

Jack Gibson, on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Jack Gibson has served the state of Arkansas and his country all of his life. After completing his secondary education in Louisiana, he became a naval aviator and flew in the carrier task force during World War II. After the war, he returned to the United States and finished college at Mississippi State University. He entered business with his father where they operated a farm, cotton gin, and an agricultural spraying business.

Through his years in Arkansas, Jack has been active in state, civic and community life and has always worked to represent agriculture, the greatest profession there ever was. He is a former director of Chicot County Soil Conservation District and served as the president of the Southeast Arkansas Soil Conservation District. He was also chairman and the original member of the Arkansas Soil and Water Conservation Commission. He served as president and member of the Agricultural Council of Arkansas and president of the Arkansas Conservation Districts. Jack also served as president and CEO of two community banks in Southeast Arkansas and has been a member of the Farm Bureau since 1948.

As State Senator from District 35 for 12 years, Jack held chairmanships on the Agriculture and Economic Development Committees, and the Legislative Audit. During his tenure in the Arkansas legislature, he was also a member of the Legislative Joint Budget, Legislative Council, and Revenue and Taxation Committees. He has been affiliated with the Farm Credit System for 39 years and served on both the PCA and FBL boards, as well as the Sixth District Advisory Board. Jack is currently the executive director of the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission.

Jack Gibson resides in Boydell, Arkansas, the town where he was born. He has devoted his life to agriculture and Arkansas and the world is a better place because of his service. I am proud to call him my friend and I wish him a happy 80th birthday and many more years of happiness.

ELIMINATE THE TRICARE PRIME COPAY

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.
OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I hear from constituents on a daily basis who are concerned about the availability and affordability of military health care. On February 1, I introduced H.R. 3565 to eliminate the copayment requirement for Tricare Prime and to make military health care more affordable.

Retirees pay an annual enrollment fee for coverage and are also subject to copayment requirements. Active duty families do not pay an enrollment fee, but are also subject to copayments. I am concerned that these copays can dramatically increase overall health care costs, particularly for retirees on a fixed income or for younger enlisted personnel. At \$6 to \$12 a visit, these copays quickly erode the real progress Congress made last year approving a long overdue increase in military pay. Unless we reduce out-of-pocket costs for

military personnel, pay raises only help on the margin.

The legislation also addresses a question of fairness. The downsizing of military treatment facilities often makes it difficult for Tricare Prime enrollees to get appointments which would not require a copay. But if enrollees urgently need an appointment, and elect to go to a civilian provider, they face copayments, creating an inequity and a potentially pernicious disincentive to receiving timely care. My bill has a further policy justification as the Department of Defense has indicated that the Tricare Prime program is the most cost-effective Tricare option. Eliminating the copay creates an incentive for additional enrollment in Tricare, which ultimately saves taxpayer dollars.

The Department of Defense budget request for Fiscal Year 2001, which was released at the beginning of this week, generally supports my proposal. The DOD bill would eliminate copays for service members and dependents using civilian facilities, but doesn't address the equally large retired population. I believe we need to eliminate the copayment for all Tricare Prime enrollees and urge my colleagues to co-sponsor H.R. 3565.

HONORING HIGH POINT CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, with the recent Super Bowl, another exciting football season has come to an end. Before we put this season to bed, however, I wish to take a moment to recognize a high school in the Sixth District of North Carolina that just concluded a perfect football season. The High Point Central High School Bison completed a 15-0 season by capturing the 1999 North Carolina 2-A Football Championship.

High Point Central defeated Southwest Onslow by a score of 30-7 in Chapel Hill, NC, on December 11, 1999, to win the State 2-A high school title. In fact, going into the championship game, both teams were undefeated. The Bison used a swarming defense and an opportunistic offense to overwhelm the previously-unbeaten Stallions. The Bison completed one of the most dominating seasons in recent high school football history. The team had not one but two running backs who rushed for more than 2,000 yards each. The Bison scored 641 points in capturing both conference and regional titles.

Head Coach and Athletic Director Gary Whitman, who had won two State titles while at Lexington High School, led High Point Central to its first State championship since 1979. "The State championship is obviously a great exclamation point for the season," Coach Whitman told the High Point Enterprise. "Our kids deserve a lot of the credit and the coaching staff has done a great job. The pressure has been on them all year long, and they've handled it well. I'm proud of them for that, and it can't be much better than it is right now."

