

END OF R.J. REYNOLDS' SPONSORSHIP OF THE WINSTON CUP SERIES

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the end of an era in motorsports. Sunday's race at Homestead, Miami marked the last NASCAR race that will be run under R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company's sponsorship and the Winston banner.

Winston Cup and NASCAR have been synonymous for 33 years. Under R.J. Reynolds sponsorship, stock car racing has grown from a regional sport with little national exposure to one with a loyal and global following of millions of fans. More than six million fans attended 39 Winston Cup events this year in 19 states; millions more followed the races, practices, and qualifying sessions on television, radio, and the Internet.

One of the best places to look for examples of the astronomical growth in the sport over the years is in driving winnings: in 1971, Richard Petty won 21 races and took home roughly \$300,000. The last Winston Cup Champion, Matt Kenseth, won one race this year—and will take home more than \$8 million. Those numbers tell only part of the tale, however. Since its initial involvement with NASCAR, Winston has contributed more than \$100 million in point fund money, with \$32 million earmarked for the Cup Champions. And perhaps no one can measure the contribution the company's sponsorship has made to the families and communities associated with the sport and its tremendous growth.

Names like Petty, Jarrett, Waltrip, Yarborough, Allison, and Earnhardt. Towns like Bristol, Darlington, Rockingham, and Talladega. Some carried the sport until Winston came along; others owned it while Winston was there; and still others will carry the Winston tradition into the future. The sport under the Winston banner had its heroes, and its heartaches. Some occupy both categories. Fans everywhere will carry their memories of the Winston Cup with them for years to come.

On behalf of NASCAR fans everywhere, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my thanks to the men and women of R.J. Reynolds for everything they have done for the sport over the last three decades. It truly was a family affair, and the drivers, the teams, and the fans will miss their love for and commitment to the sport.

Time, however, marches on. NASCAR existed before Winston's sponsorship, and it will continue next year with a new Cup Series sponsor. In the eyes of this Member, though, and countless fans across the country, it will always be the Winston Cup.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES DORR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life of James Dorr who passed

away recently at the age of 64. Jim was a pillar of the Steamboat Springs, Colorado community. As his family mourns their loss, I think it is appropriate that we remember Jim's life and celebrate his contributions to our nation today.

Jim's childhood was spent on his family's ranch in the Middle Elk River Valley. After graduating from Steamboat Springs High School, Jim attended Colorado State University where he joined the ROTC program. Upon graduation from college, Jim was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Air Force and entered pilot training in 1962. He was stationed at Laughlin Air Force Base in Del Rio, Texas, where he trained to be an expert pilot of the B-52 bomber.

In 1964, Jim married Margaret Eskeldson, who would be his wife of forty years. He answered his country's call to duty and went on to serve during the Vietnam conflict as the pilot of a bomber crew that logged 120 combat missions. In a time of war, Jim's courage, conviction and patriotism shone through, proving him to be a true hero. By war's end, Jim's service had earned him the rank of Major, as well as numerous decorations.

Upon returning to Steamboat Springs, Jim continued his service to our nation through volunteer work. He was an active member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. With the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Jim served as a Commandant for two terms and was instrumental in spearheading a program to create a scholarship for veterans' dependents.

Mr. Speaker, Jim Dorr's dedication and selflessness certainly deserve the recognition of this body of Congress and this nation. It is my privilege to pay tribute to him for his many contributions to the community of Steamboat Springs and our nation. I would like to extend my thoughts and deepest sympathies to Jim's family and friends during this difficult time of bereavement.

ACKNOWLEDGING AN INNOVATIVE BOULDER COUNTY COOPERATIVE PLANNING AGREEMENT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an innovative and significant agreement between the various communities in Boulder County, Colorado. Working together in a spirit of cooperation, the nine municipal communities in the county came together with Boulder County to produce this agreement which will help promote wise planning and smart growth management and thereby preserve the quality of life in the county and these communities.

Called the Boulder County Countywide Coordinated Comprehensive Development Plan Intergovernmental Agreement (or the Super IGA), this plan was signed on October 16, 2003 by Boulder County and the communities of Boulder, Erie, Jamestown, Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville, Lyons, Nederland and Superior.

In Colorado, as in many States, intergovernmental agreements are typically created to address common management issues between

neighboring communities. With this Super IGA, communities within the entire county have come together to address common concerns and issues and have established a roadmap for the benefit of all residents of the county.

