

SCOTT OTT

Editor in Chief of ScrappleFace.com



Laughing at Obama

Volume I

LAUGHING AT OBAMA. VOLUME I © 2010 by Scott Ott

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PRAISE FOR SCOTT OTT'S SATIRE

“I laughed, I cried. Well, I laughed anyway.”—James Taranto, *Wall Street Journal*

“Scott Ott is our Daumier, and ScrappleFace is his sketchpad. There’s no one better to lead our mockery of the boy-king Barack.”—Philip Chalk, *Weekly Standard*

“In an age when political satire practically writes itself, Scott Ott makes it look easy.”—Steve Green, PJTV.com host, VodkaPundit.com

“Who but Scott Ott knew that Latin stuff—*reductio ad absurdum*—could be so devastatingly funny when applied to politicians, pickpockets, con artists and other public embarrassments?”—Mark Tapscott, editorial page editor, *Washington Examiner*

“Scott Ott is the funniest conservative pundit on the face of God’s good earth. Scott’s humor is both timely and timeless. By keeping us Laughing at Obama, he keeps us from crying for America.”—Carter Clews, geopolitical advisor, AmeriMetro, Inc

“Get your copy now. We’ve only got so much time to laugh at Obama before he gives an executive order to only laugh with him.”—Senator Lampoon (Steve Deering, Mission Viejo, CA)

“ScrappleFace’s Scott Ott offers a concise glance at the ridiculousness inherent in the progressive liberal agenda that runs throughout the Obama Administration. He follows the Ludlum hypothesis that the only real way to rid ourselves of ignorant zealots is to laugh at them publicly.”—Angela Richter, Sevsview Blog

“Playfully incisive, Scott Ott once again exposes the rot of political hypocrisy with a sharp satirical scalpel.”—onlineanalyst, veteran ScrappleFace reader

“Pure genius wrapped in wit for those seeking to tackle serious issues in a humorous way.”—Paul Barbehenn, Macungie, PA

“Scott’s columns have the habit of forcing you to think deep thoughts, but only after you’ve wiped the laugh tears away.”—John Zimmerman, Allentown, PA

“With apologies to Bob Nelson, ‘ScrappleFace is my life! If it weren’t for ScrappleFace, I would not be reading ScrappleFace today.’ Your success is well deserved.” —Peter Fosler, Rochester, NY

“In America’s silly beyond satire political world turned upside down, Scott Ott’s ScrappleFace is the new serious intellectual wisdom.”—Mark D. Mollet, San Bernardino, CA

“In an age where reality is often more bizarre than any satire, the wit and wisdom of Scott Ott consistently makes lemonade out of our government’s takeover of the lemon industry.”—Mike Mullins, Lapeer, MI

“Scott Ott’s humorous and insightful ScrappleFace ‘news stories’ are the best! He exposes the stupidity and hypocrisy of government in his writing, which is, by the way, truly excellent. You hardly know you’re reading a ‘spoof’ until the story becomes laughable, then it’s hilarious!”—John F. Brinson, small business owner, Allentown, PA

“They say that in the king’s palace, only the jester could tell the king the truth. In America, that jester is Scott Ott.”—Yasha Okshtein, Fair Lawn, NJ

“Scott Ott is to political satire what Charlie ‘Bird’ Parker is to jazz—an artist against whom all others are measured.”—Steve Grammatico, political humorist, Breitbart’s Big Journalism

“Wry Pennsylvania Dutch wisdom, applied to our turbulent geopolitical world . . . delivered family-style, without mean-spirited snark or too many big words.”—Jim Fraivillig, Boston, MA

“Scott Ott continues to lacerate the sanctimonious, the corrupt, and the ridiculous in government. On the basis of this book alone, he’s better qualified for Congress or the White House than most candidates of the last thirty years.”—Arthur Mortensen, Brooklyn, NY

“Scott Ott is without a doubt one of the best satirists of our time, with a delicious ‘turn of phrase.’”—Jim Przyborowski, Hillsborough, NJ

“Scott Ott dispels the MYTH that Christians are not intelligent and not witty. Funny man, and funny blog!!!”—John Skaggs, Indianapolis, IN

