



■ Former N.H. State Rep. Don Gorman officially announced on February 19 that he's running for president — and said his campaign “will support all of our Libertarian candidates.”

Don Gorman launches presidential campaign

Former New Hampshire State Representative Don Gorman jumped into the Libertarian Party presidential race in late February, and then set off on a national campaign tour that covered thousands of miles in just a few days.

Gorman, who was twice elected to the N.H. legislature as a Libertarian in the early '90s, formally announced his candidacy at the California LP Convention on February 19, surrounded by “Go Gorman!” signs, balloons, and cheering supporters.

In his announcement speech, Gorman touched on the same themes as he had over the past several months, while he mulled a run for the presidency.

“I will run a Libertarian campaign for president that supports our current and future Libertar-

ian public officials,” he said. “I will support all of our Libertarian candidates, especially our serious candidates for winnable office. I will visit Libertarian activists across the country and encourage them to volunteer and contribute

See **GORMAN** Page 2



■ **PAGE 3**
Win a free package to Convention 2000

■ **PAGE 10**
A review of the new Harry Browne video

Alternative debates may be delayed by Reform turmoil

Libertarian Party leaders are working to arrange a series of presidential debates for America's alternative parties — but the plan is running into complications because of turmoil in the Reform Party, LP National Director Steve Dasbach announced.

“American voters deserve to hear from all the viable presidential candidates — not just from the two establishment candidates, Al Gore and George W. Bush,” he said. “We’re going to make sure voters have that opportunity, even though recent events are making it more difficult.”

Inclusive debates

In February, the LP announced a plan to help organize a series of “inclusive debates” for all nationally viable candidates, after the Commission on Presidential Debates, headed by the former chairmen of the Republican and Democratic National Committees, issued criteria that no alternative party candidates were expected to meet in 2000.

The inclusive debates — which will take place under the

DASBACH:

“Not knowing who represents the Reform Party makes it more difficult.”

.....
auspices of the Commission for Fair Elections — would simply require that participants be Constitutionally eligible to be elected, and on enough state ballots to theoretically receive the 270 electoral votes needed to win.

That criteria is in stark contrast to the criteria established by the Commission on Presidential Debates: That presidential candidates must poll an average of 15% in a series of national public opinion surveys to be included.

Such criteria would have excluded almost every third party presidential candidate of the 20th Century — and similar criteria would have excluded Jesse

Ventura from the gubernatorial debate in Minnesota in 1998. Ventura went on to win that election.

The Debates Commission “overplayed its hand” by setting such unfair standards, said Dasbach — and that has given third parties the incentive to organize their own fair debates in advance.

Self-serving

“By adopting criteria that are so obviously unfair, and so blatantly self-serving, they’ve given us a clear target” — and given third parties the time to organize “a series of genuinely fair presidential debates,” he said.

Since February, Dasbach has been in touch with leaders of the Reform, Constitution, Natural Law, and Green parties, all of which have agreed to work together to sponsor a series of “alternative” debates.

However, turmoil in the Reform Party has slowed progress, said Dasbach.

Over the past month, the Reform Party has been rocked by a series of public brawls between

See **DEBATES** Page 2

SPECIAL FEATURE PRESENTATION

History-making video

The impact of ‘Waco: A New Revelation’

By John Calhoun
FREELANCE WRITER

On February 28, 1993, agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) exploded into the Branch Davidian complex near Waco, Texas.

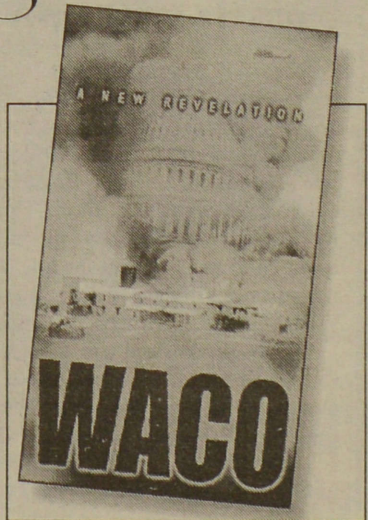
Four ATF agents and six Branch Davidians were shot dead. David Koresh, leader of the sect, was hit in the wrist.

The badly-shaken ATF agents retreated to re-strategize and care

for their wounded. An alarmed FBI quickly took over the bungled raid. The Branch Davidians were immediately charged with murder of federal agents, beginning a siege that would last 51 days.

On April 19, the FBI, finished negotiating, rushed the compound again, this time with tanks. The final raid ended in a swirling firestorm that destroyed not only the compound, but the lives of 79 men, women and children.

The world watched in horror
See **WACO** Page 14



NewsBriefs

Dixie Carter: I'm a Libertarian

Dixie Carter, the actress best known for her long-running role on the hit series, *Designing Women*, has revealed that she is a libertarian.

Carter made the announcement on ABC's *Politically Incorrect* on February 8, as part of a spirited debate about a proposed "safety manual" for Philadelphia prostitutes.

When host Bill Maher said, as a libertarian, he thought prostitution should be legalized, Carter responded, "I'm a libertarian, too."

Carter went on to say, "We should be talking about, should we legalize prostitution and legalize drugs. I mean, we've lost the drug war. And probably we've lost the war against prostitution. If we're going to do that [hand out a pamphlet], why don't we legalize it?"

The Southern-born actress became a household name thanks to her role as "Julia Sugarbaker" on the popular CBS sitcom, *Designing Women* (1986-1993). She now stars in the CBS series *Family Law* and makes guest appearances on *Ladies Man*.

In addition to her television roles, Carter has won a Theatre World Award for a role on Broadway, released two yoga videos, published a book (*Trying to Get to Heaven: Opinions of a Tennessee Talker*), recorded two music CDs, and performs in a live cabaret act. She is married to actor Hal Holbrook.



■ **Dixie Carter:** "Libertarian."

McWilliams: Send leniency letters

Libertarian Party member Peter McWilliams — who suffers from cancer and AIDS and used medical marijuana to help treat his illnesses — is soliciting letters to a federal judge in an effort to stay out of prison.

In May, federal Judge George H. King will impose a sentence on McWilliams, who pled guilty in November 1999 to charges of growing and distributing medical marijuana. McWilliams made that plea, he said, to avoid a mandatory 10-year prison sentence for "manufacturing marijuana."

The judge has the discretion to sentence McWilliams to anything from home detention to five years in prison — which is why Libertarians need to write to the judge to plead for leniency, said McWilliams.

"What I am asking the judge — and what I am asking you to ask the judge — is that I be able to serve my sentence under home detention, also known as electronic monitoring," he said.

Without the special medical arrangements he has at home, he said, he would almost certainly die in prison.

McWilliams said he believed the judge could be persuaded and that he "believed the sincerity of [King's] struggle" with the issues at hand.

"Judge King is a good judge upholding a bad law," he said. "I believe he will be fair, that he will read the letter you send, and he will be moved by your heartfelt request."

Letters should address the judge as "The Honorable George H. King" and should be sent to Peter McWilliams, 8165 Mannix Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90046 for forwarding. All letters must be in the judge's hands no later than April 1, 2000.

McWilliams, a leading medical marijuana activist, is the author of the libertarian classic *Ain't Nobody's Business if You Do: The Absurdity of Consensual Crimes in Our Free Country*.

Pro-gun mothers' march planned

Gun-grabbing mothers will march in the nation's capital in May, and a group of pro-Second Amendment women plan to be there to confront them.

The Second Amendment Sisters, a grassroots self-defense organization, has announced plans for the Armed Informed Mothers' March (AIMM) on the Washington Mall on May 14 to counteract the anti-gun "Million Mom March" that same day.

"Women deserve to have every option available to them when it comes to protecting themselves from violence," said Kimberly J. Watson, one of the founders of the Second Amendment Sisters, on January 24. "Any further erosion of the Second Amendment serves only to harm women and their families. With the AIMM march, we can make our voices heard."

"The purpose of our march is to get women together to let Congress know we won't stand for having our right to defend our families stripped away. We have to stop treating law-abiding citizens like criminals."

For more information about the Second Amendment Sisters and the AIMM march, visit www.sas-aim.org.

Gorman starts presidential run

Continued from Page 1
to local campaigns in 2000.

"I will share a Libertarian message with the American people that most voters will find both credible and responsible. I will share a message that will support our serious local candidates."

Gorman also invited a first-time LP candidate for local office to join him during the speech as a symbol of his goal of electing more LP candidates this year. He was introduced and endorsed by 1998 California LP gubernatorial candidate Steve Kubby.

During his campaign, Gorman said he will call for an end to unconstitutional asset forfeiture laws, emphasize his support for the Second Amendment, endorse legalizing medical marijuana, and oppose unconstitutional military interventions abroad.

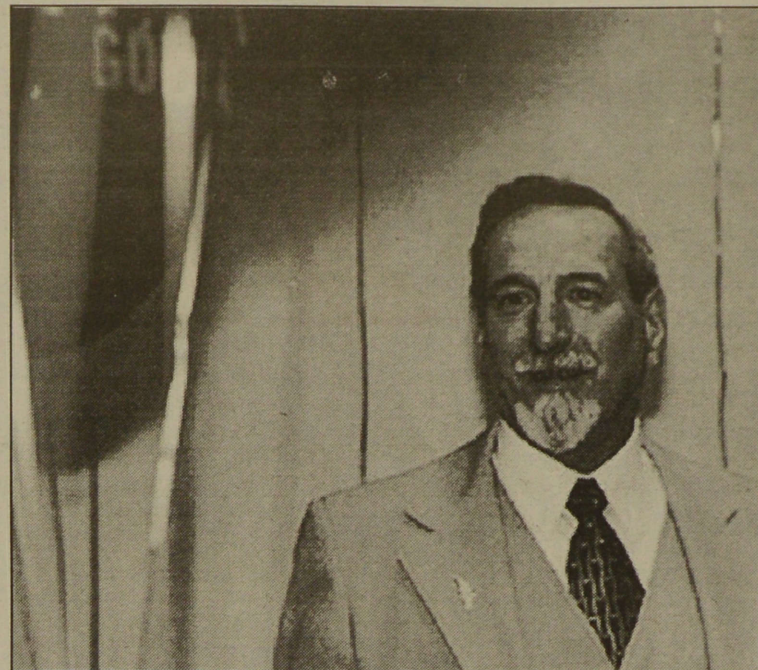
With candidate

After the convention, Gorman appeared with a city council candidate in San Diego, and visited Palm Desert on February 20 to campaign with U.S. Senate candidate Gail Lightfoot and State Assembly candidate Susan Marie Webber.

"A candidate must get out and meet people," Gorman said during the Palm Desert swing, where he appeared on a local talk radio show.

On February 25, Gorman traveled in Illinois to collect the endorsement of 1998 LP gubernatorial candidate Jim Tobin and to work the media circuit.

He met with local newspaper



■ **Don Gorman:** As a presidential candidate, "I will share a Libertarian message with the American people that most voters will find both credible and responsible. I will share a message that will support our serious local candidates."

journalists, television reporters, and radio hosts, and said he plans to "travel the country, get local media to share a Libertarian message, and elect some Libertarians in 2000."

The last stop of the Midwest tour was Iowa, where Gorman spoke to the state LP convention on February 26.

Gorman was elected to the New Hampshire state legislature as a Libertarian in 1992, winning with a "major party" cross-nomination. He was re-elected in 1994 — again with another party's cross-nomination — before losing his re-election bid in 1996.

Gorman also served as Leader of the four-man minority Libertarian caucus from 1993-1995. It was the first recognized third-party caucus anywhere in the United States since the 1930s, according to political experts.

He currently serves in public office as the Chair of the Deerfield Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Gorman will face Harry Browne, Barry Hess, and Dave Hollist for the LP presidential nomination. The party's presidential nominee will be selected by delegates at the national convention in Anaheim, California, June 29-July 3.

3rd party debates delayed by turmoil

Continued from Page 1

supporters of party founder Ross Perot and Governor Ventura. The party's chairman has been removed from office, the competing factions have both claimed control, and a flurry of lawsuits have been filed. Ventura resigned from the party in February.

"Obviously, the Reform Party would be a major player in any alternative debates, and not knowing who represents the party makes it more difficult to make progress," said Dasbach. "But we are moving forward."

Within next month

Sometime within the next month or so, he said, debate organizers expect to announce the number of debates, and which political parties have already qualified. After that, research will begin to find locations, and news networks will be approached about broadcasting the debates.

Within a month after that announcement, a press conference will be held to formalize the sites

and dates of the debates, and presidential candidates will be invited to sign on to the inclusive debates if they are their parties' nominees, he said.

Third party debates have been held before — and broadcast on C-SPAN — but they were hastily organized after alternative candidates' hopes to be included in the "real" presidential debates were dashed, said Dasbach. Those

alternative debates generated little attention.

"That's why it is so important for us to arrange real, inclusive debates — and to make sure we have the time to publicize them properly," he said. "If we don't make this happen, then the Republicans and Democrats will have won. Third-party candidates will be silenced, and American voters will be the real losers."

LIBERTARIAN PARTY LP News

Libertarian Party News (ISSN 8755-139X) is the official monthly newspaper of the Libertarian Party of the United States. Opinions, articles, and advertisements published in this newspaper do not necessarily represent official party positions unless so indicated.

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SEND NEWS, LETTERS, ESSAYS, PHOTOGRAPHS, OR ADVERTISING: Libertarian National Committee, Inc.
Attn: LP News
2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100
Washington DC 20037

SEND ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS OR ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE SAME ADDRESS AS ABOVE:
Attn: Membership Department

PUBLISHER:
Libertarian National Committee, Inc.

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California LP heads to Supreme Court for primary case

High court will rule on constitutionality of California's so-called blanket primary

California Libertarians are going to the Supreme Court to fight for their right to choose their own candidates, and to overturn a state primary system they say could dilute the party's principles.

On April 24, the nation's highest court will hear an appeal filed by the Libertarian, Democratic, Republican, and Peace & Freedom parties. At stake will be California's "blanket primary" system, under which a registered voter of any party can vote for every other parties' candidates.

The case is Docket 99-401.

Libertarian U.S. Senate candidate Gail Lightfoot — who has been leading the LP effort against the primary for the past four years — will attend the Supreme Court hearing, and said the party will argue that the blanket primary is not only unconstitutional, but also violates the California LP's bylaws.

Only members

"Our bylaws say only party members can select our candidates," she said. "We do not want Democrats, Republicans, Greens, or Reformers selecting our candidates."

In recent primaries, Libertarian candidates received "five to 10 times the votes as we have registered Libertarian voters," she

said. "None of these non-Libertarians understand our principles at all. We want to preserve our right to control our own party ideals, our party principles."

The case is going to the Supreme Court after the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in November 1997 that the blanket primary is constitutional.

At the time, the California LP denounced the ruling as a denial of "the right of the Libertarian Party to follow its own bylaws and the party's right to define itself and its membership."

Less protection?

In September 1999, the parties filed an appeal, arguing that the blanket primary violated the First and 14th Amendments. They also asked the Supreme Court to decide whether "political parties are afforded less protection" under the Bill of Rights than other private associations.

Lightfoot was "delighted" that the Supreme Court decided to hear the case, she said, since only about 125 of the 7,000 cases presented to the Court each year are heard.

"We will try to convince the court that the California primary system is a threat to the LP's principles," she said. "The Libertarian Party exists to [run] candidates who can best explain Libertarian



Photo by Richard E. Venable

■ Preparing for their rendezvous with the U.S. Supreme Court are (l-r) C.T. Webber, chair of the Peace & Freedom Party of California; attorney George Waters; Gail Lightfoot, past California LP Chair and current candidate for U.S. Senate; and expert witness Richard Winger, publisher of *Ballot Access News*. The high court will hear the case — and decide whether California's "blanket" primary is constitutional — on April 24, 2000.

ideals. [We should] pick our own candidates for office — especially presidential candidates."

The blanket primary system was adopted by voters in a 1996 referendum — at the urging of Republican Secretary of State Bill Jones — and was supposed to make primaries more "democratic," said Lightfoot. But less

than 18% of registered voters turned out for that referendum, she noted.

"Democratize"

It is ironic, said Lightfoot, that the wide-open primary — intended to "democratize" California's elections — only helps "candidates who have no political

philosophy. I don't believe that is what the signers of the Constitution had in mind."

California is one of only four states with a "blanket" primary; the others are Alaska, Washington, and Louisiana. Another dozen states have limited open primaries, where voters can choose a party ballot on election day.

NATIONAL CONVENTION UPDATE

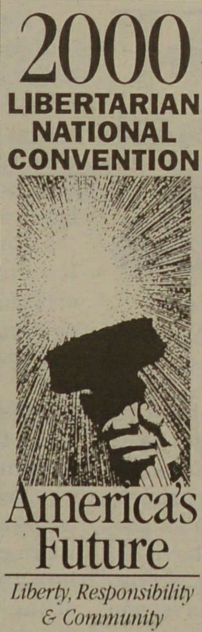
Win a free package for the Convention

Want to attend the 2000 Libertarian National Convention for free?

And want to be treated like a VIP while you're there — enjoying an upgrade to a luxurious hotel suite, an invitation to the exclusive Torch Club reception, and special "front-row" seating at events?

One lucky Convention attendee will receive all that, thanks to the "Be A VIP!" convention raffle, LP National Director Steve Dasbach has announced.

"The VIP raffle is your chance to experience the 2000 National Convention for the best possible cost — free! — and from the best possible van-



tag point — as a VIP," he said.

The rules of the raffle are simple, he said:

The contest is open to anyone who purchases any package to attend the National Convention by April 15. (Convention package must be purchased or postmarked by April 15, 2000 to be eligible. Anyone who has already purchased a package is automatically entered.)

Shortly before the start of the convention on June 29, one winner will be selected at random by the Balcom Group (which is managing the convention).

The winner will receive a See **FREE PACKAGE** Page 16

New Waco documentary film will be shown at 2000 National Convention

Waco producer joins line-up of speakers

The man who blew the whistle on the Waco cover-up — sparking a new round of Congressional investigations into the fiery disaster — has been added to the speaker list for the 2000 Libertarian National Convention.

And not only will Mike McNulty, the man who produced the explosive documentary, *Waco: A New Revelation*, speak, but the documentary will be shown, too, said LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger.

"This film brought to light new and disturbing information about one of the great governmental crimes of the 20th Century, and it also prompted Congress to re-open the investigation into this tragedy," he said. "We don't know if politicians will actually get to the bottom of the cover-up this time, but we do know that without *Waco: A New Revelation*, none



■ LP Political Director Ron Crickenberger (left) meets with *Waco: A New Revelation* producer Mike McNulty at a preview in Washington, DC. The film will be shown at the 2000 LP National Convention in Anaheim, California.

of this would have happened.

"Libertarians should not miss this opportunity to see this documentary, and meet the man who

made the film, made headlines across the country, and may help make history."

See **SPEAKERS** Page 16

News: Politics

Harry Browne wins three LP primaries

Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne has swept the first three LP presidential preference primaries—winning non-binding contests in California, Missouri, and Arizona.

In California's unique March 7 "blanket primary," where all candidates of all parties were listed on a single ballot, Browne easily outdistanced all other Libertarian contenders with 18,647 votes. Browne finished seventh out of 23 candidates of all parties on the ballot.

Coming in second in the Libertarian column was Kip Lee, who is not running an active campaign, with 3,552 votes, followed by unannounced candidate L. Neil Smith with 2,869 votes, and Dave Hollist with 2,285. Larry Hines, who has quit the LP, received 2,718 votes.

The California primary ballot did not reflect the current line-up of active LP presidential contenders because the decision about which candidates would be on the ballot was made, in part, by the Secretary of State late last year.

In Missouri on March 7, Browne won 53.3% of the vote, to Hines's 11.4% and Hollist's 10.1%. In Arizona on February 22, Browne won 77.2% of the vote, to Hines's 13.6% and Hollist's 9.1%. Massachusetts also held a presidential primary on March 7, but results were not available at press time.

The Libertarian primaries play no role in the formal LP nomination process; the party's nominee will be selected by delegates at the Libertarian National Convention in Anaheim, California, June 29-July 3.

Steve Givot runs again for LP Secretary

Libertarian National Committee Secretary Steve Givot has announced that he will seek re-election to the post for another two-year term, because he has "done a good job for the past two years" and wishes to continue.

"I've proven my commitment to producing minutes with [a] level of detail and accuracy, and I am committed to continuing to deliver that quality to our membership," he said.

Givot, 50, joined the LP as a Life Member in 1980, and served on the LNC as a representative before being elected Secretary in 1998. He has chaired or served on numerous convention committees, including the Platform and Program Committees.

Givot, who moved to Colorado in March, was a frequent LP candidate for office in Illinois, winning nearly one-third of the vote in two local races. In his 1984 U.S. Senate bid, he received almost 60,000 votes.

He said the LP is on the right track, but much hard work remains.

"The LP is growing membership faster than it has in two decades, and is training its leaders and candidates to be more effective," said Givot. "[But] I would like to see a continued improvement and refining of strategic planning within the LP."

The LP Secretary will be selected by delegates at the party's National Convention in Anaheim, California, June 29-July 3.

Larry Hines ends presidential campaign

Larry Hines has ended his longshot bid for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination and said he will now seek the nomination of a party that does not yet exist.

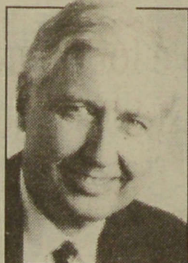
On February 21, Hines announced that he had left the Libertarian Party, and would begin campaigning for the nomination of the National Independence Party.

"I have left the Libertarian Party to reclaim my independence," said Hines, 34. "I feel that my energy is best utilized in helping to build a new party."

Although no National Independence Party currently exists, there is a Minnesota Independence Party, which grew out of Governor Jesse Ventura's defection from the Reform Party. Ventura has publicly speculated about turning it into a national party, but no organizational work has been done, and the party does not have ballot status in 49 states.

Hines's switch to the National Independence Party marked his third political affiliation in 12 months: He started his presidential campaign as an independent—when, after being exposed to the Internet, he suddenly "realized I wanted to run for president"—and announced his LP presidential bid after joining the party in early 1999.

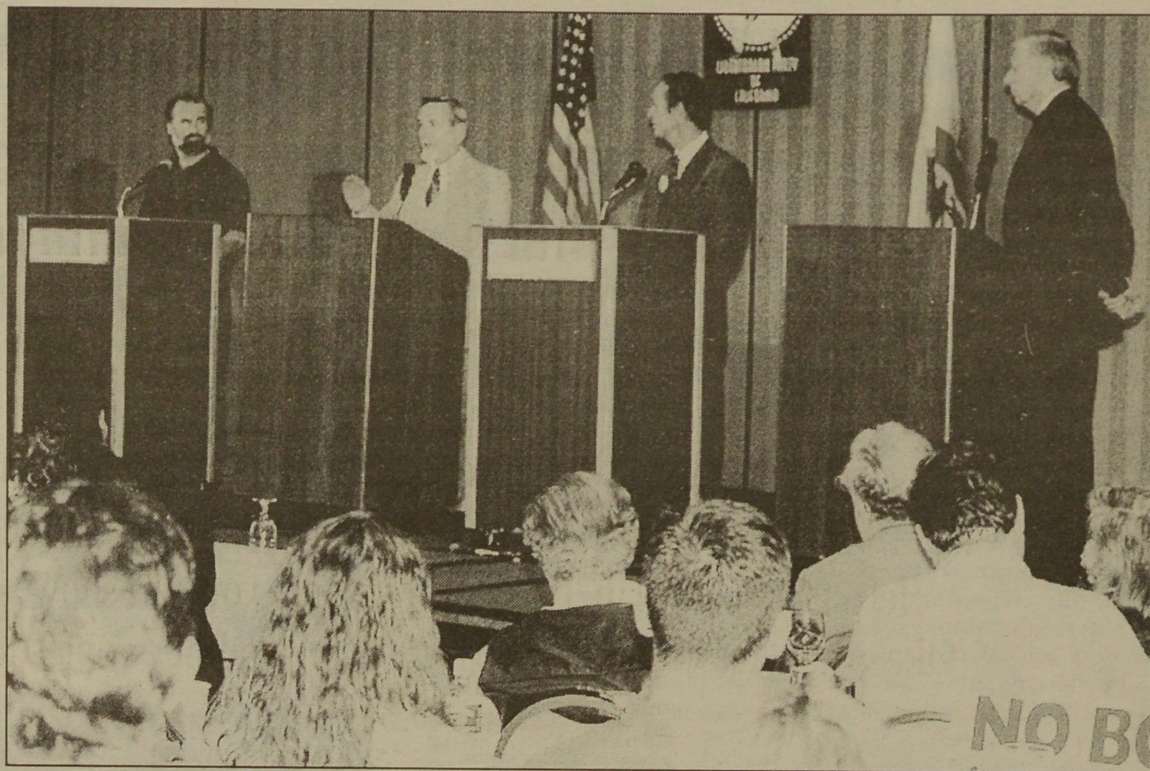
At the time, he said his goal as a Libertarian presidential candidate was to "express myself."



