Mike Berman's

WASHINGTON POLITICAL WATCH

No. 133 July 3, 2014

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State of the Nation

In mid-June, the NBC/WSJ poll found that 63% of us think the country is on the wrong track. This is about the same as has been found each month since December, 2013.

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The official BLS unemployment rate for May 2014 is 6.3%, unchanged from the previous month. If one takes into account the total unemployed + those marginally attached to the labor force + those working part-time who want full-time work, the rate is 12.2%. This is down from 13.8% a year ago.

In the 3rd week of June, Gallup found an unemployment rate of 6.8%. This is down from an average of 7% for the month of May. It also found an underemployment rate (unemployed +those working part-time, but wanting full time) of 16.1%, down from the May average of 16.4%

The long term unemployed are having a hard time getting companies to look at their job applications. There has not been this much long-term unemployment since at least 1948. 35% of unemployed people have been out of work for at least six months. [WP 5/14]

Here is a profile of the short-term and long-term unemployed in 2012:

	Percent of	Percent of Short-	Percent of Long-
		Term Unemployed	Term Unemployed
	Employed	(<14 weeks)	(>26 weeks)
Male	53%	54%	55%
Female	47	46	45
Ages 16-34	34%	57%	40%
35-49	33	23	29
50+	33	19	31
White,	67%	55%	51%
Nonhispanic	0 / 70	3370	3170
African American	10	16	22
Hispanic	15	22	19

Asian/Pacific Islander	6	4	5
Less than high school	9%	23%	18%
High school	27	33	36
Some College	19	20	20
Associate's Degree	11	8	9
Bachelor's Degree or Higher	34	17	18

Probability of Transitioning from Unemployment to Employment by Duration of Unemployment:

Length of time unemployed	Probability of transitioning to employment (Approx.)
Less than 5 Weeks	32%
5 to 14 weeks	21%
15 to 26 weeks	16%
27 to 52 weeks	13%
Over 53 weeks	9%

Brookings Panel on Economic Activity Study

More than 7 million people report having two or more jobs. [NYT 5/14]

Another way to measure employment is by examining the employment-population ratio. This is a measurement of employed people as a percentage of the entire civilian, non-institutional population. That ratio has stayed roughly the same since September 2009.

May 2014 Data:

	Employment-population Ratio
Employed	58.9%
Unemployed	4.6%
Want a job but haven't searched in previous year	1.6%
Want a job but haven't searched in past 4 weeks	1.3%
Don't want a job right now	33.8%

Employment-population ratio for those ages 25-to-54:

	Percent of 25-to-54-year-olds who were employed
January 2007	80.3%
October 2011	74.8%
May 2014	76%

Source: Drew DeSilver, Pew Research Center, June 7, 2014.

From 2000-2013 there has been a transformation in the nature of occupations.

Occupation	Percent	Jobs Lost	Median Wage
_	Decline		2012
Word processors, typists	-74%	287,000	\$35,270
Telephone operators	-71	72,000	\$32,850
Computer operators	-70	218,000	\$38,390
Proofreaders, copy markers	-67	14,000	\$32,780
Switchboard operators	-60	49,000	\$25,370
Telemarketers	-58	129,000	\$22,330
Travel agents	-46	65,000	\$34,600
Bookkeeping, accounting,	-29	501,000	\$35,170
audits			
Carpenters	-22	336,000	\$39,940
Total		1,671,000	\$34,600

Growing Professions- between 2000-13

Occupation	Percent	Jobs Added	Median Wage
	Increase		2012
Computer/systems	+164%	374,000	\$120,950
managers			
Physical therapists	+57	81,000	\$79,860
Computer software	+49	364,000	\$99,000
engineers			
Financial advisers, analysts	+42	144,000	\$72,235
Registered nurses	+32	700,000	\$65,470
Financial managers	+28	270,000	\$109,740
Physicians, surgeons	+27	196,000	\$187,200+
Lawyers	+25	215,000	\$113,530
Accountants, auditors	+16	255,000	\$63,550
Total		2,599,000	\$99,000

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics via Steven Rattner, The New York Times, 6/22/14

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12% of the population will find themselves in the top 1 percent of the income distribution for at least one year

39% will spend at least a year in the top 5%

56% will spend at least a year in the top 10%

73% will spend at least a year in the top 20%

Additionally,

54% will experience poverty or near poverty at least once between the ages of 25-60

[Mark R. Rank and Thomas A. Hirschl - "Chasing the American Dream: Understanding what Shapes our Fortunes" NYT 4/20/14]

- Overall, the poverty rate increased by nearly 12% between 1970 and 2010, from 13.7% to 15.3%
- The percentage of children ages 3 and 4 enrolled in preschool increased almost four-fold nationwide between 1970 and 2010.

