



# LIBERTY PLEDGE NEWSLETTER

The Liberty Pledge Newsletter is a monthly publication for the contributors in the National Libertarian Party's Liberty Pledge Program and the Torch Club. It is also distributed to current National Committee Members and State Party Chairs in appreciation of their involvement and to serve them as a regular update on Libertarian activities at Headquarters and in the news.

Clippings and other stories of interest are appreciated.

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NOVEMBER  
1986

Dear Supporters of Liberty,

This month's newsletter is going to be short on talk and long on clippings. I'm preparing for my first National Committee meeting.

The meeting will be held in Los Angeles on the 22nd and 23rd (of this month) at the Viscount hotel. It's open to all current members, so if you're in L.A. you're welcome to attend.

You wouldn't believe how much preparation is required of the Director for one of these meetings. Reports to write, check and re-check. There's one thing I can say for the National Committee: they sure watch the money like hawks, and leave no stone unturned in finding out where it goes.

In case you didn't know, all NatCom members pay for their own travel and hotel expenses. There are some that believe the committee "flies for free"; not so -- it comes out of their own pockets. How's that for dedication?

I'm really looking forward to the next LP News, it will have the low-down on the elections around the country. It'll be out in a couple of weeks.

Gotta' run!

See you next month!

Terry V. Mitchell  
Acting National Director

## Illegal immigration: Start shooting

Some conservative or libertarian theorists oppose all restrictions on immigration. They argue that the illegal immigrants perform useful services like picking grapes and lettuce, that their presence is thus economically beneficial, that often they embody the work ethic and are energetic folk, and that, anyway, American traditions of liberty require open borders.

The Reagan administration, however, is reacting at long last. It has announced a Southwest Border Initiative designed to strengthen the Border Patrol now strung out along a 1,900 mile border. Hundreds of federal agents will be assigned, equipped with radar, dogs, and radar-equipped reconnaissance planes. In due course, the problem may demand pill boxes, machine guns, mines, electric fences, and even the 82nd Airborne Division, the Marines and the Air Force.

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Phoenix Gazette  
Phoenix, AZ

# How to tame the bear in 5 easy moves

## Libertarian approach could have the Soviets begging for mercy

By JEFF DAIELL

Americans are, quite properly, concerned about the threat to our freedom posed by communist governments. Despite ever-increasing military expenditures, countless interventions, and two bloody wars, the march of communism has proceeded apace.

If our present course, which seems headed toward eventually giving every dollar in the United States to the Pentagon, has failed so badly, how then are we to stop Soviet imperialism?

Libertarianize America. Creating a fully free society at home will reduce the risk from foreign dictatorship.

First, a libertarian America would not heap billions of taxpayers' dollars onto communist governments, nor guarantee their loans, nor finance their various deals around the world. Communism being an astoundingly untenable system, it cannot long survive without foreign assistance. Other countries could not make up the massive amounts of aid emanating from Washington, and the Soviet economy (and other communist economies) would rapidly stumble into horrendous trouble.

Russia's ability to make or threaten war would be reduced, and, eventually, Moscow would have to concentrate on shoring up its economy rather than on bellicosity — not because they are good people (they have, after all, institutionalized evil), but because they would have no practical choice. Nor would they resort to the traditional tyrants' way out, aggression, to save their economies, even without having sacrificed their war machine to the home front.

Russia could not afford to attack either China (which could quite easily pour 2 million soldiers across their common border with orders to disperse and wreak havoc) or Western

Europe (whose nuclear capabilities could inflict heavy damage on Russia even though not able to actually "win" such a war). Thus, a truly Free America could by its very nature provide a punch in the solar plexus to world communism.

Second, with a thoroughly libertarian America, the "brain drain" of talent and expertise from foreign lands, including the communist portions of the globe, would become a torrent. Scientists, engineers, artists, intellectuals, inventors, all would be more eager to leave (or escape) their respective countries — especially the organized barbarism of the communist bloc — and come here, thus making American society even more attractive, which would in turn draw even more "brains," thus sparking a continuous spiral of improvement and aspiration. This drain would make even more clumsy the already stumbling scientific and intellectual worlds of the U.S.S.R. and its allies.