■ Browne: He's three-for-three



■ Givot: Seeks secretary post



■ The four active candidates for the Libertarian Party's presidential nomination — (l-r) Dave Hollist, Don Gorman, Barry Hess, and Harry Browne — participated in their first major debate of the campaign season at the California LP convention on February 20. Largely in agreement about issues, the four candidates contrasted their campaign strategies.

LP presidential hopefuls debate strategy, agendas in California

The four active candidates for the Libertarian presidential nomination met for the first time on a C-SPAN televised debate at the California LP Convention in San Diego on February 20—and contrasted their strategies and issues before an audience of several hundred Libertarians.

The "Presidential Candidates Issue Panel" featured author, talk show host, and 1996 LP nominee Harry Browne; former New Hampshire State Representative Don Gorman; Arizona businessman Barry Hess; and California LP activist Dave Hollist.

The 90-minute debate, moderated by Alan Bock, editorial writer for the *Orange County Register*, was friendly, with the candidates often joking with one another and complimenting each other on their strengths and positions.

In agreement

All four candidates conceded that they were largely in agreement on political views—and much of the evening was dedicated to questions on campaign strategy and tactics.

Hollist led off the opening statements, and said, "I looked at the names on the ballot and saw that they were all interested in taking my property. So I decided to be on the ballot myself."

Gorman said his strategy to help the LP grow "is to get out and share with Libertarians across the country my knowledge and enthusiasm on how to get elected to local office, and be part of the system and change the system."

He also noted that legislative colleagues called him "the conscience of the House" for bringing Libertarian ideas to government.

Hess said his candidacy is rooted in a desire for victory. "We are not competing against each other," he said. "We are competing to put the best candidate forward for the Libertarian Party and our ideals. When I saw candidates who said, 'We can't win [the presidency] but we're going to run anyway,' my enthusiasm was not so great."

"I believe we need a candidate who plans on winning."

DON GORMAN:
Libertarians must "be part of the system and change the system."

Browne addressed his reasons for a second campaign. "Why do we run a presidential candidate?" he asked. "To make the Libertarian Party as visible as possible. What you have to have are four things: A very strong, powerful message, which we have; you need a strong, powerful messenger; you need to be able to transmit that message; and you need the organization to back it up."

Excerpts from the questioning:

■ What will be the main theme of your campaign?

Browne: "[Libertarians] have the simplest, most obvious political message in the world: We want you to be free. We need to be aggressive with it, and we need to make the other politicians justify taking that freedom away from you."

Gorman: "Before the convention, I will be speaking to Libertarians about how to get elected and how to get the vote out, and we will bring the message out to the American people based on strong Libertarian organizations across the country."

Hess: "If we have every Libertarian vote, we are not going to make a dent in the national elections. We have to tell people that it's okay to vote cross-ticket, which is going to have to happen before people accept us and embrace us as a majority party."

Hollist: "Contract insurance. It's a unique idea, and it's a powerful idea. I will try to explain it as simply as I can and hope people will respond to it."

■ How will Libertarians keep the poor from being left behind?

Browne: "When we repeal income and Social Security taxes, we're going to leave a trillion dollars a year or more in the hands of the people who earned it, instead of in the hands of politicians to waste. That trillion dollars is going to buy a job for everybody who can work, and charity for everyone who can't work."

See 4-WAY DEBATE Page 23

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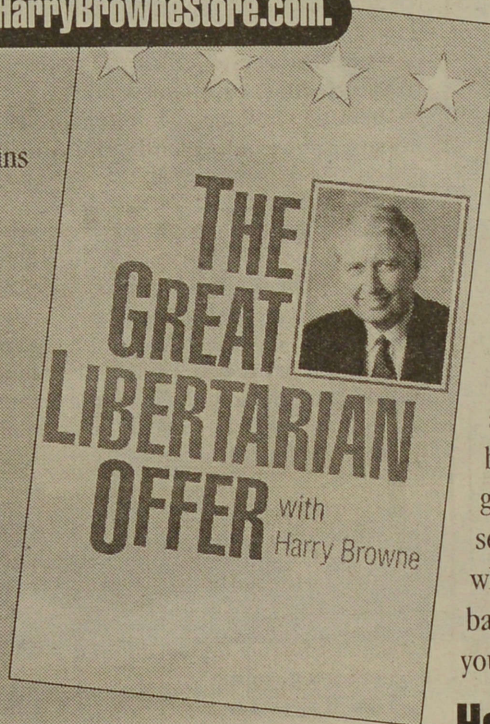
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Walking Points

Explaining the War on Smoking, and the 3 rules of bureaucracy

■ \$169 million a day

President Clinton has doled out enough gifts of U.S. financial aid overseas to make Santa Claus envious. White House documents provided to Congress show that Clinton distributed \$36.5 billion in trips to 59 countries — a rate of \$169 million a travel day.

— U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
March 6, 2000

■ You moron

Let's review the key points in the War on Smoking so far:

Point One: Cigarettes are evil, because smokers smoke them and consequently become sick or dead.

Point Two: The tobacco companies are evil, because they make and sell cigarettes.

Point Three: Therefore, in 1998 there was a big settlement under which the tobacco companies, by way of punishment for making and selling cigarettes, agreed to pay more than \$200 billion to 46 states and numerous concerned lawyers.

Point Four: The tobacco companies are paying for this settlement by making and selling cigarettes as fast as humanly possible.

Point Five: At the time of the settlement, the states loudly declared that they would use the money for programs to eliminate smoking, which is evil.

Point Six: Perhaps you believe that the states are actually using the money for this purpose.

Point Seven: You moron.

Point Eight: In fact, so far the states are spending more than 90% of the tobacco-settlement money on programs unrelated to smoking, such as building highways.

So, to boil these points down to a single sentence: The War on Smoking currently is a program under which states build highways using money obtained through the sale of cigarettes. Is everybody clear on that?

— DAVE BARRY

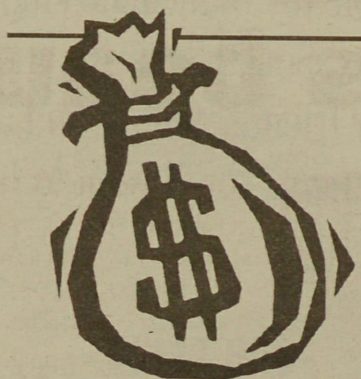
The Washington Post
February 27, 2000

Sue 'em, Danno

Former Clinton Secretary of Labor Robert Reich, 1999: "Regulation is out, litigation is in."

"The era of big government may be over, but the era of regulation through litigation has just begun."

— THE GUEST CHOICE NETWORK
March 2000



"PRESIDENT Clinton has doled out enough U.S. aid overseas to make Santa Claus envious."

■ 1040-NOT-EZ

The Internal Revenue Code is America's national nightmare. Its 17,000 pages of fine-print law and regulations have spawned 721 different forms. The paperwork mailed out each year by the IRS could circle the Earth 28 times, and even the "simple" 1040-EZ return requires 32 pages of instructions.

Taxpayers squander more than 5.4 billion hours every year in a futile effort to comply with tax laws that have changed more than 6,000 times since 1986.

— DANIEL MITCHELL

The Washington Times
February 16, 2000

■ That's real reform!

In an effort to curb the role of money and special interests, Thailand has embarked on campaign reform of the most radical kind. The election commission has barred Senate candidates from expressing political views, affiliating with political parties, or even saying what they would do in office.

They cannot advertise on television or radio, or talk to supporters with the aid of a microphone. Debates and rallies are *verboten*. They are allowed to tack up small posters featuring only their name, photo, and ballot number.

The situation has been exacerbated by a virtual news blackout. Most news organizations have shied away from mentioning

candidates by name because of rules that require all contestants to receive equal air time and newspaper space.

— THE WASHINGTON POST
March 2, 2000

■ Smog-eating car

According to Swedish car maker Volvo, car owners may soon be able to reduce smog by driving. The company has announced that its new S80 luxury sedans will feature a new radiator that will actually "eat" ozone, thanks to a special coating called Premair™.

As air passes through the specially coated radiator, ozone, a prime component of smog, is converted into oxygen. The company claims that on hot days, when ozone levels are normally highest, the radiator will actually eat more ozone than would be created by a modern, catalytic-converter-equipped car. In other words, the more the car is driven, the cleaner the air becomes.

If such radiators come into widespread use, they could cause a major rethinking of such vehicle emission controls as testing and oxygenated gasoline.

— TOM RANDALL

Environment / Climate News
March 2000

■ Disabled logic

Is staying conscious an essential job function for a train dispatcher?

In the case of a former Consolidated Rail Corp. employee with a heart condition that can cause him to lose consciousness, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission told a federal appeals court in Philadelphia that

"while consciousness is obviously necessary to perform" train-dispatcher tasks, "it is not itself a job function."

The employee [had been] denied a dispatcher's job that involved directing trains and taking emergency action to prevent crashes. He sued under the Americans with Disabilities Act, but a federal judge ruled for Conrail.

On his appeal, the EEOC argued that a safety-related qualification standard is valid only if the employee poses a "direct threat" to others.

In a similar case, a New Orleans federal appeals court recently ruled against the EEOC, which sued to overturn an Exxon Corp. policy, written after the 1989 Exxon Valdez accident, that bars anyone with an alcohol or drug abuse history from certain safety jobs.

— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
February 22, 2000

■ The real web

Government outlays (federal, state, local) and regulatory costs — largely imposed on the private sector — have grown more than 50% faster than the economy for 50 years and now claim more than one-third of GDP. The federal government owns one-third of all land, pays for 40% of medical care, manages nearly 50% of individuals' retirement funds and regulates many industries. Most Americans live and work in a web of government rules.

— GEORGE F. WILL

The Washington Post
February 24, 2000

■ How cruel

On a crisp October night in 1995, a Southern California man, walking home with bags of groceries in his arms, was abducted by a violent career criminal. The criminal, whom prosecutors charged recently as the Los Angeles Southside Rapist, took him to an automatic teller machine and robbed him. Then at gunpoint he forced the grocery shopper to perform sex acts.

No police were there to save the victim. Criminology research and common sense tell us that had he carried a gun and known

how to use it, he would have been much more likely to escape injury. But he lives in Santa Monica, a city that would deny him his right to carry a self-protection gun even if he asserted it.

And if he sues the police or the city for allowing this terrible crime to happen, he will discover what all other such victims have learned, to their sad amazement — the police had no [legal obligation] to protect him.

An enclave of gun-abhorring (and therefore unarmed) liberal-thinking citizens, Santa Monica provides a target-rich environment for career criminals. Similar stories abound in other cities where gun ownership is limited to criminals and the police. In Washington, D.C., New York City, and Chicago, unarmed potential victims must rely on luck and the mercy of violent predators.

But contrast Santa Monica with Orlando, Florida, in the late 1960s. During a rash of rapes similar to the Southside Rapist's spree, the Orlando Police Department trained more than 2,500 women in the use of guns for self-defense. In the year after the Orlando police launched the highly publicized program, the number of rapes there plunged 88%. The rate remained constant for the rest of Florida and the U.S.

Truly, our government denied the hapless Santa Monica victim the means of self-defense and simultaneously denied a duty to protect him from harm. How absurdly cruel.

— TIMOTHY WHEELER

The San Diego Union Leader
February 8, 2000

■ Public schools: Yuck

In a survey of 30,000 households in 55 cities, the Education Testing Service reported [significant] customer dissatisfaction levels with public schools.

In more than half the cities surveyed, between 16% and 34% of households consider their public schools unsatisfactory.

— SCHOOL REFORM NEWS

March 2000

■ Size matters

The actual federal workforce vastly exceeds the number of official federal workers, as [Paul] Light [of the Brookings Institute] argues in a new book, *The True Size of Government*. To federal workers must be added (a) people working under federal contracts and grants and (b) state- and local-government workers fulfilling federal mandates, he says. Light puts the total at 16.9 million in 1996. The total is huge.

— ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

The Washington Post
February 16, 2000

■ Bureaucracy Rules

The Rules of Bureaucracy: 1. A penny saved is an oversight. 2. The first 90% of the task takes 90% of the time; the last 10% takes the other 90%. 3. To err is human; to shrug is civil service.

— THE FEDERALIST BRIEF

February 22, 2000

"Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no law can save it."

— Judge Learned Hand



Liberty doesn't just "lie" in the hearts of Libertarians, it burns there brightly. And, as Libertarians, we want to make sure it continues to burn brightly — even after our individual lives flicker out. Here's how you can make this happen: Name the Libertarian Party in your will or insurance policy. If you do, the liberty in your heart will last beyond one lifetime. For a confidential discussion of this option, please contact national LP Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz at (781) 883-5295. Or e-mail him at: Treasurer@lp.org.

Gun Rights: Help Us Convince 1,500,000 Massachusetts Gun Owners that small government = gun rights

Carla Howell

small government is beautifulsm

Ted Kennedy: Key anti-gun rights U.S. Senator for 38 years. "Assault" Weapons Ban. The Brady Bill. BATE. Expanded powers and budgets for Janet Reno. Lawsuits against honest gun manufacturers and gun dealers. Anti-"Concealed Carry." Friend of Handgun Control, Inc. Ted Kennedy has sponsored, lobbied for and voted for every major federal anti-gun law in the last 38 years. Kennedy is proud of his anti-gun record.

Massachusetts faces a choice: Ted Kennedy or the Second Amendment.

Carla Howell: Pro-Gun Rights

"If Hollywood needed to invent a challenger to Senator Edward Kennedy, they couldn't have created anyone whose views differ more than Libertarian Carla Howell." — FRONT PAGE, SUNDAY Edition, *MetroWest Daily*, 11/7/99.

Carla Howell *always* puts the Second Amendment first.

Every issue. Every time. No exceptions. No excuses.

Credibility

In 1998, Carla Howell won 102,198 votes as the Libertarian candidate for State Auditor in Massachusetts — with an advertising budget of less than \$8,000.

Carla Howell was endorsed by the *Boston Herald*, which described her as a "serious, savvy, well-qualified candidate — well worth a vote." She was endorsed by *Boston Globe* columnist Jeff Jacoby and political powerhouse Barbara Anderson, Director, Citizens for Limited Taxation.

Carla Howell has an MBA from Babson College. She is a marketing and management strategy consultant.

The U.S. Senate Campaign

How would you organize a pro-gun, small government campaign for U.S. Senate — if your opponent was Ted Kennedy?

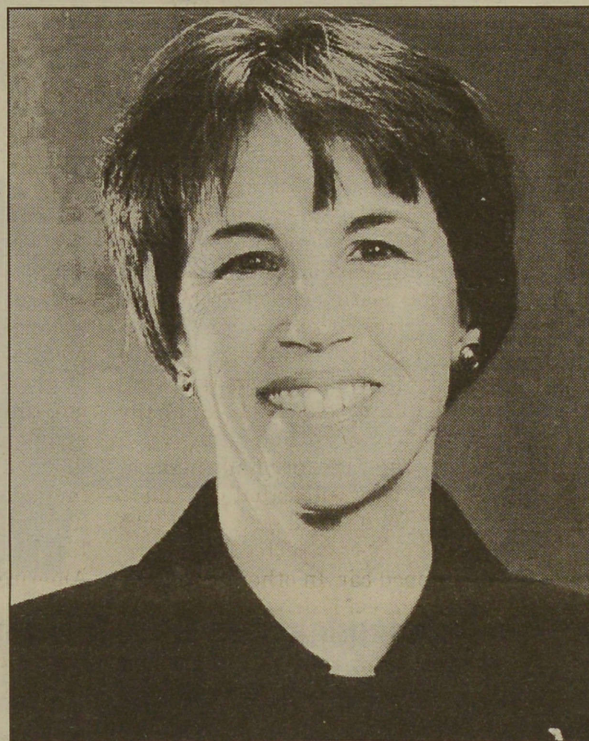
We put together the best campaign team we could. Michael Cloud. Barbara Goushaw. Kay Pirrello. Elaine Berchin. Celeste Parent. Dennis Corrigan. Muni Savyon. Kamal Jain. Bob O'Keefe. Mike Conway.

We set an ambitious goal: The Most Successful Libertarian U.S. Senate Campaign Ever!

Our message is simple: small government is beautiful.

Our issue is simple: Big Government vs. small government.

Big Government problems. Or small government



solutions. Big Government complexity. Or small government simplicity.

Big Government taxes. Or small government savings. Big Government waste. Or small government thrift.

We're asking voters, "Which do you want: Big Government or small government?"

Carla Howell's Promise: "As the Libertarian U.S. Senator from Massachusetts, I'll ACT to make government small. Every issue. Every time. No exceptions. No excuses."

Small Government = Gun Rights

Why does Big Government infringe on our right to keep and bear arms? Because it CAN.

Why doesn't small government infringe on our gun rights? Because it CAN'T.

The problem is NOT the abuse of power.

The problem is the power to abuse.

Take away the power, make government small — and no abuse is possible.

Or we can make government small. And eliminate the problem once and for all. The solution is simple, elegant — and it works.

Big Government guarantees that your gun rights are never safe. Small government guarantees that your gun rights are always secure.

Carla Howell Needs Your Help

Carla Howell has spoken to dozens of gun clubs. Carla Howell is a featured speaker to 10,000 Massachusetts Gun Owners at three GOAL Gun Owners' Rallies this month.

But our campaign needs to get our message out.

Imagine 10,000 Carla Howell, Libertarian for U.S. Senate yard signs. Imagine 10,000 bumper stickers saying: Carla Howell "small government is beautifulsm"

Imagine \$300,000 in TV and radio advertising. More than Jesse Ventura spent. Imagine hundreds and hundreds of newspaper articles, talk radio shows, and TV interviews. All sharing our Pro-Gun, small government Libertarian message.

Please help us reach the 1,500,000 gun owners in Massachusetts. We need to ask them to vote for Carla Howell. Because Carla Howell always puts the Second Amendment *first*.

We'll do the work. Help us buy the materials.

\$250 will fund two Carla Howell TV ads — and be seen by 80,000 people.

\$100 will fund 2 Carla Howell radio ads on major stations — and be heard by 30,000 people.

\$85 will fund 100 Carla Howell bumper stickers — and be seen by 10,000 people each week.

\$65 will fund 26 campaign yard signs — and be seen by 1,400 people each week. Again and again.

Please help us confront Big Government Ted Kennedy with the Libertarian alternative.

Please donate today.

small government is beautiful
And it leaves your guns alone!

Carla Howell

The Most Successful Libertarian U.S. Senate Campaign Ever!

Here's my best contribution to make this happen:

One-time Contribution: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250
☐ \$100 ☐ \$85 ☐ \$65 ☐ Other: \$_____. I'll pay by:
☐ Check: "Carla Howell for US Senate" (no corporate checks) ☐ Credit card.
Monthly Pledge: ☐ \$100 per month ☐ \$75 per month
☐ \$50 per month ☐ \$30 per month ☐ Other: \$_____. per month
Please: ☐ Bill my credit card. ☐ Send a monthly reminder.

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ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____
Bill my: ☐ Visa ☐ Master Card ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
CREDIT CARD # _____
SIGNATURE _____ EXPIRATION DATE _____
OCCUPATION _____ EMPLOYER _____

Note: Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, and occupation and name of employer for each individual whose contribution aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

MAIL TO: Carla Howell for U.S. Senate • 297 Boston Post Road Suite 247 • Wayland, MA 01778 • E-mail: info@carlahowell.org • www.carlahowell.org

News:Affiliates

The worst way to use a surplus, the best gadfly, and the most statewide candidates

■ ARIZONA

LP attorney overturns Tucson ban on smoking

A Libertarian attorney has convinced a Tucson judge that the city's restaurant smoking ban is unconstitutional — and said that's a first step toward the ban eventually "going up in smoke."

"I think this will lead to the City Council repealing the ordinance," **Ed Kahn** said after his courtroom victory on January 31.

The judge ruled the ordinance unconstitutional because it exempts some restaurants if owners faced economic "hardship."

Despite that ruling, the judge also found Kahn's client guilty of violating the ban, and sentenced the restaurant owner to 45 hours of community service.

Kahn said he would appeal that decision, and use the opportunity to attack the law on "freedom of association" grounds.

"We plan to take this to the state Supreme Court," he said, and predicted the high court would declare "the entire ordinance unconstitutional."

■ ARKANSAS

State LP joins campaign to repeal property taxes

State Libertarians joined with the Arkansas Taxpayers Rights Association to kick off a joint campaign on February 26 to repeal the state's property taxes.

Their goal: To get a repeal initiative — favored by 70% of the state's electorate — on the ballot.

"This is a tremendously tough uphill battle," said State LP Treasurer **Kerry Kerstetter**. "The opposition will do anything possible to remove the initiative from the ballot. They are terrified of allowing the voters to decide this issue."

Though a property tax repeal might mean higher sales taxes, Kerstetter called the move an important first step.

"We can't expect to reverse decades of incremental growth in taxation and the size of government with one magic solution" — but Libertarians can help to "eliminate the immoral property tax completely," he said.

■ CONNECTICUT

LP activist warns town: Tax rates will skyrocket

Oxford LP Chair **John Joy** has some advice to residents without school-age children: Get out of

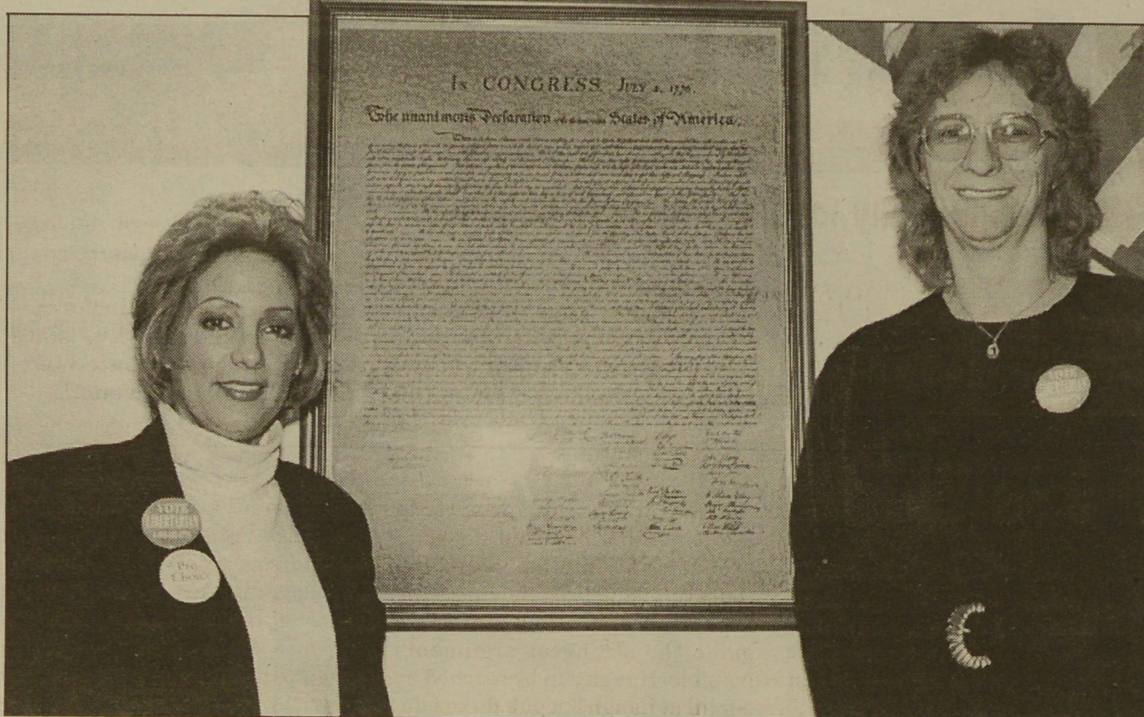


Photo by Donald Allison/Elko Free Press

Libertarians stand for independence in Elko, Nevada

■ **Lana Noland** (left), chair of the Elko (Nevada) Libertarian Party, and Secretary **Mary Rahn** stand in front of the Declaration of Independence at a meeting in January. The Elko party was started last September, said Noland, after she became disillusioned by what she saw as a public school teacher. She helped found the Elko LP with the goal of "restoring and expanding the original vision of America," she said.

town fast, because the tax rate is about to skyrocket.

His suggestion came after voters authorized the town to buy 51 acres of property in a February 7 referendum — but neglected to read the "fine print."

"The vote provides all sorts of new powers to the Board of Education and the Selectmen," who have been trying to build a new high school despite widespread opposition, he said.