[&]quot;The income gap isn't as static as we think."

- 78% of students graduated high school on time in 1970, and 78.2% graduated on time in 2010.
- The share of adults with at least an associate's degree saw an increase of 105% from 1970 to 2010 nation-wide.
- The proportion of youth (ages 16-24) not in school and not working dropped by 4%, from nearly one in five (18.8%) in 1970 to 14.7% in 2010.
- The total violent crime rate increased about 10% from 1970 to 2010, but this was due to a doubling of the violent crime rate between 1970 to 1990; from 1990-2010 the rate fell.
- The number of medical doctors (per 100,000 population) increased from 137.2 per 100,000 in 1970 to 265.9 per 100,000 in 2010.

[Report: Opportunity since 1970: A Historical Report, published by Opportunity Nation and Measure of America, 2014]

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Use of the internet and computers has grown exponentially since the web came into being 25 years ago. The same percentages of women and men participate. Cellphones and smartphones are slightly more likely to be found in the hands of men than of women.

	All Adults		Men	Women
	1995	2014	2014	2014
Computer users	42%	81%	80%	81%
Internet users	14%	87%	87%	86%

	All Adults		Men	Women
	2000	2014	2014	2014
Cell phone owners	53%	90%	93%	88%
Smartphone*		58%	61%	57%
owners				

By Age

Age Group	18-29	30-49	50-64	65+
Internet users	97%	93%	88%	57%
Cell phone	98%	97%	88%	74%
owners				
Smartphone*	83%	74%	49%	19%
owners	0370	/470	4970	1970

^{*} Smart phone: a cellular phone that is able to perform many of the functions of a computer, typically having a relatively large screen and an operating system capable of running general-purpose applications.

(Pew Research Center, February 2014, "The Web at 25." Available at www.pewinternet.org/2014/02/25/the-web-at-25-in-the-u-s)

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22% of Americans have positive feelings about the Tea Party Movement. This is only 1 point higher than the all-time low on this question, in October 2013. 40% think the Tea Party has too much influence on the Republican party, while 20% think it does not have enough influence. [NBC/WSJ 6/14]

48% of Republican agreed with the Tea Party in 2010. Today that number is 33%. The number of Republicans who specifically disagree with the Tea Party has grown over that time period from 3% to 11%. [Pew Research Center 5/14]

In a column on June 12, 2014 in the "Washington Post," Dan Balz makes the following point about the current tumult in the Republican Party.

Balz writes that the GOP is split in a number of ways. There is an establishment wing, which might also be called the business wing. There is the Tea Party wing, which might better be called the populist, conservative, grass-roots insurgency. There is a House wing and a Senate wing, and soon there will be a Presidential wing.

The following is a picture of the ideological makeup of the Congressional electorate from 1984 - 2012, prepared by David Winston and Myra Miller of The Winston Group.

There has been little change in the percentage of conservatives. Liberals have grown from 17% to 25% of the electorate, and Moderates have dropped from 47% to 40%.

<u>Ideology 1984-2012 – Congressional</u> <u>Ideological makeup of the electorate based on exit polls</u>

Year	Conservative	Liberal	Moderate
1984	36%	17%	47%
1986	35	17	48
1988	35	18	47
1990	34	19	46
1992	30	21	49
1994	37	18	45
1996	33	20	47
1998	31	19	50
2000	30	20	50
2002	34	17	49
2004	34	21	45
2006	32	20	47
2008	34	22	44
2010	42	20	38
2012	35	25	40

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Americans' confidence in TV news, newspapers and news on the internet is at a record low. 22% have confidence in newspapers, 19% in TV news, and 18% in news on the internet. [Gallup 6/14]

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48.8% of Americans now live in States in which same sex couples may marry. 35% live in States where it is currently banned. 16.2% live in States in which the right to marry is in limbo. [WP 6/14] It is only a matter of time before all gay Americans will share the same right of marriage that is available to opposite sex couples.

