

not really mean much to me until my parents bought some hill country land in a nearby country.

It was their dream to retire and move out there when I graduate from high school, raise some livestock and live off the land.

Soon after they bought the land they found out that an endangered species would make it difficult for them to clear enough brush and cedar for the animals to graze without breaking the law.

My Dad and Grandpa both served their country in the military and have often told me how lucky we are to live in a free America. They have both chosen to live in Texas because of its great value of this freedom and the opportunity to pioneer.

This confusion over the rules about private property rights is making it hard for my parents dreams to live off the land to come true, and I hope that as my Representative you will work hard to make sure that my folks and others like them do not become endangered species.

Sincerely,

HONEY SUZANNE HASTINGS,
Pipe Creek, Texas.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARTIN F. STEIN

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 1995

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate Martin "Marty" F. Stein, winner of the 1995 Human Relations Award presented by the Milwaukee Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. The award is given annually to recognize individuals who through their skills, influence, and dedication, have demonstrated their unwavering commitment to preserving our democratic heritage.

Marty Stein is recognized for his profound commitment to humanitarian endeavors that have improved the lives of many Milwaukeeans. As president of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee from 1993-95 and as chairman of the executive's council and fundraising committee for the task force on battered women and children, Marty Stein has passionately mobilized resources for those less fortunate.

Marty Stein's civic and philanthropic activities have touched the lives of people throughout the world. He founded the Citizen Democracy Corps Business Entrepreneur Program, a Washington DC, group that provides business mentoring in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. In 1984, Marty Stein led the Operation Moses campaign which rescued Ethiopian Jews and brought them to Israel. Deeply committed to his Jewish faith, Marty weaves the Jewish values of community, family, and respect into his efforts to help others.

Whether in his local community, State, national, or international endeavors, Marty Stein's benevolence has made a positive difference. The worthwhile projects he leads are noble and the results are widely admired. Marty's wife, Barbara, who has many charitable accomplishments of her own, has supported Marty's activities throughout their 37-year marriage. I am proud to join the Amer-

ican Jewish Committee in congratulating Marty Stein as the 1995 Human Relations Award winner.

TRIBUTE TO GARY WASHBURN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 1995

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I take the floor of the House today to honor and praise the lifelong dedication of a friend and public servant of the great city of Lake Elsinore in California. The accomplishments of this individual make me proud to call him my personal friend, a fellow community member, and a fellow American. His love for his family as a father and a husband, and his love for his country as a veteran and a leader are a display of his utmost respect for the traditional American values and principles. This gentleman that I speak so highly of, and regard with the highest respect is the mayor of the city of Lake Elsinore, Mr. Gary Washburn.

For the past 16 years, Mr. Washburn has served the government of the city of Lake Elsinore as a member of the planning commission, a city council member, and mayor. His influence and involvement has played an integral role in the growth and development of his city. I would like to commend him on his accomplishments in representing his constituents and providing leadership as the elected mayor of the city of Lake Elsinore.

Prior to his involvement in the city government of Lake Elsinore, Mr. Washburn served as a professor and is responsible for the education and welfare of many university-level students. He helped many young Americans open their minds, reach their goals, and build new dreams through education. In addition, Mr. Washburn is a combat veteran of Vietnam who was honorably discharged after 2 years of service as a crew chief on July 4, 1968. During his military career, he served our country in the 1st Aviation Brigade, the 54th Utility Airplane Company, and the Otter Air Service.

In addition to his involvement in representing city government and serving America, Mr. Washburn's other community involvements include: president of the Elsinore Elementary P.T.G., executive board of the Riverside County Economic Development Committee, president of the Rotary Club, chairman of the Riverside County City Selection Committee, board member of the Riverside Transit Agency, city representative to the Lake Elsinore Management Agency, city representative to the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency. His timeless dedication in serving his city and country have earned him the respect of his family, friends, colleagues, and constituents as a true champion of public service.

Unfortunately, on November 7, 1995, Mr. Gary Washburn will retire as mayor after a lifelong dedication to the public welfare of the citizens of the city of Lake Elsinore, CA. After over 16 years of service in city government, Mr. Washburn will end a long tradition of contributions of dedication and effort by his family dating back to 1889. On the occasion of his

retirement, I would like to thank him for his service to our community, and offer my best wishes for his future endeavors.

VIGILANCE NEEDED AGAINST TERRORISM

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 1995

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, the events in Saudi Arabia with the deadly terrorist attack on American military support personnel, which resulted in the death of five innocent Americans, and the wounding of many others, make it clear that its still an unsafe world out there. Especially, so I might add, for American citizens and our personnel abroad, who are so often the target of these cowardly terrorists' attacks.

