthy forest.

Despite repeated promises to correct their error, these government agencies have failed to do so. Politically it makes more sense for them to use fire to scare voters into demanding more fire men, equipment and budgets, increasing their power and prestige.

If individuals so mismanaged their land against the advice of their neighbors, only their property would be affected. When states make such mistakes, state forests and private property suffer. When federal agen-

cies make such mistakes, private property burns along with public forests on a vast scale.

—BILL HOLMES
Carlsbad, California

■ Deficits and deceit

The Bush/Cheney bunch are corrupt, deceitful and piling up huge deficits that will either bankrupt this country or place a heavy and unjust burden on future generations — or both.

Corruption: We don't have a broad and deep alliance fighting with us in Iraq because Cheney, former CEO of Halliburton, wanted as many billions of our tax dollars as possible to flow into his company, his blind trust, his retirement fund.

We invaded Iraq to secure the largest easily-accessed oil reserves in the world for the American and U.K. oil companies, to insure that this oil will be denominated in dollars and not Euros, and to guarantee that a maximum amount of war profits will go to American companies and contractors.

Deceit: Some analysts cite 20 lies that misled us into Iraq. Our concern must be that a significant number of Republicans still believe these lies and that the Republicans in office have the power to turn these lies into self-fulfilling prophecies; there were no al Qaeda in Iraq when the war started, but now there are many.

Deficits: As evil as corruption

and deceit may be in corroding our democracy and destroying our constitution, the deficits are worse because they suffocate the freedoms and futures of our innocent, unborn grandchildren. If we choose the war option unilaterally, preemptively and perpetually now, our children's children will pay for our fears, delusions and deficit-spending later.

Thinking Republicans, Libertarians, Greens and Independents understand that the devil is in the deficits.

All children will be left behind and alternative energy systems, energy independence, clean air, clean waters — the sustainable future — will be impossible if we have four more years of deficits and denial, deceit and corruption coming out of Washington, D.C.

—CHARLIE AND ANGIE KEIL
Lakeville, Connecticut

■ Control group

Many libertarians have hoped that a wealthy businessman would step up and fund the creation of a free-enterprise enclave somewhere.

But history has not been kind to such hopes. There may be 500 American billionaires or so, but most of them are old and burned out. They'd rather put their efforts into using government to put their competitors out of business, or to give themselves subsidies, than put any effort into reducing government itself. Most old capitalists don't like

capitalism; it involves way too much work and financial risk.

Fortunately, capitalism need not depend on capitalists for support. The best hope of capitalism is to find an honest socialist.

Socialists claim that forcibly taking the fruit of productive people's labor and redistributing the wealth can improve society as a whole in many measurable ways.

But how can the socialists know that they have improved on the lives that an unregulated market would have provided?

They can't know, unless they have a fully capitalist nation as a control group. No honest socialist can do anything without a capitalist control; after all, socialism is supposed to be scientific. Who ever heard of a scientist without a control group?

All we have to do is find that one honest socialist [who] will see the necessity of all socialists to band together and protect a free-enterprise enclave, somewhere in the world, to serve as "Socialism's Control Group and Cautionary Tale."

Then, finally, we will find out how education, health care, water and air-pollution rights, and yes, even the roads, would work in a free society.

So don't delay; immediately forward this idea to all your socialist friends, acquaintances and enemies.

—BILL WALKER
Los Angeles, California

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✓ **SEND IN AS MANY AS YOU CAN:** We can always use pictures!

Questions? Contact Daniel Cloud at (202) 333-0008, ext. 226, or by e-mail at editor@hq.lp.org.

National LP joins coalition to protect civil liberties

The Libertarian Party has joined a coalition of groups urging the U.S. government — especially Congress — to safeguard civil liberties as it implements the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission.

Party leaders signed a letter asking Congress to ensure privacy rights aren't infringed upon by domestic intelligence-gathering groups, a national identification card or similar system isn't enacted, the Freedom of Information Act is upheld and strengthened, and the activities of federal agencies are transparent instead of being cloaked in secrecy.

In addition, there must "be a clear statutory definition of the words 'terrorism' and 'terrorist,' as well as the phrase 'terrorist organization,'" the letter warns.

