



WHO IS MIKE HATCH?

***An “Angry” Liberal & “Slash and Burn Politician”
Who Would “Sell His Soul” To Get Elected***

HATCH ON THE ISSUES: WRONG FOR MINNESOTA

Hatch Wrong On Taxes & The Economy:

1983-1989: Minnesota Business Community Viewed Hatch As Anti-Business During Tenure As Commerce Commissioner. “Bring up Hatch’s name in business circles, and words like ‘aggravation,’ ‘barrier,’ ‘obstacle,’ and ‘frustration’ come up.” (Eben Shapiro, “Is Mike Hatch Too Tough?” *Minneapolis-St Paul CityBusiness*, May 28, 1986)

1987: Hatch Supported Increasing Taxes On Health Insurance Premiums. “State Commerce Commissioner Michael Hatch attacked nonprofit health insurers that oppose a proposed 2 percent tax on their premiums, accusing two of them Monday of wasting money that could help pay the tax.” (Joe Blade, “Hatch Criticizes Insurers Opposed To Premium Tax,” *Star Tribune*, April 21, 1987)

1990 Gubernatorial Campaign: Hatch Pledged No New Tax Increases; Proposed Three New Tax Increases. “Hatch has sent mixed messages. In announcing his candidacy last winter, he declared: ‘I won’t raise taxes.’ But since then he has proposed at least three new taxes. One is the payroll tax he proposed to finance health care for the uninsured. Hatch said that tax should be offset by lower premiums for existing health plans. The other taxes he proposed are those on toxic chemicals and non-recyclable packages that are designed to discourage pollution.” (Bill Salisbury, “The Perpich, Hatch Faceoff: Where Gov. Rudy Perpich And Former Commerce Commissioner Mike Hatch Stand On Major Issues As They Campaign For The Sept. 11 Primary,” *Pioneer Press*, August 26, 1990)

1990 Gubernatorial Campaign: Hatch Proposed Payroll Tax Increase. “DFLer Mike Hatch is the first candidate for governor to propose a way to provide health care to the estimated 375,000 Minnesotans who don’t have health insurance. Hatch also is the first candidate who is courageous - or foolish - enough to propose a tax increase to pay for it. His plan would cost large companies \$2 per employee each month - a proposal certain to spark business opposition. Hatch says he would offset any tax increases with cost-cutting measures.” (Bill Salisbury, “Hatch Offers Plan To Help Uninsured Get Health Care Tax[.] Would Expand State-Sponsored Insurance Pool,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, July 15, 1990)

1990 Gubernatorial Campaign: Hatch Health Care Plan Rejected Earlier By Perpich Administration Because Of Payroll Tax Increase. “Hatch proposed his plan to Perpich two years ago, but it was rejected by the State Planning Agency, the governor’s screening department. ‘We didn’t have too much trouble with his policy recommendations; the problem was with the financing,’ said State Planning Commissioner Lani Kawamura. Hatch wanted to finance his plan with a payroll tax, which was unacceptable to the governor, Kawamura said. In addition, she said, ‘we didn’t know the price tag, and his proposal didn’t have any provisions to contain costs.’” (Bill Salisbury, “Hatch Offers Plan To Help Uninsured Get Health Care Tax[.] Would Expand State-Sponsored Insurance Pool,” *Pioneer Press*, July 15, 1990)

1990 Pioneer Press Editorial: “Of All The Serious Independent Republican And DFL Candidates Who Are Seeking Or Looking At The Governor’s Office This Year, We Can’t Think Of Any Who Are Viewed As More Anti-Business Than Mr. Hatch.” “Can Mr. Hatch regain the trust and confidence of Minnesota business leaders after glorying in his self-proclaimed role as a consumer advocate during the 1980s? Of all the serious Independent Republican and DFL candidates who are seeking or looking at the governor’s office this year, we can’t think of any who are viewed as more anti-business than Mr. Hatch. He earned that reputation by attempting to carve up insurance companies as if they were turkeys and every day was Thanksgiving.” (Editorial, *Pioneer Press*, January 22, 1990)

2006 Gubernatorial Campaign: DFLer Steve Kelley Mocks Hatch’s Anti-Business Reputation. “When one of the neighbors asked him how we would distinguish himself from Mike Hatch, [State Senator] Steve Kelley joked, ‘I actually have businesspeople who like me.’” (Laura McCallum, “Hatch Candidacy Doesn’t Faze Other DFL Candidates,” *MPR News*, October 24, 2005)

DFLer Kelly Doran: Hatch “Perceived” As “Anti-Business.” “‘Our party can’t win without business support,’ said Doran, who also pointed out that in meetings with business people he has not heard support for the attorney general. ‘He’s perceived as anti-business.’” (Bill Hanna, “Can Doran Tap Into Partisan Discontent?” *Mesabi Daily News*, February 11, 2006)

Even DFL Delegates Don’t Believe Hatch Can Fund All His New Programs Without Raising Taxes. “Significantly, he said, ‘we can do this without raising taxes.’ Tougher enforcement of existing tax laws can increase revenues. The convention’s subdued response to that line raised questions at the media table about whether delegates found it credible.” (Lori Sturdevant, “DFL Looks To The Future With A Nod To The Past,” *Star Tribune*, June 12, 2006)

DFLer Becky Lourey: Hatch Can’t Pay For Campaign Promises Without Raising Taxes. “What Mike Hatch says is that we can raise all the money by going after tax avoiders and tax evaders...That doesn’t raise the revenue to do all the things Mike wants to do.” (Becky Lourey Interview, KSTP TV’s “At Issue,” August 6, 2006)

Becky Lourey: “I Do Not Believe Mike Hatch Will Be” Friendly To Business. “While Hatch points to issues they agree on and declines to discuss differences, Lourey and her running mate, Tim Baylor, are not shy about setting themselves apart. ‘Tim Baylor and I will be friendly to businesses,’ Lourey said. ‘I do not believe Mike Hatch will be. We understand the importance of business development. We have both risked our personal capital to create jobs and provide living wages. We understand that relationship.’” (Paul Lundgren, “Hatch, Lourey Battle For Shot At Pawlenty, Business North Website, <http://www.businessnorth.com/exclusives.asp?RID=1497>, August 22, 2006)

Hatch Endorsed Ventura’s 2002 Tax Hike Proposal. “I think in 2003, first of all, I think we should have adopted the Ventura budget in 2002, I think had that been done, and if you recall, uh, the Governor talks about a four and half billion dollar deficit, it was a deficit caused by his own actions. Ventura did come up with a proposal that was a compromise, it had some pretty good cuts, had some revenue, uh, but it did balance the budget.” (Mike Hatch, Press Conference, August 25, 2006)

- **Ventura’s Tax Increase Would Have Hiked Taxes By Nearly \$400 Million.** “Most Minnesotans would notice the pinch of at least some of Ventura’s proposed tax increases. Defending a plan that would cut spending by \$700 million over the next 18 months and raise taxes by nearly \$400 million in the same period, he put it this way: ‘Better that everyone get a mild headache than a few get an impacted wisdom tooth. I think we’ll be successful if everyone complains.’” (Patricia Lopez, “Strong Budget Medicine: Ventura Prescribes Cuts Of \$700 Million, Tax Increases Of \$397 Million,” *Star Tribune*, January 11, 2002)

