David Harsanyi writes on the NY Times bias against Israel.

The New York Times issued a correction today to fix a demonstrably false <u>editorial</u> that claimed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spent "days of near silence" before condemning the murder of Arab teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir. Netanyahu had, in fact, called the killing an "abominable murder," and on the day of the killing issued a statement instructing his minister for internal security to investigate the crime. Three Israeli suspects were arrested and <u>have since</u> confessed to the murder.

Even with a correction, the editorial in question was a mess from the top down. *The New Republic* has <u>a good rundown of other egregious errors and misleading points</u> that won't be getting much-needed corrections. It's likely that the editorial page was simply relying on the news side to feed its preconceived biases (though <u>one story</u> had already reported on Netanyahu's comments), which is a mistake considering the NYT's reporting exhibits absolutely no journalistic standards when it comes to the topic.

This is nothing new. Let's momentarily set aside the decades-long institutional bias at the paper and simply focus on factual errors of the past few years: ...

<u>Seth Mandel</u> has more on the Times' editorial that prompted Harsanyi's post. Earlier this week I <u>wrote</u> about the thoroughly dishonest and ignorant editorial in the New York Times on the recent abduction and killing of four teens in Israel. The Times strove for moral equivalence since the victims included Jews and an Arab. To review: the Times editorial wrongly accused Benjamin Netanyahu of a delay in condemning the killing of an Arab teen and the editors took a Netanyahu quote that denounced the desire for vengeance and claimed it meant Netanyahu was doing the opposite and inciting vigilante terrorism. After wide condemnation, the Times corrected the editorial. Sort of. ...

4th of July post from Mark Steyn.

... Speaking of lèse-majesté, even when our sovereign liege lord is not present, it is improper to disrespect him. For example, Friday's Fourth of July parade in Norfolk, Nebraska included a float with a wooden outhouse labeled "Obama Presidential Library". According to the gentlemen of the press, the float has "drawn criticism". I should certainly hope so. I assumed that the criticism it had drawn would be from freeborn citizens hoping for something a little less generic and anodyne in the way of Presidential mockery.

But no, the court eunuchs of the media are huffin' an' a-puffin' about how this time the Obamahaters have gone too far:

Norfolk City Councilman Dick Pfeil told the Omaha World-Herald that he was unhappy with the float, and he wanted to make clear the city had not approved it.

Because nothing better exemplifies the spirit of Independence Day than having your float approved by the government.

Charles Krauthammer says an immigration fix is a no-brainer.

... Obama blames the crisis on Republicans for failing to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

More nonsense. It's a total non sequitur. Comprehensive reform would not have prevented the current influx. Indeed, any reform that amnesties 11 million illegal immigrants simply reinforces the message that if you come here illegally, eventually you will be allowed to stay.

It happens that I support immigration reform. I support amnesty. <u>I have since 2006</u>. But only after we secure the border.

Which begins with completing the fencing along the Mexican frontier. Using 2009 Government Accountability Office estimates, that would have cost up to \$6.6 billion. Obama will now spend more than half that sum to accommodate a mass migration that would have been prevented by just such a barrier.

But a fence is for the long term. For the immediate crisis, the answer is equally, blindingly clear: Eliminate the Central American exception and enforce the law.

It must happen. The nightmare will continue until it does. The only question is: How long until Obama is forced to do the obvious?

The big sports news of the summer was LeBron James returning to Cleveland. <u>John Kass of Chicago</u> claims it's a Midwestern thing.

If you're from the Midwest, you probably hated LeBron James.

Who didn't?

Not true hatred, of course. I'm talking about sports hatred.

It's not something you act on. But it's bitter, and it just sits there on your heart as you watch that other team celebrate or that other player with the rings kissing the trophy, that one athlete who seems to cut your heart out year after year.

We've seen such athletes before. And LeBron is one of them.

But no matter how hard I try, I can't hate him anymore. And you probably don't hate him anymore either, not the way we once did. That's gone.

