

Sometime in September, 1976, we were told we would be parents approximately May 10, 1977. Who would have believed on May 10, in less than an hour from the time we arrived at the Frankfurt Hospital you were born!

We had researched our chosen names and daddy's name won because of a boy baby.

Zuberi Aswad. An African name from the Swahili language. Zuberi meaning Strong and Aswad meaning Black.

You grew quickly and learned lots. The first song you learned was, "Yes Jesus Loves Me."

Looking back over eighteen years you accomplished a great deal here on Earth. Your rambunctious sports years started at age three when you played on the Rowdies Soccer Team. You were skiing downhill at age five. You played football, baseball, tennis, percussion instruments in the band, piano, was on a swim team and played lots and lots of basketball, ending up on the Heidelberg Varsity Basketball team.

You were very inquisitive as a student and often challenged teachers, including us as parents. That was good . . . at times.

You always made friends easily and always had lots of them. We always noticed the characteristics of the ones you chose to keep as your Closest friends. They were always mannerable, had a great sense of humor, had a goal in life and most importantly as you once said, "Couldn't be broke all the time."

You got to live a very adventurous life on two continents. Visiting many different countries and states. Experiencing almost every mode of travel possible. You always believed in fun. You had it and we enjoyed having fun with you.

We are very unhappy right now because we miss your earthly flesh and we cry out because of earthly feelings. But we Thank God that He chose us to be your parents. We Thank God that He chose you to prepare our place in Heaven. Because we know you'll get the best. And we Thank God for this prayer:

Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Lord my soul to keep
If I should die before I wake
I pray the Lord my soul to take.

You slept with us sixteen days before the Lord took your soul to shine down on us from Heaven.

The Guardian Angel we placed over your heart was kissed by ours and we will wear it representing we will Never Ever part from you.

We'll talk to you daily from now until Eternity.

Love you forever,

MOM AND DAD.

HONORING THE HENDERSONVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Hendersonville Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study

the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, and well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

BENJAMIN BURROUGHS, HAWAII'S
1996 RESPECTEEN WINNER

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, as part of the Lutheran Brotherhood's Speak For Yourself program, over 15,000 students nationwide wrote to their Members of Congress on various public policy issues. Benjamin Burroughs, an eighth grader from my district, was chosen as the Hawaii State winner of the letter writing contest. In his thoughtful letter regarding persons with disabilities, he drew from his brother's experience with autism. He effectively argued that Congress should strengthen the Individuals with Disabilities Act and increase public awareness on the issue.

Benjamin is only 14 years old, but he wrote an excellent letter on a complex topic. I applaud his concern and willingness to take action on a matter that directly affects his family. Benjamin attends Kahuku High and Intermediate School. I join with his parents, Lonia and Jeffery Burroughs of Laie, HI, to congratulate Benjamin on an outstanding effort. The text of his letter is as follows:

January 30, 1996.

Hon PATSY MINK,
U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MINK. I believe that with the new conservative Republican swing, there is a pressing problem that is like firecracker with a lit fuse waiting to burst. These legislators intend to put more power with the individual states and less with the federal government. This scares me because it is highly likely that some states will cut funding for the education of people with disabilities. In 1981 when federal law required education for children with mental disabilities from ages 3-5, states were given ten years to comply. Many states complied quickly but many did not. An example of this was South Carolina who waited until the last minute of the deadline to comply.

Early childhood intervention is a must. It is statistically proven that if children with disabilities are taught at an early age, they will be better able to function in society. If persons with disabilities are not taught early so that they can become productive members of society then they become financial burdens on society. It pays to intervene early.

My brother is autistic and if power goes to the states, a worst-case scenario would be

that he couldn't go to school altogether. There are two major things that you can do as a representative to solve this problem. First, influence other legislators to sustain the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act [I.D.E.A.] and to maintain current federal mandates protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. Second is to require a module in every Guidance/Health class in High School that will increase the overall education of everyone about persons with disabilities.