Third, a truly free America would draw individuals of all occupations, not just intellectuals, to these shores, draining dictatorial lands of procedures and workers, leaving them fewer victims to leech from. These people would in turn become part of the then-burgeoning American economy; a free economy tends to expand, so there would be plenty of "economic room" for them, and they in turn would help expand that economy even further. The Soviet government would be increasingly embarrassed by this emigration (which would likely be composed of escapes as well as legal emigrants), and by the increasing disparity between our economy and their own.

Fourth, as noted above, a libertarian American economy would be more efficient, more productive than our current "misled" economy. Inflation and recession would be things of the past once government manipulation of the money supply ended; economic growth would



bring full employment. The standard of living would be on a steady incline, and the gap between rich and poor would diminish as wages tended to rise and prices fell; both rich and poor would grow wealthier, but the poor would grow wealthier at a faster rate. This would prove the practical superiority of liberty over despotism beyond even the ability of dictatorial propaganda machines to dispute. Communist mythmaking about "workers' paradises" would receive the derision it deserves.

Finally, a truly free America would help considerably in the war for people's minds in another way. People all over the world have seen America's move toward statism (a move in reality scarcely slowed, much less halted or reversed, by the Reagan administration, its rhetoric notwithstanding) and they perceive this as acceptance of tyranny's criticisms of freedom; we are, in effect, fighting the propaganda war for the communists with every move toward collectivism that we take.

We need to announce that our experience — and others' — shows that statism even in small doses cannot work; we are moving instead toward a fully free society. We need to stop apologizing for freedom, and to espouse it proudly. The results will speak loudly, and our attempts to gain acceptance for the ideas of liberty will make strong progress.

These five results would leave world communism in serious trouble. No other rational course of action can do that. True, we need in the meantime to maintain an undoubtable capability for defending ourselves; but if we are truly opposed to the evils of communism — and truly dedicated to the moral and practical value of liberty — then we need to fight communism by promoting liberty.

Should be a member of the Harris County Libertarian Party, and secretary of the Tule River Chapter of Greater Houston, which he helped found. The views expressed here are his own.

HELENA, MONTANA  
INDEPENDENT-RECORD

## Libertarians cool on lottery

IR State Bureau

The proposal for a state lottery is getting only so-so marks from Montana Libertarians.

The party, continuing its evaluation of 1986 ballot issues, has assigned a C-plus grade to the legislative Referendum that would create a lottery.

Party member Christopher Mullin of Missoula noted one good point of the proposal by quoting Thomas Jefferson, who said a lottery "lays the taxation upon the willing."

But in sparsely populated states like Montana, he said, prizes, participation and profits will probably be small.

He said a regional lottery run

by Montana and nearby states might be beneficial, but added that Montana voters can't speak for people in other states.

Mullin said Libertarians have problems with idea of state-run gambling. He said they favor allowing all types of gambling in Montana, a policy he argued would give the economy a big boost.

While a state lottery would enlarge an already oversized state government, he said, it probably would cover its own overhead. Since participation would be voluntary and a lottery wouldn't do much harm or good, he went on, Libertarians are giving the measure lukewarm support.

## Cowper gets O'Brannon endorsement

By Debbie Reinwand  
Times Writer

Democratic candidate for governor Steve Cowper got a vote of support from one of his contenders Thursday evening in a televised statewide debate.

Libertarian contender Mary O'Brannon surprised Cowper by announcing that she realized she couldn't win the governor's race and urged her supporters to "cast their votes for Steve."

O'Brannon made the endorsement during her closing comments on KAKM-TV's gubernatorial debate.

Following the debate, O'Brannon said she had decided to cast her support to Cowper because he "has some good ideas to help small businesses in Alaska."