“Holy Toledo! When Scott sends his satire, it arrives as a huge blow to your funny bone, which isn’t breakable, just reverberates with laughter.”—J McGuire, writer, TheConstitutionalistToday.com

“ScrappleFace; great, in concept and execution. Presenting current events as humorous satire can help us laugh at some troubling situations. Comedy IS born of tragedy.”—“Camo” Jack Vose, King of Prussia, PA

“Through the mind and pen of ScrappleFace’s Scott Ott we now have the ability to do something Obama never could—to laugh at perhaps the most self-absorbed, inept and unskilled world leader since Louis XVI.”—Gary Fisher, business consultant, Sunny West Michigan, USA

“I have been following the escapades of Scott Ott and ScrappleFace for over 5 years now. His humor and polite criticism has helped me go from using coarse language, mostly guttural tones, in describing the American political system to concise, trite jabs à la Ott. I know ScrappleFace has helped me and America to laugh at the system while realizing that, ‘Hey, this shouldn’t be funny at all.’”—Dave Smith, Broomfield, CO

“When in the course of human events it becomes necessary to laugh out loud at politicians, Ott’s satire becomes an act of the highest patriotism.”—Skip McKinstry, Oklahoma City, OK

Chapter III
THE COMING:
FROM THE CLINCHING TO THE CINCHING
2008

Obama Family Not Distracted by Dad's TelePrompTer

(2008-06-13) — Sources close to the Obama family say that, at home, Michelle and the girls often get so caught up in Barack Obama's stirring rhetorical flourishes that they hardly notice the TelePrompTer.

One of Mrs. Obama's old college friends said, "Michelle still tears up when she talks about Barack's historic 'Will You Marry Me?' address. She said he really bridged the racial divide, while calling for change and a new kind of bipartisanship."

"He planned every little detail of the speech," said the unnamed source. "He even made sure that when he took a knee to pop the question, he'd still have a clear line-of-sight to the TelePrompTer. Although Michelle knew it was

written by a paid staffer, the way he delivered it really made it his own. Very personal.”

The Illinois senator’s daughters reportedly love how “Daddy tilts his head at an angle during dramatic pauses in bedtime stories, as if waiting for the applause to die down. His hypnotic repetition of ‘I do not like green eggs and ham. I do not like them Sam I am’ often brings the girls to their feet.”

However, neighbors and close friends also report that the Democrat presidential nominee has never performed as well during informal conversation around the house, or over the fence with neighbors while doing yard work.

“He fumbles for words,” said one Hyde Park resident who often sees Sen. Obama at the Wal-Mart. “He’s gazing about as if searching in vain for a cue card.”

Impromptu settings and unanticipated questions can also lead to embarrassing gaffes.

“Who could forget the night when Barack told his two daughters he loved all four of them,” said one anonymous friend.

Another source noted that Michelle and the girls “looked dismayed” when, during an unscripted moment at the dinner table, Mr. Obama said, “We can’t drive our SUVs and eat as much as we want and keep our homes on 72 degrees at all times . . . and then just expect that other countries are going to say OK. That’s not leadership. That’s not going to happen.”

Obama: Iran Needs to Know We Mean Talk

(2008-07-10) — Democrat presidential nominee Sen. Barack Obama today faulted the “weakness of the Bush

administration” for Iran’s recent long-range missile testing, and said when he sits in the Oval Office “Iran will know that we mean talk.”

The Illinois senator said he would engage Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in face-to-face negotiations offering “carrots as well as sticks,” meaning that he would “reward Iranian goodwill gestures with stirring laudatory speeches, and punish Iran’s violations of U.N. resolutions with bold rhetorical rebukes.”

“We know that President Ahmadinejad wants to see Israel wiped off the face of the map,” said Sen. Obama. “Of course, the first step in negotiating is to determine what the other party wants that you might be able to provide.”

“Iran needs to know that our words mean something,” he said. “During the Obama administration, our words will mean that we are saying things by combining those words into sentences to express ideas about how we feel, using dramatic phrases and dynamic cadences. Iran must never question our resolve to deliver . . . speeches.”

While the Bush administration has tried to get allies to unite in applying pressure on Iran to halt its nuclear program, Sen. Obama said he would bring change to American foreign policy by trying to get U.S. allies to unite in applying pressure on Iran to halt its nuclear program.

