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English Digest

英语活页文选

English Digest

32



America's 50 Most Powerful Women

Laughing out loud

Who's Tops on Tuition?

Line One: Hollywood

美国商界女性50强

“笑”的真谛

美国大选中的大学学费战

美国最棒 高中啦啦队

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Bush's Contested^① Lead

自美利坚合众国建立以来,鲜有一次大选像今年一样波谲云诡,动人心弦。小布什和戈尔,面对总统宝座,从针锋相对到剑拔弩张,一举一动都强烈地拨动着对手和选民的神经,小布什第三次宣布的获胜似乎更激起了戈尔的斗志。就此提起法律诉讼。人们不禁要问,此举是否会引发宪法危机?也许谁能问鼎并不重要,重要的是选举体现的正当性和合法性,毕竟,这才是大选的意义所在。

Now it goes to the courts^② as Gore challenges^③ Sunday night's Florida tally^④.

It was election night all over again^⑤. The halls^⑥ were decked^⑦, the pundits^⑧ were quacking^⑨, Democrats^⑩ said Florida was still too close to call. By the Sunday 5 p. m. deadline^⑪, the counting^⑫ still wasn't done, but in a dramatic signing ceremony^⑬ at 7:30, Secretary of State Katherine Harris certified^⑭ George W. Bush the winner by 537 votes~~enough~~ enough for him to claim victory a ~~few~~ ~~minutes~~ ~~ago~~. But even as^⑮ Republicans planned ~~their~~ ~~celebrations~~ ~~for~~ their celebrations, the Democratic faithful^⑯ were primed^⑰ to fight on—especially ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~House~~.

① contest: 竞赛

② court: 法院, 法庭

③ challenge: 挑战

④ tally: 点数, 记录, 这里指选票数

⑤ all over again: 完全重新开始

⑥ hall: 礼堂, 大厅

⑦ deck: 装饰, 修饰

⑧ pundit: 博学者

⑨ quack: 大声闲聊, 吹嘘

⑩ Democrats: 指民主党人

⑪ deadline: 最后期限

⑫ count: 计算, 这里指计票

⑬ signing ceremony: 签字仪式

⑭ certify: 证明

⑮ even as: 正巧在这个时候

⑯ faithful: 这里指民主党的忠诚支持者

⑰ prime: 预先准备好

decided to leave out the results of the hand count¹⁸ Palm Beach¹⁹ canvassers²⁰ stayed up all night to produce. "George Bush can have as many balloon drops as he wants," said Al Gore's lieutenant²¹ Ron Klain, "but there's no one in this country who believes the election is over before the votes are counted." But Republicans disagreed. "The American people's tolerance²² is about to vanish²³," said Representative²⁴ J. C. Watts Jr. "The Democrats keep trying to hijack²⁵ the result, but Governor Bush is still the winner. I hope Al Gore will have the integrity²⁶ to put the country first and lose gracefully²⁷."

As Bush saw it, the only reason he was not happily vetting²⁸ Cabinet²⁹ members was because the Democrats wanted to change the rules for deciding elections, and the Florida Supreme Court³⁰ decided to let them. When the Justices ruled Tuesday night that the hand counts could proceed, provided³¹ they were finished by 5 p. m. Sunday, the Bush camp³² for the first time felt some genuine dread³³. "I guess the rules aren't the rules anymore," said an ally bitterly³⁴. Didn't it mean anything that the votes had been counted and counted again; the state legislature³⁵ had set a one-week deadline for the counties to certify their results.

Now the state Supreme Court was throwing that deadline out and making a new one all its own. That wasn't interpreting³⁶ the law, it

18 hand count: 手工计票

19 Palm Beach: (佛罗里达)棕榈海滩

20 canvasser: 游说者

21 lieutenant: 副手, 陆军中尉, 海军上尉

22 tolerance: 容忍, 宽容

23 vanish: 消失

24 representative: 代表

25 hijack: 抢劫

26 integrity: 正直, 诚实

27 gracefully: 优雅地

28 vet: 诊断

29 Cabinet: 内阁

30 Florida Supreme Court: 佛罗里达州最高法院

31 provided: 倘若

32 Bush camp: 指布什阵营

33 genuine dread: 真正有点担心

34 bitterly: 悲痛地, 痛苦地

35 legislature: 立法机构, 立法机关

36 interpret: 解释

was inventing it. "Make no mistake³⁷," Bush said the next morning. "The court rewrote the laws. It changed the rules, and it did so after the election was over." The only way to respond, Bush's aides³⁸ agreed, was to launch an all-out war on the Florida Supreme Court. "We had to send a clear message that we saw the ruling as completely illegitimate³⁹," insisted a senior⁴⁰ aide. "We couldn't mince⁴¹ words." Concerns about attacking the legitimacy⁴² of an institution of government were brushed aside. "The court couldn't have done any worse by us," he said.

