

The funny thing is, no one in these parts really saw this day coming five years ago. The funnier thing is that, now that it's happening, no one's that surprised about it.

"He's such a sweetie," said Karen Stewart, the principal of Barnet School. "He was always very mellow, very easy going."

He still is. Neighbor Liddy Roberts recalled how, last year, Coppentrath and her son, Jimmy, were home on spring break and spent a whole day making an igloo for a youngster in town albeit one big enough for Coppentrath to stand up inside.

"And, of course, he and Jimmy had to go out and cook up some hot dogs inside the igloo afterward," she said.

Under that unassuming exterior lurks the heart of a lion, however.

As a kid, Coppentrath played so hard at recess, some teachers said, the school created the Taylor Coppentrath Rule: If you come in from recess soaked in sweat like he did, make sure you have a set of dry clothes to put on afterward.

Name a game, and Coppentrath was ready to play it. Games filled the idle hours for kids in the village, none more so than basketball. The sound of a bouncing basketball often echoed through town from dawn to dusk.

Sometimes the games involved Coppentrath and his two best friends, Clayton's son Chris and Roberts' son Jimmy. Other times, it drew in entire families, passers-by, anyone who wanted to play.

"We even had family tournaments," said George Coppentrath, Taylor's father. "You had mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, all bumping and shoving each other out there. It was fun."

Basketball became such a fixture in West Barnet that six years ago a paved, full-sized basketball court with two backboards and hoops was built smack dab in the middle of the village.

Still, the chances of a small-town kid from Vermont making a big splash in Division 1 college basketball are as remote as West Barnet itself, tucked into the hills 15 miles southwest of St. Johnsbury.

Coppentrath, who kept growing taller throughout high school, was a late-blooming star. He didn't make the varsity at St. Johnsbury Academy until his junior year, a year after his two West Barnet buddies had made the team.

Only as a senior did he finally receive the recognition he deserved: Vermont's Gatorade Player of the Year, The Burlington Free Press' Mr. Basketball and a full scholarship from UVM. This winter he led the Catamounts in scoring and was named the player of the year in the America East basketball conference.

How crazy is this town for basketball now? George Coppentrath has taken to making video tapes of UVM games and leaving them at the two stores in town for people to borrow and watch.

Tuesday, all of the West Barnet General Store's copies were out on loan.

RECOGNITION OF COACH JOHN McDONNELL AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS TRACK AND FIELD PROGRAM

Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, on behalf of all Arkansans, I want to congratulate the University of Arkansas Razorback Track and Field program on their 17th NCAA Indoor Track and Field championship this past weekend at the Randal Tyson Track Center in Fayetteville, AR. This is the program's 37th overall NCAA crown under the di-

rection of Head Coach John McDonnell. At the University of Arkansas, Coach McDonnell has led his teams to more national championships, triple crowns and conference titles than any other coach in history. His most extraordinary accomplishment is winning 29 consecutive conference cross country championships. He has coached 20 Olympians and over 140 athletes to All-American status. We celebrate Coach John McDonnell's success at the University of Arkansas and his continued dedication to the Razorback Track and Field and Cross Country programs.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE ADDITIONAL STEPS TAKEN WITH RESPECT TO THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WHICH WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12722 OF AUGUST 2, 1990 BY EXERCISING THE STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CONFISCATE AND VEST CERTAIN PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ—PM 28

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to section 204(b) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(b) (IEEPA), and section 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1631, I hereby report that I have taken additional steps with respect to the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12722 of August 2, 1990, by exercising my statutory authority to confiscate and vest certain property of the Government of Iraq and its agencies, instrumentalities, or controlled entities.

Consistent with section 203(a)(1)(C) of IEEPA, 50 U.S.C. 1702(a)(1)(C), as added by section 106 of the USA PATRIOT ACT, Public Law 107-56, I have ordered that certain blocked funds held in the United States in accounts in the name of the Government of Iraq, the Central Bank of Iraq, Rafidain Bank, Rasheed Bank, or the State Organization for Marketing Oil are hereby confiscated and vested in the Department of the Treasury. I have made exceptions for any such funds that are subject to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations or the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, or that enjoy equivalent privileges and immunities under the laws of the United States, and are or have been used for diplomatic or consular purposes. In addition, such amounts that, as of the date of the order, are subject to post-judgment writs of execution or attachment in aid of execution of judgments pursuant to section 201 of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (Public Law

107-297) are not being vested, provided that, upon satisfaction of the judgments on which such writs are based, any reminder of such expected amounts shall, without further action, be confiscated and vested.

I have delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury authority to undertake all other action of the President and all functions of the President set forth in section 203(a)(1)(C) of IEEPA with respect to any and all property of the Government of Iraq, including its agencies, instrumentalities, or controlled entities, and to take additional steps, including the promulgation of rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this order.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued, which is effective immediately.

