

RRR

ROTHBARD-ROCKWELL REPORT

October 1996

Volume VII, Number 10

The 3-Ring Media

by Paul Gottfried

We had to suffer three media circuses in August, televised events which allowed the priesthood of the therapeutic state to reshape the observed world: the Centennial Olympics and the Republican and Democratic conventions. All three would have been unrelievedly boring, full of staged hype and canned oratory, were it not for the revealing comments uttered and pressures exerted by the TV talking heads.

Two obvious cases in point were Bernard Shaw gushing over Hillary Clinton's "We Need a Village" speech delivered at the Democratic Convention on August 27. Unable to contain himself, the supposedly sober black anchorman reminded us, with an awe-stricken expression, that Hillary is a "great person in her own right."

Among other high points of media commentary were Bill Schneider's description of Jack Kemp, who had just been selected by Dole as his running mate, as "a nice conservative, the anti-Buchanan candidate," and the media's references throughout the Olympics to Atlanta "as Martin Luther King's city."

At the Republican convention the TV commentators spent much of their time hunting down pro-choice delegates and politicians and asking them whether they felt "excluded by the Republican Right." No such investigative effort was made to learn

about the feelings of Democrats at the Democratic convention who felt squeamish about ninth-month abortions, a practice recently protected by Bill Clinton.

More significant than the proofs of media bias was the attempt by Republicans to compensate for it. Though Haley Barbour may have planned such a spectacle months in advance, one suspects that the showcasing of blacks, feminists, and the physically challenged at the Republican convention had something to do with the portrayal of the Olympics in the preceding two weeks. There we got to see the world of competitive sports as a "dream" taking place in the cradle of the civil rights movement. This dream was inhabited largely by blacks, and the media offered biographical close-ups of American stars, a point misunderstood by Charles Krauthammer who attributed this focus to exaggerated American nationalism and not to what it was, preoccupation with glorifying African-Americans.

The Southern theme was carefully and relentlessly kept out of events and commentary. One Chinese-American gymnast had her request turned down as insensitive, when she asked that "Dixie" be played for her performance. No Confederate or even Georgia flags were in sight anywhere during the Olympic games, and the only reminder of the Old South that the media encouraged was the hasty attempt to blame reactionary Southern elements for the bombing at the Centennial Park. Media coverage of that event and its aftermath combined horrified outcries against a rightwing conspiracy with demands

Continued on page 3



P.C. Watch

That's Mr. Sambo to You

Claims that Harrods, the British department store, was selling "under the counter" *The Story of Little Black Sambo*, "the 97-year-old children's book considered by some to be racist," has "provoked a row," said the London *Daily Telegraph* (9/4/96). Says the Anti-Racist Alliance, which sent investigators to confirm the crime, "We are surprised that Harrods should have anything to do with such a throwback to the colonial period which has already been banned in many bookshops."

We're Waiting for a White Miss Harlem

"Racists boo black winner of Miss Italy" ran the London *Times* headline (9/9/96). After tremen-

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

How Pat Betrayed His Brigades	4
by Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.	
Boy Gingrich	7
by Christina F. Jeffrey	
Bad News?	8
by L.H.R., Jr.	
U.S. Out of Iraq	9
by Justin Raimondo	

dous p.c. pressure, judges picked a black immigrant from the Dominican Republic over girls from Italy. Proponents of a “brunette from Naples” were especially incensed. The selection took place only after one member of the jury was expelled. The ex-juror, a fashion photographer, had said that “a black girl cannot possibly become Miss Italy.” Italian girls are either white or “Mediterranean types.”

Racism at the Mall

Minnesota’s Mall of America, the country’s biggest, is being charged with racism for barring kids under 16 from its property on Friday and Saturday nights, unless accompanied by a parent or someone else 21 or older.

