

J.R ROSE Courtesy Byrd Newspapers of Va.

JOHN SHERFFIUS Courtesy Boulder Camera



## Those who do not learn from are doomed to repeat

## The Midterm Election

Riding a wave of voter discontent over deficit spending, runaway government, and disappearing jobs, the Republicans recaptured control of the U.S. House of Representatives in the November midterm election.

The stunning victory in the House, however, was tempered somewhat by the GOP's failure to win control of the Senate. When the dust had settled, the Republican net increase in the House was more than 60 seats, the largest midterm election gain since 1948.

In assessing the election results, President Obama blamed the debacle on the economy. "People are frustrated," he said. "They're deeply frustrated with the pace of our economic recovery."

Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, however, saw the election as "a referendum" on Obama's policies, and he cautioned: "Choosing [to support] the President over your constituency is not a good strategy."

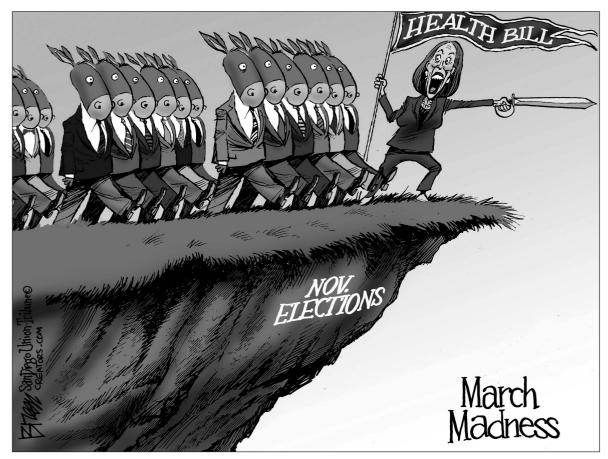
Republican Rep. John Boehner, in line to become Speaker of the House, said, "I think it's pretty clear that the Obama-Pelosi agenda is being rejected by the American people."

Compounding the Democrats' woes, the Republicans added to their governorships and won substantial increases in state legislative seats.



JOSEPH LICCAR





STEVE BREEN Courtesy San Diego Union-Tribune

DAVID HORSEY Courtesy Hearst Newspapers



## The Obama Administration

The Obama Administration continued its runaway spending, lifting the national debt to more than \$13 trillion. But in spite of the outpouring of money, the nation's economy remained sluggish, with unemployment stalled above 9 percent. The president's approval rating fell to around 40 percent in some polls.

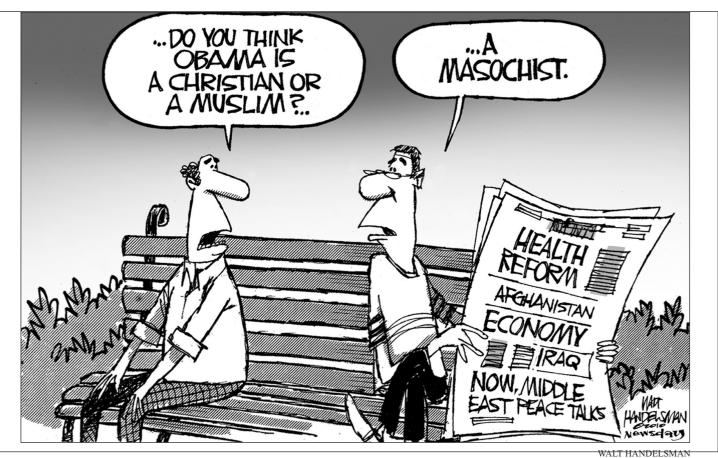
President Obama publicly scolded the U.S. Supreme Court for its ruling allowing corporations to make political contributions. He drew widespread criticism for what was perceived as a slow response to the massive BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Often blaming President Bush for the nation's economic woes, Obama occasionally showed signs of agreement with his predecessor. He based his strategy in Afghanistan on Bush's counterinsurgency tactics in Iraq.

NASA administrator Charles Bolden raised a ruckus when he declared that the foremost mission of the space agency was to reach out to the Muslim world and "help them feel good" about their historic scientific contributions. Department of Agriculture employee Shirley Sherrod was fired after an edited video seemed to show she had refused to assist a white farmer because of race. When the full speech was shown she was vindicated.

