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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Almighty God and Lord of our life, we seek Your guidance that we may live Your life to fullest measure.

Since the time of Sarah and Abraham, Your covenant with Your people has been the model of married life and civic order.

Enable husbands and wives to live in deeper understanding, honoring each other for their words and their goodness.

May all people, especially children, live without fear or intimidation.

Strengthen the bonds of intimacy in American family life that hearts will be converted to lasting values and find joy as they continually uncover love and faithfulness in themselves and in each other.

As the Government of this Nation, let us create an atmosphere of peace which helps family life flourish for generations to come.

You are our source and guide now and forever. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the Chair's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. FILNER led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### LORAL CORPORATION

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, we all remember the fund-raising scandal that the President and the Democrats got themselves into in 1996, foreign money and money laundering. But perhaps the worst part was the apparent influence of the People's Republic of China.

We all remember that the Loral Corporation which leaked sensitive missile data to China was a major Democratic contributor that year.

In fact, Bernard Schwartz, the president and CEO of that company, the largest single contributor to the DNC, was recommended in 1998 as the focus of an independent counsel investigation to find out if there was a connection between donations and technology transfers.

Well, one would think they would learn their lesson. But we found out last week that Mr. Schwartz is again giving huge amounts of money to the Democrats.

FEC reports show that he has given an average of \$40,000 a month to Democrats since January of 1999, most of it in unrestricted soft-money donations.

I call on the Democrats to return these donations until we determine

once and for all what his role was in leaking sensitive missile data to the Chinese.

This is not just a matter of ethical conduct. It is a matter of national security.

### NO SURPRISE BOB KNIGHT WAS FIRED

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, it is no surprise that Bob Knight was fired.

But think about it. Bob Knight's athletes did not rape women, did not commit murder, did not molest children, did not carry guns, and did not sell drugs.

In fact, Bob Knight's student athletes were most noted for graduating, winning championships, being gentlemen, and exhibiting discipline and respect.

Beam me up.

Bob Knight was a coach, not a guidance counselor or a spiritual leader.

I yield back all those zero-tolerant, overpaid, IUD administrators that Bob Knight should have kicked right in the crotch.

### CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Ms. PRYCE of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I am wearing this gold ribbon today in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and to honor young children like my own daughter, Caroline, who have lost their lives to this devastating disease and to show my support for those kids who have survived through their courageous, sometimes years long, submission to painful and isolating treatments.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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Leukemia, chemotherapy, lymphoma, neuroblastoma, these are terms no small child should have to pronounce. And instead of the normal third-grade spelling words, my Caroline was proud that she could spell Diflucan and Ativan, just two of the many drugs she had to take every single day.

As millions of kids return to school this September, we put the spotlight on this deadly disease. Two classrooms full of our children every weekday are diagnosed with cancer.

Cancer strikes more children than asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, and AIDS combined. And while the incidence is steadily rising, childhood cancer still remains an underrecognized and underserved disease.

This can change. This must change. This will change.

#### ELECTRICITY CRISIS IN SAN DIEGO

(Mr. FILNER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I just returned from San Diego where earlier this week hearings were held by the Committee on Commerce Subcommittee on Power and Energy yesterday by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on the electricity crisis that is facing San Diego where, in the last 2 or 3 months, prices have doubled and tripled for the average consumer, people have gone out of business not able to pay their bills, a tremendous drain on our economy threatening recession for our whole area.

It became clear in those hearings that this crisis was not brought about by any problem with the supply and demand, as some people charged, but was pure manipulation of the market by a few profit hungry power merchants who provide and generate the electricity for the western market.

Three hundred fifty million dollars was sucked out of the San Diego economy in the last 3 months, \$2 billion out of the California economy.

I have legislation, Mr. Speaker, to make sure that the victims of this incredible price gouging disaster are not the consumers and small business people of California but those who have made the ill-gotten gains.

Please pass H.R. 5131 to help San Diego.

