

little about each other. This spirit has been fostered by the men and women of the Pennsylvania National Guard's Military Support Division. Under the leadership and guidance of Maj. Gen. James W. Mac Vay, the Adjutant General of the Pennsylvania National Guard, the Military Support Division oversees the Guard's State Partnership Program [SPP] with the Republic of Lithuania.

The State Partnership Program with Lithuania began in May 1993, increasing in size and scope over the past years. The mission of the State Partnership Program, one of the many that the Military Support Division fulfills, is to conduct a bilateral military outreach program with Lithuania designed to assist that nation in the building of an essential military infrastructure compatible with the traditions of a democratic society. Since July 1994, soldiers of the Pennsylvania National Guard have visited with their Lithuanian counterparts 22 times, providing valuable expertise on a variety of issues. In addition, Lithuanian experts visit Pennsylvania and learn first hand how our military and government agencies work together.

These visits have fostered tremendous goodwill between members of both delegations. There is an American military liaison team chief in Lithuania who works very closely with the U.S. Ambassador to Lithuania, the Lithuanian military, the European Command and National Guard Bureau. Today, in fact, we were honored to have three members of the Lithuanian delegation visit our Nation's Capitol. It was a joy to see the delight in their faces as they walked through these hallowed halls and sat in the gallery of this body. Col. Algirdas Stulginskis, Lt. Col. Romualdas Kiseliunas, and Maj. Vidas Astrauskas have learned much about our country during their stay here; not simply technical aspects about government agencies and emergency programs, but about the spirit of freedom and all for which America stands.

Groups of Lithuanian soldiers have visited Pennsylvania a total of 20 times. Every visit consists of meetings with members of Pennsylvania communities and learning about how a democratic society operates. American and Lithuanian visits are crucial to the success of the democratization of eastern Europe, and the fact that they are conducted by citizen soldiers from both countries cannot be ignored. During this time of military downsizing, we are asking our men and women of the Reserves and National Guard to do far more than ever before. The simple fact is that these dedicated people are doing their jobs exceedingly well with no complaints.

The men and women of the Pennsylvania National Guard can teach us all something about sacrifice and commitment to the principles which made our Nation what it is today—a shining example of freedom and democracy. We thank our Lithuanian visitors for their dedication to the cause of democracy and welcome them back to learn more about the beauty of our wonderful form of government. We look forward to learning from them as well, since they are all too familiar with how easily freedom can be lost.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I was pleased to read on the front page of the Washington Post that the administration is finally considering imposing sanctions on China for the piracy of United States intellectual property rights.

The flagrant and illegal piracy of United States intellectual property rights continues to flourish in many parts of the globe, most notably in China. USRT has estimated that the piracy of U.S. patents and copyrights and the counterfeiting of our trademarks costs the U.S. economy billions of dollars annually.

Piracy undermines our ability to compete in the global marketplace by denying U.S. companies access to new markets. Such unfair trading practices ultimately result in the loss of jobs here at home.

The piracy of intellectual property rights is an issue which I have followed for several years. I, along with many of my Texas colleagues, have written the United States Trade Representative on several occasions requesting that strong action be taken against China for the piracy of United States intellectual property rights.

In fact, this week, I agreed to cosponsor a measure soon to be introduced by Congresswoman PELOSI to impose sanctions against China for their intellectual property rights violations.

I firmly believe that the United States Government must take forceful action to convince China to crack down on this piracy. The United States simply cannot tolerate the theft of its industries' valuable intellectual property. I urge the Clinton administration to follow through on their warnings and impose stiff sanctions on China.

EBIL MATSUTARO, WINNER OF THE 1996 GUAM SCRIPPS HOWARD SPELLING BEE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, students representing schools from Guam, the Republic of Palau, and the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands recently gathered in Guam to participate in the local competition of the Scripps-Howard Spelling Bee. Originally open only to Guam students, the annual event allowed contestants from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Marshall Islands in 1989. This year marks the first time a student from Palau is declared the first place winner.

Ebil Matsutaro, this year's winner, will be our representative in this year's National Spelling Bee competitions to be held here in Washington. She is the daughter of Francis and Lucy Matsutaro. An eighth grade student at the Seventh Day Elementary School in Korror, Palau, this active 13-year-old is a member of the yearbook staff, the secretary of her class, and has a 4.0 GPA. She also has a brother, Ngerbol, and a sister, Erbai.

