

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

Volume 15 Issue 19
May 25, 2007



Turn On, Tune In . . . ***Looking Beyond the Mainstream Media***

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Harper Under Fire from Languages Commissioner

Flower Power

Taking Time to Smell the Roses

Plus:
Sun Signs
Lost & Found
Music To Eat Lunch To
Chronicles of Cruisin Lan

and much more...

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from the readers

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CLASSIFIEDS



We love to hear from you!
Send your questions and
comments to voice@ausu.org,
and please indicate if we may
publish your letter.

Dear Voice,

Re: Hazel Anaka's May 18th column, "Stop the Blame Game"

I would like to commend Miss Anaka on her column this week - it was well-written and the message is a great one. We can all learn something from this article. Thank you for including it in this week's issue, and thank you Hazel for writing it, keep them coming!

Avid "From Where I Sit" fan,

Andrea

Hello,

I would like to suggest AU adopt a system that allows students to assess before taking a course the amount of reading required. For example, using book symbols to indicate the required amount of reading.

One book means a nominal amount of reading is required and five books means it's reading intense. Right now I am doing two courses that are reading insane. Several hundreds of pages for each unit. Am I making sense or am I alone in thinking this would help us?

Regards,

Lance Bevan-Herringshaw

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

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The *Voice* Great Canadian Place Challenge

Are you a snow-loving Rocky Mountain gal?

A wide-open-spaces Prairie kind of guy?

Or maybe someone who can't get enough of the rugged coasts and fresh Atlantic air in the east?

Tell us why the place you live is the best place in Canada, in *The Voice* Great Canadian Place Challenge!

Is it the people? The places? The natural Canadian beauty?

Convince us (and *Voice* readers) that Anzac, Alberta is the must-see place for a vacation this summer, or that there's nothing like watching a sunrise in Wrigley, Northwest Territories.

Selected submissions will be paid at regular *Voice* rates, and the winner will also receive a prize pack of *Voice* goodies.



There are two ways to brag about why you're living in the best-kept secret in the country:

1. Send us a 400 - 500 word article explaining what makes your city or town special, or
2. Submit 6 - 8 photos in electronic format (e.g., JPEG, GIF) with a short caption for each one.

Submissions selected for publication will appear in *The Voice* throughout the summer, and the winner will be selected by *Voice* staff on September 30, 2007. Send submissions to voice@ausu.org

All entrants agree to have their names and submissions published in *The Voice*. All articles must be original, unpublished works, and will be edited for spelling, grammar, and clarity. Photos must be original and unpublished, and must be good quality electronic format.

Send us your photos and articles today, and you might just win the bragging rights to the best place in Canada!



Noam Chomsky on the Climate of the Times



Magdalena Tywoniuk

I often feel that I should be more active in following world politics; that being fed the information passively leaves me vulnerable and uninformed. So, I resolved to read the political pieces in the national newspapers, but found them rife with bipartisan personal opinion or spin. Not my idea of being informed. Turning to the national newscast, I found that much of it centred on U.S. issues, which seemed to be filtered right from the American media. I got that odd feeling of vulnerability again because it seems that spin is what the

American media is all about. This feeling becomes stronger as more flashy graphics and celebrity journalists appear on CNN. I, like many others, retreat and hope that someone more objective will come along to clarify and present us with the big picture.

That man finally came along. The opportunity to hear Noam Chomsky speak is to stand outside the box and peer inside. Chomsky began by invoking the words of the chief U.S. prosecutor at the start of the Nuremberg trials. In order for those trials to have any merit, they had to be held under the principle of universality; that all countries will be held liable and punished for future acts of international aggression or genocide. However, as Chomsky noted, the only principle of universality upheld is that nothing is universal. That the accepted climate of morality, upheld by the media, allows those in power never to “drink from the poison chalice.” He began to outline the framework that allows for such a thing.