Coach, you are so right. Winning the State championship is the ultimate prize and it took complete cooperation from a lot of dedicated people to reach the pinnacle. First, we have to

recognize the players who made it happen. They include Derrick Bryant, Darius Johnson, Nick Garrison, Steve Turner, Chuckie Reid, Rashad Stevenson, Jonathon Holloman, Stanley Butler, Wayne Traylor, Quincy Thomas, Jonathon Spencer, Quincy Smith, Wich Brenner, Calvin Humphrey, Matt Brooke, Brian Bourn, Montrey Gilchrist, Antonio Graves, Kevin Green, Brandon Hunt, Brandon Tucker, Bradley Watson, Kwan Walls, Sam Hairston, Kedrick Russell, Clint Sarvis, Twain Johnson, Rickey Haywood, Rod Zimmerman, Josh Mitchell, Travis Cobb, Atari Evans, Alan Byerly, Tyler Walls, Michael Waugh, Grant Allred, Rodney Pitts, Andre Matthews, Titus Johnson, Tron McNeil, Travis Johnson, Joe Atkins, Roy Bronson, James Leak, Daniel Bell, Matthew Waugh, Brandon Greeson, Jerome Garrett, Kyle Ingram, Cornelius Leach, Reco Graham, Tony Dixon, Devin Buchannon, Phillip Green, and Dane Brenner.

Head Coach Whitman was ably assisted by an outstanding team of coaches including Bill Anderson, Steve Edwards, Jim Grkman, Chuck Henderson, Steve Johnson, Wayne Jones, Jeff Thomas, and Troy Whitman. The Bison support group including Dr. Richard Keever, the team physician, Ronnie House, the trainer, Winfrey Bivens and Jane Johnson, who handled the videotaping, along with ball boys Bret Hammer, Stephen Johnson, and Ben Thomas.

So, as High Point Central continues to celebrate its first football championship in 20 years, we offer our congratulations to everyone associated with Bison football. Everyone from Principal Helen Lankford to the students, staff, and faculty at High Point Central High School can take pride in capturing the ultimate prize. I join with the family, friends, and fans of Bison football in congratulating High Point Central High School for winning the 1999 North Carolina 2-A Football Championship. The season was, in a word, perfect.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD MEMBER WADE BRUNSMAN

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a good friend, good husband, father, grandfather and a great public servant Mr. Wade Brunsmann.

Born in St. Louis and raised in Clinton County, Wade is the father of 4 children and 5 grandchildren. Wade, a Navy machinist, served as a chief of engine rooms aboard a minesweeper in World War II. He received his engineering degree from Case Western Reserve in Cleveland and opened a heating and refrigeration service in 1957.

Elected to the St. Clair County Board in 1952, Wade has served on many committees and subcommittees. He served as the Chairman of St. Clair Board's Environment Committee working on many issues including storm water management, land use, zoning, landfill and environmental issues for the benefit of all citizens in our region. He also served as a member of the St. Clair County Board's Finance Committee which oversees the disbursement of monies for the County's day-to-

day operations and its long range planning, as well as compiling the County's annual budget. Wade was also instrumental in assisting the County in guiding the development of MidAmerica airport and the St. Clair County extension of MetroLink. Wade also has acted as the County Board's Vice-Chairman since 1991. He served on the St. Clair County Planning Commission since it was formed in 1989.

In his tradition of fine public service, Wade was also named officeholder of the year in 1986 by the Belleville Democratic Committee. As a true public servant, he also finds the time to volunteer his services to senior citizens throughout the area. In 1973, as Chairman of the St. Clair County Board, I appointed Wade to the Advisory Board for the Programs and Services for Older Persons program sponsored by Southwestern Illinois Community College. In recognition of his efforts, the East-West Gateway Coordinating Council awarded Wade a lifetime achievement for outstanding public service in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service of Mr. Wade Brunzman and wish he, his wife Barbara, his daughter Barbara Ann and the rest of his family, the very best in the future.

IN MEMORY OF RABBI SHOLOM
KLASS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my profound and sincere sadness on the recent death of Rabbi Sholom Klass of Brooklyn, NY. After a long illness, the Rabbi died on January 17, 1999 at age 83. Rabbi Klass was truly a giant in Jewish life and an educator to both Jew and non-Jew, alike, on the beauty of G-d's law. Rabbi Klass was an inspirational leader who stood up for morality in the modern world. The Rabbi was a premier teacher of Torah, a pioneer in Anglo-Jewish journalism, and a passionate advocate for the Jewish people.

Rabbi Klass was one of the most important influences for promoting Jewish traditions in our Nation's history. As one of the greatest disseminators of Jewish learning in modern times, the Rabbi taught a weekly class in Talmud for more than 50 years. In addition, he authored "Response of Modern Judaism" (3 volumes). His dedication to spreading Torah into all Jewish homes led many to return to their Jewish roots and to celebrate their heritage. Indeed, he gave all, even those of us who are not Jewish, insights and an appreciation for the richness of Judaism.

One of the Rabbi's greatest achievements was his creation of The Jewish Press. In 1960, to promulgate Judaic thought and opinion, he created The Jewish Press out of secular Brooklyn Daily. Beloved as the newspaper's publisher and columnist for 40 years, he educated and nurtured an understanding of Jewish concerns and turned the paper into the world's largest Anglo-Jewish weekly—with 500,000 copies distributed each week. Many readers, in New York and around the world, say they looked to the Rabbi's writings to guide them through daily life.

