

# DeWine walks with Bush

We should consider ourselves lucky that Associate Editor Michael Douglas is not writing our history books. Based on his Sept. 24 column "Mike DeWine in full," his version of the Bush administration would likely dismiss such "minor" events as the war in Iraq.

Douglas tried to portray DeWine as a moderate with plenty of balance, collaborating with those of the opposite party on numerous bills. He discounted the senator's vote for trade bills that shipped thousands of Ohio jobs overseas because DeWine did not cast the deciding vote. So that gives him a free ride for such a disastrous vote?

Further, DeWine has supported President Bush on practically all the significant bills that are undermining our country. He has supported the budgets that are piling up devastating deficits our children will have to suffer under. He supported the attempt to privatize Social Security. He supported tax breaks for the wealthy at the expense of the middle class. As a member of the Senate Intelligence Committee, DeWine was asleep at the wheel regarding the intelligence reports on terrorists and on Iraq. He still has failed to try to hold anyone accountable for those errors. And when it was discovered that Bush has been conducting highly questionable surveillance of Americans, DeWine's solution was to propose a law that would simply make legal anything the president does.

Douglas may find this to be "balanced," but it doesn't pass the giggle test. These issues have been huge in taking our country down the wrong path, and for him to casually dismiss them in order to make his point is a disservice to his readers and to the Ohio citizens who suffer from DeWine's missteps. If Douglas is trying to set up a DeWine endorsement by the paper, that's his prerogative, but he should still adhere to some notion of accuracy. His piece is significantly short of describing DeWine "in full."

Readers should look at the mess Bush has created and consider how they like it. DeWine has been in lock step with him on nearly all key issues.

Ingrid Kunstel

Cuyahoga Falls