LeBron is going home to Cleveland after four years in Miami, four years of South Beach glamour, four NBA Finals and two championship rings.

He's devious enough to have planned it. He left Cleveland for Miami, and during those four years, Cleveland hit rock bottom, and Cavaliers fans hated him the most. Over those years, the team picked up plenty of young talent.

So LeBron now returns to reap the love and the rings to come, and try as I might, I can't hate him anymore. Perhaps it's because I can recognize a pattern in all this. ...

... But if you're from the Midwest and you've gone away, then returned, determined to stick it out, then you'll understand. And you'll understand LeBron.

"Before anyone ever cared where I would play basketball, I was a kid from northeast Ohio. It's where I walked," James was quoted as saying by SI.com. "It's where I ran. It's where I cried. It's where I bled. It holds a special place in my heart. People there have seen me grow up. I sometimes feel like I'm their son. Their passion can be overwhelming. But it drives me. I want to give them hope when I can. I want to inspire them when I can."

Reading that, I know what he was doing in South Beach for those four years he was away from Ohio. ...

And then there is no news here speech by the president. **Terry Jeffrey** said he talked about himself.

... The White House presented Obama's speech, which the president delivered at Austin's Paramount Theatre, as "Remarks by the President on the Economy." The remarks, the White House reports, ran 40 minutes, and the full transcript (including annotations for "laughter" and "applause") is more than 5,500 words.

By contrast, President Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was only 272 words--and did not include any form of the first person singular.

In President Obama's speech, he used a first person singular, on average, every 12 seconds. At that rate, had Obama spoken for just 15 more minutes, he would have used the first person singular more than 272 times in one speech—exceeding all the words in the Gettysburg Address.

In one 68-word passage--in which he vowed to act unilaterally if Congress did not enact legislation he liked--Obama used the first person singular five more times than the zero times Lincoln used it in his 272 words at Gettysburg.

The Federalist

The New York Times vs. Israel

When it comes to Israel, the "newspaper of record" can't be trusted at all. by David Harsanyi

The New York Times issued a correction today to fix a demonstrably false <u>editorial</u> that claimed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu spent "days of near silence" before condemning the murder of Arab teenager Mohammed Abu Khdeir. Netanyahu had, in fact, called the killing an "abominable murder," and on the day of the killing issued a statement instructing his minister for internal security to investigate the crime. Three Israeli suspects were arrested and <u>have since</u> <u>confessed to the murder</u>.

Even with a correction, the editorial in question was a mess from the top down. *The New Republic* has a good rundown of other egregious errors and misleading points that won't be getting much-needed corrections. It's likely that the editorial page was simply relying on the news side to feed its preconceived biases (though one story had already reported on Netanyahu's comments), which is a mistake considering the NYT's reporting exhibits absolutely no journalistic standards when it comes to the topic.

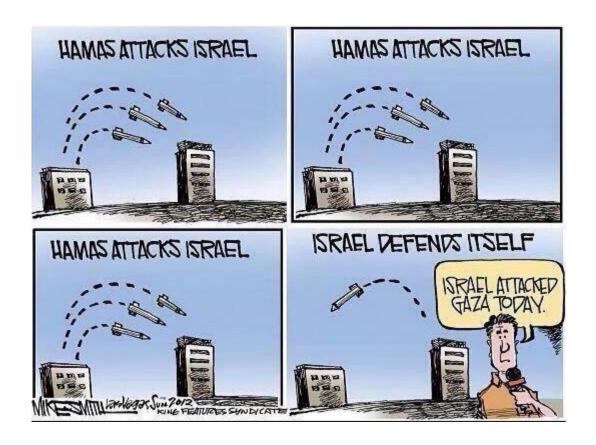
This is nothing new. Let's momentarily set aside the decades-long institutional bias at the paper and simply focus on factual errors of the past few years: In 2013, the *New York Times'* Jerusalem bureau chief Jodi Rudoren <u>offered as fact the canard</u> that Israeli settlements, even ones in Jerusalem, were viewed as "illegal" by the United States. The "illegal" falsehood is repeated endlessly by critics of Israel and is, at the very least, a contestable claim when it comes to international law. What is inarguable, though, is that even when administrations complain about them, the United States takes no formal position on whether these settlement are "illegal," as the *New York Times* claimed. The paper appended a correction that, you can assume, almost no one read.

