

STUFF THAT SEEMED INTERESTING AT THE TIME

Hello Family and Friends:

...another Sunday...

...and...

...some Stuff that Seemed Interesting at the Time...

All the best...

Don

STUFF TABLE OF CONTENTS

This week our curiosity brings us to:

| STUFF THAT SEEMED INTERESTING AT THE TIME | 1 |
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| STUFF TABLE OF CONTENTS | 1 |
| QUICK COMMENTS ON THIS WEEK'S STUFF | 2 |
| REMINDER ON DONTURNER.WORDPRESS.COM STUFF | 2 |
| THE GIPPER HAS RETURNED – IN DRAG – STUFF | 2 |
| <i>Wow, What a Week!</i> | 2 |
| <i>Win-Win-Win-Win Scenario in the Making.</i> | 3 |
| <i>Ronald Reagan in a Dress.....</i> | 3 |
| <i>What is Next</i> | 4 |
| <i>Barack Hussein Obama – the Savior of Socialism – and Voting Present</i> | 5 |
| <i>Bottom Line, It is Now Time!</i> | 5 |
| WHO IS SARAH PALIN – A PRIMER STUFF | 6 |
| TED NUGENT ON PALIN – AN OLD ROCKER SPEAKS STUFF | 9 |
| <i>Sarah Palin Is My Girl.....</i> | 9 |
| <i>Motor City Madman on the 2nd Amendment.....</i> | 11 |
| SARA PALIN – THE FUTURE OF CONSERVATISM STUFF | 11 |
| WHO IS SARAH PALIN FROM A RESIDENT STUFF | 14 |
| NEAL BOORTZ AND MUSLIM CALL ON MUSLIM OUTRAGE STUFF | 16 |
| MEDIA HYPOCRISY – DO YOU KNOW THE PELOSI KIDS STUFF | 17 |
| NEWT GINGRICH ON SARA PALIN VIDEO STUFF | 17 |
| QUICK HISTORY LESSON – DEMOCRATS SPEAK OUT ON THE WAR STUFF | 17 |
| THE CASE AGAINST BARACK OBAMA BOOK STUFF | 17 |
| PRESIDENT GEORGE W BUSH RESIGNATION SPEECH STUFF | 18 |
| DID YOU KNOW IRAQI STUFF | 21 |
| GLENN BECK ON MCCAIN PICKING PALIN | 23 |
| PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT – RULES FOR NONMILITARY FOLKS STUFF | 26 |
| DEMOCRATS IN TROUBLE STUFF | 27 |
| FINAL THOUGHT STUFF | 28 |
| EXPLANATORY – YET POIGNANT - DISCLAIMER | 30 |

QUICK COMMENTS ON THIS WEEK'S STUFF

Yep, always cover politics, but then I throw in trivia, science, poetry, and anything else eclectic that comes across my synapses during the week.

However, this week is all about politics folks – too important right now.

Besides, this week was a week where the whole character of the Presidential race changed with a simple act of John McCain picking Sara Palin to be his Vice Presidential candidate. The Left is still reeling from this one and is fumbling to come up with intelligible responses other than "...what..what...but..but..how..what..why..."

Interesting times boys and girls – interesting times.

REMINDER ON DONTURNER.WORDPRESS.COM STUFF

Folks, as I've mentioned before, "Stuff" now sits up every Sunday – give or take - at the following URL:

<http://donturner.wordpress.com/>

Typically "out there" by noon on Sundays – sometimes earlier, sometimes later.

Presently, I send out a blind cc from one of my gmail accounts to notify folks – but this often gets "kicked out" as potential SPAM by some of the Corporate and AOL filters. That is the reason I don't send it from my primary account.

Therefore, though I will continue to send a "bcc" to folks on my mailing list over time I would suggest you simply check that site for the latest or learn how to establish a RSS feed.

THE GIPPER HAS RETURNED – IN DRAG – STUFF**Wow, What a Week!**

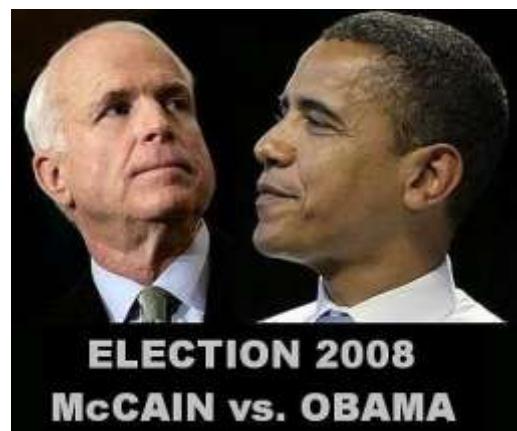
I went from being depressed that so many Americans don't care about substance any more when the vote for the most important position in the land is at hand.

I was despondent that media hype could elect the Leader of the Free World.

I was forlorn in considering what our country had sunk to.

That a man with so little substance and accomplishments but who has a rock star following could actually have a real chance to reside in the White House.

That a man who has lied about his past and won't tell the truth about his future. A future where his intentions would alienate mainstream Democrats who don't want to resurrect the old Soviet Union on our soil. A man even they would simply consider him too radical if they knew his true purpose.



...and then Sarah Palin came into my life.

This lady rocks!

Intelligence, values, mores, a “make it happen” woman who can hunt dinner, field strip it and fry it up in a pan!

She has a short political career but the tenor of her accomplishments point to just the person we need in the White House.

ED: Okay, look I’m a guy and if I don’t say it then the credibility of my comments are somewhat tainted so I’ll say it – SHE IS ALSO HOT!

Win-Win-Win-Win Scenario in the Making

If things go right she will become the first woman American President in four to eight years!

This is a win-win-win-win scenario.

- McCain gets in office at a time when we need a proven leader who won’t put up with any BS from our enemies and our Congress. A man who has been labeled a “Maverick” for doing what’s right not what is convenient or self-serving. A man who scares the hell out of our enemies and probably has the same effect to those pork-belly politico’s in DC. Loved his comment about if anybody puts a pork-belly legislation in front of him he will not only veto it, he will make their name famous across the land! Love it!
- She follows him – gets four to eight years of additional seasoning in DC and ascends to the Presidency. Meanwhile her husband sets up a hunting operation at Camp David and charges \$100,000/day to “Hunt where the President Hunts” and that will help our economy for sure.
- Barack does not get a chance to socialize our country and ends up spending the rest of his days lamenting about why Americans can’t learn to love Communists with Biden, Kerry, Kennedy, and Reid – Pelosi would be invited to the discussion but she ends locking her face in shock about what has happened and can no longer move her jaw.
- Hillary goes into shock, has a nervous breakdown and spends the rest of her life in a padded room muttering “it was supposed to be me...it was supposed to be me...it was” Meanwhile, Bill moves to Dubai and takes up permanent residence and tells his friends, “did you know this is the part of the world that INVENTED harems?!”



All in all, I like how this is shaping up boys and girls. Now, we need to get the message out that it is now a time for substance, character, truth, action, and change that actually happens and is not empty rhetoric from someone hoping to get elected on a catchy jingle.

Ronald Reagan in a Dress

Gipper, I miss you, I really do...

...and then...



...Sarah Palin was hailed as “Ronald Reagan in a dress” yesterday — by the former President’s son. Michael Reagan, 63, said watching the vice-presidential hopeful was like seeing “my dad reborn — only this time he’s a she”.

Palin’s stirring speech at the Republican convention on Wednesday night was watched by 40 million people across the US.

Now Michael Reagan - a broadcaster and writer whose father was President from 1981 to 1989 - said: “I’ve been trying to convince my fellow conservatives that they have been wasting their time in a fruitless quest for a new Ronald Reagan.

“I insisted he was one of a kind. I was wrong!”

Describing Palin’s speech as “electrifying”, he added: “Welcome back, Dad, even if you’re wearing a dress and bearing children this time around.”

