

Subject: [Fwd: Point Commentary Schedule: Monday, May 15th, 2006 - Sunday, May 21st , 2006]
From: Lisa Liebl <lliebl@sbgnet.com>
Date: Thu, 11 May 2006 16:41:55 -0500
To: Cece Smith <csmith@kocb.sbgnet.com>

Subject: Point Commentary Schedule: Monday, May 15th, 2006 - Sunday, May 21st , 2006
From: Dina Nesheiwat <dnesheiwat@sbgnet.com>
Date: Thu, 11 May 2006 15:19:43 -0400
CC: Ashley Dougherty <adougherty@sbgnet.com>, Dina Nesheiwat <dnesheiwat@sbgnet.com>, Mark Hyman <mhyman@sbgnet.com>

ND's and News Staff:

Attached to this email are the scripts for the week of May 15th, 2006.

Direct questions regarding satellite issues to Alan Almond at 410.568.1719. Satellite feed information can be found at the sbgnet.com web page (click "news", then "satellite", then "permanent satellite feeds").

Direct questions regarding The Point contact Dina Nesheiwat at 410.568.1567 or Ashley Dougherty at 410.568.2138.

Topic suggestions can be directed to Dina Nesheiwat or Mark Hyman at 410.568.1565.

Running times include 1 second of tail at commentary's end.

05/15 - Hurricane States Unprepared - 1:17
05/16 - Wal-Mart, Exxon & The Angry Left - 1:16
05/17 - Michigan Civil Rights Initiative - 1:12
05/18 - Undocumented Immigrants - 1:04
05/19 - Short Takes May 19th- 1:15
05/20- Mailbag May 20th - 1:13
05/21 - Cunningham - Shot Down In Flames - 1:05

--

Dina Nesheiwat
Producer, "The Point with Mark Hyman"
Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc.
10706 Beaver Dam Road
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21030
410.568.1567 - Direct
410.568.2121 - Facsimile
www.newscentral.tv
www.sbgnet.net

HURRICANE STATES UNPREPARED

One thing apparent during Hurricane Katrina was that emergency first responders were unable to effectively communicate with one another. Cops, firefighters and medical personnel, state and local officials – they were generally communicating on different systems.

The First Response Coalition, a non-profit organization supporting the first responder industry, conducted a broad overview of communications in eight hurricane prone states. The FRC found Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas to be “dangerously unprepared for another disaster.” The FRC notes that the 2006 hurricane season may be as devastating as 2005.

The FRC is concerned that without an effective national blueprint, federal, state and local communications interoperability may be slow in coming. The FRC is correct. The Department of Homeland Security is just now conducting a baseline communications survey. And there does not appear to appear to be the necessary level of collaboration among the feds, state and local officials in order to achieve effective interoperability.

And that's The Point.

I'm Mark Hyman.

Come visit me on the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."

WAL-MART, EXXON & THE ANGRY LEFT

Wal-Mart has saved Americans billions of dollars. Literally. It has done so by selling goods at rock-bottom prices. Yet, Wal-Mart is the favorite whipping boy of the Angry Left. The official argument is over pay and benefits. The reality is criticism has been driven by unions, particularly the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, because Wal-Mart workers have consistently voted down efforts to organize them.

But let's play along with the Angry Left argument for just a moment. If pay and benefits are the real reason and retail prices are immaterial, then why is the Angry Left's number two whipping boy, ExxonMobil? Sure, gas is about three bucks a gallon, but this is a company that offers outstanding pay and benefits to its more than 100,000 full-time employees. Salary, pension plan, savings plan, medical insurance, dependent care expenses, 100% educational reimbursement, matching funds for employees' tax-exempt contributions, and the list goes on.

The Angry Left is not consistent with its arguments, but what is consistent is that most are borderline – if not out and out – anti-business Socialists.

And that's The Point.

I'm Mark Hyman.

Come visit me on the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."

MICHIGAN CIVIL RIGHTS INITIATIVE

The goal of affirmative action in President Lyndon Johnson's Executive Order 11246 was to right prior wrongs from an era when minorities – blacks, in particular – did not get a fair shake in the hiring of government employees and in the awarding of government contracts.

The scope of affirmative action has been vastly expanded since 1965. Today, affirmative action is doing exactly what it was supposed to abolish – provide unfair advantages to certain groups.

The Michigan Civil Rights Initiative is a grassroots citizens' effort to amend the state constitution to prohibit state and local government from giving preferential treatment to specific individuals or groups.

