

In The News This Week: Ouch!

Amidst America's sad state of a recession, Election 2008 continues to stir up a host of weekly entertainment. But, just in case you've become disenchanted by the elections drama, there is more: a soap opera of politicians' sex, lies, and *maybe* videotapes should keep you engaged. Here is a rundown of this week's media phenomenon.¹

Despite the U.S. Federal Reserve's unprecedented line of credit offer to Bear Stearns, the bank suffered a massive economic blow, falling at the foot of one of Wall Street's mega finance companies, JP Morgan. JP Morgan will acquire Bear Stearns for a mere \$2 a share. Ouch!

Senator Hillary Clinton will now have to look toward Pennsylvania, and perhaps a phone ringing at 3:00 AM, to let her know that the Florida and Michigan primary redo ain't happening.² Being 100 or so delegates down, the Clinton campaign is considering twisting the arms of some of Senator Barack Obama's delegates to create a "flip" in support. Talk about gamey politics. Ouch!

Senator Obama may need to shift from pew to pulpit because Reverend Jeremiah Wright's provocative preaching is killing him politically.³ Ouch!

Former New York governor Eliot Spitzer got the rug pulled from underneath him within days of his prostitution ring scandal.⁴ But Larry Craig—remember that guy, the Idaho senator who was arrested on June 11, 2007, for lewd conduct in a public bathroom?—remains a U.S. senator. Dang! Shame on you America!

In light of the Spitzer scandal, just one day after current New York governor David Paterson was sworn in, he disclosed that he had several affairs during rough times in his marriage from 1999–

¹ The week of March 16-22, 2008.

² Perhaps one of the most memorable presidential campaign ads that gave Sen. Hillary Clinton the boost needed to cling to her hope of winning the race for the White House. Also, Florida and Michigan got disqualified for moving up their primaries. Sen. Clinton insisted on a redo which never happened. For more information go to http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/national/353897_primaries06.html

³ Rev. Jeremiah Wright's provoking preaching caused a media and congregational stir!

⁴ Spitzer was forced to resign. Turns out, he got a high off of biting "call girls". Ouch!

2001.⁵ Governor Paterson said he broke no laws. Well, perhaps Governor Paterson thinks he sees no evil; therefore, it's okay for him to hear, speak, and do evil. But get this; Paterson's wife, Michelle, also had an affair during the same period. Ouch and double Ouch!

Amidst the Spitzer scandal *and* the Paterson confession, new light is being shed on the past homosexual scandal of former New Jersey governor James McGreevey. McGreevey now confesses to engaging in a threesome with his wife, Dina, and another male before he was elected governor in 2001. McGreevey said his wife should have known he was gay then. Ouch! McGreevey's wife, however, denies his confession.

The DC Madam is back! Deborah Jeane Palfrey is now using the Spitzer scandal to validate that her so-called "escort" agency was indeed just that.⁶ Palfrey will face a federal judge next month and attempt to compare the price Spitzer paid to the price her agency offered for "massages". In the end, she hopes to prove that her agency couldn't possibly have been a "call girl" agency because her fees were substantially lower than the price Spitzer paid. If you ask me, Palfrey needs to distance herself from another reason to go to jail.

By the way, could somebody answer this question: when did it become political protocol for a politician's wife to stand at his side while he admits or denies his unscrupulousness?⁷ It's ridiculous! The way I see it, their wives weren't present at the time of their indiscretions, so why the heck should they be present when the media captures the guilty faces of their husbands?

While you ponder, I'll leave you with food for thought: principles in politics, does it exist?

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⁵ Gov. David Paterson became the first African American Governor of New York. (Gov. Paterson is legally blind.)

⁶ Deborah Jeane Palfrey was found dead on May 1, 2008 in a shed at the back of her mother's house. She is believed to have committed suicide.

⁷ Elizabeth Edwards (Sen. John Edwards' wife), was subjected to the same mess a few months later when Sen. Edwards announced that he had relations with an amateur photographer.