



Rush Limbaugh is a big fat idiot and other observations

By Al Franken

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a scathing--but uncompromisingly fair--look at America's largest talk show host and the rest of the Republican right.

Penned by the Emmy award-winning *Saturday Night Live* writer whom John Podhoretz of the *New York Post* has called "the man responsible for some of the most brilliant political satire of our time," *Rush Limbaugh Is a Big Fat Idiot* tackles the issues--and the politicians--in ways few have dared...

Exploding Medicare Costs: "Why not shoot the elderly into space? Stay with me. Because I'm not just thinking about the budget here. I'm talking about science. Just think how many more manned space operations NASA could undertake if they didn't have to worry about getting the astronauts back."

Crime: "I have a radical gun-buyback idea that I guarantee would be a huge success. Here's how it works: hand in a gun, get a free vial of crack."

Newt Gingrich: "Many of us, like Newt, have acknowledged smoking dope and reading Toffler in the early 70s. But after reading his book, I think Newt's dirty little secret is that he smoked dope and watched *The Jetsons*."


Phil Gramm: "If you get beyond the fact the Gramm is ugly, mean, hypocritical, has a boob fetish, and drives his wife like a mule, he does have a certain folksy charm."

On the subject of Rush Limbaugh, Franken lets the facts speak for themselves. Listen to Rush, the "rugged individualist" and enemy of government handouts, explain how his second wife made him stop sitting around the house eating just food and go file for unemployment insurance. And learn all of Rush's several explanations for how he avoided the draft.

Of course, when it comes to draft-dodging Republicans, Rush isn't alone. Reading Al's Vietnam short story, "Operation Chickenhawk," you'll savor the exploits of Privates Limbaugh, Gramm, Quayle, Buchanan, Gingrich, and George Will as Lieutenant Oliver North leads them kicking and screaming into combat.

And don't miss Al's informative discussion with the man who has "the easiest job in America": Rush Limbaugh's fact-checker. And much, much more.

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
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Rush Limbaugh is a big fat idiot and other observations By Al Franken Bibliography

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Rush Limbaugh claims his talent is on loan. With this book, Franken demonstrates that he owns. The frankly Democratic author's shtick reminds us how much of a free ride conservatives have gotten in the mainstream media. For instance, he really drives home the weirdness of the conservatives' preachiness about "family values" in light of Newt Gingrich's and Bob Dole's first marriages, and Rush Limbaugh's first, second and third marriages. And he has great fun with Rush's and Newt's miraculous draft deferments in a chapter where he imagines all of the great conservative "chicken-hawks" out on a Vietnam war patrol under the leadership of Ollie North.

From Publishers Weekly

Franken, a writer and performer on Saturday Night Live and in feature films, does to Limbaugh what the conservative talk-show host has been doing to Democratic politicians for years. Using admitted half-truths and out-of-context quotes, he skewers Rush & Friends as no liberal has done in years. Franken does a retrospective of Limbaugh's life from when he "fed off the largesse of the government in the form of unemployment insurance"; how he failed to register to vote until he was 35; how he used two airline coach seats to fit his opulent hind-quarters; and how he got a 4-F deferment because of a pilonidal cyst. There are two hilarious sketches: "My 'Conversation' with Rush Limbaugh" uses out-of-context quotes to corner Rush in much the same way that Limbaugh once had a "conversation" with Hillary Clinton; and "Operation Chickenhawk," with Ollie North leading Vietnam draft-dodgers Limbaugh, Quayle, Buchanan, George Will and Clarence Thomas to their demises in Asian rice paddies. Franken also doesn't have anything nice to say about Newt Gingrich, Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, Phil Gramm and others of the haranguing right. A mean-spirited, albeit funny, diatribe that will delight liberals. Illustrations not seen by PW.

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From Library Journal

Had your fill of liberal-bashing since the dittoheads and the Newties came to power? Ready for some skewering of right-wing foibles for a change? Then you'll love comedian and writer Franken's pin-pricking of one particular bag of hot air, Rush Limbaugh, and his conservative cohorts, Bob Dole, Phil Gramm, Pat Buchanan, etc. No, there is nothing subtle about the humor here, but it is very well written and sure to be a big seller, especially since it is scheduled for heavy publicity plus serialization in Playboy and George magazines. If you share Franken's political views, you'll love it; if you don't, buy it anyway, because library patrons will be asking for it.

-?Pamela R. Daubenspeck, Warren-Trumbull Cty. P.L., Warren, Ohio

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Kerry Erdman:

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