The 44-year-old mum of five — dubbed the Pitbull in Lipstick after being chosen as John McCain’s running mate for the November 4 election — laid into Democrat candidate Barack Obama in St Paul, Minnesota.

Reagan added: “This was Ronald Reagan at his best. She proved she was everything, and even more, than John McCain told us.”

What is Next

The Left is already arguing that the argument of “inexperience” is no longer a valid point of contention when evaluating Barack Hussein Obama – the Savior of Socialism. Fine, we’ll run our Number Two against your Number One and we’ll still your butt based on:

- Consistency of character – this woman doesn’t change her mind from stump speech to stump speech
- Honesty – hey, here family has its issues along with everyone else – as a wise man once said the only families that are NOT dysfunctional are the ones you haven’t met yet. Obama has lied about his Father, his step-Father, his friends, his pastor.
- Values – the woman has a strong sense of values that will resonate with the heartland of the country – heck we are never going to be able to rationalize the nuts on the two coasts who don’t stand for anything and fall for everything (ED: don’t believe me, they have fallen for Barack Hussein Obama – the Savior of Socialism)
- Common Sense – her actions in albeit short tenure as Governor of Alaska demonstrate that she is in touch with her people – she has the highest approval rating of any Governor in the land.

I could go on and on but the woman has more Executive Experience than any of the candidates.

Oh, and yea she has had some experience in something like a “Community Organizer” but in her case she actually had responsibilities ☺

Barack Hussein Obama – the Savior of Socialism – and Voting Present

By the way, did you know that Barack Hussein Obama – the Savior of Socialism – has voted “present” so many times that there is actually a website dedicated to his “Present, but not voting” standard operating procedure? LOL, I kid you not Virginia.

www.votepresent.com

Voting Present is an option Barack Obama invoked nearly 130 times as a state senator. 130 out of 4000 votes during his 8 year tenure as a state senator from 1997 to 2004. He was first elected in 1996 and left in 2004.

An examination of Illinois records shows at least 36 times when Mr. Obama was either the only state senator to vote present or was part of a group of six or fewer to vote that way.

Obama's history of voting "present" in Springfield - even on some of the most controversial and politically explosive issues of the day - that raises questions that he will need to answer. Voting "present" is one of three options in the Illinois Legislature (along with "yes" and "no"), but it's almost never an option for the occupant of the Oval Office.

We aren't talking about a "present" vote on whether to name a state office building after a deceased state official, but rather about votes that reflect an officeholder's core values.

"There is a special place in hell reserved for those who in a time of conflict, a time requiring decisive thought refused to take a side, to make a decision" ~ d. hedley turner

The problem is that if you actually decide to vote “yea” or “nay” that presents several problems for you – particularly if you have higher ambitions:

- You will actually have to defend your vote
- Your vote may not be the right vote in the future when your constituency may have changed their minds

Bottom Line, It is Now Time!

It is now time for substance to rule the day.

For character to be the standard.

For ideas – founded in the core values of this Country’s wonderfully rich history – to come forth and to be tried, tested, and vetted against what this grand land of our Founding Fathers needs, wants, and stands for.

It is now time.

It is now time for small town Americans – who cling to their Faith and guns – to come forth and shout out “ENOUGH IS ENOUGH, WE ARE TAKING OUR COUNTRY BACK AGAIN!!!”

We are going back to the basics of “In God We Trust” and “God Bless America” and put a stop to this erosion of our founding principles by lawyers, leftists, and lunatics.

And if you don’t think you are “Small Town”, well with my respect to Jewel’s version of the old Lynard Skynard song “Sweet Home Alabama”...

..“you don’t have to be from a small town, being small town is a frame of mind”

It is now time.

It is now time for Washington to realize that they were sent there by us, to work for us, and our best interests. It is now time to stop worrying about reelection and power bases and start paying attention to a bloated, over-taxing, monstrosity of government that is penny wise and pound foolish.

It is now time to tear down the Washington bureaucracy that has so large and self-sustaining that no one really knows how to manage it – much less change it.

It is now time.

It is now time for this country to have a Leader that can bring back the Reaganesque view that our country is pretty damn great and we won't put up with anything from anybody that tries to make it otherwise.

It is now time.

It is now time for President McCain and Vice President Palin to take over, take names, and kick butt in Washington!

It is now time.

WHO IS SARAH PALIN – A PRIMER STUFF

The primer on Sarah Palin

September 7, 2008

So what's true and not true about Republican vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin? There are lots of reports out there about the 44-year-old Alaska governor. We went through them to help sort out what's known about the candidate. A deeper look, with Internet links, appears here.

Sarah Palin résumé

- Alaska governor: December 2006-present
- Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission chair: 2003-04
- Wasilla, Alaska, mayor: 1996-2002
- Wasilla City Councilwoman: 1992-96

She's cast as a reformer who takes on entrenched interests and ferrets out waste and corruption. After winning the governor's office, she sold the state jet and takes credit for passing state ethics legislation and getting additional tax money from oil companies. She has a sky-high approval rating, with 86% of Alaskans saying in May that they had a favorable view of her, according to Anchorage's KTUU-TV.



SOCIAL CONSERVATIVE

Baptized Catholic, she grew up in the Pentecostal church and now attends nondenominational Wasilla Bible Church.

She opposes abortion in all cases unless the mother's life is at risk. She opposes stem-cell research.

She has opposed funding what she calls explicit sex-education programs in Alaska and supports abstinence-only programs, which urge teens to refrain from having sex until marriage.

"Palin has been a champion for school choice, including vouchers and homeschooling," the Wall Street Journal reported.

EARMARKS

Palin told her Republican convention audience that "I told the Congress, 'thanks but no thanks' on that bridge to nowhere."



Associated Press/Heath family photo

In this undated photo, Palin rides a vehicle with her daughter Piper in Alaska.

This \$398-million proposed bridge connecting Ketchikan, Alaska, to an island that has 50 residents and an airport became a symbol for wasteful earmarks. Palin consistently endorsed the bridge in 2006 when she was running for governor. After taking office, she ended the project.

By then, Congress had already removed the earmark specifying that money already allocated for the bridge be used that way. In ending the project, Palin wrote, "We are about \$329-million short of full funding ... and it's clear that Congress has little interest in spending any more money. Much of the public's attitude toward Alaska bridges is based on inaccurate portrayals of the projects here. But we need to focus on what we can do, rather than fight over what has happened."

Palin reduced the state government's requests for special projects this year to 31 earmarks totaling \$198 million. Still, that's \$295 per Alaskan, first among states per-capita; other states got just \$34 worth of local projects per person this year, on average, according to Citizens Against Government Waste, a Washington-based watchdog group.

As mayor of Wasilla, Palin hired a private lobbyist to secure earmarks. The town obtained 14 earmarks totaling \$27 million between 2000 and 2003, according to data compiled by Taxpayers for Common Sense, another watchdog group.

ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT

Oil fuels Alaska's economy and the state's cut have led to a \$5-billion treasury surplus. As governor, Palin raised taxes on oil companies as part of a deal to help update Alaska's formula for extracting royalties from crude production.

She goes further than Republican presidential nominee John McCain in calling for greater oil exploration, supporting drilling in the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, an idea that is anathema to environmentalists. She is widely credited with reviving a long-stalled effort to build a natural gas pipeline from Alaska's Prudhoe Bay energy fields to the Lower 48 states.

She has defended Alaska's right to shoot down wolves from the air to boost caribou and moose herds for hunters, and -- contrary to a view held by McCain -- is not convinced that global warming is the result of human activity.



She has sued the Bush administration over its conclusion that unless polar bears are protected, they face eventual extinction because of disappearing sea ice as the result of global warming.