As a result of the vote, "politicians will probably decide to build a \$50 million high school," he said — which would require tax increases of "\$450 to \$1,000 per year for the average homeowner."

And that number could go even higher, said Joy: "I've spoken to a number of people who have told me that if the high school plan passed, they'd move. If 100 families without kids move out, we'll be in even bigger trouble."

■ INDIANA

New 'attack' Libertarian show debuts in Hammond

Former Hammond LP mayoral candidate **Max Robinson** is taking his Libertarian message to the airwaves with a new TV show entitled, *They're Stealing Your*

Country, Take It Back!

Robinson's hour-long program debuted on February 2, and will air every other Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. on AT&T Cable Channel 16.

"It's my show, and my Libertarian views will be expressed," he said. "I don't have to go by someone else's guidelines."

The premiere installment included features on the War on Drugs and the "New World Order," and Robinson said he plans to take on other topics that the "mainstream media" ignores.

"I'm in attack mode," he said — and added that his only disappointment with the first show was how quickly the hour flew by.

"I was worried about running out of time, but I ended up without enough time," he said.

■ MARYLAND

LP to state politicians: Give that surplus back

The state Libertarian Party has launched a campaign to try to convince politicians to return part of the state's huge surplus to taxpayers.

"Maryland ran a \$1 billion surplus last year," said State Chair **Steve Boone** in January.

"Does this mean the state wisely managed tight funds? Hardly. It means the people of Maryland were overtaxed."

To get the money back, the party is urging state Libertarians to write letters to the governor, the comptroller, and the legislature.

"Ask them why, when there's a huge surplus, they have to scurry around finding new projects to spend it on rather than giving real tax relief to the citizens of Maryland," said Boone.

"And include a tea bag in your correspondence," he suggested. "Remember, Massachusetts didn't have the only tea party before the Revolution. There was one in Maryland, too."

If politicians get enough mail, said Boone, it would send a "real message — and might even do some good."

■ MICHIGAN

State LP endorses new marijuana amendment

Libertarians have joined the fight for a state constitutional amendment to "effectively end marijuana prohibition" in Michigan.

The party officially endorsed the Personal Responsibility

Amendment initiative on February 7. If adopted, the measure will allow any adult citizen to possess up to three ounces of marijuana without criminal penalties.

"Libertarians have always advocated repealing drug prohibition," said Executive Director **Tim O'Brien**. "Our view is stated succinctly in the amendment language: 'It is not the proper role of a limited government to interfere with the discretion of adults exercising informed personal judgment.'"

Initiative sponsors need to collect over 300,000 signatures by mid-summer to get the amendment on the November ballot. And with 1,600 Libertarians in Michigan, the LP's endorsement brings them a big step closer, said O'Brien.

■ MINNESOTA

State Chair testifies in favor of referendum bill

The state LP endorsed a bill to allow initiatives and referendums in the state — but it wasn't quite enough to convince legislators to pass it.

On March 8, LP State Chair **Charles Test** testified before the Election Laws Committee, and urged members to pass the bill because "Libertarians insist that the people must have some direct voice in the governmental process. Minnesota government has gotten far too big not to allow the people a process for making their views known."

An Initiative and Referendum option "is essential to ensure that the will of the people is clearly known and not easily disregarded," he said. "Initiative and Referendum can add additional voice from the citizenry, giving [legislators] the counterbalance of the public will against special-interest pressure."

Despite the testimony, the bill was rejected on a voice vote of the entire Minnesota House later that day.

■ MISSOURI

St. Louis newspaper: LP activist is 'Best Gadfly'

Longtime LP activist **Ken Bush** is the "best," says a popular weekly newspaper in St. Louis.

Bush was named the city's "Best Gadfly" by the *Riverfront Times* in its annual "Best Of" issue late last year.

In dubbing the Libertarian activist "Best Gadfly" for his work against everything from gun-control laws to the War on Drugs, the newspaper said Bush "shows no signs of slowing down" in "chal-

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lenging the status quo wherever government is perceived to have intruded."

Bush can be found at hearings, conferences, and meetings fighting "everything that smacks of constitutional infringement on citizen's rights," reported the *Riverfront Times*.

Bush said he was pleased to be recognized, but said the paper could have picked a better superlative: "I felt it would be more accurate to call it Best Individualist, Best Iconoclast, or Best Rebel."

■ MISSOURI

Libertarians work to put concealed carry on ballot

Libertarians are hard at work to get a conceal-and-carry initiative on the state ballot, following the defeat of a similar proposal last year.

The Missouri LP is recruiting volunteers to collect signatures to put the initiative on the ballot — and hopes to get more than 200 people to collect 50 signatures each, said LP activist **Steve Umsheid**. Petitions must be submitted by the end of April.

If the drive is successful, an initiative to repeal the state's current law against carrying concealed weapons will be on the statewide ballot this November.

If it passes, "law-abiding citizens [would gain the right to] obtain a permit to carry a concealed firearm for protection," he said. "We do this for one reason: To save lives."

A similar measure — Proposition B — lost in a special election last year. But, "if we have our way, Prop B will be back in November — only this time with an attitude," said Umsheid.

■ NEVADA

Republican, Democrat; now she's a Libertarian

A former statewide candidate with a colorful past has left the Republicans and Democrats — and joined the Libertarian Party in February.

"I am in accord with the Libertarian Party," said **Jessi Winchester**, who ran for Lieutenant Governor as a Republican in 1996 and for U.S. Congress as a Democrat in 1998. "Freedom can't be taken for granted and the LP has a lot to offer."



Libertarians rally for gun rights in Colorado

■ LP members (l-r) **Jennifer Armstrong**, **Ari Armstrong**, and **Brian Schwartz** show their support for the Second Amendment at a rally in front of Colorado Governor **Bill Owens's** mansion on February 3. The Republican governor — who ran on a pro-gun rights platform — has been dubbed "Governor Gun-Control" by the Rocky Mountain Gun Owners for his "slate of disarmament proposals," said **Ari Armstrong**. About a dozen LP activists participated in the frosty protest, chanting slogans like, "No more gun control!" and "One-term Owens!"

Winchester, who is writing a book on Nevada politics, is the second major defector to the Nevada LP in less than a year. Hollywood producer and 1998 Republican gubernatorial candidate **Aaron Russo** joined the LP last August.

Winchester said she has a unique perspective on libertarian ideas: She used to work as a prostitute in one of Nevada's legal brothels — and said voters frequently told her that the world's oldest profession offered "a great deal more honesty and integrity than most elected officials!"

Winchester was welcomed into the party by State Director **Chris Azzaro**, who said, "We welcome anyone who believes in small government, low taxes, and personal freedom to join us."

■ NORTH CAROLINA

A unique opportunity for election law reform?

A new state commission has been set up to reform North Carolina election law — and "everything is on the table," said LP State Chair **Sean Haugh**, who has been appointed to serve on the 17-member panel.

The state Election Law Revision Commission is an opportunity for "victory on every single item" of election reform that Libertarians endorse, he said.

The panel "has the broadest of mandates to completely modify state election law and everything is on the table," he said. "There will be tremendous pressure on the legislature to pass our report."

As a member, **Haugh** said he will push for same-day registration, "election laws that treat all parties equally," a repeal of North Carolina's restrictive write-in law, voting by mail, and "some method of proportional representation."

Haugh, who was appointed to the panel in 1999, said he could use information from around the country about "case law and the experiences of other states" to make the strongest arguments possible. **Haugh** can be reached by e-mail at haugh@acpub.duke.edu.

■ TEXAS

LP runs more statewide candidates than R's & D's

Over 100 Libertarian candidates will be on the Texas ballot this November — which is more candidates for federal and state offices than the Republican or Democratic parties are running.

"The interest and excitement in Libertarian campaigns is at an all-time high, and we expect that to translate into media coverage and record vote totals this fall," State Chair **Geoffrey Neale** said.

In all, the LP is fielding 109 candidates — including 29 of 30 U.S. House races and seven of nine statewide races. The party's 36 statewide candidates surpass the 32 from the GOP and the Democratic Party's 31.

The record slate will also translate into record votes this year, predicted **Neale**.

"Texas LP candidates earned over 1 million votes in 1998," he said. "With the growing wave of support for Libertarian ideals, we think 5 million votes is a realistic goal for 2000."

■ TEXAS

State website is guilty of 'vote total fraud,' says LP

The state is guilty of "vote total fraud" — that's the charge levied by Taylor County LP Chair **George Schwappach** at a public hearing before the state legislature on February 10.

Specifically, the official state

government's website falsified 1998 election results by rounding up the vote totals of the "major" party candidates to 100%, while ignoring the votes won by Libertarians and independents — "even when, as happened in some districts, the Libertarian candidate drew 15% of the vote," he said.

"The Texas Legislative Council, which gathered the vote totals cast in previous elections, manipulated the outcomes. Texans who voted for anyone other than a Democrat or Republican have had their votes erased."

State Libertarian Executive Committee member **Rock Howard** said he reported the falsification to the Council in May 1999, and "they admitted that they had systematically altered the vote percentages" — but so far, no corrective action has been taken.

■ VERMONT

State party fights against the 'right' to health care

Declaring health care a "right" would be a Big Government wrong, says a Libertarian sociologist.

A bill in the State Senate to "establish health care as a basic right for all Vermonters" would let the state "claim the authority to regulate our personal lives," charged **Daniel Krymkowski** on February 1.

Instead, the state should free health care from regulatory red tape, he said.

"Let your employer give you his portion of insurance premiums so you can buy your own health care," suggested **Krymkowski**, a sociology professor at the University of Vermont and LP activist. "Establish health care accounts, which would let you spend your money as you please for medical purposes."

■ VERMONT

Maternity pay proposal is 'abuse of authority'

A proposed plan to give state maternity pay to new parents is just another way for the government to "steal" from one family to give to another, State Chair **Scott Berkey** has charged.

"This legislation is unwarranted," he said on February 23. "It is an abuse of authority to force the worker to subsidize the growth of someone else's family."

The proposal — buried in welfare "reform" legislation — would let parents go on unemployment for three months after the birth or adoption of a child, and rake in up to \$3,480 in state payments during that time.

Even worse: The money would come from the state's unemployment insurance tax fund, noted **Berkey**.

"[That] fund is not a subsidy for family growth," he said. "The Libertarian Party always objects to diverting public assets from their intended purposes."

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Libertarian for U.S. Senate

The Fastest-Growing
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small government is beautifulsm

SEE OUR AD ON PAGE 7

NewsBriefs

Liberzine.com's young perspective

A new online magazine has been launched to allow young libertarians to make their voices heard on the Web. Liberzine.com — created by Jerry Brito of the Cato Institute — debuted on February 28, and will feature “fresh and daring perspectives from young writers.”

“The Young Turks of the libertarian movement now have a quality daily online magazine,” said Brito.

In its first week, Liberzine included commentaries on nuclear proliferation, the U.S. Postal Service, and the “digital divide,” an installment of an ongoing libertarian novella; and a personal narrative on one writer's evolution from leftist to libertarian.

“While Liberzine will grow in the future, it's going to start off by offering libertarian commentary from a more personal, down-to-earth point of view,” he said.

Charter contributors to Liberzine include writers from Cato, MSNBC.com, *The Miami Herald*, and the Libertarian Party, said Brito. The site also includes an interactive forum where visitors can post their opinions and discuss topics with authors.

While Liberzine.com is geared toward Libertarians, Brito said he expects it to also attract readers with other political beliefs.

“I hope that non-libertarians find Liberzine an important way to learn about libertarianism as well as talk with the writers and improve understanding,” he said.

Tim O'Brien wins in libel lawsuit

A libel lawsuit against Michigan LP Executive Director Tim O'Brien — filed by a former Allen Park mayor after a failed recall effort — has been thrown out of court by a judge.

“I was not at all surprised,” said O'Brien about the February 18 decision. “This attempt to legally bully citizens for participating in the political process is a blatant misuse of civil procedure and a clearly frivolous complaint.”

The legal battle started in 1997 when O'Brien, a community activist and then-LP State Chair, joined an effort to recall the mayor.

Allen Park residents drafted a petition charging the mayor with using tax money to lobby for a tax increase, voting to raise his own pay by 85%, and attempting to “exert political control” over the police department.

The effort never made it to the ballot, but Mayor Ken Ford still struck back with a libel suit, claiming the recall petition was libelous and caused him “mental distress.”

But Judge Susan Bieke Neilson found the accusation without merit and summarily dismissed the charges.

Now, O'Brien plans to file a motion to recoup court costs and seek damages, he said.

“This is not over,” he said. “I won't allow an elected official to get away with this kind of intimidation of his constituents.”

Libertarian at Scottish conference

Libertarian Ohio School Board member Charles Byrne is set to address an international education conference in Glasgow, Scotland, on May 18.

Byrne, 74, will speak at the Parents in Education Around the World conference on “Choice and Civil Rights in the United States.” The four-day conference, sponsored by the Scottish School Board Association, will feature workshops on education and experts from 28 countries.

“I will talk about school boards in the United States and the role of parents,” he said. “I will project what I think is the future [of American education] and how the school choice movement will gain ground and acceptance.”

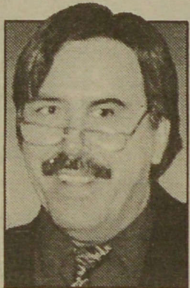
He also plans to decry the “vicious campaign to deny parents' rights in education and to the poor in particular,” he said.

“Teachers and unions, superintendent associations, PTAs and school boards are fighting fiercely to squash any alternative school offerings,” said Byrne. “They want them all put out of business, because they perform exceedingly well at a third of the cost [of government schools].”

He will also call school choice the “civil rights issue of the new century,” he said, because choice in education leads to better options for African-Americans and other minority groups.

“School choice is an grassroots movement which neither the courts nor the Constitution can deny,” he said.

Byrne, a parents' rights activist for over 40 years, was elected to the State School Board in 1996, and is seeking re-election this year.



■ Tim O'Brien: Suit thrown out

Fylstra begins vice chair bid

High-tech industry pioneer will work to turn LP into “much more than a minor party”

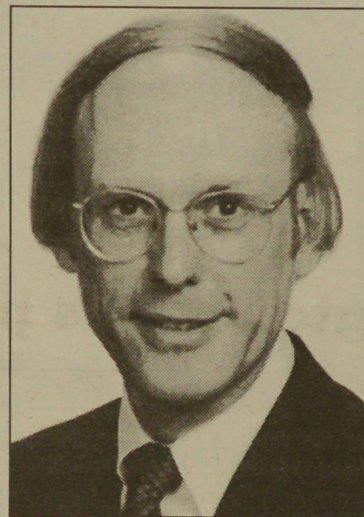
Libertarian National Committee alternate member Dan Fylstra has announced his candidacy for LNC Vice Chair — because, he said, the LP can become “much, much more than a minor party.”

“I really believe that we can seize new opportunities, such as rapid growth of the Internet and widespread dissatisfaction with the Republicans and Democrats,” Fylstra said, following his announcement in late February. “I want to make this happen in 2000 and 2001. I believe I've made a difference on the LNC in the last two years, and I'm ready to do more.”

Fylstra, currently the LNC alternate representative from Region 2 (California and Nevada), has already won the endorsements of six sitting LNC members, including retiring Vice Chair Hugh Butler, Secretary Steve Givot, and Treasurer Mark Tuniewicz.

Project Archimedes

Fylstra, 48, registered as a Libertarian in 1992 and voted for the LP's 1996 ticket. He became a party member in 1997 — a decision he credited to the LP's Project



■ Dan Fylstra: “I believe I've made a difference on the LNC and I'm ready to do more.”

Archimedes membership drive.

Once he became a member, Fylstra said he became active quickly, helping to “reboot the largely inactive Nevada Libertarian Party” — now the nation's fastest-growing state LP — in 1998. That year, he also received 10% of the statewide vote for State Treasurer.

Fylstra, who has founded several software companies, said he

has “done a lot of outreach for the Libertarian Party to the high-tech community to convey to executives the message that the LP is their natural ally, and is growing and professionalizing rapidly today.”

He also said he is proud of his role in the project to redesign the national LP website.

“I personally raised the funds needed to kick off the project, and I devoted hundreds of hours to evaluating bids, selecting a vendor, and working with that vendor to ensure that our goals for the website were met,” he said.

The current LNC deserves credit, he said, for becoming “more professional and more effective in recent years” — and “honest and open debates” are to thank for it.

Three areas

Fylstra pinpointed three areas he would focus on as Vice Chair: Using the Internet more effectively to recruit new members, “growing the LP from the bottom up by supporting state and local candidates and parties,” and “doing more to measure our actual impact on American voters” through polling and other means.

“I want to press for a much stronger and up-to-date LP presence on the Internet,” he said.

“Redesigning the national LP”

See **FYLSTRA** Page 12

Harry Browne starts second campaign with media barrage and TV infomercial

Libertarian presidential candidate Harry Browne launched an all-out “air war” in the first weeks of his second run for the LP nomination, hitting over 30 media outlets in just five days.

Browne, a former bestselling investment author and radio talk-show host, kicked off his campaign on February 14 in a live appearance on C-SPAN. Within a week, he'd also appeared on the Fox News Channel and several national radio shows.

Browne also sat for interviews with national newspapers including the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Investors Business Daily*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Washington Times*. And an announcement-day interview with the Associated Press appeared in at least 15 newspapers.

Just the beginning

“We've had 32 interviews in four days — and most of those interviews were with national publications or broadcasts,” said Browne. “Even after the nominating convention in 1996, I didn't get this kind of coverage.”

“But the best part is that this isn't the climax of the campaign. It's just the beginning.”

Browne said he found “that reporters want to talk about issues — how a Libertarian government would do this or that. The message I want them to get across is, ‘We want you to be free to live your life as you want to live it, not as George Bush or Al Gore thinks is best for you.’”

The campaign also made LP history in an unexpected way: In February, Browne was mentioned in the monologue on CBS's *Late Late Show*, which may be the first time a Libertarian candidate has been the butt of a late-night joke.

“Maybe we've arrived, now that comics are taking pot-shots at us,” Browne said.

Infomercial

That same month also saw the cable TV debut of the Harry Browne for President 30-minute infomercial — *The Great Libertarian Offer* — which aired on the Product Information Network on February 16.



■ Browne: Did 32 interviews

“It may not be a famous network but it does reach into 30 million American households,” said Campaign Manager Perry Willis. “This first airing is a test to allow us to judge what kind of response we can expect from future broadcasts.”

The infomercial was seen in major markets like New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Boston, Dallas, Washington DC, Detroit, Atlanta, Houston, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Miami, Portland, Baltimore, and Indianapolis.

June book release

After the initial media blitz, Browne took a week off to put the finishing touches on his campaign book, *The Great Libertarian Offer*. The book had been planned for a spring release, but has been pushed back until June.

In late February, Browne hit the road on the state LP convention circuit, starting off with an appearance at the California LP convention, where he took part in a candidate debate with rivals Don Gorman, Barry Hess, and Dave Hollist.

Browne also addressed LP

See **BROWNE** Page 20

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SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Friday, May 5, 2000

8:30 am Registration and Exhibit Hall opens
9:30 General Session – Introduction
10:00 Campaigning on the Internet: New Ways to Win Votes, Recruit Volunteers and Raise Money
Noon Break
1:30 pm Overview: The Politics of 2000
2:30 Understanding the Voters: A Look at Public Opinion with Top Democratic and Republican pollsters
4:30 Can Clean Politics be Winning Politics: Lessons Learned from Campaign Case Studies: A special panel sponsored by the University of Maryland with a grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts
5:30 Adjourn
6 – 8:00 Reception Honoring the **Rising Stars of Politics 2000** as selected by *Campaigns & Elections* magazine

Saturday, May 6, 2000

8:30 am Exhibit Hall opens
9:00 General Session – The Elements of a Winning Campaign Strategy
10:30 **Track A:** Developing the Campaign Message Step-by-Step
Track B: ★ Effective Political TV Spots: A Look at The Pollie Winners
Track C: How to get Press Coverage in District & Local Campaigns
Track D: The Fundraising Plan: Step-by-Step
11:45 **Track A:** ★ Opposition Research: Where to Find it, How to Use it
Track B: ★ Managing Voter Files: New Techniques & Technologies
Track C: Producing Television Spots: Creative Ideas, Technical Tips
Track D: ★ Targeting and Reaching Minority Voters
12:45 pm Break
2:00 **Track A:** Using Newspaper Ads to Save Money and Reinforce Messages in District & Local Races – Creative Workshop
Track B: Using Telephones for Voter ID, Persuasion, Recruitment, GOTV

Track C: Recruiting Volunteers: Successful Techniques and Tips
Track D: ★ Creative Web Site Design
Track E: Special Session: Political Campaigning in Latin America (2 hours)
3:15 **Track A:** Direct Mail Fundraising – Do's and Don'ts, When, & How
Track B: Ballot Issue Campaigns – Winning Strategies & Tactics
Track C: ★ Winning against the odds: How to Win Underdog Campaigns at the Local and District Level
Track D: Candidate Appearance and Image Development: How to Look and Act Your Best on the Campaign Trail
4:30 **Track A:** Preparing and Delivering Effective Speeches by John Davies
Track B: ★ Effective Spin: Damage Control and Press Relations
Track C: Focus Groups & Tracking Polls – How to Use Them to Communicate Your Message
Track D: ★ Saving Money on Your Direct Mail: From Design to Printing to Postage
5:50 Adjourn
★ indicates new, expanded or updated content

Sunday, May 7, 2000

8:30 am Exhibit Hall opens
9:00 **Track A:** Budgeting Advertising Dollars in Small Local & State Campaigns (under \$100,000)
Track B: Budgeting Advertising Dollars in Large Campaigns (over \$100,000)
Track C: ★ Fundraising on the Internet: Appeals, e-mails, credit cards and follow-ups
Track D: ★ Winning Nonpartisan Local, State & Judicial Elections
10:15 **Track A:** Grassroots Lobbying: How to Recruit and Mobilize Citizen Armies to Advance Political Causes
Track B: Using Polls for Message Development & Effective Voter Targeting

Track C: Candidate Scheduling: Maximize the Candidate's Time
Track D: ★ Desktop Publishing & TV Spot Digital Editing: Using New Hardware and Software for Media Production
11:30 **Track A:** ★ Persuasion Direct Mail – Creative Workshop
Track B: First 25 Things Every Smart Campaign Should Do by Ron Faucheux
Track C: ★ Getting your Ballot Initiative Off the Ground: Signature Gathering & Qualification; Ballot Language Strategy; Timing & Organizational Tactics
Track D: ★ Getting Out the Vote; Election Day Turnout Strategies and Techniques
12:30 pm Break
1:30 **Track A:** Grassroots Organizing and Field Operations
Track B: Asking for Money: One-on-One
Track C: ★ Hiring Consultants & Staff in Campaigns Large and Small – Costs, Contracts, Relationships
Track D: ★ Producing Direct Mail and Print Materials in Small Local and District Campaigns
2:40 **Track A:** Handling Debates and Multi-Candidate Forums by Ron Faucheux
Track B: ★ Media Buying – Planning, Pricing, Targeting, FCC regulations, disclaimers
Track C: Producing & Buying Effective Radio Ads
Track D: ★ Appearing on Talk Radio and TV Shows: How to get on, how to look and sound your best
3:50 ★ General Session: New Campaign Products and Software – Exploring the New Tools of the Trade
5:00 Adjourn
★ indicates new, expanded or updated content

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VideoReview

Browne's 'hot button' video

By Jon Osborne
WWW.MISSLIBERTY.COM

■ **The Great Libertarian Offer** video. Director: Alec Doyle. Producer: Kristen Overn. VHS format, 30 minutes. \$10

I was very excited by the prospect of this film, because it promised to be the first really major effort by a national Libertarian Party candidate to communicate his message in video form.

I was not disappointed. It gives a general summary of what Harry Browne and the Libertarian Party are about, and focuses attention on three particular "hot button" issues: Social Security, the War on Drugs, and the income tax. The Libertarian position on each of these issues is argued clearly, persuasively, and even with a little humor.

The format for all this is a sort of fireside one-on-one between Harry Browne and moderator David Ruprecht. In the opening between these two we learn: 1) Excess government has brought a lot of problems to America; 2) Democrats and Republicans are pretty much alike and are just going to give us more of the same; and 3) Harry Browne is here to offer an alternative — a rebirth of minimum government and maximum liberty.

After that, the two discuss Browne's "Great Libertarian Offer," essentially a pitch to give Americans their money and liberty back in exchange for whatever it is they think they're getting from the government. It's a wholesale, all-or-nothing approach to dismantling the government, as opposed to a gradualist, piecemeal process.

