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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore [Mr. PACKARD].

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 7, 1997.

I hereby designate the Honorable RON PACKARD to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed bills of the following titles, in which the concurrence of the House is requested.

S. 590. An act to provide for a land exchange involving certain land within the Routt National Forest in the State of Colorado; and

S. 750. An act to consolidate certain mineral interests in the National Grasslands in Billings County, North Dakota, through the exchange of Federal and private mineral interests to enhance land management capabilities and environmental and wildlife protection, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 99-498, the Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, appoints Charles Terrell, of Massachusetts, to the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance for a 3-year term effective October 1, 1997.

MORNING HOUR DEBATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 21, 1997, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by

the majority and minority leaders for morning hour debates. The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 25 minutes, and each Member except the majority leader, the minority leader, or the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate extend beyond 9:50 a.m.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MCGOVERN] for 5 minutes.

THREE CHEERS FOR UNIVERSITY PARK CAMPUS SCHOOL

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to share with my colleagues the history of a remarkable school that has just come into being in the Third Congressional District of Massachusetts. It is called the University Park Campus School.

This school, which opened its doors this fall to its first class of seventh graders, is a collaboration between Worcester Public Schools and Clark University, located in the Main South neighborhood of Worcester. Over the next 5 years, the school will expand to cover students in grades 7 through 12 by enrolling a new class of seventh graders each year.

What makes this school so very special? First, Clark University has guaranteed every student who enters and completes University Park Campus School and then passes Clark University's entrance requirement will be able to attend Clark University for 4 years tuition free. That is right, tuition free. Clark University is promising these seventh graders a college education if they study hard and complete the 5-year program of University Park Campus School.

The University Park Campus School is a college preparatory school for neighborhood students, predominantly at-risk, underprepared students. Many had the dream of going to college, but

never thought that dream could be achieved. Several other students and their families never even began to dream until Worcester Public Schools and Clark University presented them with this magnificent opportunity.

This year, 35 students were chosen from 60 applicants. Academic standing was not considered in the application process. What mattered most was a commitment to learning, judged from an essay written by the students, letters of recommendation from teachers, and promises from parents or guardians to be closely involved. Students also had to commit themselves to putting in a longer school day and more homework time 4 days a week. On the fifth day students will be involved in community service and special seminars.

The small student-teacher ratio and the involvement of Clark University faculty and students will provide these young people with the very best of quality education.

Now, I have visited University Park Campus School and I am here to tell you that these kids, who are entering the first seventh-grade class, are really excited about going to college and achieving the American dream of a good education and good job. They are committed to this program, their families are committed to becoming active and involved in this school, and the community is committed to the success of each and every one of these students.

Recently I met with Donna Rodrigues, the school coordinator, and the school's two teachers, Dermot Shea and June Eressy. After talking with them, I have no doubt about the abilities of these educators to help make these children's dreams come true. Clark University faculty, who come from a host of different disciplines, may be involved in these students' education for as long as 10 years, from seventh grade through college, providing

This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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