

The Media Research Center's Monthly Members' Report

Limbaugh Steals the Show at MRC DisHonors Awards

Dear Member,

After last year's DisHonors Awards, a spectacular event that concluded with an explosive performance by The Charlie Daniels Band, we had to face a vexing question: "How would we top that in 2004?"

It took some doing, but we did it. On March 18 more than 850 conservatives gathered at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. for the 2004 MRC DisHonors Awards Gala. After a full evening poking fun at the liberal media, we pulled our surprise. As I was concluding my remarks the producer came on the speaker and announced we had a special guest. The familiar soundtrack came booming into the hall, and suddenly everyone knew who it was.

Walking onto the stage, Rush Limbaugh received a thunderous standing ovation. It was, we believe, his first public appearance in six months, and moved by the lengthy applause, the country's most popular talk radio host delivered an emotional, impromptu 15-minute speech, thanking the crowd for its support and urging conservatives to take the fight to the Left.



Rush Limbaugh was the surprise guest at the MRC's Annual Gala and DisHonors Awards.

"How are we going to bridge the [partisan] divide?" Rush asked the crowd. "We don't bridge the divide, we defeat them," he declared.

Conservatives also need to remain optimistic, the radio host said. "[It's] the other side...who are on the defensive. They are the ones losing audience; we are the ones gaining ground."

Rush added that one of the reasons conservative ideas are advancing is because of the work of the MRC. "So much progress is being made and one of the reasons is Brent Bozell and the Media Research Center documenting what these people [liberal journalists do]," he said. "In my case, I would not be able to do what I do were it not for people like Brent."

Rush also singled out the DisHonors Awards for its part in the battle against liberalism, noting that the event uses humor and fun to make a serious point about the mainstream media's bias. "[Humor] is the way to reach more people," the radio host

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CBS Spikes Its Own Poll and Political Correctness Runs Amok at the L.A. Times



America's Media Watchdog

stressed. “Preaching doesn’t accomplish it, but, boy, the way the Media Research Center does it with evenings like this and what they publish makes all the difference in the world.”

The DisHonors Awards program is modeled after the Academy Awards and recognizes the most liberally biased journalists of the preceding year. This year, there were five major awards and a “Most Biased Quote of the Year Award,” which was chosen by an audience vote.

Nominees for each category were selected by the MRC’s senior staff, who combed through our massive archives to find the most outrageous, liberally-biased comments of 2003. The quotes were then provided to a distinguished group of 13 judges that included, among others, Ann Coulter, Steve Forbes, William Rusher, Kate O’Beirne and columnist Walter Williams. The judges voted for a winner and two runners-up in each category and the “winners” were announced at the DisHonors.



Syndicated columnist Cal Thomas served as the Master of Ceremonies.

In keeping with tradition, this year’s participants included some of the country’s leading conservative voices. Nationally syndicated columnist and Fox News host Cal Thomas emceed the event for the third consecutive year. Joe Scarborough, the host of MSNBC’s *Scarborough Country*; Michelle Malkin, nationally syndicated columnist and best-selling author; and Jonah Goldberg, the editor of National Review Online, served as our Presenters.

Our Accepters – they are the conservative leaders who accept on behalf of the “winning” journalists – were a prominent group in their own right and included some true heroes. Jeanne Kirkpatrick, Ronald Reagan’s outspoken Ambassador to the United Nations during the 1980s, graciously



MRC president L. Brent Bozell III gave his closing remarks just before Rush made his appearance.

acted as an Acceptor, as did Richard Viguerie, whose work over the last 40 years helped make the conservative movement a force in American politics. William A. Donahue, the feisty New York Irishman who leads the Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights, was also an Acceptor, as were *American Spectator* publisher Al Regnery and nationally-syndicated talk radio host and best-selling author Laura Ingraham.

This year’s event also featured one other surprise besides Rush: ABC News’ Sam Donaldson, who stormed the stage during my comments to defend his fellow journalists and “protest” the Awards ceremony.

“You’re wrong if you don’t think we are objective!” Donaldson told a laughing crowd after he burst from behind a curtain and interrupted me. “I

promise you, in doing this campaign, we will treat both sides equally. Compassionate, intelligent liberals and you crazy, right-wing kooks will get the same kind of treatment!” he said with a smirk.

As always, the event attracted national attention. The following morning Rush devoted the first five minutes of his radio program to the DisHonors, telling his 14 million listeners about the event and the great time he’d had. The Rush Limbaugh.com Web site also ran a short article on the evening and provided a link to the MRC Web site, where a video of Rush’s speech was posted.

