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Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; nor did they know how to blush.

Jeremiah 6:15

From The President's Desk

Marie Homer is a student at the University of Northern Iowa. This past summer she attended the annual convention of the National Organization of Women. Her account of that convention appearing in The Washington Times (August 10, 2003, p. B5) is worth reading.

“As a college student, one thing you quickly learn is that if you want a balanced education, a majority of your learning will happen outside the classroom.

“On July 5, I attended the National Organization for Women’s Annual Convention in Arlington. This radical feminist organization is ‘the largest organization of feminist activists in the United States,’ according to NOW’s Web site. It also claims to have a goal ‘to take action to bring about equality for all women.’ I went to the conference expecting to hear the predictable feminist voices I hear at my college. Women are oppressed. Our evil, patriarchal, homophobic president of the United States will ruin all that feminists have worked for. I heard all that, but also much more.

“Conference speakers included a panel of presidential candidates. The ones in attendance included Carol Moseley Braun, Howard Dean, Rep. Denis Kucinich of Ohio and Al Sharpton. Rep. Barbara Lee of California was honored with NOW’s Woman of Courage Award. NOW President Kim Gandy was also there to speak and entertain the crowd in sporadic moments, such as when Reps Loretta Sanchez of California and Jan Schakowsky of

Illinois failed to show up for their speaking engagements. Ms. Gandy informed the audience that NOW was very happy these members had gone home to their districts for the day.

“Ms. Gandy said the mission of this conference was clear: ‘With two branches of government aligned against us, and the Supreme Court precariously balanced, women’s rights are in greater peril than they’ve been in over a decade. And at this conference we’re fighting back by launching a new campaign to preserve women’s rights through a massive grass-roots mobilization of feminist voters—aptly titled “The Drive for Equality”.’

“But as I sat listening to an interactive panel focused on intergenerational issues, I got a different impression of the willingness of this organization’s grass-roots effort to mobilize. Young feminists stood up to proclaim the feminist movement was not helping them on their college campuses. They complained that NOW’s leaders were out of touch with the issues they were facing. These young feminists were angry.

“Angry because they said the feminist movement was not giving them the respect and responsibility they felt was deserved. They had been told by aging, gray-haired feminists that they do not have to settle for jobs they are overqualified for. But now, as the feminist movement is calling to its next generation to spearhead the grass-roots efforts of the organization, the young feminist believe they are above making photocopies or stuffing envelopes, as most young women and men alike start out doing.

“I wondered if this was the sentiment of all young women who grew up in this generation with mothers who marched to pass the Equal Rights Amendments?

“I decided to compare what young women who did not consider themselves feminists were saying. I attended a mentoring luncheon hosted by the Clare Boothe Luce Policy Institute, where I interned this summer. The institute has a mission of preparing young women for effective leadership. This luncheon was designed for high-school and college women to participate in a discussion with institute President Michelle Easton, and American Cause President and former United States Treasurer Angela “Bay” Buchanan.

“Immediately, I could sense a different attitude in this group of young women. They were positive, happy and grateful to have the opportunity to sit down and ask questions of their movement’s leaders. Questions were not focused on how the movement leaders were failing the students, as the NOW Conference questions were. The questions at this event were focused more on how young women could present themselves in a professional manner and achieve their goals for their career and family lives.

“When asked if she benefited from the luncheon, one girl replied, ‘Extremely. I have never had the opportunity to discuss such issues seriously with so many other women.’ When asked about the leaders, she said, ‘I like the energy and passion the leaders express.’

“This luncheon was refreshingly upbeat—a huge difference from NOW’s apocalyptic gathering. You could tell by the smiles on the young women’s faces and the way they stayed around to ask more questions of their mentors that they had benefited greatly from this experience.

“Students left promptly after the conclusion of NOW panels and workshops. At one point, a frustrated young woman stood up and announced they had planned an under-25 beer run for later that evening and anyone under 25 was allowed to attend. They just had to meet in the lobby after the evening’s sessions.

“When the leaders of the feminist movement asked what they could do to help the young feminists, the feminists realized their worst nightmare was coming true. Their next generation acknowledged that they needed to take a cue from the conservatives because what conservatives were doing on college campuses was working.

“This must be disaster for an organization that has spent incredible time and energy telling its young that the conservative movement is filled with nothing but old, white men. Conservatives have broken away from this stereotype. Students are seeing a whole new generation of young, diverse conservative leaders—and they are identifying with them. Liberals’ worst fears are being confirmed: It’s cool to be a conservative.

