

DICK KICKED OVER CONDI'S SOAPBOX

Via TP, Howie Kurtz reveals that the networks don't want Condi anymore.

The secretary of state has always been considered a prize catch for the Sunday talk shows. But when the White House offered Condoleezza Rice for appearances eight days ago, after a week focused on Iraq, two programs took the unusual step of turning her down.

Executives at CBS and NBC say Rice no longer seems to be a key player on the

STRIKE!

My state's a mess: we still have no budget, and today the UAW launched its biggest strike in 30 years. (At least the football world is back to normal, with UM beating JoePa and the Lions losing badly).

A lot of people bitch and moan about bad American cars and use that as an excuse to bitch about UAW.

NOVAK AND ROVE UN- BREAK UP

There's a fascinating detail in Novak's self-hagiography about his break-up with his BFF Karl Rove during the CIA Leak investigation. In the middle of a longish description of their relationship, Novak describes missing Rove's company—as well as his leaks—during the three

years when he and Rove didn't talk.

Indeed, in forty-four years as a Washington reporter, I never had better access to a White House as I did to start the George

NSA TAKES OVER INTERNET SECURITY FROM DHS

That's not exactly what this article says—but it's close. The NSA—our nation's most effective spy agency—is going to adopt major new duties in policing our public internets.

In a major shift, the National Security Agency is drawing up plans for a new domestic assignment: helping protect government and private communications networks from cyberattacks and infiltration by terrorists and hackers, according to current and former intelligence officials.

[snip]

The plan calls for the NSA to work with the Department

CLARENCE THOMAS' MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO DATE

Every time I see mention of the Jena 6, I can't help but think of Clarence Thomas' single most positive contribution of his tenure on SCOTUS, as brought to you by Dahlia Lithwick.

Out of nowhere booms the great, surprising “Luke-I-am-your-father” voice of He Who Never Speaks. Justice Clarence Thomas suddenly asks a question and everyone’s head pops up and starts looking madly around, like the Muppets on Veterinarian Hospital.

NO SHIITE SHERLOCK

Kudos to Spencer Ackerman for FOIAing the rationale behind General Petraeus’ Magic September numbers out of the military. Generally, Ackerman explains that the numbers for sectarian violence don’t count attacks on same sect people or on the Iraqi government.

Interestingly, attacks against “same-sect civilians,” U.S. forces, the Iraqi government or Iraqi security forces “are excluded and not defined as sectarian attacks.” So even though Sunni insurgent groups loathe the Shiite-controlled government, insurgent attacks on it

THE ISRAELI BOMBING RUN IN SYRIA

Glenn Kessler and Robin Wright have the most comprehensive story, to date, on the mysterious bombing run Israel did in Syria on September 6. They confirm the story that had been floating around—that Israel’s target was a suspected nuclear site, supplied by North Korea. The story is interesting mostly for the exchange of intelligence it portrays.

THEY REALLY DO WANT MONICA TO DO FISA APPLICATIONS!

I joked earlier that the Administration had requested FISA be expanded so that Monica Goodling could make FISA certifications.

I'll come back to his summary of the extra goodies the Administration is requesting (the short version: they want to make it impossible for any case relating to wiretapping to go through normal courts, and they want to expand the universe of people who can make FISA certifications to include Monica Goodling non-Senate approved people the President

TWO MORE DETAILS ON THE RATHER COMPLAINT

Hey! Howie Kurtz has decided to do some reporting!!

He has two pieces on the Dan Rather lawsuit today. In a piece based on an interview of Rather, he notes that Moonves and Heyward demanded Rather resign the day after Bush was re-[s]elected.

Rather insisted to reporters on Nov. 23, 2004, that his decision to step down as anchor the following spring was entirely voluntary.

“WHENEVER IT IS CONVENIENT FOR YOU”

Anonymous Liberal found the Wainstein testimony
I said I was going to go look for. I'll come
back to his summary of the extra goodies the
Administration is requesting (the short version:
they want to make it impossible for any case
relating to wiretapping to go through normal
courts, and they want to expand the universe of
people who can make FISA certifications to
include Monica Goodling non-Senate approved
people the