

As a Representative, Mr. Mfume made his mark as Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus from 1992 to 1994, a time when the number of blacks in the House shot up to 40 from 26.

With new-found strength because of its increased size, the caucus under Mr. Mfume flexed its muscles as never before. It pointedly chastized President Clinton for bowing to criticism and withdrawing Lani Guinier, a professor at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, as his nominee for Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights.

The caucus also pressed Mr. Clinton to use American troops to restore ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power, one of the few groups to do so publicly for what was considered by many to be a hopeless cause.

Mr. Mfume's tenure as head of the caucus was not without its missteps. In 1992, he angered Jews and some members of the Caucus when he declared that the group had entered into a "sacred covenant" with the Nation of Islam.

In the face of criticism and in the wake of an anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic and anti-white speech by one of Mr. Farrakhan's aides, Khalid Abdul Mohammed, Mr. Mfume disavowed any association with the group and spent much time mending fences with Jewish leaders in Baltimore.

As a five-term Representative from Baltimore, where the N.A.A.C.P. is based, Mr. Mfume brings political acumen to the civil rights group, the country's oldest but one whose political relevancy has been questioned in recent years. He has shown an ability to raise money, a skill badly needed for a group saddled with a \$3.2 million debt. As a former Baltimore street tough who turned his life around, he also lends credibility to a message of personal responsibility for black youths.

"The time is now—right now—to restore the financial, spiritual and political health of this historic, American institution," Mr. Mfume said at a news conference following the board's decision. He added, "And my job is to provide the leadership that will make that happen."

His career has been free of scandal, a stark contrast to the recent history of the N.A.A.C.P. In the last two years, the organization has fired its executive director amid charges of sexual discrimination and harassment and replaced a board chairman who was accused of financial improprieties.

With his handsome looks, smooth manner and current girlfriend—an actress, Lynn Whitfield, who won an Emmy Award in 1991 for her portrayal of Josephine Baker in a cable television movie—he brings a measure of glamour to an organization sometimes seen as frumpy.

At his news conference on Saturday, Mr. Mfume spoke of the need for the N.A.A.C.P. to maintain a commitment to coalition politics with whites and others. In doing so, he appeared to be trying to assuage the concerns of some whites and blacks who had been put off by the attempts by Benjamin F. Chavis Jr., the former executive director, to align the organization with Mr. Farrakhan, who preaches a black separatist ideology.

"It is easier to accomplish things when you maximize the number of people who you have working with you and working for you," he said in an interview.

As a condition of taking the job, Mr. Mfume wrested concessions from the N.A.A.C.P. board, which since the mid-1980's has taken much power and control from the organization's chief executive but has fallen short in raising money and in debating and formulating policy.

Rather than report to a 64-member board, Mr. Mfume will deal with a smaller execu-

tive committee and have the authority to hire and fire staff, a power that had been stripped from the top executive. And to denote who will be in charge, his title will be president and chief executive officer, not executive director.

The need to symbolically change the position back to president—something, although small—was powerful in terms of what is said about the position," he said in an interview.

One unknown question, however, is Mr. Mfume's administrative skills. As member of Congress, and before that, the Baltimore City Council, Mr. Mfume has never had to run an organization as large as the N.A.A.C.P. But officials of the organization say they are not overly concerned.

"If that becomes a problem, we could get him a manager," said one board member who spoke on condition of anonymity. "Because he brings so much else, if he's weak there, we could prop him up."

[From the Baltimore Sun, Dec. 10, 1995]

#### MFUME TRANSFORMED HIMSELF

MATURING: AS HE PROGRESSED FROM THE BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL TO THE U.S. CONGRESS, KWEISI MFUME DEVELOPED INTO A POLISHED CONSENSUS BUILDER

(By Tom Bowman and Karen Hosler)

"We are going to change," Rep. Kweisi Mfume declared yesterday after being chosen to head the NAACP.

He could have been talking about himself. Kweisi Mfume, 47, began his political career as a dashiki-clad political activist on the Baltimore City Council. But when he arrived on Capitol Hill, he quickly transformed himself into a polished consensus builder.

Battling Mayor Donald Schaefer and Council President Clarence H. "Du" Burns, he first ran in 1979 on a campaign to "beat the bosses," advocating for the poor and the powerless.

After two terms on the council, he decided in 1986 to make a run for the seat of Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, a retiring civil rights legend who served 16 years in the House. Defeating a Republican, St. George I. B. Crosse III, in a bitter contest for the 7th District seat, he embarked on a bridge-building effort, forging a relationship with Governor Schaefer.

The dashikis gave way to finely tailored dark suits. The once-angry voice took on a measured and mellifluous cadence. "I'm the same fighter, but the arena has changed," he explained once. "Sometimes I will do it by compromise, sometimes I will do it through confrontation."