"The main reason I was running was to get into office and change the way government deals with small business. In the past, there hasn't been a very sympathetic attitude on the part of government toward those of us who are trying to make it in the business world," O'Brannon said. She has previously operated a business that published statewide phone directories.

Cowper left the debate before reporters could question him on his reaction to O'Brannon's endorsement.

O'Brannon, a dark horse candidate, won the Libertarian nomination by 27 votes in August, beating Fairbanks resident Ed Hoch.

Libertarian Party leaders were miffed that O'Brannon accepted the nomination, since she was out of state for most of the summer and had informed them she was withdrawing from the race.

When she won, O'Brannon returned to Alaska from California and began to campaign.

Party leaders were so incensed they sued to have her name pulled from the ballot, but were unsuccessful. They have since started a write-in campaign for Hoch. 302

## State probing group opposing pot measure

### Candidate alleges elections law violations

By ERIC MORTENSON  
The Register-Guard

The Oregon secretary of state's office is investigating alleged election law violations by a Eugene group opposed to the marijuana initiative, the manager of the office's elections division said Friday.

The investigation into activities of the Community Substance Abuse Consortium was requested by Richard Sharry of Eugene, a Libertarian Party candidate for District 40 state representative.

CoSAC, as the group is known, was set up to encourage and coordinate community efforts to combat drug abuse among young people. Sharry

### ELECTION '86

said at a news conference Friday that the consortium had used public money to oppose Ballot Measure 5. The initiative, if approved by voters in November, would make it legal for people 18 and older to grow and possess marijuana for personal use.

Sharry said the consortium should be registered as a political action committee and has not filed financial reports as required of PACs. He said employees of the Lane County Traffic Safety Commission had mailed the consortium literature using county envelopes and stamps and on county time.

"All of this constitutes using public funds to combat a ballot measure," said Sharry, who supports Ballot Measure 5. He said he had asked the Lane County district attorney's office to investigate what he called the "misuse of public funds." District Attorney Doug Barciroed was unavailable for comment.

Larry Bevens, manager of the state Elections Division in Salem, said an

investigation had been opened on the alleged election law violations but said he could not comment on specific allegations.

Judy Moseley, director of the consortium, said she was not worried about an investigation. The group's activities would withstand scrutiny, she said.

Bevens said Oregon law treats a group as a political action committee if its primary purpose is to support or oppose candidates or measures and it receives contributions and spends money.

"If you get a couple of folks together and they receive money and make expenditures, they're a committee," he said. "They have to file as a committee."

Campaign literature mailed to voters must say who paid for it and list the name and address of the person responsible, Bevens said.

Peggy Jenette, coordinator of the county's Traffic Safety Commission, said Friday that she didn't know if the commission had violated election law. She planned to check with the county counsel's office.

Jenette is the leader of the consortium's community education committee.

Moseley said Jenette had mailed copies of the group's meeting agendas and minutes. The consortium intends to reimburse the county \$200 to cover the mailing cost, she said.

Sharry also said during his news conference that the consortium's offices in the West University Neighborhood Center were provided free by the city of Eugene.

Moseley said the group pays \$30 per month for the space.

Sharry said he was bothered by "hysteria" generated by the consortium and other opponents of Measure 5.

Moseley said Sharry's charges were part of a pattern adopted by people who support the marijuana initiative. She said initiative supporters would rather "harass" their opponents than present reasons why marijuana should be legalized.

## Libertarians lose

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ANCHORAGE (AP) — A superior court judge has ruled that Libertarian Party gubernatorial nominee Mary O'Brannon will retain her spot on the November general election ballot.

The Libertarian Party had sought to delete O'Brannon's name from the Nov. 4 ballot. It said she left the state early in the primary election campaign. The party Tuesday claimed she was not a qualified resident or candidate.

But her name remained on the primary ballot and she won.

Party lawyer Kathryn Lynch also argued Tuesday that O'Brannon had not signed a statement supporting the party's views and had failed to pay dues.

