



# THE NEW YORK YOUNG REPUBLICAN RECORD

Volume 4, Issue 2  
February 17, 2005

*Inspiring the Promise of America in the Spirit of the GOP*  
[www.nyyc.com](http://www.nyyc.com)

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**The New York Young Republican Record would like to thank all of those who contributed to this edition.**

**Please send articles for submission to:**

**[publications@nyyc.com](mailto:publications@nyyc.com)**

**with the subject line "For the Record".**

**Submissions may be edited for space and style considerations.**

**The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editorial Board of the NYIR Record or executive Board of the New York Young Republican Club, Inc.**

## NATIONAL NEWS

### One For the Ages

*by Andrew Roman*

Ten minutes into his second inaugural address, I knew I was witnessing history. With his inspiring words, President George W. Bush had forever identified himself in the annals of history with any and every movement of freedom and liberty that may take root in this world for generations to come. I watched him begin to compose the most prolific chapters of an already extraordinary legacy while marveling at his confidence and strength.

It was something to observe. Some of the most memorable pages of history were quite literally being written in front of me as the president passionately--and accurately--spoke of the "fire in the minds of men." It was nothing short of breathtaking.

Indeed, I am no sycophant and quite openly disagree with the president on a few issues--particularly in the area of immigration and border control--but on that January day, I just had to take a "wow" out of petty cash and give the man his due. Here was an inaugural speech for the ages, difficult to misinterpret and (for anyone with ears) impossible to ignore.

The President actually seized upon the opportunity to leap beyond the hackneyed platitudes and cliches that historically mark most inaugural addresses to speak of "America's ideal of freedom." He unabashedly--if not defiantly--proclaimed that it would be the

policy of the United States to "seek and support the growth of democratic movements and institutions in every nation and culture, with the ultimate goal of ending tyranny in our world."

These are the words of a man who clearly understands where the root of terrorism lies and that it is infinitely better for the United States when more people around the world are free. How could anyone find a stitch of negativity in such words?



*The President and Mrs. Bush*

For the first time since Ronald Reagan's 1981 inaugural address, here was a speech of profound substance, as relevant as anything uttered by any president in our nation's history. A speech that, like Reagan's 24 years earlier, actually took the bold step of setting a course for the future.

And while I'm willing to concede the tone as a tad too lofty or idealistic--as lofty as, say, President Reagan's "cowboy" vision to rid the world of Soviet communism--I won't waver on the absolute power of Bush's message. Pray tell, what is it this country should aspire to if not the ending of tyranny and spreading of liberty to all people?

This was no time for a status-quo presentation of party bullet points. The President had to ascend far beyond the pageantry and substantive mediocrity that had come to define recent inaugural addresses. He had to make his mark. He did just that.

# One For the Ages

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Bush illustrated his keen understanding that freedom isn't born of soft words and concessions, nor does it blossom without the broken backs of those willing to sacrifice for it. Liberty is life's greatest monument--God's gift to humankind; never easy, and always worth the fight.

To behold the Iraqi elections 10 days after this speech was to witness the astounding power of liberty in its truest sense. Could anyone look upon the Iraqi people defying those who would keep tyranny alive to cast their vote as liberated human beings and not be moved? Those who would criticize the president's inaugural speech as too haughty, idealistic or simplistic miss the point entirely.

After all, do we build monuments to mediocrity? Does complacency ever win the fight? Would we remember Franklin Roosevelt's most quoted nugget if he instead suggested that we might be better off if we feared nothing but fear itself? Or if John F. Kennedy said that it might be "nice" if we all asked what we could possibly do for our country?

The president pulled no punches. He deliberately curled his fingers into a tightly wound fist and smacked the bloated face of those who would deny the power of freedom in favor of assembly-line, off-the-rack whiny negativism. Keep in mind that the key to the president's speech was to emphasize that America's goals do not lie in creating a legion of tiny little subsidiary Americas across the globe, as critics predictably moan and groan about, but to "help others find their own voice, attain their own freedom, and make their own way." Again, what cynical, loud-mouthed, squelching, pseudo-pro human rights ideologue could possibly find fault with such vision? (On second that, don't answer that).

The speech is best summed up with this spine-tingling assertion: "We have confidence because freedom is the permanent hope of mankind, the hunger in dark places, the longing of the soul."

How true.

Bravo, Mr. President. **YR**

## NYYRC MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Check out the tee-shirts, coffee mugs, and other fun NYYRC stuff by visiting [www.nyyrc.com](http://www.nyyrc.com) and clicking on the link to our shop.



Marge Jackson of Poughkeepsie, NY was the first person to buy from the NYYRC On-line Store



## NYYRC Members at the Inauguration

"Attending the Inauguration in DC was both an historic and memorable experience. The night was complete when Eric Wilson, a fashion reporter from the *NY Times*, interviewed me on the ball, my experience, and my gown. That article appeared in the Saturday, Jan 22, 2005 edition."

"The Inauguration was an amazing experience--one that I'll never forget."

"I ran into many NYYRC members at the Liberty Ball (Fla.), and had my picture taken with Governor Jeb Bush. And I had a great spot to see the President and V.P. speak and dance there. Then I made my way over to the Stars & Stripes Ball (N.Y., N.J. and Pa.) to meet up with more NYYRC members."

