

United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary

Questionnaire for Judicial Nominees
**Supplemental Attachments to
Question 12(a)**

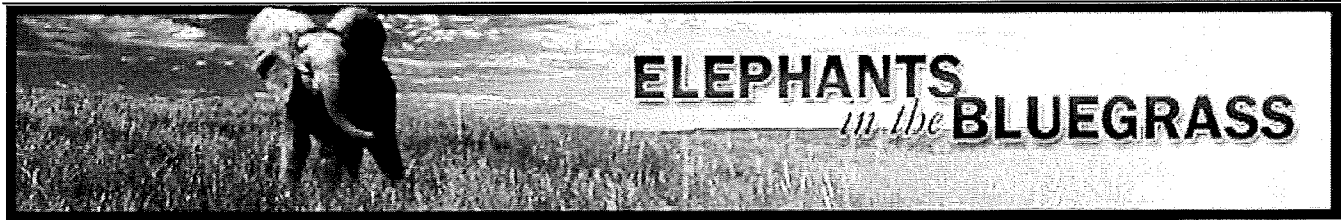
JOHN KENNETH BUSH
Nominee to be United States Circuit Judge
for the Sixth Circuit

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Tuesday, July 19, 2016
Roll With the Changes

The convention band opened today's session with a cover of "Roll With the Changes,". How fitting. I wonder if REO Speedwagon is represented by the same lawyers as Queen, who have already sent a cease and desist letter to the Trump campaign protesting last night's use of "We are the Champions." As if Freddie Mercury at this point really cares.

By the way the best dancers by far on the convention floor last night were the Georgians. The Kentucky delegates better step it up!

Posted by G. Morris at 5:41 PM



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Andy Beshear Needs to Man Up

ISIS Kills French Priest - Performing Mass

**The Law and Order
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"I Humbly and Gratefully
Accept Your Nomination
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Cruz Doesn't Endorse
Trump!
Cruz is a Sore Loser
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"No Hillary, You're the
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A Real Political
Commentator
Trump's Dramatic Entrance
Trump Staffer Apologizes
for Plagiarism
The Eagle Has Landed
Trump Helicopter Watch
Senator McConnell and
Secretary Chao entering
the ...
Majority Leader McConnell
at the Podium
Mike Lee**

**Donald Trump Officially
Nominated**

**Majority Leader Offers The
Best Reason To Vote for...**

Start Spreading the News

**Judging by Applause,
Bourbon Edges Out Trump
for t...**

**Ohio Delegation is Shunted
to an Obscure Corner**

**Senator Sessions Gets a
Second Chance**

Roll With the Changes

**We are all Federalists; we
are all Republicans**

The Remarkable First Day

**Day One of Convention
Shatters Expectations**

Unofficial Delegate Photo

**Never Trump has formally
fizzled; now say cheese!**

**Did the protesters get the
date wrong?**

Dr. Ben Carson

Hello Mr. Rather

We need a cup of coffee

**Baring My Pre-Convention
Thoughts**

**Republicans Need to Come
Together this Week**

**Rand Paul to Skip
Convention**

**My C-J Column on Bevin's
Prison Reform**

**KY Chamber Takes on
Health Insurance Tax**

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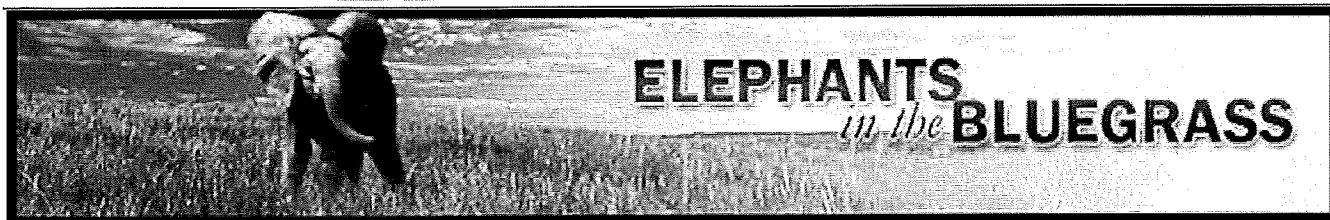
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Wednesday, August 3, 2011

Fineman: This is McConnell's Moment

Howard Fineman has a piece on the **Huffington Post** regarding McConnell's pivotal role in the recent debt ceiling compromise. Fineman, who wrote for the *Courier-Journal* before he left to make a name for himself at *Newsweek*, has been observing McConnell since the '70's.

