

# 'Atari' candidates: post-industrialism in Chicago's mayoralty campaign

by Melvin Klenetsky

"I'm here," exclaimed Sheila Jones, Chicago mayoralty candidate, after ripping off a wig she had worn to get into the carefully monitored fourth scheduled television debate of the mayoralty race.

Television cameras soon focused in on Jones, who had disguised herself to get past the security guards which the League of Women Voters, the debate's sponsors, had placed to prevent Jones from appearing.

"This debate is a sham! I'm the only candidate with a program to end the depression," was Jones's exclamation as she was escorted out of the room. "My opponents are nothing more than the Three Stooges."

Sheila Jones, a National Democratic Policy Committee-backed candidate, has campaigned on the four-point economic recovery program of *EIR* founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, which provides for the restoration of heavy industry and trade to Chicago. But the other three candidates have either regurgitated the post-industrial themes spoon-fed to them by the University of Chicago and Northwestern University crowd, or avoided issues altogether.

Incumbent Mayor Jane Byrne is running on her record. "I've done the best under the circumstances," says Byrne, who has drawn on the advice of New York City public relations consultant and image-maker David Sawyer to help clean up her act. In the words of Cook County President George Dunne, a long-time Byrne adversary and Daley supporter, "She's much more 'sedated' in her campaign approach."

Cook County Attorney General Richard Daley, one of Byrne's challengers, is running on his father's image. His television ads show his mother, "Sis" Daley, looking at a picture of her husband, the late Mayor Daley, and their son Richie, saying, "He's a good son."

Harold Washington, a former State Senator elected to Congress from the first district after Ralph Metcalf's death, is the other challenger. Washington is going only for the black vote, and has therefore been accused of not running a serious campaign. Inside sources claim Byrne wanted Washington to run to take black votes away from Daley, and they point to \$300,000 start-up campaign money which Byrne ally Ed Vrdolyak, chairman of the Cook County Democratic Party, gave to the Washington campaign. Washington is essentially limiting his campaigning to the black South and

West wards of the city. His rallying cry is that he will change the image of Chicago from the racist capital of the world.

All of these three candidates were wooed by and are backed by post-industrial society planners at the University of Chicago, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and Northwestern University, whose efforts to spread no-growth ideology throughout the pores of municipal government took a quantum leap the minute that Jane Byrne took office in 1979.

Up to that point Chicago was the "city that works". For more than two decades, from 1955 on, the late Mayor Daley had built a powerful alliance of labor, industry, and city government which was carefully meshed with the goal of maintaining and developing Chicago as a manufacturing, trade, and financial center.

Byrne's tenure has intersected 40 months of Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker's high-interest policies, which has collapsed the Chicago auto and steel industries, as well as Illinois agriculture. Unemployment in the state has reached official levels of 13 percent, a staggering rate for the industrial and agricultural heartland of the country. Chicago steel production, like national steel production, has fallen to under 40 percent of capacity. Wisconsin Steel's Chicago plant, which used to employ 3,500, has been permanently shut down.

Byrne's term in office has witnessed the growth of real-estate speculation and service industries, while heavy manufacturing and the labor-industry-government alliance that was characteristic of Chicago in the post-World War II period has been decimated.

## A century of attacks on industry

For more than a century after the Civil War, the awesome potential of Chicago's heavy industry was both the envy and concern of British and European banking interests. The political alliances upon which Chicago industry rested became a target for British and British-connected operations.

In the 1890s William Thomas Stead, editor of the British Round Table journal, the *Review of Reviews*, and executor of Cecil Rhodes's will, came to Chicago and worked with the settlement house movement of Jane Addams to destroy the base of support of Chicago's manufacturing. Illinois' Independent Voter and Municipal League operations came



Stuart Lewis/NSIPS

Candidate Sheila Jones.

out of Stead's efforts.

In the 1930s Marshall Field III, just back from England, and University of Chicago president Robert Hutchins continued these anti-industry efforts. In the 1950s and 1960s Saul Alinsky, University of Chicago social planner, set up the gang structure and community control action programs which were designed to destroy the labor-industry-municipal government alliance of Daley.

