

STEVE BELICHICK (1919–2005): AN AUTHENTIC COACH AND FATHER

**HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 17, 2005*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Belichick (1919–2005): an Authentic Coach and Father.

There have been many great images from the New England Patriots dynasty. Tom Brady embracing his teammates after yet another fourth-quarter touchdown. Adam Vinatieri raising his hands after yet another game-winning kick. The Krafts hugging one another after yet another Super Bowl victory.

But the image that might stand out the most is the Gatorade-dousing of Bill and Steve Belichick moments before the Patriots would defeat the Philadelphia Eagles in Super Bowl XXXIX. For many New Englanders, it was the first time they had seen Steve Belichick—the man who every New Englander would like to thank for fathering and mentoring the best coach in football.

And like in his 33-year career as an assistant coach at the U.S. Naval Academy, Steve Belichick would need someone else to draw our attention to him, even at a moment of extraordinary personal success. He was his son's role model, and his son was on the verge of coaching the Patriots to an unprecedented third Super Bowl victory in 4 years. It was a moment that any father would savor, and likely in a way that others would detect.

But Steve Belichick never sought public attention recognition of his work, be it his innovative game-plans, exceptional scouting reports, or the invaluable lessons he taught his accomplished son. Instead, he craved the background, the behind-the-scenes world unseen to fans and media, and the world where he would consistently win the high praise of those “in the know.” And like any truly substantive professional, Steve Belichick would take enormous personal satisfaction in obtaining the respect of his peers—the very respect that would often elude more celebrated coaches.

Doubtless for that reason, Steve Belichick had remained out of our sight until the camera caught others showering him and son in victory. It is much the same reason why Bill Belichick often deflects praise and attention. It is simply not the Belichick way of doing things.

When Steve Belichick passed away on November 19, 2005 at the age of 86, it was fitting that we remember him as reluctantly tasting success. And it was fitting that he be with his son.

It can be said that a father always dreams of being less accomplished than his own child, because there is no greater accomplishment for any father.

It is a lesson that Steve Belichick has taught us well.

**HONORING JENNIFER INMAN**

**HON. RON LEWIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 17, 2005*

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jennifer (Stelmach) Inman,

an exemplary community leader and citizen from my district, who was recently named Alumnus of the Year at Western Kentucky University.

A 1994 graduate, Jennifer was active in Alpha Gamma Delta, Spirit, and numerous other campus organizations while earning her BS in Agri-Business. Jennifer returned to her hometown of Owensboro shortly after graduation, where she has remained active in WKU alumni relations. She has played an integral role in revitalizing the Owensboro alumni chapter, first as Vice President and now as President. She is currently employed as a marketing consultant and commodities broker with Hayden-Hunt Agri-Marketing.

In addition to her career and work on behalf of WKU alumni, Jennifer Inman is a very active member of the Owensboro community serving as the Vice Chair of the WKU-Owensboro Advisory Council, President of the Daviess County Extension Council, Secretary of the 4-H council, Vice President of the Kentucky Women in Agriculture, and Chair of the Chamber of Commerce Agri-Business Committee. Jennifer is also a member of the Junior League of Owensboro, YMCA Board of Directors, Owensboro Daviess County Tourism Commission and the Mount St. Joseph Retreat Center Advisory Board.

Jennifer has previously been nominated for the Athenia Award, recognizing outstanding women leaders in the Owensboro community. She has also served on the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and as Co-Chairperson for the Chamber Young Professionals.

It is my great privilege to recognize Jennifer Inman today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for her lifelong example of leadership and service. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating her for being named Western Kentucky University Alumnus of the Year. Her unique achievements and continued dedication to her community make her an outstanding American worthy of our collective honor and respect.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO UMS-WRIGHT PREPARATORY SCHOOL ON THEIR 2005 4A STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP**

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 17, 2005*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor UMS-Wright Preparatory School on their 2005 4A Alabama State Football Championship.

In 1893, Dr. Julius T. Wright founded University Military School and Girls Preparatory School in Mobile, AL. In the fall of 1988, both schools merged and began the school year as one. UMS-Wright Preparatory School is a K-12 school with roughly 1250 students enrolled.

Terry Curtis, head football coach and athletic director, lead UMS-Wright to their third Class 4A State championship in the past 5 years. UMS-Wright's record throughout that time has been an incredible 68 wins and only 4 loses, which translates to a winning percentage of .944. In addition, Coach Curtis has been selected as a member of the 2005 Mobile Sports Hall of Fame. Like Coach Curtis, I

am so proud of his players, and I know they worked hard for this great honor.

The UMS-Wright Bulldogs proved they are a team of champions in their victory on December 1, 2005, at Legion Field in Birmingham. They defeated Deshler 42–16 and made UMS-Wright the winners for the night and year.

Both teams had strong support from their families and fans. They traveled to Birmingham to support and cheer on their team. The fan support is a strong symbol of encouragement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating UMS-Wright Preparatory School on their perfect season and State championship. This school deserves public recognition for this great honor.