The Mall of America, like all malls, is a popular hangout for teenagers, especially black ones, notes the *New York Times* (9/4/96). Until the curfew, “3,000 teenagers swarmed the mall, disturbing other shoppers with chases, practical jokes, and fistfights,” according to a mall spokesman, who denies the policy is racist, since it applies to whites as well. But Yusef Mgeni, president of the Minneapolis Urban Coalition, charges the policy was drawn up because of the “large number of young people of color who congregate in the mall in the evening.”

The *Times* notes that the kids, many wearing “gang-related apparel,” “can be obnoxious. They race down the halls in groups, scattering shoppers in their paths. They use foul language when shouting to their friends two floors above. Some even drop food or spit over the railings, aiming at the shoppers below.”

Ever Wonder Why Prokofiev Is Beloved?

Prokofiev has never been one of my favorite composers, even among the rotten moderns, but I should have realized there’s a reason we’re told he was great: he was a toady of Stalin’s.

In two reviews (7/24-25/96), *Los Angeles Times* music critic Mark Swed extols Prokofiev as played by the Kirov Opera in Manhattan’s Lincoln Center. (The Kirov is named after another communist mass murderer, thank goodness assassinated by his leader). Prokofiev’s

“grandiloquent ‘Cantata for the 20th Anniversary of the October Revolution’ (with texts by Marx, Lenin, and Stalin)” was “thrilling,” and the “rousing performance” helped the audience “put art before politics,” claims Swed. These texts, unquoted, are described as “innocuous.”

Swed has a tough time with the “Zdravitsa,” a toast to Stalin on his 60th birthday in 1939. A woman admonishes her newborn baby, “Son, grow tall like a stalk of blue cornflower/Stalin will be the first word on your lips.”

But even Homer nods, and at least the cantata was written in 1937, “before Stalin’s worst offenses.” Stalin’s murder of 7 million Ukrainians in the early 1930s, among other acts, apparently doesn’t count. Besides, Prokofiev isn’t driven by “evil sentiments,” unlike “Wagner” or “Richard Strauss”! (Thanks to Tom Verkuilen for the clippings.)

South African Crime

“Crime in South Africa is absolutely rampant,” notes Richard Russell in the *Dow Theory Letter* (8/28/96). “Crime is so bad, in fact, that Islamic vigilantes have finally taken the law into their own hands and are

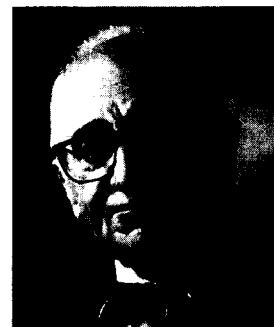
staging battles with South African gangs. Last year, there were 18,983 homicides in South Africa, nearly ten times per capita that of the U.S. Ironically, the largest black gang calls itself ‘the Americans.’”

Is Kemp Gay?

No! says *New York Post* columnist Neal Travis (8/20/96). It’s all a lie started by Roy Cohn, who was a homosexual himself. It’s true that gay groups are trying to “out” Kemp, that gays claim they saw him in Buffalo’s gay bars when he was a Congressman, and that Kemp was involved in a gay scandal in Reagan’s gubernatorial administration in California, but you can’t trust Roy, says Travis.

Never Shake Hands With a Nigerian

African “mobs have hanged three men accused of using evil powers to cause male genitals to disappear,” reports the London *Daily Telegraph* (8/22/96). Several other “penis snatchers—who allegedly use only a simple handshake—are in hospital after being badly beaten, according to the Cameroon Post newspaper. It is said that most of the alleged ‘penis snatchers’ were Nigerian.” It



Dean of the Austrian School of economics, founder of modern libertarianism, and restorer of the Old Right, Murray N. Rothbard (1926-1995) was a one-man army of liberty. The *RRR* is inspired by his spirit, and dedicated to his vision.

“Son, grow tall like a stalk of blue cornflower/Stalin will be the first word on your lips.”

was also reported that "an 18-year-old student said that, when he shook hands with a Nigerian friend, 'he felt an electric-like current run through him, and a feeling that his manhood had retreated into his stomach.'"

