

LYM in Ohio: Interpretation vs. Reality

by Joe Smalley, LaRouche Youth Movement

Consider the maps and tables included on these pages, correlating them with the involvement of the LaRouche Youth Movement with the Nov. 7 midterm election results in the state of Ohio. Notice the substantial resultant differences in the highlighted locations, between 2002 and 2006, and consider the following series of questions:

What created this observed, dramatic change? Many interpretations have surfaced since the elections on why the Democrats enjoyed a landslide victory, so, which interpretation ought you to believe? Should you be forced to choose one interpretation, a combination thereof, or even invent your own? Perhaps a different question should be asked: By what means could one come to know that such interpretations were,

like the astronomical models of Ptolemy, Copernicus, and Brahe, not altogether fruitful, neither for discovering the cause of the statistically measured effects, nor for improving the state of the economy?

Democratic National Committee chairman Howard Dean, in a post-election memo, stated that organizers “expanded the state [Ohio] party’s infrastructure,” with, “a DNC-funded field director, four field organizers, and a voter database manager [who] all helped run voter contact operations in parts of the state that hadn’t heard from the Democratic Party in years.”¹ Does Howard attribute the voter surge to these DNC activities? To four field organizers? And what ideas? If so, by what method does he reach his conclusion?

‘New Politics’ Surged Ohio’s Democratic Vote

The Midwest LaRouche Youth Movement had a regular presence in the northern tier of Ohio (Toledo, Akron, and Cleveland), and had organized down to Cincinnati, when massive shutdowns of auto plants, especially those belonging to Delphi, were announced in May 2006. Then, a few weeks before the Nov. 7, 2006 midterm election, the LYM targeted five universities for high-profile, idea-based interventions against Lynne Cheney’s campus gestapo, “Campus Watch,” through the distribution of thousands of pieces of literature, and hundreds of one-on-one conversations. Personal interaction was identified by the national Voter Strategies Group as the way the 25% national increase in the 18-29 year-old vote from 2002 to 2006 was generated. This vote came in at nearly two-thirds for Democrats.

The LYM intervened at universities in Athens, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, and Portage counties. The Democratic vote not only increased—it massively increased. In both Hamilton County (Cincinnati) and Franklin County (Columbus), the Democratic Congressional candidates carried those counties, which had voted 3-1, and nearly 2-1 Republican in 2002 (**Table 1**). In Athens County, the

LYM campus organizing was key in increasing the voter turnout by 5.3%, and in transforming a narrow Democratic victory in 2002 into a 5-1 Democratic win in 2006 (**Table 2**). In Portage County, where the LYM organized at Kent State, the voter turnout increased nearly 10%, and the Republican victory in 2002 flipped to a 2-1 Democratic majority. In Cuyahoga County (Cleveland), a comfortable Democratic victory in 2002 surged to a 3-1 Democratic landslide in 2006 (Table 1).

In the five counties to which the LYM brought Lyndon LaRouche’s legislative plan to save the auto industry-machine tool capability, without a specific campus element, three of these counties flipped from Republican to Democratic: Lucas, Montgomery, and Richland. In Montgomery County, a Republican-leaning area, which was impacted by four announced Delphi plant closings, voter turnout surged by 8.3% in 2006, compared to 2002. In Lorain and Trumbull (Lordstown) counties, narrow Democratic victories in 2002—by margins of less than 2,000 votes—became 2-1, or, even in Trumbull, 3-1, Democratic landslides, with significantly increased turnout.

In Franklin (Columbus) and Hamilton (Cincinnati) counties, where the LYM organized on campuses as well as at auto plants, the Democratic Congressional candidates won where the Republicans had trounced Democratic opponents in 2002. If the Democratic leadership had embraced the “New Politics,” there would be two more Democratic members of Congress today.—*Anita Gallagher*

TABLE 1

Democrats Could Have Won Two More Ohio Seats

Ohio Congressional District 2		
2002 Vote	2002—entire CD	Hamilton Co.
Sanders (D)	48,785	20,198
Portman (R)	139,218	63,037
2006 Vote		
Wulsin (D)	117,595	50,210
Schmidt (R)	120,112	44,447

The Democratic vote improved from a near 3-1 trouncing in 2002, to a narrow loss of the seat by only 2,500 votes. The Democrat won the county where the LaRouche Youth Movement organized.