In 1979, the mishandling of cleanup operations after a Chicago snow storm by the lackluster Mayor Michael Bilandic, the man the Chicago regulars had chosen to finish the term of the deceased Mayor Daley, together with the efforts of newsman Chris Chandler and the *Chicago Sun-Times*, combined to cause the political upset of the decade when Jane Byrne beat Bilandic handily in the Democratic mayoralty primaries. Byrne brought with her a gaggle of reformers like Don Haider, urban studies professor from Northwestern University, who immediately began applying the austerity policies of New York's Big Mac chairman Felix Rohatyn to Chicago.

Byrne's opponents soon started to call her "Attila the Hen," as she locked horns with the firefighters, the police, and the school board immediately after her election. In her tumultuous term in office she has gone through police chiefs, press secretaries, planning directors, and comptrollers by the droves, and in the process has totally disrupted the fabric of the industry and labor alliance that marked the Daley years.

## Jane Byrne, casino sponsor

Byrne's commitment is to real-estate and organized-crime interests. She has taken campaign contributions to the amount of \$10,000 from the Hilton Hotel Corporation, arranged by mobster lawyer Sidney Korshak, while campaigning to open Chicago to legalized gambling and casino interests, a move which would prove most propitious to the Hilton chain.

Byrne sold out the North Loop Development Project to the Hilton mob. In another deal arranged by Korshak, Byrne sold the city's parking lots to mob-connected New York lawyers Roy Cohn and Paul Dano of Studio 54 fame. Throughout her current campaign Byrne has pointed to the Chicago Fest, where she brought hard-rock music into downtown Chicago, and the placement of the 1992 World's Fair in Chicago as her most stunning achievements, because they bring in business for the hotel and parking lot industries.

Byrne's top fundraiser, Charles Swibel, former head of the Chicago Housing Authority and a real-estate baron, has been the subject of great controversy in the past when community groups called for his removal. Swibel has put together a war chest for Byrne which now tops \$9 million. Byrne, the darling of the Hilton chain, has changed her image, stuffed her controversial husband Jay McMullen in a tower somewhere, not to be heard or seen, and toned down her whole campaign style in her attempt to buy the election with millions of dollars of non-stop media time.

## Harold Washington: Black caucus environmentalist

Harold Washington is another post-industrialist. He is anti-nuclear despite the fact that Commonwealth Edison generates more than 40 percent of Chicago's electricity from nuclear power. He is an advocate of Global 2000, the depopulation and de-industrialization policy pushed by the Carter administration. Washington is a leading advocate of the nuclear freeze and an across-the-board anti-technology environmentalist.

Washington's steering committee and inner circle consists of some of the worst elements of the radical left-wing environmentalist and drug-connected black and white elements of Chicago politics. His campaign manager is Al Raby, trained at the Fabian Chicago Theological Seminary and a close friend of poverty pimp and radical counter-insurgent Jesse Jackson. Raby was a close associate of Mrs. Lillian Carter and helped implement her sterilization programs when he was Director for the Peace Corps in the Horn of Africa. Raby was until the early 1970s the head of the Chicago Combined Civic Organization (CCCO), an organization that set up many of the community-control operations that have fed racial tension in Chicago in the past 15 years.

Other figures in Washington's inner circle are pro-dope NORML (National Organization for Reform of Marijuana Laws) reporter Chip Berlett; Playboy Foundation head and environmental feminist Rebecca Sive-Tomasheffsky; Lou Palmer of the Chicago Black United Communities and the

Democratic Alliance, which links the Angela Davis wing of the Communist Party U.S.A. to the Democratic Party; Haki Mahabuti, Director of the University of Chicago-spawned Institute for Positive Education; Dr. Conrad Worell, a local head of the National Black United Front which has led race riots in cities around the country; and Louis Farrakhan, Nation of Islam head, who is close to the Gangster Disciples and el Rukn gangs that have been running shakedown operations in the Chicago housing projects.

