

# THE PATRICK HENRY HERALD

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## North Korea to back down

### Will abandon nuclear program for US concessions

By Farahn Morgan

North Korea accused the United States on Wednesday, September 14, of attempting to stomp out the communist nation through nuclear warfare. The accusations were made during a series of talks designed to coerce North Korea into dismantling its nuclear weapons program.

A series of demands and refusals led to a heated discussion during the Wednesday conference in which accusations flew from North Korea about the role of the United States in the disarmament discussion. North Korea's news agencies are fanning the flames. The Rodong Simmun Newspaper wrote that the goal of the US was "to crush us to death with nuclear weapons."

Last Monday, the North agreed to abandon its nuclear weapons program and undergo inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency in exchange for energy aide, economic cooperation, and security assurances. According to Fox News Network, the six-nation discussion held in Beijing was the most encouraging of any that have happened in the past two years and included the US, Japan, Russia, China and the two Koreas.

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## A "day of self-redemption" Afghanistan votes after 30 years

By Suzanna Logan

Black ink marks drawn across the thumbnails of the six million Afghanistan citizens who voted in the country's elections last Sunday testified to the indelible mark the voters were making on Afghanistan's history.

Eager to participate in the nation's first legislative poll in 36 years, voters began streaming into polling booths, some with cardboard walls and sky ceilings, at 6 AM to decide which of the 5,800 candidates would secure the 249 seats in the national parliament or the 34 seats in the local legislatures.

"We are making history," President Hamid Karzai told the Associated Press as he cast his ballot.

"It's the day of self-determination for the Afghan people. After 30 years of wars,

By Suzanna Logan

Robin Levitske is a woman. She is also a die-hard football fan. Surprised? You shouldn't be.

With more women stepping away from convention and onto the game-time ground between the living room couch and the television screen, it won't be long before half of the National Football League's American audience is made up of man's better half. League pollsters report that 40 percent of the NFL fan base is now of the female variety.

Levitske, a Steel City native, starts her day by feeding the family pets, doing the



Afghans vote in legislative election.

Photo from the State Department

interventions, occupations and misery, today Afghanistan is moving forward, making an economy, making political institutions."

Despite a month-long barrage of election coverage by the media, only 50 percent of Afghanistan's 12.5 million registered voters turned out, a significant drop since last

October's presidential polls when participation rates hovered around 70 percent.

Still, Peter Erben, chief election officer, was satisfied with the turnout, saying the parliamentary vote measured well against other post-conflict country's elections.

"In Bosnia in 2002 there  
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laundry, and paying the bills. The list goes on and so does Levitske until the leather and lace of the ball and the punter's shoe meet. In that moment, when the 60 minute countdown starts, everything else stops, including conversations with her husband Drew. "He will want to talk, but I don't want to talk. I want to watch the game," she said.

Levitske might not talk during games, but she does yell. To save his daughters' eardrums, Drew drafted his own game-day strategy. "He would take the girls to a McDonald's Playland so that I could watch the game," Levitske said.

When Levitske's oldest daughter, Brooke, turned 8, she followed in her mom's footsteps, growing out of Playland and into a grid-iron enthusiast. Brooke recalls why she first began watching, "[Super Bowl XXX] was a huge cultural event in my city, and I was finally old enough to identify with that. Plus, my mom was going crazy."

Brooke, now an 18-year-old sophomore at, Patrick Henry College, calls her mom to recap after every Pittsburgh Steelers' game.

Levitske remembers when

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CAMPUS**S4 garners administration adulation***By Nathan Martin*

In a conference call last Wednesday, students from campuses across the nation met with Karl Rove, Joel Harris, and fellow administration members to discuss Social Security legislation and the role played by Students for Saving Social Security.

Since its inception last year, the organization, also called S4, has been reaching out to college students who "have the most to lose" by the collapse of Social Security.

Rove, together with Joel Harris, Director of Strategic Initiative, began the conference call by praising the S4's "vital" involvement with legislation that would allow

citizens to manage their money in private accounts through Social Security.

Jonathon Swanson, National Director of S4, emphasized S4's role in the privatization debate. "We are at a critical moment," Swanson said. "It is our job to keep private accounts on the front page of the newspaper."

Since Swanson began uniting with other students across the nation seven months ago, S4 has established charters on 200 college campuses, including Cornell University, Notre Dame University, and Patrick Henry College.

Adam Nicholson, a senior at Patrick Henry College, interned with Swanson at the Heritage Foundation. Later,

when he heard about Swanson's new organization, he offered to help.

"I asked if they had anyone in fundraising, and they didn't," said Nicholson. "So I started there."

Even though Nicholson didn't have any previous experience raising funds for a large-scale organization, he began working hard and learned as he went. Now the Director of Development for S4, he has tasted the fruits of the organization's labors.

"We were invited to come to an exclusive event at the White House where the President laid out his plans for Social Security," said Nicholson. "No press was allowed, and we were ushered into a

small room with Bush, Rove and John Snow, Secretary of the Treasury. The three men told us that S4 was the most important thing happening, on a grassroots level with Social Security."

Nicholson said they are still looking for help on campus. "Zac Gappa and Matt Lukowiak are helping me right now," said Nicholson. "But I'm looking for someone to take over the coordination of PHC's chapter."

The conference call and the corresponding compliments encouraged the team, but S4 is ultimately, as Swanson said, "a bunch of crazy, pumped-up kids working their hearts out for something that they believe in."

**Opinions and letters***By Heather Daniels*

There's a legend told in Galveston, TX, of a day when Sam Houston was riding in the south Texas plains and came across the half-buried, crumbling hulk of a ship. "The same power that brought this ship in this far," he purportedly commented to his companions, "can do it again."

His dismal prophesy was fulfilled on September 8, 1900, when a category 4 hurricane submerged Galveston. Twenty-foot surges swept over the town, barely more than a sand bar, and onto the mainland, as far as that ship. With at least one of every six of her inhabitants dead, Galveston slowly picked up the pieces and started again. The city was raised, and an extensive sea wall was built to prevent the disaster from occurring again.

Tonight or tomorrow, a comparable - or perhaps greater - hurricane will slam into Galveston

again. They're better prepared this time. The city has been evacuated, as have parts of Houston and the surrounding areas. Federal and State rescue teams are poised, ready for the worst. But there's only so much they can do. They can't prevent Rita, they can only help pick up the pieces after she's come and gone.

For many of us here, Rita is threatening our families, our homes, our friends. While we sit in safety, our minds, our hearts, our prayers are with them.

Pray for those who run the risk of losing all. Pray for the rescue teams and those who direct them, as they make crucial decisions in the face of the storm. Pray for those evacuated from New Orleans, just to be evacuated again.

We're praying to the One whom "even the winds and the waves obey." Let us find comfort in that.

I have been a student here at PHC long enough to be called a junior. But I come to you confused, perplexed, and frustrated. I still find myself asking a question that I recall from my earliest memories here. This alone would not prompt me to broach the topic, but I am hearing the same question asked in direct words and confused looks.

The question is "what do I do when I see someone breaking the rules?" When a freshman hears an upperclassman swear, what ought he or she to do? When an upperclassman sees an incoming student breaking dress code, what, if anything, ought to be said? In short, how and when is it appropriate to confront another student when he or she is violating the rules?

This issue touches each one of us regardless of class or GPA, and the question is not something we can or should ignore. It ought to be discussed and debated, fostering deliberation about how we can fulfill the commitment we made in the honor code to be held and to hold others accountable.

--Jeremiah Lorrige

What do you think? We want to know. Send your responses to [phcherald@gmail.com](mailto:phcherald@gmail.com)