After listening to six hours of testimony, Superior Court Judge Karen Hunt said the Libertarian arguments were insufficient to remove O'Brannon's name from the ballot.

The judge's ruling was good news for state elections officials. Printing of the state election ballots started late Monday in California. Disrupting the printing process could have cost Alaska about \$150,000, said Sandra Stout, elections director.

While O'Brannon was in the courthouse, she was served with a request that she appear in court again to answer a charge that she ignored a court ruling that she must pay \$118,960 in restitution, fees and penalties from a lawsuit filed against her in 1985.

Kodiak, Alaska  
Mirror

Anchorage, AK  
(Anchorage Census Div)  
Anchorage Times



Register-Guard  
Lane County  
Register-Guard

# Sheriff's lenient drug policy targeted

Phoenix Gazette

By Ellen Haddow  
The Associated Press

ASPEN, Colo. — There's growing dismay among some residents of this free-wheeling, upscale resort nestled among Colorado's finest ski slopes because of the town's reputation as a drug haven.

Sheriff Dick Kienast, a lawman with a master's degree in theology, has become the target of that dissatisfaction because he won't force a deputy with a cocaine habit to reveal his drug sources.

Drug investigations are rare in Aspen, where a diverse mix of residents make the community as conservative as it is free-wheeling. Kienast has said he considers undercover operations "morally reprehensible."

Many of the 3,600 residents are 40 or younger, and many migrated from the East seeking an independent life. But a significant number of residents look for a more traditional lifestyle.

Spurred by President Reagan's crusade against drugs, about 70 residents rallied this week to call for authorities to stop looking the other way when it comes to illegal substances and for an investigation of the sheriff.

"Aspen is promoted as a party town for adults, so kids party, too. They're not stupid. They see what goes on here," said Larry Parsons, a high school principal.

The 47-year-old Kienast, who admits he has sampled cocaine, doesn't fit the mold of rough-and-tumble Western lawman with his Notre Dame theology degree and libertarian outlook.

"If you trust people, you will be regarded with trust," he has said. "If you distrust people, you invite



Dick Kienast

Kienast triggered another outcry last weekend when he said he would not demand that Deputy Skitch Rounsefell reveal his drug sources after he admitted using cocaine and sought treatment.

"He has no more obligation to uphold the law than any other citizen, and citizens here aren't turning in drug dealers," Kienast said. "People get drugs on the basis of personal friendship ... And snitches are universally disliked."

"The bonds of friendship in a community are a more fundamental thing to worry about than whether someone breaks the law," Kienast said.

Several speakers at the rally blamed the community for allowing drugs to become acceptable.

"We can't blame Kienast," Don Helmich said. "We need to blame ourselves. We've been in a minority and we've been silent. We should have done more."

David Harlin, a 29-year-old chef, said: "There comes a time when you have to say, 'Enough!' Even Aspen has to recognize there is a line there."

"We still have rules of law," added rally organizer Bill Martin, a retired Air Force lieutenant general and 16-year Aspen resident. "Taking drugs is a federal offense and now the sheriff is saying he won't turn them in."

But 64-year-old Bill Little, who owns a bakery, said Kienast "was only doing what the liberal crowd wanted him to do."

distrust in yourself."

His 1982 re-election campaign literature carried the headline "Police and the pursuit of happiness," and cited a libertarian philosophy drawn from writers that included Aristotle and Louis Brandeis.

"He is not off the wall," said Rep. Mike Strang, R-Colo., a former stockbroker here. "He has a libertarian philosophy that is well thought out and one in which he believes deeply."

Kienast is no stranger to controversy over his drug policies.

In 1979, he was the target of a federal grand jury investigation into allegations he was soft on drugs. No indictments were returned.

That year, when the herbicide paraquat was sprayed on marijuana in an effort to control it, Kienast tested residents' marijuana as a safety measure and returned it to them if it was safe to smoke.