"Without clear definitions, these designations could be misused, such as in the past when the word 'subversive' was used to justify actions taken against some civil rights activists, civil liberty groups and others who were engaged in lawful pursuits."

Above all, Congress must remember that the creation of new government authority "without the counterbalance of accountability is inconsistent with the American form of government," the letter says, noting that in creating any intelligence agency, Congress must ensure that a system of checks and

balances is also enacted.

Other groups that signed the letter include such disparate organizations as the American Civil Liberties Union, the Bill of Rights Defense Committee, the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee, Americans for Religious Liberty, the Electronic Frontier Foundation,

the University of Missouri School of Journalism's Freedom of Information Center, and a host of others.

"As Congress works to provide our nation with better protection from terrorist attacks, it is equally important to ensure that our civil liberties are well protected," the letter states.

"Indeed, respect for civil liberties is what distinguishes us from those who would seek to impose their values through terrorist acts. We ask you to consider our views and suggestions as you move forward. We believe that this nation can achieve effective security without sacrificing our civil liberties or privacy."

Solution: Free market environmentalism

Continued from Page 15

mental regulations than after the EPA came upon the scene."

In many cases, the decision to cut pollution was made not for altruistic purposes, but because of capitalist, market-driven economics.

As America prospered, Taylor wrote, "property values rose in cleaner areas and declined in more polluted areas, shifting capital from 'Brown' to 'Green' investments. Market agents will supply whatever it is that people are willing to spend money on. And when people are

willing to spend money on environmental quality, the market will provide it."

Is it a coincidence that in 1981, when the Tennessee River Gorge Trust came into existence, Chattanooga had one of the worst air quality ratings in the nation, and that the city now is one of the cleanest in the country — while the land trust continues to gain literal ground?

I don't think so.

Some big government proponents will protest that private preservation of environmental resources

is fine, but that the government can do a much better job because it can ensure through legislation that the land is properly set aside for conservation.

After all, government-owned property is renowned for its cleanliness, proper maintenance and preservation, right? Wrong.

Take a drive through the nearest government-owned housing project, then through a privately owned apartment complex, and see which facilities are better cared for. When an individual or a private organization owns property, that ownership typically comes bundled with pride of ownership.

"Property rights — a necessary prerequisite for free market economies — provide strong incentives to invest in resource health," Taylor said as a further explanation of why capitalism and market economics are better protection for the envi-

ronment than the government is.

Would you want the government to take over the maintenance and ownership of your house or apartment or condo?

Not likely.

So why are people willing to turn environmental concerns over to the government?

Between altruism, environmental concern, volunteerism and business interests, the free market is perfectly capable of supporting land trusts that can preserve massive tracts of land, ensuring that future generations of Americans will be able to enjoy a better environment.

And guess what: If our local, state and federal governments would stop taxing us to pay for such projects — like Georgia's use of \$30 million in tax money each year as bribes — we'd have much more of the money necessary to buy "luxuries" like environmentally critical land.

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— Charles A. Stuppy
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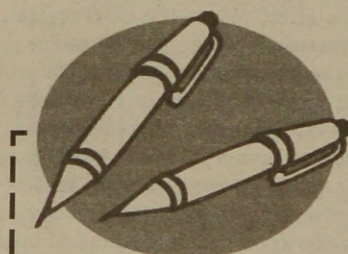
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Media blackout

Continued from Page 13

our media react if a legitimate candidate in Afghanistan or Iraq was blatantly ignored, as Badnarik is? They'd criticize the progress of open democracy in our little nation-building projects, and wonder whether that culture can ever be turned around to our way of thinking.

The good news, however, is that the Internet and bloggers are spreading the word.



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As the Internet revolution churns on, the major media outlets no longer have dictatorial powers over what we are exposed to. More and more, they will become irrelevant unless they pay attention and begin covering the stories we talk about on our Web sites and blogs.

I may have little expectation of Badnarik actually winning, but I am excited to see his vote totals on Election Day.

My fervent hope is that his percentage of the popular vote will be greater than the margin between Candidate A and Candidate B — and that we'll see the red-faced reporters realize — live, on-air — that they can no longer keep the cry for freedom squelched by ignoring it.

I am excited about being part of that message. Badnarik is doing something. He isn't giving up hope.

And neither am I.

