

The Media Research Center's Monthly Members' Report

Reporters "12 to 1" for Kerry-Edwards

Dear Member,

The Democratic convention in Boston deserved a unique theme: "Let's Pretend." Let's pretend we're moderate. Let's pretend we're for tax cuts. Let's pretend we're not the party of gay marriage, subsidized abortions, and needle exchanges for drug addicts. Let's pretend we don't really think Bush is a warmongering, lying dimwit. Let's pretend we revere the flag instead of wanting it banned from reporters' lapel pins. Let's pretend we're fierce warriors on terrorism instead of the party of "more sensitive" negotiations with the United Nations.



Tom Brokaw: "There's a guy by the name of Brent Bozell, who makes a living at, you know, taking us on every night...."

It may have been wise politics. But it was also intellectually dishonest. Why did the Democrats think they could pull off this charade?

Because they had a willing partner: our so-called "objective" news media. The liberal media virtually ignored any discussion over the far-left composition of the delegates, the ultraliberal platform, or the ultraliberal menu of speakers. They virtually ignored anything of substance during that convention if it reflected poorly on the John-John ticket.

In a nutshell, the media acted as if they needed a strong rebuke: "Tell the Truth!"

The left-wing press behaved just like *Newsweek* editor Evan Thomas – a liberal

himself – predicted before the convention: "They're going to portray Kerry and Edwards as being young and dynamic and optimistic and all. There's going to be this glow about them that some, is going to be worth, collectively, the two of them, that's going to be worth maybe 15 points."

During the Boston convention, columnist John Tierney of the *New York Times* asked a sample of 153 journalists to state anonymously whether they thought Kerry or George W. Bush would be the "better president." Reporters outside the Beltway favored Kerry's brand of leadership by an eye-opening 3 to 1 margin. **But the 50 or so Washington-based reporters questioned at the convention were even more lopsided, at 12 to 1 for Kerry!**

The liberal spin didn't go unchallenged, however. The Media Research Center was everywhere during convention week exposing this leftist press. Thanks to your support, Democratic delegates as well as the media themselves were greeted on their drive down Interstate 93 in Boston by our giant "Don't Believe the Liberal Media!" billboard. Reporters from our CNSNews.com hit

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America's Media Watchdog

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Boston to expose the antics of numerous left-wing activists, like Michael Moore and Alec Baldwin. Their reports reached hundreds of thousands of readers daily.

Back at our national headquarters, Media Research Center staff were going into overdrive for the Democratic convention, working literally around the clock, with the evening shift meeting the morning shift at breakfast time. Every day, Internet *CyberAlert* intelligence reports, in both morning and afternoon editions, reached thousands of opinion leaders, and through them, millions of Americans. TV, radio, and print journalists and pundits also received a daily MRC *Media Reality Check* fax report with distilled media bias talking points. And then there were the interviews: dozens upon dozens of television, radio, and print interviews conducted with various staff members throughout the week. In the past month, I alone have done over 90 of these interviews.

Every week, the Media Research Center aims to send its message of truth to 50 million Americans, using television, radio, wire services, print media, and the Internet, and we drove liberals crazy by crashing their convention spin last month. Perhaps the biggest indicator of how we upset the Left is my appearance on CNN on Wednesday afternoon of the convention, which spurred an entire left-wing campaign of e-mails of protest to CNN.

Members of MoveOn.org were instructed to write CNN and complain about me. The sleazy ex-conservative David Brock complained to CNN in an open letter: "One of the reasons that conservatives dominate the debate over the politics of the media in our country is that, all too often, organizations like Bozell's are given the stage to themselves while progressives are sidelined."

Another sign of our growing presence on the battle over liberal media bias came at Harvard on the weekend before the



Evan Thomas, like the rest of the liberal media virtually ignored anything of substance during the convention if it reflected poorly on the John-John ticket.

convention. In a panel discussion aired on C-SPAN, NBC anchorman Tom Brokaw complained: "There are organized interest groups out there. There's a guy by the name of Brent Bozell, who makes a living at, you know, taking us on every night. He's well-organized, he's got a constituency, he's got a newsletter. He can hit a button and we'll hear from him."

Never mind the subtle little slams, like "There's a guy by the name of...", like he doesn't know me. Or the insinuation "who makes a living at..." I

expect that from these folks. The important thing is this is the second time so far this year that Brokaw has complained publicly about me and the MRC. Certainly, he's feeling the heat.

At the same Harvard confab, Peter Jennings told of getting off the plane in Boston to a man yelling "America hater! Leave the country immediately!" (If this tale was true, was it surprising to him? Before, during, and after the Iraq war, Jennings denounced the U.S. effort.) Then Jennings admitted something else. Corporate sponsors are getting into the act. He conceded that with this massive public protest underway against the liberal press, "this wave of resentment rushes at our advertisers, rushes at the corporate suites and gets under the newsroom skin, if not completely into the decision-making process, to a greater degree than it has before."

It is the ultimate sign of liberal fear that offering the public merely balanced journalism is seen as an unacceptably dangerous option. So they continue with their outrages, and we'll continue exposing them, and Americans, by the millions, will continue leaving them behind.

Sincerely,

L. Brent Bozell III
Founder and President



LOOK OUT!

MRC Billboards may be running in a city near you!

The one seen here is in Boston, Massachusetts. Others are running in Dallas, Texas near the airport.

Now you can help us run more billboards! Just call Doug Mills, MRC's Executive Director, at (800) 672-1423

TV Gives No Respect to Swift Boat Veterans for Truth

The central theme of the Democratic convention was that John Kerry served with great distinction in Vietnam, therefore he should be Commander-in-Chief. Speakers bragged of his service under fire. Some, like Jimmy Carter, mocked George W. Bush for not “showing up” to serve. The Democratic National Committee’s convention film on Thursday night added special effects to make Kerry’s heroics in Vietnam look like “Saving Private Ryan.”

