

Republican Liberty

Free Enterprise, Individual Freedom & Limited Government

Fall 1991

Caucus Newsletter

Vol. II, No. IV

Republican 'Tsunami' Sweeps Away Democrats

by Richard L. Duprey
and Fred Stein



Sen. Randy Corman

Venting their deep and continued anger over tax hikes and big government, the voters created a major political realignment in both houses of the New Jersey Legislature in November. The tidal wave of outrage swept away Democratic incumbents that had been fixtures of the State House for 10 years or more.

The anti-tax, anti-big government sentiment was nowhere more apparent than in the 19th and 36th district Senate races where two marketplace Republicans bested incumbents that were seen as both the architects and henchmen of Democratic Gov. Jim Florio's hated programs.

Randy Corman, 31, who will become the youngest member of the Senate, defeated the powerful chairman of the Revenue, Finance and Appropriations Committee who was the critical point man in all budget deals, including the one which imposed \$2.8 billion in new taxes in 1990.

Corman has been involved in libertarian politics for years. In 1985, he won his first political office, a seat on the Sayerville School Board, running as a Libertarian Party member. In 1989, after having switched to the GOP, Corman won a seat on the Sayerville Town Council.

In the Senate race Corman proudly wore the "supply-side Republican" epithet hurled at him by Democrat Laurence Weiss, who had been in the Senate since 1978. Corman, who received support from the Republican Liberty Caucus, won with 56 percent of the vote.

John Scott, 57, took on one of the strongest supporters of the governor and author of notorious legislation including the state's auto insurance "reform" law. Considered an overwhelming underdog, Scott waged an impressive door-to-door campaign that completely defused the incumbent's charges that Scott was an extremist. As chairman of the state's Conservative Caucus, Scott is not unfamiliar with the libertarian label and was supported by a number of RLCers with his campaign.

(Continued on page 2)

Fully Informed Juries Republicans Show Support

by Elizabeth Strickland

On Sept. 5, 1991, thousands of "FIJActivists" gathered at courthouses at over 200 locations around the nation to celebrate "National Jury Rights Day."

At the nation's capitol about 50 leaders of the Fully Informed Jury movement gathered at the Jefferson Memorial to hear speakers in support of the amendment.

Organized by Larry Dodge, FIJA national coordinator, the panel of speakers included Red Beckman, author; Nancy Lord, Libertarian Party vice presidential candidate; Martha Penzer of the William Penn House; Greg Porter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws; Larry Pratt, executive director of Gun Owners of America; and Stan Smith, editor of the *Progressive Review*.

Also represented was the Republican Liberty Caucus. RLC Vice-Chair Clifford Thies spoke and gave a riveting account of his wife's recent encounter on a jury in Baltimore. After questioning the validity of drug laws, juror Carol Thies managed to persuade enough of her fellow jurors to find a defendant "not guilty" of cocaine possession to cause the judge to declare a hung jury.

Thies, a professor of economics at the University of Baltimore, ended his speech by denouncing the government's increasing encroachment upon individual liberty.

"Look around, and see the prisons under construction in every state in the union. Who do you think these prisons are for? My hope is that, with jury rights reinvigorated, we'll never find out," said Thies.

Jury Rights Day recognized the traditional right of juries to judge not only the facts of the case, but the law itself. If a jury considers a law unjust or oppressive, it has the right to acquit a defendant on these grounds. The Fully Informed Jury Amendment, if adopted, would require juries to be informed of this right. FIJA activists say fully informed juries are a check on the potentially abusive power of legislatures.

While the jury's right to judge the law has been repeatedly affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court, judges routinely deny defense attorneys the right to inform the jury of this and instruct juries, to the

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE

GOP primary challengers to Bush.....	3
Drug War dissenters.....	4
'91 election results.....	6

Tsunami...from 1

The Republican "tsunami," as it is being called, represents the biggest gain in GOP seats in the State Senate since 1967 when the GOP won a 31-9 majority in the midterm election.

The Republicans lost control of the Senate in 1973 at the height of the Watergate scandal, and had been unable to regain control until this year. They now control the upper house by a 27-13 margin.

In the Assembly, the Republicans continued their steamroller by gaining a 58-22 margin that was far greater than the Republican landslide achieved in 1985 when Gov. Thomas Kean was re-elected by an overwhelming majority.

Going into the elections, Democrats hold a 43-37 advantage in the Assembly and a 23-17 edge in the Senate. Republicans now enjoy a "veto-proof" majority in both houses and can now work to enact their campaign pledges of rolling back the taxes that Florio and the Democrat-controlled Legislature had rammed through with little debate.

The message the voters sent to the governor was indeed clear. It is one which the Democrats have finally read and one which the Republicans must heed.

Eds. Note - Fred Stein of Dayton is chair of the NJ RLC. Richard Duprey of Teaneck serves as NJ RLC secretary.

Jury Rights...from 1

contrary, that they may only decide the facts of the case.