Chomsky clarified that an international aggressor is anyone that enters uninvited and takes power from a country, regardless of whether or not there is an official declaration of war. This encompasses U.S. actions against Iraq and many other countries. However, the U.S. government has used the media to present its actions as a noble effort to bring stability to these regions. Chomsky divulged how the U.S. has managed to commit, but never stand trial for, its own crimes. He also asserted that the U.S. is not a functional democracy because its media is not free and transparent.

He explained that stories often leaked from the government appear in a lone suburban newspaper, often a subsidiary of a larger company like the New York Times who will not print it. The story is invariably a true and unflattering view of U.S. foreign policy, which will only be hinted at a few days later in the national newspapers. Furthermore, Chomsky recounted how the U.S. has used the media in a powerful tactic. When the government makes a huge mistake, they never deny it because denial opens up a forum for discussion and dissent. Instead, they simply use the media to reposition the event as noble and heroic, like an effort to maintain stability. The media is their tool that toes the party line. The trick is that the party line is never uttered, and if it is never uttered, it can't be disputed, debated, laughed at, or rejected. What is that line? It is that the U.S. owns the world, and so it can never be an interloper or an international aggressor. Therefore, it can commit no crime and can never be held accountable. This is very fortunate due to its long history.

U.S. foreign policy has long been concerned with bringing stability to regions. They did this in Chile, where the official media reported that destabilization of the country was necessary in order for the Americans to re-stabilize it. This occurred again in Nicaragua; Reagan avowed that the instability of this poor country—which could march on Texas in a mere *two days*—posed a great threat to U.S. security. The subsequent massacre led Nicaragua to charge the U.S. with international terrorism at the World Court, an impossibility

as the U.S. cannot be tried for any international crimes. The World Court labelled U.S. actions as international terrorism. The U.S. simply vetoed the ruling to hold the U.S. responsible, a provision it stipulates in many of its international agreements.

In fact, the U.S. brings more instability to the regions they purport to be saving. The presence of U.S. soldiers increases violence. They are the target in 75% of attacks in Iraq, according to official polls and the surrounding region. U.S. interference also kills any hope of success for more moderate uprisings in fundamentalist Arab countries like Iran and Afghanistan. U.S. threats are an excuse to crush moderate movements and increase control over the population. Also, in the name of stability the U.S. has actually provided support for the fundamentalist Afghan regime rather than the countries more favoured moderates.

The most interesting case that Chomsky cited is that of the Iraq - U.S. relationship. The U.S. itself removed Saddam Hussein from an international list of terrorists in order to facilitate a trade relationship in weaponry. As the relationship thrived, Iraqi officials were even invited to attend an international symposium on the effects of shockwaves in weapon detonation. The U.S. then used their power to prohibit an Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. When Iraq did invade Kuwait, the U.S. pronounced Hussein an international aggressor.

At almost the same time, the U.S. invaded Panama, killing many more people than had the Iraq invasion. The media kept silent about Panama, with no investigation of the victors being permitted. Instead, Iraq was sanctioned. The humanitarian Oil for Food program was devised to bring aid to the Iraqi population. Again, the media ignored the resignation of two leading international diplomats from this committee, both citing that the U.S. was acting in violation of the Genocide Convention. In the end, only Saddam was sentenced to pay for the 150 lives he took sometime in the 1980s.

Chomsky then recounted the U.S.'s own interestingly constant polling results over the last four decades. They show that 75% of the public viewed the Vietnam War as morally and fundamentally wrong. That phenomenon continues today, with 75% of the U.S. public asserting that the war in Iraq is not just a mistake, but immoral. The media continues to not reflect the view of the people, nor does their government.

Chomsky summed up his talk by quoting a recent speech made by Condoleezza Rice in which she claimed that the U.S. deems all transfers of foreign weapons and foreign fighters into the U.S. as acts of international terrorism. Yet the U.S. engages in this behaviour frequently. Again, he pointed out that the U.S. is never considered responsible because they are never a foreign aggressor; after all, they own the world. This imperialist attitude even appears within their Declaration of Independence, wherein there is a reference concerning the need to diminish the threat of those foreign savages.