I think that if these two things are done then my brother and thousands of persons with disabilities will be able to have a good education and a better life.

Sincerely,

BEN BURROUGHS.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I regret my absence for rollcall No. 155, a motion to allow committees to sit. I was unavoidably detained at a legislative conference on the Senate side of the Capitol.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING THE VISION IMPAIRMENT CENTER TO OPTIMIZE REMAINING SIGHT [VICTORS] OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinguished pleasure to announce to you that Mr. Joseph Maino, O.D. will receive the Olin E. Teague Award today on behalf of the Vision Impairment Center To Optimize Remaining Sight [VICTORS] team of Kansas City, MO.

VICTORS is a Department of Veterans Affairs special medical program designed to provide optimum low vision rehabilitation services to veterans with visual impairments. The team members evaluate, diagnose, and rehabilitate veterans from a six-State area: Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Arkansas. More than twenty medical centers and outpatient clinics refer blind and visually impaired veterans to the program. The center has helped more than 1,500 veterans since it first opened in 1979. The team members' continuing creativity and dedication results in innovative methods and tools to combat the effects of severe vision loss. For this reason, our Nation's veterans live better and more fulfilling lives.

The Olin E. Teague Award is the highest honor the VA awards in the field of rehabilitation. It is presented annually to a VA employee, or group of employees working as a team, whose achievements have been of extraordinary benefit to veterans with service-connected disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, the name Olin E. Teague is synonymous with exemplary service to the Nation's veterans and is the reason this award bears his name. The late Congressman Teague served on the House Veterans' Affairs

Committee for 32 years, 18 of those years as its distinguished chairman. He set the standards by which we can best serve all veterans.

It is with pleasure that on behalf of my colleagues and myself, I offer our deep appreciation to the VICTORS team for their concern, dedication, and innovation in meeting the special needs of veterans. We congratulate them for the excellence of their work and for the distinguished award they will receive.

REPUBLICAN BALANCED BUDGET PROPOSAL PART II

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Republican leadership, just in time for Presidential election year politics is talking about a balanced budget again. This is déjà vu for the American voter who well remembers the campaign promises of Ronald Reagan who predicted that he could balance the Federal budget by cutting taxes and increasing spending. Candidate George Bush called that budgetary slight of hand "Voodoo Economics."

The results of two Reagan terms was a budget deficit which for the first time in any country's history used the term trillion to quantify the extent of the deficit.

I would assume that there is a campaign commercial spot for every stage of this upcoming budget drama that the Republican majority is planning.

Medicare, Medicaid, education, and welfare are on the top of the list for cuts right now, but I think that we can find ways to be fair and just when we make budgetary reduction decisions without shutting the Federal Government down.

I would hope that this next attempt to seriously deal with this Nation's budget deficit will include compassion for the poor, our children and the elderly.

We should not play election year politics with this country's budget.

HONORING THE JENNINGS CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

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a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

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SHOULD A FEDERAL BUILDING BE USED FOR ILLEGAL PURPOSES?

HON. ROBERT K. DORNAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 1996

Mr. DORNAN. Mr. Speaker, the following article describes an event that should never have taken place in a Federal building. Even worse, after this vulgar event occurred, a followup recovery brunch was held in another Federal building—our own Rayburn building.

Mr. Speaker, I hope all of our colleagues will pay close attention to the following.

GOP: CHOOSING SIDES IN THE CULTURE WAR?

(By Marc Morano)

An all night homosexual "circuit" party called Cherry Jubilee's "Main Event" took place in Washington, D.C. on April 13, 1996. The dance party featured public nudity, illicit sexual activity and evidence of illegal drug use. The sponsors of the gay festivities included a GOP congressman and a host of corporations. A Federal building, the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium, played host to the dance and was the backdrop for the illegal activity. The sponsors included Gay Republican Rep. Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, corporate America including American Airlines, Snapple, Lite Beer, Starbucks Coffee, and Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream. The "Main Event" was followed by a "Capitol Hill Recovery Brunch" on Capitol Hill in the Rayburn House Office building. Rep. Gunderson (R-WI) secured the Rayburn building for the "recovery brunch". All the net proceeds of the Jubilee weekend were to be distributed between Whitman-Walker Clinic and Food & Friends.