This year, the first national Jury Rights Day was declared by six governors: Norma Bangerter (R) of Utah, Evan Bayh (D) of Indiana, Terry Brainsted (R) of Iowa, Walter Hickle (I) of Alaska, Stan Stevans (R) of Montana and Tommy Thompson (R) of Wisconsin. It was also declared by the Massachusetts State Senate (thanks to Republican State Senator Bob Hedlund).

Legislation requiring judges to inform juries of their right to judge the law has been introduced in over a dozen states. Dodge expects real progress in at least some states next year.

Recognizing that Fully Informed Juries would lead to an erosion of support for laws which violate individual liberty, in particular victimless crime laws, the Republican Liberty Caucus National Committee recently voted to formally endorse FIJA.

RLC Secretary Norm Singleton said of the proposal "FIJA would revive the original function of the jury as a check on judges and legislators, and ensure that laws reflect the moral sense of the community, not the legal profession."

Eds. Note - Elizabeth Strickland is a junior in history at the University of Florida.

Challenge to Bush: Paul out, Buchanan in

by Mike Holmes

While George Bush seemed invincible as Labor Day weekend came to a close, little did anyone suspect that within a mere three months, serious opposition to Bush would emerge, stemming from the small but determined libertarian wing of the GOP.

When former four-term Republican Congressman Ron Paul of Texas returned from his token appearance at the Labor Day weekend Libertarian Party convention in Chicago, he found a letter from a Missouri LP activist which sparked the libertarian challenge to Bush. The letter suggested that Paul - the 1988 LP presidential candidate, but largely ignored by the LP subsequently - launch a Republican primary bid against George Bush. This would provide a credible platform for Paul to articulate libertarian responses to Bush. The letter suggested that after the 1992 convention, Paul could then endorse the LP candidate Andre Marrou.

Although Paul had dismissed efforts to involve him in the GOP since 1988 he was intrigued with the idea enough to fax the proposal to his longtime political associate Lew Rockwell, who long ago left the LP to work within the paleo-conservative ranks of the Republican right. Rockwell liked the idea (except for the ultimate Marrou endorsement, which was quickly ruled out) and passed the idea on to several others, including 1988 Paul presidential campaign chairman Burt Blumert.

While there was little hope that Paul would actually unseat Bush, or even knock him out of the race a la Gene McCarthy in 1968, libertarian and independent conservatives realized that Bush needed to be challenged from the limited government heartland of the GOP, if he was going to be stopped from completely selling out to the tax-and-spend internationalist empire Republicans. Since the fractious Democrats seemed unable to mount a credible assault on Bush, and LP candidate Marrou was destined to be ignored, a principled Paul campaign might send political shock waves to the GOP establishment if Paul's message connected with increasingly unhappy voters.

Within three weeks Blumert had organized the Ron Paul for President Exploratory Committee, bringing together libertarian, conservative and paleo-conservative activists and libertarian-oriented office holders. While Paul authorized the committee to move ahead, he made it clear he was still undecided. Meanwhile, news of the Paul effort appeared in the nationally syndicated Evans and Novak column along with the *Washington Times*, *Washington Post*, *Houston Chronicle* and the *L.A. Times* news wire.

By the beginning of October, a 12,000 piece mailing was prepared and leading members of the Republican Liberty Caucus

(Continued on page 3)

Republican Liberty

Publisher: Roger L. MacBride Senior Editor: Mike Holmes
Editor: Eric J. Rittberg Copy Editor: Philip Blumel

Contributing Editors: Clifford Thies, Gene Berkman, Joseph Gentili,
Fred Stein, Norm Singleton, Rich Duprey and Brian Doherty..

Republican Liberty is published five times a year (quarterly plus annual outreach issue) by the National Republican Liberty Caucus, 1717 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 434, Tallahassee, Fla. 32301. (Send address changes to same address). Permission is granted to reprint articles with proper accreditation. Unsolicited articles or news items are welcome. The views expressed do not necessarily represent those of the Republican Party. Advertising manager, Curtis Dieterich, (904)656-1220; Circulation director, Alan Lindsay, (713)974-4402; Artwork, Rex Curry, (813)238-5371; Printer, Chuck Geshlinder, (702)739-6750.

Challengers...from 2

were active in setting up the initial New Hampshire visit for Paul. New Hampshire RLC coordinator Chris Tremblay was contacted for advice and assistance and RLC chair Eric Rittberg set up connections between Blumert and political consultant Bill McKonkey, who was responsible for Walter Hickel's successful independent 1990 Alaskan gubernatorial election as well as Andre Marrou's successful LP State House race in 1984.

While the initial Exploratory Committee mailing was very successful, raising over \$30,000 from nearly 1,000 supporters, the momentum for the Paul effort sputtered and stalled during October. Key supporters, including Lew Rockwell, began to back off as a result of Paul's indecisiveness. As the RLC foot soldiers provided the troops on the ground for the effort, New Hampshire GOP activists said it was imperative for Paul to get to the state immediately and enter the race. Although the final deadline to enter the New Hampshire primary is mid-December for the mid-February election, voters are used to being personally courted in the small state and seeing the primary contenders up close.