In 2012, the *New York Times* <u>also incorrectly reported</u> that building of settlements would destroy any hope of peace because it would make the dream of a "contiguous" Palestinian state an impossibility. This assertion was concocted, or more likely sold to the reporter by Palestinians. The *Times* issued a tortured and lengthy correction that, when decoded, basically left the whole dramatic piece toothless.

But even that small level accountability is rare. Also, in 2013, Rudoren wrote a piece claiming that "Israel's separation barrier" had caused contact "between the two peoples" to have "dwindled." The problem with that claim is that at the time the number of work permits allowing Palestinians to come to Israel had been rising steadily and by the end of 2013 they were at their highest level since the start of the second intifada in 2000. Not to mention, that the piece failed to take into account the health care Israelis provide Palestinians. The only place contact has dwindled was in the West Bank. No correction.

Editorial section corrections are particularly rare. In 2013, Thomas Friedman wrote that "One should never forget just how crazy some of Israel's Jewish settlers are. They assassinated Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin when he tried to cede part of the West Bank for peace." Problem is, that the nutcase Yigal Amir wasn't a settler—unless, that is, Friedman considers buildings on Israel's side of the 1967 line settlements. No correction. In another 2013 piece, contributor Ali Jarbawi ("The man who made peace impossible") claimed that Israel controls the border between Gaza and Egypt (this falsehood went uncorrected) and he also repeated the anti-Israel myth that Ariel Sharon had ignited the second intifada by entering the El-Aqsa Mosque, when in fact he had only gone to Temple Mount (this was corrected).

The New York Times makes so many "mistakes" on the topic Israel—not merely innocent or inconsequential mistakes but errors that undermine the entire thrust of numerous hit pieces—that it never hurts to be reminded it can't trusted at all.



Contentions

Even the Media's Corrections Are Deceptive

by Seth Mandel

Earlier this week I <u>wrote</u> about the thoroughly dishonest and ignorant editorial in the *New York Times* on the recent abduction and killing of four teens in Israel. The *Times* strove for moral equivalence since the victims included Jews and an Arab. To review: the *Times* editorial wrongly accused Benjamin Netanyahu of a delay in condemning the killing of an Arab teen and the editors took a Netanyahu quote that denounced the desire for vengeance and claimed it meant Netanyahu was doing the opposite and inciting vigilante terrorism. After wide condemnation, the *Times* corrected the editorial. Sort of.

Here is the *Times*'s correction of just one of the falsehoods the editors pushed:

An editorial on Tuesday about the death of a Palestinian teenager in Jerusalem referred incorrectly to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's response to the killing of Muhammad Abu Khdeir. On the day of the killing, Mr. Netanyahu's office issued a statement saying he had told his minister for internal security to quickly investigate the crime; it is not the case that "days of near silence" passed before he spoke about it.

But in reality the way the editorial now reads is not all that much better. Here is the initial, false sentence, as pointed out immediately by CAMERA's <u>Tamar Sternthal</u>:

On Sunday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel, after days of near silence, condemned that killing and promised that anyone found guilty would "face the full weight of the law."

Sternthal had made it clear that even the *Times*'s own reporting showed this to be wrong; Netanyahu had spoken up days earlier. Yet here is how the corrected sentence now reads:

On Sunday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel condemned that killing and promised that anyone found guilty would "face the full weight of the law."

Notice the problem? The editorial still uses Netanyahu's condemnation days after the murder instead of his earlier statements on the crime, leaving the reader to come away with the same mistaken impression. The *Times*'s new version of the editorial is closer to the truth, but still not all that close. The *Times* editors' allergy to the truth is inexcusable: they should pop a Claritin, endure the hives, and be honest about Israel.