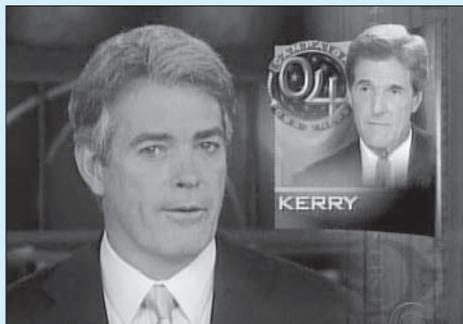
After the Democratic convention, a new TV commercial featuring the Kerry comrades of Swift Boat Veterans for Truth denounced him as lying about his war record. A new book titled *Unfit for Command* packaged together the evidence against Kerry’s actions in Vietnam and his anti-war actions in America. Predictably, the media revolted against the anti-Kerry vets.

On NBC, the swift-boat-vet ad was seen as an outrage. Tom Brokaw asked: “Up next, *NBC News* ‘In Depth’ tonight: The latest campaign ad from an independent political group. Harsh attacks. Are these ads totally out of control?” Could he telegraph any more blatantly he would have liked to control this ad right into the trash can?

“The ad is paid for by Bush contributors using a loophole in the McCain-Feingold law,” reporter Andrea Mitchell followed up, adding “Some of the same players organized anonymous attack ads against John McCain four years ago.” On MSNBC, Mitchell told Don Imus that the anti-Kerry vets were “grossly distorting the record, according to anybody who knows anything about Kerry’s record.” If that’s true, then why didn’t Mitchell tell NBC viewers about Kerry’s real record, instead of merely grumbling about who paid for the TV spot? And where was NBC when MoveOn.org was posting ads on its Web site comparing George Bush to Adolf Hitler? Nowhere.

There’s an obvious pattern here. Print the legend about the Democrat, and don’t investigate. When the Democrat’s critics try to object, denounce them in personal terms, and investigate them and their dastardly plots instead.

In the meantime, the Swift Vets book rocketed to #1 on Amazon.com, and conservative talk radio chewed it over from coast to coast. Cable news shows had dueling-veterans interviews. But the major networks and print outlets just avoided any contact with veterans opposed to Kerry.



On *Fox News Sunday*, long-time TV journalist Brit Hume broke from the pack and declared the Swift Vets book to be credible: “It is full of detail. It is full of specifics. The charges that are being made of Kerry, of irresponsible and indeed in some cases mendacious conduct in his service in Vietnam, are made by people who were there. They’re making the charges in their own names... this isn’t a bunch of anonymous people whispering things. It’s all out there in the open. The book is full of footnotes. It has an appendix. It’s a pretty serious piece of work.” He declared it deserved as much attention as the piles of February media stories on Bush’s service.

MRC’s news analysts dug heavily into the major-media attempt to disembowel this story before it could spread across the country. From Brent Bozell’s column to regular *CyberAlert* updates to “Worst of the Week,” MRC kept pressing the media to own up to its double standard of letting Kerry off the hook, when just last February, the network pit bulls again spent two weeks ripping into President Bush’s service in the Texas Air National Guard.

If Swift Boat Veterans for Truth – and there are *over 200* of them – are telling the truth, John Kerry is a national disgrace. The media’s campaign against them makes you wonder who can’t handle the truth.

Media Bias: The Liberal Counterattack

Americans from coast to coast are discovering the arsenal of evidence L. Brent Bozell has packed into his new book *Weapons of Mass Distortion*, which has been noted everywhere from the New York Times to People magazine. To give you an idea of how this book can knock your liberal friends back on your heels, we offer this excerpt of Brent's takedown of the "conservative bias" books:

Although overwhelming evidence indicates that liberal bias in the mainstream news media continues unchecked, something important has changed in recent years. It is not just that news leaders like Peter Jennings have been forced for the first time to answer questions about media bias. No, the Left has come to believe that a battle is on and has begun to attack those dreaded conservatives who dare to challenge the authority and legitimacy of the "mainstream" news media.

But the liberal counterattack has been bizarre. Some on the Left, refusing to admit to the longtime liberal dominance over the mainstream news media, go so far as to claim that there is actually a conservative media bias. According to a series of books released in 2002 and 2003, the vast right-wing conspiracy has somehow managed to conquer the news media as well. It is important, and won't take long, to demolish this mythology.

First out of the gate was The Nation's Eric Alterman with the book *What Liberal Media?: The Truth About Bias and the News*, a response to the number one bestseller from former CBS newsman Bernard Goldberg, *Bias: A CBS Insider Exposes How the Media Distort the News*. (In his book Alterman condemns me for praising the media's powerful, if short-lived, patriotism in the days following the September 11 horror.)

The *New York Observer's* Joe Conason followed with *Big Lies: The Right-Wing Propaganda Machine and How It Distorts the Truth*, in which he tries to "debunk conservative mythology," devoting a whole chapter to the "palpably ridiculous argument" that "liberals control the media." (It's instructive that Conason says of this writer that the "belligerent, red-bearded Bozell, a nephew of William F. Buckley Jr., scarcely pretends to be anything more than an instrument of the Republican Party's conservative leadership," an extraordinary accomplishment given that I'm not even a Republican.)

Finally we got comedian Al Franken's *Lies and the Lying Liars Who Tell Them: A Fair and Balanced Look at the Right*. A quick review of Franken's book begs the question: Is this man serious? And a related question: Just how serious is a movement that relies on this man as its spokesman? We will spend more time

with Mr. Franken later in the book.

The Conason/Alterman/Franken argument that the media are conservative revolves around four major points, all of them fallacious:

1) Liberal bias? Just look at all those conservatives in the media!