Hatch Wrong On Gay Marriage:

Hatch Claimed To Share “Identical Positions” With Governor Pawlenty On Gay Marriage; Declined To Support A Constitutional Ban On Gay Marriage. “As far as I know, we have identical positions on gay marriage. I believe marriage is between a man and a woman,’ he said. But he declined to support a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage that Pawlenty backs.” (Bill Salisbury, “Clash of the Minnesota Political Titans?” *Pioneer Press*, November 20, 2005)

Hatch Wrong On Illegal Immigration:

***Pioneer Press*: Hatch “Bewildered By Governor Pawlenty’s Emphasis On Illegal Immigration.”** “He’s bewildered by Pawlenty’s emphasis on illegal immigration, [Hatch] said, because governors ‘have nothing to do with that issue.’” (Bill Salisbury, “Clash of the Minnesota Political Titans?” *Pioneer Press*, November 20, 2005)

Hatch Believes The Governor of Minnesota “Has Nothing To Do With Illegal Immigrants.” “And while Pawlenty has recently drawn attention on illegal immigration, holding a public hearing in Worthington, it’s basically a federal issue. The governor has nothing to do with illegal immigrants,’ [Hatch] said. ‘He can kick it all around he wants, but it’s a national policy.’” (“Hatch Brings Campaign For Governor To Bemidji,” *Bemidji Pioneer*, December 11, 2005)

Hatch Has Dismissed Attempts To Reform Illegal Immigration And Praised Illegal Immigration. “A report from Pawlenty’s office late last week showed the cost of illegal immigrants to state services, but Hatch said it failed to show positive attributes, such as providing low-cost labor and in paying taxes.” (“Hatch Brings Campaign For Governor To Bemidji,” *Bemidji Pioneer*, December 11, 2005)

Although Hatch Believes The Governor of Minnesota “Has Nothing To Do With Illegal Immigrants,” Hatch Attacks Governor Pawlenty For Making Illegal Immigration Problem Worse.

“Attorney General Mike Hatch, a DFL candidate for governor, charged that the Pawlenty administration has exacerbated the illegal immigration problem.” (Bill Salisbury, “Pawlenty Immigration Report Ignites Firestorm,” *Pioneer Press*, December 16, 2005)

Hatch Attacks Governor Pawlenty For Failing To Enforce Laws Against Illegal Immigration.

“Another critic was Attorney General Mike Hatch, a DFL candidate for governor, who said the Pawlenty administration has failed for three years to enforce labor laws against employers that hire illegal immigrants.” (Bill Salisbury, “Illegal Immigration A ‘Real Issue,’” *Pioneer Press*, January 4, 2006)

Hatch Wrong On Health Care:

Hatch Accused Of “Giant Conflict Of Interest” By DFLer David Lillehaug For Representing HMO.

“Minnesota Attorney General candidate David Lillehaug on Tuesday accused rival Mike Hatch of having a ‘giant conflict of interest’ for collecting legal fees from a health maintenance organization while campaigning on promises to help individuals in fights against HMOs. ... Hatch, a lawyer in private practice, represents Aetna U.S. Healthcare, a Pennsylvania-based for-profit insurance company, in a federal lawsuit against HealthPartners, a non-profit Minnesota HMO.” (Patrick Sweeney, “Lillehaug, Hatch Trade Barbs Over HMO Issue,” *Pioneer Press*, September 2, 1998)

Lillehaug Said Hatch Had Been Operating In “Cynical Manner.” “Lillehaug said it was wrong for Hatch to portray himself in the campaign as a defender of patients against the abuses of HMOs when he is receiving fees from Aetna. ‘He’s been operating in a cynical manner, where his law practice has been disengaged from the public-policy aspects of his campaign,’ Lillehaug said.” (Patrick Sweeney, “Lillehaug, Hatch Trade Barbs Over HMO Issue,” *Pioneer Press*, September 2, 1998)

Lillehaug Mocked Hatch For Representing HMO. “When Mr. Hatch said he would ‘take on’ the HMOs, I didn’t think we suspected he would take them on as clients. ... At the same time, when he says he’s standing up to the HMOs, he’s apparently standing up with his hand out,’ [Lillehaug said]” (Bill McAllister, “Lillehaug Says Hatch Has A Conflict Of Interest on HMOs,” *Legal Ledger*, September 2, 1998)

Minnesota Chamber Of Commerce Estimated Hatch Bill Would Have Increased Premiums By Up To 40% A Year.

“The Legislature passed a bill, originated by the Chamber, allowing insurance companies with less than a three percent market share to offer small employers health care insurance without costly state mandates. The Chamber also successfully defeated attempts by Attorney General Mike Hatch to increase litigation in the health care system, which would have increased health care premiums by up to 40% a year.” (Minnesota Chamber Of Commerce Press Release, “Minnesota Chamber Applauds Tax Cuts, Health Care Reforms But Warns About Unchecked Spending,” May 19, 1999)

Pioneer Press Editorial: “Attorney General Mike Hatch’s Involvement In Appointing A New Board Of Directors For Medica Health Plans Is An Outrageously Ill-Considered Overextension Of His Office’s Role. That The Chair Of The New Board And Several Other Members Have Been Substantial Political Contributors To Hatch And Other DFLers Only Makes This Development More Unseemly.” (Editorial, “Allina-Medica Breakup; Hatch Oversteps Bounds With Role In Board Picks,” *Pioneer Press*, August 5, 2001)

In Spite Of Hatch Numerous Lawsuits, Health Care Costs Continue To “Skyrocket.” “Since Minnesota Attorney General Mike Hatch began his march through the financial books of the state’s largest nonprofit health care insurers and providers five years ago, much has changed. ... But then again, much has stayed the same. Health care costs continue to skyrocket and care issues remain a top priority with the public.” (David Phelps, “The Trials Of Mike Hatch; Is The Attorney General Reforming Minnesota Health Care, Or Is He Grandstanding?” *Star Tribune*, February 20, 2005)

Pioneer Press: Hatch’s “Legal Actions Have Done Little To Hold Down Soaring Health-Care Costs.” “As attorney general, he has earned a reputation as an aggressive -- some say confrontational -- watchdog of the state’s health-care insurers and providers. But his legal actions have done little to hold down soaring health-care costs. ‘Lawsuits aren’t going to change the system,’ he said.” (Bill Salisbury, “Attorney General Campaigns For Health-Care Fixes,” *Pioneer Press*, March 20, 2005)

Hatch Leaves Angry, Profanity Laced Phone Messages Regarding Medica Case. “In continued court proceedings between Medica and Hatch over the Attorney General’s authority, Hatch took the witness stand. There, he was confronted with a recording he had left on Board Chair John Buck’s voicemail. In it, Hatch is heard saying, ‘This bonus will undo all that we’ve accomplished. We would be [expletive] front-page news. It would be a [expletive] scandal. The only thing we can do is lower premiums. I don’t want another [expletive] scandal on my hands.’” (David Phelps, “Sparks Fly As Hatch Takes The Stand,” *Star Tribune*, July 29, 2005)