However, Grist.org reported: "Even environmentalists praise her for taking on political corruption related to the oil and gas industry. And other observers note that Palin has gone to battle against Big Oil on a number of issues, most notably pushing through a big tax increase on oil companies last year."

MAYORAL TENURE

The hockey rink: Her signature project as Wasilla mayor was the construction of the city's new hockey rink and sports complex. Voters approved a \$15-million bond issue and boosted the sales tax to pay off the bonds. However, Palin's administration didn't have legal title to the land. The matter ended up in court, and the city ultimately paid hundreds of thousands of dollars in interest and legal fees. "Wasilla isn't broke, but that put a big dent in our reserve," said City Councilwoman Dianne Woodruff, a Palin critic.

Library question: Early in her tenure she asked the library director about censoring books in the library's collection. The town's Frontiersman newspaper said Palin didn't ask about specific books. "I told her clearly, I will fight anyone who tries to dictate what books can go on the library shelves," library director Mary Ellen Emmons told the paper in 1996.

Palin later described her inquiry as rhetorical and a way to get to know the city employees.

Emmons soon was among a group of employees Palin sought to fire but was allowed to keep her job. A letter circulated to newspapers, including the Free Press, by Wasilla resident Anne Kilkenny said Emmons kept her job because residents rallied to her support.

Palin early in her tenure did fire Wasilla's police chief, the finance director, city planner and other department heads. "I do not feel I have your full support in my efforts to govern the City of Wasilla," the Journal reported that she wrote to Police Chief Irl Stambaugh. Palin told the Anchorage Daily News then that the letters to department heads were a test of loyalty.

POLICE CONTROVERSY

Palin is under investigation by the Legislature over the dismissal of the state's public safety commissioner, Walt Monegan, who alleges he was pressured to fire her ex-brother-in-law from his state trooper job. Palin denies pressuring Monegan. The state police union said it will file a

complaint against her regarding the disclosure of the trooper's private information. Palin has said her sister's ex-husband, Mike Wooten, constituted a legitimate threat to her family.

ETHICS REFORM

Palin on her first day as governor appeared at a news conference with the former leader of the Democratic minority in the Senate to unveil an "Ethics White Paper" calling for a clampdown on questionable dealings by lawmakers, the Journal said.



"I and others were completely taken aback," Lyda Green, a fellow Republican and senator from Wasilla told the Journal. "It was a strange thing to do on the first day she got here, and a lot of us thought it was just kind of a slap in the face."

After Palin's speech Wednesday, the Anchorage Daily News noted: "She mentioned leading the charge for ethics reform but didn't note

that Alaska's new ethics laws drew heavily on work Democrats had done before she took office."

ALASKAN INDEPENDENCE PARTY

Palin, a registered Republican since 1982, was never a member of the Alaskan Independence Party, which advocates a vote that could allow the state to secede. The Independence Party had incorrectly claimed Palin as a member from 1994-96.

Her husband, Todd Palin, registered as a member of the Alaskan Independence Party in 1995, remaining a member for all but two months of the next seven years, until he registered as an undeclared voter in July 2002.

Sources: Associated Press, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Reuters, McClatchy-Tribune Information Service, factcheck.org and other reports cited.

TED NUGENT ON PALIN – AN OLD ROCKER SPEAKS STUFF

The Motor City Madman has hit it right on the nail folks. Quite an article from the Old Rocker – Ted Nugent!

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Sarah Palin Is My Girl

by Ted Nugent

With grave suspicion and reservations, I nonetheless rejoice that the fading embers of conservatism may have indeed caught fire once more. That fireball is Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, I pray the next Vice President of the United States. Now I know why I have seen no one with

any guts in the Republican Party in so long: the governor of Alaska has them all. Her speech last night was clearly a grand slam out-of-the-park home run. America, we have liftoff!

By selecting Gov. Palin to be his running mate, Sen. McCain has finally electrified the conservative base -- the very base he desperately needs to defeat Sen. Obama in November. I, for one, am greatly relieved and inspired by her message, delivery, confidence, poise, class and grace.

To borrow a relative quote from Michelle Obama, with the selection of Gov. Palin, it's the first time in quite some time that I'm proud of the Republican Party.

Gov. Palin is a true outsider, a real maverick. She lacks Washington, D.C. political experience. That's good. No, that's excellent. It is her lack of D.C. political experience that is the refreshing outsider change America so desperately needs and wants.



Palin made it clear that she is like the rest of us, noting how Fedzilla is bloated, broken, ineffective, and wasteful. Our professional politicians no longer work for us, but instead represent K Street bandit lobbyists. These scoundrels deserve our scorn, anger and contempt, and, quite honestly, a big, old pink slip, and Sarah appears to be the tough leader we seek to get the job done.

The level of disgust and distrust across America is appalling and, I believe, unprecedented. A recent poll indicated the Nancy Pelosi-led Congress' approval rating is at an abysmal record low of nine percent. That it is even that high shows how clueless and disconnected the lunatic fringe is.

America needs more outsiders in Washington, D.C. now more than ever. We need more tough, standup hockey moms like Governor Sarah Palin. We need more ordinary Americans to springboard from small city councils to the halls of congress and beyond. We need welders, cops, teachers, ditch diggers, business people, construction workers, secretaries, auto mechanics, and guitar slingers to come to Washington, D.C. and replant the good old "We the People" tree.

Americans need to replace the professional politicians who have rigged and ruined the system to exclude ordinary citizens from participating in this experiment in self-government. My advice is to get angry and vote them all out. The professional punk politicians are the problem, not the solution.

We need fewer lawyers in Washington. Lawyers have created a masturbatory legal system by raping our justice system. It's refreshing to see that neither Sen. McCain nor Gov. Palin is a lawyer. This could be a good start back towards an experiment in self-government. Count me in.

We need fewer bureaucrats who accomplish nothing but sustaining and growing Fedzilla. Bureaucrats create reams of regulations, rules, and requirements that strangle innovation and punish producers. I expect Vice President Palin to lead the charge with a battering ram to smash in the bureaucratic doors that impede progress instead of enabling it. I had a bumper crop of crowbars this year. I'll donate them all to those willing to swing them.

It's wrong to suggest that just because Gov. Palin is not a career D.C. politician that she lacks the experience and intelligence to lead the nation. She clearly has more executive management experience than Sen. Obama, who has zero experience at running anything. He's not qualified to run an all-night donut shop, much less America.

Gov. Palin is an executive. The mark of an effective executive is to surround herself with bright, talented, capable professionals who share her vision to accurately represent the people they work for: Americans. Chief Executive Officers need to be visionary leaders, not tacticians who

micromanage. Her experience demonstrates she is prepared to lead if necessary.



Gov. Palin represents real hope and change. In her case, hope and change are not simply hollow words. As a city councilwoman, mayor and governor, she has achieved tangible results. She exudes energy and passion, has the experience and the skills, and is ready for the job. I couldn't be more excited for America.

In addition to her executive experience, and based on unbiased, genuine research, Gov. Palin concludes that global warming is a fraud, supports drilling for oil in the Arctic National

Wildlife Refuge, hunts and fishes, and is a member of the National Rifle Association. What's not to like?

Those pundits and Fedzilla fanatics who proclaim Gov. Palin has no experience to run the country are the very punks who want to continue to feed Fedzilla. They advocate taking more of our paychecks, wasting more of hard earned money, and not being held accountable. I would like to buy these Fedzilla punks a one-way ticket on the express train to Hell.

President Reagan would surely be proud of Sen. McCain's choice of Gov. Palin to be his running mate. President Reagan's words so many years ago ring true once again: it's morning in America.

Last night, a political savior may have arrived. Ted Nugent at your service, Vice President-to-be Palin. I'm your biggest fan. Let's rock.

