

Trauner's scare tactics

"Well, there you go again."

Ronald Reagan said that to another Democrat back in 1980. Jimmy Carter had little to claim as successes during his presidency so he took to criticizing Reagan in their televised debates.

"Well, there you go again" silenced Carter and ended one of the worst presidencies in American history.

Now in Wyoming, we have another Democrat who must be admonished: "Well, there you go again."

In 2006, Gary Trauner promised voters he would visit every household in the state. Evidently, he didn't realize how many there were and that it couldn't be done.

Just before the 2008 Republican primary, Channel 5 bought into their favorite candidate's (Mark Gordon), little hoax of pretending to go door to door in the rain. That snippet was shown multiple times during the final week to the election.

Gary Trauner does the same. When he craves public attention, he calls a willing television station and they follow him to a prearranged stop at a supporter's door.

On the day before the August 19th primary election, I was contacted (as campaign manager for the Winney for Congress '08 campaign) by Channel 13 of Casper and, basically, I was asked to do the same thing - stage an event so they could film it and televise it that evening.

As tempting as it was to get some last minute coverage from a statewide television station that had virtually ignored the Winney campaign, Bill was traveling to Bondurant and we had no last-minute "staged" activities for that day. Maybe we should have but I told the Channel 13 guy (who was in Cheyenne) that everything Bill did was "real" and we wouldn't stoop to what Mark Gordon had done in Cheyenne with the willing Channel 5.

Back to Gary Trauner.

A week after the primary election, in which he had no opponent and watched as the four Republican candidates dominated the spotlight, Gary called a "press conference." With the normal vacuousness of these "press conferences" in which a slightly built woman like Jaclyn Rostie had to serve as her own "cameraman," it has to grate on the media to show up to be spoon-fed pabulum from a candidate.

Sort of like when Brett Favre called a press conference to announce his future playing plans a year ago, then announced to the gathered throng that he had nothing to say and walked away.

Trauner was going to make a "statement" about energy matters. Trouble is, he does not understand energy matters and was given wrong and incomplete data from the DNC to "announce" to Wyoming voters.

He began his prepared statement by

suddenly claiming, "since the day I started running for Wyoming's lone seat in the US House, ..." that "the search for sustainable energy independence is **the** issue of our time."

Well, there you go again, Gary.

While energy is **ONE** of the issues that often came up at this year's candidate forums that Gary attended, he never made energy his focus. And, for the most part, Gary and all the others jumped on the Winney bandwagon supporting more nuclear energy. Bill, of course, is an expert in the field and no one dared challenge his assertion that nuclear power can be provided safely and efficiently.

At the forums, where Gary was odd man out as the only liberal (not counting Mark Gordon) on the dais, his opponents **did** support more drilling - more domestic production - and they were right. Just the threat of more drilling will drive the price of crude oil downward. Countries who are dependent on our importing huge amounts of their oil could not handle a major reduction in our imports and, at the minute Congress approves more domestic production, oil prices will come down to try make our efforts unattractive. It would take a long time to be up and running with increased domestic production **BUT WE WON'T HAVE TO!**

Gary quoted from Bush the Younger, when the Kid said, with no specific plan, we needed to "break our addiction to oil."

Well, there you both go again, Gary.

Nothing substantial has happened in the past thirty years or more to even **reduce** our addiction to oil, let alone **break** it. The American people can afford to pay the higher prices and they want to be mobile. On interstate freeways leading into major cities like Denver and Washington, D.C., the only vehicles using high occupancy (HOV) lanes are police cars that race ahead to see if they can overtake a speeding vehicle in the other lanes - almost all other vehicles have but one occupant. Mobility is a top feature of American life.

To accomplish the Trauner/Bush goal of "breaking" our addiction to oil, Gary Trauner said, will take "leadership, honesty, straight talk and tough choices ...".

Maybe we can start with you, Gary.

One of the key planks in Trauner's personal platform is: "Every drop of oil drilled under American soil and American waters must go to the American people."

Nice promise. But unwise, untimely and unfulfillable. Not to mention dishonest.

The United States has been exporting crude oil and crude oil products since the '70's. The **1870's!**

Almost all of our petroleum exports are finished products. Of 523 million barrels exported in 2007, only 10 million barrels was crude oil itself. Two per cent!

His statement of August 26, 2008 ranted this inaccuracy: "How many of you know that nearly 1/3 of the oil taken from under American territory every day is sent overseas to foreign countries? That's right - everyday, 1.6 million barrels of American oil and petroleum products goes to foreign countries."