- **Star Tribune: “Later In The Testimony, He Was Questioned About Whether He Had Described Medica Attorney Marianne Short With Two Expletives To A Partner In Her Firm And Whether He Had Threatened To Take State Business Away From The Firm.”**
(David Phelps, “Sparks Fly As Hatch Takes The Stand,” *Star Tribune*, July 29, 2005)

Judge Says Evidence Did Not Support Hatch’s Claims Against Medica. “Evidence presented at trial ‘does not support the attorney general’s claim that the people he selected as board members, in his words, “hijacked the company,” instead of returning it to its consumer members,’ the judge wrote. ... ‘Lawsuits are supposed to be about wrongs done to people,’ Zimmerman wrote. ‘At the end of the day, this court is left wondering, as Medica does in its post-trial brief: “What exactly, is the state alleging Medica did wrong?”’” (John Welbes, “Hatch Loses Suit Against Medica’s Board,” *Pioneer Press*, August 18, 2005)

DFLer Kelly Doran Hammered Hatch For “Just” Filing Lawsuits In Regards To Health Care. “Regarding health care, ‘We need to find solutions to the problem, not just file lawsuits,’ Doran said in a clear jab at Hatch, who, as attorney general has sued several health care providers.” (Bill Hanna, “Can Doran Tap Into Partisan Discontent,” *Mesabi Daily News*, February 11, 2006)

Hatch Wrong On Education:

Hatch Opposes Governor Pawlenty’s Plan To Put 70% Of Education Funds Into The Classroom. “DFL gubernatorial endorsee Mike Hatch, who does not support the 70 percent proposal, said mandatory administrative cost formulas in other industries tend to be circumvented and seldom work out.” (Dane Smith, “Pawlenty Ad Stokes Education Debate,” *Star Tribune*, September 6, 2006)

Minnesota Public Radio: Hatch Thinks 70% Requirement Is Pawlenty's Plan Is "A Bad Idea.

"Pawlenty tells viewers he's the only candidate who will fight for the 70 percent requirement. That's true. The two other major party endorsed candidates -- DFLer Mike Hatch and the Independence Party's Peter Hutchinson -- say Pawlenty's plan is a bad idea." (Laura McCallum, "Pawlenty Wants Schools To Spend 70 Percent Of Their Money In Classrooms," Minnesota Public Radio Website, September 5, 2006)

WCCO: "The Mike Hatch For Governor Campaign Says There Is No Correlation Between 70 Percent Classroom Spending And Student Achievement, Calling The Ad A Public Relations Gimmick, Creating Mistrust."

(Pat Kessler, "Pawlenty Education TV Spot Inciting Controversy," WCCO-TV Website, September 7, 2006)

Hatch Falsely Attacked Governor Pawlenty Over Administration Of State Scholarship Fund.

"DFL gubernatorial candidate Mike Hatch challenged Gov. Tim Pawlenty's commitment to higher education Thursday by accusing him of diverting millions of dollars from a scholarship fund to help run the Department of Natural Resources. A Pawlenty aide countered that the DNR deserved some of the money raised from minerals taxes for scholarships because the department uses it to help manage mining that provides scholarship funds. 'You have been reckless in your representation of key facts,' said Tom Hanson, deputy chief of staff for legislative and cabinet affairs, in a letter to Hatch." (Pat Doyle, "Pawlenty's Scholarship Plan Is A Giveback Of Sorts, Hatch Says; The Attorney General Says Minerals Tax Dollars Intended To Fund Scholarships Were Spent On Administrative Tasks," *Star Tribune*, June 30, 2006)

- **But Attorney General Hatch Did Not Object To Provisions Of Scholarship Fund During Legislative Session.** "Hatch said the scholarship fund would have received even more money if the \$3 million hadn't been sent to the DNR for administration. He said the \$3 million administrative fee was an 'outlandish amount' for minerals management, 'what is essentially a bookkeeping function.' Hatch also questioned the legality of the transfer, but Hanson said the attorney general never raised the issue when the provision was included in 2005 legislation. Hatch said the legislation passed in the special session and there wasn't time for legal analysis." (Pat Doyle, "Pawlenty's Scholarship Plan Is A Giveback Of Sorts, Hatch Says; The Attorney General Says Minerals Tax Dollars Intended To Fund Scholarships Were Spent On Administrative Tasks," *Star Tribune*, June 30, 2006)

HATCH IS ETHICALLY CHALLENGED

1984: Commerce Commissioner Hatch Violated State Law With Official Brochure And Had To Reimburse The State. “Minnesota Commerce Commissioner Michael Hatch said Thursday that his agency is destroying about 2,000 official brochures that include Hatch’s picture and a personal message, in violation of state law.” (Associated Press, “Agency Kills Booklet With Chief’s Picture, Message,” *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, February 2, 1984)

1987: Commerce Commissioner Hatch Distributed Booklet Paid For With Donations From Industries Hatch Regulated. “Minnesota Commerce Commissioner Michael Hatch is distributing a new booklet of consumer advice that may also advance his political career. ... “But critics contend the publication is little more than a campaign brochure for Hatch. They also criticized him for paying for the booklet with donations from industries that his department regulates. The 35-page booklet, entitled ‘Managing Your Money in the ‘80s,’ is a collection of 50 columns Hatch has mailed to weekly newspapers in recent years.” (Bill Salisbury, “Hatch Guide Funded By Trade Group Irks IRs,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch*, August 19, 1987)

- **Pioneer Press And Dispatch Editorial Faulted Commerce Commissioner Hatch’s “Blind Ambition” In Publishing Booklet Paid For By The Industries He Regulates.** “Minnesota Commerce Commissioner Michael Hatch allowed his ambition to overwhelm his better judgment. No clear-thinking official would plaster his picture and name throughout a booklet and then defend it as a consumer information brochure. And certainly no level-headed state officeholder would pay for the blatantly political with \$3,000 squeezed for industries his office regulates. Blind ambition can cause such inappropriate behavior. Gov. Rudy Perpich should ensure that his commissioner once again see the light of reality.” (*St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch* Editorial, “Hatch Brochure: Blinding Ambition,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch*, August 25, 1987)
- **Legislative Auditor Called Funding Arrangement For Booklet Highly Questionable.** “Hatch solicited funding for the publication from six trade organizations whose members are regulated by the department, said the IR leaders. ... They also noted that Legislative Auditor James Nobles has written Hatch, saying the commissioner has misrepresented his recommendations that the department distribute informational brochures or pamphlets. ‘Nowhere does our report recommend that the proposed publications should be “funded through industry organizations,”’ Nobles said in an Aug. 21 letter. He called the funding arrangement highly questionable.” (Betty Wilson, “IR Leaders Ask Ethics Board Ruling On Hatch Pamphlet,” *Minneapolis Star and Tribune*, August 28, 1987)

