

Moon and C.B. continue to criticize Bobby.

From *nola.com*:

## **Jindal not conservative enough for some in LA.**

By Cain Burdeau,  
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MONROE, La. (AP) — When Gov. Bobby Jindal talks to the nation Tuesday, he will be feted by the national Republican Party as the GOP's own man of hope — an antidote to President Barack Obama.

Louisiana's 37-year-old governor will deliver the GOP's response to Obama's national address, and it'll be a breakthrough moment. He'll be the talk of political junkies, and the conservative punditry will likely gush over him and his inspirational story, the Rhodes Scholar son of Indian immigrants.

But there's a twist: Back home in Louisiana, a state that turns more Republican with every election cycle, Jindal is not conservative enough for some. He's facing a rebellion from an unlikely source — the homegrown conservative punditry.

The wellhead of discontent can be traced to a syndicated political talk radio host at a small station in Monroe in north Louisiana. Around these parts, he is affectionately called the "Louisiana Limbaugh."

For the past year, Blain "Moon" Griffon has been criticizing Jindal. He takes delight in calling the governor a hypocrite and dubbing him "Campaign Bobby" to draw attention to the governor's frequent trips around the country raising campaign money.

The Moon Griffon Show describes Jindal as a "tax-and-spend liberal," which is reviled in this area of Louisiana's Bible Belt where a new stock-car racetrack is one of the only big economic development prizes of late.

Griffon — a 47-year-old salesman-turned-pundit with a knack for nicknames who dresses in khakis, loafers and plaid dress shirts — was so miffed about Jindal that he dropped his Republican Party affiliation last November to "no party."

It was a strong statement for someone tapped to be master of ceremonies for a visit by then-President George W. Bush to north Louisiana in 2002, and who's urged Republicans to heed Ronald Reagan's "11th commandment ... Thou shalt not speak ill of another Republican."

"You know what my nickname is around town? They call me 'Bobby' because I had him on so many times. He left me. I didn't leave him," Griffon says in his big blustery voice during a break in his show, headphones in hand.

"They ran me out of the party because of the hypocrisy," Griffon says. "What happens is, you start challenging these guys and all of a sudden they're not your friends anymore."

On a recent morning in January, Jindal gets roasted.

C.B. Forgotston, ubiquitous conservative blogger and self-styled watch dog, is the guest and he's taking aim at Jindal's claims of cutting the state's payroll.

"There's not a grain of truth about what he's saying," Forgotston protests. "Bobby Jindal's insulting our intelligence! We can see through this guy who's a Rhodes Scholar."

Griffon, a bundle of energy, has a hard time containing himself. He taps pens, his knees shimmer and shake, he shuffles paper and doodles on a list of callers from the outback of Louisiana, places with names like Leesville, Crowley, Alexandria.

"C.B.! C.B.!" Griffon jumps in. "I don't see a different direction in this state." Griffon's relentless attacks are "a manifestation of the criticism (of Jindal) that is becoming louder and louder," said Bernie Pinsonat, a Baton Rouge political pollster. "You're seeing it in blog sites, in newspapers, with reporters."

Pollsters and political analysts said the backlash by these pundits has not yet hurt Jindal's approval ratings in Louisiana.

But, Pinsonat said, it might. "What happens is that it doesn't stay in the Capitol, it goes to the parishes, the police juries, the school boards. It causes problems."

All of this is counterintuitive. Jindal was supposed to be a conservative's conservative. His profile is anti-big government, anti-tax, pro-business, anti-abortion, pro-gun. The real Limbaugh Rush Limbaugh has called him the next Reagan. John McCain considered him for his vice presidential choice.

According to Griffon, Jindal has betrayed conservative causes by not cutting enough taxes and shrinking government.

"I don't think Republicans are turning against him. I think true conservatives are watching rhetoric versus the true fact," Griffon says. "It's a lot of hypocrisy."

Jindal wouldn't comment on Griffon's remarks. His spokeswoman, Melissa Sellers, said in a statement: "The governor has worked hard to reform ethics, grow our economy and create a Louisiana where our kids don't have to leave the state to find opportunities. I guess this just shows you can't make all the media happy all the time."

The reach of Griffon is hard to pin down. Griffon likes to make fun of it himself, and says he has "77 listeners." Callers play along, identifying themselves as "Listener No. 35" or "No. 61."

Though his show airs on stations statewide and on the Internet, he is less well known in the big-city markets of Baton Rouge and New Orleans. But in more reliably Republican neighborhoods in rural Louisiana, he's something of a household name.

"If you want to reach out to conservatives in the state of Louisiana, you must reach out to him," said John Sutherlin, a politics professor at the University of Louisiana-Monroe who has sat in as a guest host on Griffon's show. "When people are running for office in certain markets, whether it's congressmen, state representatives, sheriffs, court clerks, they call in."

The Moon Griffon Show: <http://www.moongriffon.com>