By far the most common trick of the Left is to focus on the "media," not the "news media." How many times do we hear liberals cite Rush Limbaugh, William F. Buckley, Robert Novak, Cal Thomas, Sean Hannity, and so on, as evidence of the conservative "dominance" of the media?

What these liberals know full well is that all of these conservatives are commentators, not reporters; their work appears in opinion columns and on TV or radio talk shows — not in news stories in our newspapers or on radio or television news programs. None reports news, but rather they all react to it analytically and, by

necessity, with prejudice. More: No conservative on talk radio denies his conservative stance, which puts every one of them in almost perfect juxtaposition with the liberals in the news media, almost all of whom deny their own bias. It is impossible to contend that conservatives dominate the news media — which is why liberals play with the terminology.

2) Who cares about liberal reporters? It's all about those dastardly conservative media owners.

Alterman has a chapter titled "You're Only As Liberal As the Man Who Owns You." This is the stuff of Berkeley coffee klatches. Contrary to the Marxist stick-figure caricature, corporate CEOs cannot be automatically stereotyped as supply-side right-wingers dressed in three-piece Armani suits smoking oversized stogies and swigging martinis at the Knickerbocker Club. And if you don't believe me, ask Michael Eisner or Ted Turner.

Even if we suspend our disbelief for a moment and go along with Alterman that the owners of media corporations are all right-wingers, what does that really tell us? Nothing, as CNN's Tucker Carlson rightly pointed out when Alterman tried to claim that right-wing media owners control "what gets on the news." On the February 5, 2003, edition of *Crossfire*, Carlson swiftly rebutted Alterman's argument: "Actually, having worked in media corporations all my adult life, I can tell you, as I think you already know, most reporters don't take orders from the owners of their companies. Most reporters don't know who the owners of their companies are and have zero contact with them. So that's not a plausible claim."



People magazine recently included *Weapons of Mass Distortion* in its roundup of the latest, hottest new political books.

The corporate ownership argument is closely linked to point #1. Liberals like to point out that a majority of newspaper editorial pages normally endorse Republicans in presidential campaigns, as if somehow this validates their theory that the owners are calling the shots. But these are editorial writers — not owners, and not reporters — making this call. Moreover, theirs is a one-day story in the editorial page; this tells us nothing about a paper's slant 365 days per year in the news section, which is all that matters.

3) Don't believe us liberals; just listen to what some conservatives say about this silly "liberal media" accusation.

Conason quotes former Christian Coalition head Ralph Reed mouthing this analysis of the press: "My sense is that it's probably never as good as you think and it's never as bad as you think." But what does that mean? It is not content analysis; it's conjecture. And yet Conason believes that in saying this, Reed "acknowledged" that "the media have turned to the right."

Alterman misuses *Weekly Standard* editor Bill Kristol in the same way. Kristol once told *The New Yorker* that "the liberal media were never that powerful, and the whole thing was often used as an excuse by conservatives for conservative failures," a point with which most conservatives would disagree, but also a point focusing on the impact of liberal media bias, not its existence, which Alterman seems not to realize is a given for Kristol. Alterman also quotes Pat Buchanan suggesting that the media had been fair to him on the presidential campaign trail, but in no way was Buchanan denying the existence of a liberal media bias. In fact, over the years Buchanan has denounced the liberal media probably hundreds of times, but Alterman has somehow missed all of these quotes.

I wonder if he also missed Buchanan's dismissal of *What Liberal Media?* In a column in June 2003, Buchanan called Alterman a poor judge of bias and averred that there is indeed a "liberal press," which includes "all three major networks, PBS, NPR and virtually all major U.S. papers — *Boston Globe*, *New York Times*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Washington Post*, *Atlanta Constitution*, *Miami Herald*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Denver Post*, *Los Angeles Times*. . . . Not only are the editorial pages of most major papers liberal, the news staffs are overwhelmingly so." Buchanan concluded that "Big Media remains a fortress of liberalism," which is not exactly a ringing endorsement of Alterman's thesis.

Franken, meanwhile, relies on an ex-conservative to guide him through the world of conspiratorial conservative media politics. But the ex-conservative in question, David Brock, is a highly suspect source, to say the least, for he is an accomplished liar. (Incidentally, Franken, he who condemns "liars" in his book, was forced to confess that he lied in writing the book. In July 2003 he wrote a letter of apology to Attorney General John Ashcroft, admitting that he had not been truthful when he had earlier asked for Ashcroft's views on abstinence for what he had claimed, falsely, was a book on the subject.)

4) Gore had the election stolen from him and this proves the media's conservative bias.

