

The New York Young Republican Club



The Oldest Young Republican Club
in the Country

Est. 1911

THE RECORD

Volume III, Issue 2

February 2007

Dear fellow YRs, we have a busy calendar in the month ahead, with the New York State YR's Winter Board Meeting in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. and the YR National Federation's Spring Board Meeting in New Orleans, L.A. No doubt there will be much strategizing about strengthening our Federation and how to retain the White House in 2008.

We will cover all these meetings and present to you all the pertinent discussions. In the meantime, be sure to use our blog (<http://nyyrcrecord.blogspot.com>) to stay connected and informed.

See you at the meetings!

-- Kellen and Val

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The Real Cost of the Perpetual Presidential Campaign

By Richard Brownell

There used to be a time, although most Young Republicans are too young to remember, when presidential campaigns began the year the elections took place. Republican and Democratic aspirants squared off in primaries spread throughout the spring and early summer, gathering delegates along the way to their party conventions where sometimes bitterly contested fights would ultimately decide the respective party nominees for the general election. The onset of the twenty-four-hour news cycle, blogs, the evolution of presidential politics as a science in itself, and the sophistication of modern campaign mechanics has changed all that, and we

now find ourselves in a perpetual campaign cycle.

By all accounts the 2008 presidential campaign is in full swing. There is more media coverage devoted to the Republican and Democratic candidates in February 2007 than any other issue facing our nation right now, save maybe Iraq. However, even the Iraq coverage has a tinge of campaign flavor in it, with every action taken on Capitol Hill being analyzed for its effect on the impending presidential stakes. Flip on Fox News or CNN, or tune in to any Web site or blog, and you will find interviews, editorials, and speculation about Rudy and John, Barack and Hillary, and the rest of the gang, who are already being relegated to also-ran status. With the exception of the occasional wayward former astronaut, or sad starlets laid to rest, all the talking heads can seem to focus on is who will be the Republican nominee, who will be the Democratic nominee, and whether Hillary Clinton will win the White House.

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March 24, 2007 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

King's College at the Empire State Building, 350 Fifth Ave. at 34th St.

Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

RSVP today at rsvp@nyyrc.com with "Leadership Institute" in the subject line.



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The views expressed in The Record are not those expressed by the New York Young Republican Club, the Executive Board, or the Committee Chairpersons.

N.Y. Sen. Carl Kruger introduced a bill banning use of electronic devices while crossing the street.



Cartoon by Diego Otero for the NYYRC

"[I]f you are either our ally or our enemy, you're watching the U.S. Congress begin the process of systematically undermining American foreign policy."

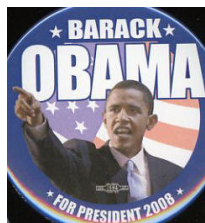
-- Newt Gingrich on "FOX News Sunday," Feb. 18, 2007

Cost of Perpetual Presidential Campaign

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We can't help but speculate about the upcoming elections. 2008 will be the first open presidential race in 80 years, which makes it historic in its own right. The deeply divided electorate could swing it in either direction right up to the final moments before the polls close on November 4, 2008. And the country faces significant challenges that will allow the next person to sit in the Oval Office to make fantastic or disastrous decisions on the war against radical Islamic fundamentalism, our economy, the future of Social Security, and a host of other issues. However, these issues are all facing us right here and now. Instead of theorizing about what the next president will do about these problems, let's focus on what this president is trying to do about them.

President George W. Bush is a lame duck, but he doesn't have to be. He hasn't thrown in the towel, nor has he decided to spend the rest of his administration just marking time. He continues to work toward defeating the terrorists abroad, strengthening the economy at home, and making our nation safer. The Democrats are trying to defeat him at every turn, and it is not because they have better ideas. They want to put him in a box and create an atmosphere ripe for a donkey victory next year, no matter the cost to America's fortunes in the interim. Every move they make, or rather don't make, is with 2008 in mind,



and the nation suffers because of it.

Americans are an impatient lot. We are always looking toward the next big issue or event before the one we find ourselves in reaches a logical conclusion. That's not always a bad thing. Planning ahead is important. And we could never have reached the level of power we currently possess without hungrily moving forward in every facet of our lives. However, the next presidential election is eighteen months away. In politics, that's an eternity. It's a period of time in which a lot of things can, and will, happen. We need to focus on the opportunities and the dangers that face us right now and will not wait in stasis until the next presidential election.

Let next year's presidential race begin next year, like it should, like it used to. Don't worry, you won't forget who's running for president. Believe me, they won't let you. All the candidates are going to spend a billion dollars until the final bell is rung a year from November. Just don't let the media tell you who you should support based on their over-saturated coverage. Don't lock in on a candidate because they have raised the most money this year, or because they are ahead in some straw poll in New Hampshire, a state that is hardly a microcosm of the national electorate.

