

Throw Bush and Republicans out of office

To the editor:

And I bet you thought things couldn't possibly get any worse? We are reminded by Damon Thomas' letter that the Bush administration and his cadre of right-wing radical Republicans in Congress who masquerade as Americans now want to create a secret court for those "suspected" of evildoing against us? One wonders about the good old days when we were actually concerned about trying to apprehend Osama. Funny how things get manipulated, changed, distorted.

Remember when Iraqis were dancing in the streets with flowers in their hair? So said Don Rumsfeld. Remember when an American military uniform could inspire respect and love for fellow humankind? Remember when Iraq was supposed to be "making" progress? Remember Bush standing in front of a military carrier with a banner "mission accomplished"?

All this was before 3,000 American soldiers lay dead, another 20,000-odd wounded, scores investigated for war crimes, and some 100,000 Iraqis gone and forgotten. Or is it now up to 200,000? All this was before the Muslim world and most European na-

tions turned against us for unilateral behavior and comments like "Bring it on" and "Wanted: Dead or Alive." Now, our kindly president says that he might have slipped up making comments like that.

Truth has a hard way of being silenced. Eventually, it all spills out. Everything we were told about Iraq was a straight-faced lie. Saddam? That fool could have been dealt with in far easier ways that would not have meant your son, daughter, uncle, wife or husband being put in harm's way. But that would not have reddened our necks and faces like good old war fever, motherhood, hero worship, apple pie, and, naturally, old time religion. Our blatant hypocrisy about Saddam, the tyrant, underscores the fact that our current leaders don't give a hoot about democracy, the American flag, are hardly patriotic, and will follow any snake down a note.

The Bush administration cavorts with tyrants in Egypt where the president has been in power for ... is it 30 years yet? This Republican Congress waited until hundreds of thousands were killed in Sudan before deciding to do something. Our allies, the

Saudis, spread anti-American behavior throughout their schools. Bush dances with dictators in Indonesia. When a country has a vote and the results are not what he likes, he condemns the very thing he is trying to establish.

Anti-American governments are being erected by the people at nearly every turn as a result of six years of George Bush and Republicans who are giving the word patriotism a dirty name.

I say remove Bush from power and send the radical un-American right wing back where it came. They have intentionally tried to divide American from American, have used Christianity in the foulest of ways that Jesus would weep, lied to us continuously, gutted environmental protection laws, have worsened the health care crisis in America, give tax breaks to the wealthiest of Americans, and begrudge a decent minimum wage!

The stink of George Bush and his Republican Congress smells from coast to coast. If this were 1775, private militias would be descending upon Washington with muskets to throw the bums out.

CHRISTOPHER CHARLES
Haverhill

I'm proud of grandson's run for Congress

To the editor:

Looking back at my life, I can say that I am a happy mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. I am especially proud of my grandson, Phil Maymin, because he is in one of the biggest Congressional races of the year.

My family and I immigrated to Massachusetts from Russia. Phil is my son Zak's son. Zak, with his wife Zina, and Phil and his older sister Senia came to America in 1980. Phil was five years old. My son Zak got a Ph.D. in mathematics from MIT in one year.

Phil grew up in Andover and followed his sister Senta to Phillips Academy, where in his senior year he was the first student to teach computer science while still a student. He followed his sister again to Harvard University, where he graduated in 3 1/2 years with two de-

grees, a cum laude bachelor's of arts in computer science and a master's of science in applied mathematics.

Phil also won the Massachusetts Class Championships in Chess for his rating class.

After Phil graduated from Harvard University, he got a full-time job at Long Term Capital Management as a trader. He spent a year in Greenwich, Conn., and a year in Tokyo.

In 1999, he left LTCM and soon went to the University of Chicago, where he is now a Ph.D. candidate in finance at the Graduate School of Business. He participated in the Chicago Libertarian organization.

Phil worked along with my son Zak for four years at Ellington Management Group, and last July they launched their own hedge fund, Maymin Capital Management

LLC. For the past 4 1/2 years, Phil has lived and worked in Greenwich, Conn.

I am very proud that my grandson Phil is a Libertarian since we all left Russia because there was no freedom. I am glad that he is running for the U.S House of Representatives in Connecticut and talking to people about freedom. Phil collected over 5,000 signatures even though he only needed 2,909. Phil Maymin is officially on the ballot to challenge Christopher Shays and Diane Farrell.

Phil's success in life was possible because we came to a wonderful country, America. I am thankful for my children's and grandchildren's opportunities for good education and jobs.

MARIA MAIMINA
Andover