Campaign Games: 2024 Election Coverage

Episode 27

Friday Update

Matt Gaetz

- Withdrew yesterday
    - Announces Pam Bondi as AG nominee - Former AG of Florida
- He was on the Hill on Wednesday with Vance, taking meetings with Senators
    - Caught leaving the meetings by the press and had a pretty positive tone about the meetings.
- The ethics committee voted not to release the Gaetz report.
- Gaetz resignation statement
    - The story is that he resided of his own accord.
- Reports are four Republican senators were opposed to Gaetz and not budging
    - John Curtis (Utah)
    - Susan Collins (Maine)
    - Lisa Murkowski (Alaska)
    - Mitch McConnell (Kentucky)
- Is this the last time we see Gaetz?
    - Will he return to Congress? He served in the 118th Congress and said he did not intend to be sworn in for the 119th, but could he still be?

Nancy Mace

- Johnson has issued a rule that bathrooms remain single sex
- McBride statement
- Mace interview on Scripps - reporter Liz Landers, leads “disinformation desk” attempts so shame Mace

- "Nonbinary" activist Evan Greer just interrupted and harassed Nancy Mace on stage to say she should be forced to share a bathroom with men, and denounces her for overshadowing "Trans Day of Visibility." VIDEO

DOGE

WSJ OpEd

- Introduction to the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).
- DOGE's purpose: Cut federal bureaucracy, reduce waste, and return power to Congress and the people.
- Unique approach: Led by private-sector volunteers, not federal employees, ensuring an outside perspective.

Why DOGE, and Why Now?

- Federal bureaucracy is bloated and unaccountable, posing an existential threat to the republic.
- DOGE's approach:
    - **Action, not reports** – Focus on cutting costs and regulations, not symbolic gestures.
    - **Three key missions**:
        1. Regulatory rescissions.
        2. Administrative reductions.
        3. Cost savings for taxpayers.

Legal Foundations for Reform

- Supreme Court rulings empowering DOGE:
    - **West Virginia v. EPA (2022)**: Agencies can't regulate without explicit congressional authorization.

    - **Loper Bright v. Raimondo (2024)**: Ends Chevron doctrine; courts no longer defer to agency interpretations.
- Plan:
    - Audit federal regulations.
    - Identify overreach and unauthorized rules.
    - Use executive orders to pause enforcement and start rescission.
- Addressing criticism: Executive orders to undo unauthorized regulations restore constitutional lawmaking—not executive overreach.

Restructuring the Federal Workforce

- Fewer regulations = fewer employees needed to enforce them.
- DOGE's workforce reduction strategy:
    - Audit agencies to determine constitutionally necessary staffing.
    - Offer early retirement and severance for displaced workers to ensure respectful transitions.
    - Relocate federal jobs outside D.C. and enforce in-office attendance to encourage voluntary resignations.
- Civil-service reform:
    - Use "reductions in force" provisions in law to cut staff.
    - President has authority to rewrite civil-service rules to streamline staffing.

Addressing Federal Spending and Waste

- Federal spending waste: Over $500 billion annually on unauthorized or misused expenditures.
- Key targets:
    - Federal overspending, and federal expenditures that are unauthorized by Congress or being used in ways that Congress never intended
        - $535 million a year to the Corporation for Public Broadcasting

        - $1.5 billion for grants to international organizations to nearly
        - $300 million to progressive groups like Planned Parenthood.
    - Auditing outdated federal contracts for potential savings.
    - Addressing the Pentagon's repeated audit failures.
- Goal: Immediate cost reductions through pinpoint executive actions.
- Counterpoint to critics:
    - Entitlement programs like Medicare aren't the only path to savings.
    - Focus on fraud, waste, and abuse to reduce the deficit.

The Vision for July 4, 2026

- DOGE's ultimate goal: Eliminate itself by Independence Day 2026.
    - Deliver a federal government that is lean, efficient, and Constitution-focused.
    - A historic opportunity to give the nation the Founders' vision of governance.
- Anticipated resistance:
    - Expect opposition from entrenched Washington interests.
    - DOGE is prepared with a Supreme Court majority, electoral mandate, and constitutional grounding.

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About Memehet Oz

After we recorded Wednesday's episode, a 2010 segment of Dr. Oz came to our attention.

- Reminder his position will be under the umbrella of HHS
- Questions we want to be answered about Oz
    - Universal health insurance
    - Trans-ing the kids
- During his senate run

    - In April 2022, Oz supported legislation to prohibit transgender people from participating in sports that are divided by gender-based categories rather than sex-based categories.[154] In May 2022, he said that a transgender youth movement is based on "false science", while not supporting a ban on hormone blockers, adding that the doctor and family should decide, rather than politicians.[188]
    - Dr. Oz's Private Speech Leaked! Ex-TV Doctor Says He Told Oprah To 'Stay Out' Of His Political Campaign, Praises 'Brave' J.K. Rowling For Stance On Trans Rights - Radar Online

Biden is Literally Dropping Granades on the Way Out.

Biden gave Ukraine permission to fire **ATACMS Missiles into Russia after the deployment of North Korean** troops in Russia and the upcoming transition of U.S. presidential power to Donald Trump.

IMMIGRATION: Biden admin quietly loosening immigration policies before Trump takes office — including letting migrants skip ICE check-ins in NYC

- Ukraine reportedly uses US long-range missile for first time to blow up Russian weapons facility as Putin issues nuke warning to America - NY Post
- Zelensky interview with Trey Yingst - (VIDEO)

- **Nuclear Threats**: Russia has lowered its threshold for nuclear weapon use, which has raised international concerns. This move is seen by some as an escalation, especially in light of the ongoing conflict with Ukraine.

- **International Reactions**: There has been a mixed response globally. For instance, Germany has accused Russia of cutting Baltic cables, adding to the tensions

between NATO countries and Russia. Meanwhile, the U.S. has taken precautionary measures by temporarily closing its embassy in Kyiv due to expected significant air attacks.

Other Concerns

- Russia building nuclear bunkers
    - Russia has begun mass production of mobile bomb shelters named "KUB-M" that protect against radiation and shockwaves, according to the emergency ministry's research institute.
    - The "KUB-M" shelter accommodates 54 people and can be customized with additional modules, as stated by the institute.
    - The shelter offers 48 hours of protection against various threats, characterized as "a crucial advancement in civilian protection measures" by its developers.
- Telecom Cables cut in the baltic - X Post
    - Two undersea cables in Baltic Sea disrupted, sparking warnings of possible 'hybrid warfare' - CNN
    - Germany suspects sabotage over severed undersea cables in Baltic - BBC
- Sweden warns citizens to prepare for "crisis or war." Five million households receive nuclear, cyber and bio-attack preparedness pamphlets. - X Post
    - Sweden tells citizens to prepare for WAR