Over the past few years, county and city officials labored to come to terms on an accord that outlines growth boundaries for development, provides land use regulations that prevent growth into hazardous areas like flood plains, and designates buffer zones between communities. An IGA of this magnitude, across nearly 800 square miles, consisting of a dozen different municipalities, and encompassing over 300,000 people, is a remarkable achievement.

This Super IGA is based on more than 10 underlying plans that inherently permit flexibility through an open amendment process. It is that basic flexibility that will likely drive this 20 year agreement, allowing the various governing bodies to strive for their individual success, yet within the framework of a larger consensual accord.

This innovative and forward-looking approach to planning and growth management is indeed exciting. Clearly, as this is a new approach, we all are watching this carefully and hope that it is successful. But its very creation shows that communities can come together and work toward common goals. Boulder County and these communities have embarked on an approach which I hope will continue to foster positive intergovernmental relationships, and strengthen the sense of our collective community. It's an example of the things that local communities can do to make sure that growth and development complement the needs and desires of citizens and local communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the creators of this Boulder County Super IGA, and in wishing them continued success. For our colleagues' information, I am attaching an article from the Colorado Daily newspaper.

[From the Colorado Daily, Oct. 16, 2003]
"SUPER IGA NOW RULES LOCAL LAND USE IN BOULDER

(By Richard Valenty)

Mayors from Boulder County municipalities joined Boulder County Commissioners in signing the Boulder County Countywide Coordinated Comprehensive Development Plan Intergovernmental Agreement Thursday at A Spice of Life Event Center in Boulder.

Fortunately, the document has a short name, the "Super IGA." The Super IGA partially coordinates at least ten smaller Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA), called Underlying Plans.

IGA's, in general, often involve land use regulations to prevent situations like development in naturally hazardous areas like flood plains, or to manage growth by creating buffers of open space between communities. For example, the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan is a joint land use plan between the city and county of Boulder, thus is an IGA between the two entities.

"These IGA's are sort of a shared vision by the county and by various cities and towns about where growth will happen, and what parts of the county we want to see remain rural in the future," said Ron Stewart, Boulder County Commissioner.

Representatives of the city of Boulder, Boulder County, Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville, Erie, Jamestown, Lyons, Nederland and Superior signed the Super IGA. The town of Ward is not participating, since federal

lands and county open space surround it and therefore urban sprawl is not a concern.

According to Stewart, the Super IGA agreement is the culmination of years of hard work.

"I've been working on this for about the last three years," said Stewart. "Also, the city managers and administrators throughout the county have been very helpful in putting this together. Every city council in the county ultimately voted in favor of this. Our county attorney told me that by the time we got it done, it was on its 30th draft."

The City of Lafayette was the last county municipality to agree to be part of the Super IGA. According to Stewart, it was difficult to create a draft that would satisfy everybody.

"Lafayette simply had more concern about the agreement than other cities, and it took us longer than others to work those issues out," said Stewart. "After the drought last year, they wanted assurance that they could build new reservoirs for water storage."

Not all of Boulder County was covered by an IGA before Thursday, but the Super IGA contains a clause to "cover additional unincorporated areas not covered by any Underlying Plan."

"The Super IGA covers additional territory in the county that would have been outside the area of those agreements," said Stewart.

The Super IGA document is also designed to limit annexation plans of one entity from encroaching on another entity's Influence Areas, according to the document.

"The Super IGA says that everyone will respect each other's planning area, and that one town isn't going to be providing utility services in somebody else's planning area," said Stewart. "It's the kind of commitment to planning and to a shared vision that allows us to keep the quality of life that we have in Boulder County."

Stewart added that Boulder residents should not fear situations like the city of Jamestown trying to influence the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan, since Underlying Plans would only be amended by members of the underlying IGA.

"No group or committee is created out of the formation of the Super IGA," said Stewart. "If anyone wants to change a land use designation, the various underlying IGAs would have to be amended. In our Comprehensive Plan, the city and county of Boulder could change it without the approval of the rest of the Super IGA."

Also, the Super IGA states that additional issues such as sales tax revenue sharing, affordable housing and library services could eventually become parts of regional agreements.

"There isn't any serious talk of revenue sharing right now," said Stewart. "That paragraph is meant to state that there is additional work that could be done in terms of regionalism."

James Burrus, Boulder County media information officer, called the signing of the Super IGA "truly historic." Burrus indicated that this is the only agreement of its kind in Colorado, and Stewart believes it has some national significance as well.

"There are places in America where they do this kind of planning, setting urban growth boundaries, but these are places where the law requires it to happen," said Stewart. "The historic thing here is that nobody required anybody to do this. It was done voluntarily."