1989: DFLer Roger Moe Called For Suspension Of Hatch As Commerce Commissioner Over Contract. “Accusations of impropriety regarding a contract awarded by the Minnesota Commerce Department have turned into a political battle involving four potential candidates for governor. On Monday, State Auditor Arne Carlson, an Independent-Republican candidate for governor, urged Gov. Rudy Perpich, a DFL candidate for re-election, to investigate a situation surrounding a contract awarded by Commerce Commissioner Mike Hatch, who is expected soon to become a DFL candidate for governor. ... On Tuesday, Senate Majority Leader Roger Moe, who is organizing a DFL campaign for governor, said Perpich should suspend Hatch until the air can be cleared regarding the contract situation.” (Jack B. Coffman, “State Contract Award Triggers Clash Involving Gubernatorial Candidates,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch*, December 20, 1989)

- **\$200 Million Contract Given To Hatch Financial Supporters.** “The center of this multicandidate dispute is a contract awarded earlier this year by Hatch for financial management of the state’s \$200 million fund that provides workers’ compensation coverage for employers unable to obtain such coverage privately. The contract was awarded by Hatch to the bonding firm of Dougherty Dawkins using Central Financial Services as economic analyst. Carlson said a ‘political atmosphere’ surrounds the issue because Michael Dougherty, partner in the bond firm, and John Morrison, owner of the economic analysis firm, had aided Hatch’s campaign fund financially.” (Jack B. Coffman, “State Contract Award Triggers Clash Involving Gubernatorial Candidates,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch*, December 20, 1989)
- **Minnesota Legislative Audit Commission Chairman And DFL State Senator John Brandl: “There Is No Justification For The Sloppy Process Hatch Used.”** “The legislative auditor, whose report Hatch attacked, is impartial and nonpartisan. The Legislative Audit Commission, which consists of legislators of both parties, voted unanimously to ask the auditor to do the investigation, the findings of which are making Hatch uncomfortable. There is no justification for the sloppy process Hatch used.” (State Sen. John E. Brandl, “Letters From Readers,” *Star Tribune*, May 19, 1990)

1990: Fellow DFLers Say Hatch Used Underhanded Tactics To Scuttle Health Insurance Bill.

“[John] Brandl and House Insurance Committee Chairman Wes Skoglund also accused Hatch of political motives and underhanded tactics in opposing a health insurance bill they sponsored in 1989. ... Brandl and Skoglund objected in particular that Hatch improperly obtained lists of policyholders in the state pool and sent out letters to ‘vulnerable’ people that misrepresented the provisions of the legislation and asked them to call their legislators.” (Betty Wilson, “Hatch Built Image As Consumer’s Friend,” *Star Tribune*, August 26, 1990)

- **Pioneer Press Editorial Faulted Hatch For Using Mailing List To Rally Opposition To Bill.** “What curbs possible enthusiasm for [Hatch] from this corner is two-fold: First, his inability to show any significant level of trust from major business leaders, and, second, concerns about his handling of two matters while he was commerce commissioner in 1988 and 1989. In one, Mr. Hatch made a number of questionable (though not illegal) decisions in awarding a contract to manage and invest about \$200 million in state Workers’ Compensation funds. In the other, he unwisely used a mailing list of some 17,000 policyholders in a state health insurance fund, writing them to rally opposition to a legislative plan to reduce a \$20 million deficit by lightening benefits. Mr. Hatch argues that his actions in both instances were proper.” (Editorial, “For Governor: DFL: Rudy Perpich Still The Better Choice For Voters In DFL Primary,” *Pioneer Press*, August 26, 1990)

1991: Star Tribune Breaks Story That “Hatch Used His Position As State Commerce Commissioner To Establish An Ethically Questionable Relationship With A Company To Which He Awarded An \$800,000 State Contract.”

“Former gubernatorial candidate Mike Hatch used his position as state commerce commissioner to establish an ethically questionable relationship with a company to which he awarded an \$800,000 state contract. Immediately after he awarded the contract to Park Glen National Insurance Co. of St. Louis Park, Hatch found a job at the company for a top aide who soon after became his campaign manager. Hatch’s niece, whom he had first put on the state’s payroll, also was hired by the company.” (Dennis J. McGrath, “Hatch Has Ties To Firm That Got State Contract,” *Star Tribune*, August 6, 1991)

- **Hatch Awarded \$800,000 Contract To Park Glen National Insurance Co; Top Hatch Aide And Hatch Niece Hired By Park Glen National Insurance Co; Received Campaign Contributions From Company's Owner And Owner's Mother.** “The newspaper reported that immediately after Hatch awarded an \$800,000 state contract to Park Glen National Insurance Co. of St. Louis Park, the then-state commerce commissioner found a job at the company for a top aide, Heidi Strommen. Strommen later became Hatch's campaign manager, worked on special projects for the company during part of the campaign and was rehired by the company after the campaign. Hatch's niece also was hired by the company. Hatch received a \$1,250 campaign contribution from the company's owner, Mark Sheehan, before the contract was awarded and a \$2,500 contribution from Sheehan's mother, Bernadine, a year after the contract was signed.” (Associated Press, “Hatch Admits Putting Niece On State Payroll Looked Bad,” *Pioneer Press*, August 7, 1991)

1998: Hatch Rebuked By DFLer David Lillehaug Over Indicted Developer Gary Lefkowitz. “In a news conference Tuesday, Lillehaug stopped short of accusing Hatch of an ethical lapse regarding Lefkowitz, who swindled his victims out of more than \$ 120 million, but said the ad will give voters a fuller picture of who Hatch's clients have been. 'Mike Hatch says he'll be a watchdog for the citizens, but he was not a watchdog in this case at all,' Lillehaug said. ... As a former commerce commissioner, he represented Lefkowitz's development firm, Citi Equity Group, before the Commerce Department in 1993, and tried to keep investors from learning that Lefkowitz's right to practice law in California had been suspended previously.” (Conrad deFiebre, “Ad watch; Attack On Hatch Revisits His Work Linked To Criminal,” *Star Tribune*, September 9, 1998)

- **Lefkowitz Contributed \$3,000 To Hatch.** “Lefkowitz was apparently so impressed with Hatch's work in allaying the fears of broker/dealers who had learned of the criminal investigation, that he authorized a \$ 3,000 . . . contribution to Hatch's campaign committee,' the government memorandum says.” (David Phelps, “Monday FYI,” *Star Tribune*, July 18, 1994)

2003: Legislative Auditor Finds Hatch's Actions “Confusing, Deceptive And Ultimately Ineffective” In American Bankers Case. “The GOP attacks on Hatch centered on two meetings he held in January with representatives of the Commerce Department, American Bankers and a Minnesota mental health charity. He said that the firm had proposed a \$3.5 million charitable donation to settle the case and that he wanted commerce officials to hear about it with witnesses present. Nobles said Hatch's actions may have appeared to promote an illegal deal but apparently were just a temporary ruse to press for a legal \$3.5 million settlement. 'The attorney general put himself a bit out on a limb,' Nobles said, and his efforts were 'confusing, deceptive and ultimately ineffective.'” (Conrad deFiebre, “Legislators Make Partisan Hay From Insurance Settlement,” *Star Tribune*, June 12, 2003)

