

## **A.P. Government & Politics SUMMER ASSIGNMENT**

- **Read: Christopher Matthews, Hardball: How Politics is Played by One Who Knows the Game**

There are **fourteen** chapters in this book, each one dealing with a different **strategy used by players in the game of politics** such as “All Politics is Local,” or “Spin.”

For **EACH** chapter, find one **current (after 15 May 10)** article about the **USE or MISUSE** of the strategy identified and defined by a current presidential candidate, or about the Bush administration. Your news sources must be national in scope, such as N.Y. Times, Wall Street Journal, U.S.A. Today, Washington Post, Christian Science Monitor, Los Angeles Times, news magazines such as Newsweek, The Economist. On-line sources for the same caliber of news articles are fine.

You need **14 DIFFERENT ARTICLES, one for each strategy** – no “double dipping”.

**Print or cut out** each article and keep all **citation information** with the article. You will need these articles for the seminar presentation you will make the first or second week of school and for the essay that follows, due around 3 September.

For retention’s sake, write a few words of analysis—**how/why the article illustrates the strategy, whether or not strategy was used effectively**—in the margin of the article.

- **Watch political news and analysis.**

Watch at least one weekly traditional news analysis program, such as Meet the Press, or This Week with George Stephanopoulos, and one non-traditional program, such as The Daly Show with Jon Stewart, at least once during the summer, on the **SAME** week. Keep an informal written record of the news content and approach to the news of each program.