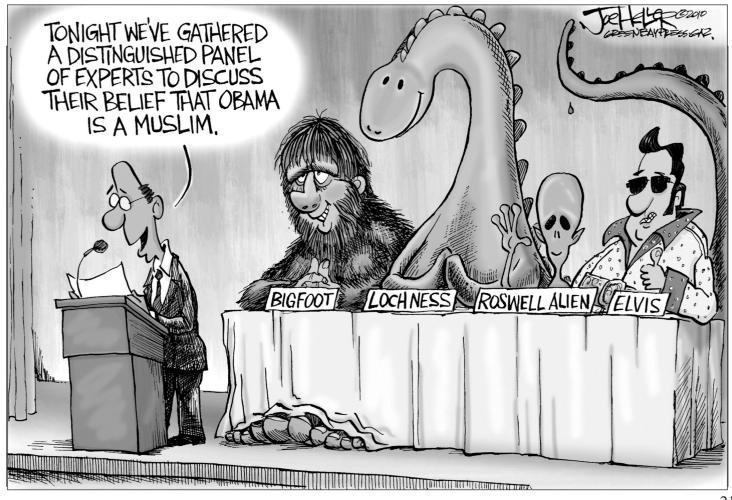
SCOTT STANTIS Courtesy Chicago Tribune

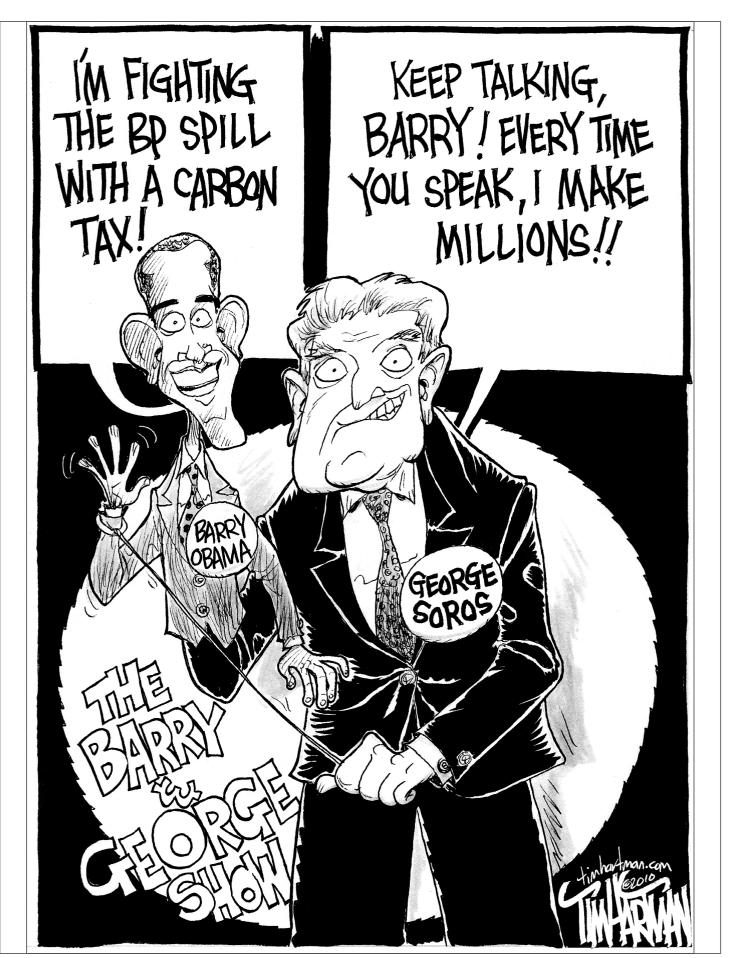




JOE HELLER Courtesy Green Bay Press

Courtesy Newsday







JEFF STAHLER Courtesy Columbus Dispatch

DAVID BROWN Courtesy David G. Brown Studios





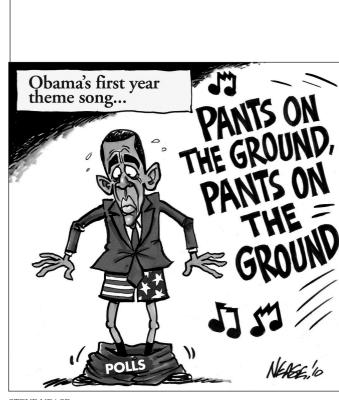
SCOTT STANTIS Courtesy Chicago Tribune

ADAM ZYGLIS Courtesy Buffalo News

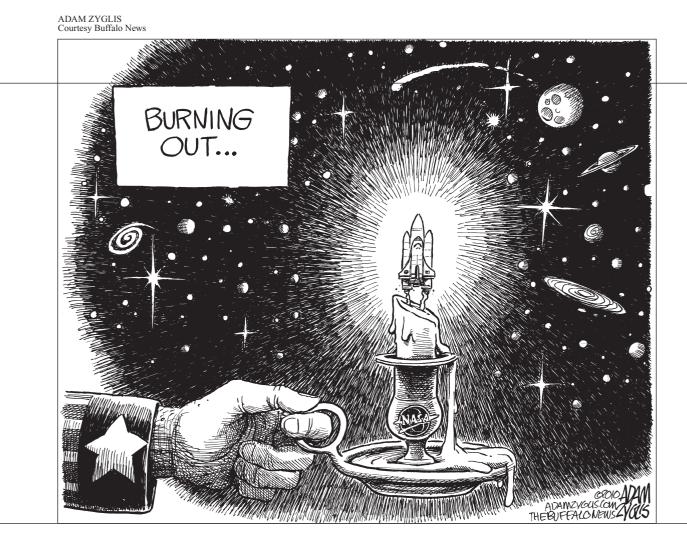


