

ADVERTISING




Escape to sunny solitaire fun!

**Aloha Solitaire**

Download Demo

Powered by: **RealArcade**



NWclassifieds | NWsource | [Subscribe](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Seattle Post-Intelligencer](#)

Jump to >>> [Weather](#) | [Traffic](#) | [Mariners](#) | [Seahawks](#) | [Sonics](#) | [Forums](#) | [Calendar](#)

seattlepi.com

Local

search ?

NEWS

- Local
- Transportation
- Consumer
- Education
- Elections
- Environment
- Legislature
- Joel Connelly
- Robert Jamieson
- Visitors Guide
- Obituaries
- Neighborhoods
- Sports
- Nation/World
- Business
- A&E
- What's Happening
- Lifestyle
- NW Outdoors
- Photos
- Special Reports

COMMENTARY

- Opinion
- Columnists
- Letters
- David Horsey
- Saturday Spin
- Forums

COFFEE BREAK

- Comics & Games
- Horoscope
- TV Listings

FIND IT!

- NWclassifieds
  - [Jobs](#)
  - [Autos](#)
  - [Real Estate](#)
  - [Rentals](#)
- NWsource
  - [Shopping](#)
  - [Personals](#)
  - [Yellow pages](#)
  - [Maps/directions](#)
- Newspaper ads
- [P-I Archives](#)
- [Photo Reprints](#)
- [Obituaries](#)

P-I ANYWHERE

- E-mail Newsletters
- News Alerts
- PDA
- Cell Phones
- Digital Editions
- RSS Feeds

ADVERTISING

**JOEL CONNELLY**

Wednesday, July 27, 2005

**McGavick Web site cleans up; foes ought to do same**



By **JOEL CONNELLY**  
SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER COLUMNIST

Just before leaving work last week, I punched up the volunteer-run Web site touting prospective U.S. Senate candidate Mike McGavick and read its provocative opening line: "IT IS TIME FOR A MAN TO REPRESENT WASHINGTON."

The beginning of a new workweek saw a new message on mikemcgavick.com: "This site is currently under construction. Please check back in a couple weeks." The soon-to-be ex-Safeco CEO has taken charge of his political fortunes, exiling sexism.

The initial McGavick Web site was crude. So was an attack mounted against the would-be GOP Senate candidate by something called nextpac.org. It sent out a broadside with big red X's drawn through McGavick's face.

The 2006 Senate race is a marquee contest and a choice between quality individuals, McGavick and Democratic Sen. Maria Cantwell.

Here's hoping Cantwell and McGavick can duke it out on ideas and issues, without a) clumsy interventions by ideological groups, and b) big "independent" spending on TV hit ads.

**Other political news:**

**Wild Sky:** Cantwell has shepherded legislation to create a 106,000-acre Wild Sky Wilderness area in the Cascades east of Everett through the Senate for the third time. It passed yesterday -- unanimously.

The bill has been blocked in the House by one man -- House Resources Committee Chairman Richard Pombo. The California Republican unilaterally re-interprets environmental laws.

Wild Sky had bipartisan backing in the last Congress. What will newly elected Reps. Dave Reichert and Cathy McMorris, both R-Wash., do about this situation?

**The Supremes:** Already

TOOLS



Print this



E-mail this

Most printed & e-mailed

ADVERTISING



Turn a  
whim into  
wealth.

Sell your  
stuff online  
for **FREE.**

**NWclassifieds**

HEADLINES

- [Keeping the flag and religion separate](#)
- [Seattle could learn from a city up north](#)
- [Senate race could be a refreshing](#)

ADVERTISING

SEC	ROW	SEAT
1	NN	13

**TICKET EXCHANGE**  
Buy tickets to local theater, concert & sports events.

powered by  
**razorgator**

**NWsource**  
We find it. You do it.

## OUR AFFILIATES



shaping up, for 2006, is a concerted effort by Republicans and conservatives to elect like-minded folk to the Washington State Supreme Court. Remember the mean shot at the Supremes in Dino Rossi's concession statement.

Former federal prosecutor (and GOP National Committee member)

Diane Tebelius would be a formidable candidate. State Sen. Steve Johnson, R-Kent, is frequently mentioned.