I extend my congratulations to each member of the team and coaching staff:

**UMS-WRIGHT ROSTER**

Tom Leatherbury, Senior; Terrell Edwards, Junior; William Harvey, Sophomore; Bobby Jones, Senior; Louis Maisel, Senior; Park Parker, Senior; Chris Carpenter, Junior; Taylor Morrissette, Senior; Brandon Gibson, Junior; Joey Bacon, Senior.

Colin Sigler, Junior; Preston Dial, Senior; Hayes Harris, Senior; Michael Scott, Junior; Taylor White, Senior; Elliott Pennington, Sophomore; Austin Hilyer, Sophomore; Edward Williams, Senior; Miller Wright, Junior; Erling Riis, Junior.

Bill Davis, Sophomore; Drew Allen, Junior; Charles Jackson, Senior; Henry Shields, Junior; Ley Bell, Junior; Blake McMullen, Sophomore; Wyatt Ison, Junior; Rashod Bumpers, Senior; Joe Grady, Junior; Brent Pettie, Sophomore.

Heath McGrew, Sophomore; Tyler Baxter, Sophomore; Robert Williams, Sophomore; Charles Munderloh, Senior; Lee Peters, Sophomore; Conrad Blunck, Junior; Cooper Perdue, Senior; Chris Ramauskas, Junior; Crain Rogers, Sophomore; Philip Ison, Senior; Chase Cutrell, Sophomore; Howard Walker, Senior.

George Oswalt, Junior; Nelson Argueta, Sophomore; Paul Bouler, Senior; J.J. Gotlieb, Junior; Kyle Rehm, Senior; Anthony Jelercic, Senior; Walker Plash, Senior; Steven Jones, Sophomore.

Raymond Faircloth, Junior; Brooks Hieronymus, Senior; McLeod Chun, Sophomore; Richard Wilkins, Sophomore; Cameron Gunter, Sophomore; Greg Zieman, Senior; Kyle Ellis, Junior; and Morgan Kennedy, Sophomore.

**COACHING STAFF**

Head Coach, Terry Curtis; Assistant Coaches, Brett Boutwell, Rick Cleveland, Brandon Dean, Stacy Harrelson, Gerald Jones, Phil Lazenby, Eddie Roberts, Jerry Simons, Jim Sudeha, and Don Urquhart.

**A TRIBUTE TO ALAN REICH**

**HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, December 17, 2005*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reflect upon the public service of my friend, Alan Reich, who passed away on November 8, 2005.

In 1962, Mr. Reich was 32 years old, a former athlete and Army officer. That year, a swimming accident left him a quadriplegic. Despite this life-changing event and the challenges that quadriplegia brings, he returned to

his job as an executive at Polaroid Corporation where he worked for 11 years. Mr. Reich's return to work demonstrated to his colleagues, in the most basic way, that life with a disability can be productive and fulfilling. In the years following the accident, he went on to pursue his career goals and was appointed to the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs at the State Department.

It is important to note that Mr. Reich's accident and his recovery took place decades before the Americans with Disabilities Act. At that time, people like Alan Reich, who overcame personal obstacles to move forward with their lives, sent an important message to the world that people with disabilities have gifts and talents to contribute. This message was the foundation of the movement to pass the ADA in 1990, and declare for the first time that disabled Americans have a right to fully participate in all aspects of our society.

Mr. Reich became involved in advocacy for people with disabilities, initially as a volunteer. He later went on to devote his professional life to the cause, serving as the President of the National Paraplegia Foundation—known today as the National Spinal Cord Injury Association—and founding the Paralysis Cure Research Foundation, the National Task Force on Disability and the National Organization on Disability. His vision and work lives on through these organizations, which he fostered and developed.

I arrived in Washington, DC, in 2001, as the first quadriplegic Member of the House of Representatives. My own service in this body would not have been possible without the commitment of leaders in the disability community, who fought to pass the ADA. Alan Reich was one of those people and he was among the first leaders in the disability community here to greet me. I am tremendously grateful for his personal determination and his dedication to creating opportunity for others with disabilities. His work made this country a better place for future generations of individuals with and without disabilities to succeed and thrive. His passing leaves me with personal sorrow, yet as we reflect on the life of this extraordinary individual, I am inspired and honored to have called him a friend.

I thank my colleagues for the opportunity to pay tribute to my friend, and I urge them to support H. Res. 592, a resolution celebrating the life, achievements and contributions of Alan Reich.

#### A TRIBUTE TO JERRY BLAVAT

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the pioneers of rock and roll, my dear friend Jerry Blavat. Born and raised in my district, Jerry was attracted to the music business because of his love for the music, not for fame or wealth. Jerry is truly one of a kind. He is as much a part of Philadelphia as cheesesteaks, soft pretzels and the Liberty Bell. A great artist in his own right, Jerry was a dancer on the original Bandstand television program, hosted by Bob Horn. He became a favorite with the viewers and rose

to the head of the coveted "Committee", the group of teens responsible for aiding Horn in the direction of the show.