"Foreign savages . . . oh, you mean the natives?" Chomsky chuckled.

Noam Chomsky is Professor Emeritus at MIT in the department of Linguistics and Philosophy. He is a linguist, theorist, and political activist. He has written well over 100 books and articles and is one of the world's most cited scholars.



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Gemini May 21 - June 20

The glyph for Gemini is indicative of the Roman numeral II and is symbolic of the astrological sign for Gemini, which is twins. The glyph can also be seen as depicting the human lungs—the part of the body that Gemini rules. The duality of the glyph symbolizes the choice between good and evil, positive and negative, male and female.



Gemini is the third sign of the zodiac and is the sign of thought and communication. Their keyword is “I think.” Geminis are quick-witted, intelligent air signs. Like all air signs they are the communicators of the zodiac. The duality of the twins is reflective in many aspects of the Gemini character and personality as they want more than one of everything. They are extroverts and can be impulsive at times. A positive, masculine sign ruled by the planet Mercury, Geminis are active on both the physical and mental plane. They are a mutable (changeable) sign. Geminis are very popular in social circles and are avid conversationalists. Everyone wants a Gemini at their party. However, a lack of confidence may be camouflaged by witty remarks and sarcasm.

The duality of Gemini’s temperament can lead to conflict in romantic relationships. They bore easily; therefore, a romantic partner has to persistently work at keeping a Gemini interested. They enjoy a partner who speaks his or her mind and is well-read. Gemini’s quick wit is hard to match. However, they do enjoy a challenge. Geminis need a partner who will allow them the freedom they need. Their interests are constantly changing as they need to experience many cultures and social experiences. This does not mean they cannot be a faithful partner, but rather that they need an understanding partner who will allow them to follow their ever-changeable nature.

Geminis are usually slender in build and may be of average height or slightly above. Their arms are often slim and long. They enthusiastically use their hands and arms when speaking. Their general appearance displays their quick movements and unmistakable intelligence. They often appear younger than their years. Geminis need to take time to relax as they are often wound up like a top. They should avoid all forms of caffeine and junk food, as it aggravates their sensitive nervous system.

The sign of the twins is that of communicator and facilitator. Geminis work well as intermediaries. They are constantly seeking new and more interesting projects. Geminis do not relish the position of boss; they happily leave this for Aries or Leo. Geminis excel in many fields including writer, explorer, teacher, preacher, journalist, ad writer, interviewer, and auctioneer.

Positive Qualities: intellectual, adaptable, witty, lively, responsive

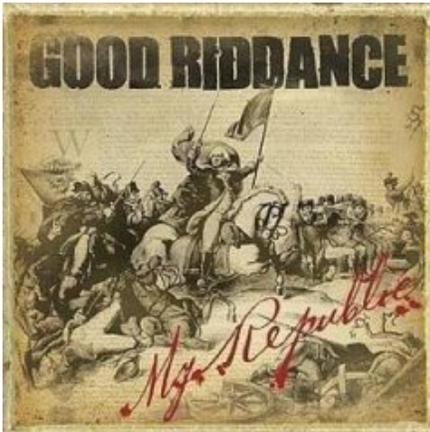
Negative Qualities: fickle, restless, superficial, nervous, tense, a gossip

Lucky day: Wednesday

Birthstone: Agate

Most compatible marriage sign: Gemini, Libra, Aquarius

Famous Geminis: Angelina Jolie, Nicole Kidman, Mike Myers, Prince, Naomi Campbell, Mark Wahlberg, Cole Porter, Paul McCartney

Good Riddance - *My Republic*

Release date: June 2006

Label: Fat Wreck Chords

Tracks: 14

Rating: 10. As always, a 10.

My Republic is sadly going to be the last release by Good Riddance following the band's breakup this year, so despite the aging release date it seems fitting to give them a write-up. I, like many other fans, am going to miss the farewell tour (taking place only in California this month) and alas this can be my only tribute to a band that has had a very special place in my heart and my CD collection since high school.

