

CESAR CHAVEZ, MINUTEMAN ■ BIRKENSTOCKED BURKEANS

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# The American Conservative

# They Vote We Lose?



## COME HOME, DEMOCRATS

I enjoyed very much Bill Kauffman's article on George McGovern in the Jan. 30 edition. He provided a useful correction of the caricature of McGovern held by many conservatives (like me). In the end, however, the sad truth is—as Kauffman himself noted—no Democrat today would dare embrace the agrarianism, localism, and even isolationism reflected in some of McGovern's comments. The McGovern reflected in Kauffman's article understood real America and loved it. There is no one of significance in today's Democratic Party of whom the same can be said.

WILLIAM WILDER  
*Vienna, Va.*

## MY PAL PAT

These are strange times. I just read a brilliant, spot-on column by Pat Buchanan. "Might the Arabs Have A Point" is right on the mark and should be required reading for every American.

I've never seen a really large income I didn't want to redistribute, a tree I didn't want to hug, or a social problem I didn't want to throw a program at, but my people are not putting out honest analyses of foreign policy like this, and unless we get our foreign policy under control, none of us is going to get anything else that we want. No doubt we'll go back to glaring at each other once we defeat the neocons, but for today, Pat, you're my new best friend.

LIN BROADLEY  
*via e-mail*

## AUSSIE DIVERSITY

Brian Milakovsky is completely wrong about the December riots in Australia (Forum, Jan. 30). They were the result of local residents' frustration with years of anti-social and even criminal behavior by Muslim Lebanese men and the police force's inability or unwillingness to deal with the problem.

The men habitually harass Australian girls, calling them "Aussie sluts" for wearing bikinis though their grandmothers wore bikinis. They deliberately block out the sun as women tried to sunbathe. Ain't multiculturalism grand? Last December they attacked a beach lifesaver—unheard of in a country where surf lifesavers are a revered national institution. When a gang felled and kicked the man who tried to help the lifesaver, somebody called the police. But the police did nothing—though witnesses insisted they could identify the attackers and even provide the numberplate of the car they drove off in.

That official indifference is why thousands turned up at what began as a peaceful rally. Moreover, only a minority of the protesters actually participated in the biff, which was fuelled more by alcohol than racism.

So it's simply not true that "thousands of Australian youths rioted against the Muslim minority." The truth is that thousands of Australians of all ages turned out to protest against the Lebanese youths' appalling behavior, not their religion or ethnicity. The riot was disgraceful. But unlike the Lebanese participants, most of the Anglo-Australians involved have expressed remorse.

And what about the Lebanese racist revenge raid, Mr. Milakovsky? Heard about that? The night after the riot the Lebanese, armed with bars and bats, drove to Cronulla in a convoy of about 25 cars with hazard lights brazenly flashing. They systematically smashed the windscreens of every car in some streets. Once again the police had been notified but did nothing to stop the violence.

But there's a silver lining. Because Australians are thoroughly fed up with the media labeling them as racists for objecting to such intolerable behavior, maybe the nasty little adjective is losing

its meaning in the suburbs and consequently its punch in the wider culture. About bloody time.

ANTONIA FEITZ  
*Rocky River, New South Wales  
Australia*

## SAM FRANCIS'S HEIR?

As a devoted conservative (and long-time admirer of Pat Buchanan), I was shocked by the lunatic ravings of Gary Brecher in what is supposed to pass for a review of *A War Like No Other* by Victor Davis Hanson?

Dr. Hanson's lifelong professional devotion to the agrarian ideal of Jeffersonian democracy, as a sixth-generation farmer and classical scholar, marks him as a true paleoconservative in the mode of the late Samuel Francis. *A War Like No Other* is not about Iraq, nor is it a neoconservative tract, any more than are Hanson's fine works. Perhaps Mr. Brecher couldn't trouble himself to get past the introduction, which admittedly contains a few contemporary references that an unsophisticated and biased reviewer might, with effort, twist into some species of neocon commentary.

Yes, Hanson has been a supporter of the war on terror (or, as he rightly sees it, a defensive war against radical Islam) as is many a good conservative. The wisdom of the Iraq project is certainly debatable, but as he and many might see it, if it takes the war in Iraq to get the real enemy in the open, so be it. Good Lord, gentlemen, I haven't been this offended since I took a look at MoveOn.org.

TOM D'ALESSANDRO  
*via e-mail*

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