+++

Motor City Madman on the 2nd Amendment

By the way, this is a classic video of Ted Nugent – who is on the NRA Board of Directors – talking to a Texas Talk Show Host. The man knows how to present his views in an articulate, logical, and humorous fashion.

http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=T_QjEL0uUgo

SARA PALIN – THE FUTURE OF CONSERVATISM STUFF

Sarah Palin: it's go west, towards the future of conservatism

Her thrilling convention speech showed that the Governor of Alaska is a force to reckon with. But she might be more than that

By Gerard Baker

The best line I heard about Sarah Palin during the frenzied orgy of chauvinist condescension and gutter-crawling journalistic intrusion that greeted her nomination for vice-president a week ago came from a correspondent who knows a thing or two about Alaska.

"What's the difference between Sarah Palin and Barack Obama?"

"One is a well turned-out, good-looking, and let's be honest, pretty sexy piece of eye-candy."

"The other kills her own food."

Now we know, thanks to her triumphant debut at the Republican convention on Wednesday, that Mrs Palin not only slaughters her prey. She impales its head on a stick and parades it around for her followers to jeer at. For half an hour she eviscerated Mr Obama in that hall and did it all without dropping her sweet schoolmarm smile, as if she were handing out chocolates at the end of a history lesson.



There's a powerful danger in the sheer thrill that has followed her astonishing performance that we could get carried away with John McCain's running-mate. Some of the coverage has a hyperbolic tone to it. Not since Paris handed that apple to Aphrodite has a man's selection of a woman had such implications for the future of our civilisation.

So let's stipulate one obvious and important piece of wisdom about US elections. The choice of a vice-presidential candidate rarely makes much of a difference. The pundit class waxes historical in the excitement of the moment but usually the vice-presidential choices go back to playing second banana. However mawkishly we dwell on the mortality of the presidential contenders, it is they who determine the voters' decision.

This one, to be fair, could be different. For at least the next few weeks the press will follow Mrs Palin's present and dig deeper into her past, still hoping for some morsel of stupidity or evidence of cupidity to doom her. But in the end, barring such a discovery, this is still an Obama-McCain contest.

But let me try to explain why Mrs Palin, whatever impact she might have in November, may be a figure of real consequence in our lives.

It's partly about what she represents and partly about what she has already done, but mostly about where she and her ilk might take the Republicans - and possibly America.

It never ceases to amaze me how the Left falls again and again into the old trap of underestimating politicians whom they don't understand. From Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher to George Bush and Mrs Palin, they do it every time. Because these characters talk a bit funny and have ridiculously antiquated views about faith, family and nation, because they haven't spent time bending the knee to the intellectual metropolitan elites, they can't be taken seriously.

So the general expectation was that Mrs Palin would stumble on to the stage in high heels, clutching her sprawling, slightly odd family (five children! how weird), mispronounce the name of the Russian Prime Minister, mutter a few platitudes about God, and disappear for ever to a deafening chorus of sniggers.



No one paid much attention to the fact that she had been elected governor of a state. Or that she got to that office not because, unlike some politicians I could mention, her husband had been there before her, or because she bled continuously about glass ceilings, but by challenging the entrenched interests in her own party and beating them. In almost two years as Governor she has cleaned out the Augean stables of Alaskan Government. You don't win a statewide election and enjoy approval

ratings of more than 80 per cent without real political talent.

Never mind all that. She didn't have a passport! She was a former beauty queen! It was so axiomatic that she was a disaster that I was told by lots of savvy men - with deliciously unconscious sexism - that the real problem was what the choice said about Mr McCain and his judgment: cynical, irresponsible, clueless. It was as if Mrs Palin wasn't really a human being at all, but an article of Mr McCain's clothing that showed his poor taste, like wearing brown shoes with a charcoal suit.

So here's why she matters.

First of all she offers an opportunity for an ailing Republican party to reconnect with ordinary Americans. She's conservative, but her conservatism is not that of the intolerant, uncomprehending white male sort that has so hurt the party in recent years. She is much closer to a model of the lives of ordinary Americans - working mother, plainspoken everywoman juggling home and office - than any Republican leader in memory.

The contrast with Mr Obama is especially powerful. The very fact that Mrs Palin didn't go to elite schools but succeeded nonetheless - the very ordinariness with which she so piquantly jabbed Mr Obama on Wednesday - is what will make her so appealing to Americans. And as a pro-life conservative she debunks in one swoop the enduring myth that all women subscribe to the obligatory nostrums of radical feminism.

But there's more to it than that.



The Republicans have decided that they are not going to make the mistake Hillary Clinton made and run against the effervescent Mr Obama on the premise of experience.

Experience hasn't got Americans into a very comfortable place. They want change. Before he signed up to some of the less attractive Republican attitudes this year, Mr McCain's career had embodied that change - the anti-establishment candidate running against his own party. Now he is joined by a woman who, in her short career, has done the same thing.

Democrats think that Mr McCain, with the social conservative Mrs Palin, will launch an old-fashioned culture war at them, using her appealing manner to drive a populist assault on the familiar Republican issues of God, guns and gays.

Perhaps this Manichean interpretation will prove true. But I suspect that it misses the real appeal of the Republican team. The opportunity for McCain-Palin is not reaction, but reform - a reform rooted in a distant conservatism that could be due for a comeback

Hailing from Arizona and Alaska, the Republican ticket has a chance to rekindle a western conservatism different from the old Yankee paternalist sort or the Bible Belt version. They like their guns out there (some still kill their own food) and they are pro-life and deeply pro-America, of course. But at a time of grave challenges, the themes of economic freedom and opportunity, the resistance to the idea that government holds all the answers, could resonate with voters.

This is an election, as the Democrats have realised all along, about an America on the cusp of change. With the moose-hunting, establishment-taunting Mrs Palin at his side, Mr McCain might represent a bigger change than the one that his opponents are offering.

WHO IS SARAH PALIN FROM A RESIDENT STUFF

An email from an Alaskan native to a friend in Washington. Good Stuff!

...

Hi Judy (and everyone, I hope Judy will forward this post to , WOW..just watched Sarah Palin on TV.....what's your take on this? Do you like her as your Governor? Judy

...

Judy,

As an Alaskan resident as well as a resident of Wasilla, AK, where Sarah Palin was at one time Mayor. I can speak with confidence. Governor Sarah Palin of Alaska is exactly what she portrayed during her introduction this morning and exactly what our US Government needs. She is ethical to a fault (if there is such a thing), a refreshing change to the status-quo and as smart and determined a PERSON (gender really isn't an issue here as far as I'm concerned) as anyone could ask for at the head of government. Sarah is no "small town mayor" - she just *started out* there. As Mayor of Wasilla, she brought this "small town" through a lot of GOOD changes and left it at the end of her term having grown to the 4th largest CITY in Alaska - a lot of growth and a stronger economic base than ever before.

She has EXECUTIVE experience *running a government* (something NONE of the other candidates can actually boast, even John McCain) as Governor of Alaska and got there by

defeating the *incumbent* Republican Governor, who was definitely part of the "old school" and who WAS very much in the pocket of the big oil companies.

We in Alaska wanted change - and we got it in the person of Sarah Palin! Sarah Palin is everything she looks to be and more. Her approval rating as Governor of Alaska has been as high as 95% and is currently leveled out consistently in the upper 80 percentile throughout the state (and in both parties) - the HIGHEST approval rating of ANY sitting Governor.

Sarah has been turning around corruption in the Legislature of Alaska - turning things on their ear for that matter; cutting spending in spite of the increased income the state is currently receiving due to the high oil prices - she has insisted on putting a huge amount of the "windfall" into savings for the future rather than spending, spending, spending - and has insisted from the get-go on what she refers to as "honest, ethical and transparent governing" - no more closed door meetings and dealings - the big oil companies thought she would be a pushover and have learned better to their chagrin.

