

## The DePaulia gets it wrong

### Campus Newspaper Reports False Information on Coca-Cola

by Michael O'Shea

In its Sept. 15th issue, DePaul University's very own campus newspaper *The DePaulia* reported falsehoods and unsubstantiated claims that the University's decision not to renew its contract with Coke is the result of demands made by the Activist Student Union (ASU).

The article under scrutiny is entitled "Campus Coke problem: solved," in which student reporter Jessica Dietz draws questionable conclusions. Dietz claims, "The deadline to renew the [Coke contract] passed this summer and DePaul listened to the demands of the ASU and others."

*The DePaulia* asserts that the reason the Coke contract was not renewed was because of a three-year boycott campaign against Coke by anti-sweatshop activists on campus. It also reports that, "Fr. Holschneider has asked Coca-Cola to hold an independent investigation of the bottling plants in Columbia. Coca-Cola did not agree to this demand..."

According to DePaul officials, an independent investigative committee, and the former Student Government Association (SGA) president, both of these contentions have been found to be categorically untrue.

DePaul officials said their choice not to renew the contract was based solely on its financial merits and in order to "generate strategic business revenue." In fact, the three month boycott the SGA put into effect was rescinded when the SGA concluded that Coca-Cola had agreed to an independent International Labor Organization (ILO) investigation of the bottling plants.

Former SGA President Wesley Thompson presided over the retraction of the boycott. "SGA ended their boycott of Coke in a resolution citing the



ILO investigation, lack of support for the boycott, and the potential for our boycott to hurt local bottlers," Thompson said.

Furthermore, a Fair Business Practice Committee (FBPC) consisting of professors and students was set up during the summer to determine whether Coca-Cola had complied with an ILO independent investigation. The members of the FBPC were unanimous in concluding that Coca-Cola had complied with an independent investigation, and recommended that President Holschneider renew the Coca-Cola contract with DePaul.

A statement released by DePaul cited reasons not to renew the contract based upon financial motives. Thomas Drexler, Chair of the FBPC, says ASU

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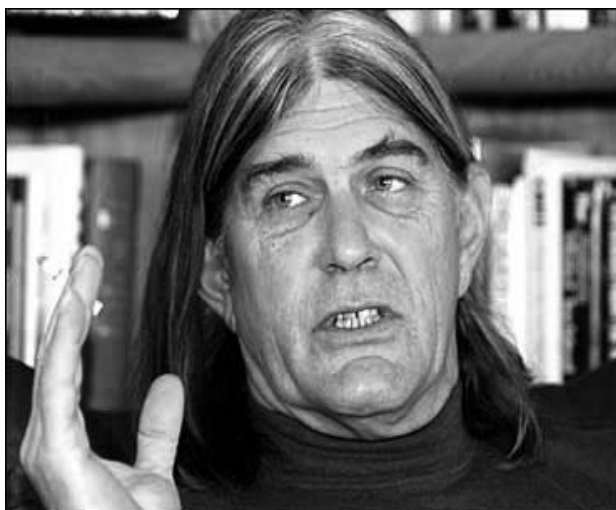
## DePaul faculty members support re-hiring of academic fraud Ward Churchill

by Derrick Wlodarz

While the University still has egg on its face for its guilty attempts to stifle student opposition to Ward Churchill's appearance on campus roughly one year ago, a handful of staff members from DePaul have signed onto a petition asking for the rehiring of Ward Churchill at the University of Colorado (UoC).

Churchill, who was dismissed from UoC last summer, has been a fiery critic of the United States' policies, both national and foreign alike. While his visit last year was characterized as an anti-war, anti-U.S. tirade, the reason for his dismissal comes down to something more publicly feasible: academic misconduct and deception.

DePaul University prides itself in its strong academic integrity, and requires that its students uphold these values. For example, plagiarism is one of the most stringent issues in academia today, and if even a single sentence lifted from another source, students risk severe punishment, such as point deductions, and in some cases, are submitted for review in front of a board. For a DePaul faculty member sign onto a petition asking for the un-firing of a professor who blatantly distorted facts and falsified sources is to contradict DePaul's values. The facts remain – Churchill was found unanimously guilty on



**If Churchill were a student at DePaul, he would have violated the the Student's Academic Integrity Policy thus receiving suspension or expulsion**

all charges by the UoC Standing Committee on Research Misconduct and hence dismissed of his duties at the institution.

Some members of academia called the investigation of Churchill and the subsequent charges nothing more than a political witch-hunt. But with the amount of evidence stacked against this firebrand professor, how could anyone blindly dismiss the allegations?

Although the committee reviewed findings

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in many areas of Churchill's work, his most notable scholarly misrepresentation involves the false notion that members of the U.S. army distributed blankets covered in smallpox to Mandan Indians in 1837 for the sole purpose of small-scale genocide. Churchill expanded on this invented theory in several essays, citing sources that have since publicly denied that they support any of Ward's theories. R.G. Robertson, Russell Thornton, and Evan Connell – all cited in Churchill's work – have refuted the positions Ward extracted from their own writings. Guenter Lewy, a professor from the University of Massachusetts, released an essay rebutting the claims made by Churchill in November of 2004. Lewy completely rejected all of Churchill's theories surrounding the smallpox genocide. "He just makes things up," Lewy said.