Ohio Congressional District 15		
2002 Vote	2002—entire CD	Franklin Co.
Brown (D)	54,286	48,742
Pryce (R)	108,193	91,242
2006 Vote		
Kilroy (D)	109,659	98,964
Pryce (R)	110,714	91,411

In CD 15, the Democratic vote surged from a 2-1 loss in 2002, to a narrow loss by only 1,055 votes in 2006—less than one-half of one percent. The Democrat won in the county where the LYM organized.

Note: Democratic vote is in boldface.

Source: www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/ElectionsVoter/results

The subject of method is crucial to distinguish the statesman from the poster-boy. The method of organizing employed determines the type of effect that will be produced by that organizing. Fundamentally, two methods can be employed, one which focusses on mental-physical action as primary, the other which focuses on mechanical action as primary. In the former case, change in the quality of mind of the human individual is the subject of organizing; in the latter, appeal to traditional social forms of behavior. Lyndon LaRouche, in a recent paper titled, “Johannes Kepler and the Democratic Challenge: The New Politics,” describes the significance of the former:

“The practical point at issue in the subject at hand is that not only is human creativity, when properly defined, expressed as an experimentally knowable sovereign form of behavior by individuals; it also supplies the qualitative energy, in the ontological sense of motive power, of all great, positive changes in direction of development within social processes as such.”²

What actually *moved* people to partake in a seeming historical miracle? Recent studies have empirically demonstrated that person-to-person contact was the most significant

factor in getting out the vote, and, in fact, that robo-calls were the least significant.³ *But, why is this?* People are not robots! Nor are they cows! What do you call a human being who treats others as if they were robots or cows? A Howard! Physical action requires an impetus; a human being must have courage to challenge himself, and others, to change. If the United States of America were to remain true to its historical mission, then Americans must develop a new vision. *We must become aware that it is our consciousness of the great problems facing us today that pushes citizens into the future; that the development of a nation, like ours, depends upon the advancement of all its citizens, mentally, materially, and morally.*

The discussion that informs citizens of their own significant role in resolving universal problems does not consist merely of their behavior on Election Day. If it were to be a motive power, informative discussion must hold vital the role of the individual in shaping society. Individuals must encounter ideas that change them, if they expect to change their surroundings.

So, then, what caused people to become aware of the calamities facing them and their posterity this election season? Rather than attempting to interpret the election results, let us return to the aforesaid question: By what means would one come to know that such interpretations were, like the models of Ptolemy, Copernicus, and Brahe, not altogether fruitful, neither for discovering the cause of the statistically measured effects, nor for improving the state of the economy? To begin to answer this question, we must travel through the most recent years and months of history, and we must distinguish the two, characteristically opposed methods of organizing within the context of the 2004-06 campaign.

The Living Force

While the LYM were not the only organizers mobilizing people for a political fight, the method that we employed was strategically unique. Members of the Midwest LYM focussed their organizing on university and college campuses during the recent campaign season, concentrating most heavily in the state capital, Columbus. Reportedly, over 100 College Democrats also converged on Ohio for a two-day weekend in November.⁴ *Their ideas were not reported.* The LYM’s discussion, however, with students on matters of impeachment and economic development intensified with a mass exposé of the Campus Gestapo.⁵ Over 10,000 pamphlets, “Is Joseph Goebbels on Your Campus,” were aimed at Ohio State University (Franklin County) alone. Activities were also concentrated on Ohio University (Athens County), where about 5,000 pamphlets were delivered. A fair trade forum was held in Athens, where students and faculty gathered for the sake of giving more pennies to tropical coffee farmers. Here, several LYM members opened people to irony: Underdeveloped nations need transformative change, not spare change. Members of the audience gasped when we replied to a rebuttal claiming

