

was Nathan Hale. He was a schoolmaster, a volunteer in the Continental Army, and a spy for George Washington.

While Hale was gathering intelligence on the British in 1776, he was betrayed by Tories in New York City, captured and hung by British General Howe without a trial.

Though Hale is rarely mentioned in U.S. history books any more, his last words before being hung were: "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

Yale University would do well to recruit and honor students like Hale, instead of Taliban radicals who are villains to freedom. And, Mr. Speaker, that is just the way it is.

□ 1415

RECOGNIZING ARIELLE CHIKOVSKY

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to an extraordinary young woman from South Florida, Arielle Chikovsky.

As a young girl, Arielle learned that she suffered from Ushers Syndrome, a genetic disease which causes the hearing-impaired to lose their eyesight. Yet Arielle has not let her condition detract her from her daily life. Remarkably, last year, at the age of 22, Arielle graduated from law school.

Arielle is a finalist in the American Eagle Live Your Life Essay Contest. If named the winner, she plans to donate the \$25,000 reward to Hope for Vision. Hope for Vision is a nonprofit organization dedicated to discovering treatments and cures for retinal degenerative diseases.

I congratulate Arielle, who sets an example for everyone she encounters, and I support Hope for Vision and its leader, Isaac Lidsky, for their efforts to find a cure for this disease.

60 MINUTES AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT

(Mrs. MILLER of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the first amendment guarantees freedom of the press, and with that freedom comes responsibility. But we all remember the 60 Minutes II report during the last campaign which used partisan sources and forged documents to assert that the President of the United States had not fulfilled his duty in the National Guard, a report that was proven to be false.

Well, here we go again. Recently I saw a 60 Minutes segment in which a scientist claimed that his views on global warming were being censored by the administration. Of course, they did not report that this man had received a

\$250,000 grant from the foundation controlled by Theresa Heinz Kerry. They did not report that this man had endorsed John Kerry. They did not report that he has served as a consultant for Al Gore nor that he had made similar claims against President Bush's father in 1989.

The first amendment gives freedom of the press, but the truth is the foundation for credibility.

60 Minutes should tell both sides of the story in a fair and balanced way, or they should simply air this disclaimer: "60 Minutes brought to you by the National Democratic Committee."

MEDICARE PART D

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was pleased to join with Representative JAN SCHAKOWSKY, Representative DAN LIPINSKI, a grass-roots community group known as Citizens Action, a large number of senior citizens, as well as a group of retired workers, calling for the redesign and redevelopment of part D of the Medicare program.

As a matter of fact, the seniors who were there all condemned everything that they had come into contact with relative to the terrible frustration. I hope that Americans all across the country would join with us to revise Medicare part D.

MEDICARE PART D SUCCESS STORY

(Mr. GINGREY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, every day we are hearing success stories from seniors who are saving money with Medicare part D. Two of these seniors are Mary and Jerry O'Brien of Cobb County, Georgia.

I want to share with you a letter Jerry O'Brien wrote to my office. He said, "I went to medicare.gov and I found a comparison of various programs. I chose one for my wife for \$70 a month, which has no deductible. We had no prescription insurance before and find Medicare part D to be very effective. We saved enough, in fact, on the first prescriptions to pay for 2 months' worth of premiums. I realize the program got off to a shaky start, but as far as I am concerned, it is now working well."

Mr. Speaker, Mary O'Brien saved enough money for 1 month of prescriptions to pay for 2 months of premiums. For the O'Briens, Medicare part D is literally paying for itself.

I hope seniors will hear the O'Brien story and go to www.medicare.gov and find out how much money they could save with a Medicare part D plan. The initial enrollment period ends May 15,

so I want to encourage all seniors to sign up now and start their savings immediately.

GOOD FENCES MAKE GOOD NEIGHBORS

(Mr. KELLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the benefits of having a physical or virtual fence along the 2,000-mile Mexican-U.S. border to crack down on illegal immigration.

I recently returned from a week-long trip to the Mexican-California border, and I am convinced of one thing. Good fences make good neighbors. First, we need to complete construction of the double fence for 700 miles along the border near highly populated urban areas.

For example, San Diego saw a steep reduction in crossings from 500,000, now down to 130,000, when the double fence was completed there. Second, for the remaining 1,300 miles along the border, where mountains and rugged terrain make completion of a double fence impossible, we need to have a virtual fence which consists of infrared cameras that allow our Border Patrol agents to see the entire border.

Mr. Speaker, the House recently passed a tough border security bill that authorized the appropriate border security fence, but the Senate yesterday cleared a bill out of the Judiciary Committee that did absolutely nothing to build this border security fence. It is now time for the full Senate to get serious about border security.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY ON ITS APPEAR- ANCE IN THE FINAL FOUR

(Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, George Mason University hosts two Nobel Prize winners, a top 25 law school and the most ethically diverse student body in the world. But today, Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor the George Mason University men's basketball team for overcoming incredible odds to make it to the 2006 NCAA Division I Final Four.

George Mason is only the second team with a double-digit seed to advance to the Final Four and the first to do so since 1986. George Mason is also the first team in Colonial Athletic Association history to advance this far in the tournament. Under the guidance of Coach Jim Larranaga and assistants Chris Caputo, Scott Cherry and James Johnson, the Patriots have shown America that with hard work, dedication and, most importantly, teamwork, any goal, no matter how far-fetched it may seem, can be reached.

