

in Portland, Oregon captured first place in the 2003 Unisys Corporation Prize in the Online Science Education competition, administered by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).

Working with the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI), the Franklin High School team placed above nine other entries, all of which were charged with conducting scientific inquiry on flight and presenting their findings on the Internet.

This contest is part of a national science project sponsored by AAAS, the Franklin Institute Science Museum, and Unisys Corporation in affiliation with the Science Learning Network. The competition allows students to learn about science and technology while raising public awareness of the need for improved science education while fostering relationships between community museums and local students. Each group of students entering the competition is partnered with a local museum to conduct scientific experiments and create a Web site.

The team from Franklin High School explored flight through several projects—from participating in a teleconference with NASA's Johnson Space Center to conducting a glider design competition. The gliders were built with the help of software which allowed the students to adjust wing length, angle, nose weight, and a variety of other factors on a "virtual glider" to see which designs would fly. Their efforts were shared via the Internet with students and teachers from across the country.

Fifty-one students from Franklin High School participated in this competition: Alisa Bayona, Camille Buckles, Ryan Buckmier, Carlos Camargo-Ciriaco, Trisha Cates, Dara Chan, Sarah Combs, Dustin Conant, Miguel Couto, Itzia De Anda, David Galloni, Suzanne Hansen, Brandon Harris, Jack Healy, Yadira Herrera, Kenneth Hughes, Josh Kizaway, Melissa Larkin, Brandon Lewis, Jesse McKenzie, Joshua Pangelinan, Ben Pharis, Kendall Stout, Jessica Strom, Ryan Waltz, Jason Yu, Tim Crowell, Angelina Dudley, Donald Fitzjarrell, Candyce Harris, Sean Johnson, Kashius Lewis, Ryan Nate Lewis, Kandie Madden, Ryan Manansala, Brittni McComb, Will Mullen, Jackie Myers, Mike Owens, Ben Pharis, Lynea Price, Whitney Ramirez, Jessica Reitan, Sara Ruecker, Oleg Shcherbina, Austin Stoner, Efrain Tapia, Lisa Trump, Chris Wiseman, Jasmine Woodfork-Moore, Liliya Zaytseva.

TRIENNIAL REVIEW

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the third month anniversary since the Federal Communications Commission, FCC, voted to approve its controversial Triennial Review decision and still no written order has been issued by the Commission. I think many of us in this Chamber find it incredible that our troops invaded Iraq and ousted Saddam Hussein in less time than it takes for the FCC to write an order on which it has already agreed. This delay leaves an important segment of our economy and its employees in legal and economic limbo.

Mr. Speaker, the Triennial Review offered the FCC the unique opportunity to boost the nation's economy and not only save jobs—but create jobs as well. The Commission, however, responded to the challenge by issuing a ruling that is contradictory—largely deregulating broadband on one hand while, on the other, continuing the enormous regulatory burden of requiring large local phone companies to lease their lines at below cost rates to competitors.

In conclusion, the FCC has succeeded in creating uncertainty in the marketplace, and uncertainty on Wall Street typically converts to financial disaster. The order that is now being written at the FCC will consist of several hundred pages of regulatory detail. And as we know when dealing with the Federal bureaucracy, the devil is most definitely in the detail. I urge the Commission and its staff to finish its work on the Triennial Review order as quickly as possible so we can begin the tedious legal process of examining these details. Let us not forget that the jobs of thousands of hard working men and women, and the renewed health of our Nation's economy, are at stake.

PORT SECURITY IMPROVEMENTS ACT OF 2003

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce a bill entitled the "Port Security Improvements Act of 2003." I am pleased to have five other original co-sponsors of this bi-partisan legislation, including: JOHN TIERNEY, who is the Ranking Member of the Government Reform Subcommittee which I chair; BILL JANKLOW, who is the Vice Chairman of my Subcommittee; and JANE HARMAN, who ably represents the Port of Los Angeles.

The tragic events of September 11, 2001 shook the confidence of the U.S. government and its citizens in the Nation's security. On November 19, 2001, the President signed the Aviation and Transportation Security Act. This law established "emergency procedures" for the Federal Government to issue interim final regulations without the usual opportunity for public notice and comment, as provided in the Administrative Procedure Act. To ensure Congressional and public input into the regulatory decisionmaking process, the Government Reform Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs, which I chair, held a November 27th hearing entitled "What Regulations are Needed to Ensure Air Security?"