TABLE 2

Ohio's Massive Democratic Tide Where LYM Organized

Comparison of Ohio Gubernatorial Vote in 2002 and 2006

County	2002	Turnout	2006	Turnout	Comment
Athens	D 8,408 R 7,018	42.7%	16,188 3,303	48.0%	Narrow Dem victory in 2002 becomes 5-1 landslide
Cuyahoga	225,582 142,814	45.8	335,306 107,234	44.3	Dem easy hold expands to 3-1 margin
*Franklin	108,778 156,712	40.4	241,596 122,601	50.3	County turns Dem by 2-1
Hamilton	73,843 160,223	47.3	139,451 141,374	52.3	Dems nearly win GOP stronghold
*Portage	19,708 19,887	45.1	36,553 16,223	54.4	County turns Dem by 2-1
Lorain	38,515 37,423	49.9	68,783 28,342	54.5	Dem narrow hold expands to 2-1+
*Lucas	49,648 76,572	48.7	95,118 44,307	49.5	GOP 3-2 margin reverses to Dem 2-1 win
*Montgomery	59,584 95,891	50.0	107,593 76,189	58.3	Dems reverse GOP trouncing
*Richland	13,520 21,963	46.8	24,398 19,855	51.7	Dems reverse GOP trouncing
Trumbull	35,364 33,718	56.2	60,161 18,556	58.3	Dem narrow win becomes 3-1+

Notes:

The first five counties contain university towns where the LYM organized for several weeks prior to Nov. 7, 2006. In some cases, they overlap with locations where the LYM organized at auto plants earlier for LaRouche's emergency legislation to save auto.

In the five counties which follow, the LYM organized at auto plants.

*Indicates county that switched to Democrat in 2006 from Republican in 2002 in the gubernatorial vote. Democratic vote totals are in boldface.

Source: www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/ElectionsVoter/results

that FDR had to save money to further manufacturing, with: "That's not even true. . . . We had the sovereignty to actually use credit to develop that capability." We interrupted some classes to brief students on our activities too. "Eek!" exclaimed a Democratic pedant, who believes firmly, "Education determines income! Keep your nose in your texts!" Some students, however, did organize a protest, albeit a scarily Baby-Boomer-style one, against the Iraq War, in which this author was welcomed to speak.⁶

The LYM activities in Ohio were part of a national organizing drive to open campuses to discussion of ideas.⁷ Most students were well aware of the crumbling economic situation in Ohio and worldwide, with warnings of a monetary crash looming overhead. But what can one do in such ominous times? With only charity events and gripe sessions accessible, a student might become apathetic. "Quick! Gather your green and burn some grass," says the fool to his cowardly friend. If money had an intrinsic value, if man were a beast, then this might be a less-than-despicable plan; however, as Alexander Hamilton demonstrated the point, it is man who controls the

function of money.

We gave students the alternative: People need to be productive; the nation needs agriculture, manufacturing, science, and infrastructure. "But, we don't need to produce physical goods anymore, we've become a knowledge economy," says the "economics" student. However, when youth are given the chance to think—as we took part in creating such opportunities—they will respond. They begin to challenge their axioms. "How ya gonna pay for that?" one asks, while looking at a map of the Eurasian Land-Bridge. Countless discussions between the LYM and students, laborers, and public officials, on the subject of money, embody the distinction between our method and others.