But that's not the end of the objectionable content in the *Times*'s faux correction. The correction makes no mention of the other, arguably greater mistake on the Israeli poem, and the editorial still includes that line. It's one thing to get the date of Netanyahu's condemnation of the attack wrong; that's bad, especially because it shows the *Times* editors don't read their own (or any other) newspaper. But there is a dangerous aspect to the editors' pernicious misreading of the poem.

To put this in simple terms: Netanyahu read a poem that denounced earthly vengeance and vigilantism. The *Times* editorial claims the poem *encourages* earthly vengeance and vigilantism. This is a serious slander of Netanyahu, the poet, and the Israeli people. It includes Netanyahu in a group of Israelis the *Times* accuses of displaying vicious anti-Arab bigotry and violent tendencies, when in fact the prime minister was criticizing them in a bid to lower the temperature and promote restraint.

Only the *New York Times* can so blithely add a "correction" to its own false claims that muddy the waters even more and further concretize a dishonest narrative that tosses a match into a tinderbox. And the really dispiriting aspect to this is that we can expect more of the same. The desire of the leftist media to perpetuate a lie that the Israeli and Palestinian leadership are morally equivalent will only produce more hateful anti-Israel propaganda now that Hamas and Fatah have joined in their unity government.

That's because Hamas is guilty of even more terrorism and anti-Semitism than Fatah is, so if the media want to equate the Israeli leadership with the Palestinian leadership they'll have to drop Israel to Hamas's level. And they'll be taking their cues from Washington, apparently. While the State Department recently offered the laughable nonsense that America's leaders "have no evidence that Hamas plays any role in the interim technocratic government," other countries are taking a more serious approach to foreign affairs and recognizing reality.

In a Times of Israel <u>story</u> about how several Western countries have been more supportive of Israel during this crisis and possessed a greater degree of moral clarity than the Obama administration, we read the following tweet from Canadian Foreign Minister John Baird:

The new Palestinian government must exercise its authority in <u>#Gaza</u> and bring an immediate end to Hamas's rocket attacks on <u>#Israel</u>

I don't know whether the *New York Times* editors are getting their information from the Obama administration or the White House is getting its information on the conflict from the *Times*, but there's a quite delusional feedback loop here. And it helps explain why even the *Times*'s corrections warrant their own corrections.

SteynOnLine Bill of Sale by Mark Steyn

Toronto Dominion is a Canadian bank which also operates south of the border under the amusing name of "TD - America's Most Convenient Bank". It's certainly proved remarkably convenient for Bill Clinton. TD has paid millions to the future first First Gentleman of the United States, during his wife's tenure as Secretary of State and in her ongoing role as designated President-in-Waiting.

What exactly are they paying for? Speeches? He's less dull a public speaker than the average politician, or average former president (Gerald Ford, say). But nothing he says would seem to merit, for example, the \$525,000 TD paid Bill in one 24-hour period alone, which convenience-wise is about as good as it gets. So again: what exactly are TD getting for their shareholders by putting all this money in the Clintons' pockets?

I've nothing against top stars or even lowly fellows like myself seeking top dollar for live appearances, but there is something unseemly about a former president pimping himself out to Gulf emirs and Saudi princes and even Canadian bankers for six-figure sums night after night. Hitherto, it has never been necessary explicitly to prohibit such conduct because it would have never occurred to, oh, Harry Truman to carry on like this.

But don't worry, when it comes to her own robotic speeches, Mrs Clinton gives all her \$225,000 checks from state universities to charity. So that's okay. Oh, by the way, <u>any charity in particular</u>?

"All of the fees have been donated to the Clinton Foundation for it to continue its life-changing and life-saving work," she told <u>ABC News</u>. "So it goes from a foundation at a university to another foundation."