Fineman is grudgingly complimentary of McConnell's intellect and mastery of the legislative process. He attempts a tortured analogy between the populist demand to cut spending as compared to the the debate over school busing. Add some references to the canny McConnell and the angry white people, and Fineman's take fits so nicely into the Mainstream Media portrait of the tea party as mean-spirited racists:

If you haven't noticed, this is Mitch McConnell's moment. And if you haven't realized it, this won't be the last. In fact, there will be many more, especially if – as is quite possible – he becomes Republican majority leader of the Senate after next year's elections.

In what amounted to a victory speech as the final vote approached on the debt ceiling he brokered, the senior senator from Kentucky reached what has been a career-long goal: to be this century's Henry Clay.

Only instead of being Kentucky's "Great Compromiser," McConnell is and wants to be the Bluegrass's "Great Dismantler."

A handsome portrait of Clay hangs in McConnell's spacious Capitol suite. But the two men represent diametrically opposing traditions. Sen. Clay wanted to be president, and used his eloquence and shrewdness in the service of constructing and protecting the power of the federal government. He championed the "American System" of national roads and public works, and spent decades trying to keep the Union from flying apart under the centrifugal stress of slavery, economics and ideology. He inspired another Kentucky-born politician named Abe Lincoln, and infuriated yet another named Jefferson Davis.

McConnell, equally as shrewd if not as eloquent, has a fundamentally different view. He sees his job, as he said on the floor as the vote began, to "rein in Washington" and "slow down the Big Government freight train." He measures success in terms of how much he can reduce the power, purse and reach of a federal government he has been a part of since he was elected at the height of the Reagan Era in 1984.

McConnell is a past master of channelling middle-class resentment at the power of government to gain power for himself in government. And he is one of the most patient and canny legislators and negotiators in modern politics: always superbly prepared, never given to rash actions or statements and a potent mix of brains and chip-on-the shoulder disdain for people with fancier pedigrees but fuzzier minds.

With the debt ceiling negotiations, he basically took the president to the cleaners. He used the energy of the Tea Party as a threat, and the weakness and division

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in the House GOP leadership to make himself the indispensable player in the final days. He proposed a fail-safe route to avoid default that played to the president's vanity (the idea of giving the president the power to decide debt-ceiling raises on his own) and then used the sense of trust to drive a hard bargain that took takes off the table. McConnell also used his 26-year relationship with Vice President Joe Biden to smooth the pathway to a deal. As Rep. Charlie Rangel said, the GOP "mugged the president but let him keep his wedding ring.

"The president thinks that the "super committee" that now will be appointed will be able to -- and will -- recommend revenue increases and even tax cuts when it has to report Nov. 23. There may indeed be some loophole closings, but don't count on it.

Was the president listening today when McConnell discussed the "super committee" group of 12, which will include six Republicans and six Democrats? McConnell called it the "cost-cutting committee."

Game on.

McConnell's whole career has been about skillfully tapping anti-government resentment and turning it into deals and power. That is how he began his rise in Louisville and Kentucky.

In 1974, Louisville -- a border city on the Ohio River in the Border State of Kentucky -- was sullen and divided in a way it had not been since the Union Army occupied it during the Civil War. The issues in many ways were the same: race and the power of the federal government. In the summer of 1974, a federal judge had ordered the widespread use of busing to integrate -- in fact not just in law -- the public schools in Louisville and surrounding Jefferson County. Well over 100,000 students were involved, but so were decades of de facto segregation.

In the working class neighborhoods of the city and its suburbs, anger at the order -- even occasional street protests -- was widespread. McConnell, originally born in Alabama, hailed from one of those neighborhoods. He wasn't a protestor or anti-busing leader by any means. He had worked for moderate GOP Sens. John Sherman Cooper and Marlow Cook, and had been an attorney in the Ford administration.

But he knew the neighborhood folks, as well as their fears and resentments. When he ran successfully for County Judge (the chief administrative job) in 1978, he ran strongly in places where he could make the case that government had too much say in local lives, and that services needed to be decided by families and neighbors, not by distant powers downtown or inside the Beltway.

That was the Reaganesque message he took statewide when he ran for Senate and won with the Gipper atop the ticket in 1984.

It is a straight line from there to the floor today.

And we may not have seen anything yet. As patient as he is remorseless, as deeply political as he is lawyerly, McConnell built a machine in Kentucky. It is crumbling now -- the incumbent Democratic governor is up by 25 points in new polls, and Sen. Rand Paul of the Tea Party is hardly a faithful ally -- but Mitch is moving on to do the same thing in the Senate that he did in the state years ago.