On the Money Problem

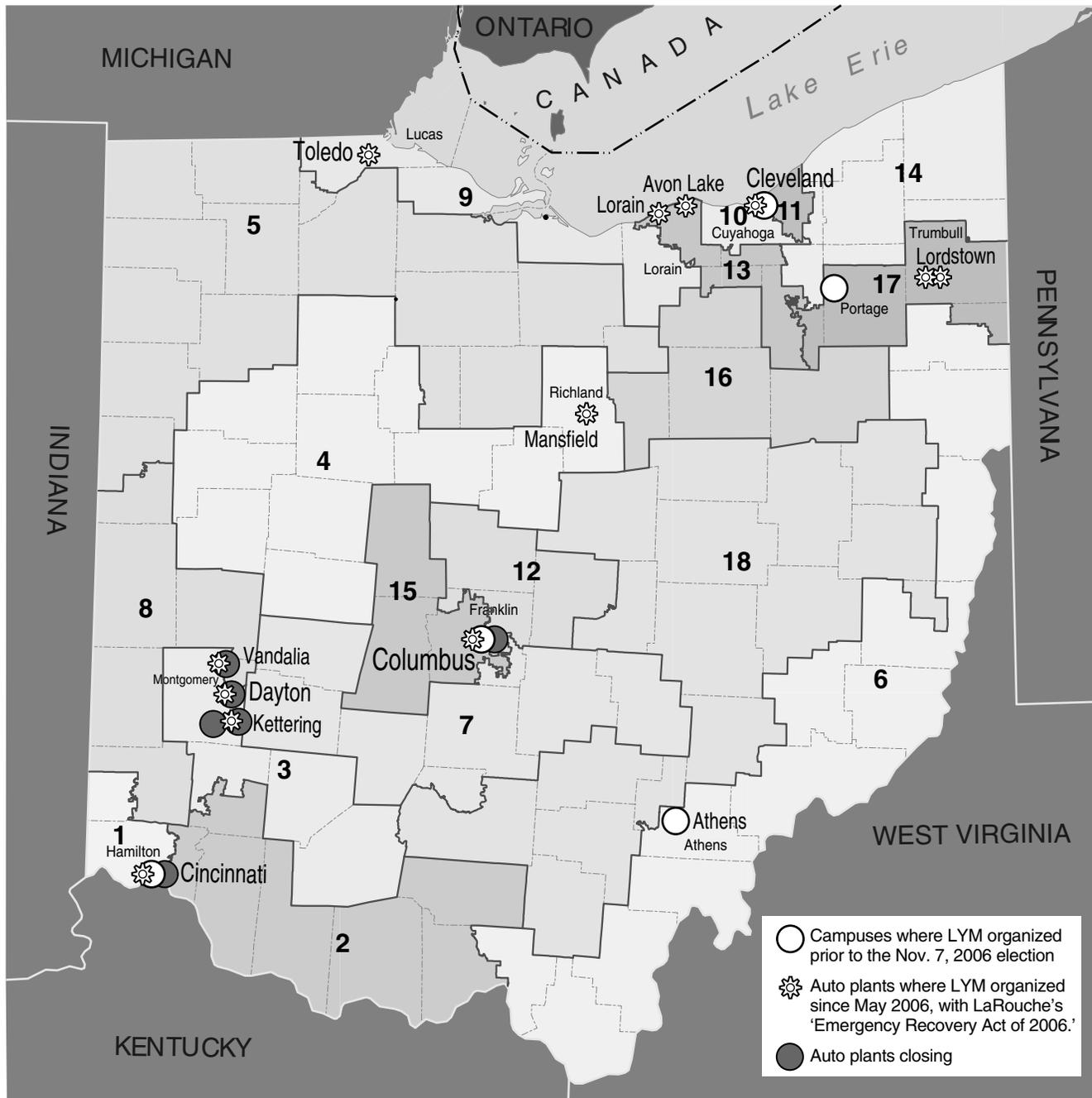
While too many Democrats sat on the sidelines, during systemic shut-downs of the automobile and machine-tool industries, beginning early 2005, LYM members and contacts organized labor leaders throughout the Midwest, most heavily in Ohio and Michigan, to join our call to the Senate for Emergency Legislation—for the creation of a Federal authority to provide the capital for the maintenance and expansion of auto-related production facilities, to create new products, and to create mate-

rial inputs for critical infrastructure projects.⁸ Members of Congress, their staffers, Democratic Party pedants, and even some laborers grimaced, saying, "But the government cannot pay for the private market. Even so, look at how much debt we're in! Where would you ever get the money for that? You're crazy!"

Considering that a nation without the means of production must depend on other nations for its own defense, that the United States was built upon the foundation of a constitutionally permissible National Bank, and that technological leaps and associated mass-effects of productivity of the entire U.S. economy were by-products of the American System of Political Economy, we realized that American citizens are malnourished when it comes to their own history.⁹ *You're crazy?* The Baby Boomer who decides to forget the future and live in a fantasized past *is crazy!* Under whose complicity has money, made by man, a tool for harnessing his work-product, become a god whose rules he was forced to obey?