"It was great to meet fellow YRs from across the country at the Maryland YR Social at the Capital Club, the D.C. YR's "Take Off Your Tie" Event, and the New York State Pre-Inaugural Celebration."





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REPUBLICAN CLUB**

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**GENERAL INTEREST**

**You say "Po-tay-to", I say "Pomegranate"**

by Seth Phillips

As a singer-songwriter, I often try to seek out the company of other singer-songwriters to workshop new ideas, to get other peoples' input, and to offer input to their songs. Given that I do this networking mostly in Manhattan and Williamsburg, I often run into artists whose views differ distinctly from my own. One of the other songwriters at a session I went to in early December debuted a song called "Democracy." The song's lyrics personified the concept of democracy - democracy spurned hungry, burned flags, was greedy, and some other trite stuff. The song ended with the sentiment that even though democracy was thoroughly rotten, she couldn't live without him. Basically the premise of the song was that the United States has an abusive relationship with democracy. Sort of reminded me of Maureen Dowd stripped of all writing skill and set to music.

Now, I am probably being too harsh in criticizing the first draft of a protest song. However, it accentuates a solid difference in perception between two distinct camps of people.

Conservatives generally view democracy as a tool - one of several ways to run a country - the other options we saw in the 20th century were communism, fascism, socialism, and totalitarianism. It's a system wherein the people select their rulers. Naturally, it's the best system mankind has come up with yet. In my experience, liberals view Democracy somewhat differently - they don't separate it from politics and politicians. They don't separate it from the army, taxes, welfare, Democrats, Republicans, or anything else about society in general. Thus, the term "democracy" comes laden-down with meaning that doesn't necessarily belong.

This is the thing. There's a democracy here in the United States of America and there's a democracy in Japan. There are democracies in England, France, Russia, and if memory serves, there was a democracy in the early stages of Nazi Germany as well. All of these governments look very different. Therefore, to assume that the word "democracy" entails the current US political situation is closed-minded and shortsighted - and it's ethnocentric to boot. Wow. There's a word I never thought I'd actually use in a sentence.

The thing about democracy is that it's a framework for government. Once you set this framework up, you can hang just about anything on it, and point it in whatever direction you want. Democracy does not guarantee freedom, and freedom does not necessarily require democracy. Just like capitalism, there need to be rules and guidelines to keep the system in balance. Just like religion, there are always people who will subvert it. Just like a gun, the results depend entirely upon who is in control.

But then, since democracy can be easily compared to capitalism, religion, and firearms, maybe our liberal singer-songwriter friend knew exactly what she was ranting about.

- 1. - democracy - n  
**a:** government by the people; especially : rule of the majority  
**b:** a government in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly through a system of representation usually involving periodically held free elections
- 2. - ethnocentric - adj  
 characterized by or based on the attitude that one's own group is superior. **YR**

**Interested in writing for The Record?**

Contact Christina and Liza at [publications@nyrc.com](mailto:publications@nyrc.com)

The next committee meeting will be held March th, 6:30pm at O'Neil's.

(3rd Ave. b. 45th & 46th Streets)

Come Join us!

Submitted articles must be no longer than 1,000 words. Club, local, national, and international news accepted but must be of a timely matter. Deadlines are the Monday before general club meetings.

## **Membership renewal time is NOW!**

**The NYYRC has a new membership structure this year. Please read the following:**

YR Member (18 - 40 years old) / Associate Member (over 40 years old)

Individual Club Member: YR Member: \$35 / Associate Member: \$75 / Undergraduate Student Rate: \$25

Red, White & Blue Club Member: YR Member: \$150 / Associate Member: \$200

(Includes monthly meetings & socials as well as a prepaid ticket and guaranteed reservation for the Spring Fling, Fall Celebration, & Summer Barbeque plus a 10% discount on NYYRC sponsored events & CafØ Press merchandise)

Bald Eagle Club Member: YR Member: \$300 / Associate Member: \$350

(Includes monthly meetings & socials as well as a prepaid ticket and a guaranteed reservation for Annual Dinner with photo op, Spring Fling, Fall Celebration, & Summer Barbeque, plus a 15% discount on NYYRC sponsored events & CafØ Press merchandise)

President Club Member: YR Member or Associate Member: \$500

(Includes monthly meetings & socials as well as a prepaid ticket and a guaranteed reservation for Annual Dinner with photo op and special recognition in Dinner Journal, Spring Fling, Fall Celebration, & Summer Barbeque, first call on limited seating and special events, plus a 20% discount on NYYRC sponsored events & CafØ Press merchandise)

**The NYYRC also has a new Membership Rewards Program that will be installed in 2005, please read:**

Membership Reward Program:

- o Reward existing member for referrals of new members
- o New member must provide existing member's name on the membership form under "Referred by"
- o Reward will be in form of coupon that can be used to pay membership dues, for event tickets or for CafØ Press merchandise. (Actual coupon must be presented for discount)
- o Coupon expires on December 31, 2005 with the exception of renewing membership dues for 2006. Lost coupon(s) are subject to replacement.

Reward Levels:

- o \$5.00 Coupon for referring an Individual Member
- o \$10.00 Coupon for referring a Red, White & Blue Club Member
- o \$15.00 Coupon for referring a Bald Eagle Club Member
- o \$20.00 Coupon for referring a President Club Member



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