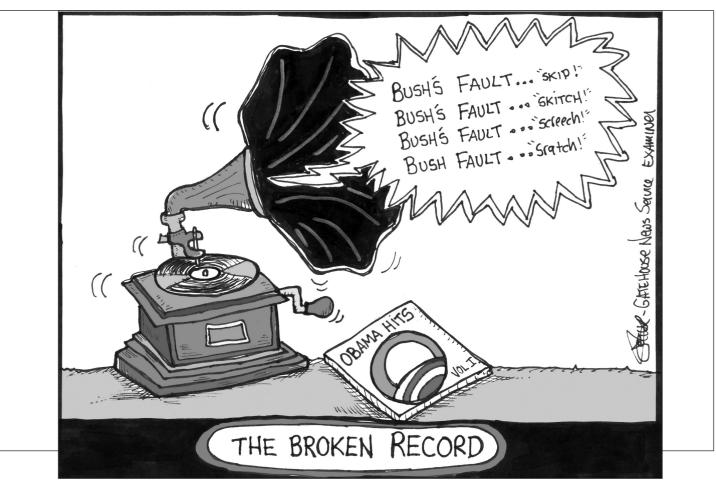






STEVE NEASE Courtesy Toronto Sun (Can.)





JOSEPH LICCAR Courtesy Gatehouse Media

WAYNE STROOT Courtesy Hastings Tribune





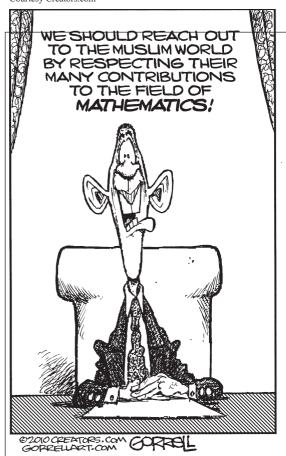
WILLIAM WARREN Courtesy Liberty Features Syndicate

SANDICATE SYNDICATE LET ME GUESS ... THE ACCELERATOR STUCK? DEMS **DBFIAION** AHEAL "NOPE. THE DRIVER JUST VEERED OFF TO THE FAR LEFT ..."