Meticulous, tactically focused, he runs a tight ship in the Senate and keeps a very close eye on the GOP's Senate election process. Here's the key statistic for 2012: of the 11 seats considered to be in play by handicapper Charlie Cook, nine are held by Democrats. The Democrats currently hold a 51-47 majority, with two others caucusing with them. Do the math. The GOP is within reach.

The Great Dismantler is on the march.

**U.S. Government to Block
AT&T/T-Mobile Merger**

**Sen. Dean Heller (R-NV)
Gives GOP Weekly
Address**

**U of L Law Federalist
Society Events**

**Time to End Metro Council
Sludge Funds**

**Huck to Campaign for Todd
P'Pool**

**Todd P'Pool Takes to the Air
Sen. Pat Toomey (Member
of the Super-Committee)
Gi...**

**Todd P'Pool Praises 11th
Circuit's Obamacare
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**McConnell on 11th Cir.
Ruling Striking
Obamacare**

**That Iowa Republican
Debate Sure Was Fun**

**More Super-Committee
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**The Day the Magic Died
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Rural Ke...**

**Rand Paul: Sack Geithner
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**Fineman: This is
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**Rand Paul Gets Creative for
David Williams**

**Beshear Scandal Goes
National**

WaPo: McConnell is Winning

► July (16)

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Posted by *G. Morris* at **10:21 AM**



Labels: *Fineman*, *McConnell*

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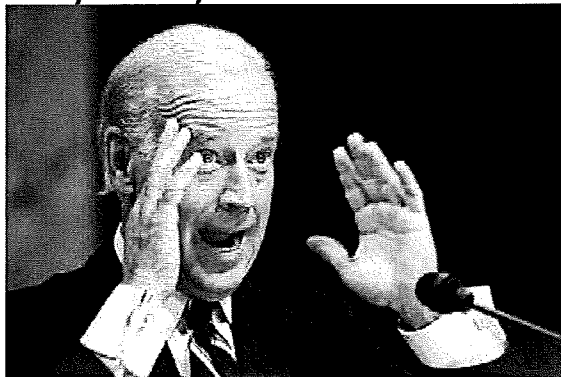
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Monday, October 13, 2008

That's Reaaally Scaaary!



The Daily Telegraph provides today's Biden gaffe, which is in the spirit of the upcoming holiday:

Joe Biden is enjoying himself so much on the campaign trail that occasionally he gets to thinking he's about to become president. "In a Biden...an Obama-Biden administration," he said during an event at an American Legion hall here in Rochester, New Hampshire this morning, catching himself just in time.

....
Last month at an event in Fort Myers, Florida, he referred to the "Biden administration" before correcting the phrase and adding as he laughed and crossed himself: "Believe me, that wasn't a Freudian slip. Oh Lordy day, I tell ya."

Posted by G. Morris at 9:24 PM



Labels: *Biden's gaffes*

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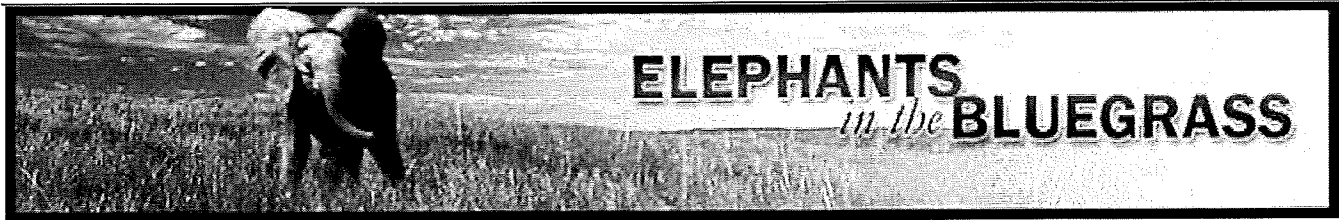
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Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Obama's Incredible Shrinking Lead

A new poll from **Hotline/FD Tracking** reports that the Obama lead is down to 2 points -- another sign that McCain still can win and that tonight's debate remains critical to the outcome of the election.

Posted by *G. Morris* at **3:25 PM**



Labels: *McCain, Obama, polls*

1 COMMENT:



tread said...

hahaha...that is a good one...spin it baby spin it!

http://www.realclearpolitics.com/epolls/2008/president/us/general_election_mccain_vs_obama-225.html

October 7, 2008 at 6:08 PM

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According to **ABC News**, Obama's \$28,500-a-head Hollywood fundraiser was held last night at the Greystone Mansion. The price of the ticket in exchange for access to a presidential candidate brought to mind the title of one of the many movies that have been filmed at the Mansion: "Indecent Proposal".

