

TheDC Morning: City University of Nincompoops

By: Jamie Weinstein – July 16, 2013

1.) City University of Nincompoops – The City University of New York has got a plan to put Petraeus-gate to rest, which may be the least problematic gate in American gate history. Robbie Soave reports for TheDC:

“In an effort to quash a growing scandal over how much the City University of New York was willing to pay former CIA chief David Petraeus to teach a single class next fall, administrators announced Monday that Petraeus’ salary would be reduced from \$150,000 to just \$1. Petraeus was perfectly willing to teach for less, and wanted to put the controversy behind him, his lawyer said. ‘The general never was taking on this teaching assignment for the money,’ said Robert Barnett, Petraeus’s lawyer, in a statement to The New York Times. CUNY confirmed the change while maintaining that Petraeus’ expertise was worth much more than \$1.”

Really, CUNY? You really think having the greatest American general of this generation teach your students might be worth more than a pack a gum? You really think he is worth more than a student might put in the cup of a homeless man on their way to his class? Look, guys. If people were upset with the \$150,000 figure for the amount of work Petraeus was slated to do, TheDC Morning is pretty sure they weren’t arguing for him to be paid a can of soda.

2.) The Syrian morass – It looks like another front in the Syrian civil war is opening up. Brendan Bordelon reports for The Daily Caller News Foundation:

“Islamist militants with links to al-Qaida attacked Free Syrian Army supply depots in northwestern Syria over the weekend in a bid to seize weapons and equipment, underscoring a growing divide between moderate and jihadist rebel forces in their shared struggle to overthrow Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. The increasing tension calls into question President Barack Obama’s decision to send money and weapons to Syrian opposition groups, which are now openly fighting one another as well as Assad’s regime. ‘This ought to underscore the danger to Obama administration officials of going down that path and providing aid to the insurgency,’ Ted Galen Carpenter, a senior foreign policy fellow at the libertarian Cato Institute, told The Daily Caller News Foundation.”

Syria is a mess and there isn’t much good going on there. But here’s rooting for the Free Syrian Army.

3.) Filibuster forever – Harry Reid is threatening to go nuclear. TheDC’s Alex Pappas reports:

“Senators from both parties spent more than three hours in a rare closed-door meeting inside the Old Senate Chamber of the Capitol on Monday evening to discuss Democratic majority leader Harry Reid’s threats to stop Republicans from being able to filibuster President Obama’s executive nominees. But lawmakers indicated after the meeting that no deal was struck to keep Reid from invoking the ‘nuclear option.’ ‘We’ve had a very good conversation,’ Reid told reporters after the meeting. ‘The conversation is going to continue tonight.’”

4.) Are you dead? – Like BuzzFeed, The Daily Caller can do lists too. BuzzFeed does lists like “50 Things Only ’80s Kids Can Understand” and “22 cats who have no idea what they’re doing with their lives.” We do lists like, “11 signs you might be dead.” You better check it out now to find out.

5.) Tweet of Yesterday – David Burge: I’ll say this for Jenny McCarthy: she’s better at immunology than Paul Krugman is at economics.

6.) Today in North Korean News – BREAKING: “Seminars on Kim Il Sung’s Exploits Held in Foreign Countries”