

When the rule passed 27-1, at the time the President said, "I made my arguments and went down in flames. History will prove me right."

Since then, nearly a third of the World Series Champions have been wild-card teams, including the 2004 World Series Champion Boston Red Sox. The rule helped save baseball, as history has shown.

And just like his baseball predictions, President Bush sings a very similar tune about Iraq. He says, as recently as yesterday, "History will prove whether I'm right, and I think I'll be right."

Really? Five years today since his speech on "Mission Accomplished." And let's take stock. More than 4,000 lives have been lost, tens of thousands of American men and women have been injured, we've spent over 475 billion taxpayer dollars in Iraq, with the price tag continually going up.

History will judge whether, once again, George Bush's record and America's reputation will go down in flames. At this rate, he's 0 for 2.

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of one of this Nation's strongest allies and friends, Israel.

For 60 years now, Israel has been the pride of her people, and a beacon for those who believe in the transformational power of democracy. Our relationship with Israel is built on the bedrock principle that free people and freedom itself must be defended whenever and wherever it is threatened.

Israel itself faces constant threats to its freedom as her people suffer from the most consistent barrage of terrorist attacks the world over. But that does not stop, does not deter, does not prevent Israel from thriving and standing strong.

As a representative of one of the country's largest Jewish communities, I'm proud to rise today in support of Israel, and to congratulate the great State of Israel on its 60th anniversary. May she live strong and free for years to come.

WE NEED TO GET OUT OF IRAQ AND TAKE CARE OF THINGS HERE AT HOME

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

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, my colleagues, yes, we're looking at an anniversary of Iraq here. But let's talk about things that the American people can relate to immediately. Cost of eggs going up 35 percent in the last year, cost of milk going up about 23 percent, bread going up about 16 percent.

Now we know that Americans going to the gas pump are paying near \$4 a gallon in many areas.

What does this all have to do with Iraq?

Well, we're in Iraq for oil. The oil companies are running our domestic energy policy. It's having an impact on the price of food. It's causing a great transfer of wealth upwards away from the working people and the middle class of this country into the hands of a few wealthy oil company owners.

We need to get out of Iraq. We need to end the occupation, close the bases, bring the troops home. We need to set in motion an international security and peacekeeping force that can stabilize Iraq as our troops leave.

We need to start taking care of things here at home. Americans are losing their homes, they're losing their jobs, they're losing their health care, they're losing their retirement security. It's time we started to take care of things here at home and get out of Iraq.

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SAN FRANCISCO ROLLS OUT THE RED CARPET FOR ILLEGALS

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

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, San Francisco city officials are encouraging illegals to find their home in this California town. The city recently began an expensive public relations campaign reminding illegals that it is still a sanctuary city and that local law enforcement will not cooperate with Federal officials to enforce immigration laws.

This bold announcement comes at a good time. Many other American cities actually believe in enforcing the law and cooperating with the Feds to arrest international trespassers. This causes illegals that live in the shadows of those cities to be perplexed as to what to do. They certainly don't want to go home because they cannot receive free social services like health care, welfare, and education.

So to be completely compassionate and caring, San Francisco should expand its PR campaign to include those hardline, narrow-minded, nonsanctuary cities and encourage their illegals to go to San Francisco. The PR campaign should be "The City by the Bay welcomes all, including those that violate the law."

Meanwhile, Congress should prohibit all Federal money from going to sanctuary cities like San Francisco that laugh at the rule of law and pander to illegals.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING CHRIS LOCKE

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

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, today it's my pleasure to extend my congratulations to Chris Locke, a walnut farmer from Lockeford, California, who recently earned an award from the Environmental Protection Agency for sustainable farming practices. He tends 580 acres of walnuts on a plot of land in a town that his great-great grandfather founded and which bears his family's name, Lockeford.

Chris utilizes pest control practices that reduce the need for chemical sprays. His methods include pheromone-based treatments as well as maintaining plants that attract beneficial insects and birds that control rodents.

Chris' motivation is an admirable example of sustainable farming and stands as a shining illustration of the increasing commitment of San Joaquin County farmers and growers to environmentally friendly agricultural techniques. As a pioneer in the field, Chris has generously offered to share his techniques with fellow farmers.

It is my honor to recognize Chris and to congratulate him for his well-deserved award.

HONORING THE JEANNETTE HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAM

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, March 15, the Jeannette High School basketball team from my district won the State's Class AA championship. The Jeannette Jayhawks became the second high school in all of Pennsylvania history to reach the achievement of winning both the state basketball and state football championships. Led by players Terrelle Pryor, Shaw Sunder, and Jordan Hall, and Coach Jim Nesser, the Jayhawks won a game that will go down as one of the best in PIAA history and cap a remarkable season in which the team went 25-4.

This is a great accomplishment for a small school district in southwestern Pennsylvania which has excelled in the classroom. McKee Elementary was named a Blue Ribbon school, and all the district's schools received the Keystone Achievement Recognition this year, with the school district getting the bronze medal.

Congratulations to the entire Jeannette school district and to the entire Jeannette community.

HONORING MARINE LANCE CORPORAL JORDAN CHRISTIAN HAERTER

(Mr. BISHOP of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise with profound sadness to recognize a fallen marine from my district, Lance Corporal Jordan Christian Haerter who was only 19 years old when he was killed in Iraq last week.