This year’s DisHonors even created some news. Fox News’ *Hannity & Colmes* ran a lengthy clip from Rush’s speech on their March 23 program, which predictably led to a short debate between hosts Alan Colmes and Sean Hannity, and the *Washington Times* ran a half-page article on the event.

Thanks to hard work of the MRC staff and the help of Rush and many others, this year’s event was a smashing success that enabled the MRC to reach millions of Americans with our message of liberal bias.

This great event, like all of our work, would not be possible without your support and I never forget that. And, as always, I thank you for it.

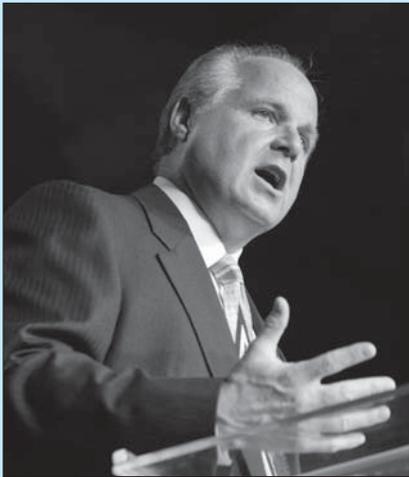
Until next time,

L. Brent Bozell

More than 850 conservatives from across the country attended this year’s DisHonors Awards, held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.



Rush Praises the MRC and Condemns Kerry



Editor's Note:

These are excerpts from Rush Limbaugh's speech at the MRC's Annual Gala and Dishonors Awards. FLASH readers with internet access can watch a video of Rush's entire speech at the Dishonors Awards on the MRC's Web site: www.mediaresearch.org/notablequotables/dishonor/04/welcome.asp.

Rush on the MRC and the Liberal Media

So much progress is being made and one of the reasons is Brent Bozell and the Media Research Center documenting what [liberal journalists do]

...In my case I would not be able to do what I do were it not for people like Brent and all of the people in the conservative movement that you hardly ever hear about, some of them more now than ever, who have been laboring in the basements, writing all of the things, doing all of the thinking and inspiring a lot of people. And it has been a joy to be a part of this.

...I was in Houston in 1992 for the Republican convention...and I walked into the room where Michael Kinsley was, who at the time was the co-host of *Crossfire* on the liberal side – now they have *Deliverance*. It's amazing what has happened to that program.

There's a good sign. [*Crossfire*] used to be at 7:30 on CNN. It used to be

their highest rated program. Now they bury it at 4:30 with people who aren't even journalists hosting it and it still isn't helping it.

Anyway, I walked up to Kinsley and introduced myself to him and the first thing he wanted to know was: "do you know this 'R. Brent Bozo' guy?"

I said, "R. Brent Bozo, who do you mean?"

"You know, this guy who is always running around talking about liberal media bias," he said,

"Oh yeah, I know him. You mean Brent Bozell."

"No. R. Brent Bozo."

Apparently even back then they were very sensitive to the charge that they were biased... And I have finally understood why they don't think they are biased.

Many people misunderstand who the media are. I used to think this too. I used to think, back in my naïve days, the media were objective people who were in the middle of everything and who watched what happened and then chose liberalism. And that is not who they are.

They are liberals and they don't think anything other than liberal is normal and so conservatism is fringe, kook, conspiracy people to them ...

...I know that a lot of the people in the conservative movement have been doing this for a long time and think we've gotten maxed out, but we haven't even begun, folks. We're winning converts throughout the day and throughout the week and throughout the year.

And I think with organizations like [the MRC] that don't give up, [that] tirelessly continue to expose it with humor. It is the way to reach more people; it is with humor [more] than with any other way. Preaching doesn't accomplish it. But boy, the way the Media Research Center does it with evenings like this and what they publish makes all difference in the world and inspires others to follow in their lead footsteps...

Rush on Kerry and the Liberals Who Run the Democratic Party

...You know, folks, when the moment John Kerry and anybody else in the Democratic Party in the House, in the Senate, anywhere else is watching CNN and they see that we may be on the verge of capturing bin Laden, they are going "Damn it. What are we going to do about this?"

Stop and think about that though. Good news for America is a problem for them. These are people who care more about whether Europeans like them than whether terrorists are killing us. They are more concerned about getting along with European socialists. Here's Kerry, this foreign leader comment of his. I mean it isn't just Kerry who is meeting with them; Joe Biden is meeting with some European socialists. It was in a Norway paper today. Hilary Clinton, they are all meeting with European socialists. And people call me and say, "Well, why do you think Kerry might not be able to do a better job than Bush at putting together a coalition to get it together in Iraq?"