**McDermott:** An old joke resurfaces during House "district work periods": What's the difference between God and Jim McDermott? God is everywhere. Jim McDermott is everywhere but Seattle.

Our world-traveling congressman-for-life is sighted at home often these days. Is McDermott becoming a key player in regional transportation? Puget Sound? Salmon recovery? Hardly. He is raising money.

"I am fighting a long-running court battle against right-wing Republicans who want to punish me for contributing to the downfall of Newt Gingrich by passing on incriminating information to the media," he wrote last week.

In another missive, McDermott warned of having to pay opponents' legal fees, writing, "This will be as much as \$1,000,000."

McDermott is in the eighth year of a civil lawsuit battle with GOP Rep. John Boehner of Ohio. In 1997, as ranking House Ethics Committee Democrat, McD received an illegally taped cell-phone conversation.

House Speaker Gingrich, Boehner and GOP House leaders were plotting to minimize political damage from a \$300,000 penalty imposed against Gingrich by the ethics committee. Gingrich had promised not to protest the penalty.

McDermott leaked the tape to The New York Times and The Atlanta Journal-Constitution. Boehner sued for invasion of his privacy. The case has bounced up and down the federal courts. Recently, U.S. District Judge Thomas Hogan ruled for Boehner, giving him \$10,000 in statutory damages and \$50,000 in punitive damages. Awarding attorneys' fees was held up pending appeal.

With a loyal liberal following, McDermott has taken some liberties with the truth.

He has claimed partial credit for Gingrich's ouster as House speaker. But Gingrich was toppled by an internal Republican revolt after the GOP

### Are You Paying Too Much For Auto Insurance?

ZIP code where you park at night. \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently have auto insurance?  Yes  No

Have you had a U.S driver's license for more than 3 years?  Yes  No

Has any driver in your household had 2 or more accidents or moving violations in the last 3 years?  Yes  No

**INSWEB** Get Quotes!

contest

Wilson vindicated but badly bruised

Political season is here early this year

I-912 has familiar twists and turns

unexpectedly lost seats in the 1998 election.

McDermott boasts of "passing on incriminating information to the media" and positions himself as a First Amendment defender. Major news organizations are backing his appeal.

But back in '97, McD denied leaking the tape and said he knew not how the Times and Constitution laid hands on it.

He lied, and he has never explained or apologized for it.

**Enter Al:** With the candidacy of former UW history professor Al Runte, Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels at last gets a respectable foe. Runte will hit the neighbor-hoods and hopes to "smoke out" hizzoner. Nickels has skipped even a Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce forum.

Runte is an expert on national parks, but he says he has studied urban development "with a European slant" for years.

"We're all going to be moving toward greater density in urban areas, for the sake of preserving our farms and forests," he said yesterday. He alleges that the Nickels administration has welcomed developments without providing for infrastructure.

Runte is a believer in mass transit, on the ground and not rising above it all.

"We're building toys, we aren't building transit systems," he said yesterday. "We need to get over the monorail-waterfront streetcar fixation. They aren't part of an overall system."

The 58-year-old Runte can, methinks, go in two directions.

He can do a "boutique" campaign, listening to self-important, fossilized Seattle liberals and not expanding his base beyond those who know him.

Or he can reach out, make new friends, and run a spirited, reputation-building race.

P-I columnist Joel Connelly can be reached at 206-448-8160 or [joelconnelly@seattlepi.com](mailto:joelconnelly@seattlepi.com).

 [Printer-friendly version](#)

 [E-mail this story](#)

 [Get e-mail news updates](#)

 [Subscribe to the P-I](#)

[Home](#) | [Site Map](#) | [About the P-I](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [P-I Jobs](#) | [Home Delivery](#)

## Seattle Post-Intelligencer

101 Elliott Ave. W.  
Seattle, WA 98119  
(206) 448-8000

Home Delivery: (206) 464-2121 or (800) 542-0820

Send comments to [newmedia@seattlepi.com](mailto:newmedia@seattlepi.com)  
©1996-2005 Seattle Post-Intelligencer  
[Terms of Service/Privacy Policy](#)