The Clinton Foundation is a euphemism for the Clinton Machine. The life it's intended to change is that of Hillary, replacing the honorific "Madam Secretary" with "Madam President". In 2011, the Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton Foundation spent \$12.1 million on travel, which, when you consider how much of their travel is paid for by TD Bank, the Emir of Dubai and the University of Nevada-Las Vegas is kind of impressive.

~I have minimal expectations of the 2016 election, but in my wildest fantasies I dream of a regular bloke moving into the White House. As a child, I had always heard that "in America anyone can grow up to be president", but by the time I got here the choice had apparently narrowed to rich legacy nominees or obvious hucksters with a pronounced malodorousness. By "regular bloke", I'm thinking of someone like Australia's Tony Abbott, who flies coach even as prime minister.

Why is such a figure all but entirely lost to the upper echelons of American politics? By way of an interview with my compatriot F H Buckley, the libertarian lads over at *Reason* are pondering whether the presidency is "degenerating into the 'elective monarchy' George Mason warned about at the Philadelphia convention":

Prime ministers are "more likely to be figures of fun...or the butt of slanging matches during Question Period in the House of Commons." Indeed, the parliamentary practice of Prime Minister's Questions, in which the chief executive is regularly and ruthlessly grilled by the opposition, goes a long way toward explaining why there's no such thing as the Cult of the Prime Minister.

Presidents can isolate themselves in a cocoon of sycophants, even putting protesters in "Free-Speech Zones," where their signs can't offend the liege. And his role as head of state "tends to make criticism of a president seem like lese-majeste"—as Justice Samuel Alito learned when he dared mouth the words "not true" while Obama pummelled the Court in his 2010 State of the Union.

Speaking of lèse-majesté, even when our sovereign liege lord is not present, it is improper to disrespect him. For example, Friday's Fourth of July parade in Norfolk, Nebraska included a float with a wooden outhouse labeled "Obama Presidential Library". According to the gentlemen of the press, the float has "drawn criticism". I should certainly hope so. I assumed that the criticism it had drawn would be from freeborn citizens hoping for something a little less generic and anodyne in the way of Presidential mockery.

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Washington Post

The immigration no-brainer

by Charles Krauthammer

As is his wont, President Obama is treating the border crisis — more than 50,000 unaccompanied children crossing illegally — as a public relations problem. Where to photo op and where not. He still hasn't enunciated a policy. He may not even have one.

Will these immigrants be allowed to stay? Seven times was Obama's homeland security secretary <u>asked this on "Meet the Press."</u> Seven times he danced around the question.

Presidential press secretary Josh Earnest was ostensibly more forthcoming: "It's unlikely that most of those kids will qualify for humanitarian relief. ... They will be sent back." This was characterized in the media as a harder line. Not at all. Yes, those kids who go through the process will likely have no grounds to stay. But most will never go through the process.

These kids are being flown or bused to family members around the country and told to then show up for deportation hearings. Why show up? Why not just stay where they'll get superior schooling, superior health care, superior everything? As a result, only 3 percent are being repatriated, to cite an internal Border Patrol memo.

Repatriate them? How stone-hearted, you say. After what they've been through? To those dismal conditions back home?

By that standard, with a sea of endemic suffering on every continent, we should have no immigration laws. Deny entry to no needy person.

But we do. We must. We choose. And immediate deportation is exactly what happens to illegal immigrants, children or otherwise, from Mexico and Canada. By what moral logic should there be <u>a</u> Central American exception?

There is no logic. Just a quirk of the law — <u>a 2008 law intended to deter sex trafficking</u>. It mandates that Central American kids receive temporary relocation, extensive assistance and elaborate immigration/deportation proceedings, which many simply evade.

This leniency was designed for a small number of sex-trafficked youth. It was never intended for today's mass migration aimed at establishing a family foothold in America under an administration correctly perceived as at best ambivalent about illegal immigration.

Stopping this wave is not complicated. A serious president would go to Congress tomorrow proposing a change in the law, simply mandating that Central American kids get the same treatment as Mexican kids, i.e., be subject to immediate repatriation.

