YOUR OPINIONS

Informed people

Re “Curing about people” (Our Opinions, Jan. 9):

Among Republicans, the former governor of a small state with almost no popular support just two months ago upended the polished, first choice of all the party insiders. Had you read, back in November, of the Council on Foreign Relations’ endorsement of Huckabee, informed people would understand.

Now, go back 18 years when another former governor, Bill Clinton, of a small state (also Arkansas) also received endorsement from the Council on Foreign Relations. Just who is more of an insider than the CFR? Aren’t they the authors of the North American Union?

— Richard and Gloria Hampton
Syman

A tailspin

Re “The comeback kids” (Jan. 9):

Don’t let the “Comeback Gal” spin fool you. Despite the unexpectedly close finish in New Hampshire, Hillary Clinton’s campaign remains in a tailspin. And the Clintons’ pre-Granite State primary finger-pointing has left an indelible mark. It’s the media’s fault. It’s sexism’s fault. It’s the vast right-wing conspiracy’s fault.

It took a lifetime of lies, deception, hypocrisy and hardball power grabs before Hillary and Bill’s political facades disintegrated. But now, finally, the empty dumpy molds underneath have been laid bare completely. So long, feminist hero. Hello, weeping widow. Anyone who believes Hillary spontaneously teared up and got emotional on the campaign trail has been in a coma the last three decades.

— Brian J. Goldenfeld
Woodland Hills

Priorities

Re “Desperation” (Your Opinions, Jan. 8):

To the gentleman who wrote about how thousands of Republicans in Iowa charged their voter registrations so they could vote for Obama and prevent Hillary’s nomination: Oh, please! What left-wing, smarmy-oriented, vast-conspiracy Web site did you get this ridiculous and false information from?

You read something and automatically think it’s true. Amazing! I have important news for you. Republicans have more important priorities right now. And one of those priorities is not wasting their time voting for a Democrat.

— Paige-Elizabeth Morton
Agua Dulce

Pat’s wrong again

Re “Tiger Budget” (View from the Valley, Jan. 9):

The Patrick O’Connor cartoon got it wrong. Why is it that when the government, state or federal, overrun its budget they can just take money from us? I can’t take money from my neighbors when my budget is tight. On the contrary, I find ways to trim things out of the budget to make ends meet. The government should have to do the same thing.

But I know there is a requirement to balance the budget, but you don’t do it by constantly taking from the poor. Why don’t the governor and the Legislature look at the budget and cut some programs? Why don’t they audit the existing programs and cut those which are not efficient or meeting the intent of their existence?

— Gordon Butler
Rosamond

No-strike clause

The new Los Angeles police headquarters is already a fiscal disaster for city taxpayers, with the sole bid for construction $30 million more than estimated. Now the Los Angeles Board of Public Works is scheduled to vote on Jan. 20 to assess taxpayers with more costs resulting from a construction union breaking its promise not to strike.

As part of a Project Labor Agreement signed in 2006, construction unions made a contractual promise not to strike in exchange for a union monopoly to build the police headquarters. The Operating Engineers union went on strike anyway in August, delaying the project by 14 days. Now the city proposes paying $343,000 in overtime wages to the unions to get the project back on schedule.

Why are taxpayers rewarding unions for violating the no-strike clause?

— Kevin Korenthal
Los Angeles/Ventura Chapter
Associated Builders and Contractors

HOW TO WRITE TO US

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