I say, you don't understand. Kerry doesn't want the United States to lead. The U.S. media doesn't want the United States to lead. They want us to agree with France and Germany. They want Germany and France to set the stage for what happens in Iraq and that is what Kerry will do. That's why we cannot trust the defense of this country to these people any longer...



The Media Research Center's Annual Roasting the Most Outrageously

Cal Thomas, the nationally syndicated columnist and host of Fox News' *After Hours with Cal Thomas*, emceed the event. Award Presenters were Joe Scarborough, host of MSNBC's *Scarborough Country*, nationally syndicated columnist and best-selling author Michelle Malkin, and Jonah Goldberg, the Editor of *National Review Online*.



Awards #1 and #2 presented by MSNBC's Joe Scarborough

said the love that the Iraqis have for him is so much greater than anything Americans feel for their President because he's been loved for 35 years, he says, the whole 35 years."

Dan Harris in Baghdad: "He is one to point out quite frequently that he is part of a historical trend in this country of restoring Iraq to its greatness, its historical greatness. He points out frequently that he was elected with a hundred percent margin recently."

Jeanne Kirkpatrick, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations under President Reagan, accepted the award. "I'd like to thank the MRC for this marvelous evening which lifts our spirits and gives us a lot of entertainment," the Ambassador told the crowd.



Award #1: Baghdad Bob Award (For Parroting Enemy Propaganda)

WINNER: ABC's Diane Sawyer and Dan Harris for this exchange on the March 7 *Good Morning America*.

Diane Sawyer: "I read this morning that [Saddam Hussein] also

Award #2: I'm Not a Geopolitical Genius But I Play One on TV Award

WINNER: Comedienne/Activist Janeane Garofalo, for her comment to Mike Barnicle on MSNBC on February 20, 2003.

Barnicle: "Who do you regard as a bigger threat to world peace: George Bush, or Saddam Hussein?"

Garofalo: "I say at this point, for different reasons, they are both very threatening to world peace and to deny that is to be incredibly naive. Right now, we are on the brink of global catastrophe....This is a manufactured war at this point. There has been a war on the people of Iraq since 1990."



Catholic League President William A. Donohue accepted on behalf of Garofalo and told the audience he was scheduled to appear with the actress on an upcoming liberal talk radio program. "I guess I have to tell her the truth, what a loser she is," Donohue said. "She just lost here tonight."

Award #3: Media Know It All Award

WINNER: Former *New York Times* Executive Editor Howell Raines for this delusional rant at a National Press Foundation dinner on February 20.

"Our greatest accomplishment as a profession is the development since World War II of a news reporting craft that is truly non-partisan, and non-ideological, and that strives to be independent of undue commercial or governmental influence.... But we don't wear the political collar of our owners or the government or any political party. It is that legacy we must protect with our diligent stewardship. To do so means we must be aware of the energetic



Award #3 was presented by author and syndicated columnist Michelle Malkin

Annual Gala and Dishonors Awards: Biased Liberal Reporting of 2003

effort that is now underway to convince our readers that we are ideologues. It is an exercise of, in disinformation, of alarming proportions, this attempt to convince the audience of the world's most ideology-free newspapers that they're being subjected to agenda-driven news reflecting a liberal bias."

American Spectator publisher Al Regnery picked up the award for the former New York Times Executive Editor. "Here's something someone said about Howell Raines that really summed it up," Regnery told the crowd. "It's from Newsweek reporter Mickey Kaus, who chided Executive Editor-to-be Raines about a factually challenged editorial. 'It's good to know that the guy who produces that sort of unthinking, hackneyed propaganda is not taking over the whole paper.' So, Howell, wherever you are tonight, you can relish the thought that you were dishonored by the Media Research Center. Enjoy it..."



Awards #4 and #5 were presented by Jonah Goldberg, editor of National Review Online

necessary to display a little metallic icon of patriotism for everyone to see....I put it on to take it back. The flag's been hijacked and turned into a logo – the trademark of a monopoly on patriotism. On those Sunday morning talk shows official chests appear adorned with the flag as if it is the Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval and during the State of the Union did you notice Bush and Cheney wearing the flag? How come? No administration's patriotism is ever in doubt, only its policies. And the flag bestows no immunity from error.

"When I see flags sprouting on official lapels, I think of the time in China when I saw Mao's Little Red Book on every official's

desk, omnipresent and unread. But more galling than anything are all those moralistic ideologues in Washington sporting the flag in their lapels while writing books and running Web sites and publishing magazines attacking dissenters as un-American....I put it on to remind myself that not every patriot thinks we should do to the people of Baghdad what bin Laden did to us."

