

With each new creative idea and its effective implementation, Focus: HOPE took another step toward fulfillment of his dream. Working with Eleanor Josaitis and an increasing group of volunteers and a diverse, talented staff, Focus: HOPE introduced food and health support for low-income mothers and exceptional job training and specialized production units. The Machine Training Institute and the Center for Advanced Technologies today stand as testimony that education can be for virtually all a ticket out of poverty into a new world of opportunity.

The power of his faith, his ideas and his personality assure that Father Bill Cunningham's dreams for Focus: HOPE will continue to be realized. There are too many of us who had the privilege to work with him over the years who will stand for nothing less.

Indeed, the strongest challenge is whether the work of Father Bill Cunningham can be replicated in other places.

Father Cunningham asked that no monuments be erected to his memory. When thousands of us walk in his memory on October 12, we will be carrying his message and his achievements with us for all the world to see.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 8, 1997, I inadvertently voted "no" on final passage of the American Land Sovereignty Protection Act (rollcall vote No. 504). I ask that the RECORD show that my intention was to vote "aye."

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION ANTIPIRACY ACT

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Collections of Information Antipiracy Act, a bill to encourage continued investment in the production and distribution of valuable new collections of information.

Electronic collections, and other collections of factual material, are absolutely indispensable to the American economy on the verge of the new century. These information products put a wealth of data at the fingertips of business people, professionals, scientists, scholars, and consumers, and enable them to retrieve from this haystack of information the specific factual needle that they need to solve a particular economic, research, or educational problem. Whether they focus on financial, scientific, legal, medical, bibliographic, news, or other information, collections of information are essential tools for improving productivity, advancing education and training, and creating a more informed citizenry. They are also the linchpins of a dynamic commercial information industry in the United States.

Developing, compiling, distributing, and maintaining commercially significant collec-

tions requires substantial investments of time, personnel, and money. Information companies must dedicate massive resources when gathering and verifying factual material, presenting it in a user-friendly way, and keeping it current for and useful to customers. U.S. firms have been the world leaders in this field. They have brought to market a wide range of valuable collections of information that meet the information needs of businesses, professionals, researchers, and consumers worldwide. But several recent legal and technological developments threaten to cast a pall over this progress, by eroding the incentives for the continued investment needed to maintain and build upon the U.S. lead in world markets for electronic information resources.

I recently received a report from Dr. Laura D'Andrea Tyson, former National Economic Advisor to the President and former Chair of the White House Council on Economic Advisors. Dr. Tyson's study demonstrates strong economic reasons for providing adequate statutory protection for the data base industry, and points out that failure to act may result in adverse effects on technological progress, on economic growth, and possibly on the research, education, and scientific communities. Noted authors and scholars have also endorsed the need to provide some protection to collections of information, to prevent free-loaders from appropriating the fruits of others' investments.

Here in the United States, the 1991 Supreme Court decision in *Feist Publications versus Rural Telephone Service Co.* marked a tougher attitude toward claims of copyright in data bases. While reaffirming that most—although not all—commercially significant collections of information satisfy the "originality" requirement for protection under copyright, the Court emphasized that this protection is "necessarily thin." Several subsequent lower court decisions have underscored that copyright cannot stop a competitor from lifting massive amounts of factual material from a copyrighted collection to use as the basis for its own competing product. Producers are concerned that some of these cases may also cast doubt on the ability of a proprietor to use contractual provisions to protect itself against unfair competition from such free riders.

In cyberspace, technological developments represent a threat as well as an opportunity for collections of information, just as for other kinds of works. Copying factual material from another's proprietary collection, and rearranging it to form a competing information product—just the kind of behavior that copyright protection may not effectively prevent—is cheaper and easier than ever through digital technology that is now in widespread use.

When all these factors are added together, the bottom line is clear: it is time to consider new federal legislation to protect developers who place their materials in interstate commerce against piracy and unfair competition, and thus encourage continued investment in the production and distribution of valuable commercial collections of information.

