

TRIBUTE TO COACH LOU GIANI

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Coach Lou Giani of Huntington High School on his induction into the U.S. National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

Coach Giani is among the most successful wrestling coaches in New York State history, having compiled 388 victories in 34 seasons. This past season Coach Giani and his Huntington High School team won the New York State team title—a remarkable eighth title for Coach Giani. In addition to the team accolades, Huntington High School also had three individual wrestlers win State Championships, increasing the career total of Coach Giani to a record 22 individual state champions. In recognition of these accomplishments, the National Wrestling Coaches Association bestowed on him the honor of “Coach of the Year.”

In addition to his service to Huntington High School and New York State, Coach Giani has served as an international ambassador for wrestling. Having organized cultural exchange programs in both the Soviet Union and Poland, he has provided disadvantaged youth with the opportunity to learn wrestling from one of the sport's best coaches.

Beyond his service as a coach and international teacher, Mr. Giani had an equally impressive career as a wrestler. Having not begun to wrestle until his junior year of high school, Mr. Giani went on to win ten New York Athletic Club titles, a gold medal at the 1959 Pan American Games and was given the honor of representing the United States on the 1960 Olympic Freestyle team.

I commend Coach Lou Giani for his dedication to the sport as well as his service to the students of Huntington High School and I congratulate him on his induction into the U.S. National Wrestling Hall of Fame.

PRAISE FOR PRESIDENT BUSH
AND PRIME MINISTER ARIEL
SHARON**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise President Bush and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of Israel for never giving up hope that we can achieve peace in the Middle East. President Bush is a champion of peace and a leader that the world should rally around as he works to bring tranquility to this troubled region. That is why European insistence on negotiating with Yassir Arafat is so troubling. If Europe is committed to peace, now more than ever, they must end their dealings with Yassir Arafat.

Arafat is a terrorist who stalled the peace process to further his personal agenda. No one can doubt that Arafat ordered the murder of thousands of civilians while he stole billions of dollars in humanitarian aid. Arafat has proven he does not support peace, and as a result, Europe should stop dealing with him.

Last week in Aqaba, Jordan, Ariel Sharon and Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas emerged from a joint meeting with President Bush to pledge initial steps toward the goals of ending violence and establishing a Palestinian state.

Abbas promised to end terrorism and the armed uprising against Israel. Sharon said Israel would ease controls on Palestinian areas, dismantle certain outposts and negotiate in good faith toward creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel. To worldwide appreciation, Mr. Sharon has already begun dismantling outposts and maintaining his commitment to peace. We will continue to watch and hope that Mr. Abbas keeps his promise to end the terrorism and murder of innocent people.

In light of these agreements by both the Israelis and the Palestinian leadership, there is no choice but to end all dealings with Arafat and his terrorists.

Arafat, who was rightly excluded from the Aqaba summit by the U.S., is expected to try to reassert his influence. Looking at the history of Arafat, one can only suspect he will order and organize another wave of terrorist violence to destroy any hope for peace. European diplomats told the United States last week that they would maintain contact with Arafat.

European leaders are aiding Arafat's illegitimate cause and are directly hurting the peace process by continuing to make this terrorist relevant. I call on the European leaders to follow President Bush's lead and to stop dealing with Arafat, who is and never will be anything more than a terrorist.

ON RETIREMENT OF DR. JAMES W.
HOLSINGER, CHANCELLOR OF
ALBERT B. CHANDLER MEDICAL
CENTER**HON. ERNIE FLETCHER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, Dr. James W. Holsinger Jr., Chancellor of the Albert B. Chandler Medical Center at the University of Kentucky will be retiring this month and I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to this exceptional physician. Dr. Holsinger is a distinguished member of his community and the proud father of four daughters and the grandfather of three boys. He has had an extensive academic and administrative career.

Dr. Holsinger began his academic career at Duke University, receiving a B.A. from that undergraduate institution in 1960 and an M.D. from its medical school in 1964. He then completed a surgical internship, residency in general surgery, and fellowship in thoracic surgery and anatomy at Duke. In 1968, Dr. Holsinger was awarded a Ph.D. from Duke University with a major in anatomy and a minor in physiology. He then completed a residency in general surgery and a fellowship in cardiology at the Shands Teaching Hospital at the University of Florida. Dr. Holsinger continued his education in administration, attaining a master's degree in Hospital Financial Management from the University of South Carolina in 1981 and a B.A. in Human Studies from the University of Kentucky in 1997.

In 1972, Dr. Holsinger was appointed Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University

of Nebraska Medical Center. In 1974, he was appointed Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Connecticut and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1976. Dr. Holsinger moved once again in 1978 to the University of Georgia, where he was appointed Professor of Medicine and Anatomy and served as Assistant Dean in the College of Medicine. In 1981, Dr. Holsinger was appointed Professor of Medicine and Health Care Administration at the Medical College of Virginia, where he was also appointed Assistant Vice President for Health Sciences in 1985.