A few fans, despite their annoyance at the split, have commented that Good Riddance has lost its touch in the last couple of releases, and in particular noted that *My Republic* doesn't have the edge of former albums. Granted, the tone has been softened a bit for some of the tracks but the enthusiasm and drive is still there. The result of softened Good Riddance? A sound very like *Unwritten Law* in places, actually. In comparison to their 2001 release *Symptoms of a Leveling Spirit*, the tone is certainly a little mellower, but the underlying message so unique to bands like Good Riddance has remained completely intact and it's this that will be so sorely missed.

My Republic retained the focus of previous records: essentially, stop wasting your life, get out there, and make a difference!

"One time, something to live for, somehow I lost my way. Those times I pissed away now echo in my darkest days" ("Darkest Days"). What are we going to do without this constant validation of the good, just life?

In their MySpace blog (have you figured out I spend far too much time online yet?), the band says they "have been given a truly great gift and a tremendous opportunity to pursue a dream and we have accomplished far more than any of us ever thought possible."¹

True enough, boys. Russ Rankin, Chuck Platt, Luke Pabich, and Sean Sellers have truly dedicated themselves to the punk rock lifestyle for more than ten years in their tenure with Good Riddance; joined forces with PETA in promoting vegetarianism; actively promoted the United States Green Party; and spoken up against human rights violations and the general apathetic attitude rampant in our society when it comes to politics, economy, and basic issues of justice. The band is collectively compassionate, intelligent, informed, and proactive—it has served as the confirmation that an entire young generation of punkers needed to get off their asses and stop whining about life when they were doing nothing to change it.

I'm beyond grieving at the sudden end of this massively influential group, and of course who better to sum up my emotions than Good Riddance itself? It's right on *My Republic*: "So tell me why you fight for my life then you throw me away" ("So Tell Me Why")! I feel awkwardly like a fledgling, capable of flight but never before having had to actually fly on my own. Good Riddance is one of those bands that have helped me stay upright through some unspeakably tough times, and I know it's had the same effect on thousands of other fans who desperately hoped the announcement was an elaborate April Fool's joke. Not so.

So, the album. *Symptoms of a Leveling Spirit* will remain my unequalled favourite; however, I fear I will never be able to listen to *My Republic* without feeling a melancholic twinge for the talent seemingly being thrown away at its peak. As the band says, "We have no desire to limp along until some outside force has the good sense to put us out of our misery. We hope all of our fans will understand."¹ Fine, if we must.

Honestly, this is a great record and I'm glad to put it next to *Symptoms*, my various Rise Against albums, and Anti-Flag records. I'm proud to have known their music and I offer my congratulations on yet another amazing set of music. I guess I'm all grown up now and I can do with one less crutch, but do I have to? As I get older will all my crutches be taken away one by one? Good Riddance would tell me to suck it up and get on out there, I think. What can I say? "The music somehow seems to get me by" ("Libertine"; *Symptoms of a Leveling Spirit*). Thanks for giving me more than you will ever know!

¹ MySpace. "Good Riddance - The End Is Here 2007." Retrieved May 22, 2007, from <http://blog.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendID=51722327&blogID=249010418&MyToken=51bc4bef-32cc-45b8-8516-8529e1e3cc20>

Click On This - This 'n' That

Lonita Fraser

The Internet is full of wonder and surprise, and just plain eyebrow-raising curiosity.

Things the Royal Mail Service in the U.K. Won't Carry -

<http://www.royalmail.com/portal/rm/content1?catId=400138&mediaId=36200675>

... like stamps. They won't carry stamps.

Origami Art - <http://www.influks.com/post862.html>

It was very difficult to believe some of this was origami. It's incredible.

All Known Bodies in the Solar System -

<http://kokogiak.com/solarsystembodieslargerthan200miles.html>

A beautiful image of anything larger than 200 miles in diameter. It may take a few moments to load, but is well worth it for the space buff.