By the beginning of November, all travel plans had been put on hold. Paul was still wavering for several reasons. He hesitated to offend the LP by running as a Republican, although the LP National Chair Mary Gingell had implicitly endorsed the idea almost immediately, arguing the publicity for libertarian ideas and Paul's status as an LP candidate would help Marrou in the long run. Paul also faced personal considerations about disrupting his resumed medical practice, as well as problems with being a candidate for his cable TV program *At Issue*, recently picked up by the national CNBC channel.

The Nov. 5 election results prompted a renewed, last ditch push to get Paul up to New Hampshire on an RLC-organized campaign tour. RLC Chair Eric Rittberg and Vice-Chair Clifford Thies made plans to accompany Paul on a five-day swing immediately prior to Thanksgiving, and Norm Singleton, Matthew Whiting and RLC Director Alan Lindsay mapped out an event-laden journey beginning in Boston and ending in Vermont. The Gene Burns radio program wanted Paul for four hours, and the mere mention of Paul's possible appearance generated 10 calls to the Exploratory Committee the day it was announced. As a challenger to Bush, Paul was welcomed to the New Hampshire GOP dinner in Manchester on Nov. 23, where former drug czar William Bennett, Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch and RNC Chair Clayton Yeutter would be in attendance. Meetings with key state Republicans hosted by RLC activists, a cable TV program interview and a University of Vermont appearance were quickly set up, making up for lost momentum.

The Exploratory Committee released a second 40,000 piece mailing and had quickly signed up Paul primary campaign coordinators in over 20 states. After nearly constant urging by Blumert to make up his mind, or Nov. 8 Paul finally agreed to the New Hampshire plunge.

But by the weekend of Nov. 9, two rumors arose, fueled in part by serious reflection over the defeat of Bush favorite Thornburgh in Pennsylvania and the wave of anti-incumbent voting in a number of races around the country. As Paul gingerly dipped his toe into the waters, the real political pros began to smell blood as Bush's weaknesses began to show up in the polls. Democrat giant killer Mario Cuomo edged closer to entering the Democratic primary. Blumert and the RLC began hearing about a possible Jack Kemp

challenge and, more believable, an entry by well-known conservative columnist and TV commentator Patrick J. Buchanan.

The Kemp rumor quickly died, but the Buchanan rumor flickered and wouldn't go away. Buchanan had almost challenged Bush in 1988 and came very close to announcing a primary bid against Bush in February 1991. But the day of Buchanan's New Hampshire speech Bush launched the air war against Iraq. The pre-emptive strike knocked out more than Iraqi military targets.

While final plans were being laid for the Paul campaign tour, Buchanan was huddling with GOP consultants, including Ed Rollins, the leading Reagan campaign advisor in 1980.

On Nov. 13, Buchanan called Ron Paul and asked for his support. This was it.

The following day the Buchanan bid was in the *Washington Times*, and the day after in every major newspaper in the country. Buchanan was scheduled to make his announcement by the end of November. NH RLC Coordinator Chris Tremblay was quoted by the Associated Press as saying "I don't have any doubt there is going to be a campaign."

The Ron Paul Exploratory Committee did not immediately cease operation, pending a definitive announcement of a Buchanan candidacy. But given the widespread news media attention given the Buchanan entry, the ending of the Paul campaign appeared to be a foregone conclusion.

In the aftermath of these developments, libertarian Republicans paused to take stock. Paul is convinced that news of his effort spurred Buchanan to finally jump in the battle. Buchanan has publicly mentioned the Ron Paul bid on CNN's *Crossfire*.

While Ron Paul won consistent high marks for his ability to spread the libertarian message via GOP politics, the jury is still out on Buchanan. Questions have been raised about his previously expressed views on immigration, free trade and several culturally conservative political stumbling blocks. The staunchly Catholic Buchanan also favors a repeal of *Roe Vs. Wade*.

On the other hand, Buchanan is well known to a number of leading libertarian and paleo-libertarian opinion-makers and has been moving in a generally libertarian direction in recent years. He's questioned the War on Drugs hysteria and is best known for his America First foreign policy.

While it is too early to tell how things will turn out, there is considerable hope that Buchanan's effort will stimulate a healthy GOP counter reaction to Bush and his generally statist Republican political leadership.

This shot across Bush's bow will echo across America. And in a very tangible sense the RLC was there lighting the fuse.

Notable Quote

"About the Second Amendment: You probably know the ACLU to this date shares the conventional judicial interpretation. However, I am aware of recent scholarship that I find very impressive that suggests that the conventional interpretation is too narrow . . . And based on those readings, I have recommended that the ACLU appoint a special commission to re-examine our position on the Second Amendment." - Nadine Strossen, president of the American Civil Liberties Union, on a Bill of Rights panel at the Libertarian Party national convention Aug. 29 in Chicago.

Republicans Dissent in the War on Drugs

by Gene Berkman

In 1980, Ronald Reagan was elected president on the strength of his pledge to slow the growth of the federal government. The American people supported his call to end specific government programs initiated by President Carter, including the cabinet level Department of Energy and the federal Department of Education. But the Reagan voters of 1980, in most instances, did not get the cuts in government they were promised.

