
By way of contrast, Flynn notes that:

• “Bicycling kills about seven hundred Americans every year;
• “Skateboarders suffered forty-two deaths in 2011; and
• “Skiing/Snowboarding on American mountains results in about forty-two deaths per season.”

Flynn, the author of four other books, is the former executive director of Accuracy in Academia. In his exhaustively researched, but fast moving, book, he has devoured just about every history of the game and study on injuries in it.

Most of his findings may surprise. For example, the government found that, contrary to an oft-repeated stat, football players actually live to a riper old age than most Americans. Additionally, certain cheerleaders, namely “flyers,” actually experience greater rates of injuries than gridiron athletes. For those not accustomed to this nomenclature, the flyers are the cheerleaders who go on top when the squad creates a human triangle on the field.

“The activity of the flyer is many, many times more dangerous than a football play,” Robert Cantu, co-director of Boston University’s Center for the Study of Traumatic Encephalopathy, found. “The incidence of concussion in flyers in cheerleading is more than tenfold what it is in football players.”

“The same is true of the incidence of catastrophic injuries.”

Moreover, as Flynn eloquently points out, the benefits of football far outweigh the drawbacks. “Players get knocked down and they either stand up or stay on the dirt,” Flynn writes. “Teams lose.”

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Dear Reader,

We hope that you had a great summer. We are starting the year off with a special author’s night on Constitution Day on September 17, 2013, featuring:

- **Peter Knickerbocker**, a community organizer for We Read The Constitution Day;
- **Lee Edwards**, president and founder of the Victims of Communism memorial; and
- **M. Stanton Evans**, author of *The Theme is Freedom: The Religious Roots of American Liberty*.

This event is part of The Frank A. Fusco Conservative University Lecture Series this year, made possible by a generous grant from The Frank A. Fusco and Nelly Goletti Fusco Foundation. The AIA event will take place at the Heritage Foundation as will a conference given by our big sister group the day before—September 16, 2013. Accuracy in Media (AIM), along with some of the country’s top retired military officers and national security officials, will launch the Citizens’ Commission on Benghazi. The newly formed group will focus on resolving the many questions surrounding the September 11th attacks last year on the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Benghazi, Libya, and the nearby CIA annex, that remain unanswered to this day.

Members of the Commission include:

- **Roger Aronoff**, Editor, Accuracy in Media;
- **Larry Bailey**, Capt. (SEAL), USN (Ret.);
- **Charles Jones**, B/Gen., USAF (Ret.);
- **Clare Lopez**, former CIA operations officer;
- Admiral **James Lyons** (Ret.);
- General **Thomas McInerney** (Ret.);
- **Wayne Morris**, Col USMC (Ret.);
- **Wayne Simmons**, former CIA officer;
- General **Paul Vallely** (Ret.); and
- Former Congressman and Retired Army Colonel **Allen West**.

“Our goal is to attempt to determine the truth and accuracy of what happened, before, during and after the September 11th attack last year,” said AIM Editor Roger Aronoff. “With the one-year anniversary of this terrorist attack, and with half a dozen or so congressional hearings on the books, and an internal report from the State Department’s Accountability Review Board, there are still many unanswered questions, while there has been almost no accountability.”

Accountability is what AIA and AIM are all about. Moreover, it is you, our readers and supporters, who we are ultimately accountable to. We endeavour to serve you well.

All the best,

Mal Kline,
Executive Director
“Then they chose—regroup to fight another day or fold. Perseverance makes the impossible possible. Players succeed by transcending pain rather than brooding in it.”

The season I played on the team in high school—sophomore year—I had one pulled muscle. That’s when one of the coaches taught me a trick I’ve used ever since. Don’t respond to pain by doubling over but by straightening up. It works. Could that be a metaphor for life itself?

Arguably, at a time when women are posting photos of actors like John Wayne alongside those of performers like Leonardo diCaprio under the caption “Men: What the hell happened?,” football is becoming more of a necessity than a luxury.

