

EIR National

ADL candidates in trouble as voters eye LaRouche option

by John Sigerson

As the final phase of campaigning for the Nov. 2 elections begins, voters in Virginia and Minnesota who only rely on the censored major news media are scratching their heads over the mysterious decline in the fortunes of two supposedly up-and-coming, national-spotlight politicians: Mary Sue Terry, the tough former Virginia Attorney General, running to replace Douglas Wilder, the nation's first black governor; and Terry's Minnesota colleague Hubert "Skip" Humphrey III, who was angling to run next year for either the governor's post or his father's old seat in the U.S. Senate.

According to the censored media, Terry, who began her campaign with a wide lead over her only opponent, Republican George F. Allen, is now all of a sudden "floundering," "fumbling," "bumbling," or even "stumbling," and is seriously lagging behind Allen in the opinion polls. Then Humphrey suddenly announced in late September that he would not seek higher office, and will instead seek a fourth term in his current post.

As usual, it's what the media *don't* report that makes what's happening comprehensible. The reality is that in Virginia, there is a *third* candidate—*independent* Nancy Spannaus, an associate of Lyndon LaRouche—who is making significant inroads, as voters' stomachs turn at the other two offerings; while in Minnesota, Humphrey is in increasing danger of being indicted on numerous counts of criminal abuse of power, including his participation, along with Mary Sue Terry, in the illegal political witchhunt against Lyndon LaRouche.

The Spannaus campaign

A future *EIR* feature will examine the coming demise of gangland figure Skip Humphrey. Here we will focus on the demise of his Virginia cohort, Mary Sue Terry.

Virginia insiders all know that Nancy Spannaus is a force to be seriously reckoned with. In the 1990 elections, when

she ran against John Warner for the U.S. Senate, she received 200,000 votes, garnering over 18% of the total vote. This power was acknowledged in a backhanded way on Oct. 3, when the *Washington Post* published a poll reporting that 34% of those polled wished that there were a third candidate on the ballot!

Over recent weeks, both she and her husband Edward Spannaus—one of the original "LaRouche seven" frameup victims imprisoned in 1989 and now free—have been stumping the state, speaking at local functions and ceremonies and urging voters to get serious about turning about the depression and adopting the infrastructure-building approach proposed by LaRouche. In this effort, she is flanked by a number of candidates for Virginia State Assembly, mostly grouped in the northern part of the state around Washington, D.C. and the former shipbuilding center around Norfolk in the south.

Spannaus's presence is so pervasive that it has become impossible to shut her out of every debate, despite the usual heavy-handed efforts to do so. Edward Spannaus has appeared in a debate against the Republican George F. Allen, while Nancy Spannaus was featured along with Republican lieutenant governor candidate Mike Farris at a debate sponsored by the McLean Civic Association and the McLean chapter of the American Association of University Women. This in turn is beginning to wear down the League of Women voters, which under heavy pressure from corrupt circles around the Anti-Defamation League and Mary Sue Terry, has so far refused to include Spannaus in any debate. But a recent League of Women Voters flyer on candidates' positions on issues which gets distributed throughout the state, prominently features Spannaus, listing her first among the candidates.

The political penalties for continuing to exclude Spannaus may become even steeper with the beginning of a series of televised debates. The first was held on Oct. 7 in the state capital Richmond, sponsored by the Virginia Press Associa-

tion. These scions of the “free” press refused to put Spannaus on, but had to suffer the indignity of a demonstration and press conference, at which Spannaus called upon the Virginia media to “end their role as the ‘Thought Police’ of America.” The Spannaus campaign has used some of its modest funds to purchase short radio ads, similar in format to the ads with which Lyndon LaRouche rocked the Washington, D.C. area during his 1990 Virginia congressional campaign.

Spannaus’s campaign is also developing substantial support among black and trade union constituencies. She has been speaking at functions of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and on Oct. 9 participated in the gubernatorial candidates’ forum at the NAACP’s state convention. Of the three candidates, she has done the most campaigning in the mining areas of southwest Virginia, where Mary Sue Terry is not well liked for her tacit backing of efforts to dismantle what remains of the organized labor movement. Indeed, Spannaus has pointed out that Terry’s campaign has received \$10,000 from mob-connected Edgar Bronfman and \$5,000 from his Seagrams liquor company, and that the Bronfmans hold a major interest in Consolidated Coal, the corporate giant which has recently forced a new miners strike.