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47% of Americans view themselves as "pro-choice," while 46% describe themselves as "pro-life." [Gallup 5/14]

69% currently support physician-assisted euthanasia. However, support for euthanasia by "painless means" is only supported by 48% of those who attend church at least weekly, while those who attend church less than monthly support euthanasia by 82%. [Gallup 6/14]

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Americans have been losing their taste for milk. In 1970, average consumption per American was 1.5 cups a day. Now it is roughly 0.8 cups per day.

The decline has affected all kinds of milk, but consumption of whole milk has tumbled the most, down 78% since 1970. The greatest declines "are in the 2-11 and 12-19 age groups." It seems that the widely acclaimed health benefits of milk have been challenged, along with the increased availability of an evergrowing variety of other drinks. [WP 6/21/14]

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President Obama

The public's grade on the job President Obama is doing (as found by Gallup 6/26-28/14) is 43% approval/51% disapproval. In mid-June his approval rating was at 41%, just a point higher than his all-time low of 40% in mid-January.

Of the 6 most recent, two-term Presidents at this point in their second term, Obama's current approval rating continues to be better than George Bush II and Richard Nixon. He trails Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and Dwight Eisenhower. The list of 6 follows:

	<u>App</u>	<u>Dis</u>
Reagan	63	28 (7/14/86)
Clinton	61	34 (7/8/98)
Eisenhower	52	32 (7/15/58)

<u>Obama</u>	43	51 (6/26-28/14)
G Bush (II)	40	55 (7/9/06)
Nixon	28	58 (7/1/74)

<u>Date</u>	NBC/WSJ	WP/ABC	CNN/ORC	NYT/CBS
June 2014	42/53%	XXX	43/55%	40/54%
May 2014	XX	45/53%	43/55%	43/48%(CBS)
Apr 2014	44/50%	41/52%	XXX	XX
Mar 2014	41/54%	46/50%	43%/53%	43/50%
Jan 2014	43/51%	45/52%	45/51%	46/47%(CBS)
July 2013	45/50%	49/44%	XXX	48/45% (CBS)
Jan 2013	52/44%	55/41%	55/43%	51/41%

Again in mid-June, Obama's unfavorable rating hit a new low of 52%. [Gallup]

When it comes to how Americans "feel" about Obama, 45% say they have negative feelings and only 41% have positive feelings. This is the worst score he has had on this question during his tenure in office. [NBC/WSJ 6/14]

54% say that Obama cannot lead the country and get the job done.

54% disapprove of the way Obama has handled the economy. His worst score on the economy was in December 2013, at 58% disapproval. On his handling of foreign policy, disapproval hit 57%, the worst score of his term in office.

The country is split 50% to 50% on whether the Obama Administration is competent and effective. As recently as June 2013, 57% found the Administration as competent and 43% said it was not competent. 41% think the performance of the Administration has gotten worse over the last 12 months, while 15% think it has gotten better. [NBC/WSJ 6/14]

On his handling of immigration, Obama has gone from substantial disapproval to a 50/50 split on the question, and now back to a new disapproval high.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Disapprove</u>	<u>Approve</u>	
2010	62%	29%	
Early 2013	48%	46%	
June 2014	65%	31%	[Gallup 6/14]

52% disapprove of the President's handling of the current situation in Iraq. 37% approve. [Gallup 6/22/14]

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The Congress

Public confidence in the Congress has hit a new low, with only 7% expressing a "great deal" or "quite a lot" of confidence in the Congress. The high point in the last decade was 19% in 2006. This 7% confidence figure compares to confidence of 74% in the military, 53% in the police, 30% in the Supreme Court, and 29% in the Presidency. [Gallup 6/14]

14% approve of the way that Congress is handling its job, 78% disapprove. [NYT/CBS 6/14] In June, surveys conducted by Fox, Gallup, and CBS/NYT show that approval of the job being done by Congress ranges from 13-16% approval. Three surveys taken by The Economist/YouGov during the month averaged 9.3% approval.

