

The Daily Hindsight

A parody or prediction?

Post 2008 Election Issue

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GOP Keeps White House!

Democrats snatch defeat from jaws of victory (again)

Bill Shuse
Staff writer

Consensus among independent analysts believed the 2008 Presidential election was the Democrats to lose. In the wake of yesterday's GOP victory, the consequences of candidate selection stood out like a sore thumb.

Popularity Is Not Transferable

While other Democratic candidates had sought votes from the same pool of voters, only Al Gore and Barack Obama had made the pool significantly larger with their legions of newly recruited supporters - many who had been previously politically inactive. When the pair did not show up as the Democratic team, the disappointment of their new supporters was palpable.

In exit interviews long time Independent and Moderate Republican voters cited lingering buyer's remorse from their 2000 or 2004 vote for Bush and the GOP. Had Gore been an option, many said they would have liked to have given the Democrats a chance. *"Gore's been right on so many things it's really hard to ignore. I was really hoping*

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Tactics, Tactics, Tactics

No do-overs on the campaign battlefield.

Doris Louis Hemberngor
Field Correspondent

Having a good presidential candidate was never the Democrat's problem. On the other hand, Democrats seemed to forget Republicans are masters the art of making poorly qualified candidates shine and convincing Americans to vote against their own interests.

The Democrats missed an opportunity for a huge nationwide tactical victory. Not only could a Gore-Obama ticket have raised the necessary funds and volunteers on the ground to easily fight the GOP ticket, the GOP would have been forced to pump money into a campaign it could not possibly win. This drain of GOP funding would have sucked money out of local races where DNC Chair Howard Dean's 50 state strategy and the grassroots organizations had been fighting Republican candidates.

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Traditional U.S. Allies Backing Away

Further complicating American efforts on the international front, elected leaders in other countries have begun backing away as a result of yesterday's GOP victory. As one leader said:

"The reality is that we need to answer to our own citizens. Our electorate respects Al Gore. If he had been the American President it would have made it much easier for our politicians to work together on international issues. But, our citizens pay attention to what America has been doing and they just don't trust the Republican's agenda.

In the long run I think yesterday's election results seriously hurt American interests, but it was your election not ours. My people just don't see a reason to help Americans out of a mess they created all by themselves - especially when they don't see American voters correcting their previous mistakes."

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