

"ANYTHING TWO PEOPLE KNOW IS NOT A SECRET."

# THE CHEYENNE HERALD

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## Ms. Irrelevant

Barbara Cubin's next two years might be better spent baking anatomically shaped cookies or honing her photography skills

by Dave FEATHERLY

For the past three decades, the final pick in the NFL draft has earned the distinction of being dubbed "Mr. Irrelevant."

In a good-spirited way, that young man whose chance of making an NFL roster is remote, is celebrated for being the final pick of 475+ college football players.

There are many in Wyoming who have long believed Barbara Cubin was already "Ms. Irrelevant" in the U.S. House of Representatives. When it was pointed out by the Cheyenne Herald that Cubin was ranked "Less Influential" in the U.S. House than Mary Bono, singer Sonny Bono's widow, heads around the state were nodding, "I thought so."

But, if you thought she has accomplished little and contributed less in the past, you ain't seen nothing yet.

Wyoming could send one of those inflatable dolls to Washington, what with the Democratic bloodless coup on November 7, 2006.

Does anyone need a picture drawn for them of what is going to happen to Wyoming's lone Representative come January 20, 2007?

Her assigned office will be so far from the important legislators in the Rayburn Building, it will be in a different zip code.

Her chances of having one of her meaningless bills actually assigned to a Congressional Committee or introduced on the Floor of the House will rank down there with Dennis Hastert's. Payback is a bear - or something like that.

The sales tax deduction that she bragged about enacting for Wyoming taxpayers has already bit the dust. And it only helped those who itemized deductions on their federal tax returns anyway.

Who will be the first to send Nancy Pelosi a tape of the television commercial run endlessly throughout the state, in support of Cubin's candidacy, which veritably spit out the reference: "San Francisco's liberal Nancy Pelosi?"

Pelosi's name was seldom presented without that pejorative prefix - "San Francisco liberal ...".

When Cubin protests that her large staff, accumulated during twelve fruitless years in Congress, won't fit in the dungeon office now being assigned her, the San Francisco liberal will probably tell her, "not to worry, dear, you won't have the budget for that staff in the future."

San Francisco is a unique, special and beautiful city. Barbara and Fritz Cubin will have enough time on their hands over the next couple years to visit it sometime.

It may be one of the few opportunities Cubin will have to see the direct sunlight - being cooped up in that windowless basement office in Washington.

Had Wyoming elected Gary Trauner, he would be a member of the controlling, majority party in Congress. Whatever his legislative efforts, they might have seen the light of day. As it is, and shall be for 24 months, no bill will originate from a Wyoming House member. Nor from the two in the Senate. And "the San Francisco liberal" will be doing pretty much as she damn well pleases.

By the completion of Cubin's next two years in the U.S. House, she'll wish she had been making beds in one of

Leona Helmsley's hotels. The notorious "Boss from Hell" would be a nicer boss than the San Francisco liberal.

### November 7, 2006 Election Scorecard Barbara Cubin (R) v. Gary Trauner (D) U.S. House of Representatives

Totals do not include Thomas Rankin's votes

Counties in which Cubin prevailed, in descending order of her margin of victory:

	Cubin		Trauner		Margin
Campbell	7,240	66%	3,312	30%	3,928
Park	7,173	62%	3,867	33%	3,306
Lincoln	3,879	63%	2,008	33%	1,871
Big Horn	2,986	66%	1,328	29%	1,658
Crook	2,077	71%	717	25%	1,360
Uinta	3,475	56%	2,438	39%	1,037
Johnson	2,116	63%	1,117	33%	999
Weston	1,711	64%	822	31%	889
Goshen	2,662	55%	1,991	41%	671
Sublette	1,708	60%	1,052	37%	656
Sheridan	5,869	51%	5,240	46%	629
Converse	2,675	53%	2,172	43%	503
Washaki	1,851	54%	1,457	43%	394
Niobrara	685	65%	336	32%	349
Hot Springs	1,160	51%	1,003	44%	157
Platte	1,965	50%	1,837	47%	128
	49,232	62%	30,697	38%	18,535

Counties in which Trauner prevailed, in descending order of his margin of victory:

	Trauner		Cubin		Margin
Laramie	18,188	58%	11,869	38%	6,319
Teton	6,218	69%	2,598	29%	3,620
Albany	7,337	62%	4,119	35%	3,218
Natrona	13,768	55%	10,672	42%	3,096
Sweetwater	6,648	52%	5,532	43%	1,116
Carbon	2,776	48%	2,641	46%	135
Fremont	6,595	48%	6,534	48%	61
	61,530	58%	43,965	42%	17,565

**TOTALS CUBIN 93,197 -- TRAUNER 92,227**

This election appeared, for most of election night, to be headed for a Gary Trauner win for a couple reasons: First, the largest counties that dislike Barbara Cubin the most (Laramie and Natrona) were among the first to report. Second, in this election, two of the counties that seem to be most fond of her (Crook and Campbell) were among the very last to report. Gary Trauner jumped out to an early lead and held it until after 10:00 pm, when both Crook and Campbell counties reported their results. This general election was much like the primary election. Bill Winney also won in Laramie and Teton counties and did well in Natrona County. Trauner won all three and picked up the traditionally Democratic counties of Albany, Sweetwater and Carbon. Fremont was the most surprising county - ending in a dead heat. It is typically a strong Republican County.

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