She understands the "real people" and the economic issues we all face (Alaskans along with the rest of the country) - she was one of "us" not long ago. Rather than passing useless "laws" or throwing money at pet projects, she (most recently) temporarily suspended the state gas tax (on gasoline at the pumps, fuel oil and natural gas for homes, etc.) and has ordered checks issued to ALL residents of Alaska this fall in an attempt to assist with the burden of high fuel costs for the upcoming winter. I could go on and on, but that's enough for now <smile>.

She isn't doing these things to be popular - she is doing it because her constituents are HURTING financially and she can help. She became Governor of Alaska by defeating the Incumbent Republican Governor and doing it *without* the money or the support of the Republican Party, which was amazing in itself - and she won by a landslide.

The "powers that be" at that time totally underestimated Sarah and learned better the hard way. She has done exactly what she claimed she was going to do and is just as popular today as the day she was elected - perhaps more so since even the Democrats up here seem to like her - she works well with both sides in the Legislature here. Sarah "belongs" to us (Alaskans) ... and although we are going to be terribly sorry to see her leave before she finishes the job she started here (two years ago) straightening out OUR State - we understand she is needed for a bigger purpose and hopefully her Lt. Governor will be able to fill her shoes here and continue the job.



As for worrying about what would happen if McCain were to die or step down or whatever - Theta, up here in AK we've only been wondering how long we would be able to KEEP Sarah in Alaska and have seen her as our first woman President of the USA from the start. It's always been a matter of whether she would wait until the end of her TWO terms as Governor (no doubt at ALL that she would be re-elected if she ran for a second term at the end of her current term) ... or end up in Washington sooner. She could do the job TODAY.

Personally, I feel a lot better about Mc Cain now that I know he has someone as savvy, as strong, as ethical and as steady as Sarah at his back. She will be an excellent Vice President ... and my guess is will be our US Republican Presidential candidate in four years - AND by then the country will KNOW her - will love and respect her as we do here - and she'll win by as much of a landslide as she did here in Alaska.

I only wonder if McCain has a clue what he is unleashing on the US of A. She is going to be a fresh wind, but also a strong wind.

Is that enough of an endorsement?

If not, I'll add this ... Jerry and I have for many years felt the best "vote" was to vote for the lesser of two "evils" and hope they didn't do too much damage. Two years ago during our State Governor's race was the first time EVER that we actually asked for not



just a little sign to put in our yard showing our support of our candidate (something we've never felt the desire to do at all before) - we asked for a full 4' x 8' "SARAH PALIN FOR GOVERNOR!" sign and were proud to have it. She hasn't let us or Alaska down. She will do the same for the USA if given the opportunity.

Judy, Sarah Palin is the U.S.'s answer to Margaret Thatcher! Anyone who thinks she cannot handle the job or deal briskly and efficiently with ANY issue, including foreign governments . well, they haven't met our Sarah. Feel free to pass this on to anyone who may be interested (and spam those who aren't!).

-Deb Frost in Alaska

NEAL BOORTZ AND MUSLIM CALL ON MUSLIM OUTRAGE STUFF

Folks, have published this before, but it is simply too good to not repeat. Neal Boortz, a local radio talk show personality here in Atlanta interacts with a Muslim caller and Boortz "goes off on him" in a way that captures how I feel so better than I could articulate.

Good Stuff – and definitely interesting at the time

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=G5-wgtoqFrk>

MEDIA HYPOCRISY – DO YOU KNOW THE PELOSI KIDS STUFF

THE PELOSI KIDS - San Francisco radical Nancy Pelosi is second in line for the presidency after VP Dick Cheney. As a result, her family, including her super wealthy husband and her five kids has Secret Service Protection. Do you know the names of her five kids and her husband? Have any of her kids had sex before marriage? Do you care? I don't. Although Pelosi is just two heart beats away from the presidency, there has been no public vetting of her family, yet the liberal media ravaged the family of Gov. Sarah Palin within hours of her being picked for the VP slot.

This is a true double standard – but then did we expect anything else?

NEWT GINGRICH ON SARA PALIN VIDEO STUFF

Good stuff

<http://newt.org/tabcid/193/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/3682/Default.aspx>

QUICK HISTORY LESSON – DEMOCRATS SPEAK OUT ON THE WAR STUFF

Just a reminder when you hear the lefty hypocrites regarding the war

<http://www.bercasio.com/movies/dems-wmd-before-iraq.wmv>

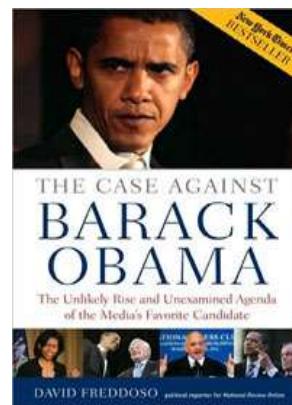
Gosh, was that our Democratic leaders?

THE CASE AGAINST BARACK OBAMA BOOK STUFF

Half way through this book

Highly recommend it, in it it you'll read:

- How Obama won his first election (to the Illinois State Senate) by having his lawyers knock all his opponents --including the black, female incumbent -- off the ballot on technicalities, so he could run unopposed
- How Obama voted to deny medical care to babies born alive after abortion -- a bill too extreme even for Nancy Pelosi (Freddoso has an exclusive interview with the nurse central to the case)
- A story Obama would like to stay buried in Chicago: How he used his clout as a U.S. Senator to save the corrupt Cook County Political Machine when reformers of both parties tried to challenge the entrenched political bosses
- How Obama's wife Michele's salary nearly tripled in 2005 -- the same year he was sworn in to the U.S. Senate and began earmarking funds for her employer
- How Obama's friendship with the hate-spewing Reverend Jeremiah Wright was no accident -- but a carefully thought out personal and political decision
- Why Obama thought his association with '60s-era terror-bomber Bill Ayers wouldn't matter -- an exposé of the insular radical chic of Chicago's Hyde Park politics



- How state Senator Obama was paid more than \$100,000 for legal work -- then helped his client's company get \$320,000 in taxpayer grants
- How, at a time when he says he was short of work and short of cash, Obama obtained \$112,000, plus campaign contributions, from someone he later made into a government grantee through his public office
- Inside Obama's 17-year relationship and irregular land deal with developer Tony Rezko, whose livelihood depended on sapping the taxpayer for subsidies
- "I've never done any favors for him," says Obama about Rezko. But he has -- lots of them, as Freddoso shows
- Why Rezko's conviction for corrupting public officials might become the Whitewater scandal of Obama's campaign
- How Obama speaks of the days when his family was making \$240,000 per year as if he had been suffering poverty -- while, just last March, he voted to raise your taxes if you make over \$32,500 per year
- The Chicago Machine politician who "made a U.S. senator" out of Obama by giving him plum committee assignments and high-profile legislation in its late stages (often removing the original sponsors), and helping him spread money around through earmarks and "targeted" grants
- How Obama avoided taking unpopular stands in the state Senate by voting "present" about 130 times -- or simply by absenting himself from tough votes altogether
- Obama's little-known vow to Planned Parenthood in July 2007 -- and why it would mean the end of every state, federal, and local regulation of abortion, and the end of all restrictions on government abortion funding
- A "new politics"? How, in less than four years as a U.S. senator, Obama has voted for some of the worst special-interest legislation to move through the chamber
- How Obama opposes school choice through vouchers or tax credits -- while sending his own children to an elite private school
- How Obama wants -- and has voted -- to abolish secret-ballot elections in the workplace when employees determine whether to unionize, allowing unions to intimidate and harass workers who don't support them
- Why Obama's foreign policy would take its cues from Jimmy Carter's
- "Post-partisan"? Why the respected National Journal named Obama the most liberal member of the United States Senate in 2007 -- beating out Barbara Boxer, Ted Kennedy, Hillary Clinton... and the previous title-holder John Kerry

PRESIDENT GEORGE W BUSH RESIGNATION SPEECH STUFF

BUSH'S RESIGNATION SPEECH

The following 'speech' was written recently by an ordinary Maine-iac [a resident of the People's Republic of Maine]. While satirical in nature, all satire must have a basis in fact to be effective. This is an excellent piece by a person who does not write for a living.