This wasn't the end of Churchill's masterful fact-creating machine. He further made claims that John Smith was responsible for a similarly conducted smallpox attack against the Wampanoag Indians. Once again, no other professors are willing to stand behind this assertion. The University of Colorado Standing Committee on Research Misconduct determined all the facts and sources that Churchill used to

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# The DePaulia exempt from campaign policy

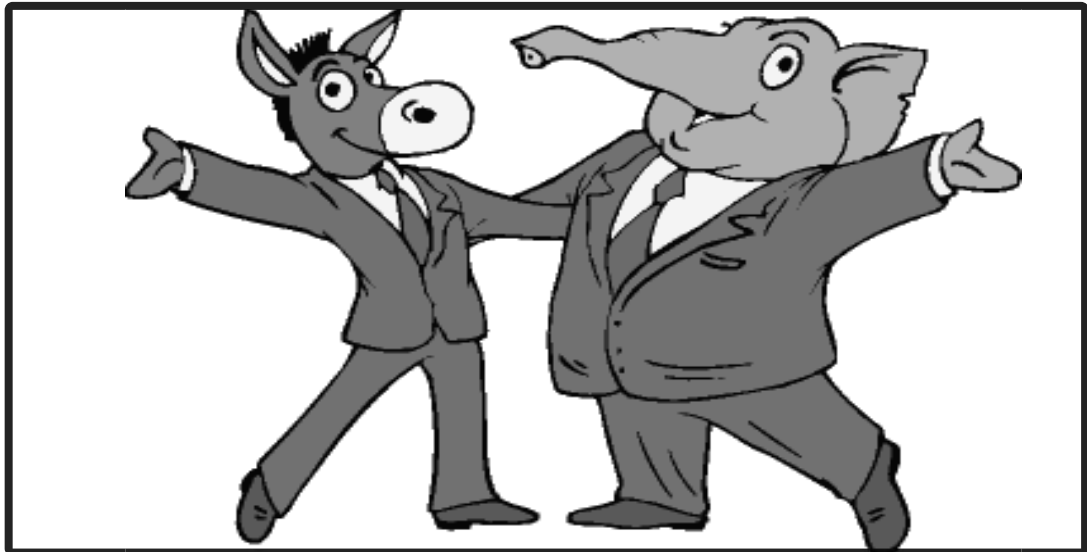
## Policy Is Applicable to All Other Student Organizations

by Lauren Ream

With the onset of campaigning for the 2006 Congressional election and the 2008 presidential election, DePaul University President Holtschneider reminded students Sept. 18th in a campus-wide email to be aware of the University's policy on participation in partisan political campaigns. In the 2004 election, the policy restricted student organizations, with the exception of student newspapers, including *The DePaulia*, from promoting candidates.

Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code prohibits universities from participating in political campaigns. In order to protect its tax-exempt status as a nonprofit organization, DePaul may not "participate in or intervene in...any political campaign on behalf of (or in opposition to) any candidate for public office," the Internal Revenue Code says. DePaul's student handbook offers examples of prohibited activities, such as fundraising for candidates, making official comments on a specific candidate's platform, and encouraging people to vote in accordance with a controversial issue that is known to divide candidates. However, the handbook allows student newspapers some degree of freedom when it comes to campaign participation. "A student newspaper that is financially supported by the University may engage in partisan editorial activities, given the student newspaper provides a disclaimer that the editorial views do not reflect those of the university," the handbook says.

Taxpayers and tax-exempt organizations may ask the IRS for guidance when existing laws and regulations are unclear and open for interpretation. Their decision is called a "revenue ruling." The IRS issued a revenue ruling in 1972 that gives school newspapers the right to endorse candidates. It details



**Student Organizations will not be able to endorse a candidate from either side of the political aisle before this coming Congressional election in November**

the functions necessary for a publication to be considered a school newspaper and explains why newspapers are exempt from a policy that applies to all other organizations. The ruling also states that partisan bias is limited to editorial statements.

The IRS finds the endorsement of a political candidate customary and natural for a news organization. "[Campus newspapers are] an extension of the formal instructional process itself," the IRS revenue ruling says. "The expression of editorial opinion and political and legislative matters in the manner described is likewise a commonly accepted feature of legitimate journalism, and would accordingly appear to be an accepted feature of legitimate student newspapers."

In 2004, *The DePaulia*'s staff made the decision to endorse Senator John Kerry as a presidential candidate in a staff editorial voicing their discontent with the current situation. "Very simply put, we are not happy and we believe Kerry could do a better job in his sleep," the newspaper stated. "Therefore *The DePaulia* is endorsing him as the next President of

the United States of America."

Brendan Ryan, the paper's former Editor-in-Chief during the 2004 political campaign, finds coverage of political news a vital part of reporting and stands by a newspaper's right to endorse a candidate, noting that it's taking place in newsrooms across the country. In 2004, *The Chicago Tribune* endorsed President George Bush and *The Sun-Times* endorsed Kerry. "Everyone's interested in this kind of thing and anything having to do with politics...*The DePaulia* is the vehicle for political opinion and that's the way it should be," Ryan says.

Neil Heyman, president of the DePaul College Democrats and third-year student also believes the policy is fair. "If *The DePaulia*'s trying to be a serious newspaper, they're going to report the news professionally. If there's a precedent that's been set by other major newspapers...that's probably why they're endorsing candidates," Heyman says. However, Heyman does not consider the policy to have much effect on his organization. "It's been a policy of ours not to provide specific endorsements. We provide endorsements to all Democrats in general. We don't feel it's necessary to provide endorsements to specific candidates," Heyman says.

Tom McWalters, president of the DePaul College Republicans and second-year student, agrees. While there are a few things McWalters would do if the policy wasn't in place, such as distribute campaign literature and posters, he agrees that "*The DePaulia* should pick a candidate if it helps them become better journalists because the school newspaper is obviously a training ground for journalism." However, McWalters doesn't support endorsements purely for the sake of being a partisan organization.