With regard to Social Security, Browne proposes giving private pensions (funded by government asset sales) to those already dependent on Social Security. The Social Security tax would then be repealed and the rest of us would be free to save for our own retirement.

With regard to the War on Drugs, he would end it, and would pardon all nonviolent drug offenders. The prisons would be emptied to make room for violent criminals.

With regard to the income tax, he would repeal it. Excise taxes and tariffs would provide adequate income for the remaining (legitimate) government.

Note that the focus here is two-thirds economic issues (taxes and Social Security) and one-third personal (drugs). For that reason, my guess is that this film will be more effective at converting political heathen from the Right than political heathen from the Left. In any case, it's likely to convert somebody.

Needless to say, to the uninitiated, Libertarian political positions can appear radical. But Browne has an easy-going charm that makes them seem less so.

Their controversial character is further undercut by the interspersing of "man or woman on the street" interviews. In these, people are asked simple questions like "What's your favorite government program?" or "Do you think you'll ever receive Social Security benefits?"

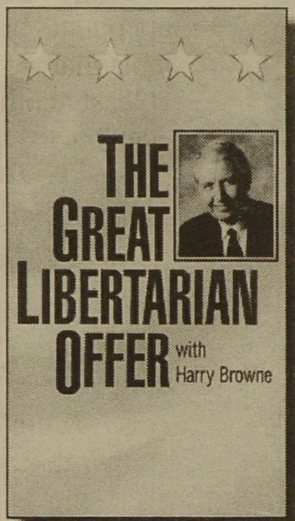
These interviews have obviously been edited down to only the favorable responses, but even so they have the desired effect and they also add a little humor. When so many people can't think of a government program they like, it says something.

This is not a high-budget documentary or an educational film that will be rebroadcast for decades. It's a political infomercial and infomercials are, by their nature, not great cinematic achievements.

Nonetheless, as an infomercial, this is a good one. Personally, I've never watched an infomercial for more than thirty seconds, but I'd watch this one all the way to the end even if I weren't already a Libertarian. It offers rational solutions to major problems that people care about, and does so in a palatable way.

Another major plus for this film is that it is being made available on the Internet (as well as on VHS video). Simply by sending friends the link to the HarryBrowne.org site, you can share this film with them, all for free. This is clearly the future of political outreach.

■ To order the *Great Libertarian Offer*, call (888) 377-0417. Or visit: www.HarryBrowneStore.com.



Krawchuk: VP bid is official

The 1998 candidate for PA governor promises to run an active campaign

Pennsylvania Libertarian activist Ken Krawchuk has become the first candidate to officially enter the race for the LP's vice presidential nomination.

Krawchuk, 46, who ran for governor in Pennsylvania in 1998 and plans to run again in 2002, formally announced his candidacy in a speech before the Delaware LP Convention on March 4.

He plans to "accomplish four goals" in his campaign, he said: To "keep the political machinery humming" for his next gubernatorial campaign, to help local Libertarian candidates in 2000, to "push the L-word and philosophy" into public awareness, and "to build bridges between local, state and national libertarian groups across the nation."

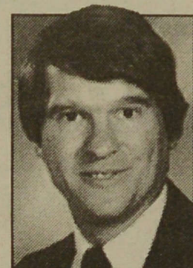
Starting immediately, he will

devote "at least one day a week" to his campaign, said Krawchuk. And if he wins the nomination, he "intends to devote the entire month of October to campaigning full time," he said.

"I will not run a sit-at-home campaign," said Krawchuk. "I never have."

Krawchuk also offered to "pay all of my own travel expenses to locations within 350 miles of his home" for campaign events. This range includes "over 35 million people from Boston to Washington D.C.," he said.

Krawchuk is the founder and



■ **Krawchuk: Bid is official**

President of Ken Krawchuk & Associates, a data processing consulting firm. He has sought public office as a Libertarian four times, and received over 33,000 votes in his gubernatorial bid.

If he wins the nomination, Krawchuk said he would be glad to serve on the ticket with any potential presidential nominee, since "all of the Libertarians who have announced are excellent, dedicated people."

Information

For information, write: K2K Campaign, c/o P.O. Box 260, Cheltenham, PA 19012.

Phone: (215) 881-9696. Fax: 215-KRAWCHUK. Or e-mail: timcrowley@worldnet.att.net.

A campaign website — www.k2kcampaign.com — is expected to launch by late March.

The LP's vice presidential candidate will be selected by delegates at the national convention in Anaheim, CA, June 29-July 3.

Fylstra runs for vice chair

Continued from Page 10

website is a great first step, but our next challenge is to effectively promote the Libertarian Party name, our national and state party websites, and candidate websites to non-Libertarians, using the Internet itself as a promotional vehicle."

Fylstra said his own Internet business experience will help in this task.

He also said he would "continue the practice started by Hugh Butler of staying in touch with as many State Chairs as possible — learning what's working in certain states and passing on the ideas to other states."

Fylstra, who lives in Incline Village, Nevada on the north shore of Lake Tahoe, holds an MBA in marketing from Harvard Business School, and a computer science degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Silicon Valley

Fylstra's company VisiCorp was behind VisiCalc, the first electronic spreadsheet. He is currently an investor in Silicon Valley startups and president of two high-tech companies.

Former LNC member Gary Johnson is the other announced candidate for Vice Chair.

The new Vice Chair — who will serve a two-year term — will be selected by delegates at the LP National Convention in Anaheim, California, June 29-July 3, 2000.

For information on Dan Fylstra's campaign for LNC Vice Chair, visit www.fylstra.com/vicechair.

From the author of *Healing Our World...*



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Mitch Shults is a serious candidate, with a proven campaign team, in a winnable race. His campaign is already attracting positive media attention and strong financial support.

As a candidate for State Treasurer in Oregon, Mitch Shults has already raised \$30,000 and he has contributed a substantial amount of his own money to the campaign. A professional campaign team has already been hired. Mitch's campaign manager, Richard Burke, has run four winning Libertarian campaigns. His media consultant, Ken Montone, has worked on two winning campaigns for U.S. Senate.

The incumbent isn't seeking re-election. The unopposed Republican candidate is unqualified and disliked by his own party. The Democratic contenders are under-funded and disorganized. A qualified, well-funded Libertarian can win this race. Mitch Shults is that candidate.

Competent and Qualified.

Mitch Shults is uniquely qualified to address the central issue of this race—competency. His background and broad experience are simply unmatched by any other candidate.

Mitch has worked for Intel Corporation for eight years. In his current position he directs business and investment strategy for key Intel technology initiatives. During his eight year career at Arthur Andersen, Mitch provided executive-level financial consulting for some of the largest corporations in the world.

Mitch Shults also has strong experience in government. As a staffer on Capitol Hill he authored many studies on proposed legislation. He also drove several high profile congressional investigations, including the inquiry that led to the resignation of James Watt.

Get Behind Mitch Shults.

Mitch Shults can win in November. *But he needs your help to do it.*

The Republicans and Democrats realize that Mitch Shults is a very real threat to their power. They've already started to attack him publicly. As the campaign progresses we expect the attacks to increase in frequency and viciousness.

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 \$250,000 for radio and television advertisements.

Even if we don't win, Libertarians still score a victory. If Mitch Shults wins at least 15% of the vote, the Libertarian Party will qualify as a major party in Oregon. Our advertising will help build a bigger and stronger Libertarian Party by improving our public image and generating thousands of prospective members.

We must commit \$100,000 of media buys now to be positioned for victory in the fall. We're counting on your support. Will you send your best contribution today?

Carla and Mitch
with their daughters
Emily and Anna



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A history-making Waco film

Continued from Page 1
as it all unfolded on TV.

It was the end for the Branch Davidians. But for a small film production company in an obscure shopping center north of Fort Collins, Colorado, it was just the beginning.

Six years later, MGA Films' producers, directors, researchers, writers and artists would produce a searing documentary that would not only memorialize Waco, but also shake the government to its roots.

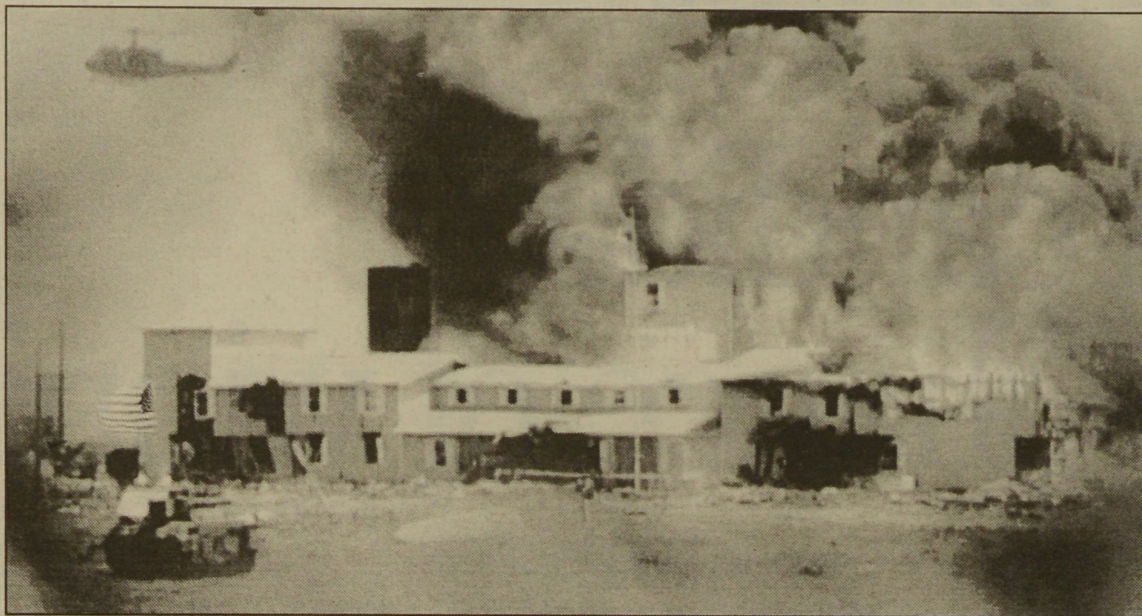
Beginnings

Mike McNulty, a researcher and documentary producer, was all too familiar with Waco. Based on research begun in 1993, he created the film *Waco: The Rules of Engagement*, which won an Emmy Award and an Academy Award nomination.

In March 1998, Jason Van Vleet, MGA's director and son of executive producer/financier Rick Van Vleet, contacted McNulty. The two decided to pursue the matter of Waco together.

Soon, they were joined by others, including Scott Malone of PBS' *Frontline*, Frederic Whitehurst, former FBI Crime Lab special agent and Jack Frost, a retired U.S. Army explosives expert. A string of others would eventually follow.

Much material on Waco was already available, including government and media footage, still photographs and tapes of the 1995 U.S. House hearings. McNulty had made use of a lot of this in



■ New evidence presented in *Waco: A New Revelation* indicated that pyrotechnic devices such as flash-bang grenades had been used in the final assault on the Branch Davidian compound — a charge which the government had denied for six-and-a-half years.

his first film. But no private investigator had ever had access to actual evidence recovered at the scene.

In June 1998, after contacting Bill Johnston, Assistant U. S. Attorney in Waco, McNulty and Van Vleet were, to their utter amazement, given almost unrestricted access to the official evidence lockers in Waco and Austin.

The MGA team pored over the evidence and visited the burned-out wreckage of the Davidian compound many times. Some of the evidence they had subjected to the cold eyes of technical experts — at their expense.

Added to what McNulty had gathered earlier, the items at Waco and Austin were beginning to assemble a frightening picture:

■ Contrary to agents' sworn testimonies, the feds appeared to have fired repeatedly on the compound (bullet casings were found at FBI sniper positions and an infrared film showed what appear to be muzzle flashes from ground troopers and a helicopter).

Two shooters had been discharged from a combat engineering vehicle (CEV) at the rear of the compound. Inside the back of the building, 16 bodies were found shot to death.

■ Pyrotechnic devices had

been used in the raid (M651 CS gas canisters that burn at 900-1200° F). Only six-and-a-half years after Waco did the government admit this was true.

Flash-bang grenades, devices that emit a brilliant flash and loud noise and are designed to stun but not kill, were found at or near all points of origin of the fire. The Texas Rangers, under the supervision of the FBI, had misidentified them as "silencers."

■ Active-duty military personnel — the supersecret Delta Force — seems to have been used in the raid, something explicitly prohibited by the Posse Comitatus laws drawn up to protect civilians

from government-inspired military terror.

The Davidians' weapons cache would have been no match for elite commandos whose specialty is the use of explosive breaching charges.

■ Federal agents (soldiers?) used just such a charge to destroy the concrete "bunker" (an old church records vault), instantly killing and mutilating the 41 Davidian women and children inside. The agents apparently thought David Koresh and his armed men were hiding there.

The government has yet to explain the hole in the vault's roof — something MGA's explosives experts pointedly state in the film.

■ Evidence was tampered with by the government. During MGA's investigation, key items periodically disappeared from the evidence lockers — blankets from the concrete bunker, 40 mm pyrotechnic projectiles, etc.

Part of the bunker — the roof that was blown in — had been carefully removed from the rubble. A watchcap belonging to a slain Davidian and containing bullet holes disappeared from the forensic remains and later reappeared in the evidence locker.

Other bodies were allowed to decompose in the heat before autopsies could be done.

See **WACO** Page 15

Any libertarian stuff on TV this week?

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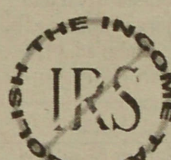
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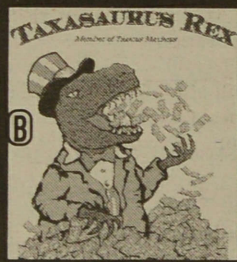
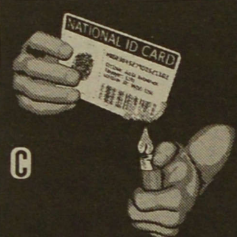
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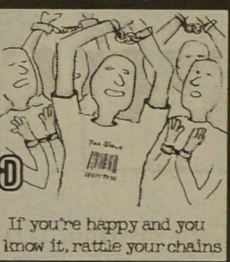
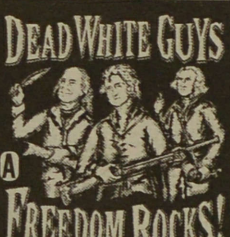


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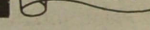
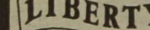
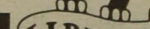
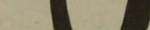
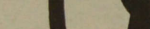
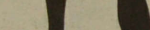
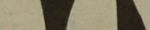
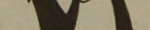
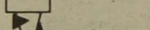
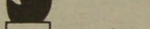
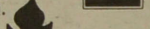
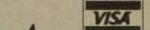
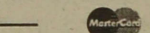
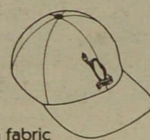
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Waco and Clinton

Continued from Page 1

■ Culpability did not end in the field — according to the Texas Rangers and the U.S. Senate, it goes all the way to the White House. A special operations and command center opened by the FBI in Washington was under the continuous command of Webster Hubbell, the president's friend and liaison.

However, Presidential aide Vince Foster was the White House's chief point-man on Waco Foster's records, including those on Waco, were removed the night of his death and given to First Lady Hillary Clinton.

Lastly, the Delta Force, which according to the U.S. government is non-existent, nonetheless can not be used without direct presidential authority.

The word gets out

Even before this grisly picture was coaxed into final form in MGA's editing suites, it was having a powerful effect.

In June 1999, MGA executive producer Rick Van Vleet and McNulty ferried a rough-cut of the film to Washington to show in private to a group of Congressmen.

"It brought tears to a lot of eyes," recalls McNulty. "These people were furious that they had been lied to by the Justice Department, the FBI and the military."

Among them was Rep. Dan Burton, chairman of the House Government Oversight Committee investigating Waco. Burton immediately began appointing investigators to collect evidence. Soon after, the Senate launched its own investigation.

"The Senate committee is now struggling with resistance to funding and issuing subpoenas — coming, of course, from the Democrats," McNulty adds. "How curious."

Most telling, in August 1999 Attorney General Reno appointed former Sen. John Danforth of Missouri to head up an "independent" investigation into Waco.

Even the Davidians' wrongful death suit — brought against the government by Waco survivors and relatives — got into the act.

After giving information about the evidence to other parties in the case, Van Vleet and McNulty decided to give it to Davidian attorney Mike Caddell. Caddell then submitted it to U.S. District Judge Walter S. Smith, presiding judge of the civil suit (and, ironically, the original Davidian murder trial).

After sitting on a government dismissal request for two years, Smith moved on July 1, 1999 to commence the trial immediately.

Reel success

The film itself? After an initial screening in Washington in November 1999, it has now gone into distribution through retailers nationwide as well as MGA's direct line and website.

rect line and website.

So far, McNulty says, it has been well-received, even by the mainstream media — and is breaking the sales records of his first film.

Meanwhile, life goes on for the Waco controversy.

In February, FBI former Deputy Director Danny Coulson said in a deposition that he was "stunned" when he and other senior FBI leaders saw images of

FBI tanks ramming the sect's compound, calling it "inconsistent" with Washington's plan.

Rep. Burton of the House Oversight Committee recently took on Attorney General Janet Reno over the Justice Department's attempt to seize the hard drive used by Assistant U.S. Attorney Bill Johnston (who, recall, opened up the evidence lockers to MGA in the first place). Johnston recently resigned his position.

An infrared camera similar to the one used at Waco has just undergone tests at Fort Hood, Texas to determine if the flashes seen at Waco are gunshots. Government attorneys claim that the test would possibly compromise government secrets. But British military officials, asked to assist in the test, claim that the information is not classified. And so on.

Amidst all of this are not too mysterious allegations in the press that both House and Senate officials are becoming "burned out" on Waco.

And, remember, it's an election year . . .

MGA's future role?

McNulty is guarded. Standing over a stack of 2,000 "official" documents he smiles.

"Let's just say we don't think our role in Waco is over quite yet."

■ **About the author:** John Calhoun is a professional writer and editor in Fort Collins, Colorado. He is also a former special agent with U.S. Army Intelligence, where he participated in operations with the FBI and Secret Service.

■ **Editor's note:** To obtain a copy of Waco: A New Revelation, call MGA Films at (888) 743-3287.



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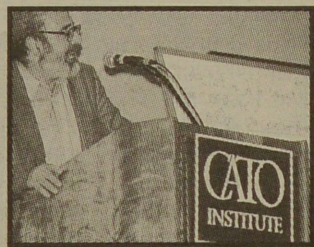
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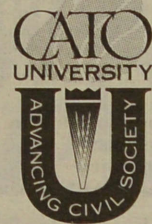
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Cato University will also hold a long-weekend seminar at the Hotel Omni Montréal in Montreal, Quebec, October 19-22. Check www.cato-university.org for tuition, faculty, and program.

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2000 Convention

Experts on Waco, high tech, and elections set to speak

Continued from Page 3

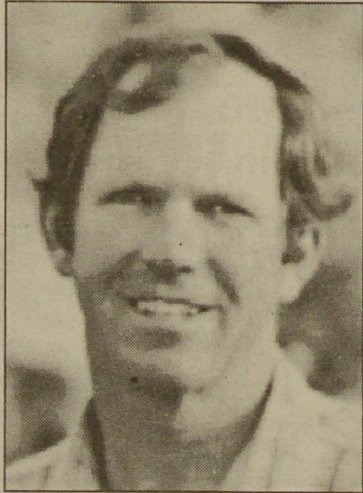
Also scheduled to speak at the Convention — which will be held June 29-July 3, 2000 in Anaheim, California — are Tom Tryon, a five-time elected Libertarian in California, and Dan Fylstra, the Silicon Valley pioneer who has led the fight against government involvement in the computer industry.

"The line-up of convention speakers continues to grow, and is full of individuals who have made a real difference, and who have messages of profound importance for Libertarians," said Crickenberger. "You won't want to miss them."

Incendiary device

First on that "don't miss" list is Mike McNulty, whose documentary lobbed an incendiary device into the debate over what really happened during the 51-day siege in Waco, Texas in 1993. McNulty and other investigators were allowed access to previously unreleased evidence — and what they found shocked the country.

The film revealed for the first time that government agents had used pyrotechnic devices against the residents of the Branch Davidian compound, shortly before fire engulfed and killed almost 80 men, women, and children. The federal government,

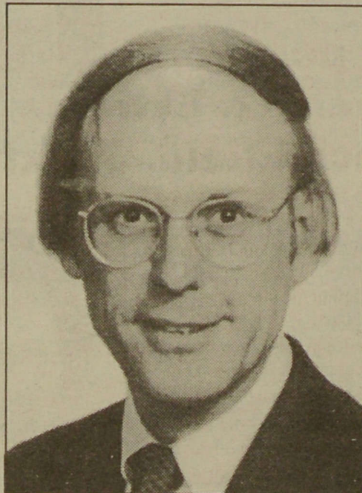


■ **Tom Tryon:** He's the longest-serving officeholder in LP history; he's been a County Commissioner for 16 years.

which had denied for over six years that incendiary weapons had been employed, was forced to change its story.

Waco: A New Revelation also uncovered evidence that the military's elite Delta Force was present at Waco, and revealed that special infrared film appeared to show federal agents firing on the compound as it burned.

Shortly after the film was released — and the new evidence hit the headlines — both the House and Senate launched new investigations, and Janet Reno prom-



■ **Dan Fylstra:** He's the LP's unofficial emissary to the high tech industry — and a Silicon Valley pioneer.

ised to "get to the bottom" of the Waco tragedy.

McNulty was also involved in the creation of *Waco: The Rules of Engagement*, which was nominated for an Academy Award and won an Emmy Award.

After *Waco: A New Revelation* is shown, McNulty will participate in a Question & Answer session.

Also speaking:

■ **Tom Tryon:** He holds the record as the longest-serving Libertarian officerholder in party history. Since first being elected to

the Calaveras County Commission in California in 1984, he has been re-elected in 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000.

"What are the secrets to getting elected as a Libertarian — again and again and again? Tom Tryon will share what he has learned over the past 16 years," said Crickenberger.

■ **Dan Fylstra:** As one of the founders of the modern computer industry, Fylstra is uniquely qualified to warn Silicon Valley executives not to open the "Pandora's Box" of government regulation.

A founder of VisiCorp, which marketed the first commercially successful business spreadsheet, and a founding associate editor of *BYTE* magazine, Fylstra has been the Libertarian Party's unofficial emissary to the high tech industry — warning them against being sucked into Washington, DC politicking, and urging them to support the LP's free-market policies.

June 29-July 3

The 2000 Libertarian National Convention will kick off with a welcoming party on Thursday night (June 29), and the first business session will be called to order on Friday morning (June 30). The convention wraps up on Monday (July 3). It will be held

at the Marriott Hotel in Anaheim, California.

At the convention, LP delegates will select the party's 2000 presidential and vice presidential candidates, vote on Platform and bylaws changes, and elect a new Chair, new party officers, and a new Libertarian National Committee.

Delegate packages include:

■ **Gold Package:** Includes Gala Banquet, opening night reception, two luncheons with guest speakers, a special to-be-announced entertainment event, all workshops and panels, and Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers. (\$339 before April 15, 2000 / \$369 after.)

■ **Silver Package:** Includes Gala Banquet, opening night reception, special entertainment event, all workshops and panels, and Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers. (\$249 / \$279.)

■ **Bronze Package:** Includes opening night reception, special entertainment event, all workshops and panels, and Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers. (\$129 / \$159.)

■ **Delegate Package:** Includes Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers. (\$59.)

To register, see the full-page ad on page 16 of this issue of *LP News*. Or call the Balcom Group at (800) 272-1776.

Deadline for Early Convention Registration:

April 15, 2000

Save up to \$30 — and be eligible for the "Be A VIP" Raffle — by postmarking your registration by April 15! (Or register by phone, fax, or e-mail: Details on page 16.)

How to win the 'Be A VIP' raffle

Continued from Page 3

complete rebate for the price of his or her convention package. For example, someone who purchases a \$339 Gold Package would be reimbursed \$339, while someone who buys a basic \$59 Delegate Package will receive \$59.

If the winner has reserved a hotel room at the convention hotel — the Anaheim Marriott Hotel — he or she will get a free upgrade to a suite.

The winner will also receive complimentary tickets to the Torch Club Reception — which is normally reserved for the party's most generous contributors — and special VIP seating at any events included in that person's convention package.

The winner will be notified when he or she checks into the hotel at the convention, and then a public announcement will be made.

"The 2000 national Convention will be memorable — but even more memorable for one lucky VIP winner," said Dasbach.

WIN ELECTIONS, BUILD THE PARTY!

