

your communities will serve you well as champions. You see, you're now more than athletes; you're role models—role models to children who dream of winning a gold medal themselves, role models to young people who need someone to look up to, someone to set a positive example for how they should live their lives and how they should treat others.

This is a big responsibility, but the good news is you've all proven that you're up to the challenge. I want to thank you for representing the highest ideals of our Nation and for making America so proud.

May God bless you all, and may God bless America.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:36 p.m. on the South Lawn at the White House. In his remarks, he referred to Mitt Romney, president and chief executive officer, Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 winter Olympic games; Olympic gold medalists Tristan Gale, women's skeleton, Sarah Hughes, women's figure skating, Jim Shea, men's skeleton, Vonetta Flowers, women's bobsledding, and Apolo Anton Ohno, men's short track speedskating; and Paralympic gold medalists Manuel Guerra, Jr., goalie for the ice sledge hockey team, and Sarah Will and Sarah Billmeier, women's skiing. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks.

Message to the Congress Transmitting a Report on the National Emergency With Respect to Significant Narcotics Traffickers Centered in Colombia

April 23, 2002

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c) and 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report that my Administration has prepared on the national emergency with respect to

significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,
April 23, 2002.

Remarks at the National Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony

April 24, 2002

The President. Well, thank you, Rod. Thanks very much. I want to welcome you all to the White House and the spectacular Rose Garden. I'm a part of a proud tradition: For 25 years, American Presidents—for 50 years, American Presidents have been privileged to present the National Teacher of the Year Awards.

This ceremony not only honors a single individual; this ceremony honors an entire profession. Teachers make extraordinary contributions to the communities in which they live and, therefore, make extraordinary contributions to our entire country. We give our teachers a great responsibility, to shape the minds and hopes of our children.