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OUR VIEW: IMPEACHMENT

10 reasons to remove Trump

These pages have often made the case for President Donald Trump's impeachment and removal from office. In the interest of brevity, here are our top 10 reasons.

1. Trump committed bribe-like behavior in withholding nearly \$400 million in security and military aid from Ukraine unless it announced an investigation into

a political rival, former Vice President Joe Biden. Ukraine is a country under attack by Russia, the country that has been the biggest threat to U.S. security in recent decades.

Why it matters:

President Donald Trump's misdeeds have been historic and he's a threat to the future of our republic.

2. Trump fails to admit such activity was a mistake or lapse in judgment or even miscommunication. He calls the behavior "perfect."

3. In a press conference he reiterated his preference for Ukraine to investigate Biden and his son Hunter. For good measure he suggested China also investigate the Bidens, further inviting foreign governments to interfere in U.S. elections.

4. Trump administration officials testified under oath, ignoring Trump's directive to not appear and break the law, that the security aid was withheld in exchange for the investigation. "Everyone was in the loop," said U.S. Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland.

5. Trump and his administration refused to cooperate in with the congressional investigation. This refusal is unlike any other impeachment investigation in U.S. history.

6. Trump still supports the activities of his personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, who continues to tout stories that U.S. intelligence agencies have long debunked. This is a threat to the integrity of the 2020 election.

7. Trump and his Attorney General William Barr continue their scorched-earth attack on U.S. intelligence agencies in the FBI and CIA.

8. Trump and Barr discredited their own Justice Department Inspector General's report on saying there was nothing political about the FBI's investigation of Trump and Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

9. Trump has refused to allow the testimony of key witnesses with first-hand knowledge of his behavior. Former National Security Advisor John Bolton and current Chief of Staff Mick Mulvaney have not testified in the congressional inquiry.

10. Mulvaney and Bolton's unwillingness to testify means they likely have additional damaging information on Trump.

We encourage citizens to support and call for the president's conviction on the impeachment charges in the Senate.

OTHER VIEW

As Minnesota ages, ageism is a problem

Post-Bulletin (Rochester)

In a meeting with the Post-Bulletin's editorial board a few years ago, a visitor suggested older residents should be encouraged to vacate their homes so that new, younger home buyers can enter the market.

Such ageism is rampant in our society, and is an indication that the time is right for Gov. Tim Walz's executive order, announced last week, that the state create a Council on Age Friendly Minnesota. The order requires state agencies to cooperate on efforts to make the state a better place for older people to

live.

The significance behind the order is that in 2020, Minnesota will arrive at a point with more residents over the age of 65 than under the age of 18.

Ageism affects employment, health services, housing, mobility, and the roles older Minnesotans are welcome to play in the lives of their hometowns.

The governor's goal is to earn for Minnesota an age-friendly designation from the AARP. To date, Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Northfield, Alexandria and Maple Grove have committed to that process. We wish Rochester was part of that list.



YOUR VIEWS

Congressman's words ring true

In 2014, then-candidate Jim Hagedorn said: "I'm one of those people that thinks, every once and awhile in Washington, you need some new blood, you need some new thinking, you need someone that's going to go out there and challenge the establishment...and start doing what the people want."

Apparently he's changed his mind since then, because while he's been in office, he's sold out the people of southern Minnesota and cozied up to the special interests that control Congress. He's taken money from big drug companies and voted against lowering the cost of prescription

drugs (twice). He received campaign donations from massive oil conglomerates and stood by for too long while these companies were bailed out on the backs of farmers.

Instead of using his office to unite southern Minnesotans, Hagedorn has shouted down and fought with constituents, and he's been the least productive member of the Minnesota congressional delegation. In fact, it took him 264 days to introduce his first piece of legislation.

I agree, Congressman. "It's time for some new blood, (and) some new thinking."

That's why, in 2020, I'll be support-

ing Dan Feehan for Congress.

Feehan is a veteran and former teacher. He fought for our freedom in Iraq and empowered the next generation in the classroom. He understands that the powerful, dark-moneyed interests have enough representation in D.C. He knows that it's time for our representative from southern Minnesota to put the people first.

This election, I'm voting for Feehan, because Congressman Hagedorn is right: "It's time for new thinking."

Michelle Parsneau
Mankato

The #MeToo fight to come

By S.E. Cupp

New York Daily News

Monday night, I went to a special screening of the new film "Bombshell," which tells the true story of the downfall of late Fox News honcho — and verifiable sleazeball — Roger Ailes.

Having worked inside the corridors of Fox myself years ago, Jay Roach's stylized, nuanced and biting portrayal of the Ailes era felt very familiar. I know the stories. I personally know many of Roger's victims, as well as the culture that pervaded that network.