In conjunction with the 2000 National Convention, learn how to run a *winning* LP campaign or build a successful local LP organization! It all happens at "Success 2000," hosted by some of the LP's most experienced activists. *Topics include:*

■ **Campaign 2000:** How to maximize your last 4 months.

■ **DATE:** June 28-June 29 (Wednesday & Thursday). ■ **PRICE:** \$25 with any Convention package; \$50 without a Convention package.

■ **Local organizing:** How to raise money, recruit volunteers, get media, and much more!

Success 2000 will be held from Wednesday, June 28 to Thursday, June 29. Package includes morning coffee & rolls, and Success 2000 manual.

Success 2000 registration is separate from attendance at the LP National Convention.

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expertise

(ek' pər tez') *n.* **1. The skill or knowledge of an expert. 2. Extremely skillful or well-informed in some special field. 3. Extraordinary proficiency**

When it comes to making government bigger, more expensive, and more intrusive, Republicans and Democrats are experts.

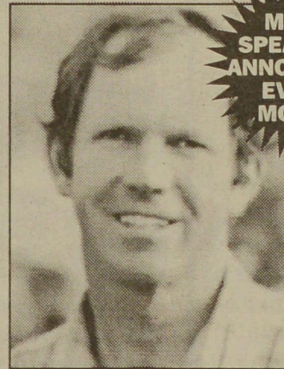
To reverse that trend — and move America in the direction of liberty — Libertarians will need our own **experts**. People who have not only the motivation, but the *talent and skill* to get elected to office, reach out to potential supporters, and expose government wrongdoing.

And that's exactly what you'll get at the **2000 National Convention**: Speakers who don't just boast a "can-do" attitude, but who can point to a "have-done" track record.

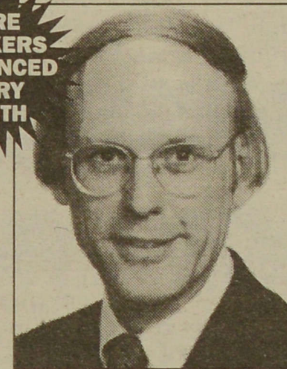
What have these speakers done? Been elected to office *more* times than any other LP member; turned computer company "start-up" talent to the political arena; and blasted the doors off the Waco cover-up.

As a delegate at the Convention — **June 29-July 3, 2000**, Anaheim, CA — you can benefit from that kind of expertise, meet 1,450 LP delegates, select the LP's presidential ticket, and update the LP Platform.

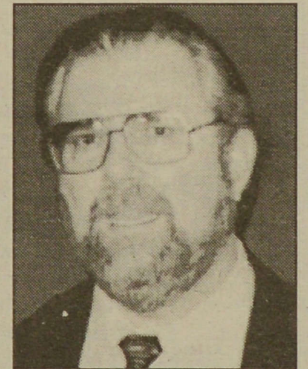
"America's Future: Liberty, Responsibility & Community" starts in Anaheim. *Be part of it!* Register today: **Prices go up April 15!**



■ **Tom Tryon.** It's difficult enough getting elected to office as a Libertarian just *once* — try doing it *five* times. But that's what Tom Tryon has accomplished, winning election to the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors (CA) in 1984, 1988, 1992, 1996, and 2000. He's the longest serving LP officeholder — and he'll explain how he did it.



■ **Dan Fylstra.** As a founder of the pioneering software company Visi-Corp and founding associate editor of *BYTE*, Dan Fylstra helped start the modern computer revolution. Now, he's trying to convince America's Technology Class to "invest" in a political start-up — the Libertarian Party — to save high-tech industries from government control.



■ **Mike McNulty.** How often does a documentary change the course of the U.S. government? Very rarely — but *Waco: A New Revelation*, directed by Mike McNulty, caused Congress to re-open the investigation into the Waco tragedy. He'll share the stunning information this groundbreaking film revealed — and tell what's next in the Waco saga.

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Discount Hotel Rates

Special discount room prices of only \$104 per night (single or double) are available at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel. Call Marriott directly to make your reservation. Tell them that you are attending the 2000 Libertarian Convention. For special rates, make your reservation no later than June 2, 2000! (Room rate does not include 15% sales tax.) For reservations, call: (800) 228-9290

Special Discount Prices. (Deadline: April 15, 2000.)

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\$339 • Includes Gala Banquet, opening night reception, two luncheons with guest speakers, a special entertainment event, all workshops and panels, Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers, Convention tote bag, & Convention Program.

Silver

\$249 • Includes Gala Banquet, opening night reception, a special entertainment event, all workshops and panels, Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers, Convention tote bag, & Convention Program.

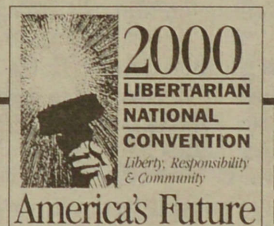
Bronze

\$129 • Includes opening night reception, a special entertainment event, all workshops and panels, Floor Pass for Main Hall speakers, Convention tote bag, & Convention Program.

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Please let us know if you have any special needs or other requirements. We should know about:

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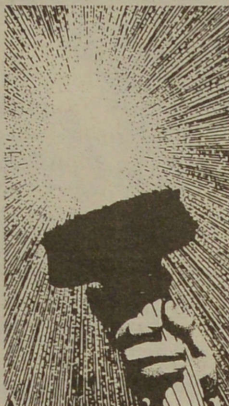
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NOTE: PLEASE COMPLETE A SEPARATE REGISTRATION FORM FOR EACH ATTENDEE.

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(Thursday: Opening night celebration. Friday-Monday: Convention business & speakers.)
Anaheim Marriott Hotel

Politics 2000

Campaign news around the USA

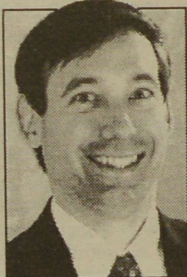
Spring 2000 elections are heating up: In Michigan, **Martin Howrylak** has filed to run for Troy City Council. Martin currently serves on the Troy Historic District Commission. In Wisconsin, **Ed Thompson** came in first place in the February 14 primary election for mayor of Tomah, and will move into the two-man general election on April 4. "I'm not in this to lose," said Thompson. "I will be the next mayor of Tomah." In New Hampshire, **Rhonda Keiper** is running for Supervisor of the Checklist in Amherst, and **Howard Wilson** is running for Andover Selectman.

■ The contest for the Libertarian U.S. Senate nomination in New York — for the honor of running against Rudy Giuliani and Hillary Clinton — is shaping up as a three-way race between Delmar CPA **William McMillen**, SUNY-New Paltz math professor **Donald Silberger**, and Bedford-Stuyvesant drug counselor **John Clifton**. The LPNY will select a candidate at its state convention April 29.

■ **John McAlister**, candidate for U.S. Senate in Ohio, earned an "A" rating from Gun Owners of America in their 2000 Congressional Candidate Survey. And in California, State Assembly candidate **Liz Michael** (43rd District) received an "A" rating from the National Rifle Association.

■ In Virginia, **Sharon Wood**, LP candidate for U.S. Congress (1st District) appeared on the Prestige Cable Television's *Rappahannock Review* on March 2, debating whether local government should fund a convention center. In Pennsylvania, LP candidates **Thomas A. Martin** (U.S. House, District 5), **Lon Diffenderfer** (U.S. House, District 9), **Susan Gascon** (State Assembly, District 74), and **Kathy Stroh** (State Assembly, District 171) will participate in a Centre County reception at Days Inn Penn State on April 16. In Texas, **Jeff Daniel** — a potential contender for the LP's 2002 gubernatorial nomination — spoke to classes at the University of Houston-Downtown in March.

■ In Texas, Dr. **Mary Ruwart** will run for U.S. Senate. In Ohio, LP Congressional candidate **Scott Smith** participated in a public meeting on Social Security in Columbus on February 19. In Oregon, **Kevin Schumleffle** is going door-to-door in his campaign for State Representative (District 6). And in Illinois, **Jason Zenda** has announced his candidacy for Winnebago County Board (District 8).



■ **Scott Smith:** Public meeting.

■ In presidential news, Libertarian **Don Gorman** was endorsed by David Turenne, Chairman of the California-based Constitution Party. On February 16, Turenne said, "After phone conversations with Don Gorman, I was very impressed with the presidential candidate!" And **Barry Hess** spoke at the Delaware state convention on March 4, along with Gorman and **Harry Browne**.

■ Election results: In Georgia, **Mark Bierley** came in 9th in a field of 12 running in a special election for State Senate (District 30). He received 3.5% of the vote. In California, 114 LP candidates for partisan office appeared on the primary ballot on March 7 — more than all other third parties combined. "Any way you cut it, the Libertarian Party has done its job better than any other third party on the ballot," said State Chair **Mark Hinkle**. Also in California, two more Libertarians have been appointed to local office: **Mike Ceremello** to the Dixon School District's Facilities Task Force and **Sue Kleiman** to Benicia's Economic Redevelopment Council.

■ In February, charges of defiant criminal trespass were dropped against **Julian Hecklen**, 1998 LP candidate for County Commissioner (Pennsylvania). Hecklen was arrested for distributing campaign literature in front of the Wal-Mart. A judge ruled that Hecklen had a right to campaign, and dismissed the charges.

■ In Mississippi, two more U.S. House candidates have stepped forward: **Kevin Tull** (5th Congressional District) and **Jimmy Dyckes** (6th District). In Michigan, **Tim Campbell** has announced he will run for House of Representatives (District 90). In Iowa, **Tim Borchardt** is running for Board of Supervisors in Johnson County. And in North Carolina, **Ray Ubinger** has filed to run for State House (District 23).

CAMPAIGN 2000 REPORT

Mitch Shults in Oregon: Could he be the LP's first state treasurer?

Oregon LP member Mitch Shults is running a campaign that could win the biggest political prize in party history: A state treasurer's office.

"Mitch is running to win," said Shults's campaign manager, Richard P. Burke. "[His] odds of winning are long, but within the realistically possible."

Shults, 38, jumped into the race for Treasurer in late 1999 and will be running an active campaign until the November election, said Burke.

And although no Libertarian has ever been elected to statewide office — or even run a competitive statewide campaign in a large state like Oregon — Shults has a number of assets that could make him a trailblazer in the victory department, said Burke.

Factors working in Shults's favor, said Burke, include:

■ **Money:** "We believe \$250,000 to \$300,000 will be enough to make us competitive," said Burke — and Shults is planning to contribute a considerable amount toward that goal himself.



■ **Mitch Shults** — LP candidate for State Treasurer in Oregon — with his wife and two children. "Mitch is running to win," said campaign manager Richard P. Burke.

"This is a good race for a Libertarian, provided he has the ability to adequately fund the race," he said. "Fortunately, Mitch has this ability. [He] has raised substantial cash thus far" — and

plans to continue raising money from Libertarians around the country, and via full-page ads in *LP News*.

■ **Experience:** Shults has
See **MITCH SHULTS** Page 19

Running for office: It's actually fun!

By Mark Cenci
STATE CHAIR, MAINE LP

■ **Editor's note:** In 1998, Maine LP member Mark Cenci ran as a first-time candidate for State Rep. (District 36). Here is his story.

I went kicking and screaming into my first campaign — and came away planning the next one.

It all started this way: One day I casually mentioned to Jeff Weinstein (an LP candidate for State Senator) that no Republican was running in my House District race against the incumbent.

He didn't miss a beat and advised me to run. "You'll enjoy it," he said. "It will be one of the most worthwhile things you'll ever do."

At the time I thought, "Yeah, right up there with the extraction of my wisdom teeth."

But he was right!

I waited until the last moment to collect my petition signatures. We went door to door and I found I enjoyed it! We got the signatures and I was on the ballot.

I didn't think much about the coming election during the summer. Not having run before, I didn't realize that a few tasks done in the summer would help immeasurably in the fall. Even-



tually, I started thinking about the election.

Other people started thinking about it, too. I got calls from people asking how they could help me and people offered me contributions. I realized there was a race to be run.

But I was still reluctant. Kicking and screaming, I filled out the state paperwork, opened a bank account, and planned a fundraising letter.

Generous

I had never written a fundraising letter before, but I knew I had to do it. When the letter was finally sent — and the response from the membership was so immediate and generous — I went into high gear.

Still, I dreaded it. I had never put up signs before. But I found I liked seeing "CENCI SAYS FREEDOM WORKS!" festooned all around Washington Avenue. And I found I liked putting up replacement signs when they were

knocked down. Knowing my message was causing some statist Portlander indigestion was great!

I enjoyed asking, rhetorically, on the John MacDonald Show, "Why in the world do you need a Libertarian in the State House?" And the sound of the assembled Republicans laughing to the answer, "For the same reason you need a designated driver in a bar!" was quite nice.

Walking my district proved enjoyable too. Everyone treated me with courtesy. Many people were curious about my ideas and several people expressed admiration for the Libertarian Party.

Now that I've run, I understand the process much better. I now know what tasks must be done before the clocks are turned back in late October and it is dark at 6:00 pm. I know how long it takes to walk a block. I know how to schedule that task and what is useful information to tally as I go. I know better how to phrase my platform in a brochure, on the street, and before the media.

And more importantly, I now know that I enjoy it. And that the people I meet enjoy me enjoying it. They are affected by enthusiasm, hope and new ideas. We must find ways of communicating

See **MARK CENCI** Page 25

Shults: Winning is 'realistically possible'

Continued from Page 18

had a successful career as an investment strategist for Intel Corporation, worked for Arthur Anderson as an executive-level financial consultant, and has governmental experience on the staff of the Interior Department.

"He is uniquely qualified to serve as Oregon's treasurer," said Burke.

■ **The dynamics of the race:** No incumbent is seeking reelection, and the Republicans are likely to nominate a fairly liberal minor official, said Burke.

"Oregon has a high percentage of independent voters, and Mitch has a chance to pull conservative GOP voters away from the Republican," he said. "Because of a statewide issue regarding the retirement funds of state employees, he has a chance to pull some Democratic votes as well."

"Between Republicans who don't want to vote for a liberal Republican, Democratic public employees who want control over their pension funds, and independent voters, Mitch has a shot."

■ **A professional, energetic campaign:** "We have [already] completed an eastern Oregon tour, covering four cities," said Burke — and Shults plans to continue to travel "the state heavily, speaking before the press, professional associations, city clubs, and the like."

The campaign has hired professional pollsters, and plans a "radio and TV blitz designed to keep Mitch's name in front of the voters while the Democrats and Republicans campaign in the primary election," he said. Since media buys are "relatively cheap" in Oregon, the campaign plans to stay on the air until November.

■ **Good issues:** Shults's campaign will capitalize on three hot button issues, said Burke: Privatization of state lands, the public employee retirement fund, and the state's "indebtedness to unstable funding sources" like the lottery.

"Mitch favors the privatization of state lands to the largest degree practical," Burke said. "The sale of state land would be done in phases to avoid flooding the market. Proceeds from the sale would be placed in secure investments where the return would certainly exceed the 1.5% being realized now."

For government employee pensions, Shults "would offer a low-risk investment package to state workers, but would give them the option to manage their funds themselves. In exchange, he would remove the taxpayer subsidy provisions of the plan."

And Shults promises to privatize all banking operations handled by the state treasurer's office, said Burke, "giving county and municipal governments more choice in how to handle their money."

But even if Shults doesn't win the election, Burke said, there is a very valuable "consolation prize" in sight: Major party status for the LP.

"If we exceed 15% [of the to-

tal vote cast], the Libertarian Party will join the Republicans and Democrats as major parties," he said. "If we obtain major party status, we would retain it for five years."

Bigger prize

However, Shults's eyes are on the bigger prize, said Burke.

"We are still talking about winning the election at this point," he said.

Shults is a resident of Tigard, a suburb of Portland, where he lives with his wife Carla and two daughters. Currently an employee of Intel Corporation, he also owns a farm, where he raises sheep and pigs.

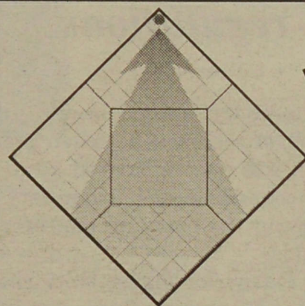
Shults graduated magna cum laude from Rice University with a degree in economics. He has lived in Oregon for 16 years.

For information about the campaign, write Mitch Shults for Treasurer, 14740 NW Cornell Road #200-111, Portland OR 97229. Make contributions out to "Friends of Mitch Shults."

Corrections

■ February 2000 issue: The year-end goal adopted by the LNC for total contributors is actually 100,000 (80,000 for paid members), with a lower, "minimum" level of 60,000 (50,000 for paid members).

■ Also in the February issue, in the caption for the "California Candidate Mailing" photograph, Mark Laythorpe's name was spelled wrong, and the quote attributed to him was actually from Richard Rider.



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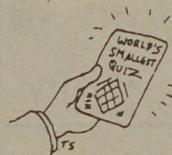
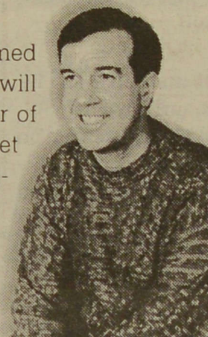
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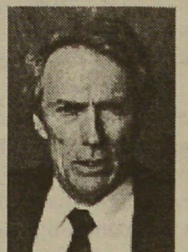
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— Dave Nolan, Libertarian Party founder

"The **Advocates** is revolutionizing the libertarian movement. I encourage you to be generous in your support."
— David Bergland, Libertarian Party chair, 1984 LP presidential candidate, Author, *Libertarianism in One Lesson*

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The Issues

EDITOR'S NOTE: Each month, "The Issues" will highlight several Libertarian Party press releases. To get the complete text of all press releases issued by the LP, send a message to "announce-request@lp.org" with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Federal study: Kids + guns save lives

The shooting of a Mount Morris Township, Michigan 6-year-old in February may focus attention on a federal study with an unconventional conclusion: Giving kids more access to guns may reduce such tragedies, the Libertarian Party said.

"Instead of using the death of Kayla Rolland as an excuse to impose more gun control, politicians like Bill Clinton should read this study — since it demonstrates that children who are taught by parents to use guns responsibly are far less likely to commit crimes," said Steve Dasbach, LP national director.

That discovery is contained in a study by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention entitled, "Urban Delinquency and Substance Abuse."

According to the study, children who get guns from their parents don't commit gun crimes (0%), while children who get illegal guns are very likely to do so (21%). And children who get guns from parents are less likely to commit any kind of street crime (14%) than children who have no gun in the house (24%) — and are dramatically less likely to do so than children who acquire an illegal gun (74%).

"The evidence is in: When it comes to preventing youthful violence, responsible parents and the Second Amendment apparently work better than politicians' irresponsible proposals, such as so-called smart-gun technology or mandated safety locks," said Dasbach.

A War on Circuses: Next for politicians?

Warning: Killjoy politicians are trying to ban circuses — a dastardly deed that could deprive millions of American children of the joy of seeing trained elephants, lions, and bears under the bigtop, the Libertarian Party warned.

And, although an effort to outlaw circuses lost by one vote in Seattle, the circus prohibition campaign could come to your town next, warned Steve Dasbach.

"Politicians are taking aim at an American institution: The family circus," he said. "But if politicians try to outlaw the Greatest Show on Earth, they need to hear the Greatest 'No' on Earth from voters. More than 10 million Americans went to a circus last year, and every one should tell these political clowns to take a flying leap off a trapeze, and leave our circuses alone."

In February, the Seattle City Council rejected, by a 5-4 vote, a proposal to ban "exotic animal" entertainment. Had the ban passed, animal rights supporters said they hoped it would start a "domino effect" that would lead to a nationwide prohibition.

Why are politicians going after circuses?

"Perhaps because politicians are always lion, they're hard to bear, they like to monkey around, and they know more tricks than circus clowns," said Dasbach. "No wonder politicians don't like circuses: They can't stand the competition."

Surprise: Politicians aren't being bribed

Surprise: Politicians can't be bought and sold like cans of tuna fish. At least, that's the eye-opening conclusion of a new scientific study — which convincingly proves that campaign contributions do not influence the votes of most politicians.

And that's why legislation like the McCain-Feingold campaign finance "reform" bill — which would sharply limit or prohibit campaign contributions from individuals or PACs — is not needed, said Steve Dasbach.

"Politicians may lie, cheat, and steal — but they apparently don't take bribes in the form of campaign contributions," he said.

In a study publicized in Investor's Business Daily, John Lott of the Yale University School of Law and Steve Bronars of the University of Texas found that campaign contributions have almost no effect on how politicians vote.

Using an innovative approach, Lott and Bronars studied the voting records of U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives from 1975-1990 who had announced they would retire — and then compared them to the politicians' previous voting habits. Liberated by their pending retirements from the need to collect campaign contributions to get re-elected, politicians changed their votes on less than 1% of the issues.

"What this study demonstrates is that money follows ideology," said Dasbach. "Contributors give money to politicians who agree with them already; they don't give money to try to change politicians' minds, or to try to win support. The Lott/Bronars study is a compelling argument against the notion that big money is somehow corrupting politicians."

Massachusetts Libertarians aim for victory in smoking rights fight

A New Bedford, Massachusetts ban on smoking in restaurants may get snuffed out, thanks to local Libertarians.

On February 25, the New Bedford City Council voted 7-3 to overturn the ban, following an extensive lobbying campaign by a coalition of Libertarians, smokers, and restaurant owners.

Because of the apparent victory, "[Libertarians] are perceived by the restaurant owners, along with the general public, to be the only political party fighting for their rights," said local LP member Mike Conway, who helped organize the campaign.

The battle began on January 3, when a smoking ban imposed by the New Bedford Board of Health went into effect — and outlawed smoking in any restaurant that serves children. The board argued that the ban was needed to protect "public health."

In response, Conway and Laura Hirschmann — who joined the LP when she found that many Libertarians were on her side on the tobacco issue — formed a group called Southcoast Citizens for Freedom (SCF).

Nanny government

"I am a smoker, and [was] tired of being treated like a second-class citizen," said Hirschmann. "I am outraged by ever-increasing government regulations. I don't need a nanny government regulating my lifestyle."

Using the arguments that the smoking ban infringed on freedom and hurt business, SCF started rallying New Bedford citizens to oppose the ban.

The campaign quickly picked

HIRSCHMANN:

"I am outraged by ever-increasing government regulations."

up support, said Conway, and reached a crescendo when more than 200 people showed up at a city council meeting in January to demand the smoking ban be repealed.

Carrying signs that read "Mind Your Own Business, Not Mine," residents blasted the ban to "thunderous cheers and applause by the audience," said Lib-

ertarian Ben Rivard-Rapoza.

A highlight of the meeting, said Rivard-Rapoza, was when a Portuguese-American business owner asked the board, "This is supposed to be a free country. Where is your free country now?"

Bowing to public pressure with its 7-3 vote, the city council urged the Board of Health to allow smoking in restaurants if there are accommodations for non-smokers.

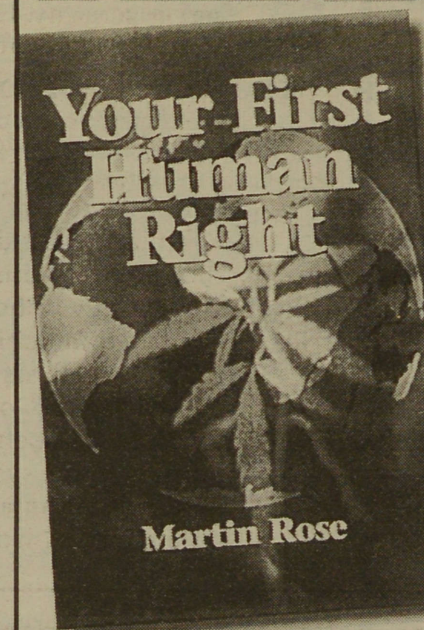
The mayor still must approve the measure, and reports suggest he might veto it.

Either way, Libertarians say the campaign has been a success.

More than 200 voters were persuaded to register Libertarian as a result of the campaign and "Libertarians are [perceived] as the driving political force behind the opposition to the ban," said Rivard-Rapoza.

