

course, that is the crux of the problem. I was looking at all of the above.

This textbook tries to be all things to all students in all subjects and the result is a mush of multiculturalism, environmental and political correctness, and various disjointed discussions on a multitude of topics which certainly is bound to confuse the students trying to learn and the teachers trying to teach from such unfocused nonsense. It is not just nonsense, it is unfocused nonsense, which is even worse.

Mathematics is about rules, memorized procedures and methodical thinking. We do memorize the multiplication tables, don't we? Else how will one know that nine 8s are 72 and that eight 9s are 72. This new-new mush-mush math will never produce quality engineers or mathematicians who can compete for jobs in the global market place. In Palo Alto, CA, public school math students plummeted from the 86th percentile to the 56th in the first year of new-new math teaching. This awful textbook obviously fails to do in 812 pages what comparable Japanese textbooks do so well in 200. The average standardized math score in Japan is 80. In the United States it is 52.

When my staff contacted Marianne Jennings to obtain a copy of this textbook, I did learn one good thing about it. She told my staff that because of public outcry the public schools in her area have discontinued its use and have gone back to traditional math textbooks. Another useful purpose has been served by my personal perusal of this textbook. I now have a partial answer to my question about why we don't produce better students despite all the money that Federal taxpayers shell out.

The lesson here is for parents to follow Marianne Jennings' lead and take a close look at their children's textbooks to be sure that the new-new math and other similar nonsense has not crept into the local school system.

All the Federal dollars we can channel for education cannot counteract the disastrous effect of textbooks like this one. They will produce dumb-dumb students and parents need to get heavily involved to reverse that trend now!

Mr. President, I ask that an article from the May 26 edition of U.S. News and World Report on the same subject be printed in the RECORD at this point.

The title of the article is, "That so-called Pythagoras."

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the U.S. News & World Report, May 26, 1997]

THAT SO-CALLED PYTHAGORAS
(By John Leo)

"Deep Thoughts" started as Jack Handy's running joke on TV's Saturday Night Live—a series of mock-inspirational messages about life that make no sense at all. Now "Deep Thoughts" are available on greeting cards, including one that pokes fun at the fuzzy new math in the schools. The card says: "Instead of having 'answers' on a math

test, they should just call them 'impressions,' and if you got a different 'impression,' so what, can't we all be brothers?"

Pretty funny. But it's hard for satire to stay ahead of actual events these days, particularly in education. The "New-New Math," as it is sometimes called, has a high-minded goal: Get beyond traditional math drills by helping students understand and enjoy mathematical concepts. But in practice, alas, the New-New Math is yet another educational "Deep Thought."

Basic skills are pushed to the margin by theory and the idea that students should not be passive receivers of rules but self-discoverers, gently guided by teachers, who are co-learners, not authority figures with lessons to impart. Correct answers aren't terribly important. Detractors call it "whole math," because students frequently end up guessing at answers, just as children exposed to the "whole language" fad in English classes end up guessing at words they can't pronounce. "Although the Wicked Whole-Language Witch is dying, the Whole-Math Witch isn't even ill," said Wayne Bishop, professor of mathematics at California State University-Los Angeles.

Mathematically Correct, a San Diego-based group which strongly opposes whole math, recently posted a list of commandments on its Web site, including "Honor the correct answer more than the guess," "Give good grades only for good work," and "Avoid vague objectives."

Bologna sandwich? Those vague objectives include meandering exercises that have little to do with math, such as illustrating data collection by having second-graders draw pictures of their lunch, then cut the pictures out and put them in paper bags. Worse, the New-New Math comes with the usual stew of ed-school obsessions about feelings, self-esteem, dumbing down, and an all-around politically correct agenda.

Marianne Jennings, a professor at Arizona State University, found that her teenage daughter was getting an A in algebra but had no idea how to solve an equation. So Jennings acquired a copy of her daughter's textbook. The real title is Secondary Math: an "Integrated Approach: Focus on Algebra," but Jennings calls it "Rain Forest Algebra."

It includes Maya Angelou's poetry, pictures of President Clinton and Mali wood carvings, lectures on what environmental sinners we all are and photos of students with names such as Tatuk and Esteban "who offer my daughter thoughts on life." It also contains praise for the wife of Pythagoras, father of the Pythagorean theorem, and asks students such mathematical brain teasers as "What role should zoos play in our society?" However, equations don't show up until Page 165, and the first solution of a linear equation, which comes on Page 218, is reached by guessing and checking.