One program which began to take shape during the last years of the Carter administration is the "War On Drugs." Reminiscent of Lyndon Johnson's ill-fated "War On Poverty," this attempt at coercive social engineering was greatly expanded by President Reagan and President Bush. In the past 10 years, tens of billions of dollars in taxpayers' money has been spent, increasing restrictions on personal liberty have been approved and property rights as well as financial privacy have come under attack.

After all this, hard drugs such as cocaine and heroin are readily available. The only meaningful victory the drug warriors can claim is a decline in the casual use of marijuana.

Despite the failure to achieve its stated objectives, the Drug War has received overwhelming bipartisan support in Congress. But a growing element of the Republican Party has come to question the benefits and costs of drug prohibition.

In opposing the Omnibus Drug Bill of 1986, Rep. Phil Crane of Illinois pointed out that drug abuse "cannot be eliminated from society," and that it is bad policy to "spend \$6 billion, cut corners on civil liberties, and expand the power of government in ways that we might regret later" in pursuit of an unattainable goal. (Richard Vigilante, "Reaganites at Risk," *National Review*, Dec. 5, 1986.)

More recently, Rep. Frank Riggs of California has suggested that the drug problem should be moved from the criminal justice system to the medical system. Another California Republican, Rep. Chris Cox, let it be known prior to his 1988 election that he is "intellectually convinced of the case for legalizing drugs." (Western Regional conference of Young Americans for Freedom, Los Angeles, Calif., May 14, 1988.)

The officeholders are behind the intellectuals on this issue. Nobel Prize-winning economist Milton Friedman, a former advisor to President Reagan, has warned of the dangers to liberty posed by the War On Drugs. "Every friend of freedom . . . must be revolted as I am by the prospect of turning the United States into an armed camp, by the vision of jails filled with casual drug users and of an army of enforcers empowered to invade the liberty of citizens on slight evidence." ("An Open Letter to Bill Bennett," *The Wall Street Journal*, Sept. 7, 1989.)

Another former Reagan advisor, economist Thomas Sowell, has also called for decriminalizing drugs. "What would make still more sense would be to admit that we are not God, that we cannot live other people's lives or save people who don't want to be saved, and to take profits out of drugs by decriminalizing them. That is what destroyed the bootleggers' gangs after prohibition was repealed." ("Decriminalize Drugs," *San Francisco Examiner*, Sept. 18, 1989.)

William F. Buckley Jr. has called for legalizing drugs "on the

purely empirical grounds that what we have now is a drug problem plus a crime problem plus a problem of a huge export of capital to dope-producing counties." ("Legalize Dope," *Washington Post*, April 1, 1985.)

Even George Schultz, former Secretary of State, has recently come out in favor of seriously studying decriminalization.

Such a common sense approach to this very critical social problem is not considered politically expedient. But a growing number of Republican candidates have begun to include opposition to the Drug War in their campaigns. Some have even endorsed outright legalization.

In 1990, GOP candidates for Congress in two San Francisco area districts backed legalization. Barbara Galewski took 38 percent of the vote in an uphill race against incumbent socialist Ron Dellums. Young Republican activist Mark Patrosso pulled 37 percent against left-wing congressman Don Edwards. Three other California Republicans running for state senate and assembly included legalization in their platforms.

Republican state legislative candidates in Maryland, Michigan and New York also backed drug legalization. Most ran in heavily Democratic districts where Republicans faced an uphill battle. In these districts, Republicans can stick to principle with less fear of the political consequences.

But we might all be inspired by Senator Barry Goldwater, who publicly called for legalization of marijuana in October 1969, and was re-elected to the Senate in 1974 and 1980. In his last term, Senator Goldwater called for legalization of even hard drugs.

Serious Republican candidates, serious about restoring individual freedom and limited Constitutional government, would do well to follow the example of Barry Goldwater.

Welfare Reform Is Long Overdue

by John W. Cooper

A quarter-century after the federal government declared "war" on poverty, many of America's inner cities are sinking under the burden of welfare-funded dependency.

Persons in the so-called "underclass" can now receive a variety of welfare benefits - food stamps, public housing, medicaid, child support and so forth. These benefits are means tested; in other words, a person must be poor to receive them and must remain poor to continue receiving them. And the benefits are considered entitlements; that is, the recipients are said to have a right to demand that taxpayers provide welfare benefits without any reciprocal obligation on the part of the recipients.

For the able-bodied recipients - those who could be self-reliant but are not - the social safety net becomes a snare of dependency. As government obligations to able-bodied welfare recipients grow, taxes go up, economic opportunities shrink and more people are tempted to go on the dole. Therefore, the biggest obstacle to a viable welfare system is the dependency problem.

