The Congressional Idea Of Fair Talk Radio

See Commentary Page 3
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By FRED WEINBERG  
Publisher

Back in the day—that’s the phrase we baby-boomers now use to describe the 60s when we were growing up—most cities of any size had three radio stations.

There was a rock and roll station, a country station and a middle of the road station.

Some cities had a daytime only station which was religious.

Really big cities had an all news station and a couple of rock and roll stations and maybe a soul music station.

These were all AM stations.

Most of them had big news departments. And you never, ever heard of a radio station going broke.

Most cities also had an NBC, CBS and ABC television station.

A really big city might have had an independent station.

That was the media back in the day.

If I tried to explain that to my 17-year-old stepson, he would find it very hard to believe if I could get his attention as he surfed the web on his laptop while he watched one of the 176 channels available to us on the DISH network and listened to one of the 36 radio stations on the air here in Las Vegas.

The media in the world Stephen is going to inherit is very different from the way things were back in the day.

Which makes it all the more amazing to me that we still have morons in Congress who want to federally mandate a return to the so-called “fairness doctrine” in that very small part of the media that Congress has nominal control over—broadcast radio and Television.

The Commission later held that stations were also obligated to actively seek out issues of importance to their community and air programming that addressed those issues.

In 1969, the Supreme Court ruled the fairness doctrine to be constitutional in the seminal “Red Lion” case.

In that case, a station in Red Lion, Pennsylvania, had aired a “Christian Crusade” program attacking an author, Fred J. Cook. When Cook requested time to reply in keeping with the fairness doctrine, the station refused. Upon appeal to the FCC, the Commission declared that there was personal attack and the station had failed to meet its obligation. The station appealed and the case wended its way through the courts and eventually to the Supreme Court.

The court ruled for the FCC, giving sanction to the fairness doctrine.

That was back in, as we now say, the day, when there were very few ways the public received the news over the air.

Things are a little different today.

One of the things which is different, is the number of voices.

When FM radio came along, a lot of operators started to get rid of their AM stations.

There were a lot of operators like, well, me, who were then able to afford to get a license to broadcast but didn’t really have anything to put on the air until we invented talk radio.

Continued on page4
I’d like to tell you what a stroke of genius talk radio was and how many of us planned it, but it was out of pure desperation. Here we had finally realized our life’s dream. We owned AM radio stations which nobody else wanted. We couldn’t play music because that’s what FM was all about. And we couldn’t afford to run huge news departments because that took advertising revenue and that was all going to FM.

So, faced with finding a way to either make people listen to our new radio stations that nobody else wanted or going broke, we figured out how to hire a talk show host, buy a telephone system and put it all on the air. This was all in the early 80s after the Reagan administration had abolished the fairness doctrine because cable TV had come along and so had FM radio and there was a huge number of additional places people could get their news.

Let me tell you, early talk radio was an acquired taste. But something started to hit a public nerve in the late 80s when conservatives—who, back then, had no real place in the national dialogue—started to use talk radio to espouse their viewpoints.

People listened. All of a sudden, we had an audience. Then, we had revenue. Rush Limbaugh came along and kind of put a national face on talk radio. And politicians of all stripes began to notice the votes which talk radio could mobilize.

Now, politicians of all stripes only like such things when it is to their advantage. For instance, Mississippi Senator Trent Lott used to just love talk radio when it took positions he liked. But now that many talk show hosts are against the pro-illegal immigration position that Lott, for whatever deranged reason, supports, all of a sudden Lott doesn’t like talk radio anymore.

Lott had said to the Washington Post two weeks ago, “I’m sure senators on both sides of the aisle are being pounded by these talk-radio people who don’t even know what’s in the bill.”

To the New York Times, he said, “Talk radio is running America. We have to deal with that problem.”

He told the Houston Chronicle, “I’ve had my phones jammed for three weeks. Yesterday I had three people answering them continuously all day.” Lott said. “To think that you’re going to intimidate a senator or any senator into voting one way or the other by scaring your phones with phone calls—most of whom don’t even know where Gulfport, Miss., is — is not an effective tactic. But it’s their right to do that.”

