

This work is a remarkable advance that will help us understand how stem cells might be used to treat injuries and disease and begin to fulfill their great promise. A successful demonstration of functional restoration is proof of the principle and an important step forward. We must remember, however, that we still have a great distance to go.

The doctor is right. There is no question that much work remains to be done before science will know if they can apply his advances to human beings. We have, as the doctor said, a great distance to go, and if the Senate doesn't expand the President's stem cell research policy, it will only make this great distance even longer.

Under the President's stem cell policy, Federal research funds can be used only on a small number of these stem cell lines that were created before August 9, 2001. This restriction excludes newer and more promising stem cell lines. These limitations only serve to further delay progress for research that could ultimately benefit a broad range of diseases and conditions.

One year and one month ago, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 810, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act. This legislation would expand President Bush's 2001 policy for Federal funding for stem cell research and permit Federal researchers at the National Institutes of Health, with the strongest oversight in the world, to finally explore the many possibilities stem cell research holds.

Over the past year, I have repeatedly asked the distinguished majority leader to find time to consider this bill, but my requests have been met by inaction.

As a result, millions of Americans who could benefit from the cures offered by stem cell research have been forced to wait. They have waited through weeks dedicated to issues such as defining marriage. They have waited through weeks dedicated to issues such as the estate tax. They have waited through weeks dedicated to special interests and the majority's well-connected friends. And next week, I am told we are going to spend it on flag burning. They even waited through a Health Week that had nothing to do with getting America health care. How we could have a Health Care Week in the Senate and not consider stem cell research is very difficult for the American people to understand.

A month ago, the 1-year anniversary of the passage of the House bill, Senator FRIST once again said he would find time for the Senate to consider stem cell this summer. Summer is here. We have had time for marriage, we have had time for the estate tax, and we are going to have time next week for flag burning. Shouldn't we have time for stem cell legislation? But here we are on June 23. Another month has passed, and still we don't have a commitment to take up stem cell research legislation. That is not acceptable. The news this week that scientists were able to regrow damaged

nerves in rats using embryonic stem cells is more evidence of the great promise of this research.

We need a new direction. We need to bring this legislation to the Senate floor and give hope to victims of Lou Gehrig's, diabetes, Parkinson's, muscular dystrophy, lupus, and other diseases that could possibly be cured by stem cell research.

Every day, I hear from Nevadans who want the Senate to act on the issue of stem cell research so our researchers may fully explore the great promise of stem cells. Here is one example of what I hear. It is from one woman from Henderson, NV. She wrote me a letter expressing the hope that stem cells offers her and her family.

Her letter says, among other things:

... My 22-year-old son was in a diving accident just two weeks after graduating from high school and is now a quadriplegic. So instead of heading off to college on a soccer scholarship that autumn, he found himself being fitted for a wheelchair and a life of total dependency on others... while they [stem cells] may not cure him to the point of walking again, they will certainly provide him with an opportunity to improve the quality of his life. He wants to be able to feed himself, brush his own teeth, wash his hands and face when he wants to... I know you support stem cell research but I just wanted to give you my support and the support of our entire family as you fight the fight for those who can't fight for themselves....

Think of the hope of this mother when she heard on the news this week that research has shown that animals can regenerate the cells to bring back neurological functions. Think of how she must have felt when that gave her hope.

There are a number of very important issues which this body needs to consider this summer and this session. There is nothing more important to the American people and to this mother than stem cell research.

In the days ahead, everyone should be on notice that we are going to do everything we can to have a debate on stem cell research. If we can't find floor time for this, we will have to force it upon this body. We must do this. There is limited time. We have to go forward. We have waited far too long. The distinguished majority leader is a man of his word. He said he would bring this to the Senate floor. I am confident and extremely hopeful that he will do that. Lacking that, we will have to figure out a way to do it ourselves.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO TERRY MEINERS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to commend Terry Meiners, a fellow Louisvillian and well-known radio personality. Mr. Meiners is not just a local institution on Kentucky's airwaves, but also a loving father.

This fall, for the first time both of Terry's two sons will leave home for college: eldest son Max, 20, will return to Western Kentucky University, and younger son Simon, 17, will enroll at the University of Kentucky. Terry has a great relationship with both of his sons and he has done an excellent job of preparing them for adulthood.

As we have just celebrated Father's Day, I thought it appropriate to share with my colleagues the story of Terry Meiners and his two sons. On June 18 of this year, the Louisville Courier-Journal published an article highlighting Terry's family life, career, and accomplishments, as well as his importance in the Louisville community. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Courier-Journal, June 18, 2006]

WHAT KIND OF DAD IS TERRY MEINERS?

(By Angie Fenton)

It's 8:30 a.m., and Terry Meiners sits solemnly on a high-backed metal chair looking out over the lush greenery surrounding his pool.