He reached out to all his constituencies, from Catonsville to West Baltimore to Charles Village to East Baltimore and Hampden. Some white areas in the district had felt snubbed by Mr. Mitchell.

The new congressman set up town meetings with his neighboring Democrat, Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin, and followed his predecessor, Mr. Mitchell, to the House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee.

But Mr. Mfume became more adept at dealing with the opposition than was the often-acerbic Mr. Mitchell. "Mfume's style is, 'You'll like me and respect me,'" Daniel P. Henson III, the city housing commissioner, said several years ago. "Parren's style was, 'You may not like me, but you'll respect me.'"

On the Banking Committee, Mr. Mfume matured into a skilled legislative craftsman. He was instrumental in saving programs that aided minority businesses. And he embraced issues outside the traditional black agenda, from high-technology development to business tax breaks.

Within two years, he became a leader in the Congressional Black Caucus, which elected him one of two vice chairmen.

"He's serious. He's thoughtful, He's a consensus builder," Rep. Mike Espy, a Mississippi Democrat, said in December 1992, when Mr. Mfume was elected chairman of the Black Caucus.

With his elevation to caucus chair and the election of a Democratic president, Mr. Mfume found his profile rising in Washington. President Clinton desperately needed the votes of the 39-member Black Caucus to get his legislative agenda through Congress.

As head of the group, Mr. Mfume proved a tough negotiator and a shrewd bargainer, often holding out for concessions from Mr. Clinton on programs such as the tax credit for the working poor. The man who once had a popular radio talk show on Morgan State's WEEA now became a fixture on the nationally televised Sunday TV talk shows.

The Black Caucus, under Mr. Mfume, provided Mr. Clinton with critical votes for his crime bill, despite deep-held opposition to death penalty provisions.

Mr. Mfume's term as caucus chairman had its stormy moments. He made many of his more traditional colleagues uncomfortable by reaching out to the Nation of Islam and its chairman, Louis Farrakhan, who has a history of making inflammatory remarks about Jews and other groups.

But after Republicans took control of Congress this year, the Black Caucus members were mere voices in the wilderness. Because the caucus members are among the most liberal in Congress, few found any common ground with the ruling Republicans.

Mr. Mfume found himself in an unhappy eclipse. Once surrounded by reporters every time he left the House floor, the Baltimore Democrat could recently be seen ambling alone past the press-mobbed Republican leaders.

No longer in the majority party, he would become the 20th House Democrat to leave or announce plans to do so. Five others have switched to join the GOP.

When Mr. Mfume assumed the leadership role in the Black Caucus three years ago, Mr. Espy offered words that would apply today as Mr. Mfume assumes the leadership of the NAACP.

"He has a professional style, which we need," Mr. Espy said in 1992. "It will be difficult. I know he's up to the job." ●

#### FDA REVIEW OF OLESTRA

● Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I rise to comment on the decision currently before the Food and Drug Administration regarding the Procter & Gamble Co.'s petition for its food additive, olestra.

Olestra is a fat-free food additive invented by the Procter & Gamble Co. This synthetic cooking oil and the decision by FDA are the subject of this week's Time magazine cover story.

The scientific issues under review by FDA are fascinating and I commend FDA for its management of the review by the Food Advisory Committee.

The Procter & Gamble Co. undertook its efforts to better understand fat in the human body in the 1950's and developed olestra in the 1960's. In 1971, Procter & Gamble began the approval process at FDA.

More than two decades later, olestra has not yet been approved. Nobody is faulting the FDA; approval of olestra has posed unique and unprecedented scientific questions that had to be researched. Accordingly, the FDA has approached this unprecedented food additive with appropriate prudence, and

Procter & Gamble was required to invent new protocols to test olestra's safety for human consumption.

Regulatory review by the FDA is necessary to ensure the public health and safety. At the same time I believe that we should encourage innovation by American industry. I believe that unnecessary delay in the approval of new products will have a negative impact on the investment in research and development. Without the FDA approval, olestra cannot be manufactured for and used by the Nation's consumers. Procter & Gamble has invested more than \$200 million in the development of this product and expects to invest many more millions to construct manufacturing facilities should olestra be approved. Therefore, I am pleased that the FDA has indicated that it will complete its decisionmaking process very soon.

Mr. President, I ask that the text of my letter of December 13, 1995, to Commissioner Kessler of the FDA be printed at the conclusion of my remarks.

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, December 13, 1995.

DAVID A. KESSLER, M.D.,  
Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration,  
Park Lawn Building, Rockville, MD.

DEAR MR. COMMISSIONER: I am writing in regard to the food additive petition for olestra, the non-calorie fat substitute. Because of olestra's development by the Ohio based Procter & Gamble Company, I have been interested in the product and its review by the FDA. I am pleased to hear that the Food Advisory Committee has recommended to the FDA that olestra meets the statutory standard of "reasonable certainty of no harm."