The Mellon Auditorium is a Federally owned building complete with classical ornate columns across the street from the Museum of American History on Constitution Ave. The "Main Event" was being described by the City Paper in Washington as "New York style gay 'circuit' party . . . usually drug infested." It was with this information that I proceeded on assignment into the gay world for an undercover investigation into the activities that occurred in a Federal building. My inquiry revealed that the Cherry Jubilee's "Main Event" featured a multitude of illegal activity.

The Jubilee's "Main Event" tickets were very hard to come by. The event sold out, which left a scramble for ticket scalpers outside the entrance. Several thousand men attended, most between the ages of 25-35 years old. Well over 90% were white, with only a few African-Americans and Asians present. Many of the men who attended were of obvious affluence. Limousines and even a Rolls Royce lined Constitution Avenue as the party goers arrived.

The clothing was very trendy with skin tight black jeans, and tank tops. The bartenders wore bright neon underwear and nothing else. Many of the men arrived with leather and rubber pants and neon rubber loin cloth underwear only. Most of the shirts came off as the men headed for the dance floor.

Body piercing was ubiquitous with piercing in nipples, navels and ears. Chains and dog collars were also prevalent. In addition, cross dressing was a common sight, as a heavy presence of transvestites and other "transgendered" men attended. Men with wigs and dresses in heavy makeup strolled through the auditorium. Several pairs of lesbians attended as well, parading around in very skimpy clothing.

There were no signs of aggressive behavior, as most attendees greeted each other with open mouthed kisses. No fights or altercations occurred throughout the night. The terms "fags" and "girls" were frequently used by the men to refer to themselves.

Overall the men were generally very neat, with meticulous hair and clothing. There were few if any men who could be described as overweight. In fact, the overwhelming majority had bodies sculpted from weight lifting. Beer and bottled water were the beverages of choice, while apples, bananas and oranges were in plentiful supply. The image of young active health conscious men, drinking bottled water and consuming fruit is a study in contrast. The reckless lifestyle inherent in the gay experience results in a notably reduced life span. The life expectancy of a homosexual male is estimated to be no more than 41 years old, regardless of AIDS. The homosexual communities credo seems to be "Die young and leave a pretty corpse."

As the constant thump, thump, thump of the techno music heated the crowd, the dancing became increasingly lewd and suggestive. As the night wore on, the dancers began simulated sexual gyrations. The dance floor became a torrent of intense groping and stroking. Some couples dancing on table tops, mimicked anal sex through their clothing while others pantomimed oral sex. At one point while dancing on a table top, one of the lesbians lifted her bra and exposed her breasts. Meanwhile, several inflated condoms were batted about like volleyballs.

At about 4 a.m., two men proceeded to engage in illicit sexual behavior in the main auditorium. One man lowered his head onto the crotch of another man and began to perform oral sex. This act occurred just off the dance floor in full view of the crowd. No one seemed to be fazed by it one bit.

The restroom stalls at the Mellon Auditorium were constantly being occupied by two men at a time. Gropes and groans could be heard emanating from the stalls with double occupancy. Stall doors would open and two men would nonchalantly exit. A battle between security and the party goers erupted over the restroom lights. Security was then forced to designate officers in the restrooms to ensure the lights remained on. The officers on duty did not look pleased with this assignment.

Every conceivable isolated spot became a dilemma for security. Security officers had to diligently watch the outside courtyard stairwell in the smoking area. The steps led to a dark alley on the side of the building where many of the men were congregating. The progression of couples heading into the darkness of the alley eventually forced security to intervene. Orange cones were erected to close the area off, as a security officer was assigned to stand watch. Public urination was common as the men relieved themselves outside and even in front of the building facing Constitution Avenue.

Despite signs posted everywhere stating, "Use or possession of illegal substances