

***The Goodness of Former QBs as America’s next political leaders.***

*An America with Joe Montana as “back-up” would be doing much better.*

*By Mark Stewart Greenstein – facilitator.*

*There is no better “proving ground” for the leadership and high pressures of a U.S. President than one’s highly competitive, highly-scrutinized, and highly-pressured years as an NFL quarterback. At even the college level, quarterbacks are cerebral, highly-disciplined, fast-thinking leaders of men. They have to memorize an intricate playbook, call for or follow scripted plays, and a mere 40 seconds after being thrown to the turf by a fearsome opponent, make split-second decisions based on the athleticism, exhaustion, and ferocity of 21 other men on the field, at least four of whom are rushing in to knock him silly.*

*At the NFL level, quarterbacks face the further pressures of fans, the play-by play announcement of their mistakes, and the withering post-game reports of media. (Literally, no other professionals go a full week with their last-week’s record of good and bad work on display for colleagues, management, and press.)*

*The American electorate once used army leadership as fitting for Presidential leadership. Better than any past colonel or general, a former NFL quarterback has dozens of colleagues to attest to his leadership, millions of fans to attest to his exploits, video to show his talents under pressure, and statistics to attest to his success.*

*Libertarians should choose not just one, but MANY, former QBs as their would-be national leaders. That’s president, vice-president, several cabinet positions, many executive appointees, and many state governorships.*

*Senator Tommy Tuberville is a former College football coach. Congressman, HUD Secretary, and Vice Presidential nominee Jack Kemp was the Buffalo Bills’ starting quarterback for seven years. The “But”s:*

*“but no former NFL player is currently in a marquee elected office.”*

*That’s a GOOD thing. They are still real citizens, uncorrupted by politics, and un-swayed by the demands of political bosses, media, and donors. Current office holders and not doing America much good now.*

*“but they don’t show thoughtfulness about politics”*

*That’s because their media training and their decorum keep them on the political sidelines. As for thoughtfulness about politics…America is at the stage where politics (meaning compromises that placate bureaucrats and highly-positioned party-people) deserve to be steamrolled in the name of good POLICY.*

*“but they are not steeped in a political party’s principles”*

*Errr. Our political parties today have no well-adhered-to set of principles. The Republican Party has been splitting apart for decades; the Democratic Party has a wide set of principles, and even the “narrow” Constitution Party has officers who differ greatly on labor, immigration, civil rights, and international dealings.*

*There is one party that any thoughtful newcomer can run with and be in synch with their principles: the Libertarian party, America’s third largest, is governed by candidates who take a single pledge: not to initiate force against unwilling innocents. Literally, every Libertarian makes this pledge, whether an office-holder, candidate, or Member. Within the wide Libertarian swath are domestic sentiments from left to right, and international sentiments from old-fashioned isolationism to high foreign involvement.*

*So, it’s time to provide a platform to the thoughtful former players who have an impulse to serve others.*

*Yes, it can and should stem beyond QBs. Former players who’ve anchored NFL defenses have shown us incredible responsibility, alertness, fitness, tenacity, leadership, and camaraderie. Those who have reached the top tier at any starting position in the NFL, NBA, NHL, MLB, or MLS, a mere 3200 Americans out of 330,000,000 in a given year (less than 1 in 100,000), are elite performers who are as masterful at their work as almost any other American. Every one of them who is now willing to serve publicly deserves our scrutiny for elected office.*

*I happen to have favorites.* (hint: Back up 40 years from Inauguration day January 2025......)

*But we can enlist* ***almost all****: given the 50 governorships, 17 cabinet positions, 100+ undersecretaries, and 500+ other executive appointments that complement a presidential election, the USA has room for every thoughtful ex-major league starter who wants to serve at a high level.*

*The Libertarian party has room for every one of them without replacing a single one of our intellectual stalwarts. Every LP presidential candidate of this century could be serving as a cabinet member’s or governor’s Chief of Staff. Every LP gubernatorial and congressional candidate can be serving near the top of a 500-person administration. If still seeking elected office in 2026 or 2028, our candidates can run* ***with far more heft.***

*Put it this way. Ask any Colorado LP candidate if commanding the daily attention of Governor John Elway would be productive for 2 to 4 years. Ask any Texas LP candidate if she or he would relish serving as Chief of Staff to Governor Roger Staubach.*

*Put it at the Presidential Level: does any among the following NOT carry him/herself better than Biden and Trump?”*

Brett Favre, Steve Young, JC Watts, David Robinson, Nolan Ryan, Ozzie Smith, Barry Zito, Tom Glavine.

Dan Marino, Dennis Eckersley, **Tony Dungy (winningest living coach),** Herman Edwards, Jim Kelly,

Joe Montana, Troy Aikman, Peyton Manning, Don Mattingly, Johnny Damon, Steve Kerr, Steve Largent, Jerome Bettis, John Elway, George Brett, Tom Brady, Cal Ripken, Roger Staubach, Dale Earnhardt Jr.,

Bo Jackson, Jason Sehorn, Danica Patrick, Karl Malone, Mike Piazza.

They are all conservative. Martina Navratilova would qualify, but was born in Czechoslovakia, and thus can’t be U.S. President.

Answer: Back up 40 years from Inauguration day Jan 20, 2025......

The Jan 20, 1985 Super Bowl featured two now-conservative QBs:

    Dan Marino vs. Joe Montana

Complement them as P and VP with Chiefs of Staff and “Kitchen cabinet” of Tony Dungy, Herman Edwards, Brett Favre, Magic Johnson, Mike Kryszewski, and David Robinson. Domestically, we’re in good hands. As for international and military policies, that should remain the realm of long-serving warriors and thinkers.

But we don’t elect based on foreign policy. Domestic is it, and our domestics are in shambles. Give the American electorate Dan Marino with a backup of Joe Montana and a host of proven past leaders.

At least try. Delegates should make an overt, nationwide call for marquee former athletes. If not enough come forward by May 24, delegates should nominate a Pres and VP candidate who’d contractually yield to someone who has a clearly higher appeal with voters, or vote NOTA and let the LNC make a selection in late July, after the Republican convention breaks and many hefty public servants are likely to become available.

ESPECIALLY for the Libertarian Party, with the most American of principles, enlisting some recognizable “heroes” to carry the principles to the minds of American voters will improve the world, literally.

*Mark Stewart Greenstein was on presidential ballots in two Democratic Party 2024 primaries. He is a 59 year old businessman and educator from Connecticut, offering more choices for voters, particularly Democratic Party voters. The campaign sites are* [*www.noJoeBiden.us*](http://www.noJoeBiden.us)*,* [*www.stewartforHartford.com*](http://www.stewartforHartford.com) *and* [*www.stewartforliberty.com*](http://www.stewartforliberty.com) *.*

*The endorsement site is* [*www.epic-party.us*](http://www.epic-party.us)*. He is reachable via coordinator Pierce at* *libertymsg@gmail.com.*