+++

The speech George W. Bush might give:

Normally, I start these things out by saying 'My Fellow Americans.' Not doing it this time. If the polls are any indication, I don't know who more than half of you are anymore. I do know something terrible has happened, and that you're really not fellow Americans any longer.

I'll cut right to the chase here: I quit. Now before anyone gets all in a lather about me quitting to avoid impeachment, or to avoid prosecution or something, let me assure you: There's been no breaking of laws or impeachable offenses in this office.

The reason I'm quitting is simple. I'm fed up with you people. I'm fed up because you have no understanding of what's really going on in the world. Or of what's going on in this once-great nation of ours. And the majority of you are too damned lazy to do your homework and figure it out.

Let's start local. You've been sold a bill of goods by politicians and the news media.

Meanwhile, all you can do is whine about gas prices, and most of you are too damn stupid to realize that gas prices are high because there's increased demand in other parts of the world, and because a small handful of noisy idiots are more worried about polar bears and beachfront property than your economic security.

We face real threats in the world. Don't give me this 'blood for oil' thing. If I were trading blood for oil I would've already seized Iraq's oil fields and let the rest of the country go to hell. And don't give me this 'Bush Lied...People Died' crap either. If I were the liar you morons take me for, I could've easily had chemical weapons planted in Iraq so they could be 'discovered.' Instead, I owned up to the fact that the intelligence was faulty.



Let me remind you that the rest of the world thought Saddam had the goods, same as me. Let me also remind you that regime change in Iraq was official US policy before I came into office. Some guy named 'Clinton' established that policy. Bet you didn't know that, did you?

Now some of you morons want to be led by a junior senator with no understanding of foreign policy or economics, and this nitwit says we should attack Pakistan, a nuclear ally. And then he wants to go to Iran and make peace with a terrorist who says he's going to destroy us. While he's doing that, he wants to give Iraq to al Qaeda, Afghanistan to the Taliban, Israel to the Palestinians, and your money to the IRS so the government can give welfare to illegal aliens, who he will make into citizens, so they can vote to re-elect him. He also thinks it's okay for Iran to have nuclear weapons, and we should stop our foreign aid to Israel. Did you sleep through high school?

You idiots need to understand that we face a unique enemy. Back during the cold war, there were two major competing political and economic models squaring off. We won that war, but we did so because fundamentally, the Communists wanted to survive, just as we do. We were simply able to out-spend and out-tech them.

That's not the case this time. The soldiers of our new enemy don't care if they survive. In fact, they want to die. That'd be fine, as long as they weren't also committed to taking as many of you with them as they can. But they are. They want to kill you, and the bastards are all over the globe.

You should be grateful that they haven't gotten any more of us here in the United States since September 11. But you're not. That's because you've got no idea how hard a small number of intelligence, military, law enforcement, and homeland security people have worked to make sure of that. When this whole mess started, I warned you that this would be a long and difficult fight. I'm disappointed how many of you people think a long and difficult fight amounts to a single season of 'Survivor.'



Instead, you've grown impatient. You're incapable of seeing things through the long lens of history, the way our enemies do. You think that wars should last a few months, a few years, tops.

Making matters worse, you actively support those who help the enemy. Every time you buy the New York Times, every time you send a donation to a cut-and-run Democrat's political campaign, well, dang it, you might just as well FedEx a grenade launcher to a Jihadist. It amounts to the same thing.

In this day and age, it's easy enough to find the truth. It's all over the Internet. It just isn't on the pages of the New York Times, USA Today, or on NBC News. But even if it were, I doubt you'd be any smarter. Most of you would rather watch American Idol or Dancing with Stars.

I could say more about your expectations that the government will always be there to bail you out, even if you're too stupid to leave a city that's below sea level and has a hurricane approaching.

I could say more about your insane belief that government, not your own wallet, is where the money comes from. But I've come to the conclusion that were I to do so, it would sail right over your heads.

So I quit. I'm going back to Crawford. I've got an energy-efficient house down there (Al Gore could only dream) and the capability to be fully self-sufficient for years. No one ever heard of Crawford before I got elected, and as soon as I'm done here pretty much no one will ever hear of it again. Maybe I'll be lucky enough to die of old age before the last pillars of America fall.

Oh, and by the way, Cheney's quitting too. That means Pelosi is your new President. You asked for it. Watch what she does carefully, because I still have a glimmer of hope that there are just enough of you remaining who are smart enough to turn this thing around in 2008.

So that's it. God bless what's left of America .

Some of you know what I mean. The rest of you, kiss off.

PS - You might want to start learning Farsi, and buy a Koran.

DID YOU KNOW IRAQI STUFF

Thanks Jan

Did you know?

I didn't know!

This is what our country has accomplished.

How could we know?

Did you know?

That 47 countries' have re-established their embassies in Iraq?

Did you know?

That the Iraqi government currently employs 1.2 million iraqi people?

Did you know?

That 3,100 schools have been renovated,

364 schools are under rehabilitation,

263 new schools are now under construction;

And 38 new schools have been completed in iraq?

Did you know?

That Iraq 's higher educational structure consists of 20 universities, 46 institutes or colleges and 4 research centers, all currently operating?

Did you know?

That 25 iraq students departed for the united states in January, 2005 for the re-established Fulbright program?

Did you know?

That the Iraqi navy is operational?

It has 5 - 100-foot patrol craft, 34 smaller vessels and a naval infantry regiment.

Did you know?

That Iraq's air force consists of three operational squadrons, which includes 9 reconnaissance and 3 us c-130 transport aircraft (under iraqi operational control) which operates day and night, and will soon add 16 uh-1 helicopters and 4 bell jet rangers?

Did you know?

That the Iraq army has a counter-terrorist unit and a commando battalion?

Did you know?

That the Iraqi police service has nearly 55,000 fully trained and equipped police officers?

Did you know?

That there are 5 police academies in Iraq that produce 3,500 new officers every 8 weeks?

Did you know?

There are more than 1,100 building projects going on in iraq?

They include 364 schools, 67 public medical clinics, 15 hospitals, 83 railroad stations, 22 oil facilities, 93 water-production facilities, and 69 electrical-distribution facilities.

Did you know?

That 96% of Iraqi children under the age of 5 have received the first 2 series of polio vaccinations?

Did you know?

That 4.3 million Iraqi children were enrolled in primary school by mid-October, 2007?

Did you know?

That there are 1,192,000 cell phone subscribers in Iraq?

(land-lines are basically non-existent.)

Did you know?

That Iraq has an independent media that consists of 75 radio stations, 180 newspapers, and 10 television stations?

Did you know?

That the Baghdad stock exchange opened in june of 2004?

Did you know?

That 2 candidates in the Iraqi presidential election had a televised debate recently?

Of course we didn't know!

Why didn't we know?

Because our media won't tell us!

Instead of reflecting our love for our country, we get photos of flag burning incidents at Abu Ghraib and people throwing snowballs at the presidential motorcades.

Tragically, the lack of accentuating the positive in iraq serves two purposes:

- It is intended to undermine the world's perception of the united states thus minimizing consequent support;
 - And it is intended to discourage american citizens.
-

Above facts are verifiable on the Department of Defense's website.

<http://www.defenselink.mil/>

GLENN BECK ON MCCAIN PICKING PALIN

I enjoyed the following clip – listen to it (transcript below) and then read what he said after.

<http://www.glenbeck.com/content/articles/article/198/14589/>

Glenn Beck: McCain picks Palin!

August 29, 2008 - 13:16 ET

Glenn Beck on Governor Palin

GLENN: From Radio City in Midtown Manhattan, third most listened to show in all of America. I may have found my pick for President. I want to explain this over the next few days. But it may be now John McCain because of Sarah Palin's experience on taking her own party on but not the way John McCain does. And if John McCain thinks he could



pick somebody like her and she will be neutralized and she would be and she would step to the plate and say, "Oh, well, now I've got my ticket, I could be, you know, the first female President or whatever." Her experience shows Sarah Palin don't play that way. This is a vice presidential pick that if she was vice president and she disagreed, I mean, if she felt things were going awry and they were losing the heart and soul of the conservative party, she just might be the kind

that would step up and say, you know what, I'm done, I'm out, he's going to have to find another vice president. We'll have to continue to look, but I'm going to give you some things that I know about Sarah Palin that I think will energize you.

We stumbled onto Sarah Palin months and months and months ago. It was right after the first of the year. I think it was April when I read about Sarah Palin, this unknown governor from Alaska, that she had just had a child with Down Syndrome. I want to play what I said on television the night we found out. Here it is.

(BEGIN AUDIO CLIP)

GLENN: 2006 not exactly a great year with Republicans with the election thing but I want to focus on the positive here, Sarah Palin. She was elected as the new governor of Alaska. I didn't even know a Republican won in the election in 2006, but she did. Sarah Palin. Impeccable record, one of the names being thrown around for possible vice presidential candidate for John McCain, but I don't want to make this about politics because it's not. Governor Palin returned to work this week, just three days after giving birth to her fifth child called Trig. The name means both true and brave victory. A spokesperson for the governor confirmed that Trig was born with Down Syndrome. Now, about the birth. Palin said Trig is beautiful, already adored by

us. We knew through early testing he would face special challenges and we feel privileged that God would entrust us with this gift and allow us unspeakable joy as he entered our lives.



I read that story today and I thought, why have we not heard about this story. Here is an incredibly accomplished, smart, powerful woman who beyond all her talents has something, it seems like no politician possesses, perspective. She understands what a gift she's been given. It's been my experience with the parents of children with special needs that God usually gives those children really as a gift to truly amazing people. Listen to her language that she used. She feels privileged that God would entrust us with this gift and allow unspeakable joy.

I have a daughter of special needs and I can tell you that there is no one in my life that I have learned more from than my daughter. No one that has such a special spirit, no one that can inspire me the way that she does. I mean, it's tough sometimes. She knows it and I know it. But she is truly an incredible gift, and I am privileged to be entrusted with her. I believe the American people generally consent when we find somebody that stands out from the crowd, somebody who is able to shine even in such a dark realm as the world of politics. That's probably why Sarah Palin is one of the most popular governors in the country. Approval ratings in the mid 80s. Sure, I'm sure she's doing a great job, but it takes something more than that, doesn't it? Something by all accounts this woman has. Congratulations, governor Palin, a happy mom for the fifth time. From New York.

(END AUDIO CLIP)

GLENN: Okay. I know I am a dad of a child with special needs, but just that story inspires me. But there is so much more to Governor Palin why do I say I might have found the person that can make me pull the lever for the Republican party? Because this woman seems to have real principles.

Let me just share some things with you. She first tried to run against the governor of Alaska, the former governor, Murkowski. She lost. Murkowski wanted to silence her. So he decides, you know what I'm going to do? I'm going to appoint her onto the as the ethics commissioner onto the Alaska oil and gas conservation commission. I'm going to give her power. Now, this is a Republican governor appointing her and giving her the head over the ethics of the Alaska oil and gas conservation commission. He figured that, "She'll be quiet because I'll give her a little taste of power. I'll show her that I'm going to bring her into the party and I'm going to appoint her and she's going to sit right next to the head of the Alaska GOP."

So she's sitting right next to the chair of the Republican party and the governor, who's a Republican, appoints. What does she do? She resigns. She not only resigns, but she resigns in a very public protest over the ethics that she saw on that, not just the ethics of that council but specifically the ethics of the head of the Republican party. People loved her. It's what I've always said about Hillary Clinton. Hillary Clinton would be President today, I don't mean she would be the nominee, she would be President today. She would have been President in 2000 if, when her husband finally said, "All right, all right, I give," if she would have calmly walked out of the White House and held a press conference that night and said, "I think Bill Clinton is an amazing President. I agree with his policies and he will always be my President because I respect him for what he's done for this country. However, a woman isn't treated like that. Over and over and over again every marriage has its problems. We've had more than our fair share. But you know what? He's lied to me for the last time, and he lied to you. You make your own decision, but as a wife, I've made my decision. You don't treat a woman like that." She would have been elected in a landslide in 2000.

What people are looking for is somebody that's not intoxicated by power. Now, on a very small level we've seen this with Sarah Palin. Is she the kind of vice president that will stand up and say, "You know what, John, you're out of your mind, you're out of your mind. This violates every conservative principle I have in my body," and she is conservative. She is conservative.

Let me give you a couple of things first before I get into those credentials. They're going to say, "You've got to be kidding me. You're showing me a governor of Alaska?" "Yeah, that's what we're showing you, governor of Alaska." She has executive experience. No one else on the ticket, no one else on the ticket has any executive they've never run anything. They've all been senators or community activists. None of them have ever run anything. She has. She's the only one with executive experience.

Now, take it a step further. Let's look at the two let's look at the two camps. One has no executive experience, and the top of the ticket is the one with the least amount of any experience. The apprentice is leading the master. You look at the McCain ticket, you've got the apprentice in the appropriate position, to learn from the master, in this case hopefully teach the master a few things. She's also young. She's also a woman. You tell me that and quite honestly I think she's kind of hot. I've seen a couple of no, I'm just sayin'. I've seen a couple where she's I've seen a couple of pictures where she's looking pretty hot. I'm just saying she's a

beautiful mom. That's all I'm saying. And Stu, do you have that confirmed that she is a beautiful mom?

STU: Yes, Glenn, she is hot. That is confirmed.

GLENN: Thank you very much. She knows how to run against all odds. This woman ran against not only the Democrat, she ran against the incumbent Republican, and she won. She won against the Republican in the primary and then she won against the Democrat. She has bipartisan appeal. She's a woman, but she's not a feminist. She's a strong woman, but she doesn't hate men. She is so pro life that when the doctors came to her and said, "Oh, boy, you've got a kid with Down Syndrome, what do you say, should we kill him?" She said, "Absolutely not." And she wouldn't allow them to perform any more tests. "We know he's going to have problems; we'll be able to deal with any of them."

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT – RULES FOR NONMILITARY FOLKS STUFF

Thanks Noel.

Rules for the Non -Military

Dear Civilians, 'We know that the current state of affairs in our great nation has many civilians up in arms and excited to join the military. For those of you who can't join, you can still lend a hand.'

Here are a few of the areas where we would like your assistance:

1. The next time you see any adults talking (or wearing a hat) during the playing of the National Anthem - kick their arse.
1. When you witness, firsthand, someone burning the American Flag in protest - kick their arse.
2. Regardless of the rank they held while they served, pay the highest amount of respect to all veterans. If you see anyone doing otherwise, quietly pull them aside and explain how these veterans fought for the very freedom they bask in every second. Enlighten them on the many sacrifices these veterans made to make this Nation great. Then hold them down while a disabled veteran kicks their arse.
3. (GUYS) If you were never in the military, DO NOT pretend that you were. Wearing battle dress uniforms (BDUs) or Jungle Fatigues, telling others that you used to be 'Special Forces,' and collecting GI Joe memorabilia, might have been okay when you were seven years old. Now, it will only make you look stupid and get your arse kicked.
4. Next time you come across an Air Force member, do not ask them, 'Do you fly a jet?' Not everyone in the Air Force is a pilot. Such ignorance deserves an arse-kicking (children are exempt).
5. If you witness someone calling the US Coast Guard 'non-military', inform them of their mistake - and kick their arse.
6. Next time Old Glory (the US flag) prances by during a parade, get on your damn feet and pay homage to her by placing your hand over your heart. Quietly thank the military

member or veteran lucky enough to be carrying her - of course, failure to do either of those could earn you a severe arse-kicking.