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Your First Human Right
BY MARTIN ROSE

"The best approach to ending the drug war. Martin really hit the point."
— S. Blalock (Prospect Hill, NC)

"Every Libertarian candidate should put the First Human Right issue at the very top of their agenda."
— J. Finnerty (Solvay, NY)

"What a great defense for Kubby, McWilliams, McCormick, and others like them. Their first human right was definitely violated."
— S. Carter (Draper, VA)

"Probably the *only* way to save the small farmer and stop the greenhouse effect. I agree with Martin Rose; restore the first human right."
— E. Scott (Max Meadows, VA)

"The First Human Right could propel the Libertarian Party onto the front page of every national newspaper."
— J. Kirkner (Shawsville, VA)

The single most important question that every politician should have to answer: Do you support the First Human Right? Libertarian candidates should be using the First Human Right approach to ending the drug war, instead of campaigning for total drug legalization that alienates a lot of voters — and hinders Libertarians' chances of recruiting new members that are very supportive of other Libertarian ideas and party Platform. — **Martin Rose, Author**

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Browne 2000's media barrage

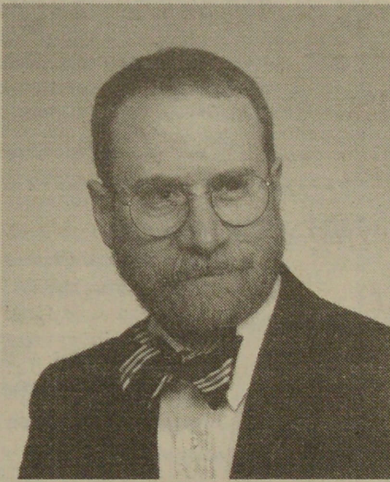
Continued from Page 10
conventions in Delaware and Georgia in February and March, and plans to attend April conventions in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and Wisconsin, according to campaign staff.

Browne said he thinks his campaign will get even more press attention now that the Democratic and Republican nominations are all but decided.

"We have the most appealing political message possible," said Browne. "The all-important question is whether we'll have the resources to transmit that message to every potential American voter. If we do, it's only a matter of time until we win."

The LP's presidential nominee will be selected by delegates at the national convention in Anaheim, California, June 29-July 3.

ADVERTISEMENT



The Taxman at Your Service

by Sheldon Richman

At a time when federal revenues are the highest percentage of gross domestic product since the peak of World War II — over 20 percent — we are asked to feel sorry for the IRS. According to the tax agency, recent legislation has turned it into a shell of its former self. It is unable to collect what is “due.” The number of audits and property seizures has slipped. Agents are even afraid that if they collect revenue as they used to, they might lose their jobs. Oh horror!

Before we shed tears for the much-abused IRS, we need to keep some things in mind. The income tax and IRS are vile institutions that have no place in a society that aspires to be free. We have them for one reason alone: they bring in revenues like no other source of taxation, and revenue is the lifeblood of the leviathan state.

Whether or not the IRS is telling the truth about its incapacity to collect taxes, we

can be sure that all champions of activist government — Democrat and Republican alike — will rally to its rescue. President Clinton has promised to beef up the agency’s budget and staff, and we’ve heard no opposition from the GOP. Quite the contrary. As the *New York Times* reported, “Republicans in Congress who have criticized the I.R.S. said they were open to the idea that more money might be needed.” Clinton has called for a 9 percent increase in its budget. It doesn’t take a clairvoyant to predict that the agency will get what it wants. That’s 633 more auditors breathing down our necks.

IRS Commissioner Charles O. Rossotti’s response to his agency’s alleged troubles deserves scrutiny. He warned that continued lax enforcement will “undermine our entire system of voluntary tax compliance.” One of the mysteries of life is the federal government’s insistence that the income tax is voluntary. Considering that it threatens to punish employers who don’t withhold employees’ taxes and citizens who fail to file tax returns or pay any money “owed,” one is at pains to locate precisely the voluntariness in the system. If the system is voluntary, an involuntary system would be one in

which the government withheld 100 percent of everyone’s income and sent each person a monthly allowance.

Rossotti’s statement is reminiscent of a remark by Rep. Charles Rangel, the top-ranking Democrat on the House Ways and Means Committees: “What makes the voluntary system work is the fear of sanctions and penalties.” People in Washington actually talk like that and mean it!

Let’s put the obvious on the record: no tax system is voluntary. “Taxes,” as Judge Learned Hand said some time ago, “are forced extractions, not voluntary contributions.” A voluntary tax is like a square circle. It is not to be found in the natural world.

Anyone who believes in voluntary taxation probably also believes that what the IRS provides is “customer service.” That’s another term the tax enforcers like to use. We are being lulled into thinking the IRS exists for our benefit. It wants to help us. Help us do what? Comply with the tyrannical demands it enforces in behalf of its sponsor, the money-grubbing members of the U.S. Congress. As the comedian Shelley Berman said in an old routine, “Do me a favor: don’t do me any favors.”

Rossotti recently told a con-

gressional committee: “Customer satisfaction is not achieved by failing to collect taxes that are properly due.” Speak for yourself, Mr. Commissioner.

The intrepid Americans who opposed the income tax early in the century were prophetic. The tax has become the inquisitorial monster they predicted. Moreover, it has permitted the government to act as though it has a valid claim to 100 percent of our income; whatever we get to keep is by kind permission, and we should be darned grateful. Any mention of a tax cut is met with questions about whether it is really needed or whether the government can afford it. The default position for the money is in the government’s coffers. The rights of those who produced the wealth don’t matter.

We’ve come a long way since that minuscule tea tax incited a revolution.

*Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation in Fairfax, Va. (www.fff.org), author of the foundation book **Your Money or Your Life: Why We Must Abolish the Income Tax**, and editor of **Ideas on Liberty** magazine.*

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■ **America's Libertarian Heritage** by David Bergland. 16-page booklet. Concise overview of Libertarian philosophy and solutions in an easy-to-read question-and-answer format. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **Million Dollar Bills:** Green Ink. A faux \$1,000,000 bill that highlights excessive federal spending. Perfect for Tax Day, taxpayer groups, and almost any other outreach project! **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$5 for 100

■ **LP "Fact Sheets":** Updated for 1998: 2-page LP history (with political highlights, accomplishments, and victories from 1971-1997) and comprehensive two-page bibliography (more than 150 books about liberty!). Sold as a set. **Cost:** Sample: 50¢ or \$10 for 100

■ **LP Program.** 4 pages, blue ink. LP positions on education, jobs, political corruption, health care, and crime — plus solutions. **Cost:** Sample: \$1.00 or \$10 for 100

■ **World's Smallest Political Quiz cards.** Perfect for "politically homeless" booths. **Cost:** \$1 for 100

Bumperstickers

Cost: \$1 each; \$7.50 for 10; \$50 for 100. Size: 11" x 3"

■ **ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN** (Red, white, & blue).

■ **Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian** (Blue & white; LP address and phone # below.)

■ **Vote Libertarian/800-ELECT-US** (Blue & white.)

■ **I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!** (Red, white, & blue.)

Buttons (**Cost:** \$1 each or 75¢ each for 5 or more)

■ **Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Vote Libertarian** 1-800-682-1776

■ **Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything** 1-800-682-1776

Miscellaneous Items

■ **Libertarian Party stickers.** Size: 5/8" x 2-1/8". (Red and blue.) Text: "Tired of big government & high taxes? Call the Libertarian Party." Includes LP 800#. **Cost:** Four sheets (96 stickers) for \$1. Or 25 sheets (600): \$5

■ **Windbreaker.** Blue, with LP logo & party name. Available in M, L, XL. (Please specify.) **Cost:** \$25 each

Tools for Campaigning

■ **Libertarian TV Ads:** A videotape of TV ads by LP candidates — from State Representative to president. (For informational use only; not broadcast quality.) **Cost:** \$20.00 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo master.** Camera-ready sheet, ready for scanning. **Cost:** \$1 each

■ **LP Statue of Liberty Logo on PC Disk.** 3-1/2 inch DOS-compatible computer disk. **Cost:** \$3 each

■ **Newsprint Ads:** "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty." Camera-ready print ads. One each of six different ads: General, lifestyle, drugs, guns, draft, and taxes. Plus additional multi-sized "Lower Taxes/More Freedom" LP advertisements. **Cost:** \$3 for set

Large & Small Banners

■ **Small Banner.** (12" x 5'). White on blue. One line: "Libertarian Party." **Cost:** \$25 each

■ **Large Banner.** (18" x 5'). White on blue. First line "Libertarian Party." You can pick the second line from these two choices: "800-ELECT-US" or "Defenders of Liberty." (Specify which on order form.) **Cost:** \$40 each

**Order Now
For Immediate
Shipment!**

HOW TO ORDER:

■ The "\$1,000,000 Bills" are available for immediate shipment. **Cost: \$5 per 100.** (Call for rush shipping details.)

■ Or, order the complete "\$1 Million Tax Day" Kit (16-page how-to booklet; printable original artwork; 50 \$1m samples): **\$10.** (The \$1 Million Tax Day Kit will be sent via Priority Mail.)

LIBERTARIAN PARTY BROCHURES



■ **Is This the New Political Party You've Been Looking For?** Brochure, 2-color (violet & black). Introductory brochure; gives a general, friendly overview of Libertarian Party beliefs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Towards A More Sensible Drug Policy.** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Argues that drug legalization is a sensible and workable alternative to the government's dangerous "War on Drugs."

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Ending the Welfare State.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). The LP's welfare reform plan, promoting opportunity, work, and personal responsibility — instead of failed government programs.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Equal Rights for America's Gun Owners.** Brochure, 2-color (orange & black). Explains and defends the Libertarian Party's strong pro-Second Amendment position for a general audience.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **What Happened To Your Family Budget?** Brochure, 2-color (blue & black). Looks at how the government impoverishes Americans by taking more in taxes than most families spend on food, clothing, and shelter (combined).

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Making Your Neighborhood Safe Again.** Brochure, 2-color (red & black). Explains the LP's five-point crime-control program that protects civil liberties — while providing more resources to fight real criminals.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

■ **Working to Cut Your Taxes.** Brochure, 2-color (green & black). How the LP would drastically reduce the size and cost of government by privatizing government services, abolishing corporate welfare, and ending income taxes.

★ **Cost:** Sample: 50¢
Or \$7 for 100

HOW TO PLACE YOUR ORDER



By phone...

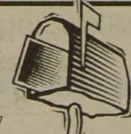
(202) 333-0008 Ext. 221

(202) 333-0072 **by fax**



By mail...

The Libertarian Party
2600 Virginia Avenue,
NW, Suite 100
Washington, DC 20037



Boost the LP's Tax Day Impact!

Want to add more fun — and success — to your Tax Day rally this year? Our "Million Dollar Bill" literature will do the trick!

The front side looks like a Federal Reserve \$1,000,000 note; the other explains that the federal government spends \$1 million every five seconds — and the only party trying to change that is the LP.

The "\$1,000,000 bill" is one of the most popular LP Tax Day outreach tools ever. April 15 is almost here: Order yours today!

ORDER FORM

There is no charge for standard shipping. Allow up to 3-4 weeks for delivery. Or: Add \$5 for same-day shipping. Call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 221 for instructions on rush deliveries. Minimum order: \$5.00. Orders shipped via UPS; please add \$5 for Post Office box deliveries. Make checks payable to: Libertarian Party. Federal law requires political committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.

Tax Day Materials

_____ "Million Dollar Bill" Literature
_____ \$1 Million Tax Day Kit (\$10)

Books for Sale

_____ *Ain't Nobody's Business* • McWilliams
_____ *Why Government Doesn't Work* • Browne
_____ *Libertarianism In One Lesson* • Bergland

Ready-to-use Literature

_____ Brochure: "Is This the New Political Party...?"
_____ Brochure: "Towards More Sensible Drug Policy"
_____ Brochure: "What Happened/Your Family Budget?"
_____ Brochure: "Ending the Welfare State"
_____ Brochure: "Making Neighborhood Safe Again"
_____ Brochure: "Equal Rights/America's Gun Owners"
_____ Brochure: "Working to Cut Your Taxes!"
_____ Flyer: "Political Party/100% Pro-Gun Rights?"
_____ *America's Libertarian Heritage* booklet
_____ Fact Sheets: LP history/bibliography (package)
_____ 1995 LP Program
_____ World's Smallest Political Quiz

Yard Signs

_____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/Vote Libertarian

Bumper Stickers

_____ Don't Blame Me... I Voted Libertarian
_____ I'm Pro-Choice on Everything!
_____ ENOUGH IS ENOUGH/VOTE LIBERTARIAN
_____ Vote Libertarian/1-800-ELECT-US

Buttons

_____ Don't Blame Me, I Voted Libertarian
_____ VOTE LIBERTARIAN/800-682-1776
_____ Libertarian Party: Pro-Choice on Everything

Miscellaneous Items

_____ Sheets of LP stickers (24 per sheet)
_____ Lined windbreaker. Circle one: M L XL

Tools for Campaigning

_____ Libertarian TV Ads Video
_____ Statue of Liberty logo master
_____ LP Statue of Liberty logo on 3-1/2" PC disk
_____ Newsprint ads: "Libertarian Party — Defenders of Liberty" set of seven.

Large & Small Banners

_____ Large: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (18" x 5')
_____ Please check preferred second line:
_____ ☐ Defenders of Liberty ☐ 1-800-ELECT-US
_____ Small: "LIBERTARIAN PARTY" (12" x 5')

Total Due

_____ Merchandise Total
_____ RUSH handling: Add \$5 for same-day handling
_____ RUSH shipping: Call office to arrange
_____ Send to a Post Office Box: \$5 extra
_____ TOTAL PAYMENT DUE

[] Cash, check, or money order enclosed (No corporate checks!)
[] Bill my Visa [] Bill my MasterCard

Acct. # _____

Expires _____ Signature _____

Name _____

Membership ID# [On label] _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation _____

Employer _____

Four-way debate contrasts strategies

Continued from Page 4

Gorman: "Once you start people thinking about solutions other than government, then you've got them halfway there."

Hess: "The poor will always be among us. That's a reality we can't hide from. But before there was an imposition of an income tax in this country, we had a smaller percentage of those people who were legitimately classified as poor, and that's because generosity follows productivity."

Hollist: "The poor are people. They're not mine to dispose of, or take care of. I respect them as individuals. I will create an environment that's safe for them. And everyone that's successful is free to help them."

■ **Will the Drug War be a major theme in your campaign? And how will you present the issue?**

Browne: "In the five years since my first campaign, people have come to realize it's a failure. Everybody knows the War on Drugs is a failure. What they're waiting for is for somebody to come along and say the emperor has no clothes. On my first day in office I will pardon everyone who has been convicted of a nonviolent drug offense."

Gorman: "That's going to be one of the main themes of my entire production. As a legislator coming from a legislative point of view, I'm going to go right where it will hurt the most on the other side — right to asset forfeiture laws, [which] not only do a disservice to the individual, but do a disservice to the Constitution of the United States by removing the checks and balances."

Hess: "We need the war on the War on Drugs."

Hollist: "I think people should be able to put into their bodies anything they want. I think there is a problem with drugs, but [whether to use them] is a choice [individuals should] make."

■ **What will you do to increase the Libertarian Party's vote percentage?**

Browne: "A volunteer organization is important to create the aura of universality, so you see the name over and over. The advertising is the first line of that, because we control it and we create the ads. The second line is the volunteers, and the third line is the media."

Gorman: "When I first got into the House, no one knew what

a 'Liburtarian' was, and supporters would ask me, 'How can I give you my vote if you don't get anyone elected?' And that's when I said to myself, 'I'm going to go across this country, I'm going to build Libertarian organizations, so someday, when someone asks me that, I can say we've got 30,000 elected Libertarians across this country.'"

Hess: "Touch the heartstrings, the emotions, and the

BARRY HESS:
"I believe we need a [presidential] candidate who plans on winning."

pocketbooks of every American, [through] a series of public events calling the current administration on all levels out to answer, 'Why are you doing what you're doing?'"

Hollist: "We need to be successful with very little money."

Other issues

The four candidates also addressed environmental issues, Internet privacy, and other campaign strategy questions.

In an informal straw poll after the debate, Browne won 73% of the vote, followed by Gorman with 13% and Hess with 1%.

Non-candidates Jacob Hornberger and Mary Ruwart received 8% and 5%, respectively. Hollist received no votes.

The LP's presidential nominee will be selected by delegates at the party's national convention in Anaheim, CA, June 29-July 3.

The four active presidential candidates will speak at numerous state LP conventions leading up to the National Convention, although no other four-way debates have yet been announced.



The Ayn Rand Video Library

Ayn Rand Video Interviews:

AR 101 University of Michigan	\$19.95	*New Lower Price!!*
AR 301 Tom Snyder	\$26.95	
AR 401 Mike Wallace	\$29.95	

Ayn Rand Feature Films:

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We the Living (Italian w/ English Subtitles)	\$69.95
Love Letters (Rand's Original Screenplay)	\$29.95

Ayn Rand Documentary

"A Sense of Life" SPECIAL HOLIDAY OFFER!! \$40.00

Ayn Rand Collectables

First Day Cover \$14.95; Framed \$35.00 (includes shipping)

Signed "A Sense of Life" Poster \$50.00 (add \$5.00 s + h) per poster

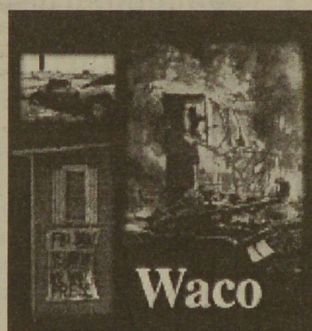
Special "Sense of Life" package - A Perfect holiday gift
Call Toll Free or visit our website for details!

Tim Slagle The Libertarian Lenny Bruce

Tim Slagle has established himself as the premiere libertarian comic in the US. Smart, funny, and politically incorrect, Slagle's rapier wit and slashing satire cut to the bone. A long time performer at national and local Libertarian events, Slagle's live and uncut performances are now available on video tape. Many use these tapes to introduce their friends to libertarian thinking. Nothing reveals the truth like comedy.

TS 101 "AWAKE" (B & W 45 min.)	\$19.95
TS 201 Nation of Criminals (Color 70 min.)	\$24.95

Special Price Discounts for National, State and Local LP Organizations on orders of ten or more – call toll free for details



WACO: A New Revelation \$24.95

Powerful documentary, narrated by ex-FBI agent, Dr. Fred Whitehurst, picks up where "Waco: The Rules of Engagement" left off. New and updated information about the slaughter and coverups surrounding the investigation.

WACO: The Rules of Engagement Color 136 min. \$29.95

Fast becoming a collector's item, this 1998 Academy Award Nominated documentary started it all. The infrared footage of the tank assault is positively damning, and helps make this outstanding documentary one of the best ever made about governmental abuse of power. Winner of the Emmy Award for best Investigative journalism television Program of 1999.



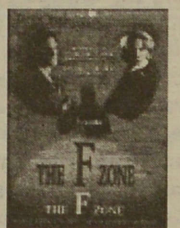
IRS Under Assault (Films Libertarian Love)

Harry's War (Edward Herrmann, Gerladine Page) Color 98 min. \$24.95

Harry declares War on the IRS in this classic comedy/drama

The "F" Zone (William Harrity, Kelly Hunt) Color 101 min. \$24.95

Dramatic story that questions the legality of the 16th Amendment.



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The Forum

What America needs: A Bill of No Rights

We, the sensible people of the United States, in an attempt to help everyone get along, restore some semblance of justice, avoid any more riots, keep our nation safe, promote positive behavior, and secure the blessings of debt-free liberty to ourselves and our great-great-grandchildren, hereby try one more time to ordain and establish some common sense guidelines for the terminally whiny, guilt-ridden, delusional, and other bedwetters.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: That a whole lot of people are confused by the Bill of Rights and are so dim that they require a Bill of No Rights.

ARTICLE I: You do not have the right to a new car, big screen TV, fancy vacation, or any other form of wealth. More power to you if you can legally acquire them, but no one is guaranteeing anything.

ARTICLE II: You do not have the right to never be of-

fended. This country is based on freedom, and that means freedom for everyone — not just you!

You may leave the room, turn the channel, express a different opinion, etc., but the world is full of offensive idiots, and probably always will be.

ARTICLE III: You do not have the right to be free from harm. If you stick a screwdriver in your eye, learn to be more careful — do not expect the tool manufacturer to make you and all your relatives independently wealthy.

ARTICLE IV: You do not have the right to free food and housing. Americans are the most charitable people to be found, and will gladly help anyone in need, but we are quickly growing weary of subsidizing generation after generation of professional couch potatoes who achieve nothing more than the creation of another generation of professional couch potatoes.

By Lewis Napper

ARTICLE V: You do not have the right to free health care. That would be nice, but from the looks of public housing, we're just not interested in public health care.

ARTICLE VI: You do not have the right to physically harm other people. If you kidnap, rape, intentionally maim, or kill someone, don't be surprised if the rest of us want to see you fry in the electric chair.

ARTICLE VII: You do not have the right to the possessions of others. If you rob, cheat or coerce away the goods of other citizens, don't be surprised if the rest of us get together and lock you away in a place where you still won't have the right to a big screen color TV or a life of leisure.

ARTICLE VIII: You don't have the right to demand that our children risk their lives in foreign wars to soothe your aching conscience. We hate oppressive gov-

ernments and won't lift a finger to stop you from going to fight if you'd like. However, we do not enjoy parenting the entire world and do not want to spend so much of our time battling each and every little tyrant with a military uniform and a funny hat.

ARTICLE IX: You don't have the right to a job. All of us sure want all of you to have one, and will gladly help you along in hard times, but we expect you to take advantage of the opportunities of education and vocational training laid before you to make yourself useful.

ARTICLE X: You do not have the right to happiness. Being an American means you have the right to *pursue* happiness — which by the way, is a lot easier if you are unencumbered by an overabundance of idiotic laws created by those of you who were confused by the Bill of Rights.



It's time for the ultimate tax: "The Time Tax"

Any tax on your income is inherently unfair. So should Uncle Sam tax 40% of your time?

Forget the "Flat Tax." It still wouldn't be fair because it takes money — just like the income tax — and some people have more money than others. Taking money can never be fair.

But everyone has the same amount of time. Rich or poor, we all get 24 hours in every day. So we should switch to a "Time Tax." Everyone would be taxed exactly the same amount of time. What could be more fair than that?

Similar to the flat tax proposal, this idea would have to replace the existing tax structure — not add to it. So if you figure the average person is taxed about 40% of their income, by the time you add up all the various taxes, what we'd do is stop taking that 40% of your money. Instead, we'd take some percent of your time.

Time at work

No, you'll still be allowed to sleep at night. We're talking about the time you spend at work, earning that money that right now goes straight to taxes.

Look at it this way. Monday and Friday of every week — 40% of the typical work cycle — goes to pay taxes. Without taxes you

wouldn't have to work Monday and Friday. Without taxes, you could work Tuesday through Thursday and make the same amount of money you're taking home now.

So perhaps on Monday and Friday you would be subject to a Time Tax. Instead of going to work, you would go to your local IRS office and they would tell you what to do that day.

Slavery?

Some will complain that this sounds a bit like slavery — ordering you around without payment.

But the courts have already approved compulsory school, the draft, regulations that tell you what you must or may not do. We even force you to fill out your tax return every year.

Slavery is not, strictly speaking, unconstitutional unless it is 100%. As long as you have a little time left to yourself, there should be no legal problem with

this proposal.

But wait: It gets better. Under the Time Tax, even the poor and unemployed could be taxed. Retired people, housewives, the child who grew up but never left home — lots of people who are not being taxed today could start to contribute their fair share.

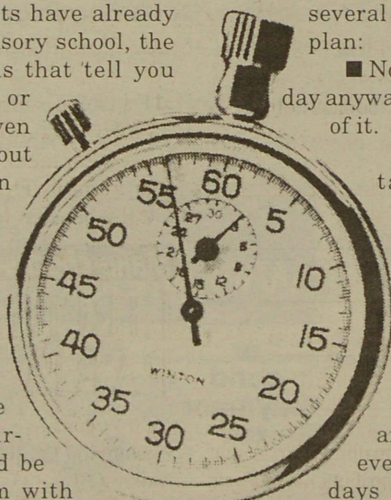
Let's say today's tax burden is shouldered by only half the adult population. By bringing in the other half with the Time Tax, it should be necessary to take only one day per week instead of two.

So we'll rename Monday to Taxday and that will be the day everyone has to work for the government. There are actually several benefits to this plan:

■ Nobody likes Monday anyway, so we'll get rid of it.

■ By cutting taxes 40% (two work days a week) but only taxing your time 20% (one work day a week), you could take every Friday off and still come out even. Or work Fridays as you do now,

By M. Simkin



Saving us from those killer pools

Swimming pools kill more American children per year than guns. I think it's high time we did something about this. So, here's my plan to protect the children.

Remember, if we save one life, it's worth it.

Think about it: Are pools really necessary in a modern society as ours? We bathe in showers and tubs, we drink from faucets, we cool ourselves with air conditioners. Pools are an *anachronism*... a carryover from the old times when people had to choose the simplest methods possible to cool themselves in hot weather.

By Christopher J. Locke

Unfortunately, they have not progressed from a safety standpoint one iota since their invention. Here's how I propose we deal with the pool epidemic in our society.