Ron Paul Victory

Thanks to Lew Rockwell's article in the *RRR*, Ron Paul's Libertarian opponent has dropped out of the Congressional race. In a close election, this could make all the difference. The man had received so many protest calls as a result of our article that he decided to poll Libertarians in the district, and more than 80% agreed: he should not split the pro-freedom vote with Dr. Paul.

San Francisco Justice

Last year in San Francisco, a white bicyclist named Patrick Hourican either hit the car of a black driver named Louis Waldron, or Waldron's car hit the bike, and the car's mirror was knocked off. What is not in dispute is that Waldron then punched Hourican to death. For this, Waldron has now been sentenced to nine months in jail, reports the *San Francisco Chronicle* (7/19/96). After getting out, Waldron plans to return to "the College of Marin, where he is studying criminology."

Just Plain Justice

"The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals recently ruled that a large cross (100 ft. high) on Twin Peaks (overlooking San Francisco) has to be taken down (or given to some organization) even though it was built in 1933," writes subscriber J.H. Bolstad. "We allow a Buddha in the Japanese tea garden in Golden Gate Park, and a Menorah in Union Square on Hanukkah, so why not the cross? But the question answers itself."■

Continued from page 1

for a larger supply of grief therapists.

At the Republican Convention one had the chance to relive the Olympic experience a second time, as a kind of yuppie farce. Here there were even more references to Martin Luther King and the glories of the civil rights movement. The nomination of Kemp as the vice-presidential candidate illustrated not so much the reaching out to minorities as a Republican cave-in to media bullying.

For years, the media had depicted Republicans as insensitive to minorities. Despite the fact that Republican administrations had pushed quotas at least as hard as the Democrats, they were not given credit for reaching out to blacks and Hispanics. With Kemp all of that has changed. Kemp has devoted his life to chastising Republicans for not doing enough for minorities. He also has close ties to the Israeli Right, and even leftwing Jewish publications, such as the *Washington Jewish Week*, praise him repeatedly for his "friendliness to Jews."

It should be no secret that Jews as well as liberals are disproportionately represented in the media, and that Jewish liberals like A.M. Rosenthal, Bill Schneider, and Richard Cohen have long been agog over Kemp. Whether these enthusiasms will translate into Jewish liberal support for a ticket with Kemp on it remains to be seen. Yet, it is reasonable to assume that Dole's decision to pick as his running mate this former adversary was prompted by a desire for "good press."

So too were the liberal vibes that the Republican Convention tried

desperately to send. Southern delegates, led by Governor Allen of Virginia, fell over themselves in identifying their region with civil rights notables, to the exclusion of any Confederate personage.

Women and blacks were featured prominently on the podium as well as in the audience, and such p.c. speakers as Colin Powell and Congresswoman Susan Molinari took stands in favor of what the media kept calling "moderate Republicanism." Not surprisingly, the black athlete J.C. Watt made a speech in which he referred to the quarterbacking prowess that he and "Jack" shared.

At both conventions, delegates in their nominating speeches kept revisiting the recently completed Olympics, mentioning any possible association of their states with this chronological pivot. All three

late summer events, moreover, provided compassionate displays of the lame and the handicapped.

In the Olympics there were discussions of the "dreams of the handicapped," which would be realized with more government spending. At the Republican Convention we were treated to a secular adaptation of a Southern faith-healing

assembly, as Mrs. Dole consoled badly disabled people who had been wheeled on to the podium. After touching each one, Libby Dole offered the message: "Bob cares about you!"

Two weeks later the Democrats, not to be outdone, featured the paraplegic actor Christopher Reeves, as a key speaker. They also brought to the podium on the same night the Brady bunch, who pled for more gun-control laws, presumably to be passed by a Democratic Congress.