## Saiki says yes to TV shows excluding Harris

By Floyd K. Takeuchi

Advertiser Government Bureau

Republican congressional candidate Pat Saiki, who said she would not participate in a televised debate unless a Libertarian Party challenger was included, does not believe the same standard should be applied to appearances on television interview programs.

Saiki and her Democratic challenger, Mufi Hannemann, are scheduled to appear on at least three public affairs programs through Oct. 24. At this point, the Libertarian congressional candidate, Dr. Blaise Harris, is expected to join Saiki and Hannemann on only one of the shows.

The three are running for the 1st Congressional District seat (Urban Honolulu).

"These are totally different," Saiki said of the debate and the television appearances.

"In one case, it is a regularly scheduled program, while the other is a special one-shot program," she said.

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii, the sponsor, canceled an Oct. 6 debate after Saiki refused to change her position that Harris be included in the televised event. The league maintains that only "major" candidates should be invited.

Saiki said she has urged the television stations to include Harris when she and Hannemann are invited, but the stations establish their own policies about who can appear on their programs.

Saiki said she has not changed

Honolulu Advertiser

campaign '86

ed her position about wanting to include Harris in any formal debate.

"Every so often you've got to stand up for principles," she said. "Every so often you've got to show character."

A spokesman for Hannemann said he also has pushed for Harris' inclusion in televised appearances with Saiki. Hannemann told the League that he hoped Harris would be a part of the debate, but that he felt it was important to get his views out and he would go along with the League's decision on participation.

Harris said he would continue pushing to be included on a program that Saiki and Hannemann are on.

"I'm not asking (the other candidates) to do my battles for me," he said.

A Harris campaign aide has contacted television stations asking that the Libertarian be included in upcoming shows.

Harris, chairman of the Libertarian Party, received 460 of the 143,112 votes cast in the Sept. 20 special congressional election. Harris was not in the primary election, but is a general election candidate.

Saiki received 41,067 votes in the special election and Hannemann got 39,800. Winner Neil Abercrombie, a Democrat, received 42,031 votes.

# California leftist parties trying to just hang on

Alameda Times Star

SACRAMENTO (UPI) — The only left wing party on the ballot in California goes into the November general election struggling for survival, its candidate for lieutenant governor said Monday.

By law, the Peace and Freedom Party will be off the ballot in the future unless at least one of its candidates for state office picks up 2 percent of the vote cast Nov. 4.

"It's the end of the party if we don't make it," says Clyde Kuhn, a Davis college instructor and PFP's candidate for lieutenant governor. "If so, it looks like the political process will narrow considerably."

Kuhn proposed state-financed political campaigns, including candidate forums that would be filmed and broadcast later as public service announcements on radio and television.

Kuhn and two other PFP candidates for state office held a news conference on the state Capitol steps to complain that the party can't afford broadcast advertising, that the big political polls don't mention minor parties' names, and that the press generally ignores them.

Also, major party candidates sidestep debates with small party candidates, a disability PFP shares with the two other minor parties still on the ballot. They are the Libertarian Party and the American Independent Party.

The PFP trio drew an audience of a dozen reporters and TV technicians Monday. The state government was shut down for Columbus Day, and newscasters in Sacramento didn't have much to do.

Kuhn was joined by Maureen Smith, of Aptos, the party's state chair, who is running against Treasurer Jess Unruh, and John Haag, of Santa Monica, PFP's candidate for controller.

"Television has made it incalculably more difficult for minor parties to get attention," Kuhn said. "The chance for alternatives (to the two major parties) to emerge is getting smaller. We're being rejected because we can't buy into the consciousness of the voters."

Haag, who has run for several offices under the PFP banner during the last 18 years, said that "campaigning

has become a media event, with radio and TV commercials that minor candidates can't match."

"I used to get a lots of invitations to speak to organizations and public forums, but not so much any more," he said.

By state law, a party loses its place on the ballot unless at least one candidate for state office gets two percent of the vote in the last general election in which state offices are contested.

It can qualify by getting by registering a number of voters equal to one-fifteenth of one percent of the total number of votes cast in the election. Kuhn said this would be difficult and expensive.