Although both McWalters and Heyman agree that the policy is not overly restrictive, McWalters doesn't believe the policy to be fair in principle. "If people are allowed to be partisan because it teaches them to be good journalists, shouldn't people who are studying other things be allowed to be partisan in pursuit of their careers as well? If someone wants to go into politics when they graduate college, it would be natural that they would start doing partisan work for the DePaul College Republicans or Democrats while still in college. Shouldn't those people have the right to the same liberty...?"

McWalters also questions the objectivity of *The DePaulia*'s political coverage, especially the reporting of specific events taking place on campus. "I think that there is an abundance of leftwardly-slanted articles, and I've never seen an article that was conservative in any way in *The DePaulia*," McWalters says.

Although Neil stresses that he believes in the DePaulia's neutrality, he condemns the idea of a bias. "If their editorials were spilling into their news they have a big problem... That's not reporting news. That's nothing better than a tabloid."

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## Attention Conservative Writers!

The *Lincoln Park Statesman* is always looking for more staff writers who wish to contribute conservative opinion articles. Even if you are NOT a staff member, you can still submit an article. This paper is open to ALL DePaul students and professors who wish to opine on any relevant issue in a conservative light. If you are tired of the same old liberal rhetoric being voiced from ideological teachers, here is YOUR chance to be heard.

To join the staff, or simply submit an article, write us at [lpstatesman@gmail.com](mailto:lpstatesman@gmail.com)

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## MISSION STATEMENT:

The *Lincoln Park Statesman* is a conservative newspaper dedicated to truth in journalism. It is committed to fostering the public discourse essential to democracy; maintaining the highest standards of quality; and preserving and promoting American values, while embracing and exploring conservative philosophies both economically and socially.

# DePaul unveils new Strategic Plan

by Tom McWalters

DePaul University has recently unveiled a new vision for the school's long-term direction entitled Vision Twenty 12 (V2012). V2012 represents the school's long-term plan for development which will carry through the year 2012. The plan is divided into six specific goals: Enrich Academic Quality, Prepare Students to be Socially Responsible Future Leaders and Engaged Alumni, Be a Model of Diversity, Selectively Increase Enrollment, Strengthen Financial Position, and Further Institutionalize DePaul's Vincentian and Catholic Identity (respectively).

The school's previous long term plan was to grow the size of the University, which they have now accomplished. This is the period during which DePaul grew from approximately 16,000 students to its current size, approximately 22,000 students. V2012 shows an important and pivotal change in focus for DePaul administrators. Making "enrichment of academic quality" the first and primary goal means that the university will formulate its main exertion to a higher quality of education for all DePaul students.

At a recent meeting with the Student Government Association, President Holschneider addressed the specifics of V2012. It was noted that many within the university administration wanted continued growth to remain the focal point of this plan, with the intention of following after NYU, the nation's largest urban university.

Holschneider noted that while the specific execution of the plan will be left up to individual colleges, some reforms will be made university wide. For example, the university plans to elevate the expectations for every department to demand a higher quality of writing from students, where this was previously more prevalent only in certain schools and



certain departments. This will broaden every DePaul student's prose thus making them a more valuable commodity post-graduation, and will also increase the level of scholarship with which the university is affiliated.

While familiar Vincentian motifs remain in the plan, such as Goal 3 "be a model of diversity," some astute observers wonder if this signals a long awaited shift in the administrative culture of the university. DePaul has long prided itself on being home to first generation college students and others who might otherwise not have the opportunity to attend a university. One cannot help but note that an enriched academic quality will almost doubtlessly go hand in hand with an increase in admissions standards.

There has long been an internal struggle within DePaul between those who would like to see a pure increase in academic standards at the university and those who would like to see an increase solely in a 'model of diversity' atmosphere. While some may see V2012 as a conflict of these two ideals, others would point out that it shows hope that these two ideals will be able to co-exist within the university.

Thus, the university has set the bar very high for itself by promising to increase the academic nature of the institution while also being a place for first generation college students to find education. The fourth goal of V2012, "selectively increase enrollment," seems to come closer to addressing this issue than

anything else in the plan. It states that this goal will, "Achieve undergraduate enrollment growth through a balanced strategy of increasing new freshmen and new transfers." This wording leaves the door open to further class growth, to presumably 'select' students, while also indicating an increase in the quality of incoming students.

The university has set forth an extremely ambitious and diverse plan, which will only be achieved through extremely diligent work at all the departmental levels and upwards. If this plan is executed properly, V2012 could ensure a more valuable and comprehensive education for all current and future DePaul students.

For more information on Vision 2012 visit <http://vision2012.depaul.edu/video/index.aspx>

**DEPAULIA** continued,

protests were not responsible for the termination of Coca-Cola's contract with DePaul. "...I believe the statement DePaul released in the non-renewal of the Coke contract was accurate."

The statement reads, "DePaul University has selected a new beverage provider to meet the beverage needs of its students, faculty, staff and guests following a competitive bidding process that included Coca Cola." It later states, "We support Coke's decision to partner with the International Labor Organization ILO to conduct an independent and objective evaluation of the situation."

Thompson also confirms what Drexler and DePaul officials have said about the contract. "I do believe that ASU's efforts did have the effect of at least forcing the administration to think about these issues and take them seriously. In the end, however, I really have to believe that this was a business decision above all, that Pepsi just offered us a better deal than Coke," Thompson says.

The *Statesman* anticipates that *The DePaulia* will publish a correction about the falsified article in an upcoming issue.

**CHURCHILL** continued,

build his argument to be fabricated.