Long-time conservative leader and direct mail marketing pioneer Richard Viguerie accepted for Moyers. "Conservatives have a very special place in their heart for Bill Moyers. How else can you explain that...twice in a row Bill Moyers has won this prestigious award? I'm sure Bill Moyers also has a special place that he would like to tell us...to go and I assure you it's not the Omni Shoreham."



Award #5: Ozzy Osbourne Award (Wackiest Comment of the Year)

WINNER: Charles Pierce, for this callous passage in the January 5 *Boston Globe Magazine*. Pierce's award was also voted Quote of the Year by the audience.

"If she had lived, Mary Jo Kopechne would be 62 years old. Through his tireless work as a legislator, Edward Kennedy would have brought comfort to her in her old age."

[Kopechne drowned while trapped in Kennedy's submerged car off Chappaquiddick Island in July 1969, an accident Kennedy did not report for several hours.]

Conservative radio host Laura Ingraham accepted for Pierce and provided a different perspective on the senior senator from Massachusetts. "I was thinking about Ted Kennedy," Ingraham said. "You know Oliver Stone did *JFK*, a great conspiracy theorist movie. Mel Gibson is going to do a follow-up to *The Passion, EMK*. One problem. John Candy's not alive to play the leading role."



Watch the videos at: www.MRC.org

Augusta National Book Notes

CNSNEWS.COM'S Exposes on Hypocrisy, Liberal Bias

Springtime and The Masters golf tournament have always been thought of as a sublime coupling.

But there was nothing sublime about Martha Burk and Howell Raines, who did their best to spoil last year's tournament in a misguided attempt to get women admitted to Augusta National Golf Club, which hosts the event. Burk, the chair of the National Council of Women's Organizations, tried to intimidate the club into admitting women and Raines, who was then Executive Editor of the *New York Times*, used his paper's considerable influence to support Burk, directing the writing and publication of more than 40 news stories, columns or editorials on the Augusta National issue.

CNSNews.com's active role in exposing the hypocrisy and deceit of this liberal crusade against Augusta has been examined in a new book, *The Battle for Augusta National*, written by Alan Shipnuck of *Sports Illustrated*. The book is being released just in time for this year's Masters and in it Shipnuck acknowledges the two journalistic scoops that CNSNews.com investigative reporter Robert B. Bluey scored at the height of the controversy.

Shipnuck notes that Bluey was the first to report on Burk's decision not to hold television interviewer Bryant Gumbel to the same level of public accountability that she was insisting on from Augusta National. Gumbel, host of HBO's *Real Sports*,

belonged to a male-only golf club but Burk refused to admonish the broadcaster during an interview. Burk later told Bluey that she had decided to speak to Gumbel off-camera about the matter. Perhaps Burk's reticence to confront the hypocritical Gumbel had something to do with the flattering profile his television show did of the liberal activist.

Gumbel and Burk weren't the only hypocrites Bluey exposed. In April of last year, amid the continuing assault by *USA Today* columnist Christine Brennan on Augusta National, Bluey reported that Brennan's boss, Gannett Co. Chief Executive Officer Douglas McCorkindale, also belonged to a male-only golf club. The Pine Valley Golf Club in New Jersey, Bluey reported, not only didn't allow women members, it didn't even allow women to play on the course.

Burk and Raines are much quieter this year. Raines took the fall for the Jayson Blair plagiarism scandal and was fired. Burk still has female membership at Augusta National listed as a goal on her website, but since two members of Augusta resigned over the controversy last year, there have been no similar departures. It appears that the liberal activist's 15 minutes of fame are finished.

CNSNews.com, by contrast, keeps getting stronger, by conducting journalism on the basis of facts, not wishful thinking.



MRC's Times Watch Director Also Cited in Book

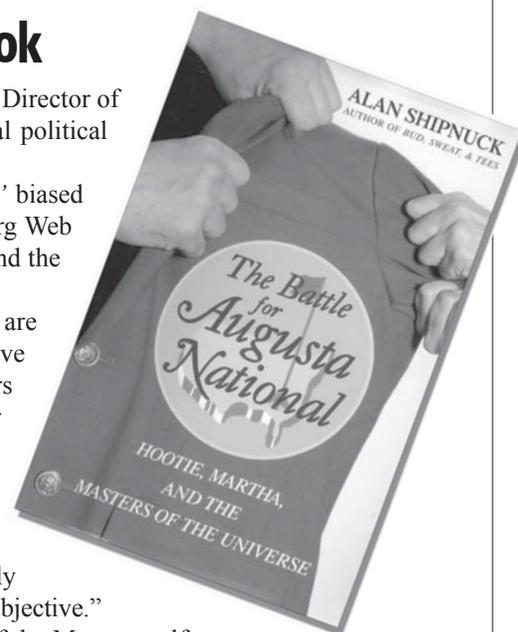
The Battle for Augusta National also includes comments from Clay Waters, the Director of Times Watch, an MRC project dedicated to documenting and exposing the liberal political agenda of the *New York Times*.