Well, he at least got the last part right—the part about our rights. The question is, does he really believe any of the rest of that nonsense?

One of the most insignificant Congressmen ever to serve in that office, Dennis Kucinich, has introduced into the House a bill which would re-institute the “fairness doctrine.”

Is it possible for a coalition of aggrieved liberals and conservatives to say that talk radio has gone too far and needs to be brought to heel?

In a world where George Bush and Trent Lott are supporting an illegal immigration amnesty bill, anything appears possible.

Since a good chunk of the GOP appears to be touring Oompah Loompa-ville with George Willie Wonka Bush, it is a threat we have to take seriously.

The fact is that it would be like peping up a rope.

There are so many methods of communication now that regulating them would be impossible.

And it’s possible a newly conservative Supreme Court would revisit the Rehnquist Lion decision with an eye toward the changes in the numbers of outlets.

But talk radio should not take the current threats lightly.

The answer should be to get rid of a Congress which even thinks it can tell the voters what other people can say on the air.

In this case, the best defense is absolutely a good offense. So, go get’em Rush, Bill, Sean and, yes, even the lone liberal Alan Colmes. Every once in a while, we need to remind the pinheads of both parties who really owns this country and you are just the guys to do it.
Commentary: Pat Choate

The Devil In The Details

The Presidents of Mexico and the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada, at their trilateral summit on March 23, 2005 initiated an effort whose ultimate purpose is to create a North American Union with a single labor market for the three countries.

The Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America has been intensely controversial and the Administration has downplayed the effort. Many Members of Congress have stoutly insisted that such negotiations lack Congressional approval.

Tucked away in the “Bush-Kennedy Immigration Act of 2007” is a provision that uses illegal immigration as a means of securing that Congressional approval. If criticized a year or so from now, the White House will respond, “But Congress approved all this.”

The balance of this article is the language taken from the Senate bill. Not a single Member of the Senate has said anything about this sneaky authorization ploy. What they tell me is not that they are for this provision, but they haven’t read the bill and do not know what it contains. Dealing with immigration is one thing. Authorizing negotiations for a North American Union is quite another.

Please read this and if it outrages you as much as it does me, call your Congressional delegation and ask them to at least read what they are approving.

_________________________________
Senate Bill S. 1639
SEC. 413. BILATERAL EFFORTS WITH MEXICO TO REDUCE MIGRATION PRESSURES AND COSTS.

(a) FINDINGS- Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Migration from Mexico to the United States is directly linked to the degree of economic opportunity and the standard of living in Mexico.

(2) Mexico comprises a prime source of migration to the United States.

(3) Remittances from Mexican citizens working in the United States reached a record high of nearly $17,000,000,000 in 2004.

(4) Migration patterns may be reduced from Mexico to the United States by addressing the degree of economic opportunity available to Mexican citizens.

(5) Many Mexican assets are held extra-legally and cannot be readily used as collateral for loans.

(6) A majority of Mexican businesses are small or medium size with limited access to financial capital.

(7) These factors constitute a major impediment to broad-based economic growth in Mexico.

(8) Approximately 20 percent of Mexico’s population works in agriculture, with the majority of this population working on small farms and few on large commercial enterprises.

(9) The Partnership for Prosperity is a bilateral initiative launched jointly by the President of the United States and the President of Mexico in 2001, which aims to boost the social and economic standards of Mexican citizens, particularly in regions where economic growth has lagged and emigration has increased.

(10) The Presidents of Mexico and the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada, at their trilateral summit on March 23, 2005, agreed to promote economic growth, competitiveness, and quality of life in the agreement on Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY- It is the sense of Congress that the United States and Mexico should accelerate the implementation of the Partnership for Prosperity to help generate economic growth and improve the standard of living in Mexico, which will lead to reduced migration.

The Penny Press Tips Its Cap To:

Land broker Tommy Fehrman who revealed for the first time, under oath, that not only was former County Commissioner Mary Kincaid a crook but her son, Mark was also involved in the payoffs from Developers who wanted favorable Commission votes on zoning. Now we hope DA David Roger, who has been doing an excellent job on local official corruption, follows up.