In 2007, only 10 million barrels of **crude oil** was exported and 513 million barrels of "products" was exported. The largest volume of products were: Petroleum Coke (134 mb); Residual Fuel Oil (120 mb); Distillate Fuel Oil (98 mb); Finished Motor Gasoline (46 mb); Lubricants (22 mb); Liquefied Petroleum Gases (21 mb); MTBE (20 mb); Kerosene Type - Jet Fuel (15 mb); and, All Other (37 mb).

Over 98% of our exports are of finished products. Does Gary Trauner know how many jobs that represents? Union jobs.

In June 2008 alone, the US **imported** 401 million barrels of oil. In the same month, the US **exported** 65 million barrels of crude oil and petroleum products.

Much of the exported products went back to countries we had imported crude from. In other words, we were processing the oil we imported and shipping it back to the country of origin, OR, we were importing one grade of crude and returning a finished product.

For example, our neighbors to the north and south - not "overseas" as Gary Trauner thinks - Canada and Mexico, are prime examples of this "import and return" program. In June, 2008, the US imported 71 million barrels of oil from Canada and exported 7 million barrels of product back to them. In June 2008, the US imported 38 million barrels of oil from Mexico and returned 13 million barrels of product.

There are countless examples of the US importing oil from a country and returning finished product to them. Which of those imports would Trauner be willing to end? Does he really believe that if we did not export the 21 million barrels we exported to Canada and Mexico in June, they would continue to supply us with the 108 million barrels of crude we imported from them in that month? Does he?

How about Brazil? How about the Netherlands? The Bahamas? Guatemala? Honduras? Jamaica? Panama?

How about Venezuela? Should we risk the source of 36 million barrels of oil a month to hold onto the .8 million barrels of finished product we export to them?

Gary, think before you speak. The DNC doesn't give a rat's patooty if you are embarrassed with the flawed data they feed you. You can count on the Cheyenne, Casper and Gillette dailies and the AP not doing any research to determine whether the tripe you spew is true or false but you can't depend on the Cheyenne Herald standing silently by while you mislead and deceive Wyoming voters. Ask your close personal friend Mark Gordon.

Which of the countries in the list below would Trauner "cut off" from our exports? Notice how few of them are "overseas" as he lamented in his statement? Five are in North or Central America, six are in South America, two are islands in the Western Hemisphere. Who to cripple?

June 2008 Exports - 64,945,000 Barrels	
Average - 2,165,000 barrels per day	
(Includes these countries - June '08)	
Argentina	1,805,000
Bahama Islands	1,154,000
Belgium	883,000
Brazil	2,378,000
Canada	7,203,000
Chile	3,387,000
Ecuador	838,000
France	1,251,000
Gibraltar	2,534,000
Guatemala	1,071,000
Honduras	849,000
Italy	1,580,000
Jamaica	890,000
Japan	1,900,000
Korea, South	912,000
Lebanon	790,000
Mexico	13,285,000
Netherlands	4,422,000
Panama	1,293,000
Peru	1,254,000
Singapore	2,885,000
Spain	1,447,000
Turkey	1,559,000
Venezuela	820,000

June 2008 Imports - 401,007,000 Barrels	
~66-67% - US produces balance	
Average - 13,365,000 barrels per day	
Persian Gulf	71,747,000
OPEC Nations	182,518,000
Algeria	14,753,000
Angola	19,461,000
Ecuador	5,506,000
Indonesia	582,000
Iraq	20,786,000
Kuwait	5,476,000
Libya	3,438,000
Nigeria	30,595,000
Qatar	0
Saudi Arabia	44,785,000
UAE	700,000
Venezuela	36,304,000
Non-OPEC Nations	218,489,000
Countries include:	
Brazil	9,428,000
Canada	70,784,000
Chad	3,238,000
Colombia	5,381,000
Mexico	37,626,000
Netherlands	7,918,000
Norway	3,670,000
Russia	22,914,000
United Kingdom	8,573,000
Virgin Islands	9,430,000

2007 Total Crude Oil and Products Exported	
Total Crude	10,006,000 Barrels
Total Products	512,873,000 Barrels
	522,879,000 Barrels
Major products exported in 2007 (barrels)	
Liquified Petroleum Gases	20,809,000
MTBE	20,463,000
Finished Motor Gasoline	46,368,000
Kerosene Type - Jet Fuel	15,010,000
Distillate Fuel Oil	97,726,000
Residual Fuel Oil	120,395,000
Lubricants	21,570,000
Petroleum Coke	133,582,000
Other	36,949,000
	512,879,000