We still have choices, and we will find them for ourselves.

■ **About the author:** Rachel Mills, who in 2002 ran for the seat in North Carolina House District 31, is taking business classes at the University of North Carolina. She is currently campaign manager for Mike Owens, her husband, who is this year's LP candidate for state House District 31. She is also working on the 2005 "Ladies of Liberty" calendar.

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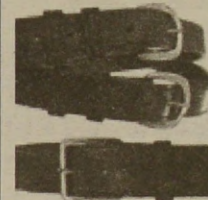
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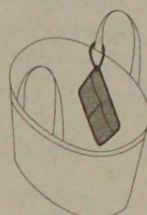
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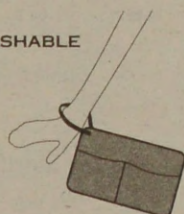


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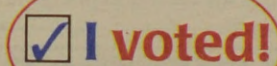
■ Palmer

■ October 28-31, 2004

Cato University Fall Weekend Seminar, "Arguments for Liberty: How to defend individual rights and limited government," Le Chateau Frontenac, Quebec City, Canada. Sponsored by the Cato Institute. Speakers include Tom Palmer (director, Cato University), Don Boudreaux (Department of Economics, George Mason University) and Robert A. Sirico (Acton Institute). For information, visit www.cato-university.org.

■ November 2, 2004

Election Day. Go to the polls, and cast your vote for LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik and any other Libertarian candidates for office who are on the ballot in your area!



■ Badnarik

■ November 13, 2004

Michigan Liberty Fest, 6-11 p.m., at the Hampton Inn & Suites in Okemos, Mich. Speaker: LP presidential candidate Michael Badnarik, who will also present a "Constitutional integrity" class the following afternoon. Banquet cost: \$45 per person. For more information, go to www.mi.lp.org or call Will Tyler White at 517-349-3806.

■ November 20-22, 2004

SepCon2004, Separation of School and State Conference, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. Theme: Get the kids out of harmful schools. Speakers to include Marshall Fritz, founder of the Alliance for Separation of School and State; Cathy Duffy, author of *Government Nannies*; John Taylor Gatto, 1991 New York State Teacher of the Year; and Michael Farris, president of Patrick Henry College. Price: \$299, with discounts available. For information, go to www.SepCon.org or call (559) 499-1776.

■ December 2, 2004

Liberty, Technology and Prosperity, a seminar co-sponsored by the Cato Institute and *The Economist*, is to be held at the Crown Plaza Cabana in Palo Alto, Cal. Speakers to be announced. For more information or to register, go to www.Cato.org or call (202) 789-5229.

■ July 10-15, 2005

ISIL's 24th Annual World Conference, in St. Petersburg, Russia. Celebrating "The Year of Ayn Rand," (it marks the 100th anniversary of her birth) the International Society for Individual Liberty will hold its annual conference in Rand's home city — concentrating on the enormous influence the author had on the world of individualist and free market philosophy. For details, go to www.FreeMarket.net, e-mail isil@isil.org, or call (707) 746-8796.

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INSIDE

■ **PAGE 1** *Badnarik arrested for crossing police line at St. Louis debate*

■ **PAGE 2** *Could Libertarians be the only ones on S.C.'s ballot?*

■ **PAGE 12** *Presidential debate losers*



FIRST WORD

"Basically, Libertarians are all about individualism and letting people get on with their lives with as little interference as possible. I can dig it. My problem with Republicans is their rather selfish, intolerant, cavalier philosophy; the main drawback for Democrats is their general failure to grasp reality, an overzealous idealism, you could call it. The attraction of Libertarianism is it seems to be a more practical, intelligent alternative to these two extremes."

—D. ALLAN KERR, *Seacoast Online* (New Hampshire), September 16, 2004

"We have two candidates running for [president], both of whom believe that it is America's job to somehow purify the world of all its 'bad' elements. Maybe if we hit harder with bigger weapons and more troops, then our enemies will be less likely to retaliate. Right. Rationality has left the building, folks. The writing is on the wall: There will most likely be a mandatory draft within the next four years, no matter which candidate is elected... Do the right thing, vote libertarian."

—BEN REDDING, *The DoG Street Journal* (The College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia), September 23, 2004