As the LYM toured Ohio, speaking with soon-to-be retirees at plants marked for collapse (see map), workers were

LYM Brings Out Democratic Vote in Ohio



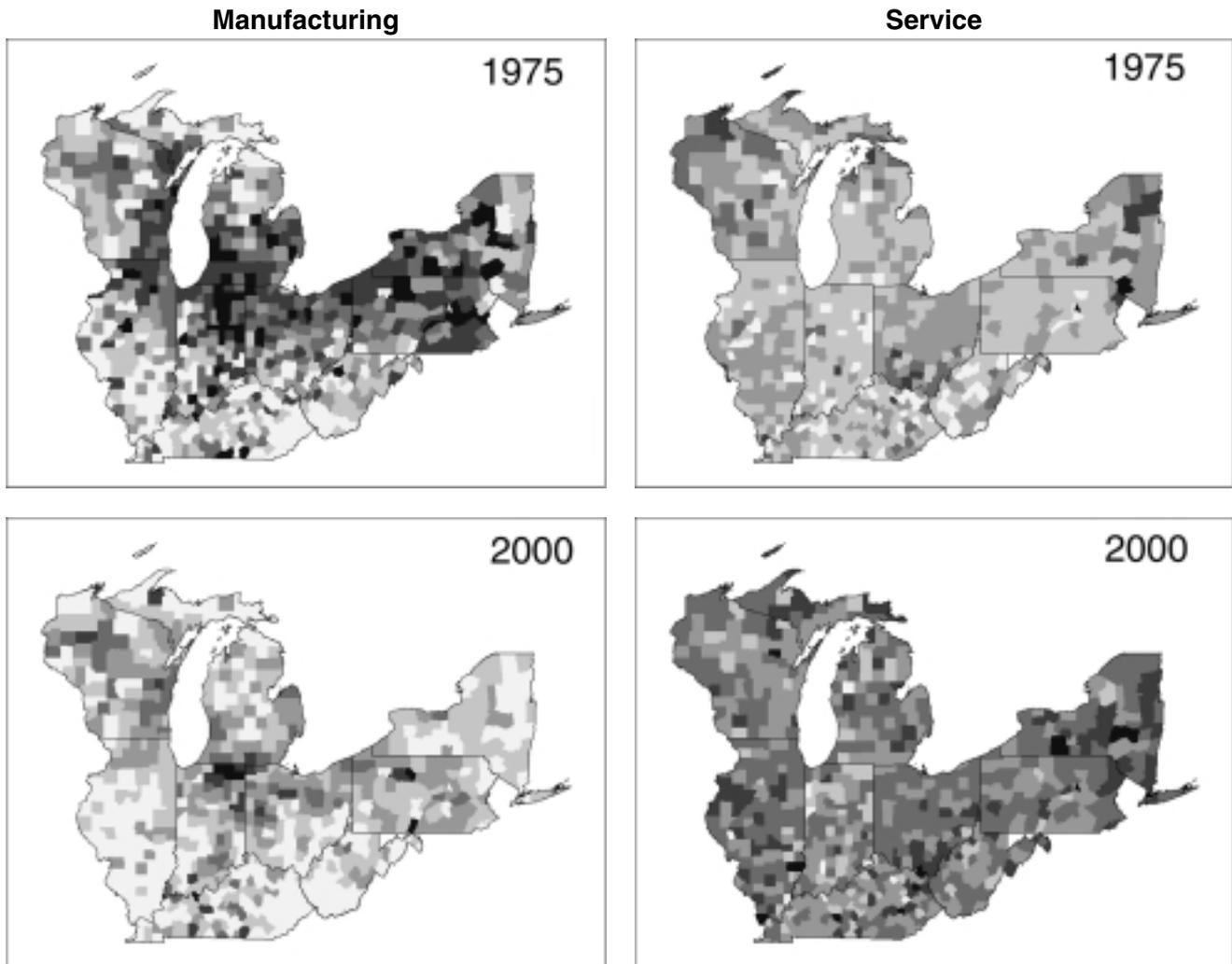
Source: www.nationalatlas.gov; EIR.

excited—discussion of the future was before them, and they were a part of it. In January-May 2006, we met with numerous staffers of the Ohio State House and Senate and with municipal and county officials, the majority of whom told us that they would bring common sense to their U.S. Representatives and Senators. But the Congress—Republicans and Demo-

crats—and the pedantic Party mainstreamers voiced their excuses, “Where would you ever get the money for that? Doesn’t technology need investment?”