Gore, for his part, grew only more determined to fight as the week wore on. He believes, according to people who talked to him late last week, that if all the votes had been fairly⁴³ counted, he would have won Florida by more than 30,000 votes. In his view, the fact that he won the national popular vote gives him license⁴⁴ to prove he would have won Florida as well, were it not for badly⁴⁵ designed⁴⁶ ballots⁴⁷ and faulty voting machines. The state court was reconciling⁴⁸ conflicting statutes⁴⁹ when it extended the deadline for completing the hand counts that Florida law permits⁵⁰; it was not usurping⁵¹ the legislature's role. But nothing made Gore and his allies⁵² dig in⁵³ as much as the roving⁵⁴ "rent-a-rioters⁵⁵," some of them Bush campaign operatives, who were controlled by ra-

37 make no mistake: 别搞错

38 aide: 助手, 副官

39 illegitimate: 非法的

40 senior: 高级的, 资深的

41 mince: 切碎

42 legitimacy: 合法性

43 fairly: 公正地, 正当地

44 license: 许可, 特许

45 badly: 严重地, 恶劣地

46 designed: 有计划的, 原意的

47 ballot: 选票, 投票

48 reconcile: 使和解, 使和谐

49 statute: 法令, 条例

50 permit: 允许, 许可

51 usurp: 篡夺, 抢占

52 ally: 同盟, 同伙

53 dig in: 掘土以渗进

54 roving: 粗纱

55 rioter: 参加暴乱者, 聚众闹事者

56 mobile home: 活动房屋

57 Massachusetts: 马萨诸塞州

58 Senate: 参议院, 上院

dio from a mobile home. ⑤④ “If that occurred in another country,” said Massachusetts ⑤⑤ senator John Kerry, “people would be taking the floor of the Senate ⑤⑥ and bemoaning ⑤⑦ thuggism ⑤⑧.”

And what about the military ballots ⑤⑨, rejected by the hundreds for technical reasons? That had been a disaster ⑥① for Gore, but Democrats denied any sneaky ⑥② campaign to disenfranchise ⑥③ soldiers. Many of the counties throwing out large numbers of absentee ⑥④ votes were controlled by Republicans. Republicans withdrew ⑥⑤ one lawsuit ⑥⑥ on Saturday after many of the counties voluntarily ⑥⑦ decided to reconsider the military ballots, but GOP lawyers turned up the heat later in the day by filing ⑥⑧ individual ⑥⑨ suits in at least five counties that continued to resist.

The U. S. Supreme Court decision to take the case looked like a huge Bush win; no matter what the final hand counts revealed ⑦①, there was now a chance they'd be tossed ⑦② out. But some Democrats saw it as a lifeline ⑦③; it was a chance to fight on at least another week and, if the Justices ruled their way, to gain the ultimate ⑦④ legitimization ⑦⑤ of the manual recounts ⑦⑥.

Gore, Joe Lieberman and campaign chairman William Daley spent Friday working the phones, calling moderate ⑦⑦ Democratic House members ⑦⑧ and Senators, shoring ⑦⑨ up support. But even Gore's legal team was aware of

- ⑤⑨ bemoan: 哀叹
- ⑥① thuggism: 暗杀
- ⑥② military ballot: 指美国的军人投票
- ⑥③ disaster: 灾难, 天灾
- ⑥④ sneaky: 鬼鬼祟祟的, 卑鄙的
- ⑥⑤ disenfranchise: 剥夺公民权
- ⑥⑥ absentee: 缺席者
- ⑥⑦ withdraw: 收回, 撤销
- ⑥⑧ lawsuit: 诉讼
- ⑥⑨ voluntarily: 自动地, 自愿地
- ⑦① filing: 整理成档案, 文件归档
- ⑦② individual: 个人的, 个别的
- ⑦③ reveal: 显示, 透露
- ⑦④ toss: 投, 掷
- ⑦⑤ life line: 救生索, 生命线
- ⑦⑥ ultimate: 最后的, 最终的
- ⑦⑦ legitimization: 合法化
- ⑦⑧ manual recount: 指人工再计票
- ⑦⑨ moderate: 中立的
- ⑦⑩ House member: 指众议员
- ⑦⑪ shoring: 支柱, 支撑
- ⑦⑫ perception: 理解, 感知