Wisconsin Republican Gov. Tommy Thompson is promoting several new policies designed to lessen the dependency factor in welfare programs. Thompson proposes:

- To increase the amount of income that families can earn

(Continued on Page 5)

Best Sellers Turn Spotlight on Libertarians

Why Americans Hate Politics

E.J. Dionne, Jr.

by Eric Rittberg

During the summer months, two books of great importance made the best seller's lists: *Why Americans Hate Politics*, by E.J. Dionne Jr., (Simon & Schuster, New York), and P.J. O'Rourke's *Parliament of Whores: A Lone Humorist Attempts to Explain the Entire U.S. Government*, (Atlantic Monthly Press, New York). Both books have received rave reviews.

Dionne, a reporter for the *Washington Post* has been a regular on the television talk show circuit. O'Rourke, "critic at-large" for *Rolling Stone* magazine, has received extensive praise for his effort from all corners. But what is perhaps most important about these works, and sadly what has been largely ignored, is their focus on libertarians.

Dionne's work devoted an entire chapter to "Politics Without Government: The Rebirth of Libertarianism." In it he outlines what is perhaps the most concise and accurate history of the modern libertarian movement. Dionne gives extensive coverage to the movement's rise in the '50s and '60s and credits Ayn Rand, Ralph Raico, Milton Friedman and Murray Rothbard for launching a movement, which he describes as "one of the less noted but most remarkable developments of recent years." Dionne goes into detail about the rise of the Libertarian Party, mentioning Roger MacBride, Dr. John Hospers, Ed Crane, Ed Clark, David Koch and Joseph Gentili.

But Dionne concludes that the glory days of the LP are over, having died out in 1983 or 1984 after the Kochs bolted with their millions. Dionne sees the LP as having played the same role with the Republican Party as the Socialists of the 1930s did with the Democrats, interjecting its ideology into the mainstream of politics. He concludes that libertarians are reaching the "classic second stage approach of the third-party movements," and foresees the libertarians rejoining Republican ranks, their natural home.

However, Dionne sees a potential danger for others in the GOP

as a result of the libertarian Republican resurgence. The author breaks the Republican Party into three groups: the traditionalists (religious right), pragmatists and libertarians. He says a schism between the traditionalists and libertarians has been growing for many years. Dionne sides with the libertarians, seeing the power of the religious right largely overblown. His prescription for the ills of the American political process is much the same.

Dionne asserts that what is needed is a "new Republicanism," kind of a soft version of libertarianism. He says, "At the heart of Republicanism is the belief that self-government is not a drab necessity but a joy to be treasured."

With *Parliament of Whores*, P.J. O'Rourke has finally come out of the closet as a libertarian. The author of *Republican Party Reptile* pulls no punches in using humor to make libertarian arguments.

"O'Rourke belongs to the libertarian wing of conservatism," according to the *Houston Chronicle* in June. "He's not a born-again Christian. He doesn't particularly care about people's lifestyles either, what they do in the privacy of their homes. He believes that the least government is the best government."

O'Rourke's book is a testimony to this belief. However, in addition to exposing the massive waste in Washington, he believes that the real cause of society's ills is the hypocrisy of the American public for relying too heavily on the federal government. He said in the *Chronicle* interview, "the reform that's necessary is a reform in our attitude toward government. We're asking so much from the government that it can't do the things we want it to do well. Plus, I think we're destroying our own freedom and self-respect."

The libertarian movement still has a long way to go to achieve the prominence it deserves. But libertarians cannot help but be hopeful when two popular and respected authors give the movement such a ringing endorsement.

PARLIAMENT OF WHORES

A LONE HUMORIST ATTEMPTS TO EXPLAIN THE ENTIRE U.S. GOVERNMENT



P.J. O'ROURKE

Welfare Reform...from 4

without losing welfare benefits, and gradually phase out assistance when family income grows (in most states families lose 100 percent of some benefits if their income exceeds pre-established thresholds).

- To require the welfare mother who is younger than 18 to reside in her parental home or, if that home is unsafe, to enter a group home.

- To eliminate the automatic rise in welfare benefits when a teenage mother has additional children while on welfare.

- To require unmarried teenage fathers who cannot pay child support to enter job-training programs.

- "Bridfare" - to allow teen parents who choose to marry and enter the workforce to continue receiving Aid to Families with Dependent Children (in most states, AFDC is only paid to

unmarried mothers; the average benefit nationwide is \$364 per month for a family of three).

- "Learn fare" - to penalize families with children who are chronically truant from school by cutting back their welfare benefits.

- To temporarily limit the welfare benefits of new arrivals in a state to the same benefits provided by the state from which they relocated.

While it may seem cold-hearted to limit welfare benefits when people refuse to make an effort to improve their situation in life, perhaps the real crime is to structure the welfare system in ways that cause already vulnerable persons to become trapped in a vicious cycle of dependency.

Eds. Note - John W. Cooper is president of the James Madison Institute for Public Policy Research in Tallahassee.

'91 Election Roundup

by Eric Rittberg and Curtis Dieterich

While the media focused on the stunning loss of Dick Thornburgh in the Pennsylvania U.S. Senate race, Republican victories in other regions went largely ignored.