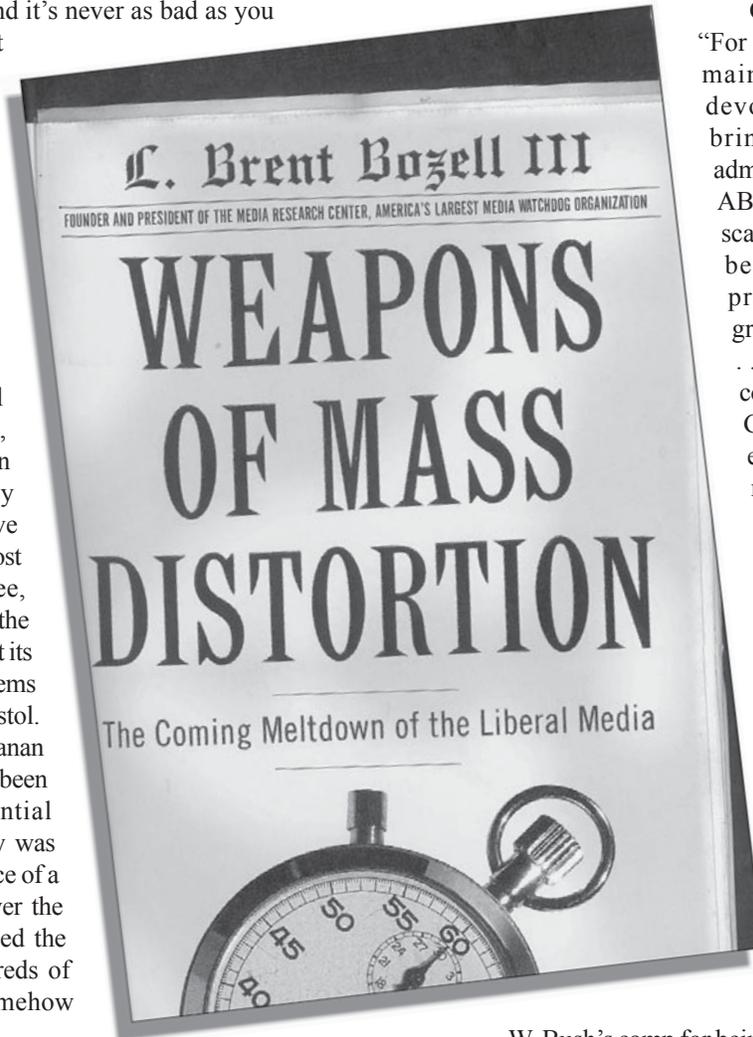
Conason finds a conspiracy here: "For eight years, the nation's largest mainstream news organizations devoted substantial resources to bringing down a Democratic administration. Investigative units at ABC News and NBC News chased scandal stories so zealously that they became virtual adjuncts of the prosecutors and conservative groups attacking the White House. . . . That same enmity infected the coverage of Democratic nominee Al Gore during the 2000 presidential election. False stories designed to ruin Gore's reputation, including phony and distorted quotes, found their way from the Republican National Committee to the conservative media and seeped into the mainstream press."

That accusation packs quite a wallop — except Conason doesn't offer a single example to support his case.

Alterman devotes a chapter to the 2000 election and another entire chapter to the postelection standoff in Florida. Most of it is a rather hysterical tirade against George

W. Bush's camp for being evil and Al Gore's camp for not being as clever as the evil Bush camp. Here and there, however, he slips in a quote or factoid as "evidence" of this conservative, anti-Gore bias. For example, he cites *The Press Effect*, a study by Kathleen Hall Jamieson and Paul Waldman which found that "in the five Sunday shows aired by the three networks [on December 3], the word 'concede' appeared in twenty-three questions." In twenty of them, Alterman points out, "the hypothetical conceiver was Al Gore."

Somehow he finds this to be rather damning evidence, but he does not consider that perhaps this was so because recount after recount continued to validate Bush's victory while Gore's attempts to overturn the election results were rebuffed time and again.





Tom Brokaw and Tim Russert heap praise on Clinton and his unique way of promoting Kerry for President.

Swooning Over “Elvis”

NBC’s coverage of the opening night of the Democratic Convention ended with nostalgia, as Tom Brokaw and Tim Russert heaped effusive praise on the slick charms of Bill Clinton. “They call him Elvis, and not for nothing,” raved Brokaw.

Russert was floored with how the Democrats built “the whole notion of John Kerry as a strong Commander-in-Chief” and how Bill Clinton “was playing off his wife who, as a liberal Democratic Senator from New York, called for increasing the defense budget by doubling the size of proposed troop strength. It was an extraordinary night for the Democrats – how they’re trying to position their party.” It was a night of extraordinary baloney, but NBC was dazzled.

Russert celebrated how Clinton exploited his new-found wealth and his draft-dodging to argue Kerry would be a stronger President: “And he said, ‘I’m the recipient of the tax cut and I also avoided

going to Vietnam.’ And by using those own personal weaknesses, if you will, he only reinforced the uniqueness of John Kerry. Very clever speech.” That’s not clever. It’s bizarre.

Kerry Speech Draws Raves

John Kerry wanted the media to conclude the Boston convention with buckets of praise for his acceptance speech, and they generously complied across the dial.

On ABC, former Clinton aide George Stephanopoulos gushed: “I mean, John Kerry went out there and he went right into the teeth of Republican issues. I mean, it was the political equivalent of turning toward enemy fire and charging the hill.” CBS’s Bob Schieffer was impressed: “This is the best speech I have ever heard John Kerry make. I listened to a lot of speeches back there in the primary. This was the best.”

NBC’s Tom Brokaw even liked the gimmicky moments: “He opened his remarks by saluting this crowd and saying ‘John Kerry, reporting for duty.’ And on this occasion he fulfilled his duties, delivering a strong speech, touching all of the themes important to the Democratic Party and reaching beyond the party as well with his references to what he would do as the Commander-in-Chief.”



Stephanopoulos gushed: “I mean, John Kerry went out there and he went right into the teeth of Republican issues. I mean, it was the political equivalent of turning toward enemy fire and charging the hill.”

On CNN, Joe Klein of *Time* magazine performed his usual shoeshine: “Look, I covered John Kerry’s first campaign for Congress in 1972. From that day to this, people who served with him in Vietnam said,

‘you can’t believe what he’s like in battle. He just changes. He gets this look over him.’ And when I saw him walking down the aisle tonight on the way in to the speech, I said, ‘oh yeah, there’s that look.’I have never seen the man speak so well.”

Soft on Sticky-Fingers Berger

Former Clinton national security advisor Samuel “Sandy” Berger is no stranger to stringent security protocols, possessing the highest levels of security clearance the government can authorize. But when Berger admitted to absconding with highly sensitive documents about Bill Clinton’s anti-terror policies from a secure reading room in the National Archives, the



Media dismiss the idea Sandy Berger may have done anything sinister and they even ignore the fact he admitted to lawbreaking.

media were downright dismissive that anything sinister might have occurred...at least on Berger’s part.

Time’s Joe Klein was agnostic about the gravity of the transgression: “Berger obviously did something wrong. Whether this is a venial or a mortal sin, we have yet to find out. But I’ve known Sandy Berger for over 10 years....This is a very solid, decent guy. I’d be shocked if there was something really terrible that he did here.”