“The generations of children born to feminist mothers are the ones who are suffering at the hands of their mother’s quest for equality. Feminists shortchange young women when they become wrapped up in their ‘drive for equality.’ Many of these young women are so consumed with the victim mindset that they never develop a work ethic. Fortunately, these young feminists are not in the majority. My generation is more conservative, professional and hardworking. Most importantly, we know everything is not learned in a classroom. My generation is determined to always find the other side of the story.”

Notice: As we approach the end of another year, I would like to mention two things to those who have never financially helped the Summit or The Journal: (a) if you enjoy The Journal (though free) I would encourage you to send a gift of \$20 for its upkeep. This would be a great help; (b) if you feel our ministry to Christian teens is important, why not join our Summit Millennium Team? Student tuitions pay for approximately six months of our existence, so I need your help to keep us going for the other six months. So far approximately 150 families are part of the Summit Millennium Team. I only need 858 more to assure a solid financial base. Each member joining gives Summit Ministries a tax-exempt gift of \$1,000 (generally in December when our summer monies run out) and encourages and uplifts us with their prayers, good-will and keeps one eye open to prospective students who need a grounding in the Christian Worldview before heading off to any of our humanistic colleges and universities. If interested, please call us at 719-685-9103 or write us at Summit Ministries, PO Box 207, Manitou Springs, CO 80829 and ask for information regarding the

Summit Millennium Team. With our Journal readership approaching 40,000 this should not be an impossible mission.



Month In Review



Q And moreover, because the Preacher was wise, he still taught the people knowledge; yes, he pondered and sought out and set in order many proverbs. The Preacher sought to find acceptable words; and what was written was upright—words of truth. The words of the wise are like goads, and the words of scholars are like well-driven nails, given by one Shepherd. And further, my son, be admonished by these. Of making many books there is no end, and much study is wearisome to the flesh.

Q “To who shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Indeed their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the LORD is a reproach to them; they have no delight in it. Therefore I am full of the fury of the LORD. I am weary of holding it in. ‘I will pour it out on the children outside, and on the assembly of young men together; for even the husband shall be taken with the wife, the aged with his who is full of days. And their houses shall be turned over to others, fields and wives together; for I will stretch out My hand against the inhabitants of the land,’ says the LORD. ‘Because from the least of them even to the greatest of them, everyone is given to covetousness; and from the prophet even to the priest, everyone deals falsely. They have also healed the hurt of My people slightly, saying, “Peace, peace!” When there is no peace.

“Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; at the time I punish them, they shall be cast down,’ says the LORD. Thus says the LORD: ‘Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is. And walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, “We will not walk in it.” Also, I set watchmen over you, saying, “Listen to the sound of the trumpet!”

“But they said, ‘We will not listen.’ Therefore hear, you nations, and know, O congregation, what is among them. Hear, O earth! Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people—The fruit of their thoughts, because they have not heeded My words nor My laws, but rejected it. For what purpose to Me comes frankincense from Sheba, and sweet cane from a far country? Your burnt offerings are not acceptable, or your sacrifices sweet to Me.’ Therefore thus says the LORD: ‘Behold, I will lay stumbling blocks before this people, and the fathers and the sons together shall fall on them. The neighbor and his friend shall perish.’ ”

—Jeremiah 6:10-21

Q “What you say about the present state of mankind is true: indeed, it is even worse than you say.

“For they neglect not only the law of Christ but even the Law of Nature as known by the Pagans. For now they do not blush at adultery, treachery, perjury, theft and the other crimes which I will not say Christian Doctors, but the pagans and the barbarous have themselves denounced.

“They err who say ‘the world is turning pagan again.’ Would that it were! The truth is that we are falling into a much worse state.

“ ‘Post-Christian man’ is not the same as ‘pre-Christian man.’ He is as far removed as virgin is from widow: there is nothing in common except want of a spouse: but there is a great difference between a spouse-to-come and a spouse lost.”

—C.S. Lewis, Letters, March 17, 1953

Q “Am I a soldier of the Cross, A foll’wer of the Lamb, And shall I fear to own His cause, Or blush to speak His name?

“Must I be carried to the skies On flow’ry beds of ease, While others fought to win the prize, And sailed thro’ bloody seas?

