



The Argo

Election
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Grand Enough: President Clinton Wins Reelection

by Susan Slim

The citizens of this country have spoken; they have chosen Bill Clinton to lead them to a brighter twenty-first century. However, our registered voters have chosen to keep the GOP in control of Congress. While there may seem to be very little logic behind this, perhaps America has learned. This country is based on a complex system of checks and balances, and with a Democratic president and a Republican Congress, there will be a lot of checking going on. Maybe now both parties can forfeit their vehement platforms and ease themselves towards moderation so that the legislation spewed from our government will benefit not Republicans, not Democrats, but the United States of America.

Bill Clinton won by being an advocate of the freedom for women to choose to have an abortion or not, affirmative action, gay rights, the death penalty, and other such social issues. Bob Dole opposed abortion, affirmative action, has a

mild gay rights stance, and supports the death penalty. Woman in particular voted along these abortion lines as they opted to widen the gender gap in voting Democratic instead of for the G.O.P. While some women believe in the fundamental Republican platform, they just don't trust a Republican Congress and a Republican President not to pass legislation banning abortion. Perhaps the G.O.P. should reinstate those fundamental rights American so prides itself on, among those, the right to choose.

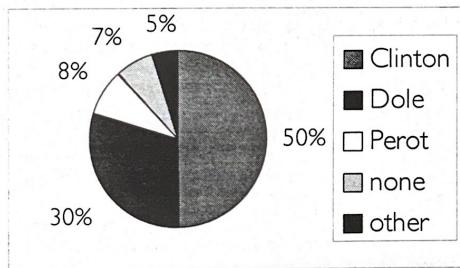
But when polled, New Jersey voters did not vote due to social stance, but more on how the economy is doing. When it comes down to it, our economy is doing just fine, and Americans realized this, deciding to leave well enough alone. Dole also blundered in his 15% tax cut proposal in that Americans simply do not trust politicians

with such outrageous promises. Images of former President George Bush saying "Read my lips...no new taxes" must have disheartened voters, for Bush held no regard for campaign promises. Why should Dole?

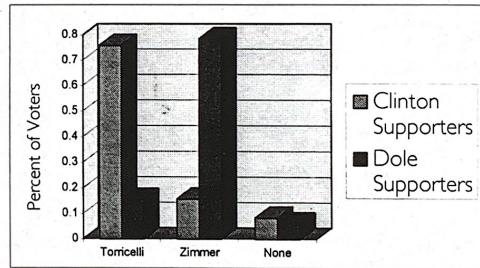
The character issue, too, had very little bearing on the campaign, for Americans have resigned to the fact that politicians have scandals, and as long as this country keeps on running, a Presidents personal life should have no bearing on their election. A shady personal life has nothing to do with political know-how.

When it came right down to it, America chose to build a bridge to the twenty first century with President Bill Clinton and President Al Gore. Maybe they won't give America a 15% tax cut, but the United States can rest assured that the conservatives will be quelled for four more years.

The Prep Vote for President



The Prep Vote for Senate



Bob Dole: An Era of Dedication

by Frank Cesario

In 1951, Mr. Dole began his career of public service as a naive representative with modest and simple goals. His one plan was to "sit and watch, then after awhile stand up for what (he) believes in." Forty-five years later this "self made" politician ended his career with a ninety-six hour period of campaigning, like a boxer needing a knock-out in the last round. Like the green statesman in 1951, though, Dole was fighting for America.

In speaking of Dole's years of dedicated service, Senator John McCain said, "You know this is the last crusade of a great warrior, a member of a generation of Americans who went out and made the world safe for democracy, so that we could have lives that were far better for ourselves and our children." From his modest roots in Russel, Kansas, Robert Dole capably led 10th

Mountain Infantry Division in Italy during World War II. Although the pretentious media would inevitably focus on the war's effect on his right arm, Bob Dole's spirit and fervor for America would never be maimed.

Upon leaving the voting booth, Dole said, "I can say I voted for myself."

Bob Dole was spawned from an era when honesty, trust, and honor meant something in political circles. In an amoral society where integrity in a political candidate procures lower television ratings, Bob Dole relished the chance to transform and improve a society. Crusading through truck-stop diners and little league fields, Bob Dole was the same wounded soldier returning to the welcome arms of his fellow Americans, with the spirit of America emblazoned in his eyes.

This is not an obituary for Bob Dole, nor is

Dole the Don Quixote of our times. He did lose the election, but he did so taking the paths of morality he had traversed many times previously. Amidst the waves of unpatriotic behavior, Bob Dole is an American from a period when that meant something special. He rose to prominence through a cigar box and the cheers of his people. During his concession speech on election night, Bob Dole was interrupted when his followers exalted in similar cheers of "Thank You, Dole." Dole knew that his campaign would have to fight the undertow of a good economy and low unemployment, but he tried to impart his vision of an "uplifted America." He fought on for the people who needed him, and America he loved. When Bob Dole's bell finally tolled to conclude his years of service, he simply said, "I have done what I can do, all I can do." Bob Dole should stand proud. •

The Votes Ralph Nader Should Have Received

by Mark Markowski

"The people need more political choices and less cynical political horse-trading. Both Democrats and the Republicans refuse to change, won't give up the special interest money, won't reform and give the people more power. This campaign isn't about me becoming President. It's about getting a new political movement going for the long haul."