And yet, I still managed to find some astonishment that this all happened as it did, in this century, this decade even.

As one of the first major feature films to deal with the #MeToo moment, "Bombshell" does something important and truly revolutionary: It shows us, in just two hours, exactly how layered and complex systemic sexual harassment in the workplace can be.

Ailes' grip on the women of Fox News wasn't simple or straightforward. It was never as easy as trading sexual favors for upward mobility. Like all sexual harassment, it was about power: He had it, they did not. He was intent on keeping it, and wielding it over others.

It was also very clearly about humiliation. He relished making women grovel for some semblance of stabil-

ity, frequently pitting them against one another to keep them insecure about their positions.

It relied not only on his victims' continued fear of very real consequences, but that of bystanders and outside observers. Many people helped enable Ailes, whether out of self-interest or self-preservation.

With so many of these stories coming out, we now know how people like Ailes, Harvey Weinstein and many other powerful men successfully built a sexual harassment industrial complex that entrapped so many women for so long. Discussions about HR practices, empowering more women in higher positions, ending non-disclosure agreements and more are being worked through a national vetting process that will invariably lead to progress.

But "Bombshell" exposes a lesser-discussed thread of sexual harassment that we haven't really tackled as thoroughly: the way this pernicious behavior continues to punish its victims even when their perpetrators are exposed and brought to justice.

Consider the fact that many of the women who accused Ailes are no longer working in the high-profile jobs they once had. Some aren't working at all.

Some are now identified almost solely as #MeToo advocates, their earlier careers seemingly washed away by a single public act of bravery.

That's an enduring obstacle in the ongoing revolution. Women fear com-

ing forward because they justifiably fear that making themselves the center of attention in this way will define them in ways they don't want to be defined. It's ironic: Even as powerful men like Donald Trump claim women come forward just for money and attention, the truth is, many women don't come forward because attention attached to these types of claims is the very last thing they want.

And so, many women still feel like the cost of coming out and accusing a powerful man isn't worth it. There's no guarantee your job is safe, no insurance that you'll get to continue doing the thing you love, and a very real likelihood that your identity will be completely subsumed by the news, especially if he is a public figure. Your family life might be completely upended as whatever allegations you make are picked apart.

I know, because I've weighed these very calculations myself.

When does a woman get to name her harasser and then go back to work the next day? When does she know she can fight for her basic safety and dignity at work and still get another job? When can she call out a perpetrator without her name becoming synonymous with his?

These are the hurdles we still face. So many brave women told their stories, and we are safer today because of them. But we're still being punished and silenced — which means that men like Ailes are still winning.

Minnesota-Crookston will miss football

Crookston Times

"They had to do something."

That statement is perhaps not the most profound or even eloquent reaction to the big news last week that the University of Minnesota Crookston is pulling the plug on its Golden Eagle football program.

But the statement is 100% accurate. UMN Crookston, the University of Minnesota system, or a combination of the two, had to do something, and they had two choices.

The status quo was not among their options. The status quo was no longer tenable: Going into a season hoping you might be able to squeak out a victory in the mighty NSIC NCAA Division II athletic conference. Going into a season assuming you're going to lose way more games than you're going to win, but hoping the games are at least still competitive at halftime in order to keep the fan base from going home early. Being 2-64 over the past five seasons.

If staying the course was not an option, that leaves investing a lot more money into the football program, in the form of a major boost in scholarship money as well as major improvements to Ed Widseth Field. That hasn't been a realistic option for a long time. Money is tight in higher ed, and more money simply wasn't going to be taken from somewhere else and poured into efforts to make Golden Eagle football more competitive.

That left a lone remaining option, and UMN Crookston and/or the U of M system picked it: Ending the program.

Still, it's unfortunate. Sad, even. If you tailgated or went to the games, you knew the Teambackers cared about this team and this program, and that the coaches and players put their hearts and souls into every game.

It's a big hit to UMN Crookston's enrollment, too. We're talking about 69 football players on the current roster, and even though the

University has said they'll honor their scholarships if they stay at the Crookston campus and remain academically eligible, you can bet a lot of these student-athletes will leave. They still want to play football, and no one can blame them for that.

It's a hit to student diversity on the Crookston campus, too. Watching the players when they ran the local youth flag football league interact with hundreds of Crookston and area kids at Ed Widseth Field during the weekly games, it was obvious they were having a ball out there, and it was even more obvious that the young flag football players loved being around these cool college football players.

UMN Crookston's leadership team said last week that at least some of the money saved by eliminating football will be invested in other Golden Eagles athletic programs. Let's hope that ends up being the case, because the Golden Eagles athletic teams that remain deserve the added investment.

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