He doesn't utter any of the quick-witted comebacks and zany ramblings that are his trademark on his afternoon drive-time show on WHAS radio. Instead, on this morning, he soaks up the silence, broken only by the soft sound of a manmade waterfall that cascades nearby and the sharp chirps from a pair of cardinals flitting among the trees.

Soon, Meiners knows, the silence will reach painful proportions when his eldest son, Max, 20, returns to Western Kentucky University in the fall and his younger son, Simon, 17, starts his freshman year at the University of Kentucky.

"I cried like a baby when Max rolled out of here (as a freshman) at WKU," recalled Meiners, 49. "It was torturous, but I realized what a great passage it is for a kid to roll out of his dad's driveway and into a wide open space."

Once Meiners could no longer see Max's car careening down the road, "I sat in his room and let the tears roll—and let it ride," he said.

After all, that's the way Meiners lives life, as if it were one big ride with unexpected adventures, where heartbreak is a part of the journey you've got to take in stride.

"My dad is like a *carpe diem* kind of guy," Simon said, as his brother poured milk into a bowl of cereal. "He tries to lead by example."

One of the most beneficial lessons Meiners' young men have learned from him is "preparedness—and don't ever depend on anyone," Max said.

Meiners also has taught his sons to laugh often.

The threesome share an affinity for "The Simpsons." They crack jokes, talk politics and quip easily with one another.

"I've learned from my dad to live life to the fullest," Simon said, before admitting that he's been guilty of trampling that fine line between full and full of it.

In May, Simon surprised his dad on-air by admitting that he would walk at Manual

High School's commencement ceremony later that night, but wouldn't receive his diploma because of his participation in a senior prank involving mayonnaise and condoms.

"I had to laugh to myself, but then my daddy genes kicked in right away," Meiners said. "I said, 'Well, you know we're going to have to talk about this later.'"

Simon has since received his diploma after making amends with the school, but he's also had a bit of punishment meted out by his father: He'll be without wheels for his first semester at UK.

"I'm going to introduce him to a part of his body he's never known before: his thumb," Meiners said.

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree, though, which is why Meiners said he's firm but fair when it comes to holding his sons accountable.

Meiners earned a bit of notoriety himself back in 1976 when he broke a water pipe in Boyd Hall at UK after swinging on a ceiling sprinkler.

"It was during finals week at Christmas-time, and they couldn't shut the water off. The floor caved in, water flooded the dorm and everybody had to sleep on mats at Alumni Gym across the street," Meiners said. "I was not a hero."

The university booted Meiners out of the dorms "and that effectively ended my college career," he said. "I was already working in radio and went in to work on Monday and said, 'Well, I guess that didn't work out.'"

Meiners has made it a habit of embracing a *laissez-faire*—"let do, let go, let pass"—attitude. "I never get tired of getting up in the morning and starting over. I tell my boys all the time, 'I can't wait to see what happens next.'"

But Dad can get real serious too.

"You try coming home at 4 in the morning," Simon said.

"And he's really serious about preparing for very odd situations," Max added, which prompted a barrage of jokes about how Meiners hides flashlights and other "just in case" necessities in obscure places throughout the Anchorage home.

Still, said Max, "I admire his total passion for everything he does in life. Whatever he does, he does wholeheartedly."

That includes grieving for his mother, Norma Jean Meiners, who died on Dec. 12.

Just days after her death, Meiners was back on-air candidly sharing his loss. Fans flooded his personal Web site with well-wishes.

But his sons were concerned.

"He lost weight from stress—we were worried about him," Max said. "I know he has 13 brothers and sisters, but sometimes it's like he doesn't have anyone to talk to."

Yet, Meiners did what he somehow always seems to do: Let it ride and roll with it.

"The only thing you can do is will yourself into a positive feeling. I try to teach my kids . . . to bring a positive attitude to everything they do," Meiners said.

"I am abundantly grateful for everything we have," he said.

Meiners is also thankful for what blossomed in his life after his mother's death.

"It's given me an avenue to speak to my father (Mel) like I've never before," Meiners said. "My family and I, we've surrounded my father."

Even as they prepare to leave, Meiners' sons have surrounded their father too.

"I love my dad, and I'm thankful for everything he's done for me," Max said. "We've been through so much in the past six months, this Father's Day will be special."

Meiners agreed.

"My perfect Father's Day is not possible. I'd like to go back in time and remedy my

missteps. But we're here now, and I stand before (my sons) flawed but willing to learn," Meiners said.

"The bottom line is that more than anything, I want to make sure my sons are men of integrity. That's all that matters. And I'm happy to report they are."

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if you search the State of Nevada, you will find many elder statesmen. But you won't find any finer than Judge Lloyd D. George.

