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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Dr. Harold R. Mayberry, Senior Pastor, First African Methodist Episcopal Church, Oakland, California, offered the following prayer:

God of wisdom, humility, and compassion, we thank You for the marvelous gift of life that You have so wonderfully shared with us. For the ability to reason without being unreasonable, and to learn from one another, for the spirit of cooperation that serves to bless us all, we give You thanks.

We pray, O God, that Your constant presence which provides guidance will be manifest in the spirit of each congressional representative and that Your will and Your strength will shape their decision-making.

We pray, O God, that Your spirit of sensitivity, for the well-being of all of Your people, will be lifted up in this body.

May those who serve in this Chamber never know fear as they seek to do what is morally right as mandated by You. May courage be the order of the day; may Your spirit of peace rule here; and may You always be acknowledged as Lord and Leader we pray.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. MILLER) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MILLER of Florida led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Repub-

lic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. HAROLD R. MAYBERRY

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

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me just say, first of all, how honored we are that Pastor Harold Mayberry has presented and provided with us a very powerful prayer this morning.

Pastor Mayberry is the pastor, as he indicated, of First AME Church in Oakland, California. Pastor Mayberry and his wife, Mary Mayberry, are here with us this weekend as we work to look at the major issues which, of course, the Congressional Black Caucus and all of us deal with each and every day.

First AME Church, let me just say, is a very powerful church, a very committed church in our community. It is a shining light in Oakland and in the East Bay. It provides a vision for our community. It is a church which, under Pastor Mayberry's leadership, insists that our community puts people first in the sense that they focus on educating our young people, housing the homeless, feeding the hungry. It is a congregation that makes religion really real in our community, and that is thanks to Pastor Mayberry and the First AME Church family.

The leadership of this congregation has made many, many changes in our great East Bay and especially in the city of Oakland, California. And for that we are deeply grateful.

We are honored and privileged that Pastor Mayberry and his wife, Mary, are here with us today. Mr. Speaker, I am thankful for the opportunity to share his wisdom and his insight with this great august body.

APPOINTMENT OF ADDITIONAL CONFEREES ON S. 3, PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

The SPEAKER. Pursuant to clause 11 of rule I, the Chair appoints Mr. CHABOT and Ms. LOFGREN as conferees on S. 3.

The Clerk will notify the Senate of the change in conferees.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will receive 5 one-minute speeches on each side.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1078

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1078.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

TRAFFICKING

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

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, the President this week made a courageous move at the U.N. He called on the world to act against trafficking. The U.N. should follow the President's lead and take action.

Human trafficking is one of the worst forms of human violations in the world today. Each year, over 800,000 men, women, and children are trafficked into prostitution or forced labor. It is modern-day slavery. It is absolutely vital that we act to remove these people from slavery and assist in their recovery, but it is also important that police and security forces around the

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world root out the people who profit off of this special evil.

Many of these people are involved in organized crime. There are even reports that suggest profits from trafficking in persons are used to support terrorist activities.

Make no mistake about it, any government that tolerates trafficking, tolerates a form of slavery.

THE COST OF REBUILDING IRAQ

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

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, last fall the President's economic adviser, Larry Lindsey, said the war in Iraq could cause \$100 billion to \$200 billion. Well, Wolfowitz, Rumsfeld, said, "That is absurd. Those are crazy numbers." In fact, Wolfowitz said, "Don't worry, they can pay for their own reconstruction."

Now, the President is asking Congress to borrow \$87 billion in the name of the American people, \$20 billion of that to rebuild the infrastructure of Iraq.

Now, it is nice that we want to build a \$150 million children's hospital in Iraq, but American kids lack basic health care. Where is the money for that?

It is nice that they want to rebuild the Port of Umm Qasr, \$80 million. The President has zeroed out dredging ports in my district.

Billions for the electric grid; not a penny for the faltering electric grid in the United States of America.

\$20 billion invested here would create 1 million U.S. jobs. \$20 billion in Iraq is a drop in the bucket of what it is really going to cost, but it will produce some nice profits for Halliburton.

TRIBUTE TO SGT. JASON "TYE" PRATT

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

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today with great sadness. Two weeks ago in Omaha, a brave, dedicated police officer, Sgt. Jason Pratt, was gunned down by a violent criminal following a routine traffic stop. He died of severe head injuries last Friday. I attended his funeral 2 days ago.

I want to extend my sincere condolences not only to the family and friends of this heroic man, but to the entire community for the loss of such a brave officer. But while I rise today to mourn the death of Officer Jason "Tye" Pratt, I also want to celebrate his life, a life built upon optimism, bravery, compassion and dedication.

Those who were lucky enough to know him will tell you what an honorable husband, father, son, brother, friend, coworker and citizen he was. A 1992 honors student graduate of Burke

High School, dubbed as having the "prettiest smile," he married his wife, Stacy, in 1995 and began his work serving the Omaha community as a rookie police officer in 1996. Upon completing training in 1997, he joined the SWAT unit, the emergency response unit.

Jason and Stacy were the parents of two young daughters, Madison and Jordyn. Officer Pratt bragged about his wife and her work at the Immanuel Medical Center and his daughters constantly at work.

He was known for his tremendous discipline, work ethic and commitment. He balanced an irresistible sense of humor with full-throttled intensity in whatever role he undertook. This is a man who truly loved what he did, and never hesitated to help somebody in need.

Police officers are everyday heroes. They put their lives on the line day in and day out to ensure our safety and protect our community.

For a week, Officer Jason "Tye" Pratt hung on to his life in the hospital, receiving an outpouring of prayers. He is a true hero. Officer Pratt was a hero to his wife, daughters, family and fellow officers, and he will remain a hero to all of us.

THE AMERICAN DEBT

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

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, it has been 868 days since President Bush and the Republican Party embarked upon their economic plan for our country. During this time, the national debt has increased by \$1,163,468,782,425.75.

According to the Web site for the Bureau of Public Debt at the U.S. Department of Treasury, yesterday as of 4:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, the Nation's outstanding debt was \$6,803,794,168,784.52.

The interest we will have to pay on this debt, the debt tax, for fiscal year 2003 through the end of August, amounts to \$304,978,878,641.11.

HONORING GOVERNOR HUGH GREGG

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

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant who has devoted his life to the State he so loved dearly, former Governor Hugh Gregg.

Governor Gregg passed away yesterday at the age of 85. Governor Gregg wore many hats in his lifetime, war hero, businessman, lawyer, public servant, but he will most be remembered as a devoted husband to his wife, Catherine, a father to his two sons, Cyrus Gregg and U.S. Senator JUDD GREGG, and a grandfather and great-grandfather.

He served as a special agent in the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Corps from 1942 to 1946 in China. He also served as an alderman in his hometown of Nashua, and later became mayor of that city.

Governor Gregg was proud to be a politician and realized that politics was the vehicle to better the lives of New Hampshire's citizens. He perhaps will most be remembered for his passion for the New Hampshire first-in-the-Nation presidential primary. Governor Gregg authored two books on the New Hampshire primary, and his history of the primary is part of the official State record published by the Secretary of State's office.

Not one to sit by idly, Governor Gregg was still a dominant presence in the State, even at the age of 85, most recently serving on the State Ballot Law Commission.

Governor Gregg's legacy will continue to live on in the causes he held so dear to his heart, helping those with disabilities and preserving New Hampshire's unique role in the political process. The State mourns the loss of a great statesman, civic leader and friend, and his efforts to make New Hampshire a better place in which to live has made a lasting impact on all who call New Hampshire home.

Governor Gregg represented the New Hampshire ideals we all cherish: Integrity, strength and honesty. He has raised the bar high for those who want to be public servants. His civility, frankness and fairness will be sorely missed.

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A LOOK AT U.S. DAILY DEATHS IN IRAQ

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

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, in the next few days, we will hear people say that if you do not support that \$87 billion, you are against the troops and you do not care what is happening to our people in Iraq.

The fact is that since this war started, 304 people have died. Mr. Speaker, 167 have died since the President announced that the mission was accomplished. And now they want us to give them a blank check with \$87 billion. They will not change one single thing. They will not acknowledge anything with the international community; they will not change anything.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Lunsford Brown died on September 20. Captain Brian Faunce died on September 18. Sergeant David Freidrich died on September 20. Sergeant Paul Sturino died on September 22. They continue to die, and the President will not tell us how he is going to get us out of this morass, except give me more money or you are unpatriotic.

Members in this House who want to ask questions are not unpatriotic. The