After graduating from Harvard Law School, Ralph Nader then began his quest to reform the government of the United States while trying to increase the power of the workers, voters, and taxpayers. Nader's career had led him to become a crusader for social justices of the general public. All the hard work and dedication that he has displayed over the past thirty years did not convince enough voters to elect him President.

Ralph Nader has taken many liberal, sometimes radical stands on the issues that every citi-

zen considers important. Millions of seventeen year olds are sitting at their desks, trying to make college decisions, while Mr. Nader is spending many hours trying to convince the government that the US educational system needs many serious revisions. With the significant involvement of all parents, Nader wanted to shift the decision-making responsibility and funding control towards the teachers. This would allow for schools to help values in a now value-free institution. On the topic of higher education, Nader believes that college tuition should be publicly financed. Federal and state contributions toward tuitions is a necessary contribution to the future of the country. Albeit, financial aid packages requiring students to take out large loans which prevent recent graduates from entering low-paying public interest jobs.

As a member of the Green Party, Nader strongly opposes any oppression to African-Americans, homosexuals, or any other race. Ralph Nader is committed to establishing relationships that honor diversity and self-determination of people. The Green Party realized that there was plenty of pain and suffering that many races endured for the past five hundred years and they are dedicated to restoring the dignity of all cultures.

On November 5, the American public did not realize that the views of Ralph Nader make sense for a country which is growing tired of a "Do-Nothing" congress and scandals in the White House. Although he received less than three percent of the vote on election day, Ralph Nader has called attention to his own views and the views of the entire Green Party.

Bored Silly

by Jay Golon

Eligible voters often protest certain elections by going to the voting booth and not casting a vote in a particular race, or by casting a vote for a third party candidate who has no realistic chance of winning. This practice, though not necessarily effective or meaningful, at least provides the voter with piece of mind, even if they are not seriously wounding a major candidate's bid for office. Had I been eligible to vote in this election I probably, thanks to the fiery and inspiring orations of Josh Rosen, would have voted for Harry Browne, the Libertarian party candidate. I would have cast this vote, not because I am a firm believer in the fundamentals of Libertarianism, but because Bill Clinton, Bob Dole, and even furry little Ross Perot bored me silly this entire election.

My form of protest, therefore, though it could not come at the voting booth, came on election night when I parked myself on my sofa and fell into a sound sleep. While Bill Clinton spoke of "building bridges to the twenty-first century", Bob Dole claimed to be "the most optimistic man in America", and Ross Perot scurried across the Reform Party stage, like a hamster escaped from its cage, mumbling things about campaign finance reform in an indecipherable Texas drawl, I dreamt of sitting on the beach in my favorite folding lounge chair as the sun came up. Time well spent, if you ask me. Around eleven thirty my bleary eyed mother decided to wake me up.

"Wake up, Jay," she insisted, "Nixon won,"

as if she too was trying to convince herself that she lived in a time when politics was a little bit less predictable.

Now that it's over, at least we won't have to sit through anymore political advertisements or promises of gigantic tax cuts. Most importantly, the airing of essential and enriching television shows such as 90210 and Melrose Place will not be threatened by a hideous "town meeting format" presidential debate for at least another four years. In the meantime, as any good politician would advise, we must look to the future. I've added a few ingredients, if you will, to spice up our national election for the year 2000.

Am I the only person who's a bit tired of Jim Leher moderating every single debate? How about "Weird Al" Yankovic? Or former WWF wrestler "Hacksaw" Jim Dugan and his manager "Bobby the Brain" Heenan? We'd really get to the bottom of things with these guys asking the questions.

All political advertisements must be modeled after of Mentos commercials. For instance, Bill Clinton, Al Gore, Leon Panetta, and Dick Morris, dressed as construction workers, lifting a small car out the way so that the presidential limousine can parallel park on Main street, America.

To interest the younger generation, why not make rap star "Coolio" the keynote speaker at the Democratic National Convention? Not to be outdone, the Republicans may counter with the

always sensational "Bone Thugs 'N Harmony" at their own convention.

"Mother jokes" must be permitted at debates from now on.

Each candidate must keep up with reading assignments, take copious notes, and pass with flying colors Mrs. Wacker's AP Government class. While this plan seems fair, it might narrow down the field of candidates to former Argo Editor-in-Chief, Matt Scherb, who would no doubt make a fine president.

"Co-ed Naked Candidate Night" on Larry King. The candidate with the most scars and tattoos automatically wins the southern electoral vote.

Finally, if we really wanted exciting elections with dynamic candidates tearing into not only the issues, but each other: Why not let Susan and Frank run against each other for national office? It kept people interested at Prep, why not America?

Though my attempts at humor are both forced and feeble, you have to admit that they've been more interesting than anything you've heard from either side in this year's election. Hopefully, the American political system will not have to resort to such measures. Perhaps by the year 2000, a year in which the vast majority of the current students at prep will be able to vote, candidates will stop insulting our intelligence and start challenging it.

The Argo

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