

# The body politic

## Vacation skin shots reveal who gets votes for pecs appeal

**BY JANE RIDLEY**

**T**hese vacation photos of three of the Earth's most powerful men may have been taken on the same day — but that's where the similarity ends.

The mighty presidents of the U.S., Russia and France each took a break from the rigors of office yesterday to show the world the different ways they kick back and relax.

Action man Vladimir Putin ventured into the wilderness and enjoyed a spot of fly-fishing with his friend Prince Albert of Monaco in the scenic headwaters of Russia's Yenisei River.

Stripped to the waist, Putin wasn't afraid to flaunt a surprisingly well-toned body for a guy whose stressful but sedentary profession means endless summits and heavy business lunches.

If we forgive him the man boobs, the wealthy 54-year-old politician gets our vote for the hottest head of state this summer.

Meanwhile France's Nicolas Sarkozy, who has made no secret of his love for all things American, wore his heart on his chest while jogging with aides in rural New Hampshire.

The NYPD T-shirt may have disguised non-existent abs, but the image-conscious leader seemed in good shape as he pounded a lakeside path in the Granite State.

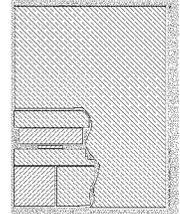
Sarkozy has been spending quality time with his wife and kids on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee since late July.

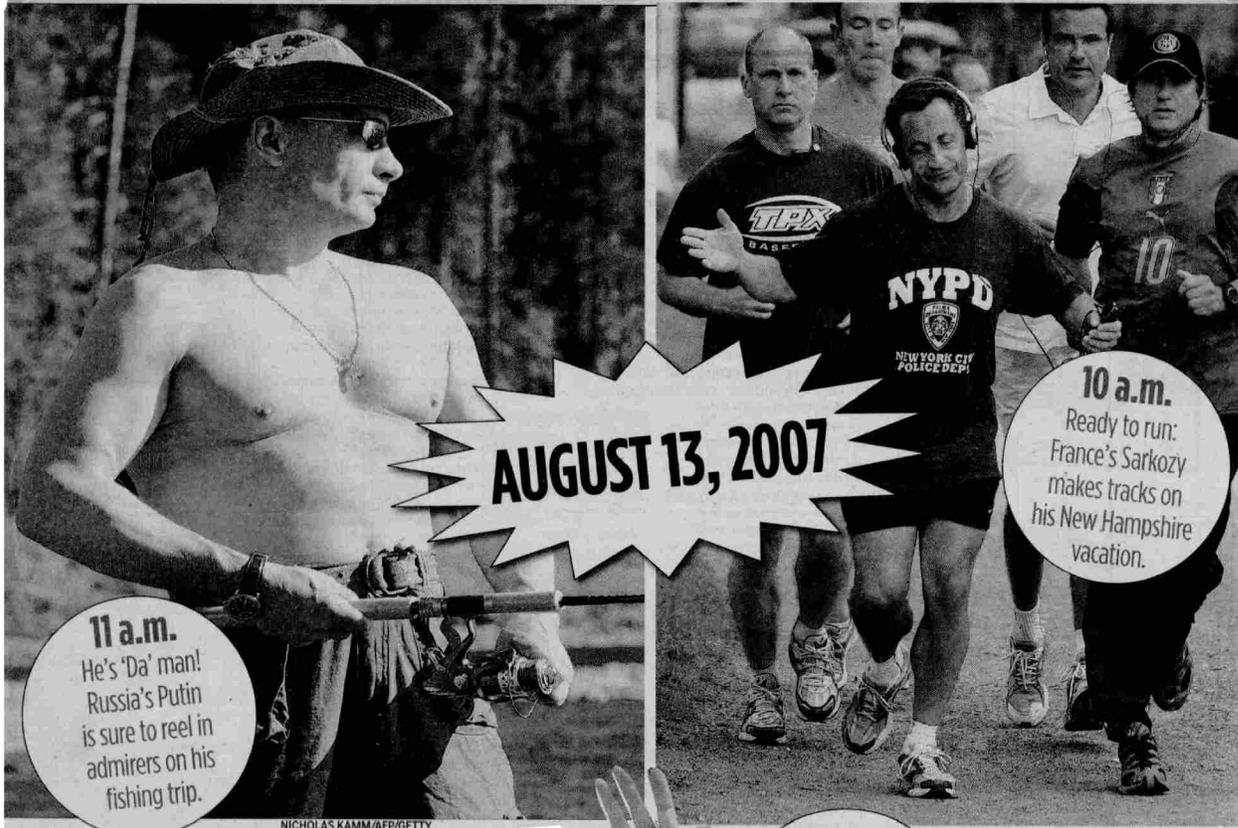
George W. Bush, who makes a point of never being photographed in anything less than a tee, shunned the casual "I'm on vacation" look altogether.

In fact, he was more stuffed-shirt than chilled-out pleasure-seeker as he left Air Force One upon arriving in Texas for his annual break on the ranch.

Channeling Paris Hilton and her Chihuahua, Bush wore a stiff, half-strangled expression while waving to crowds.

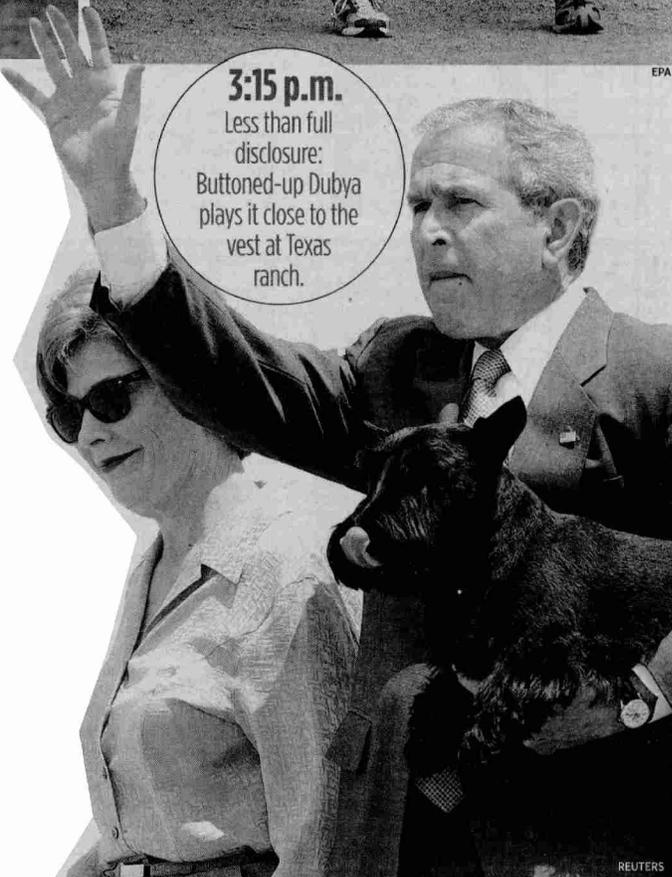
C'mon, Dubya, time to lighten up. You'll be in your trunks and on that sun lounger in no time.





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