

will join us in trying to keep the title in the western division.

CLINTON SHOULD PASS THE BALL

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I would join with my colleague, the gentleman from Texas, in all well wishes to the Houston Rockets, and also really to the Orlando Magic, because cheering the NBA finals we are going to see some great basketball.

Also during the finals we will hear terms like air ball and slam dunk. These terms can also apply to what is happening right here in Washington. The new Republican majority is a slam dunk on the liberal establishment and the bloated Federal bureaucracy. The new Congress wants to deliver a facial on deficit spending.

On the other hand, President Clinton's administration is an air ball. Every time the President tries to show leadership, he is throwing up a brick. The latest example is his threatened veto of the rescission bill. In his first veto Bill Clinton will cut off funds to flooding victims in Missouri, earthquake victims in California, and those who suffered as a result of the Oklahoma City bombing.

Mr. Speaker, instead of constantly throwing up air balls, Bill Clinton should pass the ball to the team who will not choke when the going gets tough.

PROTECT THE FLAG

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in many cities and towns across America it is illegal to kiss in public. It is illegal in some places to ride a skateboard. It is illegal to burn trash or leaves. It is illegal to yodel or sing in public, and it is illegal, Mr. Speaker, to tamper with a mailbox. However, in America, it is completely legal to burn the flag, completely legal to desecrate the flag. It is even legal, Mr. Speaker, to urinate on Old Glory. In the words of a Russian comedian, "America, what a country." The truth is, Congress, the debate on protecting the flag is not about Old Glory. It is about national pride. Think about it.

STAY OUT OF BOSNIA

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, as we speak the President is laying the groundwork for military action in Bosnia. Our troops are about to be put in harm's way by an administration

with no Bosnia policy, no public support, and no idea how and when to stop our involvement once we get in.

Mr. Speaker, what is happening in Bosnia is a tragedy, but I ask you, has the President defined any legitimate American interest in the 900-year war in the Balkans, worth risking thousands of Americans? There is a better way—let the Bosnians defend Bosnia—lift the arms embargo.

Those who think lifting the embargo will prolong the war assume that the Serbs will win. As we speak, the Bosnian Government is preparing to launch a campaign to reverse Serbian gains. Serbia is in the grip of a severe internal crisis. Why not let the people of Bosnia make the price of Serbian aggression high? Why not let the people of Bosnia fight for their own freedom?

Mr. Speaker, this administration should start listening to the American people instead of the United Nations. Mr. President, stay out of Bosnia. Lift the arms embargo or be prepared to tell us why you want to leap into a war that will cost more American lives.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will advise that Members should address their remarks to the Chair and not to the President.

SEX TRAFFICKING IN THAILAND

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge all my colleagues to support my resolution to demand that our Government work to stop the sex trafficking and forced prostitution of women and girls from Burma into Thailand. I am pleased that my colleague from Washington, Senator MURRAY, has introduced this same bill in the Senate.

I was appalled and disgusted to discover that the Government of Thailand has permitted the trafficking of women of brothels. Credible reports have indicated that thousands of Burmese women and girls, as young as 14, are being led into Thailand with false promises of employment, only to be forced to work in brothels under conditions which include sexual and physical violence, debt bondage, exposure to HIV, passport deprivation, and illegal confinement. In addition, members of the Thai police are often actively involved.

And now we read in our own New York Times, that Thai women are being brought to the United States for the same purpose. This is a practice the U.S. Government must not support and we must work to stop it, before it becomes a practice quietly condoned and supported worldwide.

As we debate the foreign aid budget, we must remember the gross human

rights violations which occur against women, and we must remember we have a moral duty to pay attention. We have ignored it for too long. This is an issue of fundamental human rights.

STUDENT LOANS

(Mrs. KENNELLY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I had the honor in the Memorial Day break to have been chosen as the commencement speaker at two schools, Trinity College in Hartford and Central Connecticut State University in Connecticut. As a result, I talked to many students during this time that we were in our districts. They are very worried.

A perfect example of these students right here is Vincent Federici. He has worked hard in high school, got good grades, got accepted to a good college. His mother is a computer worker, his father works at a machine shop. They have worked hard to make sure that Vincent can go to college. They have three sons coming along. They have put every dollar in order. They know where every penny is going.

Mr. Speaker, as we consider changes in the Student Loan Program, I ask Members to think about Vincent and the millions of other young men and women across this country who are doing the right thing, going to college so they can compete in this world competitive market. Please, Mr. Speaker, do not make the students that are going to college pay more and have a bigger burden. It is the wrong thing to do.

ON REPLACING THE FEDERAL INCOME TAX

(Mr. CHRISTENSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, this week on the Committee on Ways and Means we are looking at alternatives for making our tax system more clear, simple, and fair. There is no longer a question that we should revamp our Federal tax system.

President Carter was right when he stated that our income tax system is a disgrace to the human race. In 1914 we had just 14 pages of Federal income tax law. Today we have over 9,000 pages. A decade ago the IRS commissioned a study that said that it cost \$159 billion in compliance. Today it cost nearly \$500 billion in compliance costs alone.

Today one economist has estimated that last year more hours were spent doing taxes than were used to build a car, van, and truck in the United States. I look forward to working with my colleagues to design a Federal tax system that encourages savings and investment, rather than punishing those who plan for the future.

Just last year it seemed that the Tax Code maybe would not be reformed at all. Now, this year, it is not a question of whether it is going to be reformed, but just when and how. We look forward to making sure that we have a taxpayer-friendly Code in the future.

URGING SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AND THE BLM

(Mr. MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, National Park rangers and BLM rangers and other Federal law enforcement officers are daily subjected to threats of violence and danger. The men and women who protect our resources and our citizens deserve our respect and our support, whether they wear the uniform in the streets of our cities or in the desolate back woods of our public lands. However, we see a Bureau of Land Management law enforcement ranger in Montana responding to knife assaults, a BLM ranger in California coming upon a drug deal that is turning into a shootout, guns are fired at BLM vehicles in New Mexico, and the list of violent incidents are growing; 29 homicides, 110 cases of arson, 166 weapons violations, and hundreds of more serious offenses on BLM land every year.

That is why Americans are shocked to hear about Members of this House calling for the disarming of law enforcement officials or suggesting that those who violate public laws have an irrational fear of their government.

Now they are getting very specific. The Chairman of the House Committee on Resources, in a letter to the Committee on Appropriations, has called for zero funding of BLM resources protection of law enforcement and huge cuts in law enforcement in the Forest Service. The Members of this House should stand with law enforcement.

URGING A "YES" VOTE ON THE AMERICAN OVERSEAS INTERESTS ACT

(Mrs. CHENOWETH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Speaker, today the House resumes work on legislation designed to take our Nation's foreign affairs operations out of the dark days of the cold war and into the sunshine of the 21st century.

H.R. 1561—the American Overseas Interests Act—recognizes that we won the cold war. It reorganizes our foreign affairs agencies, cuts spending, and refocuses our resources to priorities that support American interests.

The bill eliminates three agencies that our cold war victory has rendered obsolete—the Agency for International

Development, the U.S. Information Agency, and the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

It cuts spending by nearly \$3 billion over 2 years—and by \$21 billion over 7 years—while supporting our allies and punishing our opponents.

A vote in favor of this bill is a vote to downsize the Federal Government and to cut foreign aid. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on final passage of the American Overseas Interests Act.

BREAKING THE PUBLIC TRUST—MAKING MONEY IN THE REPUBLICAN CONGRESS

(Mr. LEWIS of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans won the elections last November and they promised no more business as usual, and were they ever right. The ethical standards that have been adopted by the Republicans in this House are at the lowest level I have ever seen.

Lobbyists writing legislation, Members letting outside groups send out partisan political mailings on their office stationary and, of course, at the center of it all, the Speaker of the House and his infamous book deal.

Now, in the latest chapter, the Speaker has ignored the ethics committee and signed his contract with Rupert Murdoch. He has even launched a nationwide book tour. This, despite saying he would wait for the ethics committee to approve the deal, which they have not.

They cut school lunches, they cut Medicare, they cut students' college loans, while the Speaker joins the club of millionaires.

For Republicans, it is no more business as usual, it is time for making money.

CHILD SURVIVAL PROGRAMS A PRIORITY IN FOREIGN AID BUDGET

(Mr. WALSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 966, the James P. Grant World Summit for Children Implementation Act. As we revise our foreign aid priorities it is critical that we not reduce spending for cost-effective programs like child survival that provide benefits to children throughout the world.

Spending for kids' programs must continue to be a priority in our foreign aid budget. Minimum Federal investments in child survival, basic education, and micronutrient programs has had a dramatic impact in improving the lives and well-being of children in underdeveloped countries. In 1980, for example, over 5 million kids died

from vaccine preventable diseases. Because of our investments in child survival programs such as immunization and oral rehydration therapy we are saving millions of children's lives each year.

Nearly 13 million children worldwide die each year, 35,000 per day, due to largely preventable diseases and malnutrition. These miserable conditions create a cycle of poverty and hopelessness that can be broken through proven, cost-effective child survival strategies.

Last year, we provided \$280 million for child survival program activities and increased funding for these activities is desperately needed. While it is clear that overall foreign aid levels will be reduced this year, it is essential that the committees dealing with foreign affairs ensure continued U.S. participation in child survival. The World Summit for Children Implementation Act, a bill which I have sponsored with my good friend and leading hunger advocate, TONY HALL, maintains and increases our investment in child survival, basic education, micronutrient programs, and UNICEF. Congress needs to keep its commitment to these cost-effective child development assistance programs and I plan on working with my colleagues to see that these priorities are incorporated into foreign affairs legislation.

ABSENCE OF APPROVAL BY ETHICS COMMITTEE REVIVES TALK OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL ON SPEAKER'S BOOK DEAL

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year, Speaker GINGRICH promised to get approval for his book deal from the Ethics Committee before signing the contract. Now, the Speaker has embarked on a nationwide book tour, so the Ethics Committee must have given its OK, right? Wrong.

In fact, the Ethics Committee did not get a chance to rule on the propriety of the Speaker's multimillion-dollar book contract, before it received a letter from Mr. GINGRICH's lawyer saying that Mr. GINGRICH was going ahead with the deal. The letter reads: "We will assume that Mr. GINGRICH's book publishing complies with House rules."

But, the chairwoman and the ranking member of the committee quickly wrote back to Mr. GINGRICH's lawyer saying: "You should make no such assumption." This advice was ignored.

The Speaker never received approval from the Ethics Committee on his book contract, as he promised. Mr. GINGRICH's wanton disregard of the Ethics Committee makes the case for an outside counsel to investigate the other charges pending against him. The Speaker will be unable to ignore the ruling of an outside counsel in the way