Smith outlined some main planks in the PFP platform. They included a public banking system, divestment of state funds in weapons manufacturing companies, election of college chancellors by students.

"I'm for evolution as opposed to revolution," she said. The other far left party in California, the Communist Party, does not appear to be giving Peace and Freedom any help. It has concentrated on registration of working people and members as Democrats, in hope of having an impact on a major party in the election.

The Communist Party hasn't got a place on the California ballot. In the last two presidential elections, it has failed in signature drives to put the names of its presidential and vice presidential candidates on the ballot on election day.

## Libertarians in U.S. House race favor write-in vote

HONOLULU (AP) — Libertarian Party congressional candidates Blaise Harris and Ken Schoolland say they favor write-in voting.

Harris said if people are going to be lured back to the voting booths, they need to have the opportunity to choose whomever they want. Harris is a candidate for the 1st Congressional District (urban Honolulu).

Schoolland said some people have objected to write-in ballots by saying that even Mickey Mouse might win. If Mickey Mouse can beat all the candidates, he said, then there could be no clearer message from the voters that major changes were in order to make democracy more meaningful. Schoolland is a candidate for the 2nd District.

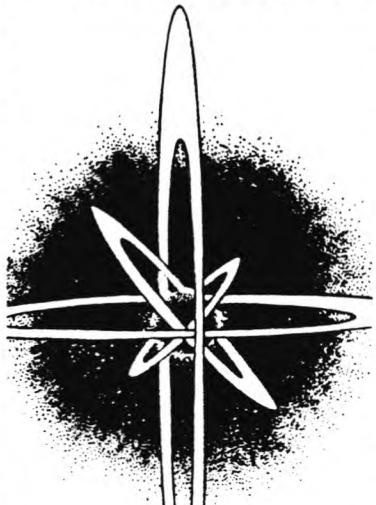
## Exploiters Return

Editor — From drug abuse to abortion, the battle between the individualists and the various socialists rages on. It began with the first civilization. It caused our revolution and many obscure coups since.

Today, the right-wing socialists dominate us in their arrogant quest to rule everyone in the world; while their counterparts, the left-wing socialists, exploit us in their impossible attempt to mother everyone in the world.

Two centuries ago, libertarian individualists like me evicted domineering exploiters. Why are they here again?

GEORGE W. STEFFNER  
(San Francisco Chronicle) Moraga



# Mystery 'Windfall' Buys Ads on TV

## American Independent Senate Candidate Is Beneficiary

By TRACY WOOD, Times Staff Writer

A last minute flurry of expensive television commercials made by Edward B. Vallen, the American Independent candidate for U.S. Senate, were financed by a \$120,000 "windfall out of the blue" that still is largely a mystery. Vallen's campaign manager said Saturday.

Ron Smith, campaign manager for Republican Senate candidate Ed Zschau, immediately termed the last minute blitz "obviously... a dirty trick" aimed at siphoning conservative votes away from Zschau.

The Vallen commercials came as polls showed Zschau and Democratic Sen. Alan Cranston in a virtual tie going into the last days of the campaign. In a final effort to defeat Cranston, President Reagan has been stumping through Southern California trying to help Zschau shore up relations with those conservatives who think Zschau may be too liberal.

The Vallen ads say that there are only two Senate candidates—Vallen and Cranston—who have integrity and that only one of those candidates, Vallen, is a true conservative.

Smith blamed liberal Democrats for financing commercials for Vallen's minor party candidacy.

But Cranston spokesman Kam Kuwata said Saturday that no one had approached the Cranston campaign with proposals for funding independent advertising to help drain votes away from Zschau.

Kuwata declined to identify who he was referring to but did say that no one associated with the American Independent political party had approached the campaign.

Federal election laws prohibit large anonymous donations. Vallen and Ina Shidler, his campaign manager, said they can identify—but wouldn't name—the individuals and political action committees who gave about \$35,000 of the total.