Food Storage - <http://www.cdc.gov/nasd/docs/d001201-d001300/d001238/d001238.html>

When to save and when to throw it out. I know it's something I've always suffered confusion over.

The Tacky Postcard Archive - <http://www.tackymail.com/>

Oh dear. Amusing, fun, and a fine tribute to bad taste of all sorts.

The Museum of Lost Interactions - <http://www.idl.dundee.ac.uk/moli/index.php>

The height of sophistication wasn't always the telephone or Internet. I wonder if we could get the Richophone going again . . .



*From
Where
I Sit*
Hazel Anaka

Smell the Roses

After the longest winter of our lives and a spring that came in fits and starts, I finally got to spend some time in my garden during the long weekend. Because we live on a farm our yard is huge, with multiple flower beds, many trees, and grass galore. The early onset of winter and the lead-up to my shoulder surgery pre-empted some of the fall cleanup I would normally have done.

The yard has evolved over the years. Twenty-three years ago I set about doing some serious landscaping. There were no foundation plantings to anchor the house. There were no flowerbeds, raised or otherwise. There was no patio or sidewalk. There weren't any hedges or focal points or paths.

Like a fool I set out to change all that.

I was gardening before gardening was cool; before everyone wanted to create outdoor rooms to expand their living space. Before you needed carpeting, mirrors, a chandelier, stand-up bars, or furniture suites with all-weather cushions for your theme garden. Before you needed a degree in horticulture or landscape design. Before you needed to buy garden art, sculptures, fountains, and the latest hybrids in decorator colours.

Before every yard had a water feature and hardscaping and zones.

What seemed like a good idea in 1984 has seemed less so as the years have added up. For one thing, I'm not as young or strong as I once was. For several years I've been labouring with a torn rotator cuff and frayed biceps tendon. This spring I'm still in recovery mode and find I still don't have the strength, stamina, or range of motion extreme gardening requires. I'm confident all that will come with time. I

haven't always had the proper equipment or budget to do things an easier way. So when I created new beds, I did it the back-breaking way by spading up and removing sod. Because I was gardening on such a large scale and hate to see things go to waste, I've also been the recipient of countless gifts of perennials. Unfortunately, in some circles the ones I've received are regarded as weeds. Well, maybe not weeds in the technical sense, but truly invasive, hardy, volunteer little pests. And of course I'm still waiting for chickweed to be anointed the next great must-have ground cover, at which time mine will promptly die.

This year I vow to reduce the money I spend on annuals. I might not even plant up all the patio pots either. My goal is to finish adding the edging around one remaining bed and to add mulch to all of them for weed suppression. When a crew was hydro-axing road allowances a couple of years ago I sweet-talked them into dropping a few loads of mulch in our yard.

This year I'm trying to work less and enjoy more. You know, smell the roses instead of pruning them. It's high time, from where I sit.

The Chronicles of Cruiscin Lan

by
Wanda
Waterman
St. Louis





Blindfold

Imagine you are writing in the dark. You are writing in a darkened room. There is no window, there is no light. There is one naked light bulb hanging from the ceiling in the centre of the room. The light bulb has been turned off. The light bulb has been turned off, but it's of no consequence, anyway, because your eyes have been covered with a blindfold. Your eyes have been covered with a blindfold of black cloth the colour of a hangman's jacket. The hangman is waiting for you just outside the entrance of the room. If you could see anything at all, you would see the dark shapes of his shoes as he paces back and forth outside the room.

You are writing in a darkened room with a blindfold covering your eyes. There is a blindfold covering your eyes, but it's of no consequence, because your eyes no longer work after what they did to you during the questioning. Your eyes can no longer see, so the darkness means nothing.

Your eyes can no longer see, and your mouth is covered with electrical tape. Your fingers are bandaged and broken, which makes it hard to hold the pen they've put into your hand. There is a small metal desk in front of you. On the desk is a notepad with yellow foolscap paper. Your hand is pressing the pen onto the paper, and you are forming words. You are writing words, and every word hurts. Every word is a symbol of pain.