On Nov. 5, the big news for the GOP was the overwhelming victory in New Jersey where both the State House and Senate went Republican. GOP candidates in five districts beat incumbent Democrats. But even more importantly, Republican George Allen, son of the famous former pro-football coach, beat Democrat Kay Slaughter in U.S. House District 7 with 63 percent. Allen ran on fiscally conservative themes.

Further south, Republican Kirk Fordice upset Democratic incumbent Ray Marbus in a close race for governor of Mississippi. He becomes the first Republican governor in that state since Reconstruction. Fordice ran against big government, racial quotas and welfare while highlighting his support for choice in education.

Republicans won surprising victories in municipalities. GOP mayoral candidates won elections in Indianapolis, Columbus, Toledo and Charlotte.

In New York, Republicans picked up three county executive seats and a New York City Council seat in what some described as an anti-Cuomo vote.

How GOP Libertarians Fared

Reflective of the overall GOP performance, for libertarian Republicans the '91 elections were a mixed bag.

Randy Corman's election to the New Jersey Senate was a welcome surprise (see Republican 'Tsunami,' page 1). However, the victory of Corman was tempered by the loss of another elected libertarian Republican Town Councilman in Virginia. Urbana Councilman Phil Friday lost in his bid for Middlesex County Board of Supervisors. He placed third in a field of five. VA RLC Chair Ron Courtney coordinated his campaign. RLCers from across the country contributed toward his effort. Still, Friday could not garner enough support, particularly among the county's old-line voters. Friday still retains his council seat and is not ruling out another bid for higher office.

The defeat of Initiative 553, the terms limitations referendum in Washington State, was a crushing blow to the overall libertarian community. Many libertarians were supportive and active in the effort.

It faltered for a variety of reasons. Perhaps one of the most concern to libertarians was the last-minute slam of Citizens for Congressional Reform who led the effort and major benefactors Charles and David Koch, the infamous libertarian billionaires of Oklahoma.

Rep. Tom Foley and crew used effective attack ads which linked the Kochs to the "radical right" and criticized out-of-state money influencing Washington State elections.

But the loss in the Northwest was tempered by a less noticed but profound victory further south. In San Francisco, voters elected overwhelmingly, 71 percent, to approve a measure urging the state to legalize marijuana for therapeutic reasons. Although non-binding, the move sends a strong signal that Drug War hysteria is waning, and that voters in certain regions of the country are even willing to support an end to prohibition.

ACTIVIST NEWS



California Assemblyman Tom McClintock (R), center, receives the Richard Cobden award for his budget-cutting efforts from Simi Valley Councilwoman Sandi Webb (L) and Ventura County LP Chair Aaron Starr.

News from National

The RLC National Committee has taken action on a number of fronts. In October, the NatCom approved three measures: an official endorsement of None of the Above in the Louisiana gubernatorial race between Republican David Duke and Democrat Edwin Edwards; the official recognition and endorsement of the efforts of citizens for Congressional Reform on behalf of initiatives around the nation to limit terms of Congressmen; and an official endorsement of the Fully Informed Jury Amendment, as proposed by the FIJA Committee.

RLC NatCom officers have been busy attending conventions and other events around the nation. In September, Vice-Chair Clifford Thies and his wife Carol attended the presidential nominating convention of the Libertarian Party in Chicago. An RLC information booth, complete with banner and plenty of literature, was set up in the display area. Over 500 pieces of RLC literature were handed out to LPers who were generally open to the libertarian Republican strategy. Also in September, RLC Director Alan Lindsay attended the California State GOP Convention in Anaheim.

In October, RLC Chair Eric Rittberg and Secretary Norm Singleton attended a term limits seminar in Washington D.C. hosted by CCR. Finally, Rittberg and FL RLCer Tom Walls attended the second annual THRO Convention of Tampa on Nov. 1.

More Milestones: Two more state legislators have joined the RLC Advisory Board. They are Rep. Don Roulston of Salem, N.H., and Rep. Mark Foley of South Palm Beach, Fla. Also, the RLC is now listed in the Encyclopedia of Associations, and RLC Chair Eric Rittberg has made it into *Who's Who in American Politics*, (Browker & Browker, '91 ed.), for his libertarian Republican activities.

Around the States

Much has happened in California since the state GOP convention in September. Assemblyman Tom McClintock, chair of the CA RLC, continues to receive press both inside and outside the state for his opposition to Gov. Wilson's tax hikes. In October, McClintock spoke before the Libertarian Supper Club in Los Angeles, about his recent legislative experiences. On Nov. 16, he spoke to a gathering of Wilsonites at the convention of the moderate California Republican League in Walnut Creek, but did not back away from his

stance. McClintock and CA RLC Secretary Bill Dawson are currently mapping out strategy for the RLC in the State for '92. Meanwhile, Mike Iddings of San Jose is recruiting GOP libertarians around the state, to run for local precinct committees.