Opponents have vowed to defeat the November ballot measure in order to keep discriminatory practices in place. Most enlightening – and frightening -- was the sense of entitlement for special privileges addressed by Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. He said, "There will be affirmative action here today. There will be affirmative action here tomorrow and there will be affirmative action in our state forever."

And that's The Point.

I'm Mark Hyman.

Come visit me on the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."

“UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS”

In the last several months, intellectual hucksters have played the silly game covering up for aliens who are in this country illegally by calling them “undocumented immigrants.”

Continuing with that goofy theme, here at The Point we’ve come up with a few silly names of our own.

A drug dealer is an unlicensed pharmaceutical salesman. A loan shark is your neighborhood loan officer. Armed robbery is an unscheduled monetary disbursement. A rapist is an insistent lover. A murderer is a life-expectancy curtailer. A gang member is a community service club organizer. Pimp -- human resources officer. Race hustler -- civil rights activist. Drunk driver -- a sobriety-challenged motorist. And a political con man is an elected official.

Now, we’d like to hear from you. Tell us about some of the silly euphemisms you’ve come up with.

And that’s The Point.

I’m Mark Hyman.

Come visit me on the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."

SHORT TAKES – MAY 19th, 2006

Political correctness run amok take 1. Officials at the Sea World aquatic theme park in Australia renamed their exhibit of the world's smallest penguins. The two-pound birds, which are native to Australia and New Zealand, are called "fairy penguins." Park officials renamed them "little penguins" to avoid offending the gay community. Kamahl Fox, the head of an Australian gay group, found the whole thing ridiculous.

Political correctness run amok take 2. Earlier this year, a University of Washington student proposed to honor alumni who received the Medal of Honor, starting with World War II hero Marine Colonel "Pappy" Boyington. The student senate defeated the proposal with one student remarking she "didn't believe a member of the Marine Corps was an example of the sort of person UW wanted to produce."

Political correctness run amok take 3. Last month, a crowd of 100 students at the University of California at Santa Cruz heckled Army recruiters forcing them to leave the school's biannual job fair. Last year, a crowd of 300 slashed the car tires of recruiters at the same job fair before running them off campus.

And that's The Point.

I'm Mark Hyman.

Come visit me on the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."

MAILBAG – MAY 20th, 2006

My observation that criticism of the movie, “The Da Vinci Code,” is much ado about nothing brought these comments.

Tom in Cross Lanes, West Virginia was concerned “that people who don’t know the Bible will take the movie literally.” Robert in Madison, Wisconsin asked, “Have we become so calloused as a nation that we are no longer sensitive to the feelings of the Christian minority in our communities?” Actually, Robert, 79% of Americans identify themselves as Christian. They’re no minority.

Barry in Westminster, Maryland emailed, “Those of us who can comprehend the difference between fact and fantasy should enjoy the movie while leaving those who cannot outside.” Harold in Bath, Maine observed, “I think [the critics] do more harm by showing their fears and lashing out publicly on a no-brainer.” Mike in Columbia, Maryland observed, “As a liberal Democrat, I don’t often agree with you, but at least you get it about this movie...”

Finally, Michael in Pickerington, Ohio commented, “Isn’t it funny how Muslims view...cartoon[s] as blasphemous and America decides not to publish [them], but when Christians view the movie the same way nobody cares?”

You can share your comments by logging onto the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."

I'm Mark Hyman.

CUNNINGHAM – SHOT DOWN IN FLAMES

Navy Lieutenant Randy “Duke” Cunningham was the first American ace in the Vietnam War, shooting down five enemy aircraft. He received the Navy Cross, a decoration second only to the Medal of Honor.

He went on to be a Top Gun instructor and he ended two decades of service as the Commanding Officer of an F-14 squadron.

Cunningham was the talk of San Diego, where he was an icon in that Navy town. He parlayed his fame into winning his first Congressional race in 1990.

Cunningham was a bona fide hero who blew it all in a corruption scandal. As a representative of the people, his vote was available for a price. He shamed himself. And no doubt, he has deeply hurt so many servicemen and women who supported him as their personal representative in Washington, DC.

Maybe we'll never know what went wrong in Duke Cunningham's heart. This larger than life fighter pilot will forever be remembered as a corrupt politician.

And that's The Point.

I'm Mark Hyman.

Come visit me on the web at www.newscentral.tv and click on "The Point."