Flynn also notes that, at a time of an obesity epidemic, the conditioning that football requires is more of a blessing than a curse. This book really takes me back.

We had a hill that was somewhere between a 45 and 90 degree angle behind the school. I once had to run up it 20 times. Coach John DeFrank caught me smoking a cigar during the season. How did he decide on that number? He asked me how many cigars I smoked that week and like an idiot I told him.

When I checked my memory of this with Coach DeFrank, he stated, “I originally was going to make you run 40 hills, but your honesty and the fact that you were riding a bike at the time (and thus conditioning while you were deconditioning) caused me to reconsider. Pity stayed my hand.”

Malcolm A. Kline is the Executive Director of Accuracy in Academia.

If you would like to comment on this article, e-mail mal.kline@academia.org.

SQUEAKY CHALK

by Deborah Lambert

DRACULA DIGS UVA

Following the well-known trend of teaching worthless course at most colleges and universities these days, the venerable University of Virginia is offering another semester of its popular “Dracula” course this fall, according to The College Fix. This class has not only earned the reputation of being an “easy A,” but also fulfills an “English or Slavic elective.”

The course outline points out that students watch a half-dozen Dracula flicks, but Professor Stanley Stepanic, who teaches the class, warns those who demean the content, “Don’t think that because it isn’t Chemistry or Physics, it’s any less useful...In this day, even a degree in one of those fields is most certainly not a guarantee for a job.”

The prof explains that his class “delves into the history and applications of Dracula,” and asserts that “there’s still this mentality in America, not just towards Dracula, but towards classes that are different ...” adding that demonology is a sadly and very misrepresented and often improperly defined term.

MITCH DANIELS, CALL YOUR OFFICE

While Indiana Governor and Purdue University President Mitch Daniels recently made headlines for trying to remove the works of Howard Zinn from Indiana school classrooms, “it’s his own institution that merits closer attention,” according to Judah Bellin, writing in Minding the Campus.

“A parent of a current Purdue student wrote to the Wall Street Journal recently to reveal that the school
is requiring all its students to read *No Impact Man*, an extreme environmentalist tract penned by a self-described ‘guilty Manhattan liberal.’”

“It’s not uncommon for schools to assign left-leaning books to their incoming classes. However, Purdue goes one step further by describing the book in terms one often reserves for the classic works of literature and philosophy our universities neglect. *No Impact Man*, Purdue tells its students, ‘provides a common intellectual foundation’ and ‘is not merely a book’—it is an intentional and essential piece of your overall Purdue experience.”

MORE HAREBRAINED COURSES

As if our colleges and universities had not figured out how to dumb down our nation’s students enough already, this year’s academic offerings promise to outdo those of preceding years. Case in point: The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, features a course titled “Paying for Green Government: Financing and Implementing a Sustainability Initiative,” which is described in the syllabus as a class “designed to provide an in-depth introduction to planning and funding greener government operations,” according to EducationWatch.

And that’s just the beginning – The description goes on to say that “Participants will learn how to select green projects for their community; what finance tools are available for green projects; how to leverage third-party equity to take advantage of tax credits, . . . and apply federal stimulus money to greener government. ‘Solyndra, anyone?’”

Not to be outdone, Georgetown University, academic roost of War on Women savant Sandra Fluke, is offering a class in its Women and Gender Studies program titled, “The Breast: Image, Myth and Legend,” that will provide students with an “opportunity to analyze how the breast has been depicted in Western art and culture.”

Meanwhile, Stanford University cut a popular pro-capitalism course called “Moral Foundations of Capitalism,” from its curriculum, despite rave reviews from students.
“This is one of the most fantastic courses that I have taken at Stanford,” said one student, in a written review of the class, as reported by The Daily Caller. “Definitely offer this course again,” wrote another student.

However, the Stanford Center for Ethics in Society officials, which sponsored the class, said they’d rather invest money somewhere else, The Daily Caller reports, adding that that “somewhere” included maintaining a course called “Moral Limits of the Market,” which offers the opposite point of view.

