



The Weekly Worst

The Most Egregious, Horrendous and Stupefying Liberal Media Bias of the Week

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

TOM BROKAW'S SQUEALS ON WHEELS; PETER'S PRISON POPULATION PUZZLE

The so-called mainstream media never admit their liberal tilt, so the news analysts at the Media Research Center tirelessly document the media's bias and expose their left-wing agenda. The "awards" for last week's lowlights:

- ★ **Tom Brokaw's Squeals on Wheels.** On Thursday night, the Commerce Department reported strong first-quarter economic growth of 4.4 percent, and the strongest 12-month period of growth since 1984. But the NBC Nightly News with Tom Brokaw didn't utter a syllable about the good news. NBC made time for a full story on radiologists in Israel who use the Internet to read MRI scans from a Philadelphia-area hospital — but not for historic economic growth. NBC skipped the big picture.



Yet on Monday night, NBC found time for a microcosm of bad news: one woman worried that "seniors will go hungry." Anne Thompson found a food scare in the "ripple effect" of rising gas prices: "Meals on Wheels is a lifeline to seniors in Spokane, Washington. Its lifeline: Volunteer drivers. But soaring gas prices are forcing some, like Bob and Doris Swehla, to cut back on miles and others to drop out altogether."

- ★ **Peter's Prison Population Puzzle.** Some journalists have a hard time relating cause and effect. Prison population up, crime down? It didn't make any sense to Peter Jennings, who reported on the May 27 World News Tonight: "The government said that America's prison population grew 2.9 percent last year to nearly 2.1 million. That's a record number of people in jail and prison. One out of every 75 American men was incarcerated. The number went up even though the crime rate continued to fall." In a statement ignored by ABC, Attorney General John Ashcroft explained: "Violent and recidivist criminals are getting tough sentences while law-abiding Americans are enjoying unprecedented safety."

To watch video clips of some of these stories via RealPlayer, or for other examples of the media's liberal bias, please visit www.mediaresearch.org/worst.

To schedule an interview with an MRC spokesman, please contact Katie Wright at (703) 683-5004.