

The Philadelphia Inquirer

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RICK SANTORUM AND GEORGE CURRY WILL PEN EXCLUSIVE INQUIRER OPINION PAGE COLUMNS

PHILADELPHIA, October 24, 2007 – Harold Jackson, editorial page editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, today announced that former Senator Rick Santorum and former *Emerge* Magazine editor George Curry will become *Inquirer* opinion page columnists starting this November. The columns will appear only in *The Inquirer* on alternating Thursdays. Mr. Curry’s column will be called “Beyond the Spin” and Senator Santorum’s column will be called “The Elephant in the Room.”

“It is truly exceptional to get these two new outstanding voices in *The Inquirer*,” said Mr. Jackson. “Rick and George approach the issues facing our region and world from vastly different perspectives. *Inquirer* readers will have the benefit of reading both perspectives and making up their own minds about the right solutions.”

George E. Curry is a former Washington correspondent and New York Bureau Chief for the *Chicago Tribune*, editor-in-chief of *Emerge* magazine and editor-in-chief of the National Newspaper Publishers Association News Service (NNPA), a federation of more than 200 newspapers. He was also a reporter for *Sports Illustrated* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*. While serving as editor of *Emerge*, Curry was elected president of the American Society of Magazine Editors, the first African-American to hold the organization’s top post. In 2000, the University of Missouri presented Curry with its Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism. Three year later, the National Association of Black Journalists named him "Journalist of the Year." Under Curry's leadership, *Emerge* won more than 40 national journalism awards.

He is an author of several books and was writer and chief correspondent of the widely-praised television documentary, "Assault on Affirmative Action," which was aired as part of the "Frontline" series on PBS.

Senator Rick Santorum served as United States Senator from Pennsylvania from 1995 to 2007. He is currently a senior fellow with the Ethics and Public Policy Center in Washington, D.C. and is an attorney in the Business Division of Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC's Washington, D.C. office. From 2001 to 2007, Senator Santorum served as Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference and was the third-ranking member of the Republican leadership. In the Senate, Senator Santorum supported the establishment of Health Savings Accounts (HSAs), addressed the crisis in Social Security funding and advocated for federal government support for mass transit infrastructure. He also assisted in the passage of several key pieces of legislation: the Welfare Reform Bill of 1996, the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act, the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, the Combating Autism Act, the Farmland Preservation Act, the Abandoned Mine Lands Reform Act, the Multi-Employer Pension Reform Act, the Global Aids Authorization Act, the Syria Accountability Act, and the Iran Freedom Support Act. Senator Santorum also served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1991 to 1995.

About The Philadelphia Inquirer and Philadelphia Media Holdings, LLC

Philadelphia Media Holdings, LLC, is the leading media company in the Philadelphia region. Privately held and locally owned, PMH is the owner of The Philadelphia Inquirer, Daily News, Philly.com, related online products and several community newspapers. With almost one million people reading The Inquirer each day, and 1.6 million on Sundays, The Inquirer is the region's most-read daily newspaper. Together with the Daily News, the #1 tab newspaper in the region, which reaches 500,000 readers each week, and Philly.com, the #1 website in the region, Philadelphia Media Holdings, LLC, reaches almost 2 million people each day.