Congress then turned its attention to port security. On November 25, 2002, the President signed the Maritime Transportation Security Act. This law similarly provided for some interim final regulations without any public notice and comment but did not establish deadlines for their issuance. To provide Congressional and public input into the regulatory decisionmaking process, my Subcommittee held an April 24, 2003, hearing entitled "What Regulations are Needed to Ensure Port Security?"

The U.S. maritime system includes more than 300 ports with more than 3,700 cargo and passenger terminals. The vast maritime

system is particularly susceptible to terrorist attempts to smuggle personnel, weapons of mass destruction, or other dangerous materials into the U.S. And, terrorists could attack ships in U.S. ports. A large-scale terrorist attack at a U.S. port would cause widespread damage and seriously affect our economy.

To date, Congress has provided extensive Federal funding to fully ensure air security. In contrast, Congress has not provided sufficient Federal funding to fully ensure port security.

The witnesses at my Subcommittee hearing made several thoughtful recommendations, including: (a) the urgency for the Department of Homeland Security to issue a regulation governing a standardized "smart" common Transportation Worker Identification Credential; (b) the need for some standardization of security requirements for each U.S. port, each facility in a U.S. port, and each vessel entering a U.S. port; and, (c) the need for an additional significant Federal investment in port security. Currently, the U.S. Customs Bureau collects \$15.6 billion in duties on commodities entering the U.S. through marine transportation. My bill directs a portion of these duties toward port security enhancements. In addition, my bill sets deadlines for issuance of regulations governing transportation security cards, and requires regulations that include a national minimum set of standard security requirements for ports, facilities, and vessels.

To understand the logic for dedicating a portion of Customs duties, let's look at the Port of Los Angeles. It is the busiest port in the U.S. and the seventh busiest in the world. It encompasses 7,500 acres. In 2002, Custom duties collected in this port accounted for 32 percent of all Customs duties collected in all U.S. seaports. However, since passage of the Maritime Transportation Security Act, this port has only received a small fraction of what it needs for port security enhancements and a substantially inadequate share of the funding distributed to date relative to its importance in the commerce of this country.

Since America's ports are crucial to our economic well being, it is essential that we find the right balance between increasing port security while not impeding the flow of commerce and trade. As a Republican, I am sensitive to the costs of excessive government regulation. But, in a post September 11th world, I realize that we must take additional precautions to protect our fellow citizens and our economy. We need to make sure that our ports are safe. I am not convinced that they are safe today.

The Port Security Improvements Act will ensure that America's ports receive the security upgrades they need. This legislation links customs duties collected in our ports to investments in greater security at these ports. All of us recognize the tremendous importance that international trade plays in our economy.

RECENT COURT DECISIONS IN GUATEMALA SERIOUSLY UNDER- MINE HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply disturbed to learn that an appeals court in

Guatemala decided last week to overturn the conviction of Colonel Juan Valencia Osorio, the man convicted by a lower court of being the "intellectual author" of the murder of Myrna Mack, a well-known Guatemalan anthropologist. Before her murder on September 11, 1990, Myrna Mack had been conducting research on the massive displacement and destruction of rural indigenous communities which resulted from the Guatemalan military's counterinsurgency tactics and "scorched earth" policies that they employed during that country's 36-year-old civil war.

The appellate court also upheld the acquittals of General Augusto Godoy Gaitán and Colonel Juan Guillermo Oliva Carrera, who were accused of having masterminded, along with Colonel Valencia, the assassination of Myrna Mack. Thus, as a result of the appellate court's decision, the intellectual authors of Myrna Mack's murder remain at large thirteen years after the killing, and justice continues to be denied to her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of special concern because of the fact that the officers who were just acquitted were members of the Presidential Security Guard (Estado Mayor Presidencial—EMP), a unit originally created to provide security for Guatemala's president, vice-president, and their respective families. Since its establishment, however, the EMP has been repeatedly implicated in some of Guatemala's most high-profile human rights abuses, including the 1998 murder of Bishop Juan Gerardi. It is important to note that General Godoy and Colonels Oliva and Valencia served as high-ranking officials in the EMP at the time of Bishop Gerardi's assassination.

It is my sincere hope, Mr. Speaker, that Guatemalan authorities will vigorously pursue justice in Myrna Mack's case, wherever it may lead, and I applaud key U.S. officials for continuing to urge strongly that the Guatemalan government strengthen the rule of law in that country and strip high-ranking military officers of the impunity that they apparently now enjoy.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT
CHEN SHUI-BIAN OF TAIWAN

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor President Chen Shui-Bian of Taiwan as he celebrates three years in office.

