For Conservatives, High Court's Term Was a Letdown

Conservative hopes for a transformational term at the Supreme Court ended with Justice Antonin Scalia's death this winter, and liberals instead prevailed on what are likely to be the term's most influential decisions, reports **Robert Barnes** of *The Washington Post*.

The most high-profile cases, including affirmative action, abortion restrictions, labor union fees, gerrymandering and the use of executive power, ended either with liberal victories or draws that set no precedent.

Barnes wrote that "it was the absence of Scalia, the bombastic senior justice whose intellect and bravado powered the court's conservative wing, that altered the court's tone and reversed its reputation as a welcoming place for conservative causes."

"Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. took on Scalia's role as dissenter, airing from the bench his disagreements with the majority on abortion and affirmative action," the article continues. "But unlike Scalia, he lacks a love of the whip."

Read the article.