First, we sue gun... er, pool manufacturers. Their product is obviously designed to kill. Think about it. Humans can't breathe water, and the only purpose of a pool is to immerse a *human body* in the deadly stuff. People weren't meant to be underwater. If we were, we'd have gills.

Never mind that the pool operates exactly as it was designed. Think of the lives we've lost because pool manufacturers "flooded the market" (get it?). The pool manufacturers need to be held responsible for their products ending up in the wrong hands.

Smart pool

Then, when we start getting settlements, we press for "smart" pool technology. Here's how. All pools would have a cover, activated by a transmitter worn by the pool owner. That way, no unauthorized people could swim in the pool, including the owner if he lost the transmitter.

But that wouldn't go far enough. What if a child found the transmitter that activated the gun... er, pool cover, and took an illicit dip in the pool? Well, I have the answer to that one, too.

Build pools with a series of sophisticated motion detectors and infrared sensors, connected to a giant grating which covers the entire floor of the pool. This is attached to a big hydraulic hoist. If a child

See **POOL MENACE** Page 25

See **TAX ON TIME** Page 25

The ant and the grasshopper (modern version)

THE CLASSIC VERSION: The ant works hard in the withering heat all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter. The grasshopper thinks the ant is a fool and laughs and dances and plays the summer away.

Come winter, the ant is warm and well fed. The grasshopper has no food or shelter so he dies out in the cold.

THE MODERN VERSION: The ant works hard in the withering heat all summer long, build-

ing his house and laying up supplies for the winter. The grasshopper thinks the ant is a fool and laughs and dances and plays the summer away.

Come winter, the shivering grasshopper calls a press conference and demands to know why the ant should be allowed to be warm and well fed while others are cold and starving.

CBS, NBC, and ABC show up to provide pictures of the shiver-

Via the Internet

KERMIT THE FROG
appears on Oprah.
Everyone cries when he sings "It's Not Easy Being Green."

ing grasshopper, next to video of the ant in his comfortable home with a table filled with food.

America is stunned by the sharp contrast. How can it be that, in a country of such wealth, this poor grasshopper is allowed to suffer so?

Then a representative of the NAAGB (National Association of Green Bugs) shows up on *Nightline* and charges the ant with "green bias," and makes the case that the grasshopper is the victim of 30 million years of greenism.

Not Easy

Kermit the Frog appears on *Oprah* with the grasshopper, and everybody cries when he sings "It's Not Easy Being Green."

Bill and Hillary Clinton make a special guest appearance on the

CBS Evening News to tell a concerned Dan Rather that they will do everything they can for the grasshopper who has been denied the prosperity he deserves by ants who benefited "unfairly."

Richard Gephardt exclaims in an interview with Peter Jennings that the ant has gotten rich off the back of the grasshopper, and calls for an immediate tax hike on the ant to make him pay his "fair share."

The Republicans, in response, demand that the money raised by this new ant tax be distributed to the state governments in the form of block grants — because they are against "big government," you see — and insist that the grasshopper be tested for drugs before getting the money.

Finally, the EEOC drafts the "Economic Equity and Anti-Greenism Act" retroactive to the

beginning of the summer. The ant is fined for failing to hire a proportionate number of green bugs and, having nothing left to pay his retroactive taxes, his home is confiscated by the government.

In the snow

As the story ends, we see the grasshopper scarfing up the last bits of the ant's food while the government house he's in — which just happens to be the ant's old house — crumbles around him since he doesn't know how to maintain it. Meanwhile, the ant has disappeared in the snow.

And on the TV, which the grasshopper bought by selling most of the ant's food, they are showing Bill Clinton standing before a wildly applauding group of politicians announcing that a new era of "fairness" has dawned in America.

Fighting the pool menace

Continued from Page 24

enters the pool, the pool acts normally as long as the child remains moving at the surface. If he dips below, even for a second, the infrared sensors no longer detect a head on the surface. Then, the central computer system tells the hydraulic hoist to raise the grating. The entire contents of the pool are lifted from the water, high and dry.

But what if the child is unconscious floating on the surface? That's easy. The motion detectors activate the hoist after five sec-

onds of inactivity, lifting the child to safety.

Of course, the new system will be expensive, but what cost do you put on a human life? Pool makers will simply have to increase the cost . . . good thing, since this will mean fewer guns . . . er, *pools* out on the streets . . . er, in backyards of the country.

Think about it, friends . . . as I said before, if it saves one life, its worth it. Let's be brave and stand up to the pool lobby.

It's the right thing to do — for the children.

Why not a tax on time?

Continued from Page 24

■ Those who have no job skills would get them by being forced to work at least once a week. This might also improve their self esteem.

■ Anti-social loners who stay

home all the time would finally get out and meet people.

■ No more career politicians. Without trillions of your tax dollars to give to their friends, Congressmen would have to do something useful to earn a living — just like the rest of us.

The sex tax

If you like this idea — or even if you don't — just wait until you see our next proposal: The sex tax.

Sexually "poor"? No worries — the government will give you sex. Are you "sex rich"? You may be compelled to donate sex to the poor, for the common good. Hey, you're going to need something to do every Friday now that you don't have to go to work that day. We could rename Friday to Sexday. Everybody will get more sex under this program.

Isn't government great?

Mark Censi: 'I enjoyed it!'

Continued from Page 18

to them. A direct appeal on a front porch, by an LP candidate, asking for a petition signature to lower taxes would be a better way.

Can you picture this: "Hello. Will you sign a petition to lower the XYZ tax? I am a Libertarian Party candidate for office and I want you to know that even before I am elected to office, I am working to lower your taxes. Here is my brochure. Thank you."

We just have to work smarter and harder than the other parties.

■ This essay was reprinted from the December 1998 issue of the Maine Libertarian.

The Power of Just One Signature

Do you think that our government has gotten too big and too powerful? Do you think a maze of bureaucrats and politicians are chipping away at the freedoms Americans used to take for granted? Do you think the Bill of Rights is being silently repealed — one precious freedom at a time?

You can help change that by joining the Libertarian Party! We're the only political party that is fighting — with 100% of our energy — to lower taxes, to reduce the size of government, and to defend the Bill of Rights. With your support — and your proud signature on this membership form — we can work harder than ever to build a powerful political force for freedom.

But we need your help to do it. Join us today!

Libertarian Party Membership!

☐ **YES! Sign me up today as a proud, dues-paying member of the Libertarian Party!**

I'll receive 12 issues of the monthly newspaper, LP News, and a membership card. I'd like to be a Libertarian Party member in the following category:

- ☐ \$25 **Basic Member**
- ☐ \$100 **Sustaining Member**
- ☐ \$250 **Sponsor**
- ☐ \$500 **Patron**
- ☐ \$1,000 **Life Member**

The Libertarian Party is the party of principle. To publicly affirm what we believe—and to ensure that our party never strays from our principles—we ask our members to proudly sign this statement:

➤ I do not believe in or advocate the **initiation** of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.

SIGNATURE REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP

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FROM THE Editor

Reason to be cheerful: We don't live in France

I was in London recently and happened to have dinner with Hervé, a Frenchman who runs a medical marketing company in Paris. Having read about the new law in France that mandates a 36-hour work week — and about how the French police now patrol businesses's parking lots to make sure people are not illegally working too many hours — I asked Hervé how this law affected him.

"Oh," he said with a French grimace and a French shrug. "Don't ask me this question. It gets me — how do you say?"

"Upset?" I suggested.

"Upset," he agreed.

The new law, he said, was a huge hassle. Regular hourly employees now get one extra (paid) day off every two weeks — in addition to their already lavish government-mandated vacation and medical leave.

So, Hervé's company must constantly juggle its schedule because 10% of his work force is out on any given day, and yet the same amount of work must be done, by the same deadlines.

The idea behind the law was simple, if foolishly French: By mandating a 10% shorter work week, companies would hire 10% more employees, the French government reasoned.

The politicians promised this would solve the country's nagging 12%+ unemployment rate — an unemployment rate which had been caused by the fact that the French government mandates so many benefits that companies can't afford to hire more employees in the first place.

The plan isn't working. At Hervé's company, for example, he can't afford to add new staff, he explained. So he's asking current employees to work harder, and asking managerial staff to try to fill in any holes. Other companies are employing similar strategies.

In response, French politicians have blasted business leaders for putting "profits over people" and are mulling new strategies to legislate full employment.

Such a political culture makes running a business in France difficult, Hervé lamented. If he were a younger man, he said, he would pack it up and start over — in either the United States or Canada.

My dinner with Hervé made me realize: Even though we Libertarians complain about how the United States is no longer a free country, it is still viewed by most people around the world as a beacon of liberty and economic opportunity. And, to a large degree it is, compared to other countries. Here are a few facts to help you keep this in perspective:

■ In France, as Hervé knows all too well, you can go to jail for working too hard.

■ In Algeria, a musician is facing blasphemy charges (and five years in jail) for including a line from the Koran in a song.

■ In Thailand, new campaign "reform" laws have made it illegal for candidates to tell voters what they will do if elected.

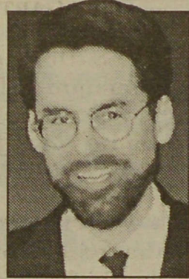
■ In the former East Germany, 51% of the population now say they were happier under communism — under a totalitarian regime that employed twice as many secret police as Hitler's Gestapo, and routinely shot citizens who tried to escape!

My point: America isn't perfect. Our government is way too big, too expensive, and too intrusive. And as good as things are here — compared to other countries — our nation could be even *better* if Americans were liberated to pursue their economic and personal dreams.

But — and this is an important *but* — as we Libertarians work to make this nation more free, and as we point out those areas where our nation falls short of its vision of "liberty and justice for all," we should balance our complaints with optimism, and joy, and a positive vision.

Don't just complain about the freedoms we have lost. Give thanks for those freedoms we still have. Don't just complain about how bad things are today. Think (and tell voters) about how good they could be tomorrow.

And, above all, give thanks that you don't live in France. Or you'd be busy avoiding arrest for working too hard, and scheming about how you could immigrate to the United States.



By Bill Winter,
Editor

Taking the first steps towards educational freedom in America

EDITOR'S NOTE: How can Libertarianism solve America's problems? Each issue, *LP News* will showcase how "Libertarian Solutions" — or interim steps in a libertarian direction — can help improve our nation.

By Peter Orvetti

LP NEWS ASSOCIATE EDITOR

In a recent poll taken by the *Washington Post*, education ranked #2, #7, and #9 on the Top 10 list of Americans' most serious concerns. According to this survey, voters are worried about school safety (60%), the high cost of college (53%), and a decline in educational standards (51%).

This wasn't news to Libertarians, who have long argued that public — that is, *government* — education costs too much and teaches too little.

What *is* news is that such a large percentage of the public has come to agree with that viewpoint. However, substantial disagreement remains about how to resolve this crisis.

Republicans and Democrats say they have the answer: More tax money, more government teachers, more metal detectors at school doors, more bureaucrats in the Department of Education, and more federally mandated testing.

Libertarians have a different solution: Freedom. By giving parents *real* control over their children's educational options — and by giving parents back their own money to pay for those options — Libertarians would separate "school and state," and give every child the opportunity to succeed in a high-quality, lower-cost private, religious, or community school.

But until that day when parents are no longer forced to pay for failing government schools — and their children are no longer trapped in them — what can Libertarians propose?

Isn't working

Before we answer that, let's first examine why public education isn't working. There are three major reasons: Students and teachers are trapped in a politicized system; students' rights are routinely violated; and (most importantly) students just don't learn.

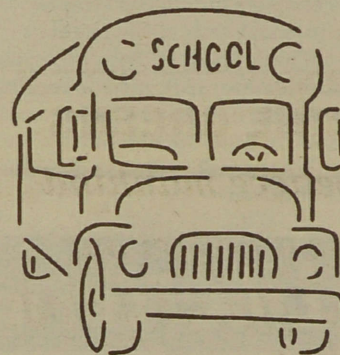
1. The political web. Kids complain they don't learn anything important. Parents complain their children waste time memorizing trivia. Teachers complain they don't have the freedom to be creative. And no one can do a thing about it. Why? Because curricula are not planned by educators, but by politicians.

In Virginia, for example, Standards of Learning (SOL) re-



quire "world" history to consist largely of European history. Many Americans might think that's a good idea, but in heavily African-American northern Virginia, students complain that this version of world history is unbalanced. So, some history teachers want to include more African history — and many black parents support the idea — but their schools can't let them.

Why? Because administrators force teachers to "teach to the test" — and cram SOL-mandated subject matter into students' heads. If some departments want to include African history, they are



QUESTION:

*What would
Libertarians do
to improve the
education system?*

blocked by principals who know that the schools will lose state funding if students do poorly on the SOLs.

Thus, politicians decide what's taught — not educators.

2. Students' rights are violated. The Bill of Rights isn't an R-rated movie, but schools act like you need to be 18 or older to qualify.

In the past year, a Jewish girl had to remove her Star of David

necklace because her school called it a gang symbol. One elementary school student was accused of plotting a school shooting because he read a Tom Clancy novel during recess. Another student was suspended under his school's "zero tolerance" violence policy for drawing a picture of a gun. And one student was forced to write a 1,000 word essay about freedom because he refused to recite the Pledge of Allegiance!

When schools don't recognize students' rights, they don't recognize students' humanity. And if you don't treat children like people, you can't expect them to learn — and they don't.

3. Students don't learn. According to the Heartland Institute, 36% of America's public school students are now taking remedial classes in reading, language arts, and/or math. And in 1998, the number of remedial instructors approached the size of the entire U.S. armed forces. If that's not bad enough, the International Mathematics and Science Study recently ranked U.S. high school seniors fourth-to-last among industrial nations' students in basic mathematics skills.

Why is it so bad?

"There is little motivation for teachers to improve their teaching skills [or] to learn new methods of instruction," writes Bruce Goldberg in *Why Schools Fail*. "There is no reward for superior performance. Nor is there any penalty for incompetence. Add to that a multilayered bureaucracy ranging from the federal Department of Education to the local school board and what you have is a recipe for disaster."

But Libertarians can't wait for that ultimate disaster — the collapse of the public schools — before taking action. Students are suffering now, and interim steps are needed.

The two best bets: Expanded parent choice, and more home-schooling.

In most public schools, the people who pay the bills — the parents — have little say.

"Right now, school systems tell families, 'You live on this block; your children go to this school,'" writes the Cato Institute's David Boaz. "Or even worse, they say, 'You live on this block and your race is this, so your children must go to this school.'" But "that monopoly, top-down system" could be easily changed.

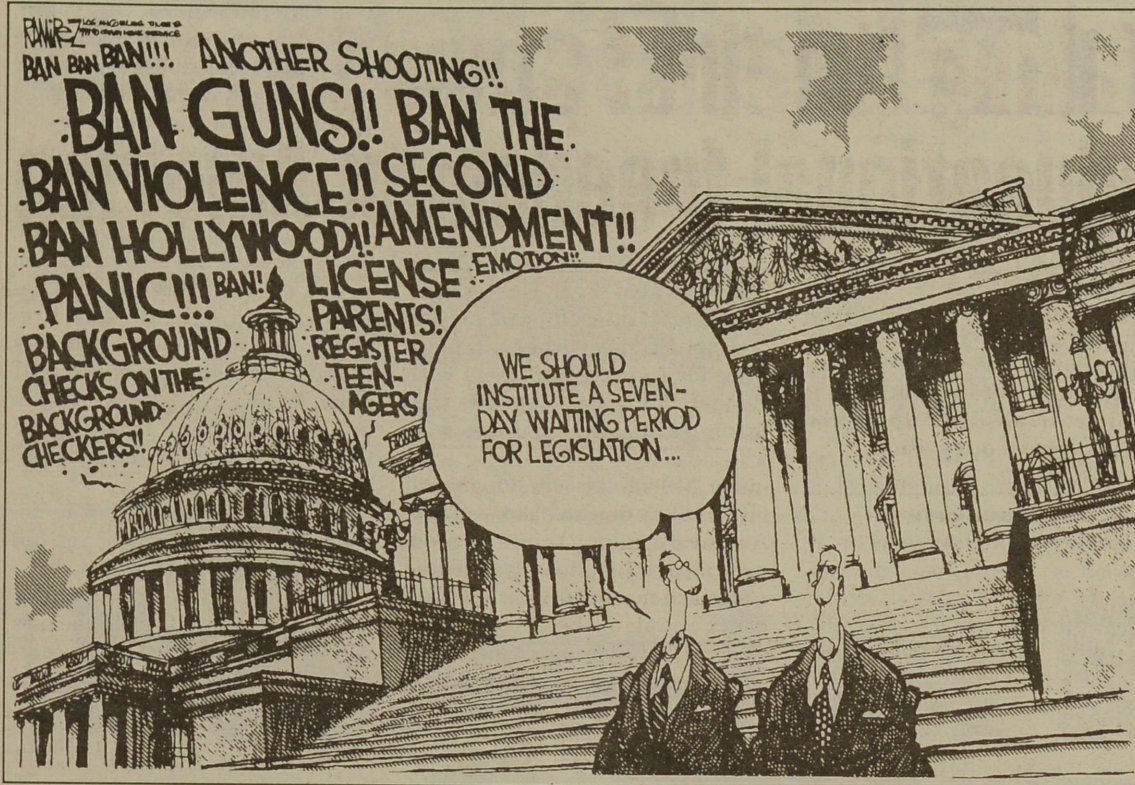
"In a market system, customers can choose from a wide variety of options," Boaz writes. "How could we give parents choices? The simplest way would be to treat education the way we treat other essential services: Get the

See **EDUCATION** Page 30

Libertarian Online Guide

Libertarian Party:
<http://www.LP.org/>

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The MailBox

■ High school lessons

While it is encouraging to see LP members reaching out to high school students [March 2000, "The art of selling liberty to high school students"] — after all, what other group in modern America has to put up with fascist relics like prohibitionism and curfews? — I am rather disturbed by the advice to "talk about results." The Republicrats talk about results. Perhaps I am mistaken, but it was my impression that the LP considered itself the "Party of Principle."

Yes, it's great when free market policies end up with everyone better off, or when the repeal of victimless crime laws results in more responsible behaviors. But that is most certainly not why I support such things. I support them because they are right, because nobody has the right to force something on someone "for their own good," ever. Period. When we talk about results, we get summer soldiers, Libertarians who support our beliefs except when it's inconvenient or messy or uncomfortable.

The point will be raised that high school students aren't really capable of understanding, or at any rate putting faith in, such abstract concepts. Stuff and nonsense. Ideals are what young people thrive on. While I am no longer in high school, I am 16, and I daresay understand our principles quite well.

— ELI NAEHER
Troy, New York

■ Green monster

In response to Greg Starr's February letter, and his hope for Libertarians to work together with the Green Party for a "bet-

**"THE GREENS
believe mankind
is a pox on our
planet, and should
be restricted."**

ter world for all through liberty," I have one question: Are you kidding?

The Greens truly believe that mankind is a pox on our planet and should be severely restricted from access to the Great Outdoors to "protect nature" and "save it for our children" — who also will be severely restricted.

The Greens don't hesitate to use the propaganda of "junk science," frivolous lawsuits, and domestic terrorism to advance their cause — of which liberty is not a part.

— PAUL R. KUHN
Portersville, Pennsylvania

■ The cream rises

I think Phillip Miller is missing the point in his letter [MailBox, March 2000] concerning government versus private regulation.

First of all, although I am not

versed on the Better Business Bureau, I believe it is an information service, not a regulatory agency. There is a big difference. The former helps consumers make their own decisions; the latter stifles free enterprise.

Second, if a Libertarian government were in place, the BBB would experience a lot of competition, and would either satisfy consumer needs or fade from existence. Many competing companies would either be started by, or would employ, former government agency employees, whose incentive to satisfy customers would be far greater.

In short, in a true free market, the cream would rise to the top, while the rest would be dealt with or discarded. Those who practiced fraud and deception would have to answer for a judicial system which isn't bogged down with frivolous laws and victimless crimes.

— MARK STRYKER
Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania

■ Third strike

Please purge the use of the term "Third Party" from the *LP News*, and use something like "Alternative Party."

A third party, by definition, comes in third. More likely, it ties for third with 0% of the votes after the Democrat and Republican parties.

— PAUL L. STUDIER
Lake Forest, California

■ Windows cleaning

One would think Jacob Hornberger [The Forum, March 2000] was on the Microsoft payroll.

I had desired to start writing this five minutes ago, but at-

See THE MAILBOX Page 28

— THE
**Concise Guide
to Economics**
The Advocates
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Amazon.com

ThePulse

Campaign finance reform: No

Something is rotten in today's big-money politics. *LP News* readers certainly agree on that problem — but they are in profound disagreement about whether "campaign finance reform" is the answer.

In response to this month's unscientific survey — should the Libertarian Party support any kind of campaign finance reform? — 56.7% said no.

Most nay-sayers argued that proposed "reforms" violate free speech or shut citizens out of the campaign process. A handful noted that, even with such laws, politicians would still find some way around them. And some said the best reform would be to limit the power of politicians, so donors will have no incentive to try to "bribe" them.

Of the 43.3% who argued in favor of campaign reform, there was no clear consensus about what kind of "reform" was needed.

Among the pro-reformers, some argued that PACs and unions should not be allowed to contribute to political campaigns, since they are not individuals. Others wanted to limit donations to constituents alone. And several said all contributions should simply be banned, and candidates given free television time, so voters can make a decision based on merits, not "marketing."

Here is a representative sample of the responses:

■ **NO.** As a Libertarian, I don't think anyone should tell me how to spend my money. If I decide to give it to a political candidate's campaign fund, that should be my decision, no one else's. The only reform we should support is the abolition of governmental interference in campaign funding decisions.

— DAVE GARTHOFF, Akron, Ohio

■ **YES.** During the last six months of the campaign, no campaigning [should] be done using television. This would place constraints on politicians, instead of placing constraints on citizens as politicians usually try to do.

— WAYNE HEMBREE, Bowie, Maryland

■ **NO.** The problem is candidates can vote in a manner that will favor certain contributors or constituencies. We should focus on taking this ability away from politicians and let people contribute freely.

— PHIL UNDERWOOD, Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania

■ **YES.** If we restrict donation of election money to individuals only, barring all collective interests such as corporations and labor unions from participation, it could favor the ascension of morally responsible individuals to control the vote.

— EDWARD D. TURNER, Newport Beach, California

■ **NO.** [Instead of limiting contributions,] abolish federal funding of political party conventions; advocate minimal filing fees for candidates, advocate "None of the Above" for all general election races, and advocate a robust recall mechanism.

— DANIEL WALKER, Tallahassee, Florida

■ **YES.** We should prohibit corporations and labor unions from contributing to political action committees and parties and campaigns. Donations are a form of free speech and people have these rights; corporations do not.

— JASON C. MILLER, Hudsonville, Michigan

■ **NO.** By promoting the abolishment of mandatory Socialist Insecurity, the LP is already supporting campaign finance reform. By abolishing FICA taxes, which reward the politicians' largest special interest group (voting retirees), true campaign finance reform will occur.

— H. M. THOMPSON, Tucson, Arizona

■ **NO.** We need to endorse putting an end to corporate welfare, foreign aid, and special interest handouts. With no favors coming out of Washington, there will be no reason for corrupt money flowing into Washington.

— JOE JOHNSON, Lafayette, Colorado

See THE PULSE Page 28

ThePulse

Continued from Page 27

■ YES. Federal financing of conventions and all presidential candidates must be ended; no one but a natural person residing within the geographical boundaries of a district may contribute to a federal campaign.

— STEVEN ROSILE, Lawrence, Kansas

■ NO. The real issue is simply *campaign* reform. Campaigns should be competitions of ideas about government yet the Republicrats give us name-calling and phony polls. Let the games — real, open debates — begin!

— DANA SNOWMAN, Alton, Maine

■ YES. The only people who should be allowed to donate to a campaign are people who live in the district that the candidate is running in.

— GARY ATKINSON, Royal Oak, Michigan

■ NO. There is no way Libertarians should favor limitations on political speech! We should promote individual donations by raising the limits, and encourage PAC donations because they represent voluntary advocacy.

— SHAL FARLEY, Arcadia, California

■ NO. We should not support this until it is better defined. Would this be in violation of the First Amendment?

— NEIL MULLIN, Portland, Connecticut

■ NO. If we dramatically limit the size and scope of government, campaign finance reform will happen by itself, because only a fool will waste money buying politicians who can't pay them back from the public trough.

— BILL EVERMAN, Aston, Pennsylvania

June Question: Best issue?

On November 7, 2000, American voters will see something on their ballots they have never seen before: At least 218 Libertarian Congressional candidates, running in a majority of U.S. House districts.

