



ANALYZE THIS...

CBS WELCOMES THREE NEW COMMENTATORS WHO ARE WELL VERSED IN THE WAYS OF WASHINGTON

★ Sparked by the vice presidential run of relative political newcomer Sarah Palin, the buzzword being bandied about in Washington became “experience.” Now, taking a cue from the politicos they cover, the executives at CBS News have beefed up their staff of on-air talent with three new commentators, with experience from both sides of the aisle.

Dan Bartlett, for one, knows the inner workings of the White House firsthand. Now an independent political strategist based in Austin, Bartlett had worked with President Bush steadily since his first campaign for the governorship of Texas, and from 2005-07 was the counselor to the president, responsible for all aspects of the administration’s strategic communications planning, the formulation of policy and the implementation of the president’s agenda. Truly familiar with the power brokers within the Grand Old Party, Bartlett also has on his résumé a stint working for Karl Rove at his Austin-based political consulting firm.

With experience more from the left side of the political spectrum, Joe Trippi, a veteran manager of political campaigns from the local to the national level, has also been tapped to provide on-air insight and analysis. Most recently a senior advisor to John Edwards, Trippi had played key roles in the presidential campaigns of Howard Dean, Richard Gephardt, Gary Hart, Walter Mondale and Edward Kennedy; the gubernatorial campaigns of Gerald Baliles of Virginia and Robert Casey of Pennsylvania, and the re-elections of Sen. Alan Cranston of California and Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles. Now, this new CBS News gig is a natural fit for the media-savvy Trippi, who authored *The Revolution Will Not Be Televised: Democracy, the Internet and the Overthrow Of Everything* (2004).

And, speaking of Palin as a woman making political history, CBS News’ newest hire, Dee Dee Myers, was the first female White House press secretary, and among the youngest staff members ever to hold that position when she worked for the administration of President Bill Clinton in 1993-94. Myers had worked on a variety of local, state and national political campaigns prior to joining the Clinton camp, including Dianne Feinstein’s 1990 bid for governor of California and the presidential campaigns of Democrats Michael Dukakis and Mondale. Since leaving the White House, the respected former spokeswoman has worked as a political commentator both on and off the air, as a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair* magazine and in appearances on both cable and network news. And just last year, she wrote the *New York Times* best-seller *Why Women Should Rule the World*—which should make a perfect and timely topic for an on-air conversation. — *Jim Colucci*

FOOD FOR THOUGHT CONT'D

table-hopping to greet the likes of House Majority Leader Nancy Pelosi or Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, there’s an extra dazzle.

The food—rustic fare prepared with modern French techniques—is always flawless. The *en croute* mini pork pies are a down-home spin on pâté, the Chesapeake Bay stew is abundant with shellfish in an aromatic saffron broth, and the roasted chicken for two is a two-day affair, brined for 24 hours, then air dried for another 24 to produce the crispiest skin ever to grace a fowl.

The wine list, with its emphasis on California labels, is well-priced. At the elliptical marble bar, the convivial crowd mostly opts for cocktails, including the Westend cocktail—a mix of pomegranate vodka, triple sec, lemon and pomegranate juice.

FIND IT: 1190 22nd St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037/202-974-4900/westendbistrodc.com



RECOMMENDED FOR:

FAHRENHEIT

ADAM RODRIGUEZ: The sizzling *CSI: Miami* star can stand the heat at Fahrenheit, where grilled beef tenderloin comes with spicy paprika onion rings.

The 86-room Ritz-Carlton, Georgetown is built on the site of what was once a municipal incinerator. In fact, you can spot the place from blocks away via the 130-foot-high smokestack.

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