The deadly terrorist car bomb, as we saw once again in Saudi Arabia this week, is still the potent weapon of choice for those individuals or groups, who for whatever reason or cause, disagree with, or oppose American foreign policy, and goals.

Innocent American personnel abroad, as events this week again show, unfairly and most often become the target of these cowardly terrorists, whenever they want to intimidate, influence, or protest against our foreign policy.

The events in Israel earlier, with the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin, also make it clear that violence is far too often resorted to as a means of protest, and to address grievances. These trends toward violence and hatred in the world continue to cause grave concern, hardship, and instability around the globe today.

These most recent deadly and tragic events, and the continuing resort to violence and terrorism around the globe, make it clear that we must continue to be vigilant. We must maintain and support our law enforcement institutions, along with providing the continued resources needed to fight the scourge of terrorism, wherever and whenever it raises its ugly head.

We must also increase worldwide law enforcement cooperation and intelligence sharing in the struggle against international terrorism, and those who would practice this deadly trade and uncivilized means of influencing public policy and goals, no matter how well intentioned, or aggrieved these individuals or groups may feel they are today.

Let us not let down our guard; we must remain vigilant against the use of violence and terrorism as a means to any goal or policy. Together the whole world must strive cooperatively to thwart these evils wherever and whenever they emerge on the world scene today.

We owe this vigilance, not only to those Americans we send abroad to implement our foreign policy and goals, but also to our future generations, in order that they live in a more stable and violence-free world.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I am filled with sadness on the passing of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. I want to extend my deepest sympathies to the Rabin family, and the friends and people of Israel.

Like Abraham and Moses before him, Rabin was an extraordinary leader of the Jewish people who had a vision of peace and prosperity for the Israeli Nation. His tremendous accomplishments are an inspiration to us all and reveal Mr. Rabin's dedication to God and his country.

Rabin's service to Israel is that of both a warrior and a peacemaker, continually pursuing the dream of normalcy and tranquility for Israel. Signing the Oslo accords at the Washington ceremony, he addressed the Palestinians with the following words: "We, like you, are people who want to build a home, to plant a tree, to love, to live side by side with you—in dignity, in empathy, as human beings, as free men." His memory is a blessing to each and every one of us because of the standards he defined for character, integrity, vision, courage, and leadership.

For his diligence and dedication to authoring a lasting peace, he was awarded the Nobel Prize for Peace. With his efforts, he served not only the people of Israel with great distinction, but that of the world as well. It is my hope that the foundation he created for peace between Israel and the Palestinians will continue to be built upon.

It's hard to understand why such tragedies occur. Yet, we must believe that good can come out of evil. We must hold to the belief that soldiers believe in their souls—with death, there is peace. As we devote ourselves to that, may we gain hope from our martyred friend that there will be peace in Israel.

For his unwavering devotion and undying vision for peace, I will not forget this man. Once again, my prayers go out to his wife, Leah, his loving family, and the people of Israel as they struggle through this tremendously sorrowful and trying time. May our memory of him prevail, so that his vision will not vanish.

THE CHARACTER CONUNDRUM

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 14, 1995

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring a recent column by Richard Harwood of the Washington Post regarding the media to the attention of my colleagues.

The reality is that journalists have real power in America. To a degree, this is as it should be, since a free and independent press is critical to the health of any democracy. With this power, however, come certain responsibilities. Accuracy is one. Objectivity is another. Now, as Mr. Harwood points out, a measure of good judgment would be welcome.

As more and more of the fourth estate descends into tabloid-quality reporting, the ques-

tion arises as to the motives behind the trend. Increased circulation—or ratings, as the case may be—certainly tops the list. Sadly, sex, scandal, and negativism sell. Add to this a seemingly innate cynicism among reporters and an institutional bias against conservative tastes and ideas, and you have the makings of the current state of affairs.

This is not to say that reporters should avoid matters of controversy. Rather, it is to suggest that an attempt be made to run stories of real substance on matters of genuine consequence, rather than exploiting every topic for its gratuitous shock value.

The media elite like to make themselves out as selfless servants of the public good, standing up for the little guy against the establishment. The truth is that the press is one of the most entrenched, unaccountable institutions in Washington. The next time a group of news editors gets together to wring their hands over the tawdry state of their industry, they need look no further than their own daily decisions for responsibility.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I commend the following column to the attention of all interested parties.

THE 'CHARACTER' CONUNDRUM

(By Richard Harwood)

James David Barber of Duke University is the author of the proposition that our fate as a society is more dependent than we may realize on the quality of our journalism.