“Are there no foes for me to face? Must I not stem the flood? Is this vile world a friend to grace, To help me on to God?

“Sure I must fight if I would reign. Increase my courage, Lord. I’ll bear the toil, endure the pain, Supported by Thy word.”

—Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

Q “On August 3, 2003 my husband and I hiked Pikes Peak. Along the way we talked with many great, well-spoken students who were enjoying 2 weeks at your camp. They spoke of how they had learned so much about Christianity and the worldview of Christianity. Also, they spoke of how they were learning to be quiet, non-threatening ministers to non-believers. What a great ministry! My husband and I support what you are doing. We do not have children yet, but hopefully you will remain strong for when we have children that age. Keep up the great work! Sincerely, K. and J. B., Shawnee, KS”

Q “Dear Dr. Noebel and Summit Friends, We enjoyed our week in cabin #18! The Bible Hour and Worldview lectures were great! Thanks so much for all you are doing to help raise up a generation of bold, godly leaders! You are making a profound impact on our world!

“Our youngest, J., is in this session. His two older sisters were here in years past (’95 and ’97). All three of our kids are radical followers of Christ—J. (daughter) in the public school,

teaching 7th grade reading and showering these needy kids with God's love. She weaves in Biblical truths with her teaching. It's so tragic she must be subtle about it!

"M. will graduate from North Central University in Minneapolis, with a music degree and minors in English and youth ministries.

"We are delighted to see J. focus in on all the lectures here! He will start at a Jr. college this fall and transfer to North Central. He is interested in youth ministry as well!

"Thank you! God bless and strengthen you! S. and D. D., Minneapolis, MN"

Q "Dear Dr. Noebel, Our daughter, J. arrived home last Saturday from your most recent session there for young people. Having had our son, P., as a graduate from a session four years ago, we were well aware of the seminar's potential impact in preparing them for their first year of college.

"We are most grateful for the new-found confidence and grounding we see in J. as she related to us what she learned and her experiences. Just as with P. and so many of your other students, she was less than completely enthusiastic about attending but excitedly supportive after her two weeks. The curriculum and mix of activities with lectures seems to be a successful formula, but we are also well aware that the Lord's hand is very evident upon your ministry.

"As a result of our children's most positive experience and the strengthening we've seen in both from having attended, we're circulating your VCR tape among our friends and acquaintances with our personal recommendation.

"May the Lord continue to bless you all in your most important (and unique) ministry of equipping our future generations as they face unprecedented assaults on their faith! With gratefulness and thanksgiving, J.E, Gig Harbor, WA Philippians 1:3"

Q "RE: Motion to rehear VMI prayer case denied (6-6). Meal time prayer discontinued at The Citadel

"Dear David: Last Wednesday afternoon the Clerk of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond called me about the decision of the Appeals Court sitting en banc. All twelve judges failed by one vote—6 to 6—to grant a rehearing in this under publicized, but crucial case for our military. The one-vote loss effectively removes prayer from military officer training throughout the Fourth Circuit and set previously un-thinkable precedent under extremist urging by the ACLU, the American Jewish Committee, Citizens United for Separation of Church and State and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith which claimed historic meal time prayers are 'religious indoctrination' and represent

‘religious fanaticism and ideological proselytizing [that] are engendering animosity and destruction worldwide.’ The ACLU supported by those other groups is using threats and intimidation to eventually force prayer out of The Naval Academy and all military officer training in the United States. One dissenting judge said the ruling ‘places religious prayer in a more restrictive category than dirty books.’”

—Ronald D. Ray, August 21, 2003

Q “Former federal Judge Robert H. Bork warns in his new book, *Coercing Virtue* (AEI, \$25), that liberals are using international law to promote their agenda and create a ‘boomerang effect’ in the United States.

“And the approach is working, says Mr. Bork, as U.S. courts are increasingly citing the decisions of foreign courts in ‘interpreting’ the Constitution.

“The one-man watchdog of activist courts explains that by creating novel new international laws, a new liberal class aims to outflank American legislatures and courts by having liberal views adopted by foreign governments and organizations such as the United Nations, then imposed on the United States.

“Thus, radical foreign decisions on social issues, values, religions and speech are used to influence court decisions here. Countries such as Zimbabwe, Mr. Bork says, which do not share the basic ideology and viewpoint of the United States on human rights, might make decisions that could then enter U.S. legal arguments.