An as yet unnamed employee of the Gold Doctor jewelry store on Mojave Road near Charleston Boulevard, who took a handgun away from an armed robber and killed him with it during an attempted robbery of the store. Toby Keith should write a song about this hero.

The Penny Press Sends A Bronx Cheer And A Bouquet of Weeds To:

Higher Education Chancellor Jim Rogers who apparently gave some $20,000 of his own and his company’s money to try and unseat Regent Ron Knecht who won anyway. Much as we sometimes like what Rogers does, allowing an employee to try and unseat a board member he directly reports to borders on corrupt and certainly has no place in Nevada politics.
From The Publisher...

Maybe Homosexuals Felt Left Out In Lockerroom

It’s not about marriage.
It’s also not about morality.
It may not even be about economics—although that is the only practical reason for lawmakers getting involved.

The question of “gay marriage”—which certainly seems an oxymoron to us—is really about allowing some very annoying people to tell us that they have “rights” because of who they want to—or feel they must—copulate with.

And not only do we not care who they copulate with, we don’t even care if Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie copulate hanging from the ceiling in front of television cameras in Africa with a live audience in the bedroom. (Talk about your reality programming...)

We just don’t care, nor should we be forced to care.

Perhaps all this started with guys in a high school locker room bragging about their conquests.

Maybe the homosexuals felt left out of all the fun.

We didn’t care much then because anybody knows that people who brag about sexual conquests are almost never telling the whole truth nor are they gentlemen.

And if there was one thing that our parents raised us to be it is a gentleman

So, when someone comes into our house or into our collective face and says that he or she is “gay”, which used to simply mean happy, and we better like and accept them anyway, that begs the question; why should we care?

Has the level of discourse in the United States of America sunk so low that we have to not only give people extra special rights on the basis of the way they copulate and with whom but talk about it as well?

Maybe if we had some prurient interest, we could feign some curiosity. But we have none.

Not only do we resent being told by homosexuals that they have more rights than do we, we also don’t care about Hugh Hefner and the Donald’s raging hormones.

And we suspect that despite the best efforts of the media and our gay, lesbian, transgender fellow citizens, neither do most Americans.

What makes this such a great country is that we have an absolute right to ignore them and they us.

But the so-called activists amongst them will not leave us alone.

So, what to do?

Well, the first thing is to simply ignore them. When some state judge says they have more rights than the rest of us, vote against their retention.

When some state legislator says the same thing, don’t make a big deal out of it—just march to the polls in the next election and very quietly vote against him or her. Clothesline enough politicians and they will, we promise you, get the message without theatrics.

If two people of the same sex wish—in the privacy of their own space—to engage in a homosexual relationship that’s fine with us. They certainly have exactly the same rights we do. But not any greater or larger rights.

The bottom line is that most people in America don’t agree with the Nancy Pelosi/Harry Reid wing of the Democratic Party but realize the silliness inherent in amending the Constitution to preclude what most states have already precluded.

Using a constitutional amendment to deal with gay rights is like using a sledgehammer to kill a fly. It’s totally unnecessary and could have some messy implications we have not carefully thought through.

The next time some so-called gay rights advocate tells you that you need to deal with the fact they wish to copulate with someone of the same sex, answer that your sex life is none of their business and gentlemen never tell.

Maybe, faced with the enormous apathy most of the American public really has to them, they’ll get the message and leave us alone already.

FRED WEINBERG
Commentary: Doug French

Paying Their Way

In relation to the span of world history, the 57 years since 1950 is but a speck of dust. But the America of 1950 seems light years from this country today. Joe McCarthy was railing that there were 205 Communists in the State Department, while Estes Kefauver fretted over organized crime. L. Ron Hubbard published Dianetics, The Modern Science of Mental Health, and the first 500-mile NASCAR race was run at Darlington Raceway, (OK, some things stay the same).

But most importantly, only 28.3 percent of Americans in 1950 received a significant portion of their income from the government, while more than 30 percent of American workers were not employed in a government-reliant job. That was the last time private workers exceeded government beneficiaries in America.