You are writing words on this paper in the darkened room. You have electrical wires attached to your skin. You have wires attached to your temples, attached to your wrists. You know what they want you to write. They want a confession. They want names, dates, places. They want details that will lead to more details.

They want you to write what they want you to write in black ink in a darkened room with one turned-off light hanging from the ceiling in the centre.

But instead, you write about the moon hanging from the sky. Instead, you write about the way that honey tastes when you lick it from your fingers at the bottom of an empty grave. You write about your son's smile, the smell of your wife's hair on a summer's day. You write about oranges and limes. You write about the dance that your dog does when he's standing on his hind paws, and the way that light falls from open doorways onto the snow.

You know that when they read these things, they will not be pleased. You know they will not be pleased. They will not be pleased, and they will take further steps. You can imagine the further steps they will take. You can imagine their steps, but you write. You write what you write, nothing more or less. You write what you write, because when you write, the darkness means nothing.

AUSU THIS MONTH



Changes to Council Executive The AUSU "cabinet" does the shuffle

AUSU councillors are elected for two-year terms and, traditionally, the three executives also serve for two years. In early 2005, however, council began to discuss the possibility of holding a mid-term executive election for the following reasons:

- Executive positions are very demanding and require a large time commitment for a modest wage. All AU committees and executives work daytime hours, as do AUSU staff, therefore most meetings AUSU executives must attend regularly are also scheduled during the day. While executives can make their own hours to some

extent, the frequent daytime commitments preclude AUSU executives from holding full-time jobs outside of AUSU. They may also find it difficult to maintain a full course load (many universities permit student council executives to hold full-time student status while taking only one course while they serve, but AU has no such provision). A mid-term election provides tired executives an opportunity to step down after a year without prejudice or a sense of ending their commitment early.

- Some councillors may not run for executive positions when they first get on council because they are inexperienced and do not feel ready to effectively serve in this capacity. For this reason, seasoned councillors usually are elected to executive positions. By midway through the two-year term, newer councillors may reconsider. This also allows councillors who may have been added to council through a by-election to have an opportunity to run.
- After a year, councillors will also have a better idea of who will serve best in each of the executive positions and may want an opportunity to cast a new vote.

A mid-term election was necessary during the 2004/06 council term due to the resignation of two of the three executives. This term, councillors developed a new executive election policy to allow for the option of a mid-term election each term. In mid-March, council decided to hold a mid-term election for this year.

Lonita Fraser, VP External for AUSU for the last two years, decided not to run at this time due to a high course load, and she has moved to a regular councillor without portfolio position.



New councillor Huma Lodhi, who has been with council for one year, chose to run for VP Finance, due to her experience on the AUSU Finance Committee over the last year.

VP Finance for the past three years, Karl Low, chose to run for the vacant VP External position.

Lisa Priebe, President for the last two years, opted to run again for her position.

The three candidates were acclaimed to their positions at a special meeting of council held on April 16, 2007. As both outgoing executives are still with council and available to assist their successors, the changeover is expected to be very smooth.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS DESK

What's new here and around the world

Mandy Gardner



Mandy Gardner

At Home: Official languages commissioner accuses Harper of stepping on the Official Languages Act

In September of last year, the Harper government decided to cut the Court Challenges Program. In a report released May 15 by the official languages commissioner, Graham Fraser, this was cited as a blatant disregard of the Official Languages Act (OLA) passed in 1988. The OLA was created to establish English and French as the official languages of Canada; further to this primary aim, the Act recognized the rights of minority groups to receive help in terms of communication within the federal and local government systems.

Specifically, the Court Challenges Program provided funding to non-English and non-French speakers in Canada to bring legal suits to court against government policies. Without this funding, minority language groups will struggle to work within the court system and defend their rights. Fraser is concerned

that this is a step in the wrong direction for a country that claims to protect minority culture and language.