### **Richard Daley, a new 'Atari' Democrat**

The most positive feature of Richard Daley's campaign is his emphasis on a war on drugs. In this regard he cites his record as Cook County Attorney General where there has been a 30 percent increase in serious drug convictions, a 25 percent increase in overall drug convictions, a 30 percent rise in convicted offenders sent to prison, and a 46 percent rise in the use of drug education for first time offenders.

On the economic side Daley is a lot more confused. At a Jan. 20 Newsmaker debate sponsored by the Headliner Club and the Association of Black Journalists, Daley stated that the problems of Chicago cannot be solved within Chicago, but require national solutions—which he unfortunately does not have.

Daley's frankness does not change the fact that he has been advocating post-industrial solutions to the unemployment crisis hitting Chicago. Daley favors "high-tech" electronics and service-industry jobs to replace the jobs that have been lost due to the waning of the Chicago heavy industrial base. State Sen. Dawn Clark Netsch, his campaign manager, has been a long-time advocate of every environmental scheme and woman's issue around. Daley has joined with another state legislator, Miriam Balanoff, wife of former District 31 Steel Workers President Jim Balanoff. Mrs. Balanoff is running Daley's 10th Ward campaign while challenging Cook County Democratic Party Central Committee chairman Ed Vrdolyak for 10th Ward alderman. She has pushed for legalized marijuana and has been a leader of the anti-nuclear Bailley Alliance along with her husband. Jim Balanoff is part of the Saul Alinsky-connected radical environmentalist faction of District 31, associated with former District 31 President Ed Sadlowski. This grouping not only opposed the building of the Bailley nuclear plant in Northern Indiana but also opposed the opening of Inland Steel's large blast furnace, arguing that environmental concerns outweighed the jobs lost to steel workers.

Although Richie's mother Sis, and his brother Bill Daley, together with Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, who recently endorsed Daley, represent more traditional influences, Cook County Attorney General Richard Daley is thus starting to look more and more like an Atari Democrat.

### **Sheila Jones, LaRouche Democrat**

Sheila Jones has stated that she is the candidate that the University of Chicago and *Chicago Sun-Times* most fear

because she represents the alternative policy to "post-industrialism."

"Why do you think these characters have kept me out of every TV debate?" Jones said after being escorted out of the last debate. Jones has campaigned on the LaRouche economic recovery program which calls for rejuvenating the steel industry, the ports, and the agricultural sector by lowering interest rates and targeting low-interest, long-term credit toward goods-producing industries and agriculture. "We have to build up our nuclear industry and develop electron and laser beam anti-ballistic missile defense systems for our national security," Jones said, "and if we do that and get our export trade going by building Great Enterprise projects throughout the world, then this city and this nation have a chance of surviving."

Jones was a member of the NAACP Youth Council in Milwaukee, a member of the honor delegation at Martin Luther King's funeral, and a director and principal at Martin Center for Disadvantaged Children in Milwaukee. More recently, she is the Midwest Director of the National Anti-Drug Coalition, which is engaged in a \$70 million lawsuit against the *Chicago Sun-Times*, Chip Berlett, and the dope lobby in Chicago. Jones's campaign manager, Nick Benton, is also a mayoralty candidate in the Houston Democratic primaries, a LaRouche Democrat, and a leader in the National Democratic Policy Committee who shares Jones's views for saving Chicago by engaging in a national and international economic program to gear up the heavy industry and agricultural sectors of the economy.

## **A profile of Chicago's Marshall Field clan**

by Kathleen Klenetsky

Last November's visit to Chicago by Prince Philip of Britain, touring on behalf of the World Wildlife Fund, provided a revealing glimpse into the upper levels of control behind such puppets as Mayor Jane Byrne and other politicians working to bring about the demise of Chicago as an agro-industrial powerhouse. When the city's aristocratic elite rolled out the red carpet for the Duke of Edinburgh, the figure standing at their head was Marshall Field V, scion of Chicago's "first" family to be more British than American.

During the Civil War, Chicago had been one of the major centers of the Lincoln coalition that enabled the industrialized North to defeat the British monarchy's creation, the Confederacy. The House of Windsor never forgave that. To carry out its plan of crushing the Lincoln coalition and turning the United States back into a British colony, in fact if not in name, Britain adopted certain American families to put a