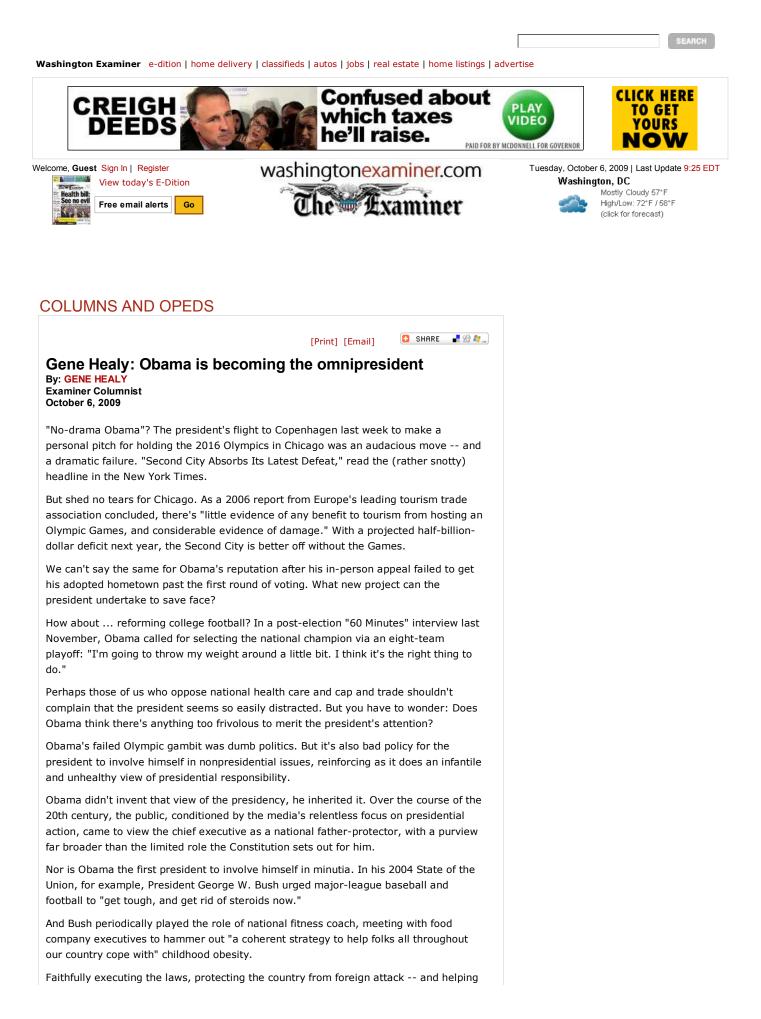
http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/opinion/columns/Obama-is-becomin...



He just can't help himself. Six months into his presidency, the Politico reported, Obama had already "uttered more than half a million words in public." In one whirlwind week last month, the president made his third appearance on "60 Minutes," gave a major speech on the financial crisis the next day, and made a record five talk-show appearances the following Sunday. And on the eighth day, he did Letterman.

Obama's incontinent approach to presidential responsibility doesn't seem to be helping him politically, however. August was the toughest month of his young presidency, and it began with the ridiculous "beer summit," in which the president gratuitously injected himself into a disputed arrest by a local cop in Cambridge, Mass.

Given how much bloom has come off the rose since then, Obama's decision to stake some prestige on securing the Olympics is baffling. What was the point of getting himself into an irrelevant fight that he might well lose?

More importantly, why would Obama go out of his way to encourage the public's irrationally broad view of presidential responsibility? Isn't the president's job hard enough?

Obama has become the omnipresent omnipresident. But a man who is everywhere, promising to do everything, may end up accomplishing very little, and he's sure to disappoint.

Examiner Columnist Gene Healy is a vice president at the Cato Institute and the author of "The Cult of the Presidency."

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High natural gas storage levels and weakness in demand led an analyst Tuesday to cut his outlook for natural gas prices and lower his ratings on producers Chesapeake Energy Corp. and Devon Energy Corp. Full story

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An Illinois insurance executive accused of secretly making nude videos of ESPN reporter Erin Andrews apparently uploaded videos of other unsuspecting nude women to the Internet, a federal prosecutor said Monday. Full story

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