#### DR. OSCAR ELIAS BISCET, CUBAN DISSIDENT

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Oscar Elias Biscet, a Cuban dissident who, after more than 6 months of imprisonment in Castro's jail, clings to life in the hope that his situation will help galvanize the global community in support of Cuba's political prisoner and dissident movement.

Dr. Biscet, an Amnesty International prisoner of conscience, has suffered 46 days of torture for refusing to succumb to his oppressors. He has been denied medical attention and has even been denied a Bible and religious visits.

The doctor interpreted his duty under the Hippocratic Oath as an obligation to defend the lives of the Cuban people.

Dr. Biscet could not ignore the cries of anguish of all who have died at the hands of the Castro regime. His commitment is clearly stated in a letter that he gave to his wife during their last visit:

"The evil one, Castro, must acknowledge in me an eternal rival who will not lower his sword of justice, even if confronted by misery, pain, and death simultaneously."

The U.S. and the Congress have always stood for freedom and for the defense of the oppressed the world over.

I ask my colleagues to join me in calling for Dr. Biscet's immediate release so that he can continue his mission to try to free the Cuban people.

#### AN IMPERFECT MILITARY

(Mr. HEFLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, the Cold War may be over but the weight of responsibility inherited by the United States is heavier than ever. Threats are no longer contained by bipolar ideologies. Threats come from every corner of the world. It is under these conditions where our military forces find themselves doing more with less.

Stretched to a point where spare parts become an oxymoron and retention and morale is critical, it is in this environment where I fail to understand the President's rationale in sending Congress defense budgets asking for fewer and fewer dollars.

In every budget year since Clinton and GORE took office, the administration has proposed a decrease in defense spending. As a matter of fact, the defense budget has been reduced by more than \$10 billion in constant dollars since fiscal year 1993.

Fortunately, the Armed Forces have received better support from a Republican controlled Congress. Despite cuts proposed by the administration, Congress has funded above the President's request and has long recognized the importance of a prepared and well-funded military force.

Mr. Speaker, we should be proud of our men and women in uniform and should provide them what they need to do the job.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BASKETBALL TEAM DEFEATS AMERICAN LEAGUE OF LOBBYISTS

(Mr. QUINN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I am here to announce that for the second year in

a row now, the Congressional basketball team has defeated the team of lobbyists from the American League of Lobbyists here in Washington, D.C. Last night's game was a hard-earned victory of 70-67.

The Congressional team got together in a bipartisan way. I would like to mention that the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. BARRETT); the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. LOBIONDO); the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. HULSHOF); the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY), our general manager and commissioner; the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUYER); the gentleman from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), our MVP last night; the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND); the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE); the gentleman from New York (Mr. FOSSELLA); the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS); and the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA) all got together in an effort to prove that we can get along here in Washington and that we can do better when the cause is right.

Last night the American League of Lobbyists organized a benefit for over \$17,000 that will go to charity for the Hill staffers, for the hungry and homeless, for Horton's kids, and for Everybody Wins, a youth mentoring program here in the Washington, D.C. area.

We set a challenge for the lobbyists we can get along better, and we are going to make sure that some young people here in Washington, D.C., benefit from it.

#### CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, we are all aware of the impact that cancer has on the American public. Sadly, we often do not realize the severity of childhood cancer. Today alone, 46 children will be diagnosed with cancer. But even more disturbing is that only two-thirds of those with cancer will survive.

Childhood cancer was recently brought to my attention when Kimberly Davies, the daughter of a member of my Washington staff, was diagnosed with CML leukemia at the age of 7.

Kimberly is doing well and continues to fight this dreaded disease. Kimberly is lucky, she has a bone marrow match through her sisters. However, most children are forced to wait and look nationally for bone marrow donors. This process can be extremely long and terribly uncertain.

The prognosis for Kimberly is positive. However, without the constant research and new methods of treatment, Kimberly's outlook may not have been so good.

Cancer is not a disease which only affects adults. Cancer affects children, too. It is important that Americans are aware of this and work to prevent and cure all forms of cancer. In Congress, it is important that we continue to fund