Meanwhile, the professor who taught the capitalism course was invited to teach a similar course, titled “Rival Defenses of American Capitalism,” at Brown University last semester.

WISCONSIN TEACHERS UNIONS IMPLODE

Remember all the uproar in Wisconsin a couple of years ago and the dire predictions over the damaging effects that Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's employee union contract reforms would have on Wisconsin state teachers and other “vital” workers?

It appears that even the most dire predictions didn’t do justice to what actually happened according to Western Journalism.com. In fact, their cushy jobs and control over the state were actually crushed out of existence. “The results of Walker’s changes have been more devastating than either side could have feared or hoped for, depending on your point of view.”

Since the passage of Act 10, the employees’ unions have been in a steep decline that may be irreversible:

- “Among Wisconsin's fastest declining unions is the AFSCME Council 24 which has seen a jaw-dropping 88 percent reduction in its dues-paying members
- Another union, the WSEU, has shrunk from 22,000 members before Act 10, to less than 10,000 members as of December, 2012
- Council 48 situated in Milwaukee Country had 9,043 members two years ago. Today, it has 3,498 dues-paying members.

Overall, Wisconsin’s teachers unions have lost 29% of their members, and the state’s union membership stands at 11.2 percent, down 13.3 percent from two years ago.”

MICHELLE RHEE AND COMMON CORE

One of the most divisive educational battles these days is being waged over the newly enacted Common Core standards that are poised to move school kids several steps closer to becoming global citizens.

In some ways, Common Core’s unexpected allies have attracted more antagonism than their detractors. Columnists Catharine Evans and Ann Kane believe that one unforeseen ally of the program appears to be Michelle Rhee, former Chancellor of D.C. Public Schools, once the darling of conservative media for her anti-teachers union stance and willingness to remove underperforming teachers from D.C. schools.

Columnists Evans and Kane recently reported that back in 2011, when she was viewed as a true pioneer devoted to improving the public school system at the ground floor level, Rhee showed her true colors when she swept out tenured teachers while at the same time David Coleman, the architect of Common Core, who now heads the College Board, was sitting on the board of her foundation, StudentsFirst, at least until 2010.

She appeared as a keynote speaker, along with Jeb Bush, at a Mackinac Policy Center conference in Michigan. She and Bush voiced similar concerns about Common Core’s detractors, urging state officials to stay the course when it came to support for the program.

Bush told the audience that “Common Core standards are clear and straightforward. They will allow for more innovation in the classroom, less regulation.
Elites, particularly academic ones, think that foreign policy is too important to be left to the American public, but the reverse may be true.

At the Cato Institute earlier this summer, George Mason University professor Trevor Thrall said that the American public today wants to “avoid being dragged into another sectarian fight in the Arab world.” Thrall pointed out that a mob mentality, or what he calls the “aggregate opinion of the crowd,” may not get everything right.

Thrall flatly stated that he has “great doubts of the wisdom of the crowd” and that “wise presidents should ignore the crowd.” And, on top of that Thrall believed that “people are not just individually ignorant, but collectively ignorant.” He made another plug about the mob mentality and said, “American majorities are wrong about really, really important things” such as slavery and historically were “too slow to recognize the rise of Hitler…somewhat overeager on Iraq in

They’ll equip students to compete with their peers from across the globe,” he said, urging them not to pull back – “please do not pull back on Common Core standards.”

Rhee followed up by noting that critics of the program who don’t like the government telling them what to do, should keep in mind that “China is kicking our butts right now. . . Get over feeling bad about the federal government and feel bad that our kids are not competing.”

INFLATION NATION

Facts are facts. Tuition at our nation’s colleges and universities has outpaced “any other component of the cost of living, including healthcare, for about two decades,” according to National Review.

While the favorite explanations for this phenomenon focus on “reductions in teaching loads for senior faculty members, that can’t be the full story because gray-haired, research-active and more generously paid scholars increasingly have been replaced in the classroom by cheaper instructors (graduate students, adjunct and ‘clinical’ professors.)”