Then do so under the most humane conditions. Buses with every amenity. Kids accompanied by nurses and social workers and interpreters and everything they need on board. But going home.

One thing is certain. When the first convoys begin rolling from town to town across Central America, the influx will stop.

When he began taking heat for his laxness and indecisiveness, <u>Obama said he would seek</u> statutory authority for eliminating the Central American loophole. Yet when he presented his <u>\$3.7</u> <u>billion emergency package</u> on Tuesday, it included no such proposal.

Without that, tens of thousands of kids will stay. Tens of thousands more will come.

Why do they come? The administration pretends it's because of violence and poverty.

Nonsense. When has there not been violence and poverty in Central America? Yet this wave of children has <u>doubled in size in the past two years</u> and is projected to double again by October. The new variable is <u>Obama's unilateral (and lawless) June 2012 order</u> essentially legalizing hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants who came here as children.

Message received in Central America. True, this executive order doesn't apply to those who came after <u>June 15, 2007</u>. But the fact remains that children coming across now are overwhelmingly likely to stay.

Alternatively, Obama <u>blames the crisis on Republicans</u> for failing to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

More nonsense. It's a total non sequitur. Comprehensive reform would not have prevented the current influx. Indeed, any reform that amnesties 11 million illegal immigrants simply reinforces the message that if you come here illegally, eventually you will be allowed to stay.

It happens that I support immigration reform. I support amnesty. <u>I have since 2006</u>. But only *after* we secure the border.

Which begins with completing the fencing along the Mexican frontier. Using <u>2009 Government</u> <u>Accountability Office estimates</u>, that would have cost up to \$6.6 billion. Obama will now spend

more than half that sum to accommodate a mass migration that would have been prevented by just such a barrier.

But a fence is for the long term. For the immediate crisis, the answer is equally, blindingly clear: Eliminate the Central American exception and enforce the law.

It must happen. The nightmare will continue until it does. The only question is: How long until Obama is forced to do the obvious?

Chicago Tribune King James returns home

by John Kass

If you're from the Midwest, you probably hated LeBron James.

Who didn't?

Not true hatred, of course. I'm talking about sports hatred.

It's not something you act on. But it's bitter, and it just sits there on your heart as you watch that other team celebrate or that other player with the rings kissing the trophy, that one athlete who seems to cut your heart out year after year.

We've seen such athletes before. And LeBron is one of them.

But no matter how hard I try, I can't hate him anymore. And you probably don't hate him anymore either, not the way we once did. That's gone.

LeBron is going home to Cleveland after four years in Miami, four years of South Beach glamour, four NBA Finals and two championship rings.

He's devious enough to have planned it. He left Cleveland for Miami, and during those four years, Cleveland hit rock bottom, and Cavaliers fans hated him the most. Over those years, the team picked up plenty of young talent.

So LeBron now returns to reap the love and the rings to come, and try as I might, I can't hate him anymore. Perhaps it's because I can recognize a pattern in all this.

You see it in literature, the adventure of the hero of many faces, the young man on a quest who is all but dead and buried before finally making the return home.

LeBron James isn't an archetype. He's a ballplayer.

But he's pushing 30, his knees won't hold up forever under all that power and muscle he's been carrying. His odyssey is about done.

Now, he's all about the return.

It's a Midwestern thing, about family and neighborhood and the people who knew you when you were a kid. And I'm not saying other people, born in other parts of the country, don't feel it.

Sure they feel it. They often talk about it. But Midwesterners act on it.

Perhaps that's because the only time our insides feel comfortable and settled is when we're home.

Yes it's tribal, about being part of a clan, whether you're from the city and can still smell the neighborhood in your memory or if you're from some town surrounded by soybean fields.

Iowa knows this, and Indiana, Illinois, Nebraska and Kansas and Minnesota, Michigan and Missouri know it. North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Ohio know it, too.

Cleveland knows. Chicago knows. LeBron knows.

And the outlanders trying to mock it? Or the ones who call us "The Heartland" as they fly overhead?

