

Letters to the Editor

Re: Obama's address to students

Dear Mr. Winkler:

I am writing in response to your editorial, "Hysteria," in the September 15 edition of the Oakwood Register.

Like you, I was not among those angry or upset that Obama chose to "address the nation's students." You are correct that politicians have been doing this for a long time. However, your editorial left two mis-impressions:

1. While it is true that President George H. W. Bush made an address directed at young people, you neglected to mention the Democrat hysteria that greeted that speech, as Byron York documented in the Washington Examiner.

<http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/blogs/beltway-confidential/When-Bush-spoke-to-students-Democrats-investigated-held-hearings-57694347.html>

"[W]hen President George H.W. Bush delivered a similar speech on October 1, 1991, from Alice Deal Junior High School in Washington DC, the controversy was just beginning. Democrats, then the majority party in Congress, not only denounced Bush's speech -- they also ordered the General Accounting Office to investigate its production and later summoned top Bush administration officials to Capitol Hill for an extensive hearing on the issue." Republican complaints about

Obama, in contrast, are already over, and never extended to anything like congressional hearings.

2. While I can't speak to the complaints that were registered locally, the national controversy surrounding the speech focused, not on the speech itself, but on the incorporation of the speech into Department of Education lesson plans in a frankly hagiographic way, a way normally reserved for, say, the Gettysburg Address. If a speech by a sitting president has ever before been the subject of a Department of Education lesson plan at the time it was delivered, I am unaware of it. This may or may not be inappropriate, but you should at least report the substance of the complaint as it actually was.

Having said this, I congratulate the Oakwood schools on their handling of the matter. It was entirely appropriate for the students to receive the opportunity to hear a speech by an elected officeholder for which they are the intended audience.

Thank you for your attention.

Respectfully,
Allan Yarbrough
Oakwood

Ed. note: Hagiography?! That is the biography of a saint. President Obama, as he will probably tell you, ain't no saint.

Wright Library an important part of Oakwood community

A letter to the editor I read in the *Oakwood Register* actually led me to action this summer. I had been casually reading about how the Wright Library was closing for a week due to budget cuts when I read a letter which proposed to prevent the library from "subsidizing daycare businesses" limit the number of books borrowed by teachers.

The action that I took was to join the Friends of the Wright Library the next day. The fact is that the library "subsidizes" all of us, even those who do not visit it regularly. When I was unemployed, the library was my workplace. When I was a student, the library was my classroom. Of course, the library offers entertainment opportunities. It is a social gathering place, Oakwood's living room. It also provides an historical record of who the community is, the city and the world beyond.

I am a big fan of the Internet, especially Google and Wikipedia, where information is instantaneous and conveniently condensed. Much of the Internet information is just plain wrong, however, and how are we supposed to know what is what?

The library is a place for people to think, to digest information

over time from a variety of sources, to consider things. One checks out books to learn what is going on not just from the content written, but how it is communicated between the lines. Computers, and TV are great forms of communication. The library is all forms of communication.

Do you like Oakwood because of the playgrounds, scarecrow row and luminaries? Do you like Oakwood because of excellent public safety and garbage pickup? Why do you live here? Is it because you don't want to pay taxes?

Sometimes months go by when I do not visit the library. I like Oakwood and the Wright Library not just for what it provides to me but what it provides people around me, especially children. The image of the daycare teacher checking out books, which horrified the *Oakwood Register* letter writer, actually delights me. A teacher who does not check out books for students is no teacher at all. And Oakwood without a fully functioning Wright Library wouldn't be Oakwood at all.

Bill Campbell
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Oakwood

Too many lawyers

As Dayton law firms slide into the industry-wide overhaul, which has entailed slashing jobs, eliminating benefits, requiring significantly longer work hours for associates and reconsidering hidebound inefficiencies like the lockstep salary, students will compete for half as many \$26,000-a-year jobs this year as they did last. According to the Dayton Association for Legal Career Professionals, the 2008 recruiting season marked "what is likely to be the beginning of a heck-of-a-lot weaker legal employment market that may last for a number of decades."

Meanwhile, as job opportunities

abate, law school matriculation rates rise unchecked like a lunar enhanced tide. Each year, the number of students who enroll at one of 200 law schools approved by the American Bar Association inches closer to 50,000.

The law business is in fact a mature industry and Dayton faces a problem of a systemic oversupply of lawyers. The rate at which demand for new lawyers grows has permanently leveled off. Economic recovery will marginally help, but it will not change the fundamental structural changes in the market for lawyers.

The solution is obvious, although

Liberalism vs. Conservatism

In the last several months, I have observed a definite shift from Liberalism to Conservatism in this country. This is based on newspaper, TV and radio coverage of current events. Glen Cebulash's reply on 9/15/09 to my *Letters To The Editor* opinion of 9/08/09 is a good example of my belief concerning this matter.

It is an established fact that in this country (USA) there are no longer Democrats and Republicans; but, Liberals versus Conservatives. Most Liberals are Democrats (but not all) and most Republicans are Conservatives (but not all). I believe in this country first, and my party second. I also believe that Liberals

make decisions emotionally and Conservatives do so rationally. A Liberal cannot debate a Conservative on the substance of an issue; the Liberal will lose every time. So, the Liberals (press, TV, newspapers and radio) resort to destroying the messenger instead of debating the issue.

Mr. Cebulash's reply An Open Letter was very clever. I thought it mildly amusing and nicely done. But, it did not address my contention that our country is spending this nation into poverty for the next 50 years.

The definition of Socialism and Communism is that the state owns all business, political and social enterprises and the people (workers) are subjects of the state. The definition

we can find the ability and the will to do it is not. We have to reduce the number of law schools. Just like GM has to close plants because of overcapacity, we in the law profession have to close some of our "factories."

The citizens of Oakwood should stand up and holler "Enough is enough, no more freakin' lawyers!"

God Bless America. And thank you for this opportunity to express my First Amendment right of free expression even though the Dayton Bar Association hates my guts for speaking the truth.

Charles Hampton, Jr.

of Fascism is that the people own all businesses, political and social enterprises; but, the state tells them how to run them with an iron fist.

I do not believe in what politicians say. I believe in what they do. Obama has talked conservatively before, during the election and now; yet, his actions have been anti-business and anti-free-dom and anti-free enterprise.

Therefore, I conclude that Obama is an Acorn Fascist.

God help the people of the United States of America.

James J. Mischler, Jr.
Oakwood, Ohio

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The Oakwood Register

The Oakwood Register is published each Tuesday by The Winkler Company.

The Oakwood Register is delivered to 4,800 homes and apartments in Oakwood and Patterson Park. An additional 1,200 papers are dropped at 20+ locations throughout the near south-Oakwood area. Total circulation of 6,500+.

EDITORIAL POLICY — Editorial, news and letters to the editor submissions should be sent or delivered to the addresses listed here. Engagement, wedding, birth and anniversary announcements with accompanying photographs are welcome. Enclose a SASE if photograph is to be returned by mail. The Oakwood Register reserves the right to edit submitted material.

DEADLINES — Editorial Deadline: Friday, 12 p.m.

Advertising Deadline: Thursday, 1 p.m.

SUBSCRIPTION — One Year/\$55 • 6 Months/\$30

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