Since the paper's creation, Rabbi Klass conducted a regular question-and-answer column

on Jewish law. A renowned author and scholar, who was blessed with a photographic memory, he tackled the gamut of biblical and Talmudic law. I understand that, over 40 years, the Rabbi responded to more than 20,000 questions, on issues ranging from the use of electricity on the Sabbath to the Torah's view on organ transplants. In his scared writings, he found a solution for every modern contingency of the human condition.

I get a great pleasure learning from, and writing for, The Jewish Press. I always appreciated the kindness that Rabbi Klass showed me in allowing me to be part of his incredible newspaper. Rabbi Klass was a wonderful, influential and talented man who used his abilities for great public service.

Finally, in addition to his dedication to spreading an understanding of Torah, through his teachings and his newspaper, Rabbi Klass was a powerful advocate for the Jewish people and the world over. His support for the State of Israel and for Orthodox Judaism was instrumental in formulating national and international policies. He was a distinguished member of the Directorate of the Rabbinical Alliance. With the death of Rabbi Sholom Klass, the world has lost a moral leader of great magnitude.

I want to extend my heartfelt and deepest condolences to the family of Rabbi Klass—to his wife, Irene, to his two daughters, Naomi Mauer and Mindy Greenwald, and to his grandchildren and great grandchildren. May they be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, the following is a list of rollcall votes I recently missed and how I would have voted had I been present:

JANUARY 31, 2000

No. 2—Days of Remembrance: H. Con. Res. 244, Holocaust remembrance. Yea.

No. 3—Hillory J. Farias Date-Rape Prevention Act, Senate amendments to H.R. 2130. Yea.

FEBRUARY 1, 2000

No. 4—Child Abuse Prevention & Enforcement Act, Senate amendment to H.R. 764. Yea.

No. 5—Taiwan Security Enhancement Act, H.R. 1838. Yea.

No. 6—Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2990, Quality Care for the Uninsured Act. Yea.

FEBRUARY 2, 2000

No. 7—Workplace Goods Job Growth and Competitiveness Act, H.R. 2005. Nay.

FEBRUARY 8, 2000

No. 8—Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, Senate amendment to H.R. 1415. Yea.

No. 9—Poison Control Center Enhancement and Awareness, S. 632. Yea.

No. 10—Honoring the Former Speaker of the House, Carl B. Albert, H. Res. 418. Yea.

FEBRUARY 10, 2000

No. 11—Journal for Wednesday, 2/9/00. Yea.

No. 12—Rule (Marriage Tax Penalty Relief). Nay.

No. 13—Rangel substitute (Marriage Tax Penalty Relief). Yea.

No. 14—Hill of Indiana motion to recommit (Marriage Tax Penalty Relief). Aye.

No. 15—Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Act (final passage), H.R. 6. Nay.

FEBRUARY 14, 2000

No. 16—National Donor Day, H. Con. Res. 247. Yea.

No. 17—Child Abuse and Neglect, H. Con. Res. 76. Yea.

FEBRUARY 15, 2000

No. 18—H.R. 3557, Gold Medal for Cardinal O'Connor. Yea.

No. 19—H.R. 3642, Gold Medal to Charles M. Schulz. Yea.

No. 20—H.R. 3201, Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site Study Act. Yea.

No. 21—Approval of the Journal for Monday, February 14, 2000. Yea.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SHIRLEY
RYALS

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 16, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, no one I know loved Tampa more than Shirley Ryals and no one I know worked harder to make our community a better place. Her passing is a tremendous loss for all of us.

I will never forget Shirley's incredibly selfless devotion to countless causes; her courage; her grace; her sense of humor, including her willingness to laugh at herself; and her remarkable ability to relate to people. Shirley did not hesitate to stand up for what she believed in. She often prevailed and got things done because people knew that she respected and appreciated them and that she was always thinking about what was best for our community.

Shirley Ryals did not understand the meaning of the word cannot. Such a word didn't exist in her vocabulary. Her approach was simply that anything was possible if you work hard and dedicate yourself to accomplishing a goal. Her work to bring three Superbowls to Tampa is a testament to that, as is the endless list of other good works she did to better our community.

Through the Tampa Junior Women's Club, she established the Tampa Oral School for the Deaf, the first preschool program in Hillsborough County that allowed families to keep their children at home instead of sending them hundreds of miles away for an education. The program has helped thousands of children emerge from their sounds of silence and is now a part of the Hillsborough County Public School System.

Her achievements, activities and honors are almost too numerous to mention. She was named Tampa's 1995 Citizen of the Year. She served as a trustee for the University of Tampa and the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center and as an executive committee member of the American Red Cross, Hillsborough Community College Foundation and Outback Bowl Foundation. She was also on the Florida State Fair Authority and on the boards of the Boys & Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts of America, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center Foundation and many other groups.