Aside from the academic shortcomings, Churchill has had more than his fair share of personal allegations. Churchill's claims to a Native American heritage have not only been rejected by many members of the community itself, but cannot be proven by documentation that is publicly available and has been reviewed by media outlets in Colorado. In turn, Churchill has refused to prove his bloodline via approved testing standards, allowing his supposed Native American background to remain hearsay.

As though this doesn't jeopardize Churchill's credibility enough, add the flagrant copyright violation Ward committed when he sold copies of an art print entitled "Winter Attack" in 1981. A beautiful piece, indeed, however, not Churchill's own creative work. It happens that the piece is the mirror image of a 1972 work by Thomas Mails. Ward himself was quoted as saying, "It is an original art work by me, after Thomas Mails." Clearly, this is anything but the case. No proper credit was given to the late Mails on Churchill's piece, and Mails' son openly criticized Churchill's actions. "I cannot imagine [my father] would ever grant permission to anyone to copy one of his pieces." Although the University of Colorado didn't touch on these items in their investigations, these scandalous acts certainly are revealing of Churchill's character and moral standing. Still, eight DePaul staff members stand by their decision to support the re-hiring of Churchill.

It is not surprising that Cultural Center Director Harvette Grey is a proud signatory of the petition, as is Professor Aminah McCloud. Grey is best known for her actions to bring Churchill to speak on campus last year, and worked hard to exclude the DePaul College Republicans from the post-speech seminars on human rights by contriving last-minute rule changes in event requirements—all of which were later made public due to Google Cache history.

The fact that McCloud was included in David Horowitz' book *The Professors: The 101 Most Dangerous Academics* in America speaks for itself.

At the same time, professor Thomas Klocek was forced from of his position at DePaul two years ago for disagreeing with Muslim and Palestinian students. There is no academic impropriety to speak of — he was suspended for voicing his opinion at a campus event. While DePaul is waging a war of attrition in his legal battle, a petition in support of his struggle available on theweb in support of his struggle. Have any of the 8 DePaul signatories on the Ward petition given his the same attention? Not a single one, and it's a real shame.

*Special thanks go out to John Ruberry of Marathon Pundit and PirateBallerina.com for their coverage of this ongoing story. If you would like to view the petition, please visit [www.tinyurl.com/ja72h](http://www.tinyurl.com/ja72h)*



**Churchill's plagiarized "artwork" was a mirror image of another artist's work 20 years prior**



**The contract with Coke is up, evidence that our "evil" capitalist system is working just fine**

# Inter-faith dialogue crucial for harmony

## Muslims React to Pope's Controversial Comments

by Philip Minardi

Almost as soon as Pope Benedict XVI stepped down from the podium at the University of Regensburg, the firestorm over his discourse began. Thirty-five minutes prior, the head of the Catholic Church began a discussion on the relationship between faith and reason, and the development of religiously-inspired violence. The Pope had spent much of his earlier life in the academic arena teaching at the University of Bonn, so speaking in front of fellow scholars was nothing new to Benedict XVI. But what was new to his Holy See came in the wall of resentment and rage that followed his lecture.

In the speech, presented in the country of his birth, he continued a broad theological examination of the interplay of faith and reason by quoting a conversation that took place nearly six hundred years ago between a 14th century Byzantine Emperor and a Persian scholar. The Pope quoted these words by the Emperor Manuel II: "Show me just what Muhammad brought that was new, and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached."

The quote was meant to get people to think about the idea of jihad. It was meant to express The Pope's view that jihad, meaning "struggle," is to often taken literally rather than looked at in a more nonviolent and figurative way (as many in the Muslim community agree it should be).

Within days, the whole world was engaged in a critical analysis of the words he spoke that Tuesday afternoon. Yet, the response of many in the Islamic community might not of been what the Pope had foreseen. Leading Shiite clerics in Lebanon asked for a personal apology. The Pakistani parliament voted to condemn the Pontiff.

Deputy Head of Turkey's governing party, Salih Kapusuz, aired his infuriated emotions stating, "He is going down in history in the same category as leaders such as Hitler and Mussolini," and offi-

cial in that country also suggested that he reconsider his visit there in November. The actions of the Islamic community did not stop at mere verbal outrage and ill advised comparisons of the most holy figure in the Catholic Church to a man who systematically slaughtered over six million innocent men, women and children. Two churches were bombed the following Saturday, a 65 year old nun was shot in the head repeatedly, and effigies of the Holy figure were burnt in many Islamic communities.

The Pope started out the week seeking to open up channels of inter-religious communication. Benedict, in his lecture, even quoted early Qu'ranic text, stating "there is no compulsion in religion" which is a valid point to bring up in trying to understand how to take on religious fundamentalism and the increase of terrorism around the world. In quoting the words of Manuel II, the Pope sought to teach the audience a point. He proclaimed the idea that religion and violence do not go, but rather religion and reason should take precedent. He wanted the audience to question the roots of violence in the name of religion and to understand that God is a figure of love.

Anyone who carefully reads the lecture can see that Benedict did not seek to offend anyone. Yet by the end of the week, The Pope was fending off demands that he step down from his position.

Yet, the more appropriate question to consider is not what the Pope should do, but what should we, as a conscious society, do? How should the world choose to move forward? How should we make sure no one else gets hurt in the name of religious discussions?

The head of the Religious Studies Department here at DePaul University, Father James Halstead, believes that there are three significant changes that must be made, on both sides, to reconcile the differences and begin to open lines of inter-religious communication.

Father Halstead explains, "There must be



**Pope Benedict XVI stirs up religious tensions within the Muslim community**

self control, mutual respect and behavioral changes made. People of both faiths have to come together and not be afraid that they are going to get hurt for expressing their views. The world has to be able to respect the cultural and religious practices of others. Both Christians and Muslims have to adapt their behavior to better facilitate communication. As there are mosques in the Italy and the United States, there should also be Churches allowed in Saudi Arabia. These three important changes have to take place on national, local and community levels."