But Shidler said the source of the remaining \$85,000 is unknown. She and Vallen said they believe the money came from conservative "Christian" Republicans, but, added Shidler "if there's a big organization behind it, I don't know who it would be."

### Provisions of Law

Under federal law, individuals are limited to donations of \$1,000 per candidate in each election and political action committees—groups of donors—are restricted to \$5,000 per candidate.

Before the money was donated for the commercials, Shidler said the Vallen campaign had raised only a little more than \$7,000.

Then, Shidler said, on Oct. 23, a man who identified himself as Mark Barnes of Los Angeles telephoned and said: "I've got a deal. What would you think of in the neighborhood of \$1 million... for spots on television?"

Shidler said the man told her the money would come from conservative Christians, Republicans and political action committees.

After they met and discussed the matter, the man arranged for television time for the broadcasts and Vallen agreed to do the commercials, she said, adding that "I had a

sixth sense that this was good, real good."

Shidler and Vallen said they have never seen any of the money that paid for the television ad.

"We have no control over this money," Shidler said. "It was to buy TV time. I have not seen one dime of it."

But, she added, the campaign would report all required information to the Federal Elections Commission which enforces election laws.

Shidler said that an overnight letter identifying the senders as PAC Inc. of Los Angeles and Green Stripe Media Inc. of Newport Beach, arrived on Saturday.

Shidler said PAC Inc. was Barnes' company and that Green Stripe arranged the television air time.

Neither Barnes nor anyone at Green Stripe could be reached for comment.

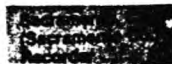
Shidler said the letter was a "political recap" which showed that \$120,000 had been received for the ads. It also listed the donors of about \$35,000 of the \$120,000. Shidler and Vallen declined to release the names of any of the donors.

In September, Breck McKinley, the Libertarian candidate for the U.S. Senate, told a news conference he had been approached with an offer for help against Zschau by the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, which AIPAC officials denied. Murray Wood, a Los Angeles official of AIPAC said Saturday he knew nothing at all about the money that Vallen received.

The American Independent political party was founded in the 1960s by former Alabama Gov. George Wallace.

## Siphoning Zschau votes

A Washington-based, pro-Israel lobby backing U.S. Sen. Alan Cranston's re-election bid has offered to help finance a mailing by a third-party candidate in order to siphon conservative votes away from Republican challenger Ed Zschau, it was reported Thursday. Libertarian Party candidate Breck McKinley said officials of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee met privately with him last week and offered to pay for a mailer on his behalf to GOP households in Orange County if Zschau "closes the gap in the polls." Orange County's large Republican voter registration makes it critical to Zschau's attempt to unseat the incumbent Democrat.



## Libertarian hopes to make good showing

COLUMBIA (AP) — William Griffin, the Libertarian candidate for governor of South Carolina, says he's hoping to make a respectable showing and expand an organization that is now a minor political force in the state.

"I realize the odds of winning are pretty astronomical, but South Carolina's one state that's done some screwy things," he said in an interview. "Anything's possible. I'm planning more advertising before the election, and hopefully, I'll pick up a following."

"I know I've made a few converts. I hope I make enough to make a good showing and maybe scare somebody to death," Griffin said.

The 39-year-old computer technician from South Congaree is vice chairman of the South Carolina Libertarian Party and the party's pick to run for governor against Republican U.S. Rep. Carroll Campbell,

Democratic Lt. Gov. Mike Daniel and American Party candidate Millard E. Smith.

Griffin garnered 148 votes in a 1984 race for state House District 88 in Lexington County. That was about 4,800 votes behind incumbent Republican Rep. Lenoir Sturkie and about 2,500 votes behind Democrat Hal Jordan.

Daniel and Campbell are expected to spend more than \$2 million each in the race for governor. Griffin is planning to spend upwards of \$2,000.

He wants to spread the Libertarian word that there are new and better ways of doing things — like cutting taxes and saving money — and that neither Daniel nor Campbell has addressed those problems.