Lance Corporal Haerter was from the small Peconic Bay community of Sag Harbor, New York, and is the village's first war casualty since World War II. He is the 30th of our brave troops from Long Island, and the eighth constituent of mine, who has fallen in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Lance Corporal Haerter had been in Iraq for only a month when he died a hero while defending a checkpoint in Ramadi. He was killed while firing at the driver of an enemy truck full of explosives that was running a barrier and about to crash into dozens of his fellow marines. His noble sacrifice was honored earlier this week when hundreds of Long Islanders paid their respects outside the Old Whalers Church in Sag Harbor. They remembered his youth, his love of the Marine Corps, and his determination to be the best marine he could be. He was always faithful.

On behalf of New York's First Congressional District, I extend our heartfelt condolences to his family. Their loss will never be forgotten, and we will always remember Jordan's noble sacrifice.

PASS THE "RIPE" ACT

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

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, recently I introduced a bill to repeal some of the legislative provisions that have led to an artificial demand for ethanol. H.R. 5911, the Remove Incentives for Producing Ethanol Act of 2008, or RIPE Act, repeals the renewable fuel standard, repeals tax credits for ethanol producers, and repeals tariffs and duties on imported ethanol. These incentives are giving ethanol producers a guaranteed market for their product.

Domestic corn, already a heavily subsidized commodity, has been the primary source of biofuel, and the mandate has encouraged farmers to focus agriculture production away from food production toward fuel production. The Department of Agriculture has said that the biofuel mandate has raised fuel prices as much as 20 percent.

In addition, ethanol's role as a supposed savior for our energy woes has been severely overstated. Ethanol as a fuel yields about 30 percent less energy per gallon than a gallon of gasoline. This is what happens when government picks winners and losers in the economy and the marketplace. Just 4 months ago, we were convinced we had a winner. It's turned out to be a big loser.

We need to remove the incentive. I urge support of H.R. 5911.

LET US SALUTE OUR VETERANS

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

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I come to the House floor today to honor our Nation's veterans,

particularly the thousands of Hoosiers who have risked their lives to protect our Nation and secure our liberty. All Americans owe a great debt to the veterans who have served and, in some cases, made the ultimate sacrifices for our Nation.

As a Member of Congress, I rely on the spirit of these brave men and women to guide me as we work in the Chamber to ensure our troops have the benefits they have earned and deserved when they come home.

This weekend in my hometown of Indianapolis, Indiana, our distinguished House Majority Leader STENY HOYER has graciously agreed to accompany me to meet with a group of our Nation's finest veterans at the American Legion on Guion Road. This visit will provide Leader HOYER and me with the opportunity to personally thank some of our veterans and learn more about how we can better meet the needs of these true American heroes.

I am honored to welcome the majority leader back to Indianapolis, and I look forward to working with him to ensure that we meet the needs of all of our Nation's veterans.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. TAUSCHER). Members are reminded not to traffic the well while another Member is under recognition.

REAUTHORIZE COUNTY PAYMENTS

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

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, of all of the counties in the Second Congressional District, perhaps none has been more profoundly impacted by Congress' refusal to reauthorize county payments than Josephine County.

Nearly half of the county workforce has been cut in recent years. Public safety has been hardest hit. Overnight patrols by the Josephine County Sheriff's Office are down to one 10-hour shift split among six deputies who cover 1,640 square miles. That's six deputies patrolling an area the size of the State of Rhode Island.

Maybe you remember the frantic search after Thanksgiving of 2006 for the James Kim family in the Federal forests off southern Oregon. The search-and-rescue funds for that operation came from this very program that Congress has refused to reauthorize.

Why won't the Democrat leadership bring a vote on H.R. 3058? It's a bipartisan, 4-year reauthorization bill for county payments. It has been 3 months since the committees of jurisdiction have sent it to the full House, and yet no votes have been scheduled.

So I again call on the Democratic leadership to do the right thing. Keep the commitment to the timbered com-

munities of this country and pass a re-authorization or attach it to a vehicle that's moving. Restore faith with rural counties all across America. Keep the Federal commitment to the people of timbered counties like Josephine.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1167 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1167

Resolved, That it shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of Thursday, May 1, 2008, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules relating to the following measures:

(1) The bill (H.R. 5715) to ensure continued availability of access to the Federal student loan program for students and families.

(2) The bill (H.R. 493) to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

(3) A bill to provide for a temporary extension of programs authorized by the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 1 hour.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. HASTINGS). All time yielded during consideration of the rule is for debate only.

I yield myself such time as I may consume and ask unanimous consent that all Members be given 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on House Resolution 1167.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, as the Clerk just described, H. Res. 1167 authorizes the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules at any time on the legislative day of Thursday, May 1, 2008, on legislation relating to the following three measures:

(1) H.R. 5715, to protect the Federal student loan program.

(2) H.R. 493, Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act.

(3) a bill to provide for a temporary extension of the farm bill.

The rule is necessary because under clause 1(a) of rule XV, the Speaker may entertain motions to suspend the rules only on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday of each week. In order for suspensions to be considered on other days, the Rules Committee must authorize consideration of these motions.

This is not an unusual procedure. In fact, in the 109th Congress, my friends on the other side of the aisle reported