This week the Pope met with Muslim leaders at his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo near Rome, to start working together on those issues he outlined in his speech in Germany. Pope Benedict told Muslim diplomats that both Muslims and Christians have to work together to protect against intolerance and unnecessary violence. Furthermore last Saturday night, here Come at DePaul, Islamic World Studies and The Religious Studies Department held a town hall meeting to begin to initiate a mutual respect and understanding for all faiths.

# How fair is FairTrade?

by Joseph Blewitt

Peruvian laborers are being paid below the legal minimum wage to produce coffee that receives Fairtrade certification and is exported for sale in the United States and Europe, the Financial Times reports. Hal Weitzman, the Financial Times correspondent in Lima also reports that coffee is being grown illegally in protected rainforests.

In two separate articles published on September 8th, Weitzman describes how the Fairtrade system fails those most vulnerable while also taking advantage of college students all over the developed world who pay extra for the little sticker that announces the ethical superiority of the particular coffee grower.

Oxfam America, an anti-poverty, not-for-profit group says, "fair trade ensures that producers receive a fair price for their commodity." Weitzman contends that while this may be the ideal Fairtrade system, the reality is that Fairtrade organizations have no sure way of policing the wages or conditions of the workers and then deceitfully bestow their seal of approval before the product appears on our store shelves. Oxfam also claims that Fairtrade promotes consumer education, but Weitzman's findings now suggest that Fairtrade system may be closer to consumer fraud than consumer education.

The Fairtrade certification means that the laborers who produced the coffee were paid at least minimum wage. One of the Peruvian laborers interviewed by Weitzman said he didn't even know what



the minimum wage was; consequently, he didn't know that he was being paid below minimum wage. It came as a real surprise to him that people in the developed world pay extra for his coffee because they believe the extra money is going to help him and his co-laborers make a living wage. You can taste the fruits of the 25 year-old Coronel Vasquez Bernardino's labor at Brownstones.

Weitzman visited five farms in Peru while compiling data for his articles. Of those five, four of them did not pay their workers minimum wage. Eduardo Montauban of the Peruvian Coffee Chamber, a private exporters' group, seconds the assertion that this problem is systemic. "No one in the industry is paying minimum wage," says Montauban. Geoff Watts, founder of Chicago-based Intelligentsia cof-

fee says that this system of fraud doesn't stop with Peru. In 2005, Luuk Zonneveld, managing director of Fairtrade Labeling Organization, visited ten mills and all of them sold uncertified coffee as certified.

In addition to the findings that farmers are being paid below minimum wage for coffee that gets certified and sold anyway, Weitzman reports a Canadian non-governmental organization found that one-fifth of all coffee production in a Fairtrade-certified association was planted illegally inside a protected virgin rainforest in northern Peru. So the next time you head over to Brownstones to buy your daily "ethical coffee," stop and think about where your extra money might really be going.

# Mayor Daley vetos 'Big Box' Ordinance

by Stephanie Auditore

Mayor Richard Daley exercised his power of veto Sept. 11 for the first time in his 17 years as mayor, negating the Big Box ordinance passed by the city council earlier last summer.

The ordinance, which the council passed with a vote of 35 to 15, would require superstores with over 1,000 employees and \$1 billion in annual sales to create a standard minimum wage, or "living wage" of ten dollars an hour, with three dollars an hour in fringe benefits. The minimum wage in Illinois today is \$6.50, almost twenty five percent more than the federal minimum of \$5.15 an hour. Many Chicago retailers, such as Wal-Mart, Target, Home Depot, and Lowe's would be affected.

After the ordinance passed in late July many of these stores threatened to put their expansion plans in Chicago on hold. Wal-Mart spokesman John Bisio commented that if the measure stood, "We'd redirect our focus on our suburban strategy and see how we could better serve our city of Chicago residents from suburban Chicagoland." Procedure allows for the council to vote on whether or not to supersede Daley by overturning the veto. However, it will remain in place as the vote came in just three shy of overturning the veto. Three Alderman changed their votes, one of them citing that it was more important to encourage economic development at this point. Now that the veto stands, Wal-Mart and Target have announced plans for numerous new stores within city limits, affecting all areas of the city. Jennifer Smith, a representative for the Lowe's corporation, said the Mayor's decision would make for a much more business-friendly Chicago.

The Big Box ordinance has placed Chicago in the center of a heated debate over a so-called "living wage" that has drawn national attention. Congressman Jesse Jackson, a proponent of the measure,



**Daley enables capitalism and freedom to continue through his use of the veto**

spoke after Mayor Daley's veto was final. The Congressman, who has also expressed interest in running for Mayor, commented on Daley's decision. "Mayor Daley is participating in a rush to the bottom. He's in bed with Wal-Mart," Jackson said.

Tony Preckwinkle, an alderman on the council agreed. "It's trying to get the largest companies in America to pay decent wages." However, local Wal-Mart employee, Fearia Wooden, said that after a tiring job search turned up no results, she was just happy that Wal-Mart called her back. "It's a job," she told local journalists.

Those in opposition of the ordinance argued that it would drive desperately needed commerce outside of the city's poorest communities eliminating

thousands of potential jobs. Daley defended his decision. "I understand and share a desire to ensure that everyone who works in the City of Chicago earns a decent wage. But I do not believe that this ordinance, well intentioned as it may be, would achieve that end," Daley said.

