

smelly gym on a weekend winter night for practice before a big game and having Coach Manchester check on our personal lives and get us prepared for the next contest.

His wife, Jan, must have been very understanding to allow him leave from his family to spend as much time as he did with us kids. But we were not always alone. His young son Paul was the classic gym rat, dribbling and shooting off in another corner while the rest of us were practicing. Paul would later grow up to enjoy a spectacular high school career playing for his father at Logan, and then a terrific collegiate career at the University of Platteville and then the University of La Crosse. I cannot imagine the pride Coach Manchester must have felt coaching his son and watching him grow up to be the person he is today.

It has been said that great teachers enjoy a form of immortality because their influence never stops radiating. If true, then Coach Manchester is immortal. That influence can be seen today in so many of us kids who had the pleasure to play for and learn from one of the finest coaches in the State of Wisconsin. I am glad the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association is recognizing that by inducting him into their Hall of Fame.

I just hope Coach Manchester realizes the impact he has made on so many of our lives. Young kids need guidance. They need role models, people in their lives to teach them right and wrong and how to be good citizens. They also need from time to time a hero to look up to. I found one of mine, and whether it is silly or not, I do not mind saying that it is Coach Tom Manchester of Logan High School.

I congratulate the coach and thank him for all he has done.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take the Special Order time of the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN).

There was no objection.

MILITARY DEATH GRATUITY TAX REPEAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, tonight I am on the floor again. I am asking the House leadership and also the Democratic leader-

ship to please bring to the floor H.R. 693, the Military Death Gratuity Tax Repeal.

Mr. Speaker, let me explain to my colleagues on both sides of the aisle that in the early 1990s, the Congress increased from \$3,000 to \$6,000 a death gratuity that is given to the family of a loved one who has died in uniform for this country. The Committee on Ways and Means, and it was not their fault, but the bill, the increase, was not sent to their committee so they could eliminate the tax. So since the early 1990s, anyone who has died in uniform for this country, their families have received a death gratuity of \$6,000 and also the next year receive a tax bill from Uncle Sam.

Mr. Speaker, now that we are fighting for freedom for the Iraqi people, our troops in Afghanistan and also in Iraq have been killed, and God bless and rest their souls and bless their families, but, Mr. Speaker, the reason I am on the floor tonight is I am asking the House leadership, both Democrat and Republican, to please, before we leave here in early November, to bring this bill to the floor and let us pass it in a bipartisan way and send it to the other body.

In fairness to the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL), ranking member, and the gentleman from California (Chairman THOMAS), they have included this language for 2 years in a larger bill to help our families in the military. But the other body, Mr. Speaker, has not passed the legislation.

So I hope that the Congress, the House, will join me in asking the leadership, both majority and minority, to bring this bill to the floor and let us send it to the other body and ask them to please pass this as a stand-alone bill.

Mr. Speaker, behind me are the photographs of those who have died for freedom. There are a lot more than these photographs, quite frankly. I have these photographs outside of my office in 422 Cannon because I do not want anybody to ever walk by my office and not understand the cost of freedom. We can see that it says, "Let us never forget," faces of fallen heroes. These are young men and one woman from across this Nation who have given their lives for freedom, and yet Uncle Sam next year will send a tax bill to those families.

We are talking about, Mr. Speaker, that in the year of September 11, 2001, there were over 292 families that had to pay this tax. In 2002, there were 1,007 families that had to pay this tax. It is important that we pass this legislation this year. It should have passed 2 years ago, but that is not the House's fault. It is the other body's.

Mr. Speaker, let me also read part of an e-mail I received recently. It happens to be from a constituent of the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT), Speaker of the House. It says: "Dear Representative JONES, thank you for your support of H.R. 693. Our son, Sergeant Jacob Frazier, was killed in ac-

tion on March 29, 2003, in Afghanistan. Upon being told we would be taxed on a portion of the \$6,000 benefit, I was shocked and insulted. My son was not married, but I am sure that there are numerous young widows that do not need another complication in their lives. Our country should not add to their burden with additional taxation."