In particular, there are various aboriginal-language groups spread across the country that have battled for their right to be officially represented along with French and English speakers for years. Despite their existence in North America before European settlers, Aboriginal Canadians have fought for cultural preservation and to have their languages officially recognized. To have the Harper government cut the Court Challenges Program is a stiff slap in the face to campaigners of minority language rights in this country.

I guess the real question is, is it any surprise that the Conservative government doesn't feel obligated to think about non-anglophone Canada?

An annotated version of the Official Languages Act is available at http://www.ocolclo.gc.ca/archives/op_ap/act_loi/ola_llo_annot/ola_llo_annot_e.htm

In Foreign News: Hillary Clinton has officially made her bid for the U.S. presidency and Bill is backing her all the way

Fox News announced¹ in January that Senator Hillary Clinton was entering the race for the U.S. presidency. It's been a long time coming and over the past months the American (and worldwide) public has wondered how large a role Bill Clinton will play in her campaign. Although he's been relatively silent on the issue so far, the magic of YouTube has brought forth his own personal promotional message for his Democratic wife.

*The Guardian*² notes the decision of Hillary to include Bill in her campaign as a move away from the failure of the last Clinton-administration official to deny such help and then lose a presidential campaign: Al Gore. In the years following his impeachment trial, Bill Clinton has kept away from the political limelight, presumably because the controversy over his personal life would overshadow his two-term tenure as leader of his country. Apparently, Hillary has decided that 10 years is a sufficient amount of time for the stigma of the Clinton Oval Office to subside and for her husband to show his face as the most recent successful Democratic presidential candidate.

Aside from Bill's backing, Hillary boasts the hopes of an entire population of Democratic women as she continues to move ahead in the race for Democratic candidate. It will be an interesting party election in terms of minority votes, though, since Hillary is up against two other candidates representing the black and Hispanic American populations. It looks like the Democrats are tired of playing Republican campaign games and are moving back into their own territory.

We all remember the last U.S. election; despite the will of most of the world for the Democrats to beat out a second term for George W. Bush, the party simply seemed to have a watery platform based largely on *not* being Republicans. Bringing in the minority candidates seems to be the most Democratic thing the Democrats have done in a long time. The party hopes that the return of both Clintons to the political scene will mark a return to popularity.

¹ Fox News, 2007. "Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton Announces White House Bid." January 21, 2007. <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,245160,00.html>

² *The Guardian*, 2007. "Bill Backs Hillary with YouTube Tribute." http://www.guardian.co.uk/uselections08/story/0,,2080223,00.html#article_continue

EDUCATION NEWS



Saskatchewan Increases Training Opportunities in Response to Booming Economy

With an economy that's seen recent increases of more than 20,000 jobs per month, the Saskatchewan government is including nearly \$200 million in skills training in their 2007-08 budget.

"Saskatchewan now has more jobs than people," announced Pat Atkinson, the advanced education and employment minister, in a recent press release. "We need to make sure our people are trained and ready to seize the opportunities our economy is creating for them."¹

The funding will provide an extra 2,118 education and training opportunities to meet the thriving economy's demand for qualified, skilled workers.

The new skills training will include 432 opportunities in Adult Basic Education, and 1,686 additional openings in health care education and training, northern studies, apprenticeships, skills training, and work-based training.

Among the facilities benefitting from this funding are local colleges, the Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission, Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, Dumont Technical Institute, the College of Medicine, and the Saskatchewan Institute of Applied Science and Technology (SIAST).

Dr. Bob McCulloch, SIAST president and CEO, summed up the benefits that his organization and others will see, along with those to Saskatchewan's workforce: "This investment will enable us to further increase the number of students that we can educate and prepare for rewarding careers, particularly in high-demand areas."¹

¹ Government of Saskatchewan, 2007. "Training Opportunities in Saskatchewan Grow in Response to the Booming Economy." Retrieved May 23, 2007, from <http://www.gov.sk.ca/news?newsId=836585db-e482-48ca-8fa1-3190356d9438>

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