the dangers. Imagine the perception^⑧, an adviser^⑨ noted; “Al Gore lost the election but won it back in a lawsuit.” He added, “I don’t think his support will collapse^⑩ immediately, but there’s got to be some real concern about a guy who lost the initial^⑪ returns, the automatic recount, the first certification and the second certification.”

Congressional^⑫ Democrats all had their own calculations^⑬ to make, and the math was not friendly to Gore. While GOP lawmakers^⑭ were united behind Bush, knowing that their own fortunes^⑮ depended on having a Republican president to help get anything done, many Democrats privately^⑯ thought they would be better off^⑰ if Gore lost. Even some liberal^⑱ Democrats thought Bush might in some ways^⑲ be easier to work with in the White House, since he would have a powerful incentive^⑳ to reach out^㉑ to them and make peace. Although some congressional Democratic strategists^㉒ are ambivalent^㉓ about Gore’s legal crusade^㉔, for fear of a backlash^㉕ in the 2002 elections, party activists are so strongly behind^㉖ Gore that it’s not in the interest of^㉗ congressional leaders to be anything but fully^㉘ supportive in public. “We’ll be with him all the way^㉙ to the end,” a Democratic strategist says. “Our base^㉚ is all jacked up^㉛ about this.”

[Selected from *Time*, December 1, 2000,
written by Nancy Gibbs]

- ⑧ adviser: 顾问
- ⑨ collapse: 崩溃, 失败
- ⑩ initial: 最初的
- ⑪ Congressional: 国会的
- ⑫ calculation: 计算, 考虑
- ⑬ lawmaker: 立法者
- ⑭ fortune: 命运
- ⑮ privately: 私下地
- ⑯ better off: 状况好的
- ⑰ liberal: 自由主义的
- ⑱ in some ways: 在某些方面
- ㉑ incentive: 动机
- ㉒ reach out: 伸出
- ㉓ strategist: 战略家
- ㉔ ambivalent: 矛盾的
- ㉕ crusade: 宗教战争, 改革运动
- ㉖ backlash: 后力座, 反冲力
- ㉗ strongly behind: 坚定地支持
- ㉘ in the interest of: 符合某(些)人利益
- ㉙ fully: 充分地
- ㉚ all the way: 自始至终
- ㉛ base: 这里指民主党基层成员
- ㉜ jack up: 支持

A Twisted Pair^①

美国在线(AOL)和时代华纳公司合并后组成了新的 AOL 时代华纳集团。诞生之初,这位网络巨擘就面临着如何处理与另一电信巨头 AT&T 的复杂关系问题。是针锋相对还是携手共进?其合作与竞争的背景和冲击何在?读罢此文,你会明白其中奥妙。

With trustbusters^② poised^③ to rule on the AOL Time Warner merger, the behemoth^④ is under pressure to untangle its complex relationship with AT&T telephone titan^⑤.

They're supposed to be cutthroat^⑥ competitors. But over the past year AT&T and AOL Time Warner, the two hulks^⑦ of the Internet age, have seemed downright^⑧ cozy^⑨. In July AOL and AT&T agreed to jointly pitch^⑩ consumers on the wonders of the wireless Internet-AOL Moviefone, e-mail and Web access^⑪ over AT&T digital cell phones.

In upstate^⑫ New York, Time Warner and AT&T proposed to jointly promote cable-TV^⑬ and phone services under the marketing-campaign theme "Some Names Just Naturally Go Together... Like Time Warner Cable and AT&T." In Denver^⑭ and Los Angeles, the two companies independently launched as-

① twisted Pair: 双绞线,这里指又合作又竞争的商业对手

② trustbuster: 要求解散托拉斯的人,联邦反托拉斯检察官

③ poise: 考虑

④ behemoth: 巨兽,巨人,这里指 AOL 时代华纳集团

⑤ titan: 太阳神,巨人

⑥ cutthroat: 残酷的,杀人的

⑦ hulk: 笨重的船,废船

⑧ downright: 全然,彻底

⑨ cozy: 舒适的,惬意的

⑩ pitch: 定位于

⑪ access: 访问

⑫ upstate: 偏僻的,北部的

⑬ cable-TV: 有线电视

⑭ Denver: 丹佛(美国科罗拉多州首府)

saults^⑮ on a mutual^⑯ rival^⑰, the satellite-TV industry, each offering up to \$200 to consumers who would ditch^⑱ their dishes and sign up^⑲ for cable TV. Collaboration seemed boundless. "There are a variety of things we could do together," Steve Case, AOL Time Warner's chairman-designate^⑳, gushed^㉑ last spring.