“Even Supreme Court justices, he says, have begun citing foreign decisions—and treaties not ratified by this country—to support their ‘interpretations’ of the Constitution, including Justices John Paul Stevens and the late William J. Brennan Jr. on capital punishment, and Steven G. Breyer on gun control and stays of execution.

—John McCaslin, *The Washington Times*, August 21, 2003, p. A 7

Q “Democrats governed their petri dish as they always govern. They buy the votes of government workers with taxpayer-funded jobs, salaries and benefits—and then turn around and accuse the productive class of ‘greed’ for wanting their taxes cut. This has worked so well nationally that more people in America now work for the government than work in any sort of manufacturing job.

“Strictly adhering to formula in California, as the private sector was bleeding jobs and money, Davis signed off on comically generous pensions for government workers. Government employees in the Golden State earn more than the private sector workers who pay their salaries—and that’s excluding the job security, health benefits and 90% pension

plans that come with ‘Irish welfare,’ as government jobs used to be called. Economists refer to this backward ratio between public and private sector salaries as ‘France.’ (Inasmuch as they are paid more and work less than private sector employees, perhaps we could ease up on treating public schoolteachers like Mother Teresa washing the feet of the poor in Calcutta). The public sector unions repaid Davis with massive contributions to his re-election campaign.

“Davis bought himself re-election and is now the most hated officeholder in America. The people of California are willing to plunge their state into humiliation and chaos just to get rid of him. The fact that Arianna Huffington hasn’t been laughed off a stage yet is a pretty good gauge of the public’s frustration with Davis.

“And yet, Bill and Hillary Clinton and the rest of the Democratic Party think Gray Davis is doing a super job. Democrats have denounced the recall—a genuine citizens’ revolt—as a ‘circus.’”

—Ann Coulter, Human Events, August 18, 2003, p. 6

Q “A controversial professor who advocates killing the disabled up to 28 days after birth, has been honored with an international ethics award.

“Peter Singer, professor of bioethics at Princeton University, has been given the 2003 World Technology Award for Ethics by the World Technology Network.

“The organization says its members are dedicated to the business and science of emerging technologies such as biotechnology and new energy sources.

“ ‘I am delighted to have been selected by my peers as a winner of the 2003 World Technology Award in the ethics category,’ Singer said in a statement issued by the university.

“ ‘The fact that the World Technology network has an ethics award at all is a recognition of the importance of keeping ethics in mind as we move forward with new technologies in a wide variety of fields, from genetics to computing,’ he said.

□ “The awards, announced at the World Technology Summit in late June, honor individuals and corporations from 20 technology-related sectors selected by their peers as innovators.

“When Singer was hired by Princeton in 1999, a group calling itself Princeton Students Against Infanticide issued a petition in protest, charging the Australian professor ‘denies the intrinsic moral worth of an entire class of human beings—newborn children.’

“ ‘His assertion of the appropriateness of killing some humans based on others’ decision concerning the ‘quality’ of their lives should strike fear into everyone who cherishes equality

and honors human life,' the petition said.

“The group called the hiring a ‘blatant violation of Princeton University’s policy of respect for people with disabilities.’

“Singer also is known for launching the modern animal rights movement with his 1975 book *Animal Liberation*, which argues against ‘speciesism.’

“Singer insists animals should be accorded the same value as humans and should not be discriminated against because they belong to a non-human species.”

—WorldNetDaily, July 12, 2003

Q “Regardless of what you think about the propriety of state laws criminalizing sodomy, under our constitutional system, it is a matter for the state governments to decide. There is no provision in the U.S. Constitution—except the one the Supreme Court has fabricated over the years (the right to privacy)—that can pre-empt the states on this issue. Regardless of whether a majority of the Supreme Court justices happen to believe that reverse racism is justified to correct past discrimination, the court has no right to completely contradict the Constitution in implementing such a rule.

“But when moral relativism is the court’s guiding light, it can take away rights or create them out of thin air at the stroke of an arrogant judicial pen. When no fixed principles are immune from the court’s mischief, the entire Bill of Rights is in jeopardy, because there is no longer any reliable protection for the minority against the tyranny of the majority.