There are two much simpler explanations for the astronomical rise in school costs. First, it seems that colleges and universities predictably have raised their tuition charges in order to capture large fractions of the rising taxpayer-financed subsidies for financial aid (Pell Grants, guaranteed loans at below-market interest rates, and so on.) Such third-party support boosts the demand for post-secondary educations and other things being the same, drives up (tuition) prices.

However, the author suggests that costs could be moderated if “subsidies were paid to students in the form of vouchers rather than directly to the educational institution to which they have been admitted.”

The second explanation, a natural outcome of the first, is the “robust growth in the number of administrators” on most campuses. It goes without saying that adding layers of administrators – or educrats – to the institution does not contribute one iota to the school’s teaching or research missions – and many faculty members actually believe that they interfere with “real work” by creating layers of “make work” policies to justify their cushy salaries.

CAMPUS RIGHT GETS IT RIGHT

The Princeton Review’s annual rundown of Best Colleges awarded Auburn University the title of “most conservative student body in the country” this year, according to The War Eagle Reader.

The guidebook bases its conclusions on “answers to 67 categories of survey data taken from some 126,000 students at participating schools.”

Auburn was also ranked 11th in the “jock schools” category and 13th in school spirit for numbers that packed their stadium.

They came in fourth for “student-community relations” and 14th in “unfriendliness to LGBT students.”

HOW ELITES SUBVERT POLICY

By Spencer Irvine

Elites, particularly academic ones, think that foreign policy is too important to be left to the American public, but the reverse may be true.

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Roosevelt even claimed that the Soviet Union allowed freedom of religion under its constitution. She compared the policies of presidents from Roosevelt to Reagan towards the ideology of communism with the efforts of the last two presidents to fight the so-called “war on terror” while calling radical Islam a “religion of peace.”

“Majorities are illusory,” he averred.

Also at Cato, on the same panel, George Washington University’s Danny Hayes said that Americans do not pay attention to foreign policy and current events because they have other things like “Kanye West and [Kim] Kardashian baby” to think about. As a result, the American people look to the president and prominent leaders of Congress for guidance.

Most of the time, Americans get their information “almost exclusively through the news media” and their opinions then reflect the opinions of the political elites, the president, their elected leaders in Congress and some would say media pundits. Surprisingly, sometimes Americans listen to the international community on certain issues. Either way, “there’s an important role for the media” in informing and engaging the American public opinion.

At Accuracy in Academia’s most recent Author’s Night, Diana West, author of American Betrayal: The Secret Assault on Our Nation’s Character, argued that the Cold War has been hidden and obscured from the eyes of the public to hide the true narrative of socialist and Communist infiltration into the various branches of the American government. President Franklin Delano Roosevelt even claimed that the Soviet Union allowed freedom of religion under its constitution.

Intelligence history, West points out, rarely makes it into histories, particularly academic ones. The integration of the former would require the revision of the latter.

And what would be achieved by such an exercise? Well, accuracy, all around.

“As a society we gaze, stupefied, at those Warhol portraits of murderer Mao over the gas logs in the fireplace, and think they make life soigné; we snarl, reflexively, at a demonology centered around Senator Joe McCarthy, inhaling with salubrious indignation over the dastardly deeds of the Evil One,” West avers.

Spencer Irvine is a staff writer at Accuracy in Academia. If you would like to comment on this article, e-mail mal.kline@academia.org.
To show what college and university English Departments are really teaching, Accuracy in Academia compiled *The REAL MLA Stylebook*, filled with quotes from a recent convention of the Modern Language Association (MLA) where thousands of English professors gather to push their politically correct, radical agenda. Outsiders who attend this event expecting to learn more about Chaucer, Milton and Shakespeare are in for a rude awakening when they discover that panels are more likely to focus on topics such as “Marxism and Globalization;” “What’s the Matter with Whiteness,” and “Queering Faulkner.”

This book is must-reading for anyone interested in learning more about the mindset of faculty members who are tasked with teaching the great works of the English language to our nation’s students.