

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL L. STERN

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal appreciation, and the appreciation of the United States House of Representatives, for the service of Michael L. Stern to the House as Senior Counsel in the Office of General Counsel. After more than 8 years in the Office, Mr. Stern will be moving to the other side of the Capitol to become the Deputy Staff Director for the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Mr. Stern has provided invaluable assistance and advice to the House and its Members, Officers, and Committees in connection with a broad range of legal matters. Many House Committees and Subcommittees, in particular, have come to rely on his expertise and guidance in connection with their investigative and oversight activities. Mr. Stern has brought his litigation skills to bear both in defending Members and other House employees and entities in judicial proceedings at the trial and appellate levels, and in responding to deposition, trial, grand jury, and administrative subpoenas. Over the years, Mr. Stern has also played a significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House in its interactions with other governmental entities.

I know that Mr. Stern will serve the Senate with the same level of distinction with which he served the House. On behalf of the entire House of Representatives, I thank him for his many years of service and extend to him our very best wishes for his continued success.

A PROCLAMATION THANKING THE
1001ST QUARTERMASTER COMPANY
FOR THEIR SERVICE TO
OUR COUNTRY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, the men and women of the 1001st Quartermaster Company of the Army Reserves are returning home after serving their country in Iraq; and

Whereas, the men and women of the 1001st Quartermaster Company are to be commended for their honor and bravery that they displayed while serving our nation in this time of war; and

Whereas, the men and women of the 1001st Quartermaster Company have demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence, and outstanding service;

Therefore, I join with your family and friends, the residents of the Ohio Valley and

the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in thanking the men and women of the 1001st Quartermaster Company for their service to our country.

CONGRATULATING THE SAUK RAPIDS-RICE STORM ON THEIR VICTORY IN THE MINNESOTA CLASS A BOYS SWIMMING AND DIVING STATE TOURNAMENT

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sauk Rapids-Rice Storm on their victory in the Minnesota Class A Boys Swimming and Diving State Tournament. This is the first State title for the Storm after finishing second last season.

Coached by Tom Swanson, the Storm narrowly defeated Hutchinson, 237-233, by placing first in the last event of the meet, the 400 freestyle relay. Two seniors on the relay team had been involved in the swimming program since the seventh grade—Jason Timmer and Connor Ziegler. Timmer also placed first in the 50 and 100 freestyle, posting All-American times in both events and setting a state Class A record in the 100.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the students, coaches and fans from Sauk Rapids-Rice High School on their championship season. It's a great tribute to their hard work, dedication and overall team effort and I know everyone in Minnesota is proud of their accomplishments.

FLORIDA AS THE NEXT FLORIDA

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

FLORIDA AS THE NEXT FLORIDA

[From the New York Times, Mar. 14, 2004]

As Floridians went to the polls last Tuesday, Glenda Hood, Katherine Harris's successor as secretary of state, assured the Nation that Florida's voting system would not break down this year the way it did in 2000. Florida now has "the very best" technology available, she declared on CNN. "And I do feel that it's a great disservice to create the feeling that there's a problem when there is not." Hours later, results in Bay County showed that with more than 60 percent of precincts reporting, Richard Gephardt, who long before had pulled out of the presidential race, was beating John Kerry by two to one. "I'm devastated," the county's top election official said, promising a recount of his county's 19,000 votes.

Four years after Florida made a mockery of American elections, there is every reason

to believe it could happen again. This time, the problems will most likely be with the electronic voting that has replaced chad-producing punch cards. Some counties, including Bay County, use paper ballots that are fed into an optical scanner, so a recount is possible if there are questions. But 15 Florida counties, including Palm Beach, home of the infamous "butterfly ballot," have adopted touch-screen machines that do not produce a paper record. If anything goes wrong in these counties in November, we will be in bad shape.

Florida's official line is that its machines are so carefully tested, nothing can go wrong. But things already have gone wrong. In a January election in Palm Beach and Broward Counties, the victory margin was 12 votes, but the machines recorded more than 130 blank ballots. It is simply not believable that 130 people showed up to cast a nonvote, in an election with only one race on the ballot. The runner-up wanted a recount, but since the machines do not produce a paper record, there was nothing to recount.