As the political parties have sunk into a state of virtual irrelevance, journalists have become the new bosses of presidential politics. They are the power brokers and character cops who dominate the process of "identifying, winnowing, advancing and publicizing" the people who would lead the nation.

The task of the journalist, Barber tells us, is to illuminate the "question of character. . . . The problem is to get behind the mask to the man, to the permanent basics of the personality that bear on Presidential performance." The key is "the life story, the biography. . . . For people sense that all our theoretical constructs and elaborate fantasies take their human meaning from their incarnation in the flesh and blood of persons. . . . Biography brings theory down to earth, history to focus, fantasy to reality."

The late Theodore White made a start on this kind of journalism with his book "The Making of the President 1960." "The idea," he wrote, "was to follow the campaign from beginning to end. It would be written as a novel is written, with anticipated surprises as, one by one, early contenders vanish in the primaries until only two jousting struggle for the prize in November. . . . It should be written as a story of a man in trouble, of the leader under the pressures of circumstance. The leader—and the circumstances. That was where the story lay."

The book was an enormous success. Other journalists followed his lead, including Richard Ben Cramer, whose thousand-page volume on the 1988 campaign—"What It Takes"—is recognized as a masterpiece.

The problem with these great studies of character and action is that the information they contained was not available to voters until after the elections had long since been decided. Cramer's book involved six years of work and was not published until 1992.

Barber concedes the problem: "Journalism will continue to be history in a hurry. That is the main stumbling block." A fellow political scientist, Thomas Patterson of Syracuse University, insists it will always be so because that is the nature of the news business. "A party," Patterson argues, "is driven by

the steady force of its traditions and constituent interests. . . . [It] has the incentive—the possibility of acquiring political power—to give order and voice to society . . . to articulate interests and to forge them into a winning coalition. The press has no such incentive and no such purpose. Its objective is the discovery and development of good stories."

And "good stories," he writes, increasingly are defined as "negative" stories, stories that "expose" some trivial gaffe or misbehavior on the superficial assumption that they tell us something important about the "character" and "fitness" of candidates. More often, he argues, stories of this kind tell us more about reporters' cynicism and contempt for politics than about the character of the people they write about.

Richard Ben Cramer observed this in the baby boomers of the press corps and was appalled and driven to hyperbole as they worked over Gary Hart and his "character flaws" in 1988. These were the people of whom it could be said that in their salad days "if sex were money, they all would have been rich." But now "the salient fact about this boom generation had nothing to do with its love-and-drug-addled idealism when it—when they—were the hope and heritors of the world.

"By 1987, they still felt the world was theirs . . . and ought, by all rights, to dance to their tune. . . . But the salient fact at this point in their lives was . . . they were turning forty. They were worried about their gums. They were experts on soy formula. They were working seriously on their (late or second) marriages. They were livid about saturated fats in the airline food. . . . They did not drink, they did not smoke, drugs were a sniggering memory. . . . And they certainly, God knows, did not mess around. Sex! It was tacky. It was dangerous. It was (sniff!) . . . not serious.

"And . . . no one else was going to get away with sex either. Or drugs. Or ill health. Or fouling their air."

They not only nailed Hart with charges of infidelity but nailed Douglas Ginsberg, a Supreme Court nominee, for smoking pot years earlier. They nailed Clarence Thomas for alleged lasciviousness, Bill Clinton for sex and experimentation with a joint, and tried to nail George Bush for an alleged affair with a co-worker. John Kennedy didn't live long enough to get the treatment.

Must presidential candidates—or journalists or bankers—come to marriage as virgins to prove their "character" and "fitness" for office? Must journalists, on those terms, be questioned on their fitness to judge others? Does an adulterous act, the sometime ingestion of a proscribed substance, too-slow dancing or the recitation of an ethnic joke now get you a permanent sentence in the political wilderness? Does having an abortion get you a disqualifying Scarlet Letter?

The columnist Mary McGrory asked some questions recently about Bill Clinton, who is now 2½ years into his first term as president: "Is his character not yet jelled—is he a 14-year-old who might still grow up? Or is this a permanent pattern of oscillation between mature grown-up and sniveling teenager?"

All the journalistic energies spend in 1992 on Gennifer Flowers and similar matters did not get to or have any obvious relevance to the character and fitness questions that still puzzle McGrory and countless other journalists and citizens.

One thing is certain. When Prof. Barber exhorted us to examine and illuminate character, he was not talking about the insubstantial trash that we too often pass off as wisdom and insight into who these people are who want to lead the country. "As far as I can see," he wrote, "all of us are more or