Author Alan Shipnuck interviewed Waters, who diligently tracked the *Times*' biased advocacy of Martha Burk's liberal crusade against Augusta on the Times Watch.org Web site, and included his thoughts on former *Times* Executive Editor Howell Raines and the rising influence of Internet political web logs.

Waters told Shipnuck that the web logs, or "blogs" as they're better known, are basically a conservative and libertarian medium. This is because "liberals already have their own media outlets. They have the networks, CNN, the *New York Times*," Waters explained. "They don't need any more platforms. Conservatives have to create their own, whether it's Fox News or blogs."

Waters also told Shipnuck that there had "always been a low roar about Howell Raines and the *Times*" among the writers and media critics who produce the "blogs." Many were suspicious when Raines became the *Times*' Executive Editor in 2001. "It raises eyebrows any time an Editorial-Page Editor moves to the news side, especially an ideologue like Raines," Waters said. "Naturally you wonder if they can be fair and objective."

The Battle for Augusta National is scheduled to be released during the week of the Masters golf tournament, which will be held from April 15-18.



The Washington Times

Humor Takes a Right Turn

By Christian Toto, March 22

What's so funny about spin, bias and misunderstanding? Plenty, especially if you're a fan of the Media Research Center (MRC), whose sober studies analyzing left-bending newsmakers were celebrated with much laughter Thursday at the group's annual Dishonors Awards gala at the Omni Shoreham Hotel.

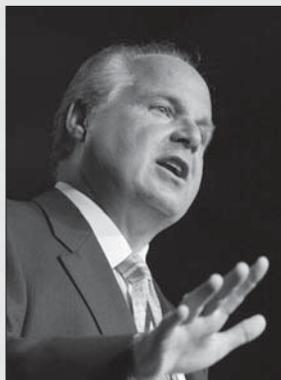
As it turned out, the main attraction wasn't the usual cavalcade of outrageously biased news bits, but a surprise visit by radio talk show giant Rush Limbaugh.

The conservative broadcaster could be counted upon, of course, to hammer both journalists and Democrats with his usual bombast.

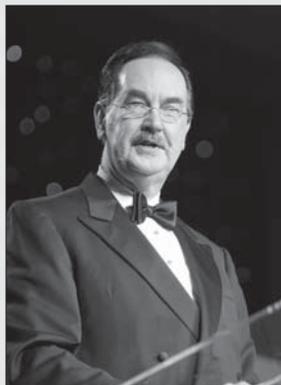
MRC head L. Brent Bozell III feigned annoyance when an unseen voice told him a surprise guest was set to take the stage. After Mr. Limbaugh's radio theme music began pumping through the room, the savvy crowd of about 850 quickly solved the mystery.

Mr. Limbaugh spoke as if his listeners were glued to their radio speakers.

"So much progress is being made [exposing media bias]," Mr. Limbaugh said, "but I wouldn't be able to do what I do if not for people like Brent and others in the conservative movement."



Rush Limbaugh



Cal Thomas

The secret, he noted, is that the message reaches ready ears when it's couched in humor, not preachy sermons.

Veteran newsman Sam Donaldson also paid a surprise visit to the gala, charging the stage in mock anger that his beloved news machine was under assault.

No one, however, despaired that former *New York Times* Executive Editor Howell

Raines, ABC News' Diane Sawyer, et al., were no-shows for the MRC's not-so-coveted trophy, stamped with the award's slogan "See no balance. Hear no balance. Speak no balance."

A respected gathering of the conservative establishment gladly accepted awards in their absence, including former Ambassador to the United Nations Jeanne Kirkpatrick, Catholic League President Bill Donohue, *American Spectator* Publisher Al Regnery and radio talk show host Laura Ingraham.

Once again, witty Fox News contributor and syndicated columnist Cal Thomas served as the evening's emcee.

On the eve of the first anniversary of the Iraq war, speakers took turns bashing those who reported the United States was in over its head in the conflict's opening moments.



Joe Scarborough

The crowd guffawed over takes of CBS' Lesley Stahl grilling Secretary of State Colin Powell with her half-baked military strategies, then howled over a clip from *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* featuring a daffy war protester chaining himself to

the wrong building.

Before the program, *Wall Street Journal* editorialist John Fund declared that the left too often dodges attempts to get its house in order.