36% of Americans would prefer that separate Parties control the House and the Senate, while 32% prefer single Party control. Roughly equal numbers of Democrats and Republicans prefer one Party control of both Houses. But only 27% of Independents would make that choice. [Gallup 6/14]

Among registered voters, 45% say they will vote for the Democratic candidate and 4% for the Republican candidate. [NBC/WSJ 6/14] In the NYT/CBS 6/14 survey, 42% say they will vote Democratic and 39% Republican.

Only 32% of registered voters think their current representative deserves to be re-elected. 57% take the opposite view. [NBC/WSJ 6/14]

Given a choice between an Independent/3rd party candidate, a Democrat, and a Republican when they cast their vote for their Member of the House of Representatives, 27% would go Independent, 35% Democratic, and 30%

Republican. These are about the same results as were found last October, and in the summer and fall of 2010. [NBC/WSJ 6/14]

Among registered voters 24% say that their vote for a Congressional candidate will be a message that they support Obama, while 34% say they will be sending a message that they oppose Obama. 41% say their vote is not a signal either way. [NBC/WSJ 6/14] A survey conducted by NBC/WSJ/Annenberg Public Policy Center during the 2nd week in June, asking essentially the same question, found 23% saying their vote was in support of Obama and 36% saying their vote was against Obama.

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No current, elected leader of the U.S. Senate or House of Representatives has a favorable rating of more than 33%, while 40-49% disapprove of one or more of the four leaders. [Gallup 5/14]

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There continue to be 9 Toss-Up seats in the Senate, 7 of which are currently held by Democrats and 2 by Republicans. "Conventional wisdom" continues to tell us that the Republicans will hold their 2 Toss-Up seats, and that South Dakota, Montana, and West Virginia, all currently held by Democrats, will switch. Thus, to achieve control, the Republicans need only pickup 3 of the 7 Democratic Toss-up States.

Iowa, which was pretty much seen as heading for continued control by a Democrat, is showing signs of being quite competitive. Bruce Braley (D) was leading Joni Ernst by 13 points in March, when there was still a Republican primary contest in bloom. Now, in mid-June, Braley leads Ernst by 4 points.

Among the Democratic Toss-ups, Arkansas, which was seen to be leaning towards a Republican take-over seems to have leveled out. Pryor is a long way from having a lock on re-election however. On the other hand, Begich's position in Alaska seems to have improved. And Udall (D) seems to be doing better in Colorado.

Recent publicly available polling in the Kentucky race (all from pollsters in whom WW does not have much faith) shows Grimes with a chance against

McConnell. But it is hard to believe that, at the end of the day, McConnell will lose.

As for Georgia, it will be hard to get a real read until the July 22nd Republican primary runoff is completed. In general, Nunn seems to be holding her own.

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In thinking about the 2014 races it is hard not to think about the run-off between Thad Cochran and Chris McDaniel. While most everyone has given the race to Cochran, McDaniel has not conceded and is in the process of trying to identify voters who participated in the Democratic primary and then also voted in the Republican runoff.

McDaniel has also complained about people who are not Republicans voting in the Republican primary. In that regard he may have led the way. It is reported that McDaniel voted in the Democratic primary in 2003 and he certainly was not a Democrat.

It appears that Cochran's margin of victory (some 7,000 votes) resulted from an effective courtship of African American voters who had not participated in the Democratic primary but who had supported him in the past.

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Pick Your Method

Vox.com had an interesting piece by Andrew Prokop on May 28th. He states and then explains that the "New York Times" was predicting a 58% chance that the Democrats would retain their majority in the Senate, while at the same time the "Washington Post" wrote that the Republicans had a 77% chance of taking control of the Senate. How the two organizations approach their prognostications, the "NYT" with considerable use of polls and the "Washington Post" with no current use of polls, is worth a read.

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THE U.S. SENATE

Democrats	53
Republicans	45
Independents	2

	<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Republicans</u>
Seats not up in 2014	34	30
Safe in 2014	10	13
Leaning in 2014	1	3
Shaheen (NH)		Walsh (MT)
, ,		West Virginia
		South Dakota
Total	45	46

Toss-ups

7 Democrats	2 Republicans
Iowa	McConnell (KY)
Landrieu (LA)	Georgia
Hagan (NC)	
Pryor (AR)	
Michigan	
Begich (AK)	
Udall (CO)	

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There is nothing particularly exciting to report in the contest for control of the House of Representatives. Republicans will maintain control. Based on the number of current Democratic seats in the Toss-Up column, it is possible, if not likely, that Republicans will add to their majority. (Cook Political Report is my bible here.)