Now, according to economist Gary Shilling, nearly 53 percent of all Americans receive a majority of their income from government programs, while at the same time, less than 30 percent of Americans can be considered private workers. This just seems down right un-American: not exactly what Jefferson, Adams and Washington had in mind.

And according to Schilling’s analysis, the trends will get worse for the primary reason that the population is aging. Baby Boomers are poised to belly up to the Social Security and Medicare troughs, raising the percentage of people living on the dole to 55 percent.

That was the percentage in 1980, before Ronald Reagan scaled back government (slightly). By the year 2000, half the population looked to Uncle Sam for sustenance. Bill Clinton may have said “the era of big government is over,” but now under George Bush, government is growing again.

Shilling gets to his number by counting government employees (one out of five Americans), adding to it the one out of five who receive Social Security or government pensions, plus 19 million food stamp recipients, five million receiving housing assistance, and five million getting education grants. Shilling also adds in the dependents of those counted above.

According to his research, Shilling projects that 60 percent of Americans will live off checks from the government by 2040, while only 25 percent will work for private employers. On its face, it hardly seems possible that a quarter of the population could support everyone else. Some of this can be explained by technological improvements that make workers more efficient and thus able to generate more goods, services and taxes.

But it will also require increasing levels of government debt provided by foreigners and money creation from the Federal Reserve to support the idle and taxpayer-subsidized majority.

Here in Nevada, just over half of legislators collects a check from taxpayers, despite the state’s constitution containing a separation of powers doctrine. Thus, the Silver State exemplifies the trend Shilling projects for the country as a whole, and nothing is likely to change. In fact, prominent local businessmen like Brian Greenspun, John Ritter and Jim Rogers are pounding the table, begging to be taxed more.

Expanding state government means more government workers and ultimately more retired government workers. According to the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report of the Public Employees’ Retirement System of Nevada for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2005, the average monthly compensation at retirement for regular state and local government employees as of June 2005 was $4,600 per month. For police and fire retirees, the average was $6,578. The report also indicates that the average age at retirement for regular state employees is 59, and is even lower for police and fire members who retire on average at age 55.

Taxpayers pay the freight for both the working years and retirement for these government workers, many of whom make $100,000 plus per year, with healthy cops and firefighters living longer than the average Nevadan.

Polls show that many baby boomers do not intend to retire. Most won’t be able to even if they want to. Inflation and the burden of supporting the growing majority on the government dole will keep them on the job until they keel over dead.

DOUG FRENCH
The Best Vegas Calendar BAR NONE!
By Billhere

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July 1= Grand Opening of MAKINO Sushi Buffet at 215 and Eastern.

July 4= Independence Day.

July 7= Expected to be the busiest day ever, in the history of Las Vegas wedding chapels. (07-07-07)

Jul.??= MGM MIRAGE is opening the final Tower 3 in the RESIDENCES AT MGM GRAND. The project has three Towers, each 40-stories high and each Tower will have 576 condominium units. The Towers are very creatively called: Tower 1, Tower 2 and Tower 3. Towers 1 and 2 are OPEN AND SOLD OUT. The condominium units can be rented by the public under the MGM Mirage program called The Signature at MGM Grand. The whole project is being built where the MGM Grand Adventures Theme Park was located, in the back of the MGM Grand. Turnberry & MGM Mirage are partners. Tel. 1-888-891-1688 or (702) 891-5555. Beautiful internet site is at: http://www.mgmgrandresidences.com

Sometime during late summer or early fall of 2007, FIESTA HENDERSON will open a Food Court, Arcade and 12-screen movie theater operated by Regal Cinemas.

Sometime in the fall of 2007, TOWN SQUARE, phase one, will open with theaters, restaurants and offices. This $750 million project on 1.9 million square feet, is located at Las Vegas Boulevard and Sunset Road.

Sept. 3= Labor Day.

Sep.28-29= Even though the name has already changed, PLANET HOLLYWOOD RESORT & CASINO (formerly the Aladdin) will hold a Grand Opening with parties, special events and celebrity guests. Sometime in September, the Venetian starts pre-selling condominiums in a new tower which will be built next to their existing Palazzo Tower.