And in the months leading up to that Election Day, those 218+ candidates will be campaigning across the USA, speaking at debates, being interviewed on the radio, and participating in televised debates.

Given this unprecedented opportunity to get the Libertarian message out, what *message* should those candidates focus on? In other words, what *one* political issue would you like to see these LP Congressional candidates devote the most time and energy to? Economic issues? Civil liberties? The Drug War? Education? *What?*

■ QUESTION: Which *one* single issue would you encourage the 218+ Libertarian Party U.S. House candidates to focus on, as they campaign for office? And why? (Please limit answers to no more than 100 words.)

■ DEADLINE: May 5, 2000

May Question: Invite Jesse?

Jesse Ventura's announcement hadn't even been made, and already Libertarians were calling and e-mailing the national LP headquarters: *Invite him to join the Libertarian Party!*

After the Minnesota governor publicly quit the Reform Party on February 11, calling it "hopelessly dysfunctional," some Libertarians saw this as an opportunity for the LP. Ventura has called himself "libertarian," they noted, and holds pro-freedom positions on many issues. Not so fast, said others: Ventura has *increased* the state budget, and has a bad habit of putting his foot in his mouth. He'll just embarrass us, they said.

■ QUESTION: Should we invite Governor Jesse Ventura to join the Libertarian Party? Why or why not? (Please limit answers to no more than 100 words.)

■ DEADLINE: April 5, 2000

ENTRY GUIDELINES: Include name and city/state; anonymous answers won't be tallied. Enter just once per month.

■ E-mail: 73163.3063@compuserve.com. (Please include "Pulse" in subject line.)

■ Fax: (202) 333-0072 (Attn: The Pulse).

■ Mail: Libertarian Party, Attn: LP News/The Pulse, 2600 Virginia Avenue, NW, Suite 100, Washington DC 20037

TheMailBox

Continued from Page 27

tempting to launch Lotus Notes under Windows 95, my system responded that Notes was not shut down properly the last time, and that I should exit the operating system and re-boot. Then in attempting to do that, my computer froze at the shut-down screen.

"Yes, the Federal Reserve, Post Office, etc., are abusive, inefficient monopolies which shouldn't exist. Just because Microsoft is privately owned doesn't justify what it's done with its stranglehold on the computer market.

"What happens if a company fails to satisfy consumers?" asks Hornberger. He concludes that it loses market share and might even go out of business. This conclusion is idealistic at best, and inaccurate at least.

The public mindset assumes that because something dominates the market, it must be good. Also, when they see that most software in the stores is designed for Windows, they will invariably buy a computer which operates with Windows as its operating system.

Microsoft may pride itself on having created a system which makes it possible for people to operate computers who shouldn't be trusted with a can opener. Such is a marketing coup.

It is also a complete nuisance considering there are operating systems like DOS, which will behave reliably, but they've been shoved under the carpet by Microsoft's Windows.

Microsoft needs competition, and it needs it badly.

— KURT SNYDER

Warren, Michigan

Microsoft mediocrity

Jacob Hornberger makes some comments that miss the point and are probably inaccurate.

The record, both anecdotal and legal, shows a long history of efforts by Microsoft to use its wealth and position in the personal computer software industry to smother all forms of competition. They have infringed on copyrights held by other companies, relying on legal obfuscation and delay tactics to get away with it for as long as possible. When legal tactics have been ineffective, they have simply bought out the competition or smothered them by duplicating an existing product

and, frequently, giving it away for free to destroy the competitors' market.

Microsoft has also parlayed the concept of "Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt" into a fine art in marketing. MS has earned a reputation for coercive contracts with "under the table" penalties that have left small businesses with the option of going along with what MS wants or having great difficulties due to "lost orders," non-availability of needed product, pricing penalties, and a host of other consequences.

"MICROSOFT parlayed 'Fear, Uncertainty, and Doubt' into a fine art in marketing."

The history of Microsoft isn't one of "satisfying the customer," but rather of perverting the market to appear as "the only source" rather than "a source" of needed products and services.

Microsoft is mediocrity camouflaged as success. The market will correct the situation if allowed, and Microsoft will pay a price for coercive behavior and pushing shoddy products at the expense of customers.

— RICK FORRISTER

Altadena, California

Constitution Day

New Jersey has recently enacted legislation requiring portions of the Declaration of Independence to be read in schools. A little move in the right direction, but not quite enough.

Better to observe "Constitu-

tion Day" June 23rd. Our youth, indeed many adults, enter the arena politic horribly unarmed for want of a rudimentary knowledge of our national charter. Jefferson was all too correct about the linkage of education and democracy. The evidence is all about us.

Constitution Day, June 23rd; whilst schools are still in session or not, needs to be a day sans parades, sales, speeches or fireworks, more akin to an Earth Day holiday. One day out of the year when Americans in class, at work or home crack open a copy of "the original Contract With America," if just only to read it.

We celebrate flags, war heroes, and independence; yet not the single most important document which binds us as a nation. Can we not afford to open the new millennium with a new commemorative holiday "Constitution Day"? Think about it.

— GILBERT J. STRONG, JR.

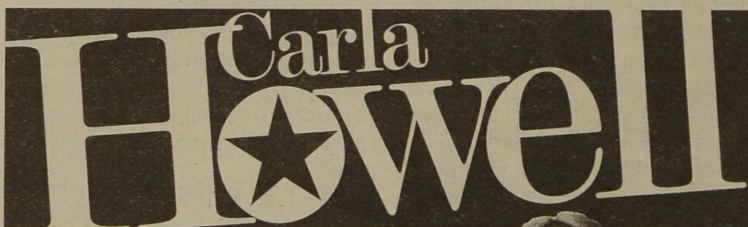
Union, New Jersey

Lark for Chair

I was pleased to read the article in the LP News [March 2000] announcing Jim Lark's bid for the LNC Chairmanship. As favorable an impression as that offered, I can add another perspective as State Chair of the Virginia LP. I have seen Jim serving in multiple roles — campus organizing, local affiliate activity, and as Vice Chair in the LP of Virginia.

Jim brings a level of diligence and energy to his activism that I can only envy. No job has been "beneath him," nor has any challenge been too big. His support of me in my chairmanship has been invaluable. But, ultimately, it's results that count. Jim's tour of the Ninth Congressional District resulted in several local affiliates forming. His local activism has brought media attention to the LP. His assistance in establishing a full time Executive Director position for the LPVA was essential. And, frequently, he has conducted the State Central Committee meetings with productive results.

Throughout the term I have
See THE MAILBOX Page 29



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The MailBox

served with him he has maintained a sense of humor, a diplomatic manner, a sensitivity to the members and state party leadership, and an optimistic vision of our future.

Jim Lark has my full support in his bid for the LNC Chairmanship. The LP will be well served by having him at the helm.

— **GARY REAMS**
Manassas, Virginia

■ Think tank thoughts

The February article on think tanks neglected two major organizations, both of which vigorously support the LP in thought, word, and deed. You neglected the Reason Foundation and Chicago's Heartland Institute. Please convey your support of these worthwhile organizations.

— **SUE & SCOTT WALTON**
Evanston, Illinois

■ Social Security sense

I keep saying that Libertarians are good at talking to one another, but many times not so good at talking to others.

Presidential candidate Harry Browne has mentioned the "SS" word — Social Security. His position is described as wanting to abolish Social Security. Most people interpret this to mean that after years of paying into the system, the Libertarian Party would stop all old age pensions and leave the nation's elderly with neither income nor health insurance.

I know, we need some kind of investment program. That is not

what Harry Browne is quoted as saying. As he is being quoted on Social Security, no one will elect Harry Browne for dog catcher. I would not vote for someone who would do that. Since the Democrats have whittled away at Social Security and Medicaid I would think he would have had a good opportunity to attack the Democrats. But as I said, most Libertarians are good at talking to one another, but not so good at talking to everyone else.

In my district, most people work for a living. They do not have money to invest. They do not have computers. They are not on the

Internet. Some speak only Spanish. A speech on freedom to invest money they do not have means nothing to them.

Abolishing their old age pension will mean even less.

— **ROBERT UNDERWOOD**
Springfield, Massachusetts

■ Good cop, bad cop?

We need to give some extra thought to the subject of police powers before we demonize local police and police departments. I would say to Seth Allen, Benjamin Colfax, and Noelle Stettner [MailBox, March 2000] that our local police respect our liberties far better than nationalized police who will shoot first and ask questions later.

I would like to hear more on the idea of privatizing police departments. That may be a good option if a private department can protect life, property, and privacy on a local level and in the big cities. We should be made aware, however, that most police officers are not "bad cops" as our news media would have us believe.

Part of the problem is that local police are duty-bound to enforce the law (both good laws and bad laws). When an officer of the law enforces a bad law, it makes that officer look like a "bad cop" when he or she is not. The solution to that part of it is simple. Libertarians should demonize bad laws, not the officer who is duty-bound to enforce the law.

— **ROBERT J. HOWARD**
Houston, Texas

■ No debate

I was looking through the February *LP News* for information on candidates, and what do I find in The Pulse? There has been a "Libertarian" debate on term limits! A tie? The April question, campaign finance reform?

Let me put it straight. I should have the liberty to vote for anyone I damn well please! Anyone should have the liberty to run for office regardless of length of time in office! No real Libertarian would consider rules that would restrict my liberty!

Leave these debates about rules that diminish liberty to the whiny Republicrats and Democrats. Real Libertarians know, both instinctively and objectively, that freedom and liberty are *always* the best choice.

What's next, a "Libertarian" debate on gun control?

— **ALAN WILCOX**
Monson, Massachusetts

■ Common ground?

I disagree strongly with the letter from Dean Wahls [MailBox, February 2000] which claims that anyone who wants to ban abortion

See **THE MAILBOX** Page 30

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(712) 322-5050

Sun. Apr 30 Madison, Wisconsin
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3841 E. Washington Ave.
(I-9094 at 135A)

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The Time Has Come

MORE UpComing

■ April 14-16, 2000

Colorado LP Convention, Best Western Executive Hotel, Denver. Speakers include Harry Browne (candidate for the LP's presidential nomination), David Boaz (author, *Libertarianism: A Primer*), Vin Suprynowicz (author, *Send in the Waco Killers*), and Jim Lark (advisor, student Liberty Coalition). For information, call Michele Bethke: (303) 690-2907.

■ April 14, 2000

"Jury Nullification: Putting the Government On Trial," sponsored by the Fully Informed Jury Association, Sheraton Tara Hotel, Needham, Massachusetts. For information, call: (406) 793-5550. E-mail: HLM5550@montana.com.

■ April 15, 2000

Massachusetts LP Convention, Newton Marriott Hotel, Newton. Speakers include David Bergland (LP National Chair), Harry Browne (2000 LP presidential candidate), Roy Innis (CORE), Barbara Goushaw (LP campaign manager), Carla Howell (LP Candidate for U.S. Senate), Craig Mathias (Selectman, Ashland, MA). For information, call: (800) JOIN-LPM.

■ April 15, 2000

Nevada LP Convention, Palace Station Hotel, Las Vegas. Speakers include Michael Cloud (Libertarian communications expert). For information, call: (702) 260-8328.

■ April 29, 2000

Alaska LP Convention, Westin Alyeska Prince Hotel, Girdwood. Speakers TBA. Activities include electing officers, choosing LP National Convention delegates, and endorsing LP candidates. For information, contact Len Karpinski: libertarian@ak.net.

■ April 29, 2000

New York LP Convention, Royal Regency Hotel, Yonkers. Speakers include Robert Schulz (All-County Taxpayers Association), Lawrence Parks (Foundation for Monetary Education), Carol LaGrasse (Property Rights Foundation), and Steven Landsburg (*Salon* columnist). For information, call Audrey Capozzi at (631) 286-7631. E-mail: Audeo@aol.com. Or visit: www.ny.lp.org.

■ April 29-30, 2000

Washington LP Convention, Doubletree Inn, Bellevue. Speakers include Richard Sanders (State Supreme Court Justice), Peter Weissbach (radio talk show host), Larry Dodge (FIJA), Declan McCullagh (Wired.com), David Nolan (LP founder), Alan Gottlieb (Second Amendment Foundation), Tim Slagle (comedian), and Mike Siegel (radio talk show host). For information, contact Carol Miller: director@LPWS.org. Or call: (206) 329-5669.

■ May 5-7, 2000

Ohio LP Convention, Holiday Inn West (Hilliard), Columbus. Speakers include Harry Browne and Don Gorman (LP presidential candidates), Gary Nolan (radio talk show host), Carl Upchurch (author, *Convicted in the Womb*), George Getz (LP Press Secretary), Jim Damask (Buckeye Institute), Steve Stephens (*Columbus Dispatch*), and Mike Jones (Dale Carnegie Institute). For information, call: (614) 444-2493. E-mail: Bruedigam@yahoo.com.

■ May 6, 2000

Virginia LP Convention, Fredericksburg Holiday Inn North, Fredericksburg. Speakers include David Boaz (Cato Institute), Gary Reams (U.S. Senate candidate), Steve Dasbach (LP National Director), and Jim Lark (advisor, student Liberty Coalition). For information, visit: www.LPVA.com.

■ May 12-14, 2000

Indiana LP Convention, Quality Inn South, Indianapolis. Speakers include Don Gorman and Harry Browne (candidates for LP presidential nomination), Phil Miller (Greenfield City Council), Barbara Goushaw (LP campaign manager), and Ken Bisson (LNC member). For information, call: (800) 388-1776.

■ May 13, 2000

Wisconsin LP Convention, Embassy Suites Hotel, Brookfield. Speakers include Harry Browne (2000 LP presidential candidate), Eric O'Keefe (author, *Who Rules America*) and Gary Aldrich (author, *Unlimited Access*). For information, call Bob Collison: (262) 782-6957. E-mail: LPWichair@aol.com. Or visit: www.lpwi.org.

■ May 13, 2000

Arkansas LP Convention, Best Western Inn Town, Little Rock. Speakers TBA. For information, call Rodney Wimberly: (870)862-6856. Or e-mail: livefree@arkansas.net.

The MailBox

Continued from Page 25

cannot be a Libertarian, even though I personally would be opposed to such a ban.

All Libertarians agree to a ban on letting mothers kill their children above a particular age. They only disagree on what that age should be.

Many would set that age at zero (birth), while others would move it some months earlier. This difference in the precise value may have significant religious implications, but it certainly does not constitute a fundamental difference in political ideology.

It is counterproductive to be alienating members who espouse basic party principles, just over a discrepancy of nine months or less. We should instead welcome them with open arms.

— **BRADLEY BOBBS**
Van Nuys, California

■ Reducing abortions

There is a controversy over whether the Libertarian Party

should be "Pro-Choice" or "Pro-Life." Libertarians should definitely be "Pro-Choice," but the public needs to be educated in order to see that as the best option! Recently I was talking to a lady who told me that she was against legal abortions. I asked her if that meant that she was for "back-alley" abortions performed by people who may have no more medical expertise than I did, and she told me that she was simply "Pro-Life."

The natural law of supply and demand overrules any laws made by man, and if there is a demand someone must provide a supply at an agreed-upon price. Therefore as long as there is any demand for abortions, somebody must satisfy that demand!

Many people believe the significant drop in crime in recent years is due to the fact that most people in the age category that is most prone to commit crime have all reached that age since the Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abor-

tions in this country. It is suspected by many that the drop in crime is due to fewer people growing up as unwanted children. Unwanted children are much more likely to grow up to be criminals!

The Libertarian Party should remain "Pro-Choice" and work to educate people that this is the best way to reduce abortions!

— **DUANE GRINDSTAFF**
Kent, Washington

■ Stick with the LP

I just saw Mark Stryker's letter in February's LP News, and I could not agree more: Putting bumper stickers on our vehicles is an excellent idea.

If we had bumper stickers on 100% of our cars, we would rival the small percentage of Republicrats and Demopublicans who display stickers on their cars. This would build on our credibility along with our many candidates to emerge as the only viable third party.

This would also allow us to steal the nominal converts to other third parties as they become more discouraged.

— **KEN MACCUTCHEON**
Lebanon, Ohio

Choice (and freedom) in education

Continued from Page 26

government out of the way and let families purchase the services they want."

There are two immediate ways to offer such choice: Tax credits or vouchers.

Tax credits are the most popular with Libertarians. In fact, the Libertarian Party platform supports "tax credits for tuition and other expenditures related to an individual's education" as an "interim measure to encourage the growth of private schools and variety in education."

Tax credits are also the simplest solution. Parents would receive dollar-for-dollar tax credits from the government for any money they spend on education. It's not a "hand-out" — parents just get their own money back, to spend as they choose, at the school of their choice.

Controversial

Vouchers — government-provided coupons for education spending to be used at the school of parents' choice — are more controversial because many Libertarians fear the government will infiltrate and co-opt voucher-funded private schools.

It's a reasonable fear. As John Stuart Mill noted, "state education is a mere contrivance for molding people to be exactly like one another; and as the mold in which it casts them is that which pleases the predominant power in the government."

But Joseph L. Bast and David Harmer claim, in *Vouchers and Educational Freedom*, that "fear

HOMESCHOOLERS

*average 70 points
higher on SAT
tests than public
school students.*

of greater government control of private schools is misplaced, because state governments may already regulate private schools at will. State governments can and often do mandate curricula, hours of study, qualifications of teachers, facilities, student evaluation, and other intimate details of private schooling."

So vouchers would increase parents' options, but not necessarily increase government control, they argue.

But whether vouchers are good or bad, there are "far better options than 'vouchers or nothing,'" Douglas D. Dewey writes in *Separating School and State*.

For example, he argues, the first steps toward educational liberation should be repealing compulsory attendance laws, taking away the state's power to "establish curricula or define a school," starting private neighborhood schools, and educating children at home.

And that final notion — education at home — is another popular interim solution. According to homeschooling expert Isabel

Lyman, at least 750,000 American children are currently educated at home, and the number has grown rapidly, from just 50,000 in 1985.

"The rise of homeschooling reflects broadening dissatisfaction with formal education in the United States," Lyman writes.

There are four reasons why parents homeschool, she found: Dissatisfaction with public schools, the desire to freely impart religious values, academic excellence, and the building of stronger family bonds.

Surprisingly, there is no homeschooling class division, with "Americans of different races, socioeconomic backgrounds, and religions" equally likely to teach at home, Lyman found. And socialization isn't a problem; a 1992 University of Florida study found homeschooled children just as socially developed as their public school peers.

"Bang for the buck"

Finally, "homeschoolers get more bang for the buck," wrote Lyman. A 1999 survey showed homeschools scoring on average 70 points higher on the SAT, while the Department of Education wrote that "virtually all the available data show that the group of homeschooled children who are tested is above average."

No, homeschooling wouldn't be the best choice for every parent. But moving in a Libertarian direction — and offering more options to free students from failed public schools — would be the best possible educational choice for millions of American parents.

BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

For information about advertising in the LP News "Business Card Directory," call (202) 333-0008 Ext. 226. PLEASE NOTE: Any literature sold on this page reflects the personal political and/or so-

cial beliefs of the authors. It does not represent the "official" Platform positions — or political strategies — of the Libertarian Party. In addition, the Libertarian Party makes no guarantees about, or

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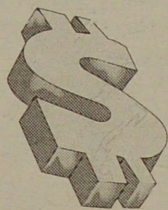
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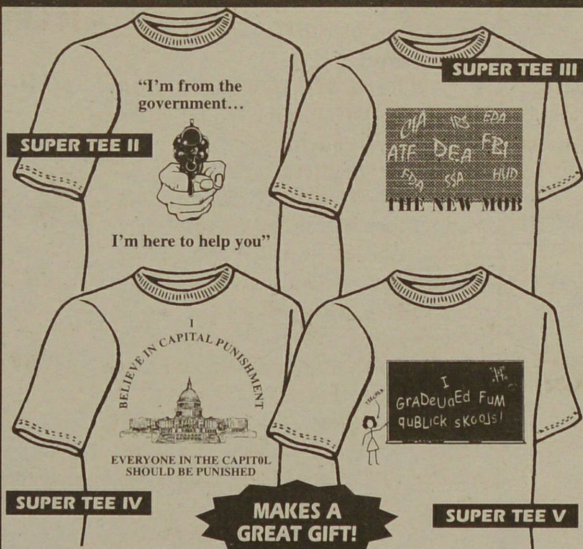
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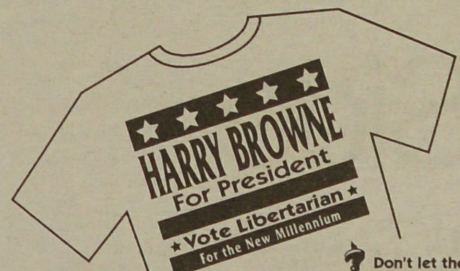
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UpComing

■ March 31-April 2, 2000

Pennsylvania LP Convention, Holiday Inn, King of Prussia. Speakers include Harry Browne and Don Gorman (LP presidential candidates), Nadine Strossen (President, ACLU), and Vin Súprynowicz (author, *Send In the Waco Killers*). For information, contact Tim Moir at: TJMoir@aol.com. Call: (215) 546-4509. Or visit: www.lp2000.com/paconv

■ April 1, 2000

Tennessee LP Convention, Wyndham Garden Hotel, Nashville. Speakers TBA. For more information, call Charles Wilhoit at: (423) 448-6493. E-mail: likelytn@aol.com. Website: lptn.org.

■ April 1, 2000

Mississippi LP Convention, Hilton Hotel, Jackson. Speakers TBA. For information, call: (601) 362-2923.

■ April 1-2, 2000

2000 Freedom Rally, Atrium Hotel, Irvine, California. Sponsored by the Freedom Law School and the Orange County LP. Speakers include Congressman Ron Paul (R-TX), Joe Banister (former IRS Special Agent), Richard Mack (former Arizona Sheriff), Ed Griffin (author, *The Creature from Jeckyl Island*), Richard Boddie (1994 LP candidate for U.S. Senate, California), Steve Hempfling (Director, Free Enterprise Society), Steve Kubby (1998 LP candidate for governor, California), and Larry Dodge (FIJA). Prices: \$35 to \$60. For information, call: (714) 838-2896. Website: www.freedomlaw.org.

■ April 2, 2000

Nebraska LP Convention, Sheraton Four Point Hotel, Omaha. Speakers include Ed Jaksha (anti-bond activist). For information, contact Andrew Sullivan: chair@lpne.org. Or call: (402) 899-7877.

■ April 8, 2000

Maine LP Convention, Embassy Suites Hotel, Portland. Speakers include Harry Browne (2000 LP presidential candidate), Sue Blevins (president, Institute for Health Freedom), Scott Fish (editor, www.asmainegoes.com), Eli Israel (State Chair, Massachusetts LP), Carla Howell (Massachusetts U.S. Senate candidate), and Michael Cloud (LP communications expert). For information, call: (207) 780-1776. E-mail: mcenci@mindspring.com. Or visit: www.lpmaine.com.

■ April 8, 2000

Kansas LP Annual Meeting & Nominating Convention, Four Points Sheraton Hotel, Wichita. Speakers include Steve Dasbach (LP National Director). For information, call Steven A. Rosile: (316) 618-1339. Or e-mail: sarasile@worldnet.att.net.

■ April 8, 2000

Alabama LP Convention, Radisson Hotel, Birmingham. Speakers include: Dr. Jimmy Blake (Birmingham city councilman), Richard Dixon (radio talk show host), and Mike Vanderboegh (Second Amendment activist). For more information, contact Mike Rster: (205) 595-1679. E-mail: Gallatin76@aol.com.

■ April 8-9, 2000

Minnesota LP Convention, Mystic Lake Casino Hotel, Prior Lake. Speakers include Gary Nolan (syndicated radio talk show host), Mary Ruwart, Ph.D. (author, *Healing Our World*), Ed Contoski (author, *Makers and Takers*), Tonie Nathan (1972 LP Vice Presidential candidate), and Ed Anderson (CEO, Taxi 2000). For information, call Charles Test: (612) 874-8531. Or visit: www.lpmn.org/conv2000.

For more Upcoming Events, see page 30.

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1st Word

"When it comes to ideological consistency, the Libertarians certainly can claim bragging rights with their agenda for rolling back government and respecting individual liberty."
— THE GAZETTE (Colorado Springs, CO), February 16, 2000

"Libertarian thought pivots on [government] leaving the individual alone economically and morally as well. It places more responsibility on the individual than any other political philosophy. And if you mess up, you must take responsibility for your decisions. What could be more honest and straightforward? In my opinion, libertarian thinking is best suited by far for the coming years. Leave people alone as much as possible and you will be amazed at what they produce."

— ALLAN SAXE, *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* (Texas),
January 10, 2000