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Change of Subject

OBSERVATIONS, REPORTS, TIPS, REFERRALS AND TIRADES

BY ERIC ZORN | [E-mail](#) | [About](#) | [RSS](#)

Tuesday, November 23, 2010

My early line on the mayor's race

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Here's the final list of those who submitted petitions to run for mayor of Chicago. I'd put the candidates into two tiers, plausible and implausible.

Here are the plausibles, listed in my seat-of-the-pants guess as to order of finish on Feb. 22:

1. RAHM EMANUEL
2. GERY J. CHICO
3. CAROL MOSELEY BRAUN
4. JAMES T. MEEKS
5. DANNY K. DAVIS
6. MIGUEL DEL VALLE
- 7 ROLAND W. BURRIS

I base this in part on how much more serious and prepared Chico seems to be at this point compared to Braun, Meeks and Davis. Del Valle may catch fire on the stump and run a great campaign, but so far I don't see him exciting many voters. Burris belongs on the list of plausibles only because his resume is so long. His preposterous self-regard and the bad feeling many of us still have about the circumstances of his elevation to the U.S. Senate will dog whatever there might be of his candidacy.

I invite other analytical predictionos, of course, and we'll do this periodically here at Change of Subject as the election draws closer.

I can't begin to rank the implausibles -- some won't even be on the ballot, I'm sure. But they are :

- M. TRICIA LEE
- TYRONE CARTER
- JAY STONE
- RYAN GRAVES
- PATRICIA VAN PELT WATKINS
- FENTON C. PATTERSON
- FREDERICK K WHITE
- ROB HALPIN
- TOMMY HANSON
- WILFREDO DE JESUS
- JOHN HU
- HOWARD RAY
- WILLIAM WALLS, III

Posted at 10:11:09 AM

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Any particular reason you have Moseley Braun ahead of Meeks and Davis?

Posted by: Dienne | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 10:31 AM

So if your order is right and no candidate wins enough votes in the first round, the runoff will be between Chico and Eman?

Posted by: Phil Vettel | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 10:37 AM

Where's Ray Wardingly?

Or Lars "American First" Daly?

Posted by: Tom Hedeen | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 10:48 AM

@ Tom Hedeen:

Lar Daly is dead. Although I know that dead people vote in Cook County, I'm not sure that they submit candidacy petitions.

Posted by: jlp | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 11:55 AM

--I'm surprised you put Moseley Braun ahead of Meeks, too!

ZORN REPLY -- My guess was influenced by Meeks' pretty dreadful appearance on "Chicago Tonight" last week, about which I blogged. Read that -- a full but rough transcript is posted here

http://blogs.chicagotribune.com/news_columnists_ezorn/2010/11/meeks-swipes-the-cone.html -- and tell me why this guy wants to be mayor.

Posted by: Angie Wallberg | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 11:57 AM

jlp, in Cook County almost-dead people run for office, and they win; e.g., John Stroger!

Posted by: DaveB | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 08:51 PM

I agree with Angie. I put Meeks ahead of the pathetic Braun. And by the way, media, as a style issue, she does not hyphenate her name. Her last name is Braun, not Moseley Braun.

Posted by: quotidian | Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 09:22 PM

Chico is the Man

Posted by: ejhickey | Wednesday, November 24, 2010 at 02:36 AM

@quotidian: Braun can't make up her mind what her name is.

When she ran for the Senate, it was Moseley-Braun because some of her advisors said black people wouldn't vote for someone with a German name.

We'll see what it is after she loses.

Posted by: Garry | Wednesday, November 24, 2010 at 07:51 AM

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