Oct.??= $2 billion TROPICANA expansion starts by the new owners. The company has filed plans with Clark County to expand the old casino to 10,224 rooms counting 948 condo-hotel units. Existing hotel towers will stand as will the showroom while the rest of the property is demolished for the redevelopment. The current two towers, which total fewer than 2,000 rooms, will be reworked and merged into new towers. Hotel will remain open during the construction period.

Oct.??= The VENETIAN will open their third tower called “Palazzo Resort Hotel Casino” on the south-east corner of The Strip and Spring Mountain where the now demolished Tam O’Shanter Motel was located. The 53-stories tower will have 3,025 suites, cost $1.8 billion, with casino (1,900 slot machines and 80 table games), meeting space, shopping mall (with Barneys of New York), restaurants, underground parking and 1,500-seat theater. There will be a 60-foot glass domed entry lobby with a two-story fountain. When completed, it will be part of the largest hotel complex in the world with 7,052 hotel rooms. Hip-hop mogul Jay-Z will open a 40/40 club. Also opening is a 20,000-square-foot casual entertainment facility called ROCKET, a seafood-focused outlet, as well as an Italian steakhouse AND A Wolfgang Puck eatery. “Jersey Boys” is set to open in the Palazzo Tower in early 2008. The Broadway hit is slated for a long run in a new theater. The biography of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons won four Tony awards, including best musical. It opened on Broadway in November, 2005 and grosses more than $1.1 million per week. As in the first two towers, there will not be a buffet in this Tower.

Nov. 4= Daylight Savings Time ends. Put clocks back one hour.

Nov. 16 to Dec.10= Elvis Presley’s wedding ring, Marilyn Monroe’s jewelry and costumes worn by Charlton Heston, Mike Myers, John Wayne, Keanu Reeves and over $2 million of exclusive TV and movie memorabilia will be on display to the public - Aladdin/Planet Hollywood.

Dec.14-15= Auction of the entire $2 million collection consisting of Elvis Presley’s wedding ring, Marilyn Monroe’s jewelry and costumes worn by Charlton Heston, Mike Myers, John Wayne, Keanu Reeves and exclusive TV and movie memorabilia - Aladdin/Planet Hollywood.

Sometime in 2007 the Aladdin/Planet Hollywood will open a new show “Lumiere”.

Sometime in 2007, HARMON AVENUE EXTENSION opens that would link the street with Frank Sinatra Drive and The Strip.

Sometime in 2007, the Hard Rock Hotel will start A $750 million expansion with the addition of approximately 950 guest rooms, including an all-suite 15-story tower with upgraded amenities, approximately 60,000 square feet of meeting and convention space, and approximately 35,000 square feet of casino space. In addition, the project includes the expansion of the Hard Rock’s award-winning pool, several prominent new food and beverage outlets, a new and larger “JOINT”, live entertainment venue, 30,000 square feet of new retail space, as well as a new spa and health club. The project, is expected to be fully completed by mid-2009.

Sometime in 2007, the Monte Carlo will open DIABLO CANTINA MEXICAN RESTAURANT. The two-story, Strip front entrance restaurant will offer casual Mexican food with a modern festive approach.

Sometime in 2007, Station Casinos will start construction on its DURANGO STATION CASINO complex. Phase I of the project will include 400 hotel rooms, a 120,000 square-foot casino and amenities. Phase II will add a 600-room hotel tower, entertainment center and other expansions.

Sometime in 2007, Station Casinos will announce plans for a mixed-use project (condos, retail etc.) on 52-acres near their Palace Station.

Sometime in 2007, Herbst Gaming/Terrible’s will finalize its $400 million purchase of the three Primm,NV hotels and casinos (Whiskey Pete’s, Buffalo Bill’s and Primm Valley Resort), it pur-

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2007 Gun Rights Policy Conference

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2007 Gun Rights Policy Conference / FREE

Yes, I want to attend. I understand that registration, conference materials and luncheon will be provided courtesy of CCRKBA and SAF. All other meals, lodging and airfare are to be paid by attendee.