“Unchecked judicial activism leads to the erosion of all the foundational principles of limited government. Federalism takes a hit because the federal court usurps state prerogatives; the separation of powers is damaged because the court encroaches into the legislative sphere; the Bill of Rights is assaulted because the 9th and 10th Amendment rights of the people and the states (and the reserved powers doctrine) are diminished. And the rule of law takes a punch to the gut when the highest arbiter of law in the nation says we are a government of men—five out of nine robed men, to be more precise—not laws.

“Some so-called civil libertarians are touting the court’s sodomy ruling as a giant step forward for American freedom. It is exactly the opposite.”

—David Limbaugh, *The Washington Times*, June 30, 2003, p. A 20

Q “For those who adhere to traditional Christian (or Jewish) sexual teachings, the future may look bleak.

“America is disfigured by high rates of sexual disorders, including unnecessary divorce, unmarried childbearing, sexually transmitted diseases, a pornographic culture, and the progressive normalization of alternative sexual lifestyles, along with the sudden real threat that courts will impose homosexual marriage. A Vatican statement simply repeating a 2,000-year-old ethical tradition about marriage and sex has prompted a flurry of threats, overt and implicit, around what we used to call the Free World.

“Hate-speech codes intended to prevent violence and harassment are being directed at Catholics simply for being Catholic. The Irish Council for Civil Liberties has warned priests and bi-shops they may face charges for simply quoting or handing out the Vatican statement, according to the Irish Times. ‘The wording is very strong and certainly goes against the spirit of the legislation,’ warned Aisling Reidy, director of the ICCL. Violators face six months in jail.

“In 2001, the Dutch government considered charging the people with violating its speech codes before concluding that, as head of state, he had sovereign immunity, according to press accounts. Andrew Sullivan wonders aloud why the U.S. government does not strip the Catholic Church of its charitable status. One of the top Democratic candidates, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, charged the Vatican with ‘crossing the line’ violating the separation of church and state for expressing its views of Catholics’ obligations.

“Commitment to religious freedom among powerful elites seems suddenly uncertain. Call it the revenge of the WASP: In some people’s minds, religion is becoming something like sex used to be: private. Sure, you are free to do it, but only behind closed doors, where you won’t annoy or seduce anyone else.

“Privately, I hear more and more mainstream people worry about where this is all going to lead: Will the soft power of the state be aimed directly at oppressing faith communities who hold fast to traditional sexual morality? Will radio licenses be yanked, charitable tax deductions pulled, individuals or ministers who try to share traditional Christian (and Jewish) sexual values be threatened with prosecution here?

“It is hard for me to give credence to such fears. This is America, after all. Religious liberty is our birthright, part of our Founding creed.

“But it is even harder for me to give credence to the pessimism behind such fears. What will happen in the short run? I do not know. Which ideas will triumph over the long run? That I do know. In the early ’80s, the Soviet Empire appeared to be at its height, but Ronald Reagan, perhaps alone, understood: ‘The task,’ President Reagan said then is ‘to manage the decline of the Soviet Union.’ A few years later a false idea contrary to human nature collapsed in on itself. The Cold War was over, without a shot fired.

“Human beings are free to adopt self-destructive ideas, but we are not free to make them work. Ideas based on a faulty view of human nature can grip the imagination of the powerful for decades, wreak havoc and suffering on untold millions, but they cannot triumph in the end. What is contrary to nature, including human nature, cannot ultimately survive.

“Many good things, from a culture of civility and minority rights to greater respect for the unique contributions of women, may be rescued from the self-destructive impulses of—what shall we call this beast, postmodern secularism? Fascist egalitarianism? Meanwhile, every tribe or group that adopts its sex code, from Europe to mainline Protestantism, is dwindling.

“The present may look bleak, but the future belongs to those people and cultures that deeply commit to ideas grounded in human nature: Men and women are not interchangeable units, sex has a meaning beyond immediate pleasure, society needs babies, children need mothers and fathers, marriage is a word for the way we join men and women to make the future happen.”

—Maggie Gallagher, *The Washington Times*, August 9, 2003, p. A 12

Q “Fueled by a landmark Supreme Court ruling and other legal developments, an emerging national debate over gay marriage has thrust both President Bush and his Democratic challengers onto treacherous political terrain.

“Bush and the major Democratic presidential candidates agree on a core point: They do not support granting same-sex couples the right to marry in the United States.

“The Republican incumbent and most of the Democratic candidates also agree on something else: They would rather change the subject.