Earlier that evening on the *CBS Evening News*, Dan Rather ignored the fact that Berger had admitted to lawbreaking. His focus – his blame – was all targeted at the Republicans! “Sandy Berger, who was national security advisor under President Clinton, stepped aside today as an advisor to Senator John Kerry. CBS’s John Roberts reports this was triggered by a carefully orchestrated leak about Berger, and the timing of it appears to be no coincidence.”

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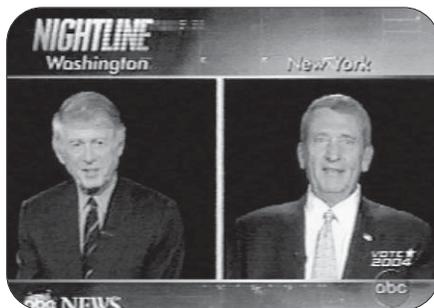
Mention that you read about the offer in **FLASH**.

CBS suggested both sides of the aisle smelled a rat in the timing of the Berger story. Roberts declared: “Republicans and Democrats alike say the timing of the investigation’s disclosure smells like politics, leaked to the press just two days before the 9/11 Commission report comes out....An FBI search of his home in January turned up nothing, and late today law enforcement sources said they don’t expect any criminal charges will be filed.”

And so have yet another Clinton-related scandal the media refuse to investigate.

Ted Tackles Tommy

On the August 2 edition of *Nightline*, host Ted Koppel dusted off the “Mission Accomplished” banner controversy in an interview with Tommy Franks, the retired four star general who oversaw Operation Iraqi Freedom. Koppel asked Franks to confirm a reference in his memoirs that the use of the banner was his idea. Franks replied: “I confess, I did that, Ted.” He said he wanted the troops to get “some sense of closure” and that a number of nations promised to provide forces “as soon as major combat operations had been completed.”



Ted Koppel presses Franks with heap shots against President Bush.

Koppel followed up by pressing Franks with heap shots against the President: “Now, you didn’t suggest he put on a flight suit and sit backseat on a plane landing on an aircraft carrier, did you?” He later quipped, “And I assume, you didn’t paint the banner that said ‘Mission Accomplished,’ either?” Franks shot back on the latter question: “No, but I would have agreed with it, and as I looked at the President’s comments on the 1st of May, I thought, ‘good for him.’”

If Koppel’s aim is to parrot liberal spin rather than report news, his mission is accomplished.

Times Watch Prevails

Our influence inside the newsroom was proven this month by Daniel Okrent, the

new “Public Editor” of the *New York Times*, brought in by *Times* management to speak for readers as an ombudsman. “Is The *New York Times* a Liberal Newspaper?” asked the headline over Okrent’s Sunday column on July 26. He answered in his lead sentence: “Of course it is.” The self-described Democrat honed in on social issues, “the flammable stuff that ignites the right. These are the social issues: gay rights, gun control, abortion and environmental regulation, among others. And if you think the *Times* plays it down the middle on any of them, you’ve been reading the paper with your eyes closed.” Whoa!

One way Okrent would know the facts of blatant favoritism is by taking in our daily analysis at *TimesWatch.org*, the special MRC project aimed exclusively at exposing the bias of the *New York Times*. Okrent cited three front-page articles on so-called “gay marriage” as especially slanted and promotional. All three had been quickly analyzed and criticized by our *TimesWatch* operation hours after they appeared. Okrent, for one, would tell the truth: “On a topic that has produced one of the defining debates of our time, *Times* editors have failed to provide the three-dimensional perspective balanced journalism requires.”

MINIBITS

⚡ The networks love those Democratic rock stars. “When Hillary Clinton took the podium,” CBS’s **Hannah**

Storm exclaims, “it was as if she was a rock star coming in here.” NBC’s **Andrea Mitchell** saves her applause for Illinois Senate candidate Barack Obama: “Teresa is a fascinating story,” she admits, “but Obama is a rock star!” ⚡ *Boston Globe* reporter **Nina Easton** has only cheers for Teresa Heinz Kerry’s feminist monologue. “She was likable, she’s gorgeous, she was kind of warm and earthy,” Easton gushes. “I thought she did spectacular.” ⚡ *Wall Street Journal* reporter **John Harwood** was also taken with John Kerry’s wife: “Teresa Heinz may be the sexiest spouse of a national candidate in my memory.” ⚡ After Jimmy Carter blasted U.S. foreign policy as “extremist” and isolating, CNN’s **Aaron Brown** gushes, “In many ways, to many people, he has improved with age.” ⚡ Before the convention, CBS’s **Bob Schieffer** worries about reports the Democrats will be positive. “Will you not talk about Vice President Cheney?” he asks a top Democratic official ⚡ *Newsweek* sums up the vice presidential candidates: “Dick Cheney projects the bleakness of a Wyoming winter, while John Edwards always appears to be strolling in the Carolina sunshine.” ⚡ *The New York Times* lobbs rude questions at conservative icon William F. Buckley: “You seem indifferent to suffering. Have you ever suffered yourself?” ⚡ MSNBC’s **Chris Matthews** goes on an anti-Bush tirade: “[In] every encyclopedia in the world now to be written, it’ll say the United States went to war for bogus reasons. It’ll say that.”



Mitchell and other members of the liberal media show their appreciation for the “rock star” Democrats

By David Thibault
CNSNews.com Managing Editor



Interns Develop Journalistic Heft at CNSNews.com

It's one of the most eagerly anticipated periods of the year – late May — when a carefully screened group of summer interns arrives at CNSNews.com to learn the fundamentals of journalism and the judgment that goes into selecting news articles that most of the so-called “establishment” press ignores or under-reports.