2003: Legislative Auditor Criticized Hatch's Actions In The United America Settlement. “Following news of an earlier controversy surrounding another insurance company settlement, the legislative auditor added a review of five Commerce Department settlements dating back to the administration of Gov. Jesse Ventura. ... Four of the department's settlements fared well, but the auditor called the United American deal 'troubling,' 'objectionable,' and “potentially in conflict with state law.”” (Hank Shaw, “Origin Of 'No Comment' Clause Still Undetermined,” *Pioneer Press*, August 21, 2003)

2005: Following Ron Eibensteiner Acquittal, Former Hatch Ally Said Hatch “Perpetrated” Entire Investigation To “Get Republicans.” “Contacted after the verdict was announced, Jerich, a former friend and ally of Hatch’s, expressed anger that Hatch took and kept the Eibensteiner thank-you letter from Jerich’s home after Jerich showed it to him: ‘This thing should have never been brought to trial in the first place,’ Jerich said. ‘There’s no doubt in my mind that Hatch perpetrated this whole thing to get at the Republicans.’” (Mark Brunswick, “Former GOP Chairman Not Guilty of Fund Charge,” *Star Tribune*, November 16, 2005)

2006: Legislative Auditor James Nobles Calls Hatch’s Conduct “Inappropriate” After Hatch Uses Official Attorney General Letterhead To Promote His Campaign. “It was ‘inappropriate’ for Attorney General Mike Hatch to use letterhead stationery from his office to publish a news release referring to an earlier statement Hatch had issued in his campaign for governor, Minnesota Legislative Auditor Jim Nobles said today.” (Patrick Sweeney, “Hatch’s Use Of Attorney General Stationery Called ‘Inappropriate,’ *Pioneer Press*, August 7, 2006)

- **Nobles On Hatch’s Use Of The Attorney General’s Office For Political Purposes: “It Was An Official Document, And A Reference To A Running Mate Has No Place In It.”** “There are a lot of subtleties about the line separating official function from campaigns,’ Nobles said on Monday. ‘But this one was not subtle. It was an official document, and a reference to a running mate has no place in it.” (Patricia Lopez, “Legislative Auditor Raps Hatch On Press Release,” *Star Tribune*, August 8, 2006)
- **Despite Criticism From The Legislative Auditor, Hatch Insists He Would “Do It Again” And That He “Did Nothing Wrong.”** “Hatch said he had mentioned Dutcher in a ‘historical context,’ referring to a press conference they’d given. Such references occur often in official press release, he said. ‘I would do it again,’ Hatch said. ‘I did nothing wrong.’” (Patricia Lopez, “Legislative Auditor Raps Hatch On Press Release,” *Star Tribune*, August 8, 2006)

2006: Ramsey County Judge Chides Hatch For Attempting To Influence The Case “By Apparently False Threats.” “A Ramsey County judge has accused Minnesota Attorney General Mike Hatch of improperly trying to influence the judge’s handling of two lawsuits. ‘Mr. Hatch improperly contacted this court, accused it of improper conduct and attempted to influence it by apparently false threats to take the matter to the media,’ Judge William H. Leary III wrote in a court order filed early this month.” (Patrick Sweeney and Tim Nelson, “Hatch accused of threat to judge,” *Pioneer Press*, August 17, 2006)

- **Judge Says Hatch “Repeated Channel 4 Was Coming At 4:30” And Hatch Was “Going To Tell Them Something.”** “He repeated that Channel 4 was coming at 4:30, that he had to tell them something and he wanted me to know that he was going to say something before he said it — that he doesn’t do things behind people’s backs,’ Leary said in that hearing. Leary later concluded those statements about the television station were an attempt by Hatch to threaten him and improperly influence his handling of the lawsuits.” (Patrick Sweeney and Tim Nelson, “Hatch Accused Of Threat To Judge,” *Pioneer Press*, August 17, 2006)

Hatch Insisted His Phone Call With Judge Leary Lasted One Minute. "To bolster his argument that no improper conversations occurred, Hatch said that the call lasted only one minute, explaining, 'You can't say much more in one minute.'" (Pat Doyle, "Judge Challenges Hatch With Phone Record," *Star Tribune*, August 22, 2006)

- **But Judge Leary Produced Records Documenting A Seven-Minute Phone Call With Hatch.** "But Leary Tuesday produced his own records that showed his chambers received a seven-minute call that began at 4:22 on June 12 from another cell phone. Leary concluded it was the cell phone that Hatch used in their conversation, and the judge included its number in a legal document filed Tuesday. Reached at that number, Hatch told a reporter that he has both government and personal cell phones. He said the number is linked to his personal cell phone and he may have used it to talk to Leary for seven minutes after contacting his office briefly on the government cell phone. 'Whether it was seven or one, it doesn't matter as long as there was nothing improper said,' Hatch said Tuesday." (Pat Doyle, "Judge Challenges Hatch With Phone Record," *Star Tribune*, August 22, 2006)

HATCH WILL SAY ANYTHING TO GET ELECTED

Hatch's Political Philosophy: "Sometimes, You Got To Make Deals With The Devil":

Hatch: "Sometimes, You Got To Make Deals With The Devil." "Hatch admits that in an age when a hollow righteousness rules on both ends of the political spectrum, he is a pragmatist. 'Give me a choice between Lyndon Johnson and Jimmy Carter,' he said, 'and I'll take Lyndon Johnson. Jimmy Carter was a nice guy, but Johnson helped the poor. Sometimes, you got to make deals with the devil.'" (Doug Grow, "Political Mudslinging Covered Up Hatch's Role As Lifesaver," *Star Tribune*, October 16, 1994)

Hatch Repeatedly Promised He Wouldn't Run For Governor A Third Time:

October 1998: Hatch Done Running For Governor. "'I've run twice and I've lost twice. That's enough for me,' Hatch said." (Chris Hamilton, "Hatch Takes Aim At Health Insurers, Weaver," *Duluth News Tribune*, October 29, 1998)

November 1998: Hatch Claimed Running For Governor "Out Of My System." "But he said he won't use his new office as a political springboard. 'I have no interest in running for another office,' he said. 'I'm turning 50 this month. I've run for governor. I've got that out of my system.'" (Conrad deFiebre, "In Year Of Mavericks, DFLer Mike Hatch Finally Wins," *Star Tribune*, November 5, 1998)

January 1999: Hatch Vowed "No More Running For Governor." "'No more running for governor,' Hatch said recently. 'We all come into this office and say, "Jeez[,] it looks good over there." I don't want to have that stress with my governor.'" (Brian Bakst, "Finally At Home At The Capitol," [Grand Rapids] *Herald Review*, January 24, 1999)

