



Washington Whispers
By Paul Bedard



Romney Medals in Religious Freedom

March 06, 2008 11:19 PM ET |

It's not the gold medal that former Olympics boss and GOP presidential candidate **Mitt Romney** sought on the campaign trail. But his and his wife **Ann's** winning of the annual Beckett Fund Canterbury Medal recognizes one element of his failed bid cheered by fans of religious freedom. "Mitt and Ann unapologetically but gracefully stood their ground and embraced their faith in the face of all manner of provocations," says fund President **Kevin "Seamus" Hasson**. Fund insiders tell us that the two Mormons will be presented with the medal in May, joining other recipients like Holocaust survivor and Nobel laureate **Elie Wiesel**. Hasson says the medal goes to the "public figure who has resolutely refused to render to Caesar that which is God's." Romney tells us it's an "honor to be recognized."