While copyright, on the Federal level, and State contract law underlying licensing agreements remain essential for protecting the enormous investment in collections of information, there are gaps in the protection that can best be filled by a new Federal statute which will complement copyright law. The Collections of Information Antipiracy Act would prohibit the

misappropriation of valuable commercial collections of information by unscrupulous competitors who grab data collected by others, repackage it, and market a product that threatens competitive injury to the original collection. This new Federal protection is modeled in part on the Lanham Act, which already makes similar kinds of unfair competition a civil wrong under Federal law. Importantly, this bill maintains existing protections for collections of information afforded by copyright and contract rights. It is intended to supplement these legal rights, not replace them.

The Collections of Information Antipiracy Act is a balanced proposal. It is aimed at actual or threatened competitive injury from misappropriation of collections of information or their contents, not at uses which do not affect marketability or competitiveness. The goal is to stimulate the creation of even more collections, and to encourage even more competition among them. The bill avoids conferring any monopoly on facts, or taking any other steps that might be inconsistent with these goals.

This bill differs dramatically from H.R. 3531, introduced in the last Congress by then-Chairman Carlos Moorhead. H.R. 3531 proposed to enact a new form of sui generis copyright protection of data bases. This bill is a minimalist approach grounded in unfair competition principles as a complement to copyright, and the damage that can be done from substantial copying of collections of information.

In drafting this bill, I was particularly mindful of the concerns of the library, scientific research, and educational communities. Concerns raised in response to the introduction of H.R. 3531 last year by these groups warned of the dramatic consequences that could result from legislation in this area. My staff and I heard these concerns, through personal meetings and through the Copyright Office report on this issue presented to the Congress earlier this year. This bill alleviates those concerns by specifically allowing access and use for those purposes, while still providing necessary protection to ensure continued investment and production of collections of information.

This legislation provides the starting point for legislative activity on an important and complex subject. I look forward to hearing the suggestions and reactions of interested parties and of my colleagues at a hearing later this month.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES W. MEREDITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to Mr. James W. Meredith, the first African-American to enroll in a segregated university in Mississippi.

October 1, 1962 marked the date when James Meredith became the first African-American to enroll at the University of Mississippi. Mr. Meredith was born in Kosciusko, MS, on June 25, 1933. After living several years in Mississippi, James moved to live with his uncle in St. Petersburg, FL, where he enrolled in high school and finished. He enlisted

into the U.S. Air Force at age 18, where he served for 9 years.

After graduating from the University of Mississippi, James Meredith went to study abroad in Africa where he wrote his first of numerous books entitled "Three Years in Mississippi." After his stay in Africa, James Meredith returned to Mississippi to start an organization called March Against Fear in order to empower and encourage African-Americans to register to vote. This organization went on to register 300,000 people in Mississippi.

In addition to his efforts to register African-Americans to vote, James Meredith started the James Meredith Library Clubs of America. This organization was created to lure African-American males into the library and encourage them to read.

Mr. Speaker, because of these many accomplishments, I would like to take time out to honor Mr. James Meredith for his vision and courage.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF
BRAD GATES

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an outstanding member of my community in southern California. On October 30 of this year, 1997, the Boy Scouts of America will honor Orange County, CA, Sheriff Brad Gates with the William H. Spurgeon III Award.

Sheriff Gates has given both his support and service to the Boy Scout's Explorer program and the youth of Orange County for the past twenty-three years. Almost from the day he joined Troop 12 of the Scouts as a boy, Brad Gates has been a positive force in our community.

The list of Sheriff Gates' contributions to the citizens of Orange County is extensive. Since his days as a Scout, Brad has served as a member of the Orange County Council, as a board of directors member for both the Boy Scouts of America and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program in Orange County and has cofounded Drug Abuse is Life Abuse, a community coalition of drug awareness and prevention programs.

Brad Gates is not just one of Orange County's most active volunteers, Gates has served officially as sheriff-coroner of Orange County since 1974. As one of our communities most important officials, Brad continues to provide outstanding leadership while managing the largest law enforcement agency in Orange County.

And in undoubtedly his most important position, Brad is both a husband and father as well as a good personal friend to many throughout our community. Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Brad Gates truly deserves the honor of being recognized today by our Nation's leaders, as he himself is clearly among them.