JAKE FULLER Courtesy Artizans.com

BOB GORRELL Courtesy Creators.com

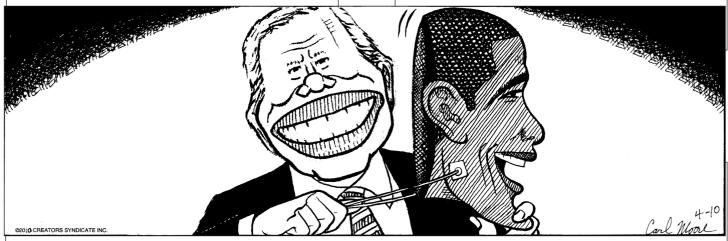


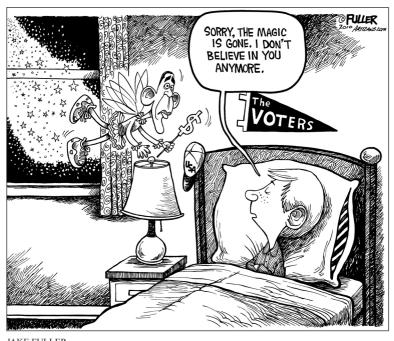




CHARLIE DANIEL Courtesy Knoxville News-Sentinel

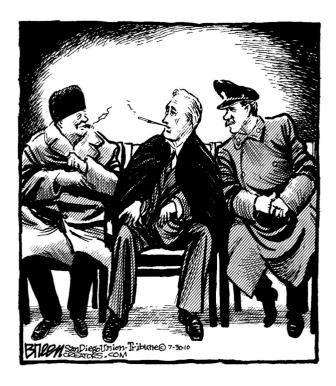
CARL MOORE Courtesy Creators Syndicate





JAKE FULLER Courtesy Artizans.com

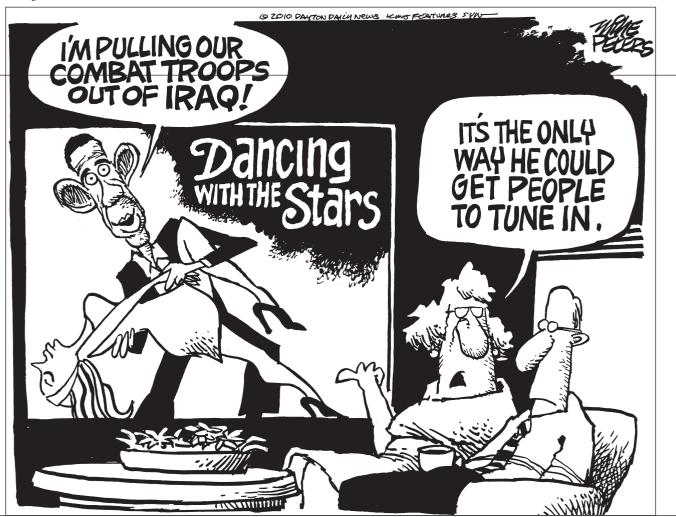
## WARTIME PRESIDENTS





STEVE BREEN Courtesy San Diego Union-Tribune

MIKE PETERS Courtesy Dayton Daily News/ King Features

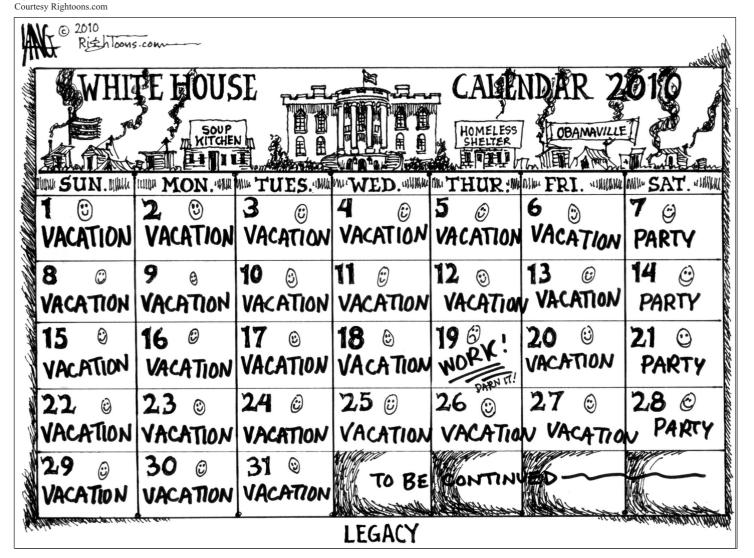






Courtesy Creators.com

BOB LANG





STEPHEN RUSTAD Courtesy Steve Rustad Blogs