In 2002, in the primary race for governor between Janet Reno and Bill McBride, electronic voting problems were so widespread they cast doubt on the outcome. Many Miami-Dade County votes were not counted on election night because machines were shut down improperly. One precinct with over 1,000 eligible voters recorded no votes, despite a 33 percent turnout statewide. Election workers spent days hunting for lost votes, while Floridians waited, in an uncomfortable replay of 2000, to see whether Mr. McBride's victory margin, which had dwindled to less than 10,000, would hold up.

This past Tuesday, even though turnout was minimal, there were problems. Voters were wrongly given computer cards that let them vote only on local issues, not in the presidential primary. Machines did not work. And there were, no doubt, other mishaps that did not come to light because of the stunning lack of transparency around voting in the State. When a Times editorial writer dropped in on one Palm Beach precinct where there were reports of malfunctioning machines, county officials called the police to remove him.

The biggest danger of electronic voting, however, cannot be seen from the outside. Computer scientists warn that votes, and whole elections, can be stolen by rigging the code that runs the machines. The only defense is a paper record of every vote cast, a "voter-verified paper trail," which can be counted if the machines' tallies are suspect. Given its history, Florida should be a leader in requiring paper trails. But election officials, including Theresa LePore, the Palm Beach County elections supervisor who was responsible for the butterfly ballot, have refused to put them in place.

Last week, Representative Robert Wexler, a Florida Democrat, filed a Federal lawsuit to require paper trails. He relies on the Supreme Court's holding in *Bush v. Gore* that equal protection requires States to use comparable recount methods from county to county. Florida law currently requires a hand recount in close races. That is possible in most counties, but the 15 that use electronic voting machines do not produce paper records that can be recounted. Under the logic of *Bush v. Gore*, Representative Wexler is right.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

After the 2000 mess, Americans were assured they would not have to live through such a flawed election again. But Florida has put in place a system, electronic voting without a paper trail, that threatens once more to produce an outcome that cannot be trusted. There is still time before the November vote to put printers in place in the 15 Florida counties that use touch screens. As we learned 4 years ago, once the election has been held on bad equipment, it is too late to make it right.

HONORING JUDGE NANCY DAVIS
STARK ON HER INDUCTION TO
THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALI-
FORNIA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and honor Nancy Davis Stark on her induction this past January to the State of California Superior Court for Contra Costa County.

Judge Davis Stark is a highly competent and capable addition to the bench having worked tirelessly for the past 2 decades as an accomplished Deputy District Attorney for Alameda County. In this position, Judge Davis Stark served as Chief of the Sexually Violent Predator Unit, was on the felony trial staff, and held several supervisory positions and assignments.

Judge Davis Stark has been a member of the California Bar since 1982, the same year she earned her Juris Doctor from the University of California's Hastings College of Law. She received her bachelor-of-arts degree from California State University at Hayward.

The daughter of Eugene and Amelia Davis, Judge Davis Stark grew up in the Bay Area having spent her childhood in Oakland and Castro Valley. For the past 14 years, she has been a resident of Alamo where she is a committed volunteer in her community, most notably as the creator and one-time manager of a children's string ensemble known as the Alamo Ensemble Players.

Perhaps most important to me, Judge Davis Stark—Nancy as I call her—is the mother of two beautiful daughters—my granddaughters—Gretchen and Claire and devoted wife of 18 years to my son Jeff. I am grateful to have Nancy as my daughter-in-law. I am even more honored that her years of hard work and service to the public have earned her a rightful place on the Superior Court.

Mr. Speaker, I know Nancy's sound intellect, strong sense of fairness, and demonstrated commitment to the law and justice will be a welcome addition to the bench. I wish her well in this pursuit.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 52 and 53, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF
JOSEPH C. HEINLEIN JR.

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Joseph C. Heinlein Jr. upon the death of this outstanding person.