STATEMENT ON THE SPILL OF
NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the fortune of attending a seminar entitled "Spill of National Significance," or "SONS." As ranking member on the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Subcommittee, I feel that it is important to alert you to innovative research being conducted in this field.

SONS was a 3-day exercise that brought together notable individuals ranging from Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater and Coast Guard Commandant Robert Kramek, to representatives from FEMA, the EPA, and countless other agencies. They gathered in Philadelphia and Washington, DC, using interactive technology to find solutions for a simulated catastrophe.

The scenario involved three oil spills at two different sites, occurring within 6 hours of each other. SONS' participants were then required to resolve this crisis from various perspectives, ranging from political to environmental to financial.

Rather than wait for disasters to strike, attendees at this Coast Guard-sponsored event developed methods for dealing effectively with future oil spills. This is an example of an agency at its finest. I encourage other organizations to take a lesson from SONS and address future concerns today.

TRIBUTE TO CHLOE CONEY

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chloe Coney, a constituent of mine from Tampa, FL, who has been selected as one of eight national award winners for the Ameritech Awards of Excellence in Crime Prevention. This recognition is a fitting tribute to her tireless efforts over the past decade in developing a comprehensive and collaborative plan to revitalize low-income areas of east Tampa. I applaud the National Crime Prevention Council and Ameritech for honoring Ms. Coney's dedication.

Ms. Coney grew up in Tampa's North Boulevard Public Housing Project and her personal experiences in this economically disadvantaged area have given her great insight into the needs and opportunities of citizens living in east Tampa. She began her career of service as a parole officer and counselor where she implemented conflict resolution strategies in the Citizen's Dispute Settlement Programs for the Thirteenth Judicial Court.

Currently, Ms. Coney is the executive director of the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa [CDCT]. This community-based nonprofit organization plans, promotes, and assists the redevelopment of the east Tampa area through a wide range of programs including community building, youth leadership, family stabilization, and economic development. Her efforts should serve as a model for comprehensive and collaborative approaches to

community-based crime prevention initiatives. Ms. Coney recognized early on that creating a safe and secure environment in east Tampa requires a multifaceted approach focusing not only on community policing but also on strengthening families, developing youth leadership, and creating economic opportunity.

One of Ms. Coney's successful programs is the CDCT's Men II Boys Mentoring Program which pairs 100 at-risk African-American youth, ages 11-14, with responsible adult men. These adults are willing to share their experiences and serve as role models, nurturing the healthy development of these youth into men. Ms. Coney has also created constructive programs such as the Inner-City Boys Choir, a medical apprenticeship program, a substance abuse prevention program entitled Striving To Achieve Rewarding Tomorrows [START], and Saturday Academy which improves the academic and social skills of at-risk seventh graders.

These programs can be successful only if strong family support exists to back them up. Ms. Coney recognizes this and established an annual Parent Enhancement Conference to educate parents on ways to better support their children's development. In addition, she offers workshops twice a month for parents and launched the East Tampa School-Community Partnership which is a network of social service agencies, school representatives, and parents.

Finally, recognizing that these efforts to build up our youth must be coupled with opportunities for the future, Ms. Coney has dedicated much of the CDCT's efforts toward economic development. This year, the Nehemiah Project has focused on "community building brick by brick," with the goal of stimulating commercial development and transforming abandoned buildings. These efforts represent a commitment to matching increased educational opportunities with increased job opportunities.

This short tribute cannot begin to describe Ms. Coney's outstanding efforts in redeveloping and revitalizing east Tampa and providing a safer community for citizens of all ages. Her impact on individuals, families, and communities is immeasurable. Therefore, I would ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Coney for her hard work and dedication in developing strategies for successful crime prevention and to thank all those individuals like her throughout America who have dedicated their lives to service in their communities.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I stood on the steps of the Capitol with my fellow Democratic colleagues urging the leadership in the House and the Senate to allow a fair vote on campaign finance reform. A majority of the U.S. Senate, all the Democrats and a small number of courageous Republicans, have voted in favor of the McCain-Feingold campaign finance legislation. In the House we have not been given the opportunity to vote on any reform bill.

After we leave today for the Columbus Day recess, with the leadership's stated desire to