Now, he said, "Liberals have changed the subject. They've declared a right wing bias in the media." The only problem with that strategy, he noted, is that, after ticking off a few outlets like Fox News and talk radio, "they run out of steam."



Sam Donaldson and L. Brent Bozell III

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Documenting, Exposing and *Fighting* Media Bias

MRC IN THE NEWS*

Media Research Center personnel are interviewed on an almost daily basis on stories of national importance. In the last month, MRC spokesmen appeared on, or were interviewed or cited in, more than 40 television, radio, newspaper and internet news stories. The highlight of the month was on March 19, when Rush Limbaugh told his 14 million viewers about his appearance at the MRC Annual Gala and Dishonors Awards.

Television

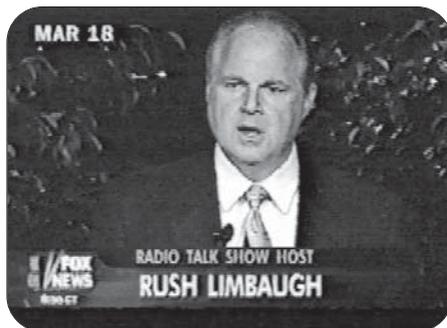
- **Hannity & Colmes**, Fox News Channel, March 23. The Fox news program played a clip from Rush Limbaugh's speech at the MRC's Dishonors Awards.



Fox News' *Hannity & Colmes* ran a lengthy excerpt of Rush Limbaugh's DisHonors speech on their March 23 program.

Radio

- **The Ken Hamblin Show**, March 26. Research Director Rich Noyes discussed a *Media Reality Check* that focused on the media's refusal to examine Richard Clarke's credibility. Noyes also discussed the report on:
- **WTIC**—Hartford, Conn., March 26.
- **KTRH**—Houston, Texas, March 26.
- **American Family Radio**, March 26.
- **Faith to Action Radio**, March 26.
- **The Ken Hamblin Show**, March 23. Research Director Noyes discussed a *Media Reality Check* that questioned why the mainstream media had done so little reporting on John Kerry's gaffes.
- **The Karen Grant Show**, KION—Monterey, Calif., March 23. Noyes commented on the coverage of the presidential election.
- **KTSA**—San Antonio, Texas, March 22. Noyes discussed media coverage of Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ*.
- **WIBA**—Madison, Wisc., March 22. Noyes commented on the MRC's Dishonors Awards.



- **The Rush Limbaugh Show**, March 19. The radio host told viewers about his speech at MRC's DisHonors Awards.
- **Accent Radio Network**, March 16. Noyes commented on election media bias, the Dishonors Awards and CBS newsman Andy Rooney's comments on Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ*.
- **The Karen Grant Show**, KION—Monterey, Calif., March 16. Noyes discussed CBS *Evening News* refusal to run its own poll

numbers showing President Bush moving ahead of Sen. John Kerry.

- **WGST**—Atlanta, Ga., March 16. Director of Media Analysis Tim Graham commented on election coverage.
- **WSBA**—York, Pa., March 15. Noyes discussed the media's coverage of the 2004 presidential election.
- **KTSA**—San Antonio, Texas, March 12. Director of Media Analysis Graham discussed Sen. John Kerry's "crooks and liars" attack on the Bush administration. Graham also discussed Kerry's comment on:
 - **WCOW**—Lacrosse, Wisc., March 12.
 - **WZMJ**—Columbia S.C., March 11.
 - **KOLE**—Beaumont, Texas, March 11.
 - **The Ken Hamblin Show**, March 10.
- **KTFK**—St. Louis, Mo., March 10. Noyes discussed Sen. John Kerry's "crooks and liars" comment and other aspects of the 2004 campaign.
- **KURV**—Beaumont, Texas, March 8. Noyes commented on an MRC study that found the networks characterized Sen. John Kerry's liberal voting record as a Republican "charge."
- **The Lockwood Phillips Show**, WTKF—Morehead City, N.C., March 4. Graham discussed the coverage of the Democratic presidential primaries and the upcoming general election.
- **The Mark Larson Show**, WCBQ—San Diego, Calif., March 3. Graham discussed former CBS newsman Walter Cronkite's comments on gay marriage

and the media coverage of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan's congressional testimony.

- **The Karen Grant Show**, KION—Monterey, Calif., March 2. Noyes commented on the coverage of the Democratic primaries and upcoming general election.
- **Ringside w/ Jeff Crouere**, WTIx—New Orleans, La., March 2. Noyes discussed the media coverage of the presidential race.
- **Salem Radio Network**, March 2. Graham discussed the media coverage of Mel Gibson's movie *The Passion of the Christ*.