Use this time to get to know the candidates and learn where they stand on the issues. There's too much at stake to play this next election as if it were some sort of game. □

Richard Brownell is the President of the Club.

Conservative Filmmaker, Where Art Thou?

By Valentine Ding

Face it, America's independent movie screen has been hijacked by left-wing radicals. To know this, you only need to stop by last month's Sundance Film Festival, reputedly the premier showcase for indies.

The opening-night film was Brett Morgen's "Chicago 10," a stylized evocation of the trial resulting from the violent antiwar protests during the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago. The intention, claims Morgen, is "to try and encourage people to take a more active role in protests (against wars)." So it's a rallying call, disguised as a documentary, for a young contemporary audience to follow the antiwar extremism in 1968.

Documentaries, of course, are weapons of choice for liberals to attack the Bush administration. Also at Sundance was Charles Ferguson's "No End in Sight," which seeks to examine the "failures of U.S. Iraq policies." It makes the point that Secretary Rumsfeld made little or no preparation for the post-Saddam period. It also mentions the U.S. purged the Iraqi government of Sunnis (mostly members of the Ba'ath Party) as well as disbanded the Iraqi army. But it never asks the question what might be the considerations behind all this. Could it be the U.S. intentionally leaving opera-

tions flexible to react to a mercury situation like Iraq? Or might any post-Saddam government not be feasible without the elimination of the Sunnis, considering they are deeply loathed by the majority of the Iraqis?

If you are a conservative filmmaker — or an ordinary American — you should be enraged by the kind of films being celebrated at Sundance. And liberal filmmakers are bolder not just on the anti-Bush and anti-Christian front, you also have the Dakota Fanning child rape picture, "Hounddog;" the handicapped-mental-retard-turned-rapist-and-serial-killer psychosexual fantasy, "It is Fine! EVERYTHING IS FINE" and the sold-out, horse sex movie, "Zoo," about men getting intimate with Arabian stallions.

The only film this year that remotely resembles the product of a conservative is James Strouse's "Grace is



NO END IN SIGHT is a doc at Sundance this year

Gone." Shot on digital camera with the look of a TV movie, it is a lean, subdued study of a father (played by John Cusack) having trouble telling his two daughters their soldier mother has been killed in Iraq. The movie was scooped up for worldwide distribution by the Weinstein Company for \$4 million.

It may be some consolation that most of the films mentioned here have not yet found a distributor. But who knows, maybe Nancy Pelosi will screen "Chicago 10" on Capitol Hill? Wait, wasn't it her daughter, Alexandra, who just showed a film she made bashing Christians in America? □

WATCHDOG

Maximum Taxes from Wages

This month we are watching New York's own Charlie Rangel show his true greed behind the raising of the minimum wage. Congressman Rangel is House Ways and Means Chairman, and he told reporters several times that he plans to kill the \$8.3 billion small business tax relief package, passed in bipartisan fashion by the Senate, which is attached to the minimum-wage bill.

Polls show that both parties favor the new minimum-wage hike with one clear difference: Republicans only favor the wage hike if tax-cut measures are passed to help small businesses affected by the wage increase. This is to ensure that small businesses and blue collar workers are protected against the potential rise in domestic goods prices and layoffs that accompany wage increases.

Democrats in the House staunchly oppose small business tax relief and as a measure to save face, passed House Resolution 976 which provides a paltry \$1.3 billion for small business tax relief. At least the Democratic led House passed something in the form of tax-relief 37 days after passing the wage hike. This Bill passed due to the persistence of House Republicans although the amount the Democrats would let through was much less than Republicans wanted. Senate leaders balked at the miniscule amount upon receiving the Bill, revised it to \$8.3 Billion, and now Rangel is saying no.

Here are some facts about the minimum wage from the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics:

- Between 1980 and 2005 the percentage of hourly-paid workers who make minimum wage has dropped from 9.1% to 0.6%.
- In 2005, 60% of people making minimum wage were under 25 years of age.
- The unemployment rate for January 2006 was 4.6 percent when 5% is considered full employment in a free economy.
- There are currently 31 states with minimum wages above the national minimum wage. Of those 31 states 20 have minimum wages below the new proposed \$7.15.

From the above facts it seems that states are doing a fine job of managing their own economies, independent from federal control. This is evidenced by the currently robust job market.

If Democrats are so intent on "saving the working poor" and "protecting jobs", why would they want to upset an engine running at peak performance and oppose tax-relief for small businesses?

As Congressman Rangel shows he will do everything he can to not provide small business tax-relief, he is proving he simply wants the minimum wage increase for the projected tax revenue. He could care less about the potential pitfalls of small business and the working poor. □

— Kellen Giuda

YRs Embark on Nassau County for Special Election

By Lynn Krogh

The weekend of Feb. 2nd-4th, YRs from across New York State gathered in Long Island to help GOP candidate Maureen O'Connell recapture the 7th Senatorial district seat. After Balboni decided to join the Spitzer Administration, the Governor called for a special election on Feb. 6th to fill the vacancy.

The New York State Young Republicans organized a weekend blitz, in true NYSYR Strike Force fashion, putting boots on the ground, making key voter contacts across Nassau County. YRs from Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Broome, Nassau, Suffolk, New York, and Brooklyn counties all worked to advance the GOP cause.

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YR Calendar

February 22nd, 2007

NYYRC General

Meeting - Union League Club, 38 E. 17th St. 7pm.

February 23-25th, 2007

NYSYR Winter Board Meeting-Poughkeepsie NY. Please contact Lynn Krogh (vp@nyyrc.com) to RSVP

February 26th, 2007

Dick Morris is organizing "Citizens United", a documentary film to expose Hillary Clinton. 6pm, Women's National Republican Club; 3 West 51st St., Non-members fee \$10.

February 28th, 2007

Irish American Republicans honor John McCain @ the Women's National Republican Club, 6pm, 3 West 51st St. \$175 per ticket. Please call (518) 210-1200

March 7th, 2007

NYYRC March social @ Solas; 7 m, 232 E 9th St. b/t 2nd & 3rd Avenue

March 8-11th, 2007

Young Republican National Federation Spring Board Meeting; New Orleans, L.A.

Contact Us

If you have any comments, inquiries about events, or wish to contribute to the Record, please contact us at publications@nyyrc.com

Faith-Based Man-Made Global Warming

By Daniel Greene

The House Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality was to have a hearing on Feb. 14th entitled "Climate Change: Are Greenhouse Emissions from Human Activities Contributing to a Warming of the Planet?" The hearing was cancelled because of a snowstorm.

Despite the arctic blanket that has enveloped the country these past few weeks prompting many New Yorkers to make cheeky comments such as "Gee, some warming we're having," the global warming alarmists will quickly remind us that a few isolated incidents don't negate the reality of a much larger climate trend they predict will place New York City under 20 feet of water unless we devolve to a pre-Industrial Age standard of living. That's right, the car you spent 20 minutes digging out of its snow pit is the culprit for the global warming disaster they forecast will casue the Arctic ocean to be largely devoid of sea ice during the summer later in the century. And to provide their point they show you staged pictures of polar bears that appear stranded on top of melting ice. Or if you're Al Gore, you show *animation* of a depressed polar bear swimming in the ocean.

Perhaps all of this may be true, but the problem with these predictions is that they're all predictable, and as such they seriously lack credibility. Human history is filled with failed pronouncements of



Stranded and depressed?

anensuing apocalypse. The global warming alarmists will remind us that most of these pronouncements have been religious in nature, however because they're enlightened with the clarity of science they say they can be trusted. But what is generally sold as "science" is often an interwoven taxonomy of truths and theories, which are used to fill gaps of knowledge we either don't know or can't fully explain. And it is within that vast space where assumptions are made and morph into a faith-based belief system, which can take on the same characteristics as a religion prophesizing Armageddon.

During the 1960s, global cooling was the craze. In the 1980s scientists predicted sea levels would rise placing most coastal cities underwater in 20 years. It hasn't just been climate change predictions that have been wrong. During the early 19th century, Thomas Malthus, armed with the "science" of economics predicted that the growth of world populations would cause global food shortages, which would lead to mass starvations. His predictions were obviously wrong but there continue to be many faithful Malthusians who believe that the technological and population growth of humanity is unsustainable.

What's the point behind these gloom and doom predictions? There are many reasons but at its core it's all about fear-inspired coercion. And the one entity that has an interest in promulgating fear to individuals so they are willing to abdicate their rights and standard of living is government and all those you benefit from its size and intrusiveness. I wonder who's paying the bulk of the research grants of the scientists who profess man-made global warming? Hmmm... □

Nassau County Special Election

Continued from Page 3

Thousands of contacts were made and the massive efforts on the ground, conducted by the NYSYR, made significant inroads into the Long Island communities, raising the profile of the Young Republicans significantly. Our YR Force is hard at work for other seats across the state, to hold onto and fill special election openings.

Unfortunately, O'Connell was beaten by Craig Johnson, a Democrat from Port Washington, by 3,500 votes, leaving the Senate GOP in the Majority by the slim margin of 4 seats. Maureen O'Connell said this after her campaign loss, "A heartfelt thanks to all my devoted supporters who worked so hard on my behalf. We knew from the start it was an uphill battle. However, unless we get the vicious cycle of never-ending assessment and higher taxes under control we will continue to lose our seniors and young people from Long Island."

YRs will continue to be a strong influence as we continue to rebuild the GOP of New York State. From special elections, to primary and general elections, we will work for GOP candidates and advance our GOP cause. Onto Victory! □

Lynn Krogh is the Vice President of the Club.