Intersecting this is the growing revolt of parents against New Age brainwashing programs such as outcome-based education (OBE) and the Common Core of Learning. The worst “pilot project” schools around the state have been the site of emotion-charged demonstrations, led by combinations of Spannaus campaign workers and local parents. Digust with these programs became so great that in September, outgoing Douglas Wilder declared that the Common Core curriculum would be withdrawn, a decision confirmed on Sept. 19 in an abrupt statement by the Virginia Board of Education. This has given further fuel to rumors that state school superintendent Joseph Spagnolo will indeed be thrown out, as Spannaus has demanded.

Spannaus’s influence and ideas have also cropped up in the campaign of her Republican opponent George F. Allen. Allen has stated his opposition to OBE. Also, a statewide campaign pamphlet prominently shows a very unflattering picture of Mary Sue Terry which strikingly resembles a photograph which has also appeared in Spannaus campaign literature.

Come Clean, Mary Sue

Given the huge amount of corruption in Virginia, it would be absurd to shy away from “negative campaigning.” The Spannaus campaign has issued a slim but deadly brochure, which opens with the following: “What is Mary Sue Terry hiding? How many corrupt political favors and illegalities did she carry out during her two terms as attorney general? Virginia voters have a right to know.”

The questions asked are likely to finish off Terry’s career even more quickly than the question that Lyndon LaRouche

asked in 1988 about the mental health of Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis.

Spannaus’s pamphlet aims at Terry’s sorest Achilles’ heel: her politically motivated zealotry in railroading Lyndon LaRouche and his associates into prison, with sentences ranging up to 77 years, in the case of Michael Billington. According to FBI transcripts of the phone conversations of Donald Moore, a former sheriff’s lieutenant in Loudoun County in northern Virginia, Moore claimed he had knowledge of illegal doings by Terry in going after LaRouche which could “blow her [Terry] out of the saddle.” Moore, who had some political ambitions himself—perhaps intending to hitch his wagon to that of his old tent-buddy Oliver North, the patriotic drug runner who now wants to be a Virginia senator—bragged to a caller that he had personally telephoned Terry’s office to threaten that he would “blow the LaRouche investigation sky-high” if Terry did anything to stand in the way of his career goals.

Specifically, Moore claimed he had instructed Terry not to give any assistance or support to Moore’s local rival, Loudoun County Sheriff John Isom. Isom’s office had been raided on April 21, 1992 by the FBI as part of an investigation of misuse of government funds. Moore’s threat, according to the Spannaus pamphlet, was not idle, since Terry would otherwise be inclined to help Isom, who was Terry’s campaign manager during her 1989 run for a second term as attorney general. Indeed, it was Isom who had delivered the speech nominating Terry at the state Democratic Convention.

The blackmail apparently worked, since Isom has been left twisting in the wind, while Terry’s assistant, John Russell, later showed up to defend Moore in a 1992 trial where Moore was accused of being part of a conspiracy to kidnap another LaRouche associate, Lewis du Pont Smith.

The Spannaus brochure also asks Terry to come clean on the following questions:

- Her involvement with the illegal spying activities of the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith (ADL), especially since “in May 1990, the prosecution [against LaRouche associates] stipulated in open court in Roanoke that the ADL was part of the Virginia state prosecution, as well as the federal prosecution.”
- Her refusal to pay 200,000 retired Virginia federal and military retirees \$467 million which had been collected “by mistake” out of their pensions.
- Her odd personal life. One of Spannaus’s chief slogans has been “Virginia Is For Mothers!”

On the latter point, the blackmail promises to get very dirty indeed. According to the Oct. 8 *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, William Gray, a Roanoke psychiatrist now accused of engaging in inappropriate sexual relationships with at least four young male patients, has claimed that he was framed up by Terry, after a patient of his, who was also Terry’s lesbian lover, committed suicide. Terry has dismissed the charge, noting that “the same thing happened to me when I prosecuted Lyndon LaRouche’s associates.” Time will tell.