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Commentary editor addresses 'Liberalism and the Media'

By Derrick Stokes

The only lies that were being told in this past election were committed by Michael Dukakis, not by George Bush, said the neo-conservative writer and *Commentary* magazine editor, Norman Podhoretz.

Addressing a Penn State Harrisburg audience on "Liberalism and the Media" in the Capital Union Building Nov. 10, Podhoretz said that Dukakis lied about his record concerning the vetoed Pledge of Allegiance bill and the Massachusetts furlough program.

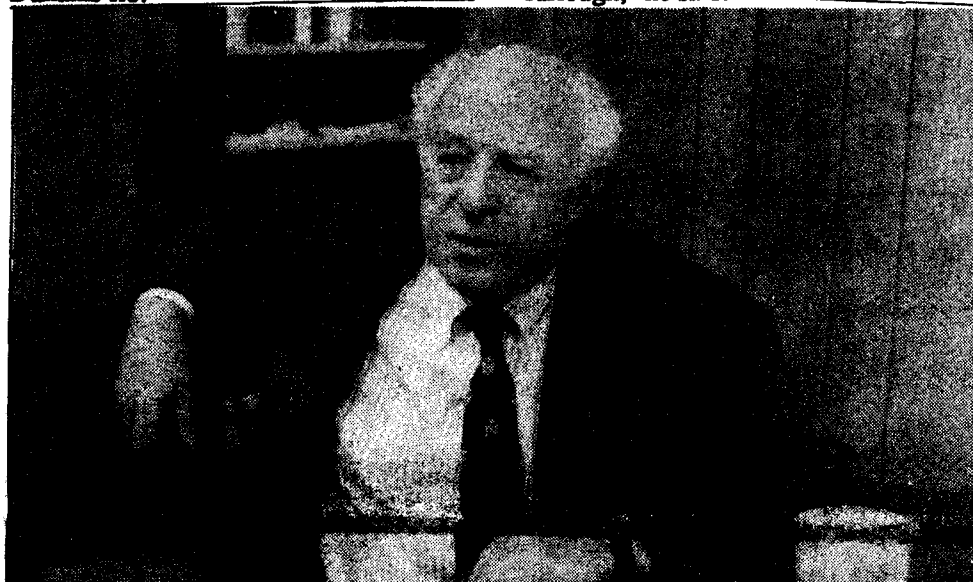
According to Podhoretz, a former liberal and current spokesman for the New Right, Dukakis lied about his record because he was trying to avoid being labeled a liberal.

Dukakis had contended that the Massachusetts State Supreme Court told him that the Pledge of Allegiance bill was unconstitutional. Therefore, he had no option but to veto it. According to Podhoretz, he was not telling the truth.

"The advisory opinion of the Massachusetts State Supreme Court to a governor is not binding and does not

necessarily bear on the constitutionality of an act," said Podhoretz.

Podhoretz used the controversial Furlough Program to point out another Dukakis fib.



Norman Podhoretz, *Commentary* editor rests before the Question & Answer session with students and faculty. Photo by Kimberly Anastas

Dukakis said the furlough program existed in 30 other states. Podhoretz,

however, said his program was unique.

"It was the only one [program] in which non-parolable offenders -- first degree murderers -- were granted a furlough," he said.

challenged it, according to Podhoretz.

"We were allowed to believe that these charges were lies, smears," he said.

He attributed this to bias and "maybe bad reporting."

"There are people in the media who admit that most journalists are liberals," he said

"The liberal ethos is pervasive in the media."

Podhoretz did concede, however, that most of the mud-slinging was done by Bush in the form of television advertisements.

"Those charges were broadcast far and wide by the media," he said.

Because only 15 percent of the electorate today consider themselves liberal, the Bush strategy was to prevent Dukakis from representing himself as a moderate Democrat. Bush knew that Dukakis wouldn't be elected if the public's perception of Dukakis was that of a "liberal of the post-1968, George McGovern/Walter Mondale variety."

According to Podhoretz, Dukakis was trying to "delegitimize," in advance, the Bush victory. He said that the

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Faculty concerned about salary differentials between campuses

By Josette Kloker

A study released last April, conducted by the University Senate, discovered that "salaries of professional faculty at Capital [College] are significantly lower than salaries of University Park faculty."

This study, the "De Rooy Report," compared faculty at Behrend, the Commonwealth Educational System, Hershey Medical Center, and Capital to evaluate whether location influences faculty salaries.

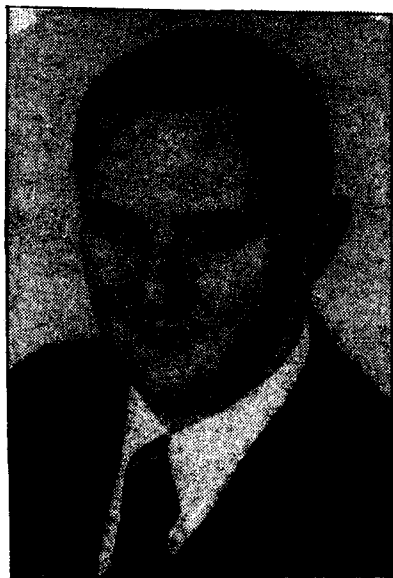
Dr. Jacob De Rooy, associate professor of economics, who obviously was a major contributor to the report, said it attempts to compare "identical twins." He said they used statistical tests to adjust for the faculty's different backgrounds so they could compare equals.

These twins had the following identical characteristics:

- Taught the same subject
- Had the same educational background
- Had been at the university the same amount of time
- Completed the same amount of graduate work
- Obtained the same tenure status
- Reached equal rank.

De Rooy said faculty have four ranks: instructor, assistant professor, associate professor and full professor.

De Rooy said they found, "people (faculty) with equal background and rank, but located at Capital College, receive less money than people (faculty) at University Park." He added, "This is



Dr. Jacob De Rooy, associate professor of economics.

true only for people (faculty) in the top ranks."

In fact, De Rooy said the report discovered the faculty at the lower ranks get paid more at Capital College.

Unfortunately, looks can be deceiving. The faculty are only paid more because they stay at these lower ranks for an extended period of time, whereas faculty at University Park tend to be promoted to the upper ranks.

"The promotion rate at this college is far below the promotion rate at University Park," said Louise Hoffman, associate professor of humanities and history.

De Rooy said some try to justify this discrepancy by saying the faculty at University Park are more productive in terms of research.

Obviously, University Park has a lot more resources, including teaching assistants and funding that Capital College does not have.

What concerns the faculty is this report's effect on morale. Hoffman said, "The morale issue is a significant one. This is bound to make the faculty think the University does not appreciate them."

Dr. James Hudson, professor of social science and sociology, said, "If I

can meet the University-wide standards for promotion, why can't I meet the University-wide standards for salary?"

Since this problem also exists at the Commonwealth campuses, the faculty is

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