You can't explain it to them. They can't comprehend it. It's as if they're from another country, without the language for understanding.

Perhaps that's because they are from another country, usually one of our coasts, or they're from Washington, the capitol of the world, which might as well be another country for the psychic distance between us.

Washington is a place, like LA, like New York, where people go to make new lives. And in exchange for those lives, in media, politics, business or the arts, they give up a great deal of their past.

But if you're from the Midwest and you've gone away, then returned, determined to stick it out, then you'll understand. And you'll understand LeBron.

"Before anyone ever cared where I would play basketball, I was a kid from northeast Ohio. It's where I walked," James was quoted as saying by SI.com. "It's where I ran. It's where I cried. It's where I bled. It holds a special place in my heart. People there have seen me grow up. I sometimes feel like I'm their son. Their passion can be overwhelming. But it drives me. I want to give them hope when I can. I want to inspire them when I can."

Reading that, I know what he was doing in South Beach for those four years he was away from Ohio.

He was at college. Not in class, not in a university, but he went away, removed himself from the people who knew him, tried different things, smelled different air.

Drafted into the NBA right out of high school, and then seven years with the Cleveland Cavaliers, he'd never gone to college. Ohio born, he'd never left.

So he went away. And now he's back and talks of inspiration.

For years, he inspired envy and anger. We hated him when he was in Cleveland the first time, muscling Derrick Rose and Joakim Noah of the Bulls.

"I never heard anyone say I'm going to Cleveland on vacation," said Noah famously a few years ago during our "Cleveland Sucks" period.

And later, when LeBron held that ridiculous ESPN special and announced "I will take my talents to South Beach," we hated him even more.

On the court, when he wanted to take over the game, when it was right in his mind and his body, there was nothing anyone could do about it.

We'll probably hate him again — sports-hate only — during the NBA season. But it won't be the same. It can never be the same.

LeBron is doing what's expected. And whether he or we comprehend the cultural history of those expectations, the centuries of imprinting and obligation, it really doesn't matter.

The man's gone on his voyage. He won his treasure. And now he returns home.

He's a Midwesterner. And we understand him.

CNS News

<u>'I,' 'Me,' 'My'—Obama Uses First Person Singular 199 Times in Speech Vowing Unilateral Action</u>

by Terence P. Jeffrey

Not counting instances when he quoted a letter from a citizen or cited dialogue from a movie, President Barack Obama used the first person singular--including the pronouns "I" and "me" and the adjective "my"--199 times in a speech he delivered Thursday vowing to use unilateral executive action to achieve his policy goals that Congress would not enact through the normal, constitutional legislative process.

"It is lonely, me just doing stuff," Obama said at the speech in Austin, Texas, <u>according to the official transcript and video</u> posted on the White House website.

"I'm just telling the truth now," Obama told the crowd. "I don't have to run for office again, so I can just let her rip. And I want to assure you, I'm really not that partisan of a guy."

To prove this, Obama went on to say Abraham Lincoln was his favorite president, and then gave a list of what he called "great Republican presidents"—which included Richard Nixon.

"My favorite president is the first Republican president, a guy named Abraham Lincoln," Obama said. "You look at our history, and we had great Republican presidents who--like Teddy Roosevelt started the National Park System, and Dwight Eisenhower built the Interstate Highway System, and Richard Nixon started the EPA."

The White House presented Obama's speech, which the president delivered at Austin's Paramount Theatre, as "Remarks by the President on the Economy." The remarks, the White House reports, ran 40 minutes, and the full transcript (including annotations for "laughter" and "applause") is more than 5,500 words.

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In one 68-word passage--in which he vowed to act unilaterally if Congress did not enact legislation he liked--Obama used the first person singular five more times than the zero times Lincoln used it in his 272 words at Gettysburg.





Sneaking into a COUNTRY doesn't make you an 'IMMIGRANT' any more than breaking into a HOUSE makes you 'PART OF THE FAMILY