August 1999: Hatch "Too Old" For Third Gubernatorial Bid. "I am not running for governor,' [Hatch]- said. 'Running for governor is awful. It's a proctoscopic exam. I'm too old for it.'" (Conrad deFiebre, "Hatch Keeps Vow To Shake Things Up - Starting With His Office," *Star Tribune*, August 1, 1999)

Hatch Repeatedly Promised He Wouldn't Run Against Governor Rudy Perpich In 1990:

December 1987: "I'm Supporting Him. Absolutely. 100 Percent." "And should Perpich seek re-election, said Hatch, 'I'm supporting him. Absolutely. 100 percent.'" (Steve Brook, "Allegheny Hearings Turn Spotlight On Regulator," *St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch*, December 14, 1987)

June 1989: "He Trusts Me Enough That If He Were To Run I Would Support Him." "I owe the governor... He has been very good to me," Hatch said. 'He trusts me enough that if he were to run I would support him.'" (Jack B. Coffman, "Hatch-For-Governor Volunteers To Stage Blitz," *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, June 17, 1989)

August 1989: "I Can't Imagine Running Against Him." "Commerce Commissioner Michael Hatch said Tuesday that he knows of no circumstances under which he would challenge Rudy Perpich for the governor's seat. ... 'I can't imagine running against him,' he said yesterday of his boss. 'I support him ... I'm not running.'" (Betty Wilson, "Hatch Says He Can't Imagine Running Against Perpich," *Star Tribune*, August 23, 1989)

October 1989: "When An Incumbent Seeks Re-Election, Even Though I'd Like To Be Governor, I Will Not Be A Second Candidate In This Race." "I was chairman of the Democratic Party and I am a firm believer that I don't want to be a divider,' Hatch said. 'Accordingly, when an incumbent seeks re-election, even though I'd like to be governor, I will not be a second candidate in this race.'" (Karren Mills, "Perpich Bid For 4th Term Upsets Some In Party," [Rochester] *Post Bulletin*, October 9, 1989)

March 1990: After Hatch Entered Race, Perpich Recalled Hatch Calling Him The Best Governor Minnesota Ever Had. "Perpich recalled that when his DFL challenger, Michael Hatch, came in and informed the governor he was resigning as commerce commissioner, Hatch told Perpich he was the best governor the state has ever had. 'He looked me right in the eye and said you couldn't find a better governor to work for,' Perpich said. 'So what's the basis that Rudy Perpich shouldn't get the endorsement?'" (Betty Wilson, "Perpich Invites Gorbachev To State," *Star Tribune*, March 9, 1990)

Hatch Has Flip-Flopped On Abortion:

1994: Hatch Opposed "Freedom Of Choice" Legislation After Earlier Supporting It In Same Campaign. "Hatch was in favor of weakening parental-notification laws and enacting freedom of choice legislation last winter, the [DFL Feminist] caucus members say. But he went on record taking opposite positions on both issues a few days ago. His most recent responses helped him achieve a perfect eight-for-eight score on an issues questionnaire distributed by Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life (MCCL). His score led to a recommendation by the group for the DFL primary." (Dane Smith, "Hatch's Claim About His Abortion Stand Disputed; Feminist Caucus Members Object," *Star Tribune*, September 9, 1994)

2001: Hatch Flip-Flops Back. "His critics say Hatch tried to pull off one of the more cynical stunts in Minnesota politics when, in the space of four years, he went from selling himself as the abortion-rights alternative to Perpich to remaking himself as an abortion-opposing alternative to DFL nominee John Marty in 1994. Hatch is a little sheepish about that flip-flop now and says the whole 1994 candidacy was a disaster. 'In '94 I was dead, washed up, it was stupid for me to run.' He says he remains an abortion-rights advocate." (Dane Smith, "Mike Hatch; Publicity Hound, Or Consumers' Best Friend?" *Star Tribune*, April 1, 2001)

Hatch Has Flip-Flopped On Lobbyist Contributions:

1990: Hatch Called For Prohibition Of Contributions From Lobbyists. "DFL gubernatorial candidate Michael Hatch said Tuesday that lobbyists should be prohibited from contributing to the campaign committees of elected officials or candidates for public office." ("Hatch Wants Ban On Campaign Contributions From Lobbyists," *Star Tribune*, February 14, 1990)

1994-2006: Hatch Accepts Contributions From Lobbyists. (Hatch Volunteer Committee Filings, Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board, 1994-Present)

DFLers SPEAK OUT AGAINST HATCH

DFL Feminist Leader Jeri Rasmussen Called Hatch "Attractive Flim-Flam Man" Who Is "Expert At Conning People." "He's an attractive flim-flam man," said DFL feminist leader Jeri Rasmussen of Shoreview. 'He's an expert at conning people... but I found working with him similar to being bludgeoned.' He also does a very good job of hyping himself. Of course in politics, there's nothing wrong with that." (Jim McCartney and Bill Salisbury, "Hatch Claims His Policy Is To Regulate," *St. Paul Pioneer Press and Dispatch*, December 16, 1985)

DFL Governor Rudy Perpich Called Hatch's Decision To Run Against Him "Almost Like A Knife In The Back." "Perpich said it's too early to tell how he's faring in the DFL primary race with former state Commerce Commissioner Mike Hatch. 'I don't see Hatch's base anywhere. He lost it when he didn't get the (DFL) endorsement,' said Perpich, the DFL endorsee. ... He's motivated by a feeling that Hatch, a Perpich cabinet member for seven years, has betrayed him. 'It's almost like a knife in the back,' he said of Hatch's challenge." (Bill Salisbury, "Perpich Drops Pollster, Takes Campaign Outstate," *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, July 25, 1990)

- **Perpich Said Hatch Did Not Conduct A Fair Campaign.** "Of the strong challenge from Hatch, who was appointed state commissioner of commerce by Perpich, the governor said, 'I can't say it's a fair campaign he's conducting.' Hatch had said he wouldn't run against Perpich and would abide by the party's endorsement but he ran anyway, Perpich said. 'I don't know why but it's too far down the pike to wonder,' he said." (Linda VanderWerf, "DFL Candidates Discount Variety Of Polling Data," *Mesabi Daily News*, September 9, 1990)

Abortion Rights Council Lobbyist Sue Rockne On Hatch's Loss To Perpich: Hatch "Looked Like He Was Stabbing His Boss In The Back." "As Perpich's former commerce commissioner for seven years, he was reluctant to criticize the governor until the very end of the campaign, when his charges didn't stick. Moreover, Hatch appeared to be an ungrateful opportunist for challenging Perpich. 'He looked like he was stabbing his boss in the back,' [Abortion Rights Council lobbyist Sue] Rockne said." (Bill Salisbury, "Perpich Takes Day Off, Gruneth Hits Campaign Trail: Perpich Backers Voted; Many Of Hatch's Didn't," *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 13, 1990)