"This is really a statement that even in a state like Colorado, where land use laws don't encourage a lot of cooperation, we were all able to get on the same page on a voluntary basis," said Stewart.

IN HONOR OF MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 18, 2003

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, on October 19, 2003, Roman Catholics, humanitarians, and social justice advocates the world over celebrated the beatification of Mother Teresa of Calcutta by Pope John Paul II in Rome. Beatification is one of the steps toward sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church.

It is impossible to encapsulate the life and work of Mother Teresa into one entry. Many know the basics of her story: born in Albania in 1910, she turned from a comfortable existence when she decided to become a Catholic nun in 1928. Assigned to a convent school in Calcutta, she taught geography and history. Feeling the need to serve God and her fellow human beings in another way, Mother Teresa founded a religious order, the Missionaries of Charity, in 1948. The order was based on reaching out to the poor, the suffering, and the dying wherever they were: streets and alleys, shacks and hovels. From that first mission there are now more than 400. The work has expanded to hospices for AIDS patients so that these sufferers, along with the least among us, enjoy comfort and some measure of peace in their final days. Though 5,000 sisters are now members of the order, thousands more volunteer for periods of their lives in the Missionaries of Charity. So many of these are inspired by the diminutive foundress herself. "My vocation is love" she said. "There is joy in transcending self to serve others."

Celebrated throughout the world for her works, honored with many awards including 1979's Nobel Peace prize, Mother Teresa is already considered a saint by many of those whose lives she touched. No one who met her, who shook her strong hands, who looked at the deeply wrinkled face, who spoke to the dark eyes which penetrated into one's soul, who listened to the deep and powerful voice, came away from the encounter the same person. Even people who saw her only casually were moved by her graceful strength and quiet dignity. I am reminded of a leader in our own country recalling a story of a time on an airplane when people saw her and took out their checkbooks. She never said a word, simply her presence called them to help. In more dramatic ways, meetings with Mother Teresa changed the course of people's lives. Still, she eschewed such trappings of notoriety, gaining her greatest sustenance from her love of God and her work to alleviate the suffering in the world. More than anyone else in our time, Mother Teresa lived Christ's admonition "Whatsoever you do to the least among you, that you do also to me." She ignored the accouterments of affluence by admonishing, "God does not ask me to be successful, he only asks me to be faithful."

She wrestled within herself and struggled through daily hardships, yet she somehow transcended the difficulties and was cherished as a living embodiment of God's love for every human being. I close this recognition of Mother Teresa's beatification with her own summation of her life's work: "My community is the poor. Their security is my own. Their heart is my own. My house is the house of the

poor—not just the poor, but the poorest of the poor: those who are so dirty and full of germs that no one goes near them; those who do not go to pray because they are naked; those who do not eat because they do not have the strength; those who collapse on the sidewalks knowing they are about to die while the living walk by without even looking back; those who do not cry because they have no more tears left."

In one's own lifetime, rarely does a person observe a living saint. Mother Teresa will remain for all time such a living legend. May her selflessness inspire a world beleaguered by war, affluence, and ancient hatreds.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1588,
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 2003

Mr. BURR. Mr. Speaker, with the passage of the conference report on H.R. 1588 today, we have taken a great step forward in the defense of our homeland and the support of our military forces. Not only are we equipping our military with the tools and resources they need to carry out their missions today, we are also providing for the research and development necessary to meet future threats.

I am particularly pleased to see that the House and Senate have seen fit to include a long-awaited agreement regarding concurrent receipt for our disabled veterans. While I regret that we could not provide the full benefits for all of our disabled military veterans, I am encouraged that we are providing full receipt of both retirement and disability pay to more veterans than have ever been previously allowed by law. This Congress has achieved something that hasn't been seen in any previous Congress. I am hopeful that in the coming years we can expand this important benefit for our veterans.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, I am encouraged to see that the benefits of TRICARE have been extended to our National Guardsmen and Reservists and their families. All too often, many of these families are unable to meet their premium payments for private insurance when a family member is called away to serve his or her country. With this provision, we will be providing the health care that our soldiers' families need.

I am pleased to see that reform of the procurement and acquisitions process to the benefit of small businesses is also included in the conference report. It is certainly my desire to see our military receive only the best equipment and services, but not without allowing our nation's small businesses the chance to compete and to offer quality services or innovative products.

Mr. Speaker, our safety and freedom ultimately relies on our troops. I am glad that this legislation provides a strong across the board pay raise and other important provisions for our men and women in uniform and their families. I am deeply grateful for the sacrifices our troops make every day in the name of freedom, and am pleased the House was able to pass it today.