In Florida, major gains are being made within the Young Republicans. Three local FL YR newsletters discussed libertarianism in October. At the YR Quarterly in Lakeland on Nov. 9 a RLC hospitality suite was set up. That night over 40 of the convention's 60 attendees visited the suite and left with libertarian literature. Also, the RLC hosted the meeting of the FL YR's "Pro-Choice Caucus." The Georgia RLC held its first meeting in Atlanta on Sept. 3. Ten Libertarians and Republicans heard RLC Chair Eric Rittberg speak on "Promoting Liberty in the GOP." GA RLC Chair Jay Taylor continues to speak on libertarianism to various GA YR clubs and to speak on Republicanism to local LP groups.

Moving north, Fred Stein attended the annual New Jersey GOP Convention in Trenton on Sept. 14. He handed out over 600 issues of *Republican Liberty*. Stein reports that NJ GOPers were extremely receptive to libertarians and the RLC. In neighboring Pennsylvania Linda Morrison is leading a number of "new ideas" Republicans in the Philadelphia GOP. Linda, along with her husband John, were active in the recent mayoral primary campaign of Sam Katz, a pro-choice/pro-privatization Republican.

In the Midwest, Ohio RLCer James Winter is holding monthly non-partisan libertarian meetings in the Bowling Green area. Local candidates are invited to speak. RLC Coordinator Laura Kotelman has set off a firestorm of activity in Illinois. Having been newly elected as chair of the Lake Forest College Republicans, she has been promoting the RLC's cause at CR meetings and at a variety of other GOP functions in the Chicago area.

NOTABLE NEWS

Thomas Hearings Highlight Libertarianism

While the media frenzy at the confirmation hearings of Clarence Thomas focused on the Anita Hill allegations, another aspect was largely overlooked. On the very first day of the hearings, Justice Thomas was challenged by the senate panel for his free market views. Sen. Joe Biden, referring to Thomas' previously expressed support for the writings of judicial scholars Stephen Macedo and Richard Epstein, commented that the judge seemed to be supporting an "extreme libertarian viewpoint." Later, Sen. Kennedy also raised the subject of Thomas' "libertarian" philosophy, and went on to quote extensively from the 1987 *Reason* magazine interview with Thomas in which Thomas questioned the efficacy of the EEOC and other government agencies. The senator expressed sheer amazement that anyone would suggest that the agencies were not needed.

Later on in the day, GOP Sen. Orin Hatch defended Thomas' views. While holding Epstein's landmark book on private property rights, *Takings*, Hatch gave mild praise to Epstein and Macedo, using the word libertarian twice in his remarks.

At least three media outlets recognized the significance of Thomas' libertarian bent. The *Wall Street Journal* editorialized that Thomas would join Scalia on the "sometimes libertarian wing" of the Supreme Court. The *New Republic* ran a piece, "Thomas' Promise," on Sept. 9, which called into question liberal opposition to the nomination. Wrote NR's Jeff Rosen, "far from being a statist like Robert Bork who would pander to governmental authority,

Thomas describes himself as a libertarian who sees the Declaration of Independence as the strongest defense of individual rights against collectivist schemes." Rosen went on to cite Thomas' vote against a 24-hour ban on indecent television while on the D.C. Circuit Court as evidence of his support for First Amendment Rights, and then went on to suggest that Thomas would have sided with Scalia in finding that flag burning is constitutionally protected. The *Village Voice* went a step further.

In a September article, Thomas was linked to the formal libertarian movement, including the Cato Institute and even the Libertarian Party, which the *Voice* described as holding views straight out of the 18th century.

Bill Bennett Loses his Cool

An advertisement for the Drug Policy Foundation that appeared in *National Review*, *Reason* and other publications recently sparked a minor controversy.

The ads, which announced the awarding by the foundation of grants to leaders of the drug reform movement, such as Milton Friedman and Dr. Thomas Szasz, infuriated former drug czar William Bennett.

"For the record, then, I would like to . . . make it clear that not everyone associated with *National Review* advocates drug legalization," wrote NR Associate Editor Bennett in a stinging letter to the editor. Bennett, who threatened to resign from NR at one point, went on to write "Americans are overwhelmingly against drug legalization."

The charge came amidst news that Drug Policy Foundation board member and legalization advocate Kurt Schmoke won reelection with 70 percent of the vote, while voters in San Francisco approved a measure calling for partial marijuana decriminalization with 71 percent.

Media Notes

The November/December issue of the *Utne Reader* carried a front-page article on "Why Americans hate politics." A new "American political landscape" was mapped out and included such diverse categories as: greens, feminists, limousine liberals, Marxists, fascists, paleo-conservatives, neo-conservatives, neo-liberals, elitists and anarchists.

Libertarians were placed in the decentralized-liberty plain. Listed as libertarian: *Reason*, *Business Week*, Frank Zappa music, Ayn Rand, P.J. O'Rourke and the CATO Institute.

William Weld, libertarian Republican governor of Massachusetts, continues to receive favorable attention for his outlook. John Fund of the *Wall Street Journal* wrote a comparison of Weld's performance compared to big-spender Pete Wilson titled "A Tale of Taxes and Two Governors" (Oct. 1, 1991).