But our anticipation isn't linked to some pompous view of ourselves as the only dispensers of journalistic wisdom. It's because the interns come to us with so much capability and because we know that they will eventually contribute to the CNSNews.com product in a major way.

Perhaps it's the nature of these young men and women, serious and mature enough to have decided that internships at ABC News and the Washington Post might look good on paper, but offer little of the real world experience needed to land that first job out of college. Many are recommended to us by the highly regarded Collegiate Network. Some are children of individuals with long-standing ties to the Media Research Center. Others find us through their own dogged search for a meaningful summer job.

And this summer's crop may be the best ever. Nathan Burchfiel, Sarah Junk, Roch Hammond, Shannon Augustus and Heather Wier combined for 104 bylines between June 3 and August 16.

Nathan Burchfiel wrote about the New Jersey Democratic governor's decision to resign from office amid disclosures of an adulterous, homosexual affair. He also jumped all over a story involving a Subway sandwich shop in Germany that handed out promotional materials disparaging our Statue of Liberty and apparently making light of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

Sarah Junk authored articles about the Molson beer company's despicable ads that encourage men to deceive and seduce women. She also wrote about how Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry's promises would, in the first

year of his presidency, cost American taxpayers \$226 billion above the amount already budgeted.

Roch Hammond's journalism centered on, among other things, the ACLU's objections to an anti-terror crackdown waged by the FBI in Chicago as well as the U.S. State Department's controversial invitation to an international group to monitor our presidential election this year.

Shannon Augustus investigated the resignations, just a few weeks apart, of two managers at an abortion clinic run by notorious Kansas abortionist George Tiller—the resignations apparently having been prompted by the efforts of the pro-life group Operation Rescue.

Heather Wier split her internship between CNSNews.com and the Media Research Center's Free Market Project. And while she was working with us at CNSNews.com, she researched and co-authored an investigative report about the “probing attacks” being conducted by terrorists to develop intelligence about vulnerable American targets.

These are topics that journalists with many years of experience would gladly tackle and topics that most interns at news organizations could only dream of having a chance with which to immerse themselves. But it's the way we do

business at CNSNews.com.

Starting out slowly, working methodically, stressing the fundamentals of fairness, attribution and corroboration, CNSNews.com editors equip these young journalists with the tools that can be used in combination with their natural talents to produce not mere filler for the website, but substantive, important articles that often lead the day's news.

Each of the articles is carefully edited, often restructured, beefed up or temporarily put on hold until other materials are compiled. Along the way, there are discussions between editor and intern about what worked well and what needed improvement, all of it conducted in a positive, constructive, collaborative setting and with no pre-conceived agenda. That's the way journalism should be practiced. It's the way we do it at CNSNews.com.

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Interns not only attended *Crossfire*, they appeared on CNN.



MRC news analysis intern Mary Fisher.



Intern coordinator Anne Ellerbrock with interns Mary Fisher, Nathan Burchfiel, Heather Wier, and Roch Hammond.



MRC/CNS intern Heather Wier with reporter Scott Wheeler.

Every year the college students who are invited to be a part of the MediaResearch Center, the MRC's Free Market Project and the MRC's news service CNSNews.com learn new skills that will help them in their future careers and add an extra layer to the departments they join. The interns also get to absorb the culture of Washington D.C. by attending seminars and hearings on Capitol Hill and this year went on a White House tour and to a taping of CNN's *Crossfire* on the campus of George Washington University. This summer, some interns also had the unique opportunity to view history in the making as they witnessed the Nation's Capital honor the memory of President Ronald Reagan.

Four young women were selected to spend the summer as interns inside the MRC's News Analysis Division. **Mary Fisher** of Sussex, New Jersey will be a senior this fall at Providence College in Rhode Island, majoring in political science and humanities. Mary's been busy plugging brand-new TV news broadcasts into the News Tracking Systems (NTS) database and transcribing biased reporting for inclusion in MRC publications. During the historic trip of President Reagan's caisson to the Capitol, Mary was interviewed by an ABC-TV station from Las Vegas and was able to watch how Fox News Channel produced live coverage from the street procession. While in town, she's also attended the Heritage Foundation's "brown bag" lecture series, the Leadership Institute's workshop on Public Relations, and Conservative University, a weekend workshop at Georgetown University sponsored by Accuracy in Academia.

Jennifer Schwarz of Spring Valley, Minnesota will be a junior

this year majoring in political science at Hillsdale College in Michigan. In addition to regular work entering current newscasts, Jennifer also helped review and transcribe Democratic convention coverage on PBS and Fox, as well as a project reviewing the labeling of John Edwards in major newspapers. Jennifer regularly attended Heritage Foundation events during her stay in Washington.

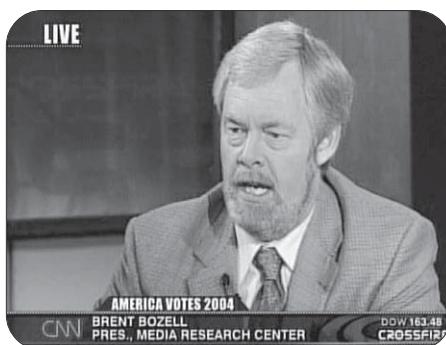
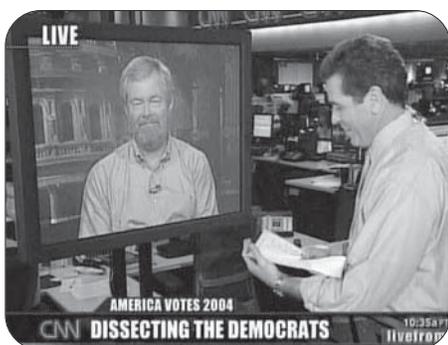
Briana Mills of Leesburg, Virginia will be a junior this year majoring in communications at James Madison University, also in Virginia. Briana was assigned to Research Associate Kristina Sewell as an assistant archivist, helping with taping requests for research professionals; the ongoing project to convert old MRC news videotapes to DVD; updating the MRC's Tape2DVD database; and the ongoing hiring process for a full-time Assistant Archivist.