**At the
Republican
Convention we
were treated to
a secular
adaptation of a
Southern faith-
healing assembly.**

While Republican newspapers have complained about the use of a brain-damaged former Reagan press secretary by the opposing party, it is hard to see why this act is any more tasteless than most of what occurred at the Republican Convention. The Democrats were only trying to raise the Republican ante, by holding a convention that would dazzle the media by its consistent p.c. And though the media gave the Democrats more flattering coverage, that was not because they were being more tastelessly liberal: the Republicans won that game hands down.

A point may be in order about one obvious difference between the Olympics and the two party conventions. Unlike the first, which as widely viewed, the last two did not attract an audience of more than 10 to 12 percent of the viewing public. Most of the bombast that was heard, from scheduled speakers and from TV liberal-neocon commentators, received single-digit hearings.

What made the conventions important is the power exercised by the media. All the speakers were playing to them, and their subsequent reporting about what went on in San Diego and Chicago has been selectively filtered by the communications industry.

Most Americans, including my two geriatric aunts, both once Wallace Democrats, are convinced that Dole is a right-winger in alliance with the (dangerously) Religious Right, whereas Clinton is a "moderate" concerned about fairness.

Never mind that neither has any firm identity and that both received nominations from conventions that looked like gatherings of sun-tanned social workers. The point is one of

perception, and here the media are free to put their own spin on recent history.

It is understandable that what Sam Francis calls the "stupid party" would play up shamelessly but unavailingly to these nutty reinterpretors of reality. What they failed to see but is now apparent, as Bill Clinton's popularity is rising again, is the silliness of their games. Better to lose while standing for constitutional and moral principles than win while aping one's opponents. ■

How Pat Betrayed His Brigades

by Llewellyn H. Rockwell, Jr.

What began as a glorious and revolutionary political insurgency ended in confusion and sadness. After months of buildup, Pat Buchanan prepared to speak to his supporters the night before the Republican convention. These people had undergone financial sacrifices for more than a year — not least to travel to Southern California at his urging. In every sense, they had slogged a long way to be their that night.

The slings and arrows from the Dole camp and the party elites had not discouraged them. They were used to it, and it had taught them that their enemies were not only the liberals in the Democratic Party, but also the fakers in the Republican Party. Dole, "Beltway Bob, bellhop to the Busi-

ness Round Table," was the prime example. Pat had told them so for months in speeches and fund-raising appeals. This point was confirmed when Pat was denied a speaking slot at the convention, as was everyone to the right of Dole. So the Buchanan Brigades were fired up and prepared to do whatever was necessary. They wanted only marching orders.

Before Pat spoke, he had Oliver North go on stage as a warmup. Ollie surprised the audience by telling them what he thought was obvious: it's time to get behind the Dole-Kemp ticket. This announcement was met with shock, then boos and stamping of feet. Ollie nearly lost his composure. As he stumbled off the podium, Pat was rethinking the text of his speech. Fearing that he too might be hooted down, he chose to release his "100%" endorsement of Dole-Kemp the next day, in a printed version. Sorry, no questions from supporters.

Dole predictably brushed off the endorsement. The next we saw of Pat, he was wandering aimlessly around the stage the last night of the convention, along with the other primary challengers. There Dole even brushed off his handshake. Then the recriminations within the Buchanan camp began. Big donors claimed they had been had. Hard-core activists were spitting mad. Pro-lifers and Christians were dumbstruck. It wasn't they who had changed their minds, but their standard bearer. Pat had been a better teacher than even he knew.

Meanwhile, the party and the ticket had been purged of any hint of true conservatism. They were de-Buchananized in every sense except for the bad part of Pat's agenda: his sympathy for middle-class welfare. The good parts of Buchananism—opposition to the New World Order, the federal leviathan, gun grabbing, and forced multiculturalism—the issues his brigades really cared about, were gone for good. In their place

Dole and Clinton received nominations from conventions that looked like gatherings of sun-tanned social workers.