

RECOGNIZING HOWARD MARTIN
CHASE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significant achievements of Howard Martin Chase, the principal of Riviera Elementary School in Kelseyville, California.

Howard Martin Chase earned his Bachelors of Arts and Elementary Teaching Credential from California State University, Chico. Anxious to educate and serve, after graduation Mr. Chase became an elementary teacher in the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District.

Mr. Chase returned to school to pursue a postgraduate degree. He received his Administrative Services Credential in 1984 from California State University, Sacramento. He went on to serve as Principal at Kelseyville Primary School, Gard St. Elementary School and Riviera Elementary School. In 2003, he earned his Masters Degree in Education from Ashwood University.

It is not surprising that Mr. Chase is also very active in his community outside of his duties as principal. He has served as a board member of the Lake County Red Cross, acted as president of the Kelseyville Park Association, is a founding member of the Kelseyville Quality Educational Foundation and has served as chairperson for numerous committees for the Kelseyville School District.

Mr. Chase has also been involved in many fundraising events within Lake County. Through his efforts as an auctioneer, he helped raise over \$1.5 million dollars for charities, schools and many nonprofit groups. He established the first Educational-Business Partnership in Lake County. This partnership between Lake County Schools and Konoti Harbor Resort and Spa has resulted in over \$600,000 being donated to local schools.

Mr. Chase has already received several awards of recognition. The California State Senate named Mr. Chase the California Educator of the Year in 1996, and he was named Man of the Year for Lake County in March of 2004.

Mr. Chase is devoted to his family. He and his wife Pat have been married for over 20 years. They have one child, Jessica, and two grandchildren, Jenee and Aliyah. After the passing of his mother, Mr. Chase placed a sign in front of the school in her memory that says, "Welcome To A Place Where Everyone Is Special."

Mr. Speaker, because of the many contributions Howard Chase has made to his community, it is proper for us to honor him today as he moves on to his new position as superintendent of North County Joint Union School District in Hollister, California, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION
MISSES THE BOAT ON RISING
GAS PRICES

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, an article in today's Washington Post, entitled "Bush's Handling of Gas Costs Criticized" by Jonathan Weisman, reports that not only Democrats, but also the President and Vice-President's former associates in the oil and gas industry are growing more critical of the Administration's inaction and lack of attention to the rising cost of gasoline. "The average guy on the street is getting killed because this administration does not care," said John Meade Huntsman, founder of the largest privately held chemicals manufacturing corporation in the U.S.

While I did not hold high hopes for the Bush Administration in general, I certainly thought that with two former oil executives running the country, the one thing they could get right would be the supply of affordable gasoline. But instead, America is heading into a long, hot summer of higher prices for the gasoline we use to get to work and to go on vacation. After all, this was an issue George W. Bush promised to make a high priority during his 2000 campaign for the presidency.

But, apparently, as with so many other promises, the President did not mean what he said about meeting the needs of Americans who depend on affordable gas prices to find work, get to work and provide for their families.

In March of this year, according to the American Automobile Association, the average price for a gallon of regular gasoline in West Virginia had increased to \$1.72. At that time, I asked Attorney General John Ashcroft and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham to launch an immediate investigation into whether price fixing is the cause behind skyrocketing gasoline prices. Now, less than 2 months later, the price has risen 27-cents to an average price of \$1.99. One year ago, the average price was \$1.54—that's a 50-cent increase over the last 12 months. This steep jump in price is severely affecting my constituents in West Virginia. Today, I add my voice to Senator ROBERT C. BYRD's request that the Federal Trade Commission review whether consumers are being unfairly squeezed.

So far, the Administration has done precious little to address the surge in oil prices. This past week, the price of oil reached a 13-year high. And these prices will continue to rise as fears and uncertainties rise over the Administration's ill-planned "regime change" in Iraq. Members of Congress have called on the Administration to suspend delivery of oil in-kind to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and to bring greater pressure to bear on OPEC to increase oil supplies.

These near-term actions would have some beneficial effect. In the end, however, the Nation requires a serious, workable energy strategy. As Ranking member of the Resources Committee, I can say with confidence that neither the House nor the Senate has developed such legislation. Despite the President's continued call for an energy bill, his Energy Information Administration has concluded that a number of the provisions in the energy bills

currently before Congress will have only a negligible effect on energy production, consumption or prices.

Certainly, there is a serious need to reduce our dependence on foreign oil sources. However, enacting legislation to open the ANWR or other environmentally-sensitive areas in the Rocky Mountains is not the answer. Instead, we should focus our efforts on developing alternative fuels and strategies. For instance, with an increased investment in energy efficiency, we can meet more of our transportation and other needs through the development of coal, renewable and other resources.

**CONGRATULATING THE TYLER
STREET BOYS TRACK TEAM**

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Tyler Street Boys Track Team of Dallas, on their 2-A State Title. The Crusaders upset the two-time defending champions, Muenster Sacred Heart, to capture the title.

The Tyler Street Relay Teams won both the 4x200 and 4x400 relays, no doubt the result of hard work throughout the season. The Tyler street track team also finished in the top three positions in the field events, including a first place finish in the shot put.

This year's championship team includes members: Bobby Lewis, Darrian Sanders, Daunte Bornen, Jared Carter, Cshammah Reed, E.J. Rusher, Richard Solis, Britt Jones, Austin Alburis, Freddy Holland, Nicholas Wright, Cjabrione Reed, and Joshua Carter. This year's team is coached by Walter Favors.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Tyler Street Track team on their championship and also on a great season.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 17, 2004, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 177, 178, and 179. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 177 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 420, Recognizing National Transportation Week; rollcall vote 178 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 423, Authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds; and rollcall vote 179, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended to H. Con. Res. 403, Condemning the Government of the Republic of Sudan for Its Attacks Against Innocent Civilians.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 177, 178, and 179.