Heather Wier of Bellevue, Nebraska will be a senior political science and economics major at Christendom College in Virginia. In her work for the MRC's Free Market Project, Heather researched news stories from CBS, NBC, and ABC and catalogued them according to a template for a report on global warming coverage. Heather also helped prepare research for our election-year economics report before spending a few weeks with CNSNews.com, where one of her articles was read on the air by Rush Limbaugh! Heather attended the funeral procession for President Reagan, several of the weekly Americans for Tax Reform meetings for conservative activists, The Heritage Foundation's "brown bag" lecture series, and a Cato briefing for tort reform on Capitol Hill.



MRC IN THE NEWS

Media Research Center personnel are interviewed almost every day on stories of national importance. As the general election campaign gets under way, MRC spokesmen will be crucial in discussing the media filter that will try to bash Bush and protect John Kerry. In the last month, MRC spokesmen have appeared on, or have been cited in, more than 100 television, newspaper, radio and Internet news stories. The highlights of the month were six national television appearances, an MRC report and a CNSNews.com report being highlighted before millions on the Rush Limbaugh radio show, and a brief review and picture of Brent Bozell's book *Weapons of Mass Distortion* in *People* magazine.



Television

- ☛ Fox, *The O'Reilly Factor*, August 19. MRC President L. Brent Bozell debated Paul Waldman of the liberal site Gadflyer.com on the issues of John Kerry and Swift Boat Veterans for Truth.
- ☛ CNN, *Crossfire*, August 5. Brent Bozell debated Democratic consultant Donna Brazile on the role of celebrities in presidential campaigns.
- ☛ CNN, *Live From*, July 27. Brent Bozell was interviewed by anchor Miles O'Brien about Democratic convention coverage.
- ☛ CNBC, *Dennis Miller*, July 22. Brent Bozell flew to Los Angeles to debate campaign issues and his book *Weapons of Mass Distortion* on a panel appearing before Miller. CNBC replayed the show during convention coverage the following week.
- ☛ CNNfn, *Flipside*, July 14. Brent Bozell discussed politics and presidential campaign coverage, as well as his book.

Radio

- ☛ Westwood One Radio Network, Jim Bohannon Show, August 18. MRC's Brent Bozell discussed his book on the nationally syndicated late-night show. Bozell also discussed the book and the media on:
 - KDKA – Pittsburgh, August 16.
 - WHK – Cleveland, August 16.
 - WGNU – St. Louis, August 4.
 - Radio America, August 4.
 - KDOV – Medford, August 4.
 - KJSL – St. Louis, July 30.
 - KBUL – Billings, July 30.
 - USA Radio Network, July 30.
 - WTWB – Lakeland, FL, July 30.
 - KRMS – Osage Beach, MO, July 30.
 - KOLE – Beaumont, July 29.
 - KGBI – Omaha, July 29.
 - WSAU – Wausau, WI, July 29.
 - KSFO – San Francisco, July 29.
 - WGAN – Portland, ME, July 29.
 - WWKB – Buffalo, July 28.
 - WTIX – New Orleans, July 28.
 - WTAM – Cleveland, July 28.
 - Westwood One Radio Net., July 28.
 - WYBG – Massena, NY, July 28.

- KTFK – St. Louis, July 28.
- KNZR – Bakersfield, CA, July 28.
- WFLA – Tampa, July 19.
- KCNN – Fargo, July 19.
- WOWO – Fort Wayne, July 19.
- WGIR – Manchester, NH, July 19.
- WABC – New York, July 16.
- ☛ WGST – Atlanta, August 17. Director of Media Analysis Tim Graham discussed the media's coverage of the Swift Boat vets. Graham also discussed this and other issues on:
 - Wisconsin Public Radio (statewide), June 29.
 - WGST – Atlanta, August 10.
 - WTIX – New Orleans, August 5.
 - KCBQ – San Diego, August 4.
 - KPCC – Los Angeles, August 3.
 - WGST – Atlanta, August 3.
 - WDAY – Fargo, August 2.
 - KMED – Medford, OR, August 2.
 - NRANews.com (Sirius satellite radio), July 30.
 - WYDE – Birmingham, July 29.
 - Linda Chavez Show, July 29.
 - KCBQ – San Diego, July 28.
 - WCDR – Cedarville, OH, July 28.
 - WGST – Atlanta, July 27.

KION – Salinas, CA, July 27.
 KOA – Denver, July 21.
 KCBQ – San Diego, July 21.
 WGST – Atlanta, July 20.

- ☛ Accent Radio Network, August 19. MRC Research Director Rich Noyes discussed media coverage of the Swift Boat controversy. He discussed this and other issues on:
 - WIBC – Indianapolis, August 19.
 - WAIC – Springfield, Mass., Aug. 18.
 - WIBC – Indianapolis, August 12.
 - WAIC – Springfield, Mass., Aug. 11.
 - WAIC – Springfield, Mass., Aug. 4.
 - KTSA – San Antonio, August 3.
 - WBT – Charlotte, July 30.
 - WIBC – Indianapolis, July 29.
 - KION – Salinas, Calif., July 29.
 - WAIC – Springfield, Mass., July 28.
 - Accent Radio Network, July 23.
 - KION – Salinas, Calif., July 22.
 - WIBC – Indianapolis, July 22.
 - WAIC – Springfield, Mass., July 21.
 - WTEG – Worcester, Mass., July 21.
 - KHOW – Denver, July 21.