7. Don't try to discuss politics with a military member or a veteran. We are Americans, and we all bleed the same, regardless of our party affiliation. Our Chain of Command is to include our Commander-In-Chief (Cinc). The President (for those who didn't know) is our Cinc regardless of political party. We have no inside track on what happens inside those big important buildings where all those representatives meet. All we know is that when those civilian representatives screw up the situation, they call upon the military to go straighten it out. If you keep asking us the same stupid questions repeatedly, you will get your arse kicked!
8. 'Your mama wears combat boots' never made sense to me - stop saying it! If she did, she would most likely be a vet and therefore could kick your arse!
9. bin Laden and the Taliban are not Communists, so stop saying 'Let's go kill those Commies!' And stop asking us where he is! Crystal balls are not standard issue in the military. That reminds me- if you see anyone calling those damn psychic phone numbers, let me know, so I can go kick their arse!
10. 'Flyboy' (Air Force), 'Jarhead' (Marines), 'Grunt' (Army), 'Squid' (Navy), 'Puddle Jumpers' (Coast Guard), etc., are terms of endearment we use describing each other. Unless you are a service member or vet, you have not earned the right to use them. Using them could get your arse kicked.
11. Last, but not least, whether or not you become a member of the military, support our troops and their families. Every Thanksgiving and religious holiday that you enjoy with family and friends, please remember that there are literally thousands of soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen far from home wishing they could be with their families. Thank God for our military and the sacrifices they make every day. Without them, our country would get it's arse kicked.'

'It's the Veteran, not the reporter who has given us the freedom of the press.'

'It's the Veteran, not the poet, who has given us the freedom of speech.'

One more:

12. If you ever see anyone either standing for or singing the national anthem in Spanish - KICK THEIR arse.

'It's the Veteran, not the campus organizer, who gives us the freedom to demonstrate.'

'It's the Military who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag.'

DEMOCRATS IN TROUBLE STUFF

By DICK MORRIS & EILEEN MCGANN

Published in the The New York Post on September 5, 2008

The convention floor was abuzz all yesterday with the news of the CBS poll showing a dead tie (42-42) in the presidential race. And the poll, conducted through Wednesday, couldn't reflect

the impact of John McCain's speech, or the full impact of Sarah Palin's late Wednesday night. It reflected opinions only after the Democrats' convention, Barack Obama's incredible speech, the Palin selection and the early, Gustav-depressed GOP gathering.

That augers ill for the Democrats. Tonight's polling could bring evidence that the Obama candidacy is in big trouble.

First, the GOP convention managed to disprove the central premise of the Democratic assault on McCain: that he is a clone of President Bush. The Republicans wisely marginalized Bush to a non-prime-time videotaped speech, and sprinkled disappearing dust on Dick Cheney.

The speeches, and the very fact of the Palin designation, repudiated Washington and focused on how McCain is an agent of change - this ticket is populist, reformist, anti-establishment, grass-roots and anti-corruption.

And McCain last night made the point plain: "Let me offer an advance warning to the old, big-spending, do-nothing, me-first-country-second Washington crowd: Change is coming."

If Bush were the nominee, this campaign wouldn't suffice to push voters away from Obama. But now that McCain has moved decisively away from the administration, Obama's lost much (at least) of his advantage on the issue of reform. Now other doubts about Obama could elect McCain.

The turning point was the designation of Palin and the personal attacks on her. By stirring up a storm, Democrats assured that Palin would speak to 37 million Americans - just a million fewer than watched Obama's acceptance speech.

Anecdotal evidence already suggests that women may have a gut reaction to the establishment's sexist assault on a woman candidate - and flock to McCain. They've seen him stake everything on this one big move of turning toward a woman - in direct contrast to Obama's deliberate decision not to name a woman.

They've seen the me dia and Democrats gang up on her and do their worst. And they've seen Palin stand up and stuff the challenge right back down the establishment's throat. All this may have created an entirely new dynamic in the race.

Now the Republicans must battle to underscore the threats this country faces, economically and internationally, and that we can't let an ingenue take over. They must capitalize on McCain's aggressive determination to bring reform to Washington and to emphasize Obama's inexperience and failure to grasp how to change Washington.

But it was McCain's gutsy selection of Palin that opened the door to victory.

FINAL THOUGHT STUFF

Random Thoughts (as if I have any other)...

...wow what a week, a long week at work, and a long week for the country...

...oh by the way, here is a Dennis Miller rant from awhile back – at the early stage of the Iraq War and it is a classic – absolutely logical and rip-roaring...

<http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=Rtc-84-Pi2k&feature=related>

...music? Check out Jon Foreman on his album entitled "Fall"...what a great sound...

...okay, looks like we've got ourselves a real race here boys and girls...

...what is that? Virginia, did you raise your hand? Yes dear?

..."you have a joke for us, well, go ahead darling"

Q: What do you get when you cross a crooked politician with a crooked lawyer?

A: Barack Obama

...that's cute dear, now sit down...

...okay, where was I? Oh yea, we've got our...

...yes Virginia, oh, you have a few more – well is you must go ahead

...

Q. Why will Jimmy Carter vote for Barack Obama?

A. Because Jimmy doesn't want to be the worst President in history.



Q. Why will Senator Hillary Clinton vote for Barack Obama?

A. Because he stole the primary election fair and square.

Q. Why will Jay Leno vote for Barack Obama?

A. Because he's running out of George Bush jokes.

Q. Why will David Letterman vote for Barack Obama?

A. Because he's running out of Jay Leno's George Bush jokes.

Q. Why will Britney Spears vote for Barack Obama?

A. Because she's running out of other crazy things to do.

Q. Why will Senator Ted Kennedy vote for Barack Obama?

A. Brain tumor.

Q. How will Osama Bin Laden vote for Barack Obama?

A. Absentee ballot.

...

...very nice Virginia, now sit down and let's get back to our original programming...

...okay, as I was saying, we've got ourselves a race here and I hope that competency and commitment to the American Way rules the day...

...hmmm, what else is flittering around my mind?...

...oh yea, Paolo Nutini, he is the artist who wrote "New Shoes" but trust me, get his album "These Streets" and here a bunch of songs even better...thank me later...

...how many sunsets have you sat and watched in the past week? Month? Year? I mean REALLY watched?...

...Bubba, I'm here to tell you that if you can't fill up two hands of sunset watching in the past year then you are dying while you are living and not living while you are dying...

...Hurricane season is in full bloom, we need the errant rains from these Hurricanes up here in north Georgia but not at the expense of the loss of life and damage...

...did you know a coat hanger is 44 inches long if straightened? Have no idea where that one came from...

...????...

...okay, here is another one the Chinese ideogram for 'trouble' symbolizes 'two women living under one roof'...

...makes sense to me...

...also listened to some Bocelli this morning – love Opera...

...well folks, I'm outta here but hang on to your hats because we are going to have some fun...

...btw, out of the country next weekend so I'm to be able to publish "Stuff" from wherever I'm at...

...have a great week...and remember every day is important...if you don't believe me, just try "skipping" tomorrow...

Reflectively Yours,

Don

EXPLANATORY – YET POIGNANT - DISCLAIMER

For those new to this mailing, this Stuff memo is an ongoing email that I periodically send out for no other reason than to synthesize all the "stuff" I read as well as express my views on the world in general and life in specific.

It serves as an intellectual catharsis, an emotional catholicon, and a spiritual revivification.

Bottom line, this is simply the way that I soothe the synapses.

If you decide you don't want to receive, simply reply with a "Thank You, No Thank You" and you'll be removed from the mailing list.