DFL Party Chair Ruth Stanoch Said Hatch's 1990 Challenge To Perpich Appeared To Be "Ambition For Ambition's Sake." "I was a firm believer that one day, Mike Hatch would be governor,' said Ruth Stanoch, state DFL party chair when Hatch challenged Perpich. 'I didn't think it would be 1990 for a number of reasons. That's where he broke with a lot of relationships he'd had in the past with party people and others. The tough thing for him is that the perception was, whether it was true or not, that that was kind of ambition for ambition's sake. There might have been other reasons, but they never truly came out.'" ("Hatch: I Was A Liberal, I Grew Up," *Hibbing Tribune*, July 24, 1994)

Veteran DFL Political Analyst Bob Meek: "His Achilles' Heel Is He's Just Too Political." "Veteran DFL political analyst Bob Meek cautioned against underestimating Hatch. 'He is brilliant, tenacious and driven. He's tough as a junkyard dog. His Achilles' heel,' Meek said, 'is he's just too political. In the year of the anti-politician, Mike is a superb politician. He's the party chair, the consummate fund-raiser, the candidate for governor, the commissioner who turned on his own governor. He's sharp in language, but every time he scores a point, it shows what a good politician he is. He does not have an anti-politics persona." (Bill Salisbury, "Finding A Place In The Middle[.] Mike Hatch Has Old-Fashioned, Nuts-And-Bolts View On Politics," *Pioneer Press*, July 17, 1994)

DFL Mega Donor Vance Opperman: Hatch "Has Almost A Monomaniacal Focus" On The Governor's Office. "Another weakness is his unbridled ambition, said Vance Opperman, president of West Publishing Co. and perhaps the DFL's most prolific fund-raiser. 'Mike is one of a number of DFLers who would make an excellent governor, but he wants it a little too badly,' Opperman said. 'I thought it was unwise for him to run against the governor who appointed him four years ago. ... And I wish he had some previous electoral experience; he's unwilling to hold any office but governor. He has almost a monomaniacal focus on that office." (Bill Salisbury, "Finding A Place In The Middle[.] Mike Hatch Has Old-Fashioned, Nuts-And-Bolts View On Politics," *Pioneer Press*, July 17, 1994)

DFLer R.T. Rybak Calls Hatch "A Slash and Burn Politician." "Bouza's campaign co-chairman angrily reacted to the second attack in as many weeks. R.T. Rybak called Hatch a 'slash-and-burn politician' and said Hatch was repeating his claims of last week. 'Mike Hatch has spent his adult life running for governor and it seems the major reason he keeps getting rejected is he hasn't learned voters want to know what he plans to do, not how much mud he can fling.' Rybak said." ("Another Bouza Book Takes A Beating," *Associated Press*, August 10, 1994)

DFLer Mike Freeman Called Hatch "Cynical," Faulted Him For Negative "Campaigning." "As for Hatch's role in June's DFL convention, where he used his delegates to spoil Freeman's endorsement hopes, Perpich said that was just shrewd political strategy. 'You can't fault him for that.' But Freeman does. His wounds are fresh; he remains bitter. 'What I think Hatch did was to move his delegates to a person that they openly said would be easier to beat in the primary than me,' Freeman said. 'To me, that shows a very cynical view of the party and the process. I would not say the same things about Marty or Bouza. I'm supporting Marty. But I spent a year on the campaign trail with Hatch. His is a fairly crafty form of negative campaigning. It has no joy or vision." (Allen Short, "Mike Hatch - DFL Candidate For Governor," *Star Tribune*, August 17, 1994)

DFLer Kim Stokes Tells Hatch To “Get Out Of The Gutter.” “A Mike Hatch for governor television ad, featuring [Joe] Begich, rips into Tony Bouza, who is currently considered the front-runner in the DFL gubernatorial campaign. . . . An irate Kim Stokes of Britt, Bouza’s lieutenant governor running mate responded quickly, saying that Hatch is resorting to ‘gutter politics.’ . . . Stokes called on Hatch to ‘get out of the gutter.’ She said this is ‘about Mike Hatch, not Joe Begich. Hatch just isn’t man enough to face Tony Bouza by himself.’” (Bill Hanna, “Hatch Ad Rips Bouza,” *Hibbing Daily Tribune*, September 1, 1994)

Veteran DFL Activist Sue Rockne On Hatch’s 1994 Abortion Flip-Flops: “This Is A Man Who Wants To Hold Office So Bad He’s Willing To Sell His Soul.” “Sue Rockne, a former Hatch supporter and a veteran DFL activist, said the spectacle of a once-strong advocate of abortion rights obtaining MCCL’s support was ‘obscene. . . . This is a man who wants to hold office so bad he’s willing to sell his soul.’” (Dane Smith, “MCCL support For Hatch Prompts Allegations Of Flip-Flop On Abortion Issue,” *Star Tribune*, September 2, 1994)

Executive Director Of MN NARAL Affiliate, Lisa Goodman: “Obviously, The Pro-Choice Community Cannot Trust Mike Hatch.” “His responses represent a dramatic transformation, said Lisa Goodman, executive director of the Minnesota affiliate of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League. While Hatch was a ‘100 percent pro-choice’ candidate for governor in 1990, his responses to MCCL questions represent an abrupt about-face, Goodman said. ‘Obviously, the pro-choice community cannot trust Mike Hatch. I wonder if the MCCL, or the citizens of Minnesota, should trust him,’ Goodman said.” (Dane Smith, “MCCL Support For Hatch Prompts Allegations Of Flip-Flop On Abortion Issue,” *Star Tribune*, September 2, 1994)

1994 DFL Primary Opponent John Marty: “This Strikes Me As Political Opportunism.” “Marty said while it is possible for a candidate to have a ‘change of heart’ on this issue, ‘a switch from 100 percent on one side to 100 percent on another side doesn’t sound like a technical change.’ This strikes me as political opportunism, for a candidate who was the strong pro-choice candidate four years ago to be coming back and switching sides,’ Marty said.” (Jim Ragsdale, “Candidate Hatch Does An About-Face On Abortion,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 2, 1994)

1994 DFL Primary Opponent Tony Bouza Called Hatch “Political Chameleon.” “‘Mike Hatch is a political chameleon who accommodates to any prevailing coloration in order to be governor and doesn’t really have a program that I can discern, except one that changes from day to day,’ Bouza charged Friday. The former Minneapolis police chief was referring to Hatch’s apparent move to woo voters who oppose abortion.” (Robert Whereatt, “DFL’s Hatch, Bouza Give Each Other Preprimary Pounding; Ads, Charges Fly As Vote Nears,” *Star Tribune*, September 3, 1994)

- **Bouza Called Hatch “Cynical Opportunist.”** “Hatch, meanwhile, had his hands full Friday trying to explain how he could have the blessing of the anti-abortion lobby just four years after he campaigned for the same job on an abortion-rights platform. Bouza called Hatch a ‘cynical opportunist’ who seized the anti-abortion ground because no one else was occupying it in the DFL field. In a lengthy exchange with reporters at a news conference - attended by Bouza, who sat quietly in the second row - Hatch argued that his position has been consistent throughout his career as a party activist and political candidate.” (Jim Ragsdale, “NRA Backs Hatch In Gubernatorial Primary[;] DFL Candidate Is Bombarded With Questions On Abortion Stance,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 3, 1994)

