

## Colorado Senatorial candidate Ken Buck isn't the first one to "rewrite" the Constitution

He wants to rewrite the Constitution. Surely voters shouldn't elect a man who wants to rewrite the Constitution, should they? Would they? Gasp and shudder.

Even though Ken Buck is a Republican, I probably wouldn't vote for him for a number of reasons. Not that Michael Bennet is any prize. The Colorado contest for the U.S. Senate will result in a lot of voters holding their nose and choosing one or the other less than stellar candidate.

An accusation being flung around the airwaves in opposition to Buck's candidacy stems from a remark he once made about wanting U.S. Senators to be selected in a way different than by popular vote.

My God in Heaven, the man wants to rewrite the Constitution! He wants to take a perfect document and despoil it. Who does he think he is, Thomas Jefferson?

For whatever reason, there are some who would like to go back to before U.S. Senators were chosen by popular vote. Back to a time when women did not have the right to vote. And every imaginable roadblock was thrown in the way of an African-American who wanted to vote.

To Neanderthals like Ken Buck, those were the "Good Ol' Days."

For the loonies who believe every amendment made to the Constitution "rewrote" it, there have been many such rewrites. Just look at the Amendments to the U.S.

Constitution.

The Constitution is a magnificent piece of work. How it has stood the changing of times is remarkable. But, it is not a perfect document. That's why it has been clarified, updated and "rewritten" many times. Laws written now will be obsolete in two hundred years, too.

Back to Buck's position. He spoke about repealing the 17th Amendment. First, adding or repealing an Amendment to the Constitution requires a vote of the people so it is not a white marking board sort of action. It ain't easy and it's infrequent.

When the Seventeenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified in 1913, it provided for the election of senators by popular vote (prior to that, they had been "chosen by the Legislature thereof" a state). It also provided that "no individual state may have its representation in the Senate adjusted without its consent unless all other states have an identical change."

So, Wingnut Buck can only *wish* he could be selected by the Colorado legislature. It can't happen unless ALL states decide to do it at the same way and THAT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN!

But, the Constitution was REWRITTEN to elect Senators the way they are today - from Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution. What Buck might want is a "rewrite" of that "rewrite." There have been 27 Amendments - the latest ratified in 1992.

## MWC football

After losing big to football factory schools Boise State and Texas, and playing it close with fellow middle-of-the-pack MWC Air Force, Wyoming coach DC predicted they would get back on the right track with the next game. That next game was against upset specialist Toledo - in Ohio.

The Gary Pinkel protege who finally landed a college head coaching job when desperate Wyoming hired him, must not have cable at home. He must not have noticed that Toledo was 3-1 at the time he made his bold prediction and had just defeated Purdue - he had surely heard of the formerly Joe Tiller coached Big Ten team, hadn't he? - by the of 31-20.

Toledo is for real. Especially at home.

Wyoming's upcoming conference opponents, after Toledo, will be TCU (there), Utah (in Laramie), BYU (in Provo), then the other patsies in the MWC - along with UW. San Diego State, New Mexico (there), UNLV (there) and CSU. They have a chance to win three of the final five games but nothing is a sure thing with a Dave Christensen coached team.

He didn't "Coach" Missouri. He didn't install the offensive scheme. He was an assistant who did what Pinkel told him to do. Missouri, post-DC, is 4-0 this year.

Obviously, it was Gary Pinkel's genius, not Dave Christensen's, at Mizzou. Still is.

The combined records of four of the remaining MWC opponents (after the fifth week) is 3-17. U Dub should have a ghost of a chance of beating at least some of the other worst MWC stiffes. New Mexico, through their first five games, has been outscored 263-61. They are dreadful.

TCU, Utah (leaving), Air Force and San Diego State are, collectively 16-2. BYU (leaving), CSU, Wyoming, UNLV, and New Mexico are, collectively, 5-20. It is a three team conference. San Diego State's 3-1 early record is an aberration. When Boise State and Nevada join, BYU and Utah will leave - possibly TCU as well - and it will stay a three team conference. UW isn't likely to be bowl-bound. And, the MWC won't become a BCS qualifier anytime in the near future, if ever.

*Add: Wyoming had a 20-0 lead over Toledo and held on for a 20-15 upset win. Will wonders never cease? The oddities of this win abound. It was a victory over a team with a winning record and it was a victory on the road. The UW radio announcers could not figure out why the fourth string quarterback was playing for Toledo when they had golden opportunities to steal the victory. Pity?*



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## Progressive discipline is *not* always required

The actions of Darrel Hammon at LCCC are often comical. He now intends to rewrite college rules involving discipline and wants the taxpayers to believe it is both necessary and beneficial. He is quoted as saying that some think progressive discipline is always required and he wants to enlighten them by rewriting the rules unnecessary.

It is not a question as to whether progressive discipline is required or even fair. Hammon wants to make it easier for him to arbitrarily terminate anyone at LCCC's employment without cause, warning or reason. He wants to eliminate any job protection an employee out there may now have. And it isn't a helluva lot under the best of circumstances.

But the Hammon terminations that have been challenged have been for questionable reasons and, at least in some cases, violated college policy and written rules. Jim Cook's reinstatement made public news but others who have been paid settlements, or will be in the near future, remain anonymous and confidential.

Employers, even those led by despicable characters like Darrel Hammon, must have the option to immediately terminate employees for egregious and/or dangerous behavior. Hammon has that. If a faculty member punched him in the nose, he could fire them on the spot without fear of losing an appeal. He could terminate a coach who brings a handgun into the college and threatens others.

### Jeff Ketcham for County Commissioner

Dear Laramie County Voter;

*I am Running for County Commissioner to Make a Difference and to Make Laramie County a Better Place to Live, Work and Raise a Family.*

Some of my Priorities will be to:

- Continue Sound Fiscal Leadership - Healthy Reserves must be Maintained.
- Oversee Construction of The Archer Complex - A Showcase for All of Laramie County.
- Implement Impact Strategies for the Potential Niobrara Oil Play and Rural Development, i.e. Infrastructure Impact, Water, Roads, Emergency and Public Safety services, etc.
- Partner with all Communities / Elected Officials within Laramie County - Intergovernmental Cooperation is the Backbone of the County.
- Advocate for Laramie County with the Wyoming State Legislature.
- Be progressive in Diversifying Laramie County's Economic Development and Quality Growth, i.e. NCAR, GE/UW Clean Coal, Swan Ranch Development, I-80 Rail Park, etc.
- Be Proactive with the County's Prescription Drug and Methamphetamine Epidemic.

*Laramie County is in a Great Place in a Unique Time Period. I believe that my Background and my Deep-Rooted Experience as your County Commissioner have prepared me for the future Opportunities and Challenges that may be ahead for Laramie County.*

*I would appreciate your support and ask for your vote on November 2<sup>nd</sup>.*

Thank you.

*Jeff Ketcham*

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Photo on page below  
Please scroll down

Jeff receiving weekly up-date at The Archer Complex

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