Dr. Holsinger retired from the United States Army Reserve in 1993, after serving over 31 years. While part of the Army Reserve, Dr. Holsinger was assigned to the Joint Staff as Assistant to the Director for Logistics in 1989 and promoted to Major General in 1990. Dr. Holsinger served in the Department of Veterans Affairs for 26 years, beginning in 1968. The culmination of his career was his appointment by the President of the United States as Chief Medical Director of the Veterans Health Administration in 1990. During his appointment, Dr. Holsinger became Undersecretary for Health and was reassigned as the Director of the VA Medical Center in Lexington, Kentucky, in 1993.

Upon his retirement from his position as Chief Medical Director in 1994, Dr. Holsinger was awarded the position as Chancellor of the Albert B. Chandler Medical Center at the University of Kentucky, where he was also the Chief Academic Officer. As Chancellor, Dr. Holsinger was responsible for planning, organizing, and coordinating the operations of the colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, Allied Health, Pharmacy, the School of Public Health, four graduate centers, the University Hospital, the Children's Hospital, and the Kentucky Clinic.

He also provided overall guidance and direction for the academic programs of the Medical Center. Dr. Holsinger helped create the Holsinger Professorship in Anatomy in 1998, to which he and his wife, Barbara, donated \$65,000 this year.

Dr. Holsinger has set a positive example for future physicians by providing quality care to his patients and service to his community. His achievements and recognitions speak for themselves. May God bless Jim and his wife Barbara. I wish them every happiness and success.

ANTI-CONSUMER PRACTICES IN
PAYDAY LENDING NEED TO BE
CONTROLLED**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to some anti-consumer practices in the payday lending industry that need to be controlled. The payday lending industry throws consumers into a perpetual state of debt. They prey on the most vulnerable customers.

During turbulent economic times like these, many Americans continue to look for inventive ways to meet their financial obligations. Payday loan companies provide short-term loans

with high interest rates to consumers in dire need of cash. After supplying verification of employment and proof of an active checking account, consumers write a post-dated check and walk out of the payday loan establishment with cash in hand. Consumers often prefer these loans because the credit history requirement imposed by traditional banks is waived. Unfortunately, the consumers who most need these quick cash loans are usually those least able to repay the loans. The consumer is then subject to exceptionally high interest rates, which range from 261 percent to 913 percent annually.

This is why I am introducing the Payday Borrower Protection Act of 2003. The Payday Borrower Protection Act of 2003 would provide consumers who borrow from payday lenders much greater protection against high interest rates and exorbitant fees. My bill regulates and imposes some rational criteria on these loans, specifically addressing the exorbitant interest rates. This legislation caps annual interest rates at 36 percent and prohibits any payday lender from refinancing or rolling over loans. The bill also sets minimum national standards for state payday loan laws.

It is my hope that this legislation will ensure that fair borrowing practices are offered to consumers. My bill will ensure the industry can still stay afloat. At the same time, customers do not overextend themselves financially.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR OF HURRICANE, WEST VIRGINIA, THE HONORABLE RAYMOND PEAK

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Mayor of Hurricane, West

Virginia, the Honorable Raymond Peak, who has served his fellow citizens for five decades.

The Regional Intergovernmental Council, whose mission is to assist local governments and bring economic development to Kanawha, Putnam, Clay and Boone counties in West Virginia, is dedicating its headquarters to honor the service of Mayor Peak.

It is altogether fitting that this wonderful new facility would carry his name. Raymond Peak is a leader who has always brought people together to solve serious problems with a spirit of cooperation and determination.

He was first elected as Town Recorder in 1951, and has since been elected State Legislator, and Mayor of Hurricane for 40 years. His progressive management skills have been the force in development and construction of millions of dollars worth of modern water systems, extensive improvements to Hurricane City Park, and the wonderful new Hurricane Municipal Complex.

He has also been a teacher, friend and counselor to thousands of young people in his 38 years in education. He was a noted band director, Student Council Advisor, and coach for Hurricane High's first girl's basketball team. In addition to his school "family," Mayor Peak and his wife Gloria have two daughters and a son, and five active grandchildren.

Raymond Peak has also fulfilled his commitment to community service as a volunteer, as a Trustee of Putnam General Hospital, member of the Putnam County Transportation Committee, Salvation Army Board and American Heart Association.

With this dedication, the leadership and spirit of Mayor Raymond Peak will guide the work of the Regional Intergovernmental Council in bringing infrastructure and jobs to our four counties for generations to come. His commitment to a high quality of life and a bright future for all West Virginians will truly be our inspiration.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mayor Raymond Peak on this great honor.

HONORING JERE NEWMAN DAVIS

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and memory of the former Mayor of Kimball, Tennessee, Jere Newman Davis. Mr. Davis, a dedicated husband, caring father, and respected spokesman, passed away recently at the age of 76. Mr. Davis contributed to his community through every aspect of his life. As a veteran, he proudly served in the Korean War. His creativity, patience, and precision allowed him to excel in carpentry, and he blessed Kimball with his skills for many years. It is apparent that Mr. Davis' family and values were a priority in his life. He was a dedicated member of the Kimball Church of Christ and left behind a wife, children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. He applied the same rich values that shaped his large family to successfully lead Kimball as mayor for many years. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to pay tribute to Mr. Jere Newman Davis today. His dedication and selflessness to his community are examples to all who wish to lead. Tennessee will not forget Mr. Davis' contribution.