But he said he has been hurt politically by being excluded from the Campbell-Daniel television debates, and by being excluded from public opinion polls being conducted by various campaigns, political firms and news organizations.

The League of Women Voters decided not to include Griffin in its gubernatorial debate.

# Libertarians and the Freeze

The Bloomington Nuclear Freeze office is for all practical purposes nothing but an arm of the Democratic Party.

That's right — the party of Hiroshima and Vietnam. On Sept. 18 one representative of the Freeze office infiltrated (and politicized) our Congregations for Peace meeting with an appeal for a Frank McCloskey fund-raising event with the statement that "McCloskey is the only man in the (Eighth) District with a peace platform."

The candidate with the strongest peace plank in the district is Libertarian Marilyn Stone. In 1984, when I was running an active campaign against Lee Hamilton, I took my campaign literature to the Freeze office.

I had, of course, been a member of the Freeze movement, even cutting TV spots for the movement at one time. But when offering an alternative to the party that only wanted a smaller increase in the military budget than Ronald Reagan proposed, as opposed to the 90 percent decrease I and the Libertarian Party proposed, I was sometimes treated with contempt by individual workers in the Freeze office. My campaign literature al-

ways was thrown out, and the Freeze group ended up supporting an opponent with a weaker peace platform.

An article in a Libertarian magazine, analyzing nationwide rejection of Libertarian peace candidates by the peace movement, concluded that those in general involved in that movement obviously served a higher cause — the cause of big government and spending. I think the problem goes much deeper than that.

Even for these apparently liberal thinkers, the disastrous two-party system is sacrosanct. We are saddled with the results of this thinking everywhere we

turn — the party of Hiroshima, Vietnam and protectionism versus the party of Watergate and massive and disastrous military budgets.

It is now clear to me that the economy will crash in 1988, give or take a few months, and that the boom of the Twenties and the depression of the Thirties will prove to have been only intermediate cycles in the economy that will come crashing because the founding fathers failed to prohibit the government from borrowing money.

DOUGLAS S. BOGGS  
Libertarian Candidate  
Ninth District Congress  
Bloomington

## The Belgian Who Refuses to Waffle

DEFENSE, BELGIUM — Guy Verhofstadt doesn't hesitate to call himself a libertarian. Although this species has become better known by the general public during the last five years or so, Verhofstadt is nevertheless a curiosity: he is also vice prime minister of the Kingdom of Belgium. In fact, he is its youngest vice prime minister ever. When he accepted the nomination, after the October 1985 election, he was but 30 years of age.

Verhofstadt (spotlighted in REASON'S August 1983 issue) began his political career as a Ghent city councilman. In 1977

he became secretary to Willy Declercq, then-president of the P.V.V., Belgium's foremost Flemish-speaking liberal party. (In European, liberal retains its original mean-



ing support for individual rights in the economic and personal spheres of life.) Verhofstadt became president of the P.V.V.'s youth department in 1979 and three years later succeeded Declercq as president of the party itself. In the meantime, in

1980, Verhofstadt and several of his P.V.V. colleagues had made a months-long journey to the United States to contact the numerous libertarian organiza-

Guy Verhofstadt: Can Belgium's libertarian succeed at slashing the state?

tions, magazines, professors, and activists there.

Verhofstadt's party, in coalition with Flemish and French-speaking Christian parties, has governed Belgium since 1981. It has required numerous compromises. Always, however, he

has clearly stated his principles and explained why he accepted a compromise inconsistent with them.

Verhofstadt's elevation to the position of vice prime minister in 1985 was complemented by his nomination to the chief spot at the budget ministry. This position is perhaps even more important than the other. All other ministers of government must submit their budgets to Verhofstadt, which gives him some influence in the whole of the state's finances.

It's still too early to judge Guy Verhofstadt's performance in slashing the Belgian state. Tax-wary citizens will have to wait a while to discover whether or not Belgium's libertarian can succeed at this daunting task.

—Fred Dekkers

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