Newspapers & Magazines

- **The Washington Times**, March 26. Ran an excerpt from a *CyberAlert* that noted the networks had failed to properly examine counterterrorism adviser Richard Clarke's credibility.
- **The Washington Times**, March 24. Cited a *CyberAlert* item on CBS and ABC's reporting on Sen. John Kerry's anti-Vietnam War activism.
- **The Washington Times**, March 22. Ran a lengthy feature story, complete with pictures, on the MRC's annual Dishonors Awards.
- **Investor's Business Daily**, March 17. Cited an MRC press release that noted the *CBS Evening News* had spiked a poll showing President Bush edging ahead of Sen. John Kerry.
- **The Washington Times**, March 9. Cited a *CyberAlert* report that noted *Washington Post* reporter Ceci Connolly had suggested that Democrats should "connect the dots" between corporate corruption like Martha Stewart, unemployment and Halliburton.
- **Investor's Business Daily**, March 9. Ran President Bozell's national column that described how the media were uncritically relaying the Democratic National Committee's charges about President Bush's National Guard service.

Internet News Sites

- **Human Events Online**, March 22. Ran President Bozell's nationally syndicated column on the network coverage of the recent Spanish election.
- **The Illinois Leader.com**, March 20. Ran a short article on the MRC's Dishonors Awards.
- **IntellectualConservative.com**, March 20. Cited an MRC report that noted NBC *Today* newsreader Ann Curry expressed surprise that President Bush had commented on a nine-year old Senate vote by John Kerry.
- **Human Events Online**, March 19. Ran a short story on the MRC Annual Gala and Dishonors Awards, with excerpt from Limbaugh's speech.
- **Rush Limbaugh.com**, March 19. The Limbaugh web site published a lengthy excerpt of the radio host's comments about his appearance at the Dishonors Awards.
- **The Cavalier Daily Online**, March 17. Cited an MRC *CyberAlert* item that contrasted the coverage of President Bush's insult of a reporter during the 2000 campaign with Sen. John Kerry's claim that the Bush

administration was full of "crooks" and "liars."

- **Townhall.com**, March 10. Ran President Bozell's nationally syndicated column that focused on the media's obsession with refuting Bush campaign ads.
- **OpinionJournal.com**, March 8. Columnist John Fund cited MRC President Bozell in an article in which Fund suggested that Sen. John Kerry might pick NBC anchor Tom Brokaw as his vice presidential running mate.
- **TownHall.com**, March 7. Ran President Bozell's national column that took the mainstream media to task for uncritically relaying the Democratic National Committee's unproven charges about President Bush's National Guard service.

* This represents only a partial listing.



On March 19, Rush's Web site featured an article on his speech and photos from the MRC's DisHonors Awards.



ABC's Sam Donaldson Crashes the DisHonors Awards

As MRC President Brent Bozell was making a few closing comments at the Annual Gala and Dishonors Awards, he was interrupted by ABC News veteran Sam Donaldson, who rushed the stage in mock horror to defend his fellow journalists.

Donaldson first took aim at ABC News political director Mark Halperin. President Bozell had noted in his comments that Halperin had recently admitted publicly that the Washington press corps holds liberal beliefs on gun control, homosexuality, abortion, religion, corporations, government spending and European alliances.

“Let me just tell you something,” an out-of-breath Donaldson said as he interrupted Bozell. “This Mark Halperin is going to be fired!”

“Now wait a moment!” the former White House reporter told a laughing audience. “We believe in the First Amendment at ABC News. We also believe that indecency has no place in broadcasting [and] if anything is indecent, it is what you just said Mark Halperin said. So he’s out of there.”

Before exiting to a lengthy applause, Donaldson made a promise to the crowd, assuring it that the media will treat liberals and “you crazy right-wing kooks” equally during the upcoming election.



COMING JULY 6, 2004!