“That might prove impossible. Pending court cases in Massachusetts and New Jersey are testing whether same-sex marriage should be legal in those states. Gay and lesbian couples have been trekking north to Canada to wed since same-sex marriages became legal in that country last month. They now are returning to their homes in the United States, and many may soon be pressing for U.S. recognition of their Canadian status.

“Legislation to expand rights and responsibilities for same-sex domestic partners is advancing in California, and major companies such as Wal-Mart are announcing non-discrimination policies to protect gay employees.

“Above all, the Supreme Court ruling last week that struck down state antisodomy laws is continuing to reverberate, intensifying the debate over same-sex marriages.

“ ‘This issue creates a challenge for both parties,’ said Whit Ayres, a Republican pollster.

“He added that the court ruling, which came in a Texas case, ‘raised the prominence of homosexual marriage on the political agenda and will force some politicians to address the issue who would otherwise have chosen to remain silent.’

“Bush is feeling some heat from social conservatives, who are pushing for a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.

“Asked Wednesday whether he would support that measure, backed by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., Bush told reporters: ‘I don’t know if it’s necessary yet. Let’s let the lawyers look at the full ramifications of the recent Supreme Court hearing. What I do support is the notion that marriage is between a man and a woman.’

“Frist, when asked on a Sunday talk show if he supported the amendment, said: ‘I absolutely do. Of course I do.’

“Bush’s caution over the proposed amendment, and Frist’s enthusiasm for it, reflected the political tensions it causes among Republicans.

“Social conservatives are worried that gay marriage could soon become legal somewhere in the United States, perhaps as early as the summer in Massachusetts, pending the outcome of the lawsuit in that state’s highest court. But some GOP centrists are quietly sympathetic to the idea. And pragmatists are loath to alienate any sector of the electorate that would otherwise tilt toward Bush.

“The issue is no less difficult for Democrats. Though the party’s nine contenders for the presidential nomination are, on the whole, proponents of gay rights, they are mindful that President Clinton in 1996 signed into law the Defense of Marriage Act.

“That law, which gay-rights organizations strenuously opposed, established a federal definition of marriage as limited to the union of a man and a woman. It also allowed states to refuse to recognize same-sex marriages should they become legal in any other jurisdiction of the United States.

“Of the five Democratic candidates then in Congress, three voted for the measure: Rep. Richard A. Gephardt of Missouri and Sens. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut and Bob Graham of Florida. Sen. John F. Kerry of Massachusetts opposed it but said at the time he also was against same-sex marriage.

“Carol Moseley Braun, then a senator from Illinois, voted against the legislation and has endorsed gay marriage. But Moseley Braun and the two other Democratic presidential candidates who back gay marriage, Rep. Denis Kucinich of Ohio and the Rev. Al Sharpton of

New York, are the longest shots in the field.

“The two other Democratic candidates, Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina and former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean, have said they do not support gay marriage.

“Dean, however, opposes the 1996 federal law. He also signed into law in 2000 a Vermont measure that established ‘civil unions’ as an alternative to marriage for gay couples. The law confers on Vermonters more than 300 benefits traditionally enjoyed by married couples, such as inheritance rights. But such unions are not recognized by other states or the federal government.

“In a statement on his Web site, Dean said he would relish a debate with Bush over the Vermont law and the federal law. ‘I can’t wait to ask the president of the United States why he doesn’t support equal rights,’ Dean said.

“Several other Democratic candidates have criticized Bush’s record on gay rights. All have endorsed federal legislation to ban discrimination in the workplace on the basis of sexual orientation. Most want to revise the military’s ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ policy that requires gay and lesbian troops to keep their orientation a secret.

“But few Democratic strategists see an assault on the Defense of Marriage Act as a step toward victory in 2004. Three dozen states have versions of the federal law.

“When Democratic contenders roundly praised the Supreme Court ruling last week, conspicuously absent from many comments was the issue of gay marriage.”

—Nick Anderson, *The Tampa Tribune*, July 3, 2003, p. 4

Q “A course called ‘How to be Gay: Male Homosexuality and Initiation,’ scheduled this fall, has reignited a culture war at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

“A family-values lobbyist is leading public opposition to the self-proclaimed ‘uncompromising political militancy’ of the professor who teaches ‘lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender.’

“The lobbyist, Gary Glenn, says professor David M. Halperin and the university ‘are guilty of perpetrating a fraud against UM students and the people of Michigan [with] propaganda statements about so-called cultural studies and academic freedom’ as they promote ‘queer studies’ at taxpayer expense.