Daley proposed instead to work toward raising the minimum wage in the state, making the change applicable to all businesses and employees. His decision triggered protests from union groups throughout the city, who were largely responsible for the ordinance's emergence as an issue at the fore. Several groups have threatened to revoke their support of the Mayor if he should decide to seek reelection.

Meanwhile, Michael Lewis, a senior vice president of store operations with Wal-Mart, applauded Daley's decision. "This imposes special interest mandates that will unfairly deny savings and job opportunities to those who need them most. It's wrong for the city council to tell the people of Chicago where to shop and to make it harder for inner-city residents to find jobs," Lewis said.

Another big name in politics, Arnold Schwarzenegger, commented on the veto. "Singling out large employers and requiring them to spend an arbitrary amount on health care does nothing to lower costs or guarantee that even one more person has health care coverage," Schwarzenegger said.

Though the ordinance's proponents fell short in overturning the veto, they show no signs of backing down in their efforts to mandate a living wage in Chicago. They plan to gain more supporters and return to city council with an even broader proposal, which would standardize a living wage for the entire city, including smaller business owners. A proposal is not expected until after the next mayoral election.

**Come join the College Republicans and the DePaul Conservative Alliance today! Come help fight the liberal voice on campus and promote the conservative agenda on campus! Join the fight by coming to our meetings every week to see how you can help restore truth and patriotism back on DePaul's campus.**

**Meetings EVERY week:**

**Day: Tuesday**

**Time: 9:15**

**Building: Student Center**

**Room: 315**



# Opinion/Editorial

## Staff Editorial

### Democrats Advocate Voter Fraud

With less than a month before the Congressional midterm elections, the Republicans are looking less than capable to sustain their dominance in the structure of the federal government. Keeping this in mind, the Republicans in the House passed an important bill which they otherwise may not have if the Democrats were in power.

The House recently passed a Voter ID Bill, which would require Americans to verify proof of citizenship in order to vote. It requires that they show a photo ID before casting their ballot in 2008 elections. Many people argue that this act was merely 'common sense' legislation and should have been enacted a long long ago. I mean, one would think that Congress unanimously passed this bill, right?

Wrong. The vote was almost directly party-line, with the Democrats voting against it, 228-196. Just when you thought the Democrats couldn't get any weaker on strengthening the enforcement of illegal immigration, they go ahead and reject an idea that makes total practical sense.

When you go to the movies, you must provide a photo ID. When you go to the airport, you must provide a photo ID. When you apply for a job, or buy alcohol, or even cash a check, you must provide a photo ID. Why then is it so wrong to ask for a photo ID before you cast a vote in an election which could determine the future of the country? The integrity of our beloved republic is at stake when our citizens votes are weighted just as equally as non-citizens votes.

Hypocrisy around the Democratic Party is clouded in the idea of voter fraud. They cried 'voter fraud' in 2000 and in 2004, and now they vote against a measure which will ensure that only citizens will be able to vote. Who is engaging in the real apparent advocacy of voter fraud? The Democrats.

The initial criticism against the bill came straight from the Democratic playbook. They cried, "But what about the poor people who cannot afford ID cards!" This criticism was quickly silenced when they learned that the bill stipulates that states must provide the identification cards free of charge to those who can't afford them.

So what is the real motivation behind the Democrats opposition to the bill? They want illegal immigrants' votes to count, because they would most likely vote Democratic if given the chance. Here is a plain and simple example of why one should vote Republican in the 2006 midterm elections; you simply cannot trust the Democrats to put the security of the nation over their own private interests of power.

Like What You See?  
Hate What You See?  
Write us a **Letter to the Editor** and give us your opinion at [lpstatesman@gmail.com](mailto:lpstatesman@gmail.com)

## The American Dream and Immigration

by Igor Davilia

America is truly the place where one can become anything he or she desires. That is the cornerstone of the American dream. One may not become a millionaire, but one has the opportunity to pursue that dream. It is not only the economic prosperity that draws many here, but also the ideals of a society that values independence. One can believe, or not believe, as one pleases. In many instances, the American dream is the opportunity for one's children to make millions. In fact, my own parents came to this country with that very dream.

As a legal immigrant in this country, it is important to denote the difference between legal and illegal immigration. A legal immigrant is an individual who enters a nation through the prescribed mechanism created by that nation's laws. An illegal immigrant enters a country without the approval of the state. It infuriates a legal immigrant when the two terms are used interchangeably by elements that seek to divide this country. In their mind it is a right to come to this country and reap the rewards. It is a privilege to be able to arrive in a country that is more prosperous than one's own homeland, not a god-given right.

How could someone come to this country illegally and expect to benefit despite blatant disregard

of the law? Comparably, it is ridiculous to believe that a burglar could break into your home and simply live there solely because he or she is presently there. Furthermore, that burglar wants you to feed, educate and care for them. Does that sound outrageous? That is exactly what an illegal immigrant does. They are not a welcomed guest who is benign in a society. Why would a nation expect an individual who enters with disregard for that nation's laws to later follow its laws?

By extending the privileges of this country to illegal immigrants, it will encourage a larger wave of illegal immigration. What incentive will there be for any law-abiding individual in another country to wait in line just as most legal immigrants are required to do? Immigration to the United States was once motivated by an ability to eventually become a citizen. This is no longer the case. Many want to not only keep their original national identity while also molding America into something which bears a resemblance to their homeland. If their mother nation is so better, why did they risk their lives to come here? When this country's liberals realize that America's strength is its unified national identity rather than a range of hyphenations, this country will remain the beacon of hope for the millions of individuals that truly want to contribute to our society.

## China: The Miracle of Free Markets

by Mike Kueker

There are two countrymen who have tremendously changed China in the last 75 years.