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Commentary: Albert Thomas

Review Or Go Broke

Too many investors receive their monthly statements without giving any thought to what is happening to their money. They may glance at it or not even open it.

This is the road to the poor house and peanut butter sandwiches for the rest of their retirement life. A few minutes now each month is all it takes to be either rich or poor when they no longer want to or have the ability to create income. They will be glad they spent the extra 15 minutes checking on what is being done with the money.

The average working person or business owner should not own anything but mutual funds or ETFs (exchange traded funds) because these are less volatile and easier to evaluate. However, if stocks are owned the first thing to ask is if they are selling for more than was paid for them. If not the investor should realize this is not where the money should to be. The best course of action is the sell NOW and put that cash to work in a different equity that is going up.

If the investor is in doubt about a particular issue let the market determine whether it should be sold or held by putting a reasonable permanent stop loss order in place. If it continues to decline market action will remove the weak position.

Brokers discourage everyone from doing this. Keep in mind this is not their money, it is YOUR money. He will tell you he will watch your account, but he won’t. The average broker has 300 accounts and unless the investor has a large 6 figure account or trades frequently he does not have time to review.

It is also a good idea to enter a trailing stop on every position. This will protect profits when the next major bear market hits and it will. No one knows just when. A few years ago Enron was on every brokers buy list right up to the day it started down never to recover. A stop loss would have saved investors most of their money.

Stops are the silent protector of money. No watching is required. When equities decline investors need protection. Always be concerned about paying attention. If you don’t the loss is your fault. Small losses are acceptable, but big losses are the killer of dreams.

The investor should call his broker or financial planner monthly to review any weak issue to be sure it is removed. Never allow a big loss. Even in 401Ks and similar tax-sheltered plans the fund manager should be held responsible for losses.

Review or go broke.

AL THOMAS

For more information read Al Thomas’ best selling book, If It Doesn’t Go Up, Don’t Buy It! or see his web site to receive his market letter at www.mutualfundmagic.com
Still Steaming

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The Nevada Northern Railway Museum is considered the premier preserved railroad complex in the country. The grounds encompass fifty-six acres with sixty-three buildings and structures with 30 miles of track.

This is the Nevada Northern Railway not a recreation. It is the original buildings, locomotives, cars and tracks. It is dirty and gritty. It smells of coal smoke, creosote, and sweat. It is noisy at times, locomotives whistle off, cars clang as they are coupled together, and wheels squeal as the locomotive is turned on the wye. At other times it is eerily quiet, where the only noise is the wind and the hooting of the owl that lives in the coal tower. Walking through the museum you can experience first hand what it took to move a mountain of copper ore.

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I’m free to make choices. You are free to make the same choices. God says that He puts life and death before us every day and it’s up to us to choose. God doesn’t force us to love Him or to follow the guidelines He has set forth. He doesn’t force us to serve Him or obey Him. He simply shows us the right path and then trusts us to make the right choices.

Of course, the problem is that we don’t always make the right choices. Let’s face it—if we’ve been Christians for any time at all, sin rarely sneaks up on us anymore. When we do something or say something we shouldn’t, we can think back to the time when we made the choice to do or say that bad thing. We came to a fork in the road where we could choose right or wrong, and we chose wrong.

This might not be so bad if we stepped up, took responsibility and paid the consequences when we were confronted with our bad choices. But too often, not only do we make the bad choices, we don’t want to take responsibility for them. We want to blame someone else because things haven’t worked out right in our life. We want someone else to have to pay the consequences for our own bad behavior. That’s like eating all that junk food every day and blaming someone else because we’re sick all the time and our clothes don’t fit anymore.

If you will start making right choices—choices in line with what the Bible teaches—you will walk out of the bondages that seem to hold you so tightly right now. Freedom won’t come just because you listen to godly teaching or attend a conference. Freedom is a choice. It’s a long series of right choices. It’s a slow process, but if you will walk in obedience day by day, making one right choice after another, you will be free at last!