Weapons of Mass Distortion

The Coming Meltdown of the Liberal Media

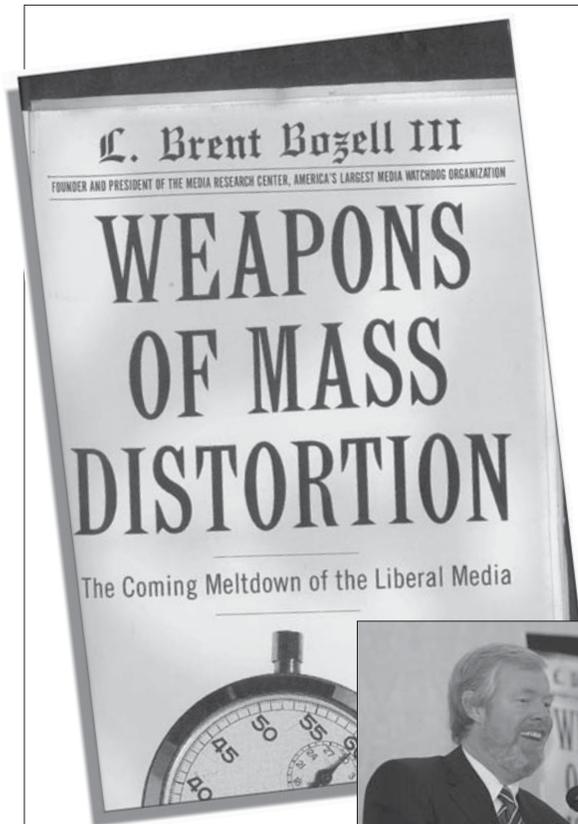
by L. Brent Bozell III

The leading expert on media bias makes the most substantive case yet for the leftward bias of America’s mainstream news organizations, and reveals why the days of the liberal media’s dominance are numbered.

As founder and president of the Media Research Center, L. Brent Bozell III is a leading expert on the issue of media bias. In *Weapons of Mass Distortion*, he presents the definitive account of the current prevalence and future vulnerability of the liberal media.

With a wealth of facts and evidence at his command, Bozell reveals exactly how the major TV, radio, and print news outlets not only distort the news but try to dictate the national agenda as well. Bozell also explains why the liberal media’s audience will continue to defect to the emerging alternative news outlets – outlets more in tune with their perspective on the world – and how this defection will change the slant of mainstream news.

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Marlane Fairleigh & Vi Matey

A few scenes from the MRC's Annual Board Meeting and the 2004 DisHonors Awards



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Bobbi & Tat Hillman



Mark Stock & Mark Brunell



Elizabeth & Keith Twiggs



Doug & Joanie Mills

CBS Evening News Spikes Pro-Bush Poll Numbers

When a March 15 CBS News/*New York Times* poll was released showing President Bush edging ahead of Sen. John Kerry by three points, the *New York Times* and CBS News.com dutifully ran a story on the latest numbers.

But the audience for the *CBS Evening News*, the network's most-watched news program, never heard a word about it. Dan Rather and company spiked the story.



Dan Rather and the *CBS Evening News* spiked their own poll that found President Bush ahead of Democratic candidate John Kerry.

The *Evening News* silence on the March 15 poll stood in contrast to not only the reporting of its own news Web site and that of the *Times*, but was also represented a departure from the *Evening News* recent coverage of poll numbers. The two previous CBS News/*New York Times* polls, both of which showed Kerry ahead in the presidential race, were fully reported on the February 15 and February 28 editions of the *Evening News*.

The MRC condemned CBS for its selective and partisan reporting in a March 16 national press release. "If the CBS Evening News cannot report in a fair and balanced fashion about this election they need to get out of the news business," President Brent Bozell said. The MRC president added that the *Evening News*'s refusal to run the poll findings indicated that "the network has already chosen sides in this election and is not credible."

The press release struck a chord with media outlets around the country. *Investor's Business Daily* ran an editorial on CBS's poll spiking and several radio programs interviewed MRC staffers on the topic.

"Pro-life" Opera Creates Crisis at the Los Angeles Times

The *Los Angeles Times*' bias against the pro-life movement is becoming an obsession.

What else could explain the paper's recent knee-jerk decision to change the phrase "pro-life" to "anti-abortion" in a story that had absolutely nothing to do with the abortion issue?

Times reporter Mark Swed used the offensive "pro-life" term in a February 24 opera review, writing that the opera, *Die Frau Ohne Schatten*, was "an incomparably glorious and goofy pro-life paean." A copy editor saw the politically incorrect phrase – one wonders if the editor bothered to read the entire story – and made the decision to change it. The change made Swed, who covers opera on a regular basis, look foolish and the reporter immediately demanded a correction.

The *Times* obliged with a correction the following day that explained that the opera had nothing to do with abortion and suggested the reporter was at fault for using the "anti-abortion" term. This led to another complaint from Swed and an eventual correction that noted a copy editor, not the reporter, had used the term. Nowhere in either correction, however, did the *Times* explain that the original phrase was "pro-life" and that it had been changed to "anti-abortion" to meet the paper's politically correct standards.

The *Times*' comical inability to correct a simple mistake makes it obvious that liberal political correctness is more important than clear writing, common sense and fair reporting at the nation's fourth-largest newspaper.



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