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Democrats 199 Republicans 233 Vacant 3 (2D/1R)

2 Democrat seats)

Since the last edition of the Watch (mid-May) six Democrats and two Republicans have been added to the list of people who have said they are thinking about running for President or who have been talked about by others as potential candidates for the top office. The Republicans are Rick Santorum and Rick Perry. The Democrats are Duval Patrick, Brian Schweitzer, Mark Warner, Jay Nixon, Jim Webb, and Bernie Sanders.

2016

On the Democratic side, Hillary Clinton remains the one person who clears the field if she decides to run. The only interesting note is that Elizabeth Warren, who a couple of months ago was adamant that she is not contemplating a run for President in 2016, refused to commit herself to that position last month.

On the Republican side there is no such figure.

<u>Republicans</u>	<u>Democrats</u>
Jeb Bush	Joe Biden
Chris Christie	Hillary Clinton
Bobby Jindal	Andrew Cuomo
Rand Paul	Kristin Gillibrand
Marco Rubio	Amy Klobuchar
Paul Ryan	Martin O'Malley
Mike Pence	Elizabeth Warren
John Kasich	Howard Dean

Scott Walker	Duval Patrick
Ted Cruz	Brian Schweitzer
Rick Santorum	Mark Warner
Rick Perry	Jay Nixon
-	Jim Webb
	Bernie Sanders

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Clinton caused a certain flurry over the last several weeks based on her answers to questions relating to the family wealth. Her detractors have begun arguing that, given her wealth and other circumstances, she cannot "relate to or understand the problems of average Americans" as well as other Presidential candidates might.

In a survey conducted in late June, 55% said she could relate as well as other candidates while 37% took the opposite view. The responses of men and women were relatively the same with a few more men saying she could not relate as well. Independents split 46% yes and 44% no on the question. [NBC/WSJ/Annenberg Public Policy Center]

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This and That

Recently WW engaged in a discussion with one of its readers:

WW: Here are the latest performance numbers for Obama.

Reader: What happens when the main stream press stops covering up for Obama in its ongoing coverage?

WW: That part of the press that appears to cover his back won't change, but their impact is less because there is an increasingly active more conservative press.

Reader: The difference is that the negative, right-wing press reinforces opinion, whereas the mainstream media helps form opinion. Right-wing media only serves those who are looking to reinforce their preconceptions. Mainstream also gets repeated in less ideologically driven periodicals and broadcast. No one repeats stories written in the New York Post, but a story from the Times (NY),

"Washington Post," network news, gets repeated hundreds of times. The impact of the left has much more influence, based on volume of viewers and readers. Combining the effect of the Times and W Post with the viewership of the nightly news plus their repeaters creates an audience millions more than that of the right. It won't change unless the internet-provided information overcomes John Stewart.

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Leadership comes in many forms, styles, strengths, weaknesses. The question is whether a leader with particular strengths and weaknesses works in a particular situation.

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Restaurants

The Red Hen 1822 First St. NW Washington DC 202-525-3021 info@theredhendc.com

Debbie, Maxine and I went to The Red Hen, having heard a number of positive reports about this relatively new restaurant.

There is nothing but a small sign with a red hen hanging near the front door to let you know you are at the right place. As you enter the restaurant the reception desk is on your left.

The restaurant is a large square. It is cavernous, with large beams and posts and brick walls. It has an instantly comfortable feel.

At the far end, off the square, is an open kitchen. At the center, backing up to the kitchen, is a very large "U" shaped bar with 6 high stools on each of the three sides. Dinner can be eaten at the bar. The night we were there, every seat was filled, and there were a number of folks with drinks in their hands, waiting to grab a seat as they opened.

Wrapped around the bar are a large number of heavy wood tables seating parties of 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8. The chairs are also of heavy wood and not the most comfortable.

Table water is served in what appear to be empty wine bottles, sans labels.

The night we were there the menu had 10 starters, 5 pasta and grain dishes, 4 large plates, 2 extras, and 6 desserts.

Maxine decided to order three starters. First she had a Chilled Tomato Soup with Toasted Almonds, Cucumber and Ricotta Salata. This was followed by Little Gem Lettuces with Snow Peas, Cherry Tomatoes, Hazelnuts & Goddess Dressing. For her "entrée" she chose Citrus Cured King Salmon with Horseradish Cream, Capers, Dill & Crispy Potatoes.