History demonstrates that the actions of those who worship idols are restricted by their beliefs. Thus, whether employing an equant or epicycles, Ptolemy and Copernicus

What's the Cause Behind the Numbers?



Consider this sequence of maps of the Great Lakes-Ohio River basin region, layered with county-level employment data. Notice the contrasting motions of the manufacturing and service employment, each expressed as ratios of the entire labor force. Darker tones mean higher percents. In period 1975-2000, manufacturing employment degenerated substantially, while service sector employment grew. In the more recent period 2000-06 (not shown), the respective motions accelerated—the rate of degeneration of manufacturing increased and the rate of growth of services increased.

But what is the cause? Each of 435 people could interpret this data in 435 different ways, each concocting their own model. However, they would all commit one sin—self-denial of the possibility of actually knowing what they believe. The LYM role in preventing such degeneracy takes focus in “Animating the Economy”—a process ongoing via the activation of the dynamic method of Johannes Kepler.

accepted, as an axiom, that the motion of heavenly bodies was circular. More significantly, they did not challenge whether they could know what they believed. The most commonly guiding axiom of traditional political campaigners today is that the future is determined by a set of rules: “Globalization is inevitable! History is beyond our comprehension!” When we brought with us officials from various UAW locals to meet representatives of the nation in Washington, D.C. (on numerous occasions), we were taken in circles. “The Republicans are in control. The budget’s in

the red. We can’t get it up.”

The recent period of history has proven the immorality of such beliefs. As the elections mandate, the People have jettisoned free trade idolatry. Democrats took both Houses, as an effect of a surge in the youth vote. Young Americans decided to think—they thought it worthwhile to vote—to give Democrats the power to impeach, the power to save the United States, and *the power to invest in the future*.

Interpretation aside, we know that revolutionary discussion must continue. Unrestricted, the new Congress has a

truly historical mission: Lead the country. Don't follow the Dean.

Endnotes

1. www.democrats.org/a/2006/11/how_did_this_ha.php
2. *EIR*, Dec. 8, 2006, p. 6.
3. "Young Voter Mobilization Tactics," The George Washington University: Graduate School of Management. Youngvoterstrategies.org.civicyouth.org/PopUps/Young_Voters_Guide.pdf
4. democrats.org/a/2006/11/college_democra_8.php
5. larouchepac.com/pdf_files/LP6376_Train.pdf
6. The latter was reported in the county newspaper just days before the election: Andrew Tillotson, "Students, Townspeople Rally on College Green Against War," *The Athens News*, Nov. 6, 2006.
7. See Michael Kirsch, "What Horowitz's Defeat Implies: In Present Crisis, Politics Must Be an Action on the Future," *EIR*, Dec. 8, 2006.
8. See larouchepac.com/pages/otherartic_files/2005/051227_save_machine-tool.htm for a full listing of LPAC publications documenting LaRouche's role in organizing for an economic recovery. Notable are the pamphlets, *Recreate the Economy*, April 2005, and *Economic Recovery Act of 2006*.
9. Immediately following the 2004 Presidential election, LaRouche and his Youth Movement began, in Ohio, a campaign against G.W. Bush's Social Security proposal. See larouchepac.com/pages/social_security/social_security.htm for relevant articles.

Kellam in Virginia's 2nd District (down fewer than 5,000 votes)—all of whom were victims of the NRCC's robocall effort.

Other Democratic candidates, who weren't necessarily victims of robocalls, were just victims of a lack of funding. Gary Trauner suffered a narrow loss to Rep. Barbara Cubin (R-Wyo.). Larry Kissell lost by less than 1% (fewer than 400 votes) to Rep. Robin Hayes (R-N.C.). Neither Democrat received a single dollar from the national party. The list goes on and on.