They provided several heart-stopping moments throughout the tournament

while relying on their wonderful sense of teamwork, which should be an example to all of us. Twice they rallied from double-digit deficits in both the round of 32 and the round of 8 against the Nation's top-ranked teams to accomplish this historic feat.

Members of the 2005–2006 Patriots include Tony Skinn, Jordan Carter, Makan Konate, Gabe Norwood, Tim Burns, Jesus Urbina, Lamar Butler, John Vaughan, Will Thomas, Chris Fleming, Folarin Campbell, Sammy Hernandez, Charles Makings and Jai Lewis.

Mr. Speaker, the George Mason University men's basketball team will be one to remember for the entire Mason community, from the student athletes who achieved this amazing feat, to the coaches, to the students and the entire Northern Virginia region.

I wish them the very best in this weekend's tournament in Indianapolis.

HOLLY'S LAW/RU-486

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month two more women died after using the abortion drug RU-486.

A premature death is always tragic, but the deaths of these women are even harder to bear because they simply did not have to happen.

We already knew RU-486 to be dangerous and life-threatening. These are not the first deaths linked to it. Yet, despite this knowledge, neither the drug's manufacturer nor the FDA, has been willing to pull it from the market.

Faced with this reluctance, Congress has the duty to take action.

We often hear advocates of abortion promote their cause in the name of women's rights and women's health. If they want to protect women, then they should add their support to H.R. 1079, Holly's Law, offered by my colleague from Maryland, Mr. BARTLETT. This common-sense bill would withdraw FDA approval of RU-486 and subject it to a thorough review to measure its health risk.

Mr. Speaker, we should act in the best interest of women's health. Let us pass Holly's Law.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA ON ITS FINAL FOUR APPEARANCE

(Mr. STEARNS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Florida Gators men's basketball team on their third Final Four appearance and the second in the past 5 years.

Now, at the beginning of the season, not much was expected of these young Gators. However, they rose to a number two national ranking on the strength of a 17-game winning streak,

and they continued that success through the post-season, winning the Southeastern Conference Tournament and then advancing to the Final Four with a 75–62 win over the top-seeded Villanova Wildcats.

Mr. Speaker, this Saturday in Indianapolis, the Gators will face the George Mason University Patriots whose Cinderella story has been equally inspiring. In recognition of this event, I have offered a friendly wager of a case of Gatorade to my colleague, Tom Davis.

Gatorade's creation in 1965 by Dr. Robert Cade at the University of Florida has marked the success of the University of Florida's athletic teams through the past decades and will hopefully aid in victory in the 2006 Final Four.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

(Mr. PRICE of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, when enrollment began for the new Medicare prescription drug plan last November, most American people heard only about what was wrong with the program. Now, after 3 months in the new program, have you heard the good news?

Last week, the Department of Health and Human Services announced that more than 27 million individuals are now receiving prescription benefits under the plan, when before they received none, 1.9 million new folks just in the last month alone.

As more seniors sign up, they are seeing the benefits of the new program. A recent report of the New York Times included comments from individuals who have signed up and seen their prescription drug costs drop dramatically.

One woman saw her monthly costs drop from \$476 to \$100 a month. A February HHS report announced that the average premium had fallen from an estimate of \$37 per month to \$25 per month in actual cost.

As this plan moves forward, Congress must make sure that flexibility exists to respond to patient needs. We should also share the good news because it is the right thing to do.

REMEMBERING CASPAR WEINBERGER AND LYN NOFZIGER

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember two great Americans, former Secretary of State Caspar Weinberger and former advisor and press secretary to Ronald Reagan, Lyn Nofziger. Both Californians, both true patriots and both World War II veterans, both dedicated public servants and both notable contributors to the Reagan revolution and legacy.

President Reagan's vision of peace through strength found the perfect ad-

vocate and architect in Secretary Weinberger. He rebuilt and revitalized a military that had suffered from underfunding and underappreciation. His success laid a foundation for the end of the Cold War and for the military might we rely upon today.

He recognized that a strong defense would not only secure the peace, but would protect our freedom as well. Cap said, "Peace alone is not enough. Peace can mean even slavery sometimes. Peace and freedom is what we have to have."

Lyn Nofziger is probably best known for his off-color humor and his dedication to his long-time boss, Ronald Reagan. As a spokesman for the Governor and the President, he communicated on behalf of the Great Communicator.

During the dark hours after the attempt on President Reagan's life, it was Lyn who relayed to the world Reagan's famous line, "Honey, I forgot to duck."

What Lyn valued most, though, was freedom and the pursuit of it. On his Web site, which is still up and where you can still read his musings, he said that he was a Republican "because I believe freedom is more important than government-provided security."

Mr. Speaker, these were remarkable men who so strongly valued freedom that they fought for it, and so fully believed in the promise of the United States that they gave voice and policy to a President who made our country more prosperous and our world more free.

We honor the service and tremendous contributions of Caspar Weinberger and Lyn Nofziger. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 23, 2006.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
The Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on March 23, 2006, at 1:56 p.m.:

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 83.
With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives: