

Finally: A True Right Wing Presidential Candidate

by John Cobin, Ph.D. for *The Times Examiner*
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Can you say “bad-NAR-ik”? That’s Libertarian presidential nominee Michael Badnarik (<http://www.badnarik.org>). While his name may be funny, his free market and conservative (Constitutional) leaning principles are not. Badnarik professes to be pro-life and a staunch fiscal conservative. A high ranking man in his organization told me that Badnarik is a Christian too. He wants to abolish the IRS and the Federal Reserve System. He wants to eliminate socialist regulation and the welfare state, and slash taxes and government privilege. He wants to rout out all the greenie environmental-whacko policies that are hindering American progress. He wants to shrink government down to its constitutional limits. He strongly supports the Second Amendment (i.e., no federal restrictions on gun ownership), as well as the rest of the Bill of Rights. He wants the federal government out of the marriage business, letting families and churches serve in the roles that God has ordained for them. (Where does it say that God ordained the state to license marriages anyway?)

If elected, Badnarik will attempt to truly bring about reform in government, eliminating special interest benefits without partiality, recent blunders like the Patriot Act, and dismantling coddled liberal institutions like the public education empire and the FDA. Hillary care would be swept away, along with every government program from corporate subsidies to Affirmative Action. We should not be surprised if justice were brought to bear on the likes of Janet Reno and her cronies for their wicked deeds at Waco and Ruby Ridge. Far from enacting globalist regimes like the FTAA, he will attempt to institute genuine free trade without privilege or cryptic footnotes in “trade” documents that contain thinly-veiled socialist or globalist ploys. He is in favor of a strong national defense program. Under Badnarik’s leadership, respect for the American way of life and its highest officials will again be restored.

To vote for Badnarik is to vote for principle. To vote for Bush is to vote for pragmatism, i.e., for the lesser of two evils. But how can we vote for evil? One’s vote is not wasted if he votes according to principle. Conversely, one’s vote is indeed wasted if he votes pragmatically for Bush only as a means of (in reality) voting against Kerry. Bush is not our man.

But Badnarik is. My only regret is that another principled candidate, Michael Peroutka of the Constitution Party, will be running against Badnarik. While relatively little separates these two candidates philosophically, the already small genuine right-wing minority will now be split. One advantage that Badnarik does have over Peroutka (call it serendipity if you wish), is that all the left-leaning libertarians and rather curious folks (e.g., many homosexuals, druggies, Holly-weirdos, etc.) in the Libertarian Party (<http://www.lp.org>) will support him. Not so with the ultra-conservative Constitution Party. In other words, while both candidates are long shots at best, Badnarik is the more electable of the two because of his wider appeal. Maybe, at least this once, the Constitution Party should combine forces and throw in with Badnarik. I bet that Badnarik would find a place for some from the Constitution Party (like Peroutka) in his administration. All that is needed to start the alliance is for the Constitution Party to open a dialog, asking for the concession in exchange for pledging its support for Badnarik as President.

Badnarik recently addressed the G8 meeting in Savannah, Georgia, where he made a fine showing in support of true Constitutional principles. Neither Bush nor Kerry can hold a candle to Badnarik’s intellect and integrity. Let’s all get behind Michael Badnarik and see if we can indeed make a difference in our nation which has slid so far to the left in recent decades.