“It’s a lot different than the Bush approach,” he said, “because in my strategy, there is no Bush.”

Obama Submission Rejected by Reader’s Digest

(2008-07-22) — Just days after the *New York Times* declined to publish an op-ed piece by Republican presi-

dential nominee John McCain, *Reader's Digest* has rejected a Barack Obama submission to its Humor in Uniform section.

While staffers refused to divulge the content of Sen. Obama's "light-hearted military anecdote" a Reader's Digest editor sent a rejection slip suggesting a "different approach."

"Humor in Uniform items typically reflect a love and respect for our nation's fighting forces, and support for the job they do," the editor wrote to Sen. Obama. "And as you might guess from the section title, these items also tend to be funny. We would be happy to consider future submissions which fit this description."

Sen. Obama refused to take questions about the incident, saying only, "There are easier ways to get \$300."

Obama's Own Power to Fuel the Nation

(2008-07-30) — Presumptive U.S. President Barack Obama today announced his plan to "end America's dependence on foreign oil, dirty coal and dangerous nuclear power by unleashing new technology that will tap a recently discovered source of renewable energy."

According to an outline of the plan, Sen. Obama's own "personal power and magnetic energy" will form the core of an entirely new system for keeping the lights on and the wheels rolling across the nation.

"The energy that we have generated among Democrats, journalists and Germans can, and should, be tapped," he said. "When I'm sitting in the Oval Office I'll issue an executive order to the Department of Energy mandating that it find a way to capture and deliver my personal

power and magnetism to the energy-starved masses across this great, but tragically flawed land.”

“People of world, it’s time to stop drilling the earth,” said Sen. Obama. “It’s time to start drawing warmth and light from an inexhaustible source. When we put our minds to it, there’s nothing I can’t do.”

Obama Admits to Oil Addiction, Seeks Treatment

(2008-08-04) — Democrat presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, just hours after accusing his fellow citizens of being addicted to oil, admitted he has suffered the same condition since his teenage years.

“I confess that I frequently abused petroleum-based products,” said the contrite candidate, recalling that even at age 16 he sometimes drained 75 liters of a refined form of the controlled substance in a single week.

“Even now, I struggle, and it’s one day at a time,” said Sen. Obama, noting that “during a recent overseas jet fuel binge, thousands of dollars of the stuff just went up in smoke. I was seeing those trails, dude, and I thought, ‘That ain’t right. Barry, you need help.’”

Unveiling his new energy proposal today in Michigan, Sen. Obama said when he’s president, generous coverage for victims of oil addiction will be part of his universal health care program. He added that he plans to set an example by checking himself into a 30-day public transit program for treatment.

“We can’t drill our way out of this crisis,” he said. “The first step is to admit you have a problem that you’re helpless to solve, and that you need to turn your life over to the care of a higher power who can pass legislation and levy taxes.”

Obama on Short List of Obama VP Picks

(2008-08-12) — While Democrat presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama allegedly vacations in Hawaii with family, sources close to his campaign said he's actually spending the time in long meetings with the man some claim leads the race to become his running mate—Barack Obama.

Sources said Sen. Obama quickly moved to the top of his own VP short list because the most important attribute of a vice president is his ability to step in as commander in chief should the president become incapacitated.

“When the presumptive nominee looked at the Democrat field, he realized that he was the only one, other than Hillary Clinton, who had ‘acting president’ experience,” an unnamed insider said. “He looks presidential, and he’s the only one whose loyalty to Obama has been proven.”

A spokesman for the Democrat National Committee said, “Obama has the right to choose whomever he wants. Selecting Sen. Obama as his running mate would send a clear signal that he’s not only the most qualified Democrat to be president, but he’s also the only Democrat worthy to succeed him.”

The running mate announcement could come at any time. Insiders said the only factor delaying the pick is the candidate’s uncertainty over whether Democrat voters are ready for a black vice president.

Pastor Rick Warren’s Forum Unfair to Obama

(2008-08-17) — The Saddleback Civil Forum Saturday night, hosted by best-selling author Pastor Rick Warren,

was “utterly and shamelessly biased” toward Republican presidential nominee John McCain, according to a spokesman for the Obama for America campaign.

