The Pelray Democrat

Biden Agita¹

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Democrats are suffering from Biden Agita. Michelle Goldberg <u>urges</u> Biden not to run again, even though he has been "a great president." Republicans started calling Biden senile in 2019, which is just too rich when three of the last four Republican presidents had difficulty constructing actual sentences.

There will be no end of articles pointing out that Biden will be 86 at the end of his second term, but in his 80s Biden is sharper than Reagan was in his 70s or W was in his 50s. Moreover, he has accomplished more in his first two years than any president since, and possibly including, FDR.

Inflation is abating, and Biden has been playing the Republican House in much the same way Reagan played a Democratic Congress. Biden's SOTU was masterful, especially the expression on his face as he suppressed a chuckle before getting Republicans to agree not to touch Medicare or Social Security. Bottom line, we have no better candidate, and it's clear Biden has no intention of taking a victory lap and leaving. Biden wants and deserves a second term to "finish the job"

We would be fools to seek to deny him. The last time an incumbent Democrat was challenged was 1980, helping to usher in four decades of increasing income inequality, child poverty, and racism. Greed was celebrated and government denigrated.

Although a Republican, early in Biden's tenure David Brooks approvingly <u>suggested</u> we are on the cusp of rolling that back:

[T]he whole paradigm of the role of government in American life is shifting . . . There is now an assumption that government should step in to reduce economic insecurity and inequality.

Do we really want to mess with that?

¹ The Delray Democrat, February 2023, page 5.