



The Rhode Island Diogenes

Your Weekly Source For Satirical Political Commentary

*OFFENDING RHODE ISLANDERS
ONE READER AT A TIME*

Volume 3 Issue 17 June 25, 2008

THE MOST UNKINDEST CUT OF ALL

Providence – With a direct back-hand slap to the public sector labor unions and those otherwise reliant on government assistance, the legislature has determined that it cannot afford to pay into health care coverage for themselves.

“We did our jobs. We made the cuts from others. We do not serve by example” said one legislator.

The Lieutenant Governor, long missing from the budgetary battleground, has not ventured to comment on the budget, leading some to speculate that she is being appreciative that the Assembly did not cut her budget or pass legislation to eliminate the anachronistic office.

“Sure the poor are suffering, but I am only one voice in the wilderness. I guess I could not take a pay and not hire a staff for this worthless office, but why? The poor are still going to be poor whether I get my pay, benefits, and other office perks. We need to find more money in the budget to pay for these people in need of health care”.

While many argue that the budget was balanced on the backs of the poor and infirm, at least Rhode Island will not have to worry about having unhealthy legislators.

STRUCTURAL REFORM PASSES LEGISLATURE

Providence – As part of the agreement between the Governor and House and Senate leadership, Rhode Island will be outsourcing legislative seats beginning in 2010.

“Since only 5% of the legislature actually determines what will become law in Rhode Island, Rhode Island could save millions by encouraging most legislators to take an early retirement to preserve their health care benefits” said a spokesperson for the Governor.

“Now that the Governor recognizes that our power is veto-proof, we no longer need so many people getting in the way of the decision making process” said a source at the Speaker’s office.

In the recent budget, Article 18 included the Albattross Abatement Act. Since most legislators only perused the budget most thought the provision was related to some animal rights group. “If they had read the budget they would have realized that they were outsourcing most legislative jobs to some company in New Delhi and completely eliminated all of the Republican controlled seats in the legislature as being redundant.” said an aide to the Senate President.

Although the races for general officers are two years away, most of the displaced legislators are considering running for Lieutenant Governor.

MATH HALL OF FAME OPENS

Canton – Yet another Hall of Fame opened here today. In a calculated move, the World Society of Mathematicians has concluded that Canton is the perfect home for its Hall of Fame.

The initial class of inductees includes Pascal, Euclid, Ulugh Beg, Regiomontanus, Oresme (who was voted in by a factional exponent), and an infinite number of other lesser math whizzes that included the one hit wonder Galton as part of a normal distribution of inductees.

Copernicus was given the lifetime achievement award for his supporting role to mathematicians involved in calculating time through the movement of the earth.

In his speech to the class, Malthus noted the achievements of math in the world, tracing it from its roots to its logical extension. The speech was interrupted by a man who was angered by the exclusion of Archimedes and attacked the speaker with a pi.

Unmoved, Malthus continued his speech to its conclusion.

“It is a numbers game and you folks are the best. It is a real pleasure to be with you today. While we remain divided, we have all added something to the world, without subtracting anything. I cannot say anything more profound to you, the Math Class of 2008 other than ‘Go Forth and Multiply’”.

HEEEEREE'S BANKRUPTCY

Hollywood – Rumors here abound about the financial demise of Ed McMahon. People are stunned and in disbelief that the famed pitchman has lost his fastball.

“Who would believe he’s broke. People still love big time wrestling. You’d think that maybe Hulk Hogan would send him a few bucks” said one observer.

“People often mistake pitchman Ed with pitchman Vince, but they are unrelated. Ed is the broke one” said a WWF spokesperson.

“It is just awful. I saw a bunch of kids bring a big piece of cardboard from a refrigerator box to his door. They had a few balloons. They rang the bell a few times, you know it takes forever to answer the door when you have a broken neck” said a source.

“They were all yelling ‘Ay Yo’ or some other stupid sound. At the door he asked who they were. They told him they were the prize patrol with a big check. I couldn’t believe it, but he yelled, “Well how big is it?”, and they all laughed.

“It really isn’t easy to live as a millionaire. We all let him into our homes, even during his drinking years, but now when he needs a little help, we are content in our own misery to consider the misery of others who were once much more fortunate than we were”.

PRODUCT RECALL

Washington– The federal government has announced a recall of a product which recently sold on the internet.

The product, the Ironic Breeze, has been recalled from the shelves. The product produces a fresh air, but inspectors could not find anything ironic about that achievement.

“You’d believe that it would be a breeze, but therein lies the irony” said Bryan Rodrigues speaking for the manufacturer.

“The Ironic Breeze purposely misleads the consumer to believe that there would be an ironic breeze, but the irony is that there is no real breeze. What is so ironic about that?” asked one unsatisfied purchaser.

What Do You Think?

Once again the General Assembly has ended its year with a blizzard of bills in the last days. What do you think?

Waste makes haste.
RH - Barrington

This merely proves that the legislature should meet only one week a year.
DC - East Greenwich

To me it’s great. There is nothing like surprises. I just love it when, after the session, we find out exactly what was jammed into the budget.
RG - Bristol

As I always say, if you’re going to do something, do it with last minute committee meetings.
SC - Providence

Time to have my staff count the spoons.
ER - Cranston

GET ON THE MAILING LIST
www.diogenesri.com
OR ADD A FRIEND’S E-MAIL

TODAY AT 25

New York – After much consternation, network officials have decided that they will expand the Today show to 25 hours.

“We kept expanding the show, but we decided that it was now time to challenge the very concept of time. With a 25 hour show we will be testing the framework of time in that we are actually doing the today show both today and tomorrow at the same time” said Matt.

“You would think that there was not enough inane information that could be produced in the form of actual news, but you’d be wrong. In fact, I think Meredith did a piece on this just last week”

ASK LIZ - Advice on Anything

Dear Liz:

I have been given a great job with good benefits. My problem is that I got the job promising much more than I could ever have delivered.

I am about half-way through my four year contract and it is clear that I will not be able to fill my promises.

What should I do?
Janice - West Warwick

Dear Janice:

It is better to have great dreams, even if you know that they are more fantasy than reality.

So what if there isn’t universal health care, increased stem cell research, or any other tangible outcome. I want them to happen.

Some may call you a dreamer, but if you promise world peace, or a cure for cancer, people will get behind you, if only because they are far too stupid to think that you could never do as you say. You can always rely on “I’m trying” or “I really wanted it”.

THE HALLMARK

Charlie Hall



YET ANOTHER CALCULATED
ATTACK