Mao Zedong first brought communism to China, his revolution taking place in Beijing. Beginning the People's Republic of China (PRC) in 1949, he brought about the Anti-Rightist Movement, the Great Leap Forward, and the Cultural Revolution. These events brought about the destruction of many of China's ancient treasures, as well as ending approximately 100 million lives.

Another great influence was Deng Xiaoping. Once anointed as a successor for and by "Chairman Mao," Xiaoping was eventually exiled to Xiangji province during the Cultural Revolution. After Zedong's death, however, Xiaoping was the only worthwhile successor after the "Gang of Four" was blamed for the deaths of millions.

What Xiaoping truly did, however, was engineer China to be what it is today. With the creation of "Socialism with Chinese Characters," Xiaoping was able to introduce free-market ideals in China without having to annul Maoist thought. Xiaoping taught that not only governments but market forces have plans for economies.

To a degree, it is only fitting that the Chinese exist in an economically free environment. Although Chinese leaders may recite Leninist and Maoist principles, their policies and actions focused on markets and influence. When Xiaoping began his reforms, China was the only city-state that maintained a significant population of poor Chinese. By looking at the successful Chinese in neighboring city-states like Singapore, Macau, and Hong Kong—as well as Taiwan—it is no surprise that Xiaoping's liberation of the economy would have an incredible impact on the Chinese.

If there was one city that typified all of Xiaoping's ideals and utilized them to the fullest, it would, surprisingly enough, be Shenzhen, where Xiaoping's revolution began.

Located on the border between the PRC and Hong Kong, Shenzhen is the product of market forces running wild. Historically a small fishing village, it was selected as the guinea pig for capitalism. Using the guidelines that "the mountains are high and the Emperor [Chinese Communist party] are far, far away," Shenzhen was allowed to grow economically naturally.

With easy access to the countryside and a close proximity to Hong Kong, both sides of China gravitated to Shenzhen. Several million Chinese seeking employment immigrated to Shenzhen, boosting the population from 70,000 in 1979 to six million today. No city ever before has seen a population increase with such propensity. Since the Special Economic Zone opened in 1979,

More recently, the city has grown an average of 16.3 percent between 2001 and 2005. 400 of the 500 largest companies in the world have operations in Shenzhen. Believe it or not, chances are if a product says "Made in China," it was probably made in or around Shenzhen.

Now we return to tale of the two countrymen. Zedong's miracle of socialism failed. Xiaoping's miracle of free-markets was a roaring success. The effects of the former eliminated the economic hunger of the Chinese. Xiaoping's reforms woke the economic giant in 1979, and the effects of this event not only influenced 1.3 billion Chinese, but also every single human on the planet. The effects will continue to influence the world—whether you like it or not.

# The Philosopher's Corner

"The philosophy of one century is the common sense of the next."

## Terrorism As a Universal Principle

by Michael O'Shea

Pursuing truth in a realm of subjective idiom is fundamentally impossible. The modern day liberal intellectuals, who wish to ponder upon such subjectivity, accept the conventional wisdom that terrorism is merely a buzzword which transcends universal truth and falls within an aphoristic boundary of interpretation. But is this notion categorically true? In other words, are we correct in saying that invoking terrorism is only a matter of perspective and that we cannot and should not have a magnitude of difference within the word itself? The relativism of today's world now seeks to prey upon the meaning of terrorism.

It is in my opinion that relativism is prejudicial and undoubtedly propagates a societal breakdown upon three important structures. The first structure impaired is the essence of our moral compass. To investigate this further we draw upon an analogy of the idea that all civilizations and cultures are of equal value.

It is a false predication to assume that all cultures are of equal worth. That is to say, a free society is always better than a slave society. A society that endows human rights is always better than one which seeks to violate them. A culture that deals in reason and rationale is better than one that deals in sheer force. From these differing inequalities of culture, man embraces a set of ideals which hold evident in this universal moral compass. If the relativism from terrorism can be applied to culture or civilization, who are we to judge then, as a culture or civilization, one which defies the basic interpretation of man's moral compass.

Suppose for a moment that a culture proclaims that it will enslave its masses because that is what their moral compass dictates them to do. According to the relativism doctrine, by all accounts and standards, the authorities in that civilization should have mandate to think and act that way, because of their normative theory on the existence of mankind. Under the guise of relativism, if the state can believe it wrong to enslave its citizens, then the state can also believe that it is right. What would one relativist say about the situation of enslaving African-Americans during the early to mid 19th century? If we do not adhere to a moral compass or some valued set of standards, there exists no justice in the world. Subsequently, humanity, in some civilizations, will be robbed of their subsistence. If it is beyond our capacity to project some universal truths amongst the basic rights of all beings, then the structure of our moral compass is lost. This denigrates not only our self-worth, but also threatens our very existence.

The second structure impaired within the relativist framework is the consistency of ideas. The paradox relativists find themselves in is the order of compatibility with what they advocate. Is it not a universal truth, or principle, to signify, that "there is no universal truth?" The apparent contradiction amongst relativists is so obtrusive that the elemental premise for the application of their ideas is lost. That is to say, they admit then that there are universal truths by stating this absolutist objection to universal truth.

The third structure significantly damaged is the mode of operation within the global community. Working within a relativist framework, the international arena would be an extremely difficult venue for two countries to effectively communicate with each other. This hampers the capabilities we have as a civilization to fight terrorism. Using a relativist's interpretation of terrorism, the UN countries would

be defining what the word means for their own standards of law. Without usurping too much of a nation's sovereignty, the international community needs a definition of terrorism not just in terms for combating terrorism, but also to negate a struggle against two countries who would normally be allied in the fight. If Pakistan defines terrorism in a loose form different than that of the United States, any terrorist modes of operation or planning within Pakistan that were subsequently carried out in the United States would be dangerous to the global stability of civilization. The United States would then sharpen its blade against Pakistan, and use a kind of 'soft power' to get the Pakistani government to crack down on their terrorist cells. This creates tension amongst two governments that could have been avoided by simply applying a universal principle upon a word such as terrorism.