Sen. Barack Obama, one of the two front runners for the Democrat presidential nomination, often seemed to stumble through his answers to Pastor Warren’s questions, continually glancing down to his right, with his head cocked at a 45-degree angle for nearly the entire hour.

Sen. McCain, on the other hand, gave crisp answers, looked directly at the television audience most of the time, and delivered what many pundits acknowledged was his best performance to date.

Pastor Warren asked each candidate the same set of questions, including “At what point is a baby entitled to human rights?”

Answering that question would be “above my pay grade,” said Sen. Obama, who reported \$4.2 million in household income in 2007.

When he was asked the same question, Sen. McCain immediately said, “At the moment of conception.”

That interchange clearly demonstrates how the event was biased against Sen. Obama, according to his spokesman.

“Of course McCain looked good,” the anonymous Obama aide said. “He didn’t have to worry about how his answer would be perceived. He didn’t have to work to recall his talking points. He didn’t have to think, or even try to look like he was thinking. All he had to do was blurt out what he believed. Clearly, this gave him an unfair advantage, and we think the American people will see this for what it is . . . another Republican smear tactic.”

LEAKED: Obama VP-Vetting Question List

(2008-08-18) — Despite secrecy measures reminiscent of the Bush-Cheney administration, a list of questions, allegedly used to screen potential running mates for Democrat presidential hopeful Barack Obama, has leaked to the news media from a source close to Caroline Kennedy, the leader of his vice presidential search team.

Aides have told the *New York Times* that an announcement is imminent, perhaps as early as Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.

A nation holds its collective breath, awaiting Sen. Obama's decision, as speculation centers on the three most-qualified Democrats to stand a heartbeat from the presidency: Senators Evan Bayh and Joe Biden, and Gov. Tim Kaine of Virginia.

Until now, however, little was known of the process used to determine Sen. Obama's choice.

Here's the list of questions that Ms. Kennedy's search team reportedly used to narrow the field of potential Obama running mates.

A. What's the longest time you have ever been able to stare directly into the sun?

B. Which is more comfortable for you, bowing or kneeling?

C. Do you have any firmly held convictions?

D. If you answered "Yes" to question C: Are you willing to forsake them for the honor of serving with President Obama?

E. Which sounds like a better first line in a speech?

1. My fellow Americans . . .

2. People of the World . . .

F. If a crying baby falls to the floor of an abortion

clinic, but no law is there to protect it, does it make a sound?

G. Choose the correct ending to this sentence: “I want to be vice president to . . .

1. . . . fix America’s deep flaws, to atone for the sins of her past, and to help set a course away from our shameful history.”

2. . . . serve the greatest nation under God that the planet has ever seen, out of gratitude for the freedom and opportunity she has granted me, and to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.”

H. If you chose the second answer to question G, are you sure you aren’t on Sen. McCain’s short list instead?

I. What do you think is the worst evil in the world? (Choose 3 correct answers.)

1. Radical Islam

2. Unequal distribution of America’s obscene wealth

3. Provincial attitudes that keep us from talking with our so-called enemies

4. The United States of America itself

J. In the course of serving as Vice President, you may be required to attend funerals of respected world leaders to pay tribute to their lives of service. Are you willing to travel to all of the following: Cuba, North Korea, Iran, Syria, Venezuela?

Obama to Conceal VP Pick Until VP Is Needed

(2008-08-19) — Democrat presidential hopeful Barack Obama said today that he would reveal the name of his running mate “when, and if, we ever actually need a vice president.”

Rampant speculation about Sen. Obama's VP pick has overshadowed headlines about an Iranian rocket launch, a deadly suicide bombing in Algeria, Russia's failure to withdraw troops from Georgia, the resignation of the president of nuclear-armed Pakistan and start of the NFL pre-season.

However, Sen. Obama said today that choosing a vice presidential nominee is "largely irrelevant to the campaign, since this election is a referendum on hope and change—in other words, it's a referendum on me."

"What could a running mate bring to the ticket that I don't already provide in abundance?" Sen. Obama asked rhetorically.

The candidate said he would let his vice president know that he or she has been chosen, "just as soon as there's a foreign state funeral, a tie to break in the Senate, or some other excuse for having him take up space in my shadow."