Debbie started with the Little Gem Lettuces, followed by Caramelized Scallops with Fregola, English Peas, Pancetta & Littleneck Clams.

I started with Charred Beef Tongue with Root Vegetable Slaw, Mint & Tomato Sauce. For my main course I selected Wood-Grilled Chicken 'Fra Diavolo' with Kale, Fingerling Potatoes, Currants & Preserved Lemon. (Ordinarily I do not comment on particular dishes, but this to my memory is the best chicken I have ever eaten.)

The restaurant is fairly noisy and, as you would expect, the crowd is relatively young.

The service was excellent in timing, helpfulness, friendliness, and attitude.

There are two unisex restrooms. They are small but adequate. The one that I used had a white ceramic washbasin and commode on a solid red wall. There is a gold framed mirror above the washbasin. One side wall is built of red painted bricks "decorated" with drippy white things. The facing wall is also red. There is a small cabinet, topped by a basket filled with an extra toilet paper roll, at the intersection of the brick and plain wall.

The restaurant is only open evenings, and opens at 5:30 p.m. on Monday-Thursday, and 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Reservations are recommended and are taken for parties of up to eight. They claim to keep room for walk-ins. We were able to get a 7pm reservation on a Thursday night about 10 days in advance. I tried getting a 7pm reservation on a Friday or Saturday night, but those times were booked several weeks in advance.

At the time we made our reservations, the restaurant was only accepting reservations by telephone.

Parking is an issue, but there is valet parking on Friday and Saturday night.

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Debbie and Rachel went biking in Holland and Belgium. The following are two restaurant reviews written by Debbie.

Seasons 16 Herenstraat Amsterdam, (Holland) Netherlands

The night before Rachel and I started our bike trip in Holland, we were in Amsterdam and seeking a farm-to-table restaurant...we found it in Seasons.

Seasons is a long, narrow restaurant with 14 two tops and 4 four tops. We were lucky to be seated near the front and could look out on our first sunny evening and watch numbers of people, who did not have reservations, be turned away.

The menu was diverse and fun. It was designed to be a three course meal, but you could demur. We did not.

The waitress brought a jar of olives and delicious bread with our drinks. Debbie chose as a starter a divine asparagus, goat cheese and sweet onion tart with a pomegranate dressing. Rachel started with oak-smoked chicken, mango and coriander salad.

For the main course, Debbie chose spicy garlic shrimp on stir-fried noodles with a salad of avocado, orange and cilantro. Yummy and beautiful. Rachel had the Chicken Tikki Masala with Naan, condiments. It was among the best Tikki Masalas either of us had tasted and we noticed that many of our fellow diners also ordered it.

Dessert! Rachel ordered the Dutch Stroopwafel with vanilla ice cream and caramel. A stroopwafel, we learned, is a waffle-pressed thin cookie and was crumbled into the ice cream. Debbie tried the New Orleans Bananas Foster, a Dutch take on a favorite dish.

Rachel described the restroom as small, but serviceable.

This restaurant was our favorite in Amsterdam and looked to be a very popular local favorite too.

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Restaurant Oker Den newer 17, Den Hague, (Holland) Netherlands

This hip restaurant was recommended to us by the concierge at our hotel, the Des Indes, who made our reservation.

We walked over and were delighted to find contemporary Dutch cuisine in a small restaurant with tables on "stages," giving the restaurant floor lots of different heights and a feeling of spaciousness. The bar was hopping.

Since every meal was delicious and larger than we were used to eating, Rachel and I decided to order three different plates and share.

The waitress insisted we order the bread, which was delicious. We then tried the small plates of Moroccan Eggplant salad with goat cheese, Harissa dressing and cashews; the Thai coconut-lime soup with tiger prawns and shiitake mushrooms; and the pancakes with duck confit, spring onions, scallion and Hoisin sauce.

All the wait staff kept coming over to check on us and to see how we liked the "tastes." We did!

Upon their recommendation, for dessert we ordered their special Tonka Bean ice cream with Almond Caramel Crunch Lukewarm.

Excellent and fun.

* * * * *

An ardent Washington Watch fan sent the following photographs from Angola.







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