

SPANKING SPAK AND SPEC

Arlen “Scottish Haggis” Specter has debased himself to fronting for the intellectually flaccid Hans von Spakovsky. Really. Is this what the conservative movement has come to?

CONYERS INVOKES THE CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT ON TORTURE

Every time I’ve raised the 2004 CIA IG report on torture on the Hill, whomever I’ve been talking to has gotten all hush hush, as if even they had to pretend the report never existed. Today, Conyers invoked it as one of the things that a Commission investigating the crimes of Bush and Cheney would focus on.

CRAPPY RECORD-KEEPING: A FEATURE, NOT A BUG

Add Gitmo files to the long list of scandals that the Bush Administration kept no meaningful records of.

THE USA PURGE: DOJ'S IG PUNTS

The long-awaited DOJ IG investigation appears to be a punt.

CHENEY AND YOUR 3 OUNCE SHAMPOO BOTTLES

Suskind provides details of how Bush and Cheney ordered up a torture scare just in time for elections. And as a result, you're still surviving off of hotel shampoo when you travel.

PELOSI APPOINTS DUSTY FOGGO AND JOSE RODRIGUEZ' BUDDY TO ETHICS COMMITTEE

Nancy Pelosi just appointed one of the most ethically impaired Congressmen this side of the Abramoff mob to be in charge of Congress' Ethics Review Board.

PARDON WATCH: THE BETTING POOL

Who do YOU think Bush will pardon in his last days in office?

HELGERSON AND CHENEY

It's going to be a busy day for me, but one thing I'm hoping to do is nick down to Borders (hey, this branch is unionized, and Borders is local to Ann Arbor) to buy Jane Mayer's new book. If for no other reason than to find out more about the meeting between John Helgerson, the CIA Inspector General, and Dick Cheney.

One of the lingering mysteries in Washington has been what

"THE WATERBOARD"

When the CIA OIG refers to water-boarding, they refer to it as "the water board." Makes it sound even more medieval, doesn't it?

MUKASEY'S TROUBLING HISTORICAL ARGUMENT

Mukasey's defense of John Yoo in his commencement address at Boston College Law

School has drawn a lot of attention. But it's the logic behind his defense, and not the defense per se, that really concerns me.