When he was just 16 years old, Jerry leapt into the music business by managing a national tour for Danny and the Juniors, pushing them into stardom. He got into radio in 1960 and soon was given the title "The Geator With the Heater." He soon coupled his growing popularity on the air (which by 1963 resulted in regional syndication of his program on small stations throughout the Delaware Valley from Atlantic City to Allentown) with appearances off the air at dances, clubs and events. It was not unusual for Blavat to see 5,000 kids a week in person in the mid '60s, nor too much of a stretch to say he'd remember 3,000 of their names the following week. His appearances became so frequent that for a time he needed to use a helicopter just to make it on time from one gig to the next. Today the helicopter is gone, but the frantic schedule is still in place. Throughout the year, he can be found somewhere on virtually any night, and in the summer months he's in weekend residence at Memories At Margate, the New Jersey Shore's hottest night spot which he's owned and operated since 1972.

Jerry Blavat is a true innovator. For instance, he introduced several national dance crazes, such as "The Mashed Potato," "The Stomp," "The Stroll" and "The Jerry Shake."

Mr. Speaker, Jerry Blavat is well known for his artistry, his business talents and his showmanship. But, not enough people know of Jerry's human side. Jerry's work on behalf of the less fortunate. He is extremely generous with his time and his resources, and has earned our City's love and respect because of that fact.

Jerry Blavat keeps us young, keeps us together and most of all, he keeps us dancing. And so, I know that all my colleagues will join me in honoring the Boss with the Hot Sauce, Jerry Blavat.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on December 16, 2005, I was absent from several votes for personal reasons. Had I been present I would have voted: Rollcall vote No. 642 (Motion to close portions of the Defense Authorization Conference to the Press and Public when matters of National Security are under consideration): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 643 (Rolled Vote on Skelton Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1815): "No"; Rollcall vote No. 644 (Previous Question on Rule for H. Res. 612): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 645 (Adoption of Rule for H. Res. 612): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 646 (Adoption of Rule for H.R. 4437): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 647 (Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Con. Res. 294): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 648 (Final Passage of H. Res. 612): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 649 (Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Res. 409): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 650 (Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Res. 575): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 651 (Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Res. 534): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 652 (Spratt Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4241):

"No"; Rollcall vote No. 653 (Goodlatte/Herseth Amendment to H.R. 4437): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 654 (Stearns Amendment to H.R. 4437): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 655 (Sensenbrenner Amendment to H.R. 4437): "No"; Rollcall vote No. 656 (Norwood Amendment to H.R. 4437): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 657 (Westmoreland Amendment to H.R. 4437): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 658 (Gonzalez Amendment to H.R. 4437): "No"; Rollcall vote No. 659 (Sullivan Amendment to H.R. 4437): "Aye"; Rollcall vote No. 660 (Motion to Re-commit with Instructions): "No"; Rollcall vote No. 661 (Final Passage of H.R. 4437): "Aye"; and Rollcall vote No. 662 (Rolled Suspension Vote on H. Res. 598): "Aye".

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JENNIE MAE FREELAND KELLER

#### HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, December 17, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dynamic Hoosier who passed away yesterday December 16, 2005 at the grand age of 79 years old. I knew Jennie Mae Freeland Keller very well and she was truly a very special person. One of six children born into a poor and struggling family from southern Indiana, she was an art and music prodigy. At the age of 15 she moved from Connersville, Indiana to live with her older sister in Indianapolis so she could attend art school classes at Herron School of Art and also attend Shortridge High School—known for its superior music program. Jennie Mae was proud of having gotten straight A's all through school and later in life she would learn she was a Mensa. While at school she excelled with her chosen musical instrument—the cello—though she never read a note of music. It is perhaps fitting that she passed away while listening to the classical music she so loved in life, and with a video of America's most beautiful sights playing in the background.

Described by her children as the "Laura Petrie" of her neighborhood, Jennie Mae always merrily accepted duties, such as collecting for the March of Dimes, or the Cancer Society—all while trying to raise five children. Two of those kids, Elizabeth and Claudia, have long been valuable members of my staff, and my heart goes out to them and their siblings in their time of grief. Mr. Speaker, Jennie Mae Keller may not go down in the history books as someone who changed the world, but she changed the lives of everyone around her or came through her life. She will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved her.

I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in sending their deepest sympathies and heartfelt prayers to Jennie Mae Keller's family, and I ask unanimous consent to place a copy of Jennie Mae's obituary in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Jennie Mae, Freeland Keller. Born January 30, 1926

An accomplished artist and musician. In 1943 at the age of 17 was awarded the title of Miss World Peace shortly after the end of World War II. A loving and devoted mother and wife. A tireless volunteer for political freedom. A never ending fighter for what was