

Ron Paul

Blast 'Em?

If you live in a major city, you've probably already heard about the newest threat to your life and limb, and your family: carjacking.

It is the hip-hop thing to do among the urban youth who play unsuspecting whites like pianos. The youth simply walk up to a car they like, pull a gun, tell the family to get out, steal their jewelry and wallets, and take the car to wreck. Such actions have ballooned in the recent months.

In the old days, average people could avoid such youth by staying out of bad neighborhoods. Empowered by media, police, and political complicity, however, the youth now roam everywhere looking for cars to steal and people to rob.

What can you do? More and more Americans are carrying a gun in the car. An ex-cop I know advises that if you have to use a gun on a youth, you should leave the scene immediately, disposing of the wiped-off gun as soon as possible. Such a gun cannot, of course, be registered to you, but one bought privately (through the classifieds, for example).

I frankly don't know what to make of such advice, but even in my little town of Lake Jackson, Texas, I've urged everyone in my family to know how to use a gun in self defense. For the animals are coming.

Weld's Rise and Fall

Massachusetts Governor William Weld was beloved by many for his beliefs in free markets, abortion until the moment of birth, and gay civil rights. This mixture is often hyped as the philosophy of the baby boom generation (some babies!). Yet I believe it is unstable.

Weld is still for abortion and for letting gays force their way onto other people's property, but his free market credentials are getting frayed. He did cut what libertarian Tim Ferguson of the Wall Street Journal calls "nominal" state spending his first year (i.e., the projected increase), but he raised it \$1 billion or 7% his second year. Today he is proposing taxpayer subsidies for high-tech industry, redistribution of school money from white to black districts, and Nadarite environmental initiatives.

Straws in the Wind

If Alan Greenspan is the quintessential Rockefeller Republican Fed chairman, who would Bill Clinton pick if he were president? The Washington wisdom is none other than Paul Volcker, although he might be Treasury Secretary instead.

Other loyal Democratic members of the establishment whom Clinton would pick: Robert Rubin of Goldman Sachs, Roger Altman of the Blackstone Group, Felix Rohatyn of Lazard Freres,