Jennings points out that Focus on Algebra is 812 pages long, compared with 200 for the average math textbook in Japan. "This would explain why the average standardized score is 80 in Japan and 52 here," she says. Marks do seem to head south when New-New Math appears. In well-off Palo Alto, Calif., public-school math students dropped from the 86th percentile nationally to the 58th in the first year of New-New teaching, then went back up the next year to the 77th percentile when the schools moderated their approach.

The New-New Math has become a carrier for the aggressive multiculturalism spreading inexorably through the schools. Literature from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, which is promoting whole math, is filled with suggestions on how to push multiculturalism in arithmetic and math classes.

New-New Math is also vaguely allied with an alleged new field of study called ethnomathematics. Most of us may think that math is an abstract and universal discipline that has little to do with ethnicity. But a lot of ethnomathematicians, who are busy holding conferences and writing books, say that all peoples have a natural culturebound mathematics. Western math, in this view, isn't universal but an expression of white male culture imposed on non-whites. Much of this is the usual ranting about "Eurocentrism." Ethnomathematics, a book of collected essays, starts by reminding us that "Geographically, Europe does not exist, since it is only a peninsula on the vast Eurasian continent. . . ." Before long, there is a reference to "the so-called Pythagorean theorem." Much of the literature claims that nonliterate peoples indicated their grasp of math in many ways, from quilt patterns to an ancient African bone cut with marks that may have been used for counting.

It's all rather stunning nonsense, but this is where multiculturalism is right now. Unless you are headed for an engineering school working with Yoruba calculators, or unless you wish to balance your checkbook the ancient Navajo way, it's probably safe to ignore the whole thing.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ENZI). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

THE 1997 STANLEY CUP CHAMPION DETROIT RED WINGS

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the 1997 Stanley Cup Champion Detroit Red Wings. Following Saturday night's 2 to 1 victory in game four of the NHL finals, completing the Wings series sweep of the Philadelphia Flyers, the sports world has taken notice of what those of us from Michigan have known for years, that Detroit is the home of the best hockey team, and the greatest hockey fans, on the planet. After a long 42-year absence, the Stanley Cup has returned home to Hockeytown USA.

Sometimes in sports certain teams capture fans' imaginations in a way that embodies the spirit of an entire city. The 1984 Tigers were so good they dominated the game of baseball from the first pitch of opening day through the last out of the World Series. The 1989 Pistons, with their gritty, tough style of defensive play were the ultimate blue collar champions. So it is also the case of this year.

The 1997 Red Wings have inspired Detroit in a similar manner. These players have experienced recent disappointment. They came so close to the title the previous two seasons, eliminated in the finals by New Jersey in 1995 and in the semifinals by Colorado in 1996, only to be denied. However, where lesser teams would have crumbled under the

weight of such adversity, this team learned from its losses, and came back with even greater determination and focus.

While I salute the entire Detroit Red Wings' organization for their achievement, there are a few individuals in particular who deserve special recognition. Capt. Steve Yzerman has brought so many highlights to Detroit Red Wings fans over the years, his name clearly deserves mention in the same breath as past greats such as Gordie Howe, Ted Lindsay, Sid Abel, and Alex Delvecchio. No one has played harder through more pain or is more responsible for this Stanley Cup than Steve Yzerman. With his unassuming manner off the ice and fierce competitiveness on, for 14 years this exceptional man has been a credit to the Red Wings and the city of Detroit, and for this, he deserves our thanks.

With this championship, Coach Scotty Bowman has now won seven Stanley Cups, more than any other coach in NHL history. Goalie Mike Vernon, named MVP of the playoffs, was simply masterful in the net throughout the series. Then there are the five Russian immigrant players—Sergei Fedorov, Igor Larionov, Slava Kozlov, Slava Fetisov, and Vladimir Konstantinov—each of whom played a vital role in the success of this team. The Red Wings had so many leaders, such as Brendan Shanahan, Kirk Maltby, Darren McCarty, and others, that I am afraid I can't mention them all here. Mr. President, virtually everybody's contribution on the team should be highlighted today.

Most important, one final tribute needs to be reserved for team owner Mike Illitch. Mr. Illitch's commitment to making the Red Wings the best hockey team in the NHL mirrors his dedication to making the city of Detroit the finest city in America. His efforts with the Red Wings are really just an extension of his care and concern for Detroit. Whatever this city has sought, whether it be economic development or the return of the Stanley Cup, Mike Illitch has tried to be part of the solution.