“Mr. Glenn, president of the Michigan affiliate of the conservative American Family Association, first criticized the ‘How to be Gay’ courses three years ago. In 2000, the

Michigan state legislature fell just four votes short of passing a measure to cut off all government funds for the courses.

“Last week, he renewed his crusade against Mr. Halperin’s classes, urging Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm, a Democrat, the legislature and the university’s Board of Regents to ‘stop letting homosexual activists use our tax dollars to subsidize this militant political agenda.’”

—The Washington Times, August 18, 2003, p. 1

Q “A federal judge yesterday blocked a Colorado law requiring public school students and teachers to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, calling the law discriminatory and divisive.

“In issuing a temporary injunction, U.S. District Judge Lewis Babcock said the law discriminates against teachers by allowing students to opt out with a note from their parents. Teachers cannot opt out.

“The judge also said the law pits students who chose to say the pledge against those who do not, and students against teachers.

“ ‘What is instructional about that?’ Judge Babcock asked. ‘You can’t compel a citizen of the United States to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.’

“Judge Babcock said that not reciting the pledge could lead to suspensions for students and firing for teachers, although supporters of the law said there were no penalties.

“The injunction will be in effect until a yet-to-be-scheduled hearing on the challenge. Until then the pledge can be recited, but people can’t be required to say it.

“State Senate President John Andrews, a Republican, called the ruling a ‘gross insult to the patriotism of most Coloradans.’

“ ‘It’s bad jurisprudence. I’m confident it will be overturned on appeal,’ Mr. Andrews said.

“The pledge has been part of the morning routine in many Colorado schools, but it was not required until the law took effect Aug. 6. It was challenged less than a week later by the American Civil Liberties Union on behalf of nine teachers and students from four Denver area districts.

“ACLU attorney Allen Chen told the judge the law posed irreparable harm to the First Amendment rights of students and teachers.

“ ‘This is nothing less than ritualistic recitation of words that have much meaning to some people and no meaning to other people,’ he said.

“State officials say anyone can choose not to say the pledge under certain circumstances.

“Colorado is one of 33 states that require schools to include recitation of the pledge during the school day, according to the Education Commission of the States. Specific rules vary.

“Last month, a federal court ruled that a Pennsylvania law requiring all students to recite the pledge or sing the national anthem violated students’ freedom of speech under the First Amendment.

“The Supreme Court is expected to announce in the fall whether it will consider another federal court ruling in San Francisco that said regular classroom recitations of the pledge are unconstitutional because of the phrase ‘one nation, under God.’”

—The Washington Times, August 16, 2003, p. A3

Q “One year ago I was an excited college freshman. I’d chosen a secular school with the course of study I wanted to pursue. I went to college looking forward to the courses, new friends, and living away from home. I expected to get an education, but what I got was a surprise.

“The first shocker was Freshman Orientation, which you should know right now is a terrible misnomer. The correct term would be Freshman Indoctrination. Many schools basically hold students hostage for three or four days and attempt to reprogram their brains on matters of moral relativism, tolerance, gay/lesbian/transgendered rights, postmodernism, and New Age spirituality. Orientation skits sent messages like, ‘it’s okay to have premarital sex, just use a condom,’ ‘underage drinking is accepted (and expected), but if you have sex when you’re drunk you have the right to press charges for rape,’ ‘homosexuality is normal, get used to it.’ And that was all before the first day of classes started.

“The shock waves from Freshman Orientation had barely subsided when I received a second jolt. Required reading in my English class included not Shakespeare or Milton, but essays on why America deserved the terrorist attacks of 9/11, why we should listen to the Columbine killers, and why ‘under God’ should be removed from the Pledge of Allegiance.

“I quickly learned that I was in a place that desperately needed truth, God’s truth. There were abundant opportunities for me to speak up in class or in the school newspaper. Although at times I felt ill-equipped for the task, it was exciting to be a voice defending Christianity. Sometimes other students would speak up in agreement, and others spoke in disagreement—loudly and sometimes profanely.”

—Abby Nye, World magazine, August 23, 2003

Q Summit Ministries is dedicated to preparing Christian teenagers for such a situation as outlined in Abby Nye's essay. And this was just the orientation part of higher education. Summit prepares teens for all 4 years of their college years. Write for the 2004 Summit brochure and application, or download the information at www.summit.org.