Posted by G. Morris at 10:27 AM



Labels: Barack Obama, Hollywood

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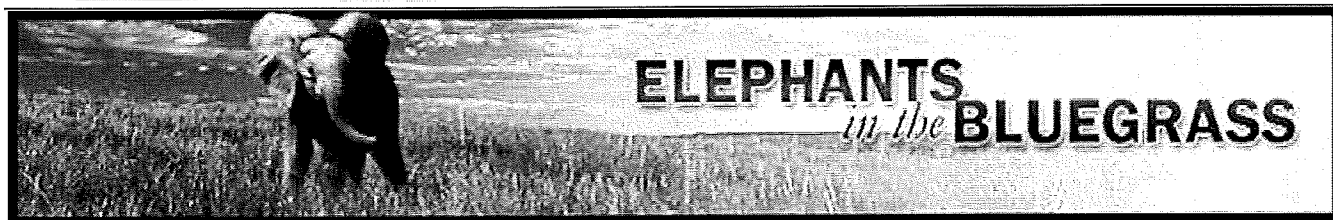
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Thursday, May 22, 2008

Pennies From Lunsford's Heaven

Bruce Lunsford must be on Cloud Nine, having secured the Democratic nomination to challenge Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell this fall. In an interview with *The Courier-Journal*, Lunsford giddily referred to McConnell as "'Mean Mitch' because he deserves it." Then he chastised McConnell for "sit[ting] in the ivory tower in Washington." Perhaps Lunsford would rather be screening at **Sundance**?

I must confess that Lunsford's euphoria got the best of me when I read his quote regarding Vencor and its affiliate Ventas "that all those companies survived." I couldn't wait to get to the computer and check my 401K to see miraculous overnight capital gains on my Vencor stock. So I logged on in eager anticipation.

The entry for my Vencor stock still reads the same: 275 shares; purchased for \$1,195; estimated annual income: zero; current price per share: \$.01; total market value \$2.20.

Talk about hope being dashed. But Lunsford is proud to run on the Senator Barack Obama and Governor Steve Beshear team: "I'd rather have hope and a new plan than the Bush-Cheney-McConnell plan. I think we could all three be in a coma and do better than they did."

From personal experience I can tell you this: Lunsford certainly knows how to bring about change.

Posted by G. Morris at 8:30 AM



Labels: **Lunsford**, **Vencor**

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Tuesday, March 25, 2008

Family Ties

The Associated Press **reports** that "[r]esearchers at the New England Historic Genealogical Society found some remarkable family connections for the three presidential candidates — Democratic rivals Obama and Clinton, and Republican John McCain."

It turns out that "Barack Obama is a distant cousin of actor Brad Pitt, and Hillary Rodham Clinton is related to Pitt's girlfriend, Angelina Jolie." Does that make Barack and Hillary "dissing cousins"?

And not only that, there are other unexpected finds in the presidential candidates' respective genealogies:

Clinton, who is of French-Canadian descent on her mother's side, is also a distant cousin of singers Madonna, Celine Dion and Alanis Morissette. Obama, the son of a white woman from Kansas and a black man from Kenya, can call six U.S. presidents, including George W. Bush, his cousins. McCain is a sixth cousin of first lady Laura Bush.

The AP further elaborates on Obama's family ties:

Obama has a prolific presidential lineage that features Democrats and Republicans. His distant cousins include President George W. Bush and his father, George H.W. Bush, Gerald Ford, Lyndon Johnson, Harry S. Truman and James Madison. Other Obama cousins include Vice President Dick Cheney, British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill and Civil War General Robert E. Lee.

It looks like Barack has the most blue-blood connections. In comparison, Hillary (whose only notable relations appear to be musicians) is a woman of the people.

Posted by G. Morris at 5:21 PM



Labels: **Clinton, McCain, Obama**

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Tuesday, March 25, 2008

Bourbon Politics

For those bored with the brawl between Barack and Hillary, here's a **report** on another important election-year contest just decided:

The San Francisco World Spirits Competition (SFWSC) announced the 2008 winners. Buffalo Trace Distillery was named "Distillery of the Year." This is the first time in the competition's history an American distillery has taken home this honor. The SFWSC is the largest spirits competition in the United States with more than 800 products from 63 different countries participating in this year's event.

Congratulations to Mark Brown and company at Buffalo Trace!

Posted by G. Morris at **1:03 PM**



Labels: **bourbon**

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