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Uyless Black

Minuteman to go Missing

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My Thoughts:
Uyless Black

Minuteman to go Missing

As reported in the October 6, 2023 issue of the magazine, *This Week*, "Concord High School in California is retiring its mascot, the Minuteman, for being a male human being with a gun."

Minutemen played a significant role in America's fight for independence from England during the American Revolutionary War. Their name came from their training to be ready in a minute's notice to fight the British. They were among the first Americans to engage in battles during the war, and were known for their disciplined and effective use of military tactics.

Some Minutemen were killed while fighting for their future nation. Thus, throughout America, statues and other memorials have been erected in their honor.

But not at Concord High School and the Concord school district. Patriotism is out. Why? Because it's too patriotic in California's politically correct culture. The very word, patriotism, is not uttered as one of respect or love for the nation. Nowadays, in parts of the country, it is often expressed with disdain for the word and the ideas behind it.

As quoted above, the retirement is based on the Minuteman being a human, a male, and a gun-totting one at that. Who knows? Maybe the symbol will be replaced with a Minutewoman holding...well, most any-

thing but a gun. No, even that gesture would not satisfy these ill-informed people. They have no idea of the bravery and sacrifice of our forebearers who carried the torch lighting the fires of America's birth.

In addition, "Concord's school district decided last year to allow only 'non-human' mascots." One wonders if the eagle will be allowed? After all, it's part of America's patriotic legacy. Or the snake—especially a coiled one: too aggressive—which is associated with the steadfast American saying, "Don't tread on me," a motto of...shutter, several military units in the country.

This farce, an insult to our history, becomes even more of an affront to citizens when Adam Clark, the Concord school district superintendent, stated, "the sight of a 'male' soldier holding a rifle does not create 'a welcoming environment.'"

The Minuteman serves to remind us how our nation, against seemingly insurmountable odds, came to be. It is meant to be uplifting, a harmless tribute to a past time in our history.

What's next to be banned? Patrick Henry's patriotism for declaring, "Give me liberty or give me death"? Nathan Hale for proclaiming, "I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country"? Betsy Ross for stitching an American flag?