Feminist Activist Amy Phenix: “We Are Here To Say That Hatch Waffles, That Hatch Has Flip-Flopped And That Hatch Is A Double-Dealer.” “While Bouza faces challenges with opponents of gun control, Hatch continues to get beaten up for his position on abortion. Abortion-rights groups, brandishing frozen waffles and pairs of beach thongs (or ‘flip-flops’), called a news conference Sunday to accuse Hatch of both sins. ... ‘We are here to say that Hatch waffles, that Hatch has flip-flopped and that Hatch is a double-dealer,’ said Amy Phenix, an activist on abortion rights issues.” (Jim Ragsdale, “Guns, Abortion Lead DFL Debate[;] Pivotal Issues Dominate 11th-Hour Messages In Gubernatorial Race,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 12, 1994)

DFL Feminist Caucus President Judy Schermer Compared Hatch To “A Man Who’s Dating Two Women.” “Schermer compared Hatch to ‘a man who’s dating two women. ... He tells both of those women, ‘You’re the one for me,’” hoping the two wouldn’t talk to each other. Well, the women have started to talk,’ Schermer said.” (Jim Ragsdale, “Guns, Abortion Lead DFL Debate[;] Pivotal Issues Dominate 11th-Hour Messages In Gubernatorial Race,” *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, September 12, 1994)

DFLer Mike Freeman On His Decision To Endorse Republican Charlie Weaver Over Mike Hatch: “Charlie Is A Man Of Complete Honesty And Integrity. I Think There’s A Contrast On The Other Side. It’s Not There.” “Republican attorney general candidate Charlie Weaver scored a cross-party endorsement last week from Mike Freeman, who was endorsed by the DFL Party for governor but lost the primary to Humphrey. ... ‘The choice is so clear,’ said Freeman, who is known for his party loyalty and said he has never before endorsed a Republican. ‘Charlie is a man of complete honesty and integrity. I think there’s a contrast on the other side. It’s not there.’” (“Coverage Plentiful For Debate,” *Duluth News-Tribune*, October 24, 1998)

- **DFLer Mike Freeman Called Hatch “Disloyal.”** “[H]atch ruffled feathers within his own party when he challenged Gov. Rudy Perpich and Sen. John Marty for the Democratic nomination for governor in 1990 and 1994. DFLer Mike Freeman, the endorsed candidate for governor and Hennepin County Attorney, cited the Perpich race as one reason he crossed party lines last week to support Weaver. ‘He’s disloyal and turned on the party,’ Freeman said. ‘Mike Hatch wasn’t endorsed, is not endorsed and never will be endorsed.’” (Chris Hamilton, “Hatch Takes Aim At Health Insurers, Weaver,” *Duluth News Tribune*, October 29, 1998)

DFLer John Marty Calls Hatch “Tough To Work With,” Likens His Housecleaning In AG’s Office To Earlier Housecleaning At DFL. “John Marty says of Hatch, ‘He’s tough to work with.’ Hatch has a reputation, Marty says, for ‘walking over people, staff’ and recalls there was a similar housecleaning when Hatch became state DFL chair in 1980.” (Betty Wilson, “Don’t Mess With Mike,” *Minnesota Law & Politics*, April-May 2001)

Former DFL St. Paul Mayor George Latimer: “He’s As Mean As A Junkyard Dog And Everybody Knows It.” “[Hatch] didn’t rule out a late run for governor, but said he expects to support whomever the DFL endorses. ‘These candidates are going to do fine,’ he said. ‘If I had to run, it would be a big headache.’ Not only for Hatch, said former St. Paul Mayor George Latimer, a convention attendee. ‘One quality that sets him apart from all the other candidates is he’s as mean as a junkyard dog and everybody knows it,’ Latimer said. ‘So you don’t want to mess with him.’” (Conrad deFiebre, “For Hatch, Endorsement Is A New Experience,” *Star Tribune*, May 4, 2002)

DFL State Rep. Tom Huntley (Duluth) Said Hatch Has Been On Both Sides Of Abortion Issue.

“‘His record on abortion is questionable,’ Huntley said. ‘He’s been on both sides of the issue. When Hatch ran for governor in 1990 against former DFL governor and Range native Rudy Perpich, the attorney general ran on an abortion-rights platform. Then he ran again in 1994 with an endorsement from Minnesota citizens Concerned for Life and an anti-abortion position.’” (K.C. Howard, “Could Hatch Unify Reeling DFL?” *Mesabi Daily News*, May 17, 2003)

DFLer Steve Kelley Ridiculed Hatch For Relying On The Failed “Humphrey-Moe Strategy.” “By Kelley’s assessment, and it must be noted that he’s laying out a political strategy here, that’s a narrow view of the electorate. ‘And from what I’ve seen and heard,’ he notes, ‘I think Mike and Becky intend to pursue that same Humphrey-Moe strategy.’” (Britt Robson, “The Contender,” *City Pages*, May 31, 2006)

- **Steve Kelley Slammed Hatch For Not Caring About The DFL Endorsement.** “Attorney General Mike Hatch will be going to the big DFL Party bash this weekend without a date. ... ‘It’s interesting that his potential running mates care more about the endorsement than he does,’ said [Steve] Kelley, the only one of the three who has promised to abide by the endorsement and not run in a primary. ‘If he’s running in the primary regardless, then what difference does it make to announce it now or later?’” (Dane Smith, “Hatch Heading To State Convention Sans Running Mate,” *Star Tribune*, June 7, 2006)

Democratic National Committee Member Jackie Stevenson: “Mike Has Burned A Lot Of Bridges Over The Years.” “Hatch, 57, of Burnsville, has a history of bucking the party establishment that will control the convention this weekend. ‘Mike has burned a lot of bridges over the years,’ Democratic National Committee member Jackie Stevenson of Minnetonka said earlier this week.” (Bill Salisbury, “Front-Runner Hatch Has His Work Cut Out,” *Pioneer Press*, June 7, 2006)

DFLer Becky Lourey: Voters “Are Looking For Someone Who Isn’t Angry.” “Becky Lourey is a peace candidate in two ways. Many Minnesotans know the state senator from Kerrick opposes the Iraqi war. Closer to home, and closer to her campaign for governor, she claims to be the peace candidate in another way. ‘They are looking for someone who isn’t angry,’ Lourey said of voters. ” (Don Davis, “Minnesota Politics: Governor Candidates Lourey, Hatch Take Different Stances,” *Forum Communications*, September 4, 2006)

Lourey: Hatch Too “Angry” To Win. “‘I think it’s going to be difficult to beat Tim. He’s very, very, very charming,’ Lourey said. ‘And I’ve said from the beginning, to beat Tim, you need someone who offers a sharp contrast and a clear choice. And you need someone who’s not angry and who really believes in the future.’ Lourey implied that Hatch is an angry candidate.” (Laura McCallum, “Three Women Press Primary Challenges,” *Minnesota Public Radio Website*, September 11, 2006)