In fact, this championship is only one small indicator of the rebirth of Detroit. It has been many years since others have looked to this city for inspired examples of urban renewal. Without question, however, current developments in Detroit are quickly rendering such negativism a thing of the past. Detroit is truly a city whose best days are yet to come, and great credit is due to the leadership of individuals like Mike Illitch and Mayor Dennis Archer for making this goal a reality.

For today, as we celebrate the Red Wings we also celebrate the city of Detroit. The only thing missing from Saturday night's victory was the violence and mischief that so often mars such achievements, a fact which should not be overlooked. The eyes of the sporting world were on the Detroit Red Wings and their fans this weekend, and what

they saw was nothing less than positive. The Stanley Cup Champion Red Wings are one of brightest lights in a city that has a great deal of which to be proud.

Mr. President, prior game 1 of the finals, I made a friendly wager with our colleague Senator RICK SANTORUM from Pennsylvania, on the outcome of the series. Senator SANTORUM unwisely bet Philadelphia Tastykakes.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to display them here at this time.

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

Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, these Tastykakes were the bet of the Senator from Pennsylvania to our Little Caesars pizzas from Detroit. I might add that Red Wings' owner Mike Illitch is also the owner of Little Caesars. While I now have some bragging rights on the floor of the Senate, the real winners will be the students at Warren G. Harding Elementary School in Detroit. The kids will soon taste the sweetness of the Red Wings success as Senator SANTORUM ships 300 boxes of these Tastykake cupcakes for a victory party at the school in the next week or two. And to make it extra special, in a show of true sportsmanship, Little Caesars will provide pizzas to the students at Harding as well.

We look forward to celebrating our victory of the Stanley Cup with the students of Harding Elementary School in the weeks ahead.

I thank you, yield the floor, and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, my understanding is that we are in morning business with up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator has up to 10 minutes.

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise this afternoon because I would like to talk a little bit about the relationship of the citizens of this country to their Government, in this particular case, to the Internal Revenue Service. There is a real burden on most enforcement agencies. When they accuse somebody of a crime, they have the burden of showing beyond a reasonable doubt that the crime was actually committed by that particular individual. That type of burden doesn't exist with the Internal Revenue Service; for whatever reason, your name may come up for an audit, maybe because of some type of a filing that you did in your income tax form that sets off the computer alarms, whatever system that they have.

That is one of the reasons why I am pushing legislation for a home office

exemption. Many times, an audit by the Internal Revenue Service is an indication that you are using part of your home for business, and because of that, you are going to claim a deduction for part of the costs of your home because you are running your business out of that home.

The Internal Revenue Service frequently approaches taxpayers and says, "Look, we think there is a violation." The burden is upon that individual to prove they are innocent. So, obviously, the individuals have a great responsibility to keep good records and account for all their expenditures, and whatnot, so that they can justify whatever it is they are doing in the way of business which may allow them a tax deduction, for example.

On the other hand, I think the agents for the Internal Revenue Service have a particularly awesome responsibility because of the added powers that we grant to them. I just share with this body that I have held more than 56 town meetings since the first of the year and have been very busy in talking to the people of Colorado—I represent the State of Colorado—and hearing about their concerns. It is not surprising that the most frequent issue that came up in the town meetings was related to taxes. People wanted capital gains reduction; they wanted inheritance tax reduction.

But along with all this concern, they talked about their relationship with the Internal Revenue Service. A lot of them felt there was abuse of power by the Internal Revenue Service.

There was a decision made last week by U.S. District Judge William Downes which I think highlights another case of taxpayer abuse by the Internal Revenue Service.

Carole Ward was awarded \$250,000 in punitive damages by the Federal Government from the Internal Revenue Service for wrongfully publicizing information about her. After auditing Ward's children's clothing stores—these were young adults, children who decided to go into business for themselves—after auditing the Ward's children's clothing stores, the Internal Revenue Service seized the stores and demanded \$325,000 in back taxes. The Internal Revenue Service agents told passersby that Ward was involved in drug dealing.

Judge Downes was very harsh on the Internal Revenue Service, saying, "This court gives notice to the Internal Revenue Service that reprehensible abuse of authority by one of its employees cannot and will not be tolerated."

He went on to describe the behavior of some Internal Revenue Service agents as grossly negligent and they acted with reckless disregard for a law meant to assure Americans that their tax matters are handled with confidentiality.

While the vast majority of Internal Revenue Service agents and employees are dedicated public servants who work