Mr. Speaker, that is why I will continue to come to the floor of the House until the House leadership, both Republican and Democrat, bring this bill to the floor. Yes, we are doing a lot of important things on the floor of the House, but yet there is time to bring this bill to the floor. And let us in a bipartisan way, as we have done before, pass this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to share with the Members on the floor of the House, this is a young man whose name is Tyler Jordan. He is 6 years old. He has under his arm the flag that was draped upon his daddy's casket. His father was a gunnery sergeant in the United States Marine Corps named Phillip Jordan, who was killed in Iraq. We are looking at this photograph of this young man who is hurting very badly because his father has died for this country. But should we not in Congress, who are not being fired at with bullets, say to those who are dying for freedom not only for the Iraqi people, but for the American citizens that to this young man Tyler Jordan we are not going to send a bill from Uncle Sam asking him to pay a tax on the measly \$6,000?

That is not enough, Mr. Speaker, but that is not the issue tonight. The issue tonight is we need to remove this tax.

I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I ask God to please bless America. Let us pass this legislation.

PAKISTAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to highlight the Pakistani Government's continued activities with regard to nuclear proliferation and cross-border terrorism in Kashmir. I am particularly concerned because Pakistan's leader, President Musharraf, continues to deny these activities and most recently in a New York Times interview this last weekend.

Mr. Speaker, with regard to exchange of nuclear equipment, it is abundantly evident that Pakistan has clandestinely provided rogue nations such as North Korea and Iran with necessary equipment for bolstering their nuclear weapons program. In fact, the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency, the International Atomic Energy Agency, recently reported that Iran has admittedly received support from Pakistan in obtaining centrifuges and other equipment that was used as a catalyst

for creating its secret nuclear facility south of Tehran.

Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed that the Bush administration has chosen to dismiss the information in this report, especially since the Pakistan-Iran link is so well defined, and since Pakistan is in complete violation of international laws forbidding exchange of nuclear equipment with countries like Iran. Last June when Presidents Musharraf and Bush met at Camp David, and this was last June, it seemed that the United States would no longer tolerate Pakistan's nuclear transfers to any country within the President's so-called axis of evil, but Pakistan is now guilty of such transfers to both North Korea as well as Iran.

Mr. Speaker, I suggest that the Bush administration take appropriate action to punish Pakistan and to ensure that the same pattern of secretly supplying nuclear weapons to rogue nations does not continue.

The other pressing concern that I would like to highlight this evening is Pakistan's continued terrorist efforts in Kashmir. In the past few months, the world has seen a significant uprising in the number and severity of guerrilla attacks in Kashmir. This is largely a result of evidence-based increased infiltration by Islamic militants at the line of control. Assessments by intelligence officials show that during the summer of 2003, the amount of infiltration was double the amount during the summer of 2002, and the number of murders and casualties of Indian Army men, civilians, and political figures in Kashmir has dramatically increased compared to last year.

Mr. Speaker, we simply cannot afford to wait for these numbers to continue to rise. President Musharraf's participation in closing the borders thereby restraining militants from entering Kashmir is the key. To this day he denies that he allows cross-border terrorism to take place, and, in fact, he still provides direct moral and military support to terrorists that he terms "freedom fighters." The severity of the situation has also increased recently as terrorist training camps are reopening and as there has been a rise in the number of youth in Kashmir traveling to Pakistan to attend these camps.

As a result of pressure from the United States after 9/11, there seemed to be a somewhat successful effort to slow down infiltration at the border and to close terrorist camps throughout Pakistan, but, Mr. Speaker, that pressure has subsided, and the results are quite tangible in terms of increased terrorist activity in Kashmir that has brought much suffering to its people.

I urge the Bush administration to renew its role in ending global terrorism by pressuring Musharraf to enforce measures for ending cross-border terrorism in Kashmir.

Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday's New York Times ran an editorial called "Pakistan, a Troubled Ally," a title that could not have been more appro-

priate, in my opinion. The content of this editorial further strengthens my argument that Musharraf is pretending that he is not responsible for aiding Iran and North Korea's secret nuclear weapons program and furthermore that Musharraf is denying his role in promoting increased cross-border terrorism in Kashmir.

I believe the United States has to respond to the numerous reports of nuclear proliferation in Iran and the increase in murders in Kashmir. Turning a blind eye to Pakistan's misbehavior in this stage of the game will surely further our own inability to promote peace and stability in the South Asia region, and beyond that the Middle Eastern and Far Eastern regions of the world.

The United States has agreed to provide Pakistan with \$3 billion in assistance for their help in the fight against terrorism. But, Mr. Speaker, before any of that money is provided, we must ensure that money is going to hands of a leader and a country that is, in fact, promoting nuclear security and ending terrorist activity. We have not seen a solid effort from President Musharraf on these vital issues, and before we can proceed with any assistance, these issues should be addressed.

TRIBUTE TO ERICKA DUNLAP,
MISS AMERICA 2004

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. FEENEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FEENEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is really a delight to be here tonight on a very special occasion for those of us in Florida, especially central Florida. It is my pleasure to rise and pay tribute to an extraordinary young woman from Florida's 24th District, which I serve, Miss America 2004, Ericka Dunlap.

Being crowned Miss America last Saturday was a historic moment for the State of Florida as Ericka was the first African American to win the Miss Florida pageant in 68 years. By the way, she is the second Floridian to be crowned Miss America in its storied 83-year history.

□ 2030

For Ericka, this achievement means a lot individually and personally; a \$50,000 scholarship that will aid her in accomplishing her undergraduate degree at the University of Central Florida and continue on to her dream of law school, and this will afford her the honor of a national platform to discuss a number of nationally important issues to her and all of us, including, as she puts it, cultural diversity and inclusiveness.

While winning pageants is nothing new for Ericka, she has collected more than 110 trophies and 60 crowns since she started competing at age 6, an amazing record, her off-the-runway accomplishments are equally as awesome

and impressive. She is a Dean's Scholar, a recipient of both the National Coca-Cola Scholarship and the Metropolitan Urban League National Scholarship, and she is a beneficiary of UCF, University of Central Florida, McKnight Center of Excellence's Thurgood Marshall Achievers Society.

Ericka, who is a former student senator with an interest in pursuing a career in public service or becoming a top-flight sports and entertainment attorney, is also a member of the prestigious UCF President's Leadership Council, whose members are selected for their excellence in leadership, scholarship and service to the University of Central Florida and the Orlando community.

As our president of the University of Central Florida put it, "At UCF our pride in Ericka began long before the Miss Florida and Miss America pageants. We were extremely proud of her academic success, her volunteering on campus and serving as a member of the President's Leadership Council. Being crowned as Miss America was the icing on the cake for us, since it was national recognition for the poised, caring and intellectual young woman we have come to know."

Mr. Speaker, just this last July I actually attended a ground-breaking for Partnership II Building at the University of Central Florida Research Park, and I had the pleasure of meeting Ericka. At that time Ericka signed an autograph, Miss Florida, for my 11-year-old son Tommy. He was thrilled to receive it, and he recognized he was in the presence of a star right off the bat. She is pleasant, she is attractive, she is wonderfully friendly, she is brilliant, and she is motivated, and I was glad and honored to meet her myself.

Mr. Speaker, finally, I expect in the year to follow our Nation will also come to know this exceptional young woman from Orlando. She plans to use her crown, as she puts it, as "a symbolic propeller to take cultural diversity to new heights," and she continues to set new benchmarks for her own success, as well as our collective ability to treat all of our members of society with respect and dignity and love that is the bedrock of our Nation.

Congratulations, Ericka. We are thrilled to have you. We are thrilled to have Miss America be from Florida and from central Florida especially.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FRANKS). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HINCHEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. NORWOOD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)