NICK ANDERSON Courtesy Houston Chronicle

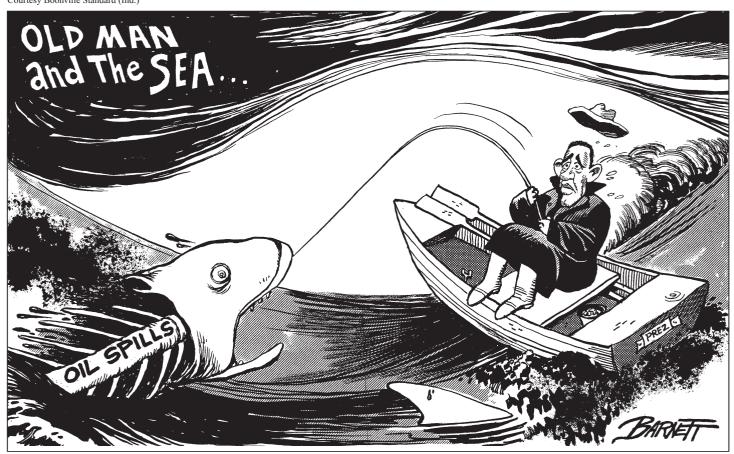


32 32



CHUCK ASAY Courtesy Creators.com

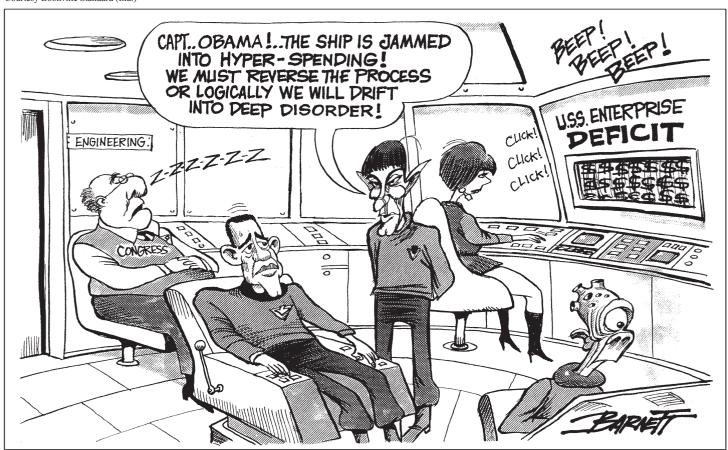
JERRY BARNETT Courtesy Boonville Standard (Ind.)





MATT WUERKER Courtesy Politico

JERRY BARNETT Courtesy Boonville Standard (Ind.)

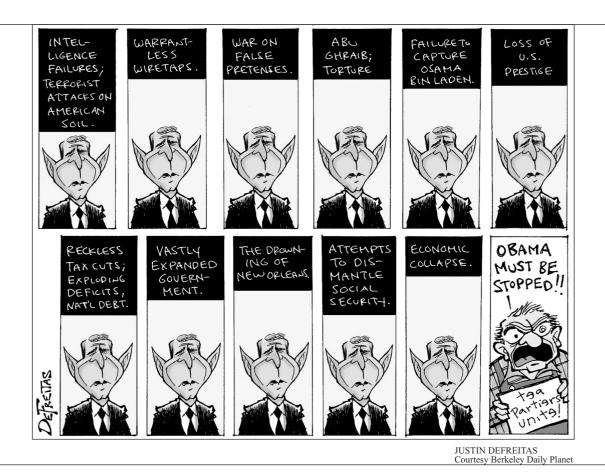




MICHAEL RAMIREZ Courtesy Investor's Business Daily

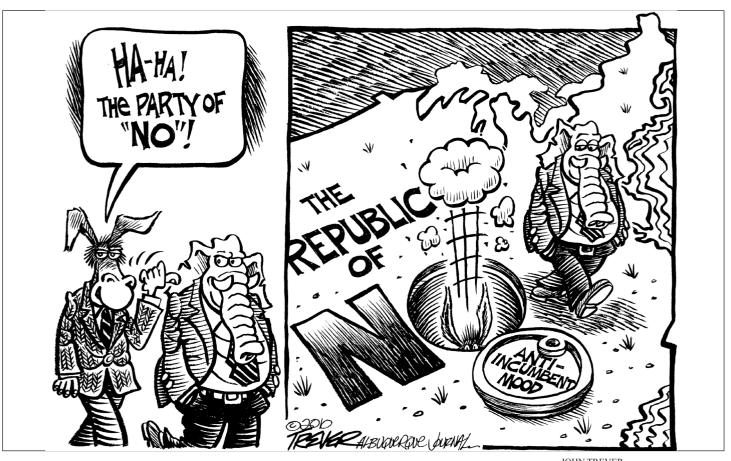
DICK LOCHER Courtesy Chicago Tribune Media Services





GLENN FODEN Courtesy Artizans.com





JOHN TREVER Courtesy Albuquerque Journal

MIKE KEEFE Courtesy Denver Post