Newspapers/Magazines

- ☛ *People* magazine, August 23 issue. A review of this year’s political books included this summation of Brent Bozell’s book next to a picture of the book’s cover: “Big Idea: The media is run by blue-state elites. Case in point: The press ‘investigated unfounded rumors of cocaine use by a young George W. Bush, while admissions of Al Gore’s marijuana use were all but ignored.”
- ☛ *Investors’ Business Daily*, August 19. Brent Bozell’s column on the news magazines ignoring the anti-Kerry Swift Boat vets.
- ☛ *Chattanooga Free Press*, August 15. Editorial praising Brent Bozell’s book.
- ☛ *Investors’ Business Daily*, August 9. Staff editorial cites MRC research on the national media’s poor-mouthing of the U.S. economy.
- ☛ *Baltimore Sun*, Aug. 8. MRC Director of Media Analysis Tim Graham quoted on “embarrassing” difference in journalistic

applause at the “Unity” minority journalists conference for remarks by President Bush and John Kerry. (It also appeared in the *Myrtle Beach Sun News*.)

- ☛ *Washington Times*, August 4. Greg Pierce quoted the *CyberAlert* in his “Inside Politics” column.
- ☛ *Roanoke Times* and *World News*, August 1. Quoted a Brent Bozell column on TV coverage of Abu Ghraib and the beheading of Nicholas Berg.
- ☛ *Florida Times-Union*, July 31. Covered Brent Bozell’s speech in Jacksonville.
- ☛ *Associated Press*, July 30. Brent Bozell discusses convention coverage with media reporter David Bauder.
- ☛ *New York Times*, July 30. Tim Graham discussed John Kerry’s “home movies” of his Vietnam service.
- ☛ *Washington Times*, July 30. Tim Graham discussed convention coverage.
- ☛ *Washington Times*, July 29. Gary Andres column quotes Tim Graham.
- ☛ *Boston Globe*, July 26. Reports on Tom Brokaw’s complaints about Brent Bozell at Harvard.
- ☛ *Boston Herald*, July 26. Relays CNSNews.com coverage of Kerry.
- ☛ *Washington Times*, July 26. Research director Rich Noyes quoted on campaign coverage.
- ☛ *National Review*, July 26 issue. Featured a laudatory review of Brent Bozell’s book, an article on media bias by Tim Graham, and several other notations of MRC research.
- ☛ *New York Post*, July 25. Rich Noyes quoted on campaign coverage.
- ☛ *Washington Times*, July 21. Quoted

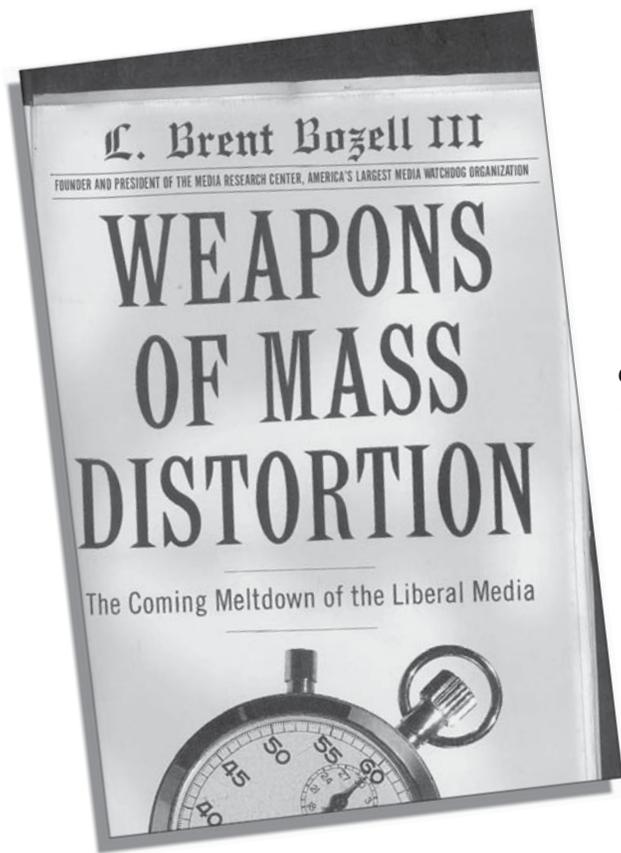
Vice President for Research Brent Baker on campaign coverage.

- ☛ *Washington Times*, July 20. Columnist Jack Kelly on the MRC’s coverage of Joe Wilson.
- ☛ *Wall Street Journal*, July 20. Brent Bozell discussed the liberal campaign against Fox News.
- ☛ *Orlando Sun-Sentinel*, July 18. Rich Noyes on convention coverage.
- ☛ *Dallas Morning News*, July 18. Brent Baker discussed the differences between CNN and Fox. (It also appeared in the *Biloxi Sun-Herald*, the *Billings Gazette*, and the *Macon Telegraph*.)

Internet News Sites

- ☛ **ABCNews.com**, August 19. “The Note,” a daily e-mail from ABC’s Political Unit, quipped that “The First Lady does her best imitation of Brent Bozell in an interview with the *Washington Times*.” Mrs. Bush said it’s “obvious” the media has “an agenda.”
- ☛ **Christiantimes.com**, August 14. Mentions CNSNews.com coverage of Iraq.
- ☛ **Michnews.com**, August 13. Cites CNSNews.com coverage of Rep. Porter Goss’s nomination to lead the CIA.
- ☛ **National Review Online**, August 11. Tim Graham on Swift Boat vet coverage.
- ☛ **Baptist Press**, August 2. Relayed CNSNews.com coverage.
- ☛ **National Review Online**, July 26-30. Tim Graham did five daily articles reviewing TV convention coverage.
- ☛ **Agape Press**, July 19. A book interview with Brent Bozell.
- ☛ **World Net Daily**, July 13. Columnist Peter LaBarbera cited Brent Bozell’s column on the Illinois Senate race.
- ☛ **The Jewish Press**, July 12. Reprinted excerpt of the Special Report by Rich Noyes on “The Liberal Media.”





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