I have exercised these authorities in furtherance of Executive Orders 12722 and 12724 with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to our national security and foreign policy posed by the policies and actions of the Government of Iraq. I intend that such vested property should be used to assist the Iraqi people and to assist in the reconstruction of Iraq, and have determined that such use would be in the interest of and for the benefit of the United States.

The power to vest assets of a foreign government with which the United States is engaged in armed hostilities is one that has been recognized for many decades. This power is being used here because it is clearly in the interests of the United States to have these funds available for use in rebuilding Iraq and launching that country on the path to speedy economic recovery. In addition, this authority is being invoked in a limited way, designed to minimize harm to third parties and to respect existing court orders as much as possible.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 20, 2003.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, was delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

H.R. 314. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to exempt mortgage servicers from certain requirements of the Act with respect to federally related mortgage loans secured by a first lien, and for other purposes.

H.R. 417. An act to revoke a Public Land Order with respect to certain lands erroneously included in the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, California.

H.R. 519. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the San Gabriel River Watershed, and for other purposes.

H.R. 699. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a comprehensive study of the Rathdrum Prairie/Spokane Valley Aquifer, located in Idaho and Washington.

H.R. 975. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1307. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for members of the uniformed services in determining the exclusion of gain from the sale of a principal residence and to restore the tax exempt status of death gratuity payments to members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1308. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to end certain abusive tax practices, to provide tax relief and simplification, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 314. An act to amend the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act to exempt mortgage servicers from certain requirements of the Act with respect to federally related mortgage loans secured by a first lien, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 417. An act to revoke a Public Land Order with respect to certain lands erroneously included in the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, California; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 519. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the San Gabriel River Watershed, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 699. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a comprehensive study of the Rathdrum Prairie/Spokane Valley Aquifer, located in Idaho and Washington; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 5. An act to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system.

H.R. 975. An act to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1047. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1308. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to end certain abusive tax practices, to provide tax relief and simplification, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1670. A communication from the Director, Financial Management, General Accounting Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2002 Annual Report of the Comptrollers' General Retirement System; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1671. A communication from the Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Fiscal Year 2002 Annual Report for the National Archives and Records Administration; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1672. A communication from the Chairman, United States Merit Systems Protection Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report entitled "The Federal Selection Interview: Unrealized Potential" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1673. A communication from the Chairman, United States International Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the fourth edition of the Commission's Strategic Plan and the Performance Plan for fiscal year (FY) 2002, received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1674. A communication from the Chairman, Broadcasting Board of Governors, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commercial Activity Report for the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1675. A communication from the Secretary of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department of State Performance and Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2002, received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1676. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's Fiscal Year 2002 Performance Report, received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1677. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to surplus real property transferred for public health purposes, received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1678. A communication from the Chairman, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Equal Opportunity Commission's Government Performance and Results Act Fiscal Year 2002 Annual Program Performance Report, received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1679. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report regarding the implementation of the Government in the Sunshine Act for Calendar Year 2002, received on March 12, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1680. A communication from the Secretary of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to a plan ensuring the elimination, to the maximum extent practicable, of unwarranted disparities in the pay and benefits of employees being transferred to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), received on March 12, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1681. A communication from the Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, transmitting, pursuant to law, a list of General Accounting Office reports for the month of January 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1682. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Federal Maritime Commission's Annual Program Performance Report covering Fiscal Year 2002, received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-1683. A communication from the Chairman and President, Export-Import Bank, transmitting, the 2003 annual report for the Export-Import Bank's Sub-Saharan African Initiative, received on March 12, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1684. A communication from the Director, Regulations and Management, Depart-

ment of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives Exempt from Certification; Mica-Based (Pearlescent Pigments; Confirmation of Effective Date) (Doc. No. 00C-1321)" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1685. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "31 CFR Parts 560-575—Authorization of Certain Humanitarian Activities by Nongovernmental Organizations in Iraq and Iran" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1686. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cuban Assets Control Regulations: Family and Educational Travel-Related Transactions, Remittance of Inherited Funds, Activities of Cuban Nationals in the United States, Support for the Cuban People, Humanitarian Projects, and Technical Amendments" received on March 18, 2003; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1687. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of the Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (1515-AD19)" received on March 18, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1688. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Trade Benefits Under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (RIN 1515-AD20)" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1689. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Compliance with Inflation Adjustment Act (RIN 1515-AD25)" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1690. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Trade Benefits Under Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (RIN 1515-AD22)" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1691. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Entry of Certain Steel Products (RIN 1515-AD15)" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1692. A communication from the Chief, Regulations Branch, Customs Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Deferral of Duty on Large Yachts Imported For Sale (RIN 1515-AC58)" received on March 17, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-1693. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to options for sustaining the space launch industrial base and developing an integrated, long-range, and adequately funded plan for assuring access to space by the United States, received on March 19, 2003; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1694. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to certification that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan,