

# The City Buzz

## Ex-Patriots Speak Out

*Will new Patriot leadership be able to fix problems faced by the previous administration?*



### Will Reinvention Bring Redemption?

In addition to electing a new leader, the Patriot party has voted to change their party platform. The alterations struck down their previous pledge to protect teachers and added a commitment to equality, perhaps motivated by Assemblyman Thomas's innovative commitment to promoting equality for all forms of life.

ROCKLIN- Yesterday *Buzz* reporters sat down with Assemblymembers Cook, Nieuwsma, and Shumate for interviews regarding their experiences in both parties.

All three pointed to an apparent concentration of power as a key reason in their decisions to leave the Patriot party. As Nieuwsma noted, "Able was kinda trying to control the party and be Speaker at the same time... [T]he Constitutionalists were always together. They seemed really confident about

things." As a member of the Constitutionalists, she praises party leader Assemblywoman Dunham for her ability to listen and keep the party unified. She admits that earlier rumors of a possible coup were true, but clarified that the offending Assemblymember had stepped back.

They also cited dislike of the Patriot platform as influential, an issue that may resonate with some current party members. Additionally, they pointed to the Patriot's habit of setting up a succession line

as a possible reason for their fall in popular opinion. Still, regardless of the official titles of party members, Cook surmised that "He [Able] is in control of that party."

Rumors that the three are unhappy with their standing amongst the Constitutionalists were denied. By contrast, the defectors hinted that there may be more Patriots joining the majority party, though they asked the *Buzz* not to print any specific names.

*Lauren Prichard*

**MEDIA MATTERS**

SACRAMENTO- Aside from the usual politicking, the past few days have been characterized by fear of the press as much as anything else. Journalists from both the *COTH Report* and *City Buzz* have consistently been met with cries of “no comment!”, insinuations that all information be “off the record”, and notifications that meetings are “closed to the press” – phrases mostly uttered from the Patriot party. This doubtlessly stems from early faux pas caught on camera that put the party in a tight place.

Assemblyman Jackson’s resolution, which passed by majority vote yesterday, claimed that because “the



*Above: Assemblywoman Petrikas strategizes with Assemblyman Francisco while their party caucuses. Petrikas will have to decide if she wants to continue her predecessor’s press policy or venture in a new direction.*

media watches everyone and...[has] power to...broadcast mistakes” there should be “a counter media to promote competitive and efficient reporting.” We at the *Buzz* deny that our reporting is anything but mostly fair and balanced; however, we would be nothing but delighted if rumors of a soon-emerging paper prove to be true.

Thankfully the media moratorium seems to have been broken by interviews and statements given by Assemblywoman Petrikas, the new Patriot party leader. Hopefully this is indicative that the party will be making better use of media under new leadership.

Lauren Prichard

**PATRIOT VICTORY**

ROCKLIN- The Patriots



triumphed over the Constitutionals in a much-anticipated Capture the Flag match. A second match was cancelled due to sprinklers unexpectedly turning on. Competitors apparently overlooked a sign requesting everyone keep off the field.

**Wardrobe-d**

More and more conversations seem to be taking place “in the wardrobe,” based on references reporters – and staffers – overheard Wednesday. Whether there will be any serious wardrobe malfunctions remains to be seen.

**On the Record**

Assemblyman Thomas, while discussing his plans to promote universal equality, explained, “I identify as a poisonous fungus, with the mind of a Douglas Fir.” When asked what that made him, he replied, “A Douglas Fungus.”

A Patriot Assemblywoman was overheard giving fashion advice to the other members, first making sure that Assemblyman Francisco was aware of the color of his shirt, then advising Patriots that for the upcoming game of Capture the Flag they should “put on comfortable shoes, wear black, and,” turning to one of the other Assemblywomen, “those dress shoes ain’t going to fly.”

**good morning Contributors**



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