

# Executive Alert Extra

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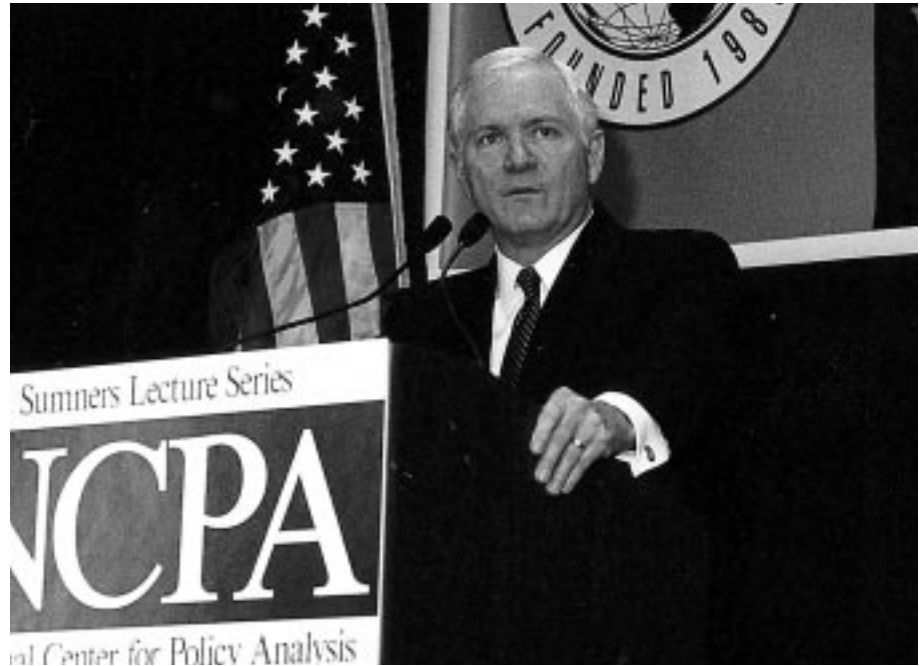
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE NCPA

MARCH/APRIL 2002

## Gates Talks Terrorism

Several federal agencies, including the CIA, the FBI, the INS and the FAA had bits of information. If they had been put together, they might have given an advance warning about the terrorist attack on September 11. The problem was a lack of information sharing between agencies. In some instances, information sharing was actually illegal.

That was one of the chilling points made by former CIA Director Robert Gates, who headlined a recent NCPA Summers Lecture Series lunch. Gates is the only career officer to rise from entry-level employee to director, and the only director nominated by two presidents. An advisor to six presidents, Gates remains on the cutting edge of global events.



*Former CIA Director Robert Gates speaks at a recent Hatton W. Summers Lecture.*



*Rep. John Boehner (R-Ohio) speaks at an NCPA news conference.*

## Boehner Helps Release Myths About School Choice

Rep. John Boehner (R-Ohio), chairman of the House Education and Workforce Committee attended an NCPA news conference in Washington to officially unveil "Myths About School Choice," a book by former Milwaukee superintendent Howard Fuller and Kaleem Caire, president of the Black Alliance for Educational Options.

## Hyde Kicks Off 2002 Summers Series

Americans can expect more domestic terrorist attacks, but a graver threat is posed by Iraq. That was an ominous message delivered by Illinois Congressman Henry Hyde, as he kicked off the NCPA's 2002 Summers Distinguished Lecture Series. "To continue to let Saddam Hussein develop weapons of mass destruction and the means for delivering them is suicidal on our part," he said.

Chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, Rep. Hyde touched on a range of topics during his conversation with NCPA President John C. Goodman, from terrorist threats to Hyde's recollections about his role as the House manager of the impeachment process.



Mark McClellan, *President's Council of Economic Advisors*, presents the Bush Administration's views on health policy.

### NCPA Hosts Health Briefing

Coming the day after the president's state of the union address, in which President Bush called on Congress to give the uninsured tax credits to buy health insurance, the NCPA hosted a briefing on Capitol Hill to discuss the best method for helping the uninsured.

Mark McClellan, member of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, outlined the administration's position before a standing room only audience of congressional health aides, association representatives and the press. Other speakers included Len Nichols, from the Center for Studying Health System Change, and NCPA President John Goodman.