JOYCE MEYER
For more on this topic, order Joyce’s five-part series Freedom. You may order by calling 1-800-727-9673 or visiting www.joycemeyer.org.
Commentary: Wyatt Cox

Screw Lott: We need a Hero

The Republicans don’t get it.
Trent Lott doesn’t get it.
The attitude of “My friend, you don’t know what’s right for you. Trust me,” isn’t going to fly with the American People.

How did Newt and the Conservatives get into power? Talk radio.
What almost killed NAFTA and GATT if it wasn’t for the ignorance of the average American? Talk Radio.

What will kill this stupid Immigration Bill? Talk Radio, both Conservative and Progressive.
You see, this is a bill that neither side of Talk radio likes.
Lott told the Washington Post, “I’m sure senators on both sides of the aisle are being pounded by these talk-radio people who don’t even know what’s in the bill.” Has he read the legislation? We have. If he has, and agrees with what it says, perhaps he should be retired.
Perhaps all those who agree with him should be retired.
Our esteemed publisher made dramatically good points on how the people can and will retire their Congressmen if they ram this crap through. But it’s worse.

Lott complained that talk radio hosts had “jammed his phones for three weeks.” He told the New York Times that “Talk Radio is running America. We have to deal with that problem.”

I disagree. If Talk Radio was truly running America we wouldn’t be in most of the messes we’re in today.
Talk Radio wouldn’t have let our economy be sunk by these horrendous trade deals.
Talk Radio wouldn’t have let our schools become the cesspools that they are.
Talk Radio wouldn’t have let our borders remain so porous that Jose and Maria and little Juan can wander across the border at will—and Abdul and Mohammad and their little bomb can make it across as well.

No, Talk Radio isn’t running America. If it was, it wouldn’t be the mess that the Republicans and Democrats have made of it. I can tell you in my heart of hearts that neither party can fix the problems they’ve made. I believe it’s going to take a Nader or Bloomberg to bring things to a screeching halt and turn things around.

No doubt, we need a hero. Someone to stand up and say, as Howard Beal did so long ago, “I’m as mad as hell, and I’m not gonna take this anymore.”

Someone with the platform of Pat Choate, the charisma of Jesse Ventura, and the pockets of Ross Perot, to make the changes happen.
To quote Steve Vaus, we must take our country back.

Back from the Neocons, the Globalists, all those people who want to sell us out to the highest bidder.
Back from the jerks like Trent Lott who don’t understand that they aren’t the anointed ones, they’re not royalty. They’re our employees.
Back from the congressmen who don’t give a damn about their constituents. They’re just in it for the payoffs.
They’ll learn. We’ll remember soon enough. After all, elections are only seventeen months away. We can remember that long...

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With all the talk about Katie Couric and how the American People aren’t bonding with her “happy news” evening newscast, it’s interesting to note that Couric isn’t the only one tanking.

In Katie Couric’s first 39 weeks at the helm of the CBS evening news, she lost 287,000 viewers, or 4 percent of the audience that watched while Bob Schieffer was at the helm.

Brian Williams, the former Golden Boy at NBC, has seen his audience drop over half a million in the same time period, roughly 5 percent of his former number one.

The beneficiary of all this action: Charles Gibson at ABC. His newscast, inherited indirectly from the late Peter Jennings, has been the top rated evening newscast for 15 of the last 19 weeks, and is on an eight straight week run at the top.

It also proves that Americans will trust a more mature man like Gibson than a younger, more staid individual like Williams.

Gibson is also able to do what Couric cannot; make the audience feel comfortable and at ease. Couric comes off as too wooden, working too hard to be affable.

By and large, it’s all a last hurrah. The Internet is making the “Nightly News” cycles all but irrelevant in a way that cable never has been able to successfully overcome.

------------------------------------------
I believe in Spaying and Neutering your pets. But California is attempting to go too far.

A bill there would require all pet owners to spay or neuter their pets. The ludicrous bill would fine owners $500 per animal and could also involve jail time.

That’s California for you. Remind me never to go there.

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One last pitch. Call your congressman at 202-224-3121. Tell them no amnesty, and that you WILL remember next November...

WYATT COX

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Backfire

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