Our existence as a society needs a universal principle for terrorism, because if the relativists have their way, September 11th, 2001 can be justified. This is not something that we, as a free society, should stand for.

**Are you a philosopher in training? Have any thoughts on political theory? Well here is your chance to be heard! Submit anything that has a conservative philosophical edge to it and be published in the newest section of the *Statesman*, 'The Philosopher's Corner.'**

**Submit essays, articles, theses at [lpstatesman@gmail.com](mailto:lpstatesman@gmail.com)**

**UN documentary to be shown on Oct. 24th in Student Center**

On Tuesday October 24th, the DePaul Conservative Alliance, along with the College Republicans will be hosting a viewing of the movie "Broken Promises" which exposes the scandal and corruption of the United Nations (UN). This viewing is open to ALL DePaul students no matter what your political affiliation may be. After the movie we will have a brief discussion about the movie itself and gather reactions from the crowd. Hopefully everyone that wants to know more about the corruption of the UN will attend! The time and room have not yet been announced.

## Socrates Was a Badass

The Trial and Death of Socrates authored by the "other great philosopher" Plato, has come under my recent inspection and inquiry after taking about a year off from my initial encounter with the book. Comprised of four distinct dialogues, Socrates protrudes the utmost courage and superiority within his grandiose dialectical method of examination accompanied by his interlocutors. In modern day language, by all accounts and understanding of the English idiom, Socrates would be considered no less than a swanky badass. A badass with words, with phrases, with quips and barbs, and most importantly, with convincing Plato that nobody ever prevailed against any of his contentions thus continually leaving the futile interlocutor walking away head down, disgusted and shamed.

The first and second dialogues represent little importance to me than do the third and fourth dialogues. The first being Euthyphro, a dialogue in which Socrates plays upon one of his most infamous techniques in plastering the raconteur of the passage, Euthyphro, by invoking his Socratic irony. In the end, like all Hollywood movies, the good guy, Socrates, eventually makes the bad guy look like a fool. The second dialogue called The Apology, consisting of Socrates playing ignorant once again, casts all pretensions to human knowledge into uncertainty. As the wisest of them all, Socrates proclaims that he is posited better off the less he thinks he knows. This way he continues to foster discourse amongst truth and will not stop attaining knowledge as an indignant pretentious prick would. (Yes, I am talking about Jesse Jackson)

The third dialogue, called Crito and starring Crito, is probably the most thought-provoking dialogue ever to be written by Plato. (There are a total of 32 Socratic dialogues) The entire dialogue takes place in Socrates' prison cell, where he awaits his Athenian court death sentence. Crito comes upon Socrates cell and informs him that he has arranged for Socrates to escape from the prison and has planned his exile in a distant city away from Athens. After a plethora of arguments trying to convince Socrates to leave, Socrates seems to be unconvinced of Crito's polemics and further questions if what Crito asserts is the right thing to do.

Enter badass. Socrates charges into his elenchus and leaves Crito dumbfounded and without words in the end. Socrates says that he must stay to carry out the state's sentence, because ultimately he has consented to the rules of the state, and leaving now because the rules inconvenience him, would be a dereliction of duty. He poses the absolutely brilliant question to Crito which is: "Do you imagine that a State can subsist and not be overthrown, in which the decisions of law have no power, but are set aside and overthrown by individuals?" In other words, if individual citizens decide to obey the laws of the city based solely on their private circumstances, then there can be no city and laws at all. Although he issues three other arguments in this discussion, this question is a tough question to answer if you support Crito's proposition. Crito then concedes without further questioning Socrates' supremacy and Socrates remains awaiting his fate.

With Socrates accepting his fate, we now turn to his final conversations before his death in Phaedo. Here we can examine empirical evidence that remains consistent with my intellectually charged thesis that Socrates was indeed, nothing less than a badass. It is in this dialogue that we find out that Socrates was not repining death whatsoever. In fact, he even goes so far to declare that since death is merely the separation of the body and soul, that every philosopher, at Death's doorstep, should gladly accept his fate. In other words, since the philosopher holds true the idea that the body corrupts the soul and that the body merely infringes upon the learning and knowledge of the soul, that the separation will free the mind and give the philosopher what he always has hoped to have. Socrates accepts death on the premise that the body has been a hindrance to his knowledge search thus death will enable him to further himself with merely his soul.

A man who plays ignorance to defeat his cohorts in a Columbo style charade; a man who dabbles in innocuous fun by claiming to know nothing at all yet spreading more wisdom than Michael Moore spreads lies; a man who altruistically accepts death on the principle of keeping the state intact; and a man who willingly accepts death because his body has impeded himself from acquiring total reason and virtue, is nothing other than a badass.



## WHY 30 GRAMS OF FAT IS GOOD FOR THE POOR.

Just ask June Arunga, a Nairobi college student who grew up in Kenya. June was on 20/20, pitted against a group of American college students protesting globalization and the World Trade Organization.



When the Americans spoke of protecting the poor from multinationals, June responded: "I long for the day when there is a McDonalds on my street. This will mean that my country and my neighborhood is

economically sound enough to be a good place to do business." The poverty Kenyans face is not due to a lack of food, but to corrupt government officials. It's fanned by U.S. and E.U. government

interventions like tariffs and trade barriers that keep the market from distributing food.

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