Joseph C. Heinlein Jr. was born January 26, 1909 in Bridgeport, Ohio. He was a practicing attorney for over 65 years and was recognized by the Ohio House of Representatives for his unwavering dedication to the profession of law. A former U.S. Navy Lieutenant in World War II, Mr. Heinlein was also a member of the Kirkwood Presbyterian Church where he served in various official capacities.

Mr. Heinlein will certainly be remembered by all those who knew him for his personal sacrifices of time and energy to his family, friends, and community. The understanding and kindness to which he gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. His life and love gave joy to all who knew him.

I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Joseph C. Heinlein Jr.

CONGRATULATING THE CENTENNIAL
COUGARS, OF CIRCLE
PINES, MINNESOTA, ON THEIR
VICTORY IN THE MINNESOTA
STATE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS AA
BOYS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Centennial Cougars, of Circle Pines, Minnesota, on their victory in the Minnesota State High School Class AA Boys Hockey Tournament. The Cougars captured their first title in their first state appearance. Centennial draws students from Lino Lakes, Circle Pines, Lexington, Centerville and Blaine.

The Cougars, ranked first in the state, ended the season with an impressive 30–1 mark, defeating Moorhead 1–0, on a goal by Mike Montgomery, for the championship. Goalie Greg Stutz recorded three shut outs, a tournament record, for the Cougars. Additionally, Greg Flynn received the Herb Brooks award and Tom Gorowsky was named the 2004 Mr. Hockey of Minnesota. Centennial is coached by Erik Aus.

In Minnesota, we are justifiably proud of our hockey tradition. The Minnesota State Hockey Tournament is one of the preeminent hockey tournaments in the country. Featured in Sports Illustrated, the tournament draws larger and larger crowds every year. In fact, the tournament this year set an all-time attendance record—120,092 people watched the Class A and AA hockey tournaments.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the students, coaches and fans from Centennial High School on their championship season. It's a great tribute to their hard work, dedication and overall team effort. I know that everyone in the

State of Minnesota is proud of their accomplishments.

IRAQ INVASION ANNIVERSARY,
BRAC, AND HAITI

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 18, 2004

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, first of all I want to commend our brave troops who proudly serve our great Nation and risk their lives to preserve our freedom. I praise their courageous efforts to protect our country, and I am with them 100 percent. They are the best of the best. And I can truly say every Member of this House, this body, supports them 100 percent. What I do not support is this misleading Bush administration and this House that follows them like sheep. Let me repeat that. What I do not support is this misleading Bush administration and this House, the people's House, that follows them like sheep.

A new report has been released that shows that George Bush, DICK CHENEY, Donald Rumsfeld, and Condoleezza Rice made 237 misleading statements about the threat posed by Iraq in 125 public appearances. Eighty-four of those statements misled the American people about Iraq's chemical and biological weapons.

Mr. Speaker, I was horrified last year to learn that 44,000 of our troops were sent out to battle without proper armor. Forty-four thousand. How can we ask young men and women to trust us when we make decisions that involve life and death and then not outfit them with the best that they need to save their lives. We deployed our young men and women to Iraq with Humvees that lacked armored protection and bulletproof windows.

I personally went to Walter Reed where six troops had lost their legs while riding in Humvees. If they had been riding in the right type of vehicles, this may not have happened. This use of Humvees in Iraq was not what they were made for. We need to get our troops the equipment they need now.

And, Mr. President, you need to spend more time planning for the safety of our troops and their families in your war efforts and less time fundraising and cutting taxes for the rich country club friends of yours.

There are two or three other points that I want to make. One, many of my constituents approach me about BRACC and the base closing amendment that we will be doing in 2005. They are telling me we are looking forward to your fighting to make sure our bases are not closed in our area. And my question to them is, why do you think that this Bush administration insisted, after the House and Senate both voted down and said we should not have a base closure, or BRACC scenario, during this time of war, why do you think this administration insisted that we go through this? It is destabilizing the families and the communities during a time of war.

I have heard that someone from the other body indicated that if they were elected that is one of the first things they would scrap.

I also want to comment on the 2000 election, which I cannot get past because the election determined who is in charge, and certainly