It all sounds so genteel^㉒, so cooperative. But in reality the two companies are locked together in a complex and controversial corporate embrace^㉓ --one that trustbusters and communications regulators are carefully examining as they decide whether to approve the AOL Time Warner merger in the next few weeks. At the heart of the concern are interlocking^㉔ corporate relations between AT&T and Time Warner, the No. 1 and No. 2 cable companies. As a result of a series of acquisitions^㉕, AT&T has ended up owning a chunk of Time Warner, and the two companies share ownership in cable systems and popular programming networks^㉖. Trustbusters have examined whether AT&T and Time Warner might be in a position to use those massive^㉗ holdings to discriminate^㉘ against rivals. Regulators, consumer advocates^㉙ and others are wary that the two would provide favorable distribution, promotional and price breaks to their own affiliates^㉚, while denying access to competitors. In theory, critics argue, AT&T

⑮ assault: 攻击, 袭击

⑯ mutual: 相互的, 共有的

⑰ rival: 对抗

⑱ ditch: 放弃

⑲ sign up: 签约

⑳ chairman-designate: 任命的主席

㉑ gush: 滔滔不绝地讲

㉒ genteel: 动听的

㉓ embrace: 包含

㉔ interlocking: 连锁的

㉕ acquisition: 获得, 获得物

㉖ popular programming network: 大众电视网

㉗ massive: 大量的, 巨大的

㉘ discriminate: 歧视

㉙ advocate: 提倡, 鼓吹

㉚ affiliate: 会员

and AOL Time Warner could jointly cordon off^{③①} large parts of the New Economy for themselves, creating “walled gardens” of digital media^{③②}, data, e-commerce^{③③} and communications offerings that they control. “We can’t let AT&T and AOL Time Warner have a lock on the new digital medium,” declares Jeff Chester, head of the Center for Media Education. “They are the giant digital superpowers^{③④}.”

Already regulators have sought to bust up^{③⑤} some of AT&T’s and Time Warner’s links. This summer the Federal Trade Commission and Federal Communications Commission ordered AT&T to shed^{③⑥} interests it shares with Time Warner. Among the choices, a 25 percent stake^{③⑦} in Time Warner Entertainment, which owns Time Warner’s cable-TV operations, HBO and Warner Bros. studios. Now consumer activists want the government to go further. They’re insisting that regulators order the two media giants to sever^{③⑧} their ties once and for all^{③⑨} as a condition of approving Time Warner’s marriage to AOL. AT&T and Time Warner wouldn’t comment for this article. In the past, both have insisted they have no intentions of monopolizing^{④①} the media world and that their overlapping^{④②} interests are harmless. The two companies say that the government has already restricted^{④③} their relationship so much

③① cordon off: 围住, 占有

③② digital media: 数字媒体

③③ e commerce: 电子商务

③④ superpower: 超级企业, 超级大国

③⑤ bust up: 支持, 加强

③⑥ shed: 放弃

③⑦ stake: 股份, 赌注

③⑧ sever: 切断

③⑨ once and for all: 永远地

④① monopolize: 垄断

④② overlapping: 共同的

④③ restrict: 限制, 制约

that it would be difficult for them to behave in an anticompetitive⁴³ manner.

Nonetheless⁴⁴, to meet regulators' requirements, AT&T has been trying to sell back to Time Warner some of its prized entertainment assets. The conventional⁴⁵ wisdom in media circles is that a deal will eventually be struck⁴⁶. Here's where it gets interesting. AT&T is trying to sell the 25 percent Time Warner Entertainment stake. Because Time Warner owns the other 75 percent of the unit and controls it completely, it is the only logical⁴⁷ buyer. But AT&T and Time Warner are billions⁴⁸ of dollars apart in valuing the assets. And Time Warner, under no official order to divest⁴⁹, has little incentive to close the gap⁵⁰. As a result, negotiations⁵¹ have all but stalled⁵².

In fact, relations between AT&T and Time Warner are increasingly strained these days. Last week AT&T's beleaguered⁵³ CEO, Michael Armstrong, made a trip to Washington to schmooze⁵⁴ with legislators. But according to Washington lobbyists⁵⁵, Armstrong left the impression on Capitol Hill⁵⁶ that AT&T, like many others, also now suspects that a Time Warner married to AOL might be too powerful. Meanwhile, AOL Time Warner is aware that AT&T has quietly tried to stir up trouble in Washington, insiders⁵⁷ say. Time Warner believes AT&T is trying to gain lucra-

④③ anticompetitive; 反竞争的

④④ nonetheless; 虽然如此,但是

④⑤ conventional; 惯例的,常规的

④⑥ struck; (strike 的过去分词)冲击,影响

④⑦ logical; 适当的

④⑧ billion; 十亿 (的)

④⑨ divest; 剥夺

⑤⑩ gap; 缺口,差距

⑤① negotiation; 商议,谈判

⑤② stall; 停止,推迟

⑤③ beleaguered; 焦虑的,困扰的

⑤④ schmooze; 闲谈

⑤⑤ lobbyist; 议案通过者,说客

⑤⑥ Capitol Hill; 美国国会山庄

⑤⑦ insider; 内部的人,权威人士

tive^{⑤⑧} advantages as it seeks to comply with regulatory divestiture orders. Divesting at the right price might also boost^{⑤⑨} its sagging^{⑥⑩} fortunes. Its core phone business is eroding, along with its stock.

AT&T's and Time Warner's connections are a byproduct^{⑥⑪} of the media industry's extraordinary^{⑥⑫} consolidation^{⑥⑬} in the last several years. Since 1998 AT&T and Time Warner have spent a combined \$ 300 billion or so, including the proposed AOL Time Warner merger, on major deals to advance their New Economy strategies^{⑥⑭}. And that doesn't include the billions each has spent to make its cable operations Internet-ready broadband^{⑥⑮} systems. AT&T emerged as the top player in the cable industry by acquiring^{⑥⑯} cable giants TCI and MediaOne.

But that's where it gets complicated. With each acquisition, AT&T inherited^{⑥⑰} chunks^{⑥⑱} of Time Warner. TCI's Liberty Media unit owned a 9 percent Time Warner stake. (Liberty, TCI's programming unit, owned significant chunks of the Discovery Channel, Starz Encore^{⑥⑲}, QVC, USA, BET and others.) MediaOne, meanwhile^{⑦⑩}, came with the 25 percent chunk of Time Warner Entertainment. In the late 1990s, Time Warner acquired Turner Broadcasting (CNN, Cartoon Network, TBS). Then last January AOL, the world's largest Internet company,

⑤⑧ lucrative: 有利的, 赚大钱的

⑤⑨ boost: 推进, 提高

⑥⑩ sagging: 松懈的, 下垂的

⑥⑪ byproduct: 副产品

⑥⑫ extraordinary: 非常的, 特别的

⑥⑬ consolidation: 巩固, 合并

⑥⑭ strategy: 策略, 战略

⑥⑮ broadband: (指因特网带宽) 宽带

⑥⑯ acquire: 获得

⑥⑰ inherit: 继承

⑥⑱ chunk: 大块

⑥⑲ encore: 要求再演或再唱

⑦⑩ meanwhile: 其间, 同时

agreed to acquire Time Warner. The result of all the dealmaking: two separately controlled, but intimately^{⑦①} linked, vertically^{⑦②} integrated powerhouses^{⑦③}. In theory, each is capable of supplying and distributing its own content over TV and the Internet via^{⑦④} its own broadband cable or wired and wireless phones.

For its part, Washington has sought to safeguard against abuses^{⑦⑤}. In reviewing the companies' acquisitions, cross ownership has been allowed, but with restrictions on shareholder^{⑦⑥} votes and board seats that usually accompany a big stake. AT&T ended up with a chunk of Roadrunner (also partially owned by AOL Time Warner). But when it acquired MediaOne, which co-owned rival^{⑦⑦} broadband provider Excite@Home, the Justice Department^{⑦⑧} objected, forcing AT&T to divest^{⑦⑨} its Roadrunner holdings. Now, with the AOL Time Warner deal in front of regulators, critics are calling even more loudly for the two companies' bonds to be broken.

For now, however, fears of an abusive AT&T-AOL Time Warner alliance^{⑧⑩} seem exaggerated^{⑧⑪}. Despite their ties, the behemoths have failed to agree on any of the far-reaching^{⑧⑫} collaborative moves crucial^{⑧⑬} to each company's core^{⑧⑭} strategies. AT&T's plan to expand its local telephone business using AOL Time Warner broadband cable has gone nowhere. Similarly, AOL has sought unsuc-

⑦① intimately: 密切地

⑦② vertically: 垂直地

⑦③ powerhouse: 发电站, 此指实力强大的企业

⑦④ via: 通过

⑦⑤ abuse: 滥用, 弊端

⑦⑥ shareholder: 股东

⑦⑦ rival: 竞争者, 对手

⑦⑧ Justice Department: (美)司法部

⑦⑨ divest: 剥夺

⑧⑩ alliance: 联盟

⑧⑪ exaggerate: 夸大, 夸张

⑧⑫ far-reaching: 进一步的, 深入的

⑧⑬ crucial: 至关重要的

⑧⑭ core: 中心, 核心

cessfully to arrange broadband Web connections for its subscribers^⑧ over AT&T cable systems. Those major initiatives^⑨ seem unlikely until Time Warner and AT&T manage to appease regulators. That necessity has squeezed^⑩ AT&T, which for now is the only one required by the Feds to divest joint holdings.

Those factors were part of the backdrop^⑪ for AT&T boss Armstrong's lobbying trip last week to Capitol Hill. No one at AT&T dares to openly discuss its strained^⑫ relations with AOL Time Warner. And it couldn't be determined just how explicitly Armstrong presented AT&T's unflattering^⑬ judgment of Time Warner in Washington. He is lobbying ostensibly^⑭ for Congress to relax regulation capping the size of cable-TV holdings. But Washington sources say AT&T is hoping the fuss^⑮ Armstrong is making in Washington will move the FTC to force AOL Time Warner to divest some of the overlapping assets^⑯—just as AT&T itself has been forced to do. With both companies then under the gun, AT&T might strike a better deal in restructuring^⑰ its Time Warner link. Yet despite the strains in their relationship and mounting^⑱ pressure from regulators, AT&T and AOL Time Warner are likely to be linked in major business dealings^⑲ in the future. As the two hulks of the coming broadband revolution, they will only find it harder

⑧ subscriber: 订户

⑨ initiative: 发起者

⑩ squeeze: 压榨, 挤

⑪ backdrop: 幕布, 背景

⑫ strained: 紧张的

⑬ unflattering: 不讨好人的, 不奉承人的

⑭ ostensibly: 表面上

⑮ fuss: 忙乱, 大惊小怪

⑯ asset: 资产

⑰ restructure: 重构, 调整

⑱ mounting: 上升的

⑲ dealing: 交易

to stay out of^⑦ each other's business. But if regulators and consumer advocates succeed, they will also even meet as competitors^⑧.

⑦ stay out of: 脱离, 摆脱

⑧ competitor: 竞争者

[Selected from *Newsweek*, September 25, 2000, written by Johnnie L. Roberts]



America's 50 Most Powerful Women

惠普总裁 Carly Fiorina 今年第三次荣登商界女性排行榜榜首,如同这个千变万化的信息时代一样,今年的排行榜也出现了不少变化。一些人多次榜上有名,风采依旧,一些人则如匆匆过客,风光难再。这些巾帼英豪们的成功秘诀何在? 本文将为你揭开答案。

How do you measure power? According to three-time number one winner Carly Fiorina, "Power is the ability to change things." And this year's Power 50 is all about change. Some prominent^① women moved way up (Oprah), some way down (Heidi Miller) and some off the list altogether. Many on the list, and almost all the really fast-rising^② women, recently changed jobs, companies and even industries^③. One thing they have in common: a "secret weapon."

The day Debby Hopkins blew into Lucent^④, Jim Lusk intended to despise her. Lucent's interim^⑤ chief financial officer for a stretch this year, Lusk was the guy due to get the top financial job if Chief Executive Rich McGinn failed to recruit^⑥, as he hoped, "one of America's ten top CFOs." McGinn got the

① prominent: 卓越的,突出的

② fast-rising: 快速攀升的

③ industry: 行业

④ Lucent: 美国朗讯科技公司

⑤ interim: 临时的

⑥ recruit: 征募新兵