Wrote Fund: "He discusses books by F.A. Hayek and Milton Friedman with visiting journalists." As for Wilson's attitude, Fund wrote "Free market Republicans who insist on sticking to their principles are 'fucking irrelevant,' in Mr. Wilson's memorable phrase."

In a syndicated column dated Oct. 18, 1991, Christopher Matthews commented, "Bill Weld's problem with the national Republican Party is he's as freedom-oriented on social issues as he is free market on economic matters. He's so pro-choice on abortion that he recently filed a bill that lowers the age a teenage girl must get parental consent . . . the governor is equally libertarian on gay rights."

Campaign Headquarters
7331 Harwin, Suite 113
Houston, TX 77036
(713) 974-4402

Republican Liberty Caucus
DIRECTORY

Administrative Office
1717 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 434
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(904) 878-4464

National Committee
Eric Rittberg, Chair
Clifford Thies, Vice-Chair
Norm Singleton, Secretary
Mike Holmes, Treasurer
Roger MacBride, At-Large
Ron Courtney, At-Large
Fred Stein, At-Large

Alabama RLC
Franklin Harris, Chair
P.O. Box 11709
Montgomery, AL 36111
(205) 826-1381

Arizona
Rick Tompkins, Cdr.
4730 W. Northern Ave. #1063
Glendale, AZ 85301
(602) 930-1268

Arkansas
Frank Gilbert, Cdr.
8416 Dogwood Trail
Benton, AR 72015
(501) 778-7259

California
Tom McClintock, Chair
Assemblyman, Camarillo

Bill Dawson, Secretary
(CA RLC inquiries)
Box 562, ASUC
Berkeley, CA 94720
(415) 655-7448

Colorado
Wainwright Dawson, Cdr.
Box U
Aspen, CO 81612

Florida RLC
Alan Turin, Chair
12555 Biscayne Blvd. #783
Miami, FL 33181
(305) 899-9555

Georgia
Earle Smith, Cdr.
5672 River Heights Crossing
Marietta, GA 30067
(404) 984-8145

Illinois
Laura Kotelman, Cdr.
LFC Box 744
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(708) 234-7749

Indiana
Scott Wick, Cdr.

1048 Azalea Dr.
Munster, IN 46321
(219) 924-0992

Maryland
Carol Thies, Cdr.
2432 Eutaw Place
Baltimore, MD 21217
(301) 523-0928

Massachusetts
Matthew Whiting, Reg. Cdr.
4 Westford St.
Chelmsford, MA 01824
(508) 256-4174

Michigan
Rich Birkett, Cdr.
3022 Chelsea Circle
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
(313) 677-0009

Missouri
Frank Williams, Cdr.
1226 Danforth
Columbia, MO 65201
(314) 449-3833

Nebraska
Harry Thode, Reg. Cdr.
3060 Vane

Omaha, NE 68112
(402) 451-3709

New Hampshire
Chris Tremblay, Cdr.
Box 1006
Center Harbor, NH 03226
(603) 253-9073

New Jersey RLC
Fred Stein, Chair
685 Jamesburg Road
Dayton, NJ 08810
(908) 274-2525

New York
Joseph Gentili, Cdr.
1401 Ocean Ave. #7B
Brooklyn, NY 11230
(212) 487-5326 (w)

North Carolina
Wayne Morris, Cdr.
P.O. Box 1558
Banner Elk, NC 28604
(704) 898-8638

Ohio
Russ Rosen, Cdr.
2199 Bellfield Ave.

Cleveland Hts., OH 44106
(216) 721-4110

Oregon
Bruce Perry, Cdr.
4207 S.E. 37th Ave. #1
Portland, OR 97202
(503) 774-8711

Pennsylvania
Norman Singleton, Cdr.
121 McAlister Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15235
(412) 373-0689

Texas
Alan Lindsay, Cdr.
P.O. Box 630393
Houston, TX 77063
(713) 974-4402

Vermont
John Simons, Cdr.
Box 22, Sheffield, VT 05866
(802) 626-9001

Virginia RLC
Ron Courtney, Chair
P.O. Box 13
Urbana, VA 23175
(804) 758-4663

Membership Form

____ Subscription/Student \$10.00 ____ Patron \$500.00
____ Regular \$20.00 (Couple \$25.00) ____ Lifetime \$1,000.00
____ Sustaining \$100.00 ____ Other Contribution \$ _____

Members/subscribers receive five issues of *Republican Liberty* (published quarterly plus annual outreach issue). Members also receive regular Activist and Election bulletins. Members at Sustaining and above levels receive all minutes of RLC National Committee Meetings and have delegate status at national RLC conventions. Please send this form to the RLC administrative office.

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

How to Get Involved

- 1) Become a state or local RLC coordinator.
- 2) Attend your state GOP convention and meetings of GOP groups (local Republican clubs, executive committees, Young Republicans, College Republicans and others). Pass out literature and/or give a short talk.
- 3) Get involved in campaigns.
- 4) Run for party or public office.

Note - State Republican Party requirements and/or State Division of Elections must be met in order to start an RLC chapter.

Republican Liberty Caucus
1717 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 434
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Address Correction Requested