Judge George is my friend, and Nevada through and through.

Judge George moved to Las Vegas in 1933, when he was just 3 years old. His family's business was moving sand and gravel. He recalls his house as being built on two railroad lots and remembers Las Vegas at the time as a "slow city."

Las Vegas has grown a lot since 1933, and so has Lloyd George.

A graduate of Brigham Young University and University of California Berkeley Law School, he has been an institution in our State's legal community, as both a lawyer and a judge.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan nominated Judge George to the U.S. district court, and he quickly won Senate confirmation. In 1992, he became chief judge of the Nevada District, a position he held until 1997.

Today, Judge George is a retired senior U.S. district judge, but he still comes in to work every day. His continued service is a testament to Judge George's commitment to the law and the people of Nevada. All of us here recognized that commitment when we named the Las Vegas' Federal courthouse the "Lloyd D. George Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse" in the year 2000.

Mr. President, I began by calling Judge George a statesmen, which is exactly what he is.

When statesmen speak, the community has an obligation to listen. Which is why I rise to submit Judge George's moving 2006 Memorial Day remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. His words paint a vivid picture of the sacrifice America's heroes made at Iwo Jima, and they remind us of our obligation to carry their memories with us today.

I ask unanimous consent that Lloyd George's remarks be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

MEMORIAL DAY ADDRESS—IWO JIMA

(By Lloyd D. George, May 26, 2006)

Before World War II, the Island of Iwo Jima was considered tiny and insignificant. After the February 19, 1945, invasion of the island, where one hundred thousand men fought for over a month for control of an area only about a third the size of Manhattan, Iwo Jima became gargantuan in the history of warfare and heroism.

Both sides understood the strategic importance of the small island. It had two airfields, and had been used by Japanese fighters to attack American bombers on their way to targets. Americans also wanted con-

trol of the island as a base for their own aircraft.

The name Iwo Jima means Sulfur Island in Japanese. The five mile long, two mile wide island had soil of volcanic ash, soft enough to create extensive tunnels and underground fortifications for its 22,000 Japanese defenders, but too soft on the surface for the invasion forces to dig even an adequate foxhole for protection. And the 546 high Mount Suribachi at the southern end of the island provided the defenders a vantage-point from which they could lay down a withering fire onto the beach.

One of the Iwo Jima veterans we pay tribute to, Chester Foulke, recounts running back after carrying ammunition to Marine machine gunners, and falling as if he had been hit in order to stop the hail of bullets which were spraying all around him.

Another honoree, Larry Odell, credits flamethrowers, carried by Marines or in small tanks, for ultimately defeating the entrenched Japanese. The Japanese had years to construct a sixteen mile complex of reinforced tunnels connecting fifteen hundred man-made caverns. Attacks came upon the Marines from virtually anywhere, day or night, through warrens, spider holes, caves and crevices.

The ferocious nature of the battle was unrivaled. Sulfur, the namesake of the island, turns red when it melts under heat. So, too, the soil and rocks of the island were often turned red from blood as the battle raged on. Of the 70,000 Americans engaged in a battle, there were 26,000 casualties, almost 7,000 of whom were killed. Out of the 22,000 Japanese soldiers on the island, only 212 were taken prisoner. When told of the casualties during the battle, President Roosevelt visibly wrote: "It was the first time [throughout the entire war] that anyone had seen the President gasp in horror." Indeed, the Battle of Iwo Jima, which displayed the fanatic fervor of the Japanese, and the heavy casualties suffered by forces combating them, influenced the American decision to use atomic bombs to end the war.

Amid the overwhelming death and destruction at Iwo Jima, uncommon valor was common. The image of six Marines raising the American flag after taking Mount Suribachi on the fifth day of fighting stands as a symbol not only of the island and the battle, but of the entire war. Another local honoree, Parke Potter, was in one of three companies to take the mountain. He also helped improvise a makeshift flagpole by wiring together scraps of iron pipe.

Every single American who fought at Iwo Jima was valiant in preserving freedom and democracy. More medals for valor were awarded for action on Iwo Jima than in any battle in the history of the United States. The Marines were awarded eighty-four Medals of Honor in World War II. In just the month of fighting on Iwo Jima, they were awarded twenty-seven Medals of Honor. We will never forget those who descended into the depth of hell that month 61 years ago, so that we and future generations, might exist above it. And we honor those who sacrificed their futures that we might have ours.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE R.W. DYCHE

III

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a great leader in public service, Judge R.W. Dyche III of London, KY. Judge Dyche is retiring from the Kentucky Court of Appeals, Third Appellate District, First Division, after 20 years of honorable service. He began his legal career as a clerk for the law firm of Allen & Bledsoe, and after the firm dissolved,