I congratulate Ebil for being the first Guam Scripps-Howard Spelling Bee to hail from the Republic of Palau and wish her the best in the national competition. In the same respect, all of this year's participants deserve special recognition. On behalf of the sponsors, the Pacific Daily News and the Rotary Club of Guam, I commend Ebil and the contestants of this year's Spelling Bee competition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, on May 10, 1996, I was absent from the Capitol and missed votes on rollcall No. 163, approving the Journal; rollcall No. 164, the Young amendment to H.R. 3286; rollcall No. 165, passage of H.R. 3286; and rollcall No. 166, passage of House Resolution 430. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 163, "no" on rollcall No. 164, "yes" on rollcall No. 165, and "yes" on rollcall No. 166.

WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT HOW WE PICK OUR PRESIDENT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Lamar Alexander has written a very insightful article for the Weekly Standard about what he learned during his run for the Presidency. Our electoral process would be better if every American would read this article. I would like to call this piece to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Weekly Standard, Mar. 25, 1996]

WHAT I LEARNED ABOUT HOW WE PICK A PRESIDENT

(By Lamar Alexander)

While my wounds are fresh, let me offer several ways to fix how we nominate presidents. First, for those who only see it on Inside Politics, let me describe what running for president really feels like (especially when you have just lost). It is like scaling a cliff for three years in the dark to earn the privilege of shooting one NBA-range three-point shot, i.e., the New Hampshire primary. It is like walking above Niagara Falls on a swaying tightrope as the wind blows and the crowd shouts, "FALL!" This by itself is one reason to salute Bob Dole for making his way so well through such an obstacle course.

Now, to fix the process (although I should proclaim up front and loudly that it is the candidate who must accept responsibility for losing, not the process):

Report on those who are actually running for president. It sometimes seemed that 90 percent of the political news during 1995 was about numerous Americans, estimable as they may have been, who had no intention of running or who couldn't win even if they did.

Ban the phrase "the motley crew." Referring to those of us actually running, this phrase usually begins to appear after several months of stories about those who aren't running. Isn't it time after 200-plus years of presidential elections to realize that any

American looks better rocking on the porch than he (or she) does trudging through the mud buck-naked with spotlights turned on (another way to describe participation in the current presidential nominating process)?

Raise the limits on individual giving to campaigns from \$1,000 to \$5,000. The well-intentioned \$1,000 limit, placed into the federal law after Watergate, was meant to reduce the influence of money in politics. As with many federal laws, it has done just the opposite. For example, to raise \$10 million in 1995 for my campaign, I attended 250 fund-raising events. This took about 70 percent of my time. I became unusually well acquainted with a great many good Americans capable of giving \$1,000 (who probably represent a cross section of one percent of all the people in the country). Wouldn't I have been a better candidate—and the country better off had I been elected—if I had spent more time traveling around America and visiting our allies abroad? (I actually did this during 1994, when I was not meeting nice people who could give \$1,000.)

Remove the state spending limits. This is step two in the crusade to deal with the phenomenon of the zillionaire in politics. Think of it this way: Say the fifth-grade teacher organizes a contest for class president with water pistols as the weapon of choice; then some kid arrives with a machine gun. Either take away the new kid's machine gun (Bill Bradley suggests a constitutional amendment to limit what individuals can spend on their own campaigns) or give the rest of the fifth graders the freedom to raise and spend enough money to buy their own machine guns. In one week just before the New Hampshire primary, Steve Forbes bought 700 ads on one Boston television station in one week, most of them negative advertising against Dole (plus a few gentler ads against me). Forbes, let us remember, spent almost no time raising his money and had no limits on what he spent per state. The rest of us did. If New Hampshire is most of the ballgame in the presidential primaries, why shouldn't we be permitted to defend ourselves even if we use up all the money the government allows us to spend during the entire campaign?

Deregulate the election process. The Federal Election Commission is full of competent people trying to do their jobs (several of whom are about to audit my campaign, which, if everything works out perfectly, will only take about three years. I am not kidding). The campaigns are grossly overregulated. Of the \$10 million our campaign raised during 1995, about \$1 million went for accountants and lawyers for compliance with the federal rules. Is it really necessary, for example, for the federal government to decide that a candidate's campaign T-shirts need not bear the "Paid for by . . ." disclaimer? Fewer rules and full disclosure should be the bywords here.

Start the coverage earlier. From the moment the networks began to cover the campaign (this year it was not until late January), you could feel the lift. As a candidate, you can also feel the collapse. I cannot help but think that there are ways—even many months out—to relate the day's news about, say, the failure of the Hartford school system's private-management contract to what the presidential candidates say about how schools should be run.

Spread it out. At a breakfast in Washington in November, I said this to my friends in the news media: "If you guys were sports-writers, you would arrive during the last quarter of the Final Four championship game and claim you had covered the entire basketball season." You can imagine how many friends I made with this statement, but I was right. By my count, the news

media covered the presidential race aggressively for just 21 days, from the Iowa caucus on February 10 until the South Carolina primary on March 2. Most of what went before consisted of asking people like me, "Why are you behind Bob Dole 72-3 in the polls?" at a time when everyone knew Dole and no one had ever heard of me. After South Carolina, the most frequently asked question was, "When are you going to get out?" So, most of us did. Let us hope the national political writers never decide to become umpires. The World Series wouldn't last more than one inning.

Now, in defense of the media, it is hard to cover a 21-day wild rollercoaster ride, which is what the nominating process has become: 38 primaries in 25 days. Let's change this: Let Iowa and New Hampshire go it alone in February. Then, require all the other states to hold their primaries on the second Tuesday of March, April, or May. This would give winners a chance to capitalize on successes, voters a chance to digest new faces, and candidates a chance to actually meet voters. What do you think would have happened this year if after the surprising New Hampshire primary (Buchanan winning, Dole stumbling, me surging, Forbes falling) there had been three weeks to campaign before a March 12 primary in a bunch of states? Then another month until another set of primaries? Lots more interesting—and lots more conducive to sound judgment by the voters, too.

Create a new C-SPAN channel to cover the country outside Washington. Chief executives from outside Washington sometimes make the best chief executives in the country. Why not a cable channel devoted entirely to Michigan governor John Engler's charter schools, San Antonio county executive Cyndi Krier's crime program, Milwaukee's school-choice program? Give these leaders as much C-SPAN face-time as members of Congress. This will give the public more exposure to state and local politicians who might then have a better chance of winning national office.

Let the candidates speak more often for themselves. Praise the media here. C-SPAN's Road to the White House on Sunday nights set the pace. I was astonished how many told me they saw C-SPAN's 50-minute coverage in July of my walk across New Hampshire. The New York Times printed excerpts from candidates' speeches, even some very long excerpts. The networks all showed unedited stump speeches of the major candidates.

Find the good and praise it. These were always the words of my friend the late Alex Haley. I can find the good easily about this process, even with its flaws. During the last year I walked across New Hampshire meeting several hundred people a day, spent 80 days in Iowa in maybe 200 meetings that ranged from 20 to 300 people, and had at least 50 meetings in Florida with the delegates to the Presidency III straw poll. During most of these meetings I was little known and unencumbered by news media. At least the news media presence was so small it did not disrupt the flow of the session.

I remember wishing time after time that anybody who had any sense of cynicism about our presidential selection process could be with me, as a fly on the wall—because they could not be cynical after hearing and seeing and feeling what I saw. The audience always listened carefully. Their questions went straight to the heart of what kind of country we could have, of our jobs, our schools, our neighborhoods, and our families. In meeting after meeting, I came away certain that this is a nation hungry for a vision contest, not one willing to tolerate a trivial presidential election. There is a great market in the American electorate for a full-fledged discussion about what kind of country we can have in the year 2000 and beyond.

The reason to make certain we have a properly functioning presidential nominating process is that the presidency itself is our most important institution as we go into the new century, and the debate about who should be that president is our most useful national discussion.

HONORING THE DRY HOLLOW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Dry Hollow 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, as 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.

MEDICAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Georgia State Senate recently adopted a resolution that encourages the Congress of the United States to enact health care reform measures that include Medical Savings Accounts [MSA's]. State legislators realize that MSA's will eliminate barriers to health insurance and increase access for millions of Americans. For the record I submit a copy of the resolution adopted by the Georgia State Senate on March 5, 1996.

A RESOLUTION

Encouraging the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to provide for medical savings accounts; and for other purposes.

Whereas, it is estimated 37 million Americans are without health insurance, many while between jobs, and more are underinsured because of the effects of rising health