NCPA President John C. Goodman



Len Nichols

### NCPA Hosts Briefing on 401(k)s

In the wake of a surge of interest in pension reform following the losses experienced by Enron employees, the NCPA hosted a briefing on Capitol Hill to discuss other flaws in the 401(k) system and possible solutions.



Laurence Kotlikoff

Dr. Laurence Kotlikoff, professor economics at Boston University, told a packed room that many low- and moderate-income families could be worse off if they make maximum contributions to either a 401(k) or a traditional IRA. "Tax-deferred accounts can be a tax trap, rather than a tax shelter," he said.

Dallas-based benefits consultant Brooks Hamilton, discussed why 401(k) plans usually perform worse than the market in general. Hamilton proposed that employers receive safe harbor from certain kinds of lawsuits if they offer a new type of plan (outlined in a recent NCPA study), with a diversified portfolio. Lisa McGreevy, public affairs director of the Financial Services Roundtable discussed the industry's perspective on reform.



Lisa McGreevy



Brooks Hamilton

1. James B. Williams, Al Hill, Jr. and Bill Ceverha
2. Don Buchholz and Jeanette Goodman
3. Leigh Hall, Ric Zarzycki, Karen Stanton of AdvoCare International and Rep. Hyde
4. Bill Caruth, Minnie Arnold and Robert Gates
5. Mark Roberts and Jane Smith
6. Al Hill, III and John C. Goodman
7. Robert Gates, Dorothy Thompson, James Cleo Thompson, Jr. and Bud Smith



*Philip K. Howard*

## Howard Discusses Death of Common Sense

Seesaws are disappearing across America. Labels warn that coffee is hot. Good teachers, fed up, quit. You'd have to be a fool to say what you really want. Why can't Americans just do what makes sense?

According to best-selling author and lawyer, Philip K. Howard, the quest for individual fairness has had an unintended consequence. America, so proud of its rule of law, no longer provides legal rulings to defend rational behavior. Howard discussed this trend and his recently published book, "The Collapse of the Common Good: How America's Lawsuit Culture Undermines Our Freedom," at a recent Policy Forum in Dallas, co-hosted by the NCPA and the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas. The Policy Forum series is made possible through a grant to the NCPA by the Hillcrest Foundation, founded by Mrs. W.W. Caruth, Sr.



## Cordell Retires

NCPA Senior Scholar Dorman Cordell, who has directed the NCPA's publications department since 1990, has decided to retire. In this role, Cordell has worked closely with authors of each NCPA publication. He has also served as editor of the institute's bimonthly newsletter, *Executive Alert*. Prior to joining NCPA, Cordell was a newspaper publisher and an executive of the Associated Press, the world's largest news gathering organization. We wish him well.



Dorman Cordell



Sean Lanham

## NCPA 2002 Events Schedule

The NCPA is pleased to announce the following events for 2001-2002. Details for each event will be forthcoming. Please contact the Events Department at 972-386-6272 to reserve your place at one of these exciting events or register online at [www.ncpa.org](http://www.ncpa.org), on our new user-friendly, secure registration form.



**March 4, 2002**

Women in the Economy Conference  
National Press Club, Washington, D.C.



**March 14, 2002**

Sumners Lecture Series

**Paul Gigot**

*Editorial Page Editor, Wall Street Journal*  
Wyndham Anatole Hotel, Dallas, Texas



**April 11, 2002**

Sumners Lecture Series / Dinner

**Benjamin Netanyahu**

*Former Prime Minister of Israel*  
Wyndham Anatole Hotel, Dallas, Texas



**April 14-17, 2002**

NCPA Chairman's Club Conference

Forbes Chateau de Balleroy, Normandy, France



**May 9, 2002**

Policy Forum with **Harry Stein**,

*Author of "How I Accidentally Joined the Vast Right-Wing Conspiracy: And Found Inner Peace"*

Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas

## Personnel News

**LANHAM JOINS NCPA** - Sean Lanham has joined the NCPA as the new editor. Prior to joining the NCPA, Lanham served as senior editor at Business Writers Group, an Addison-based public relations agency. In addition to the NCPA, his clients included the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce and Verizon Inc. He previously worked as an editor for Harcourt Brace College Publishers in Fort Worth, where he edited economics and business textbooks. He earned a B.S.B.A in Economics from the University of Arkansas.

**CHRISTENSEN PROMOTED** - Sarah Christensen has been promoted to development assistant. In her new role she will provide support to the development department's management team to ensure an efficient and productive department.

## Executive Alert Extra®

Editor..... Sean Tuffnell

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