On the Senate side, the Tennessee race stands out. Democratic Rep. Harold Ford, who is black, was in a contest with Chattanooga's former Republican Mayor Bob Corker for the Senate seat vacated by Bill Frist (the outgoing Republican Senate Majority Leader). Ford was called "an amazing candidate because of his charisma and powerful ads," and he led Corker in the polls throughout much of the race. Whether Ford could be legitimately called "an amazing candidate" is arguable, but Corker is unarguably a scandal-ridden idiot. But, in the last days of the campaign, Corker was bailed out by huge investments by the national Republican Party. His campaign ran a series of ads that were scandalous and overtly racist. Ford had received significant funds from the DSCC (Democratic Senate Campaign Committee) during the course of his campaign, but when the GOP attack ads hit, DSCC funds *and* Ford's were largely depleted. When the final votes were tallied, Ford had picked up 48% of the vote—five percentage points more than John Kerry had won during the 2004 Presidential campaign.

Not in the 'Cult of the DNC'

A week after the election, at a *Christian Science Monitor* breakfast in Washington, D.C., James Carville unleashed a scorching assault on Howard Dean. Carville explained that the DNC had taken out a \$10 million line of credit for the campaign and used barely half of it. Carville said Dean left \$6 million on the table that Democratic candidates like Ford, and second- and third-tier Democratic candidates could have used to pick up more seats. Dean's argument that funding those candidates would take money away from his effort to build up the Party's grassroots organization was a totally fraudulent one.

Carville's public statements have charged Dean with incompetence. However, it is very hard to believe that even Howard Dean could be *that* incompetent. But, then, why would Dean wittingly sabotage candidates of his own party?

A close look at the Democrats who sought office, and many of those who actually won, reveal a group of individuals who, for the most part, are not acolytes of what Carville has referred to as the "Cult of the DNC." A large portion of them are not politicians in the traditional sense, but instead a product of the American people's deep and growing discontent with the policies of the Bush-Cheney Administration. When they entered their races, they didn't necessarily expect to win;

they just knew they had to fight. The national party gave them nothing, and they owe the national party nothing. In large part, they can be expected to respond to the people who elected them.

A study released by the Republican Luntz, Maslansky Strategic Research group provides some critical insights. According to the study's findings, one critical margin in the Democratic victory was Republican swing voters—Luntz, Maslansky calls them the "Republican Rejectors."

The study showed that the Republican Rejectors didn't necessarily like the Democrats. Then why did they vote for them? They were angry. When read the statement, "I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore," 61% of Republican Rejectors agreed. They cited a lack of accountability as the number one sin of the Bush-Cheney Administration. Seventy-nine percent said they wanted whoever took control of the Congress to pursue "bold, meaningful change." The change they wanted most: an end to what they saw as preferential spending by the Bush Administration, as opposed to spending on things that were important to them. The 79% said they felt sad and disappointed about what Bush-Cheney had turned the Republican Party into.

But, above all, 74% of Republican Rejectors said they had lost hope and think that their children will inherit a *worse* America than what their parents left to them (compared to 57% of the general population). No hope = no votes.

It is precisely that sentiment, that mass effect, that the LaRouche Youth Movement catalyzed during the campaign. While the Republican Rejectors may have played some role in the Democrats' November victory, the far more significant margin came from the largest turnout of young voters—some 10 million or more—in more than 20 years. In Montana, where Democrat Jon Tester won by one percentage point, his margin among voters under 30 years old (who were 17% of the total electorate), was a full 12 points.

On Jan. 4, when the new Congress is sworn in, it will signal the end of business as usual in Washington. Far too many of them know exactly what it is that got them elected—their opposition to Bush and Cheney, their fight for economic justice and the principle of the general welfare, for decent health care—and they are likely to remain loyal to it. Still more, many of them Republicans, are acutely aware of the dissatisfaction with this Administration that voters expressed on Nov. 7. There is no doubt that under Lyndon LaRouche's leadership, the LYM played a key role in ushering in a New Politics. And there is little doubt that the Bush Administration is in for the fight of its life when Congress reconvenes. But, opposition to Bush and Cheney's war is not going to be enough. Just like those Republican Rejectors, the American people need hope. And that hope is only possible if we succeed in ushering in a New Economics on the heels of the New Politics; a new economics characterized by the policies that LaRouche has advocated for upwards of three decades.