I want to commend FDA for its management of the Food Advisory Committee review process. It is my understanding that based upon an objective scientific process, no significant new safety issues were raised and no new data raising concern were introduced. I further understand that the issues of labeling statements and postmarketing surveillance raised by Committee members were addressed and agreed to by Procter & Gamble prior to the meeting.

FDA's commitment to further the process is certainly evidenced by the November 13 publication of the Federal Register notice announcing that all data, information and public comments on the petition were to be filed by December 1 in order to facilitate the FDA decision making process. I am pleased that the notice also indicated that the FDA intends to render a decision within 60 days of the conclusion of the Food Advisory Committee meeting provided no significant new safety issues are raised. Given the favorable review by the advisory committee and the absence of significant new safety issues or concerns, I believe that the FDA should take the necessary steps to ensure that the decision making process is completed within the timetable on or about January 17, 1996. I look forward to the final agency action on the olestra petition.

Best regards.

Sincerely,

JOHN GLENN,  
U.S. Senator.●

(At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN WISCONSIN COLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

● Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize two outstanding accomplishments in Wisconsin collegiate athletics. Over the weekend of December 9-10, 1995, two Wisconsin schools were crowned as national champions. On Saturday, December 9, the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse captured the NCAA Division III Football Championship, by defeating Rowan, NJ, 36 to 7 in the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl, held in Salem, VA. Also finding success in the Commonwealth of Virginia, the University of Wisconsin claimed their first NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Title, downing Duke University, 2 to 0 in Richmond. Both championships can be attributed to a team first attitude, and a work ethic that is second-to-none.

Behind an uncompromising defense that allowed just 153 yards, including yielding only 4 yards during the 3d quarter, and a balanced offensive attack that amassed 451 yards, the UW-La Crosse Eagles earned their second national title in 4 years. Although they trailed Rowan early in the game, the "never-say-die" Eagles went on to score 36 unanswered points including an 85-yard scoring strike by senior All-American quarterback, and Division III Player of the Year, Craig Kusick, that seemed to decimate the valiant efforts of the Rowan defense. Inspired by their offensive counterparts, the unrelenting Eagle defense held Rowan scoreless for the final three quarters, and gave UW-La Crosse the lead for good after tackle Mike Ivey stopped an overmatched Rowan back for a safety. The championship marks the second Division III title for Eagle head coach Roger Harring and caps off his 27th season with an undefeated campaign, 14-0.

Defense has also been the key on the road to the Badgers' title run. While allowing only 11 goals all season, and never more than 2 in a game, the Wisconsin defense continued to stonewall its opponents by becoming the first team ever to go through the entire five-game tournament without allowing a goal. The 2-to-0 victory over Duke in the final extended their shut-out string to 7 consecutive games and the 17th blanking over their 25-game schedule. Truly a team effort, Coach Jim Lauderdale's Badgers were the first Wisconsin team to advance past the NCAA quarterfinal.

There is a cliché that says, "Offense wins games. Defense wins championships." Although somewhat simplistic, it can be no more true than in the results of the championships attained by our fine Wisconsin universities. Wisconsin is truly proud of all its student athletes, and on behalf of the State of Wisconsin, I salute our national champions for their dedication to their common goal and for a job well done.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PATTY CALLAGHAN, ACTION FOR EASTERN MONTANA, GLEN DIVE

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I wish today to give tribute to one of eastern Montana's treasures, Patty Callaghan. Patty recently retired after 20 years with Action for Eastern Montana.

Patty retired as executive director to attend Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. She hopes to return to eastern Montana as a lay leader with rural churches.

Montana needs more leaders like Patty Callaghan. Rural Montana needs the love for and knowledge of our State that people like Patty have.

Patty's work with Action actually led to her decision to choose the seminary. When funding cutbacks in the programs that she administers forced her to look to other resources, Patty found the churches responding generously. She found the needs of rural communities to be much the same as the need of rural congregations—energy, leadership for change, accountability, respect, and compassion.

Patty has dealt with many family issues that will serve her well in her new life. She found the work at Action for Eastern Montana rewarding and the Glendive community generous when a need was identified.

In a recent tribute to Patty, family members, coworkers, friends, and many others including Montana's Governor Marc Racicot expressed their respect and appreciation for her life's work.

I would also like to express my profound respect and admiration for Patty Callaghan and what she has done for eastern Montana. Public service can bring out the best and worst in people. With Patty, her compassion and caring has only deepened. Eastern Montana desperately needs this commitment to its communities.

Thank you, Patty. We wish you the best and look forward to seeing you again soon.●

#### ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1996

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today it stand in recess until 11 a.m. on Friday; that following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be deemed approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and there then be a period for morning business until the hour of 12 noon with Senator permits to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. DOLE. For the information of all of our colleagues, negotiations with the Republican and Democrat leadership, the White House, and the President will continue tomorrow to see if