For more than fifty years the United States and Taiwan have had a valued cross-pacific relationship. One million Americans of Taiwanese descent live in the United States and twenty nine thousand Taiwanese students attend American universities.

Taiwan and the US share close economic ties. In the last half century, Taiwan has grown to become our seventh largest trading partner.

Taiwan, however, is more than an economic ally. It has offered unwavering support in our efforts to confront terrorism. Taiwan's democratic success is also clear. It heeds its people's choice and turns over power after elections. It allows and encourages its people to participate in deliberations on their country's future.

In the wake of the SARS outbreak, it is imperative that Taiwan's twenty three million

people are allowed to participate in the World Health Organization's efforts to counteract this contagion. This can be achieved by granting Taiwan observer status in the WHO.

Taiwan and President Chen have been great allies and friends to the American people. I congratulate the people of Taiwan and President Chen on their many achievements.

MISUNDERSTANDING IN THE
MATTER OF A CO-SPONSORSHIP

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to correct a mistake for the record regarding a Member listed as an original co-sponsor on my bill, H.R. 1904. The gentleman from Virginia, Mr. SCOTT, was mistakenly added as an original co-sponsor to my bill, although he did not ask to be a co-sponsor of this bill. Yesterday, I made a unanimous consent requested to remove him as a co-sponsor, but the request could not be granted because the report on H.R. 1904 had already been filed. I thank Mr. SCOTT for his understanding in this matter.

RUNAWAY, HOMELESS, AND MISSING
CHILDREN PROTECTION ACT

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of H.R. 1925, the Runaway, Homeless and Missing Children Protection Act. This measure reauthorizes both the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program and the Missing Children's Assistance Act. This bill will also increase the funding levels for these programs through 2008.

In addition, this bill increases the funding level for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. This bill will double the funding level from \$10 million to \$20 million over the next four years.

As you may know, Mr. Speaker, I along with my colleague from Texas, Mr. LAMPSON and other Members, founded the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus. The Caucus was created to build awareness around the issue of missing and exploited children for the purpose of finding children who are currently missing and to prevent future abductions.

I applaud the efforts of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and of the Caucus under the chairmanship of Representative NICK LAMPSON. I would urge my colleagues to support this legislation and I yield back the balance of my time.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
LARRY COMBEST

SPEECH OF

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2003

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Congressman LARRY COMBEST for his

service to this chamber and to the people of Texas. The 19th Congressional District of Texas has been diligently represented by Congressman COMBEST for over eighteen years since his initial election to Congress in 1984. LARRY's greatest accomplishments came during his reign as Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Under the leadership of Chairman COMBEST, the Agriculture Committee completed years of work in passing the Farm Bill that President George W. Bush signed into law last year.

Prior to being elected to the House of Representatives, LARRY was no stranger to Capitol Hill. He served as a legislative assistant to Senator John Tower of Texas from 1971 to 1978.

I've had the privilege of working alongside LARRY since I came to this body in 1997. I have come to know LARRY to be not only a hard-working colleague, but also a wonderful friend. He and his lovely wife Sharon will be greatly missed around these halls.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the very capable and intelligent staff of Congressman COMBEST. Among the staff, Congressman COMBEST's Senior Legislative Assistant, Taylor Bledsoe, will also shortly be leaving the Hill. Taylor has been a great asset to Congressman COMBEST, and is a good friend. I wish Taylor and his wife Jen all the best for their move back to the Lone Star State.

LARRY leaves behind Texas-sized shoes for his successor to fill. I wish LARRY and his family well. Thank you LARRY for your service to Texas and to the nation.

CELEBRATING THE 325TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF
NEW PALTZ, NEW YORK

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the community of New Paltz in Ulster County, New York, which is part of the 22nd Congressional District that I proudly serve. This year marks the 325th Anniversary of the founding of New Paltz, as well as the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the College of New Paltz. I am delighted to recognize this community's rich historical heritage and continued vitality, as the Town of New Paltz and State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz mark these important milestones.

New Paltz was founded in 1678 by Huguenot families who were seeking refuge from severe religious persecution in France. The community was self-governed by the Duzine, referring to the twelve partners who acquired the royal land patent in 1677 on more than 33,000 acres purchased from local Native Americans. The Duzine decided local matters and consisted of one representative from each of the original families. That form of government continued well past the time of the American Revolution, by special action of the New York State Legislature. New Paltz was dominated for more than 150 years by the founding partners and their heirs, whose family names can still be found today in the area.

The lands encompassed in the original patent, stretching all the way from the