

Considering the looting that occurred before occupation forces could be effectively assembled and the inconvenience resulting from the water and power disruption, that is a remarkable result. It might even indicate that more Iraqis than Germans and French understand the evil represented by Saddam and his Baath Party.

As for the contribution to this peace-keeping effort in Iraq, the fine print in recent reports shows that while America's 140,000 force is dominant, other countries are responding in important ways. Britain has 7,400 on the scene; Italy, 3,000; Poland, 2,400; Ukraine, 1,640; The Netherlands, 1,106. Countries in between Romania's 600 troops and Latvia's 106 include Bulgaria, Denmark, Thailand, El Salvador, Honduras, Czech Republic, Hungary, Dominican Republic, the Philippines, Mongolia, Norway, Portugal and Nicaragua. Those with less than 100 include Lithuania, Slovakia, Albania, New Zealand and Kazakhstan.

So this vital campaign against tyranny finds many and diverse nations united in a vital cause, even if the United Nations has turned passive, and not as helpful as it should be if terrorists and tyrants are to be defeated.

TRIBUTE TO COLORADO REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colorado's Regional Transportation District (RTD) for being named the best transit agency in the United States and Canada by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA).

The APTA represents 1,500 public transportation agencies nationwide. This award is given for large systems that provide more than 30 million passenger trips per year, and is based on the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the member agencies. The award measures performance over a 3-year period, and recognizes outstanding service and operations from 2000 to 2002.

Denver has been named the most congested city of its size in America and the third most congested city nationally. So, RTD's task is a big one. But it has performed admirably—keeping its operating costs competitive, increasing its ridership and delivering outstanding service to its customers. The District provided more than 81 million passenger miles last year within the seven county metropolitan Denver area, operating over 1,100 buses over 179 routes and 49 light rail vehicles. At the same time, through an aggressive accident prevention program, RTD has reduced accidents over the 3-year period by 54 percent. To date in 2003, accidents have been reduced an additional 32 percent below last year's levels, reaching another all-time record low. And, with an attentive response to Colorado's ever-growing population, RTD has continued to add rail and bus transit services and been able to reduce traffic congestion by 13 percent by providing mass transit options throughout the metropolitan area. Congestion costs have been reduced by \$220 million annually, reducing air pollution, fuel consumption, and drive times.

With its sites on the future needs of the metropolitan region, new light rail systems are

being planned and developed. A recent public-private partnership with the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Denver Regional Council of Governments, the City and County of Denver and local landowners, a development effort will renovate historic Union Station and the surrounding 19 acres to create an intermodal facility that will develop and expand transportation systems and commercial opportunities in central Denver.

RTD has been recognized for its quality, its sophisticated operations and its many safety improvements. Employees at the District benefit from General Manager, Cal Marsala's hands-on management style, and RTD has been recognized for its advancement of minority and female employees, and sensitivity to low-income and disabled customers through eco-passes and specially equipped buses. RTD's internal management has focused on strong marketing and community relations, policy development, financial management, and improved departmental and safety operations. With a concerted effort to provide innovative approaches to challenging transportation needs, Marsala has guided his 2,400 employees and 725 private service provider employees to achieving this outstanding award.

I think Mary Blue, the RTD Chairman of the Board, put it well when she commended the staff by saying "Winning APTA's highest award shows that our prudent policies and sensible fiscal approach have paid off. This is a win not only for our employees and board members, but also for our passengers and taxpayers."

The Denver metropolitan area and Colorado are fortunate to have the Regional Transportation District provided outstanding service to its residents. We applaud their performance and celebrate the well-deserved recognition they have received from the American Public Transportation Association.

IN HONOR OF LU CORBETT DALY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay my final respects to Lu Corbett Daly, who passed away on Friday. It is my privilege to work on a daily basis with Lu's wonderful son, Brendan, and it is with sadness and respect that I share with my colleagues the following words from her obituary in the Washington Post:

Lu Corbett Daly, 78, an award-winning advertising copywriter who had worked for The Washington Post and the National Geographic Society, died Oct. 24 at the Auxiliary House, a long-term care group home in Bethesda, where she had lived since May 2001. She had Alzheimer's disease.

The Direct Marketing Association of Washington named Mrs. Daly its "Professional of the Year" in 1991 for her contributions to the 1,500-member organization. She also was a member of the American Association of University Women.

Mrs. Daly graduated in 1947 from Marywood College in her native Scranton, Pa. She was president of her class for three years. She studied acting at Marywood and took summer courses at Catholic University's drama school.

After graduation, she moved with her family to the Chevy Chase section of Washington and began work in public relations for Capital Transit Co. before joining The Post as an advertising copywriter.

She starred in several amateur theater productions, through which she met her husband. Early in her marriage, while her husband was a Navy officer, Mrs. Daly moved 11 times in three years, with the family settling in the Hillmead section of Bethesda and later in Chevy Chase. Mrs. Daly was a member of the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic parish, serving on its advisory council and helping establish the Second and Fourth Monday Group, which provides social activities for seniors.

In 1976, she became a vice president of Daly Communications, a family-owned consulting business. She was twice elected to the board of directors of the Washington direct marketing group, serving two years as program chair.

She was hired by the National Geographic Society in 1982. For the next dozen years, she helped produce numerous direct marketing packages, which were sent worldwide to millions of society members and prospective members. Her work to promote the 1985 book "Discovering Britain & Ireland" helped sell more than 300,000 copies—a society record. For that effort, Mrs. Daly won an ECHO Award from the national Direct Marketing Association. She retired in 1995.

Mrs. Daly was co-editor of "The Daly Greeting," dubbed "The Only Daly Paper Published Annually," which recounts the doings of her large family. Her father-in-law, John Jay Daly Sr., a former Post staff writer, began the paper in 1916.

Survivors include her husband of 51 years, John Jay Daly of Chevy Chase; her eight children, LuAnne Daly of Santa Rosa, Calif.; Deirdre Daly of Lyons, Colo.; Sean Daly of Barrington, R.I.; Maura Daly of Germantown; Kate Daly Paradis of Boulder, Colo.; Matthew Daly and Brendan Daly, both of Silver Spring, and Corbett Daly of Washington; four sisters, Gladys Quinn of Scranton, Rita Jeffers and Dorothea McIntyre, both of Bethesda, and Joyce West of Marion, Mass.; a brother, William Corbett of Reston; and 11 grandchildren.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HIGH COUNTRY CLOGGERS

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young dancers from Northern Colorado—the High Country Cloggers.

Recently, these dancers preformed in the Junior Olympic Games in Detroit, Michigan, and won top medals. Dancers from ages 11 to 22 took home silver medals in the a cappella category, bronze in the traditional line-dance competition, and gold medals for best in age group.

Clogging is an old style of dancing, with its roots from the Appalachian region. These award winning young ladies and men are part of its recent revival. Encompassing traditional bluegrass music and dance style, these astonishing dancers are turning clogging into a style filled with country, pop, and even hip-hop.

Among the dancers performing at the Junior Olympics, I would like to honor: Jenna Jordan, Elizabeth Lopez, Dessy Benesh, Jacey

Sisneros, Cynthia Crookston, Meghan Meehleis, Amberley Meehleis, Caitlynn Meehleis, and Ashlee Meehleis.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I wish to honor Rick and Michelle Meehleis of Fort Collins, Colorado. As the founders of the High Country Cloggers, this extraordinary couple have dedicated themselves to the success of the young dancers. At its inception, 5 years ago, the dance group held evening lessons in the Meehleis family garage.

Rick and Michelle have turned the once family hobby into a family-run business with the participation of tremendous dancers throughout the community. The clogging group now holds lessons in its own studio and performs around the nation.

In addition to performing in Detroit, over the past year they have danced in Branson, Missouri; Atlanta, Georgia; and in Oklahoma.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the High Country Cloggers and the Meehleis before the Congress today because they are remarkable examples of dedication, strong family values, and achievement.

TRIBUTE TO BRYANT RANCH
SCHOOL

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Bryant Ranch School in Yorba Linda, CA, for exceeding the President's expectations in fostering a positive learning environment and building a solid foundation for our future leaders. The school recently received the coveted Blue Ribbon distinction by the U.S. Department of Education.

Bryant Ranch is more than just a school; it's the pride and joy of a community that comes together to raise and educate its children. The school has excellent teachers who go the extra mile to make a difference in the lives of their students. It has parents who are willing to get involved in school activities. It has administrators who give the teachers the flexibility and support they need to cater their curriculum to their classroom. And it has students who understand the importance of learning and the value of a proper education.

Mr. Speaker, Bryant Ranch has brought all these elements together to build a first rate educational institution. President Bush has distinguished this school as a model for others to follow, and this Congress should commend the teachers, parents, administrators and students for this accomplishment.

THE PRINCESS WORE CLEATS

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to an exceptional young woman from my district. Vanessa Lucero of Las Vegas, New Mexico has made quite a name for herself this month.

Vanessa is a member of the West Las Vegas High School football team. On October

12, the 5-foot-1-inch, 103-pound freshman made history in New Mexico.

Vanessa—a tailback—scored a touchdown running in for the score from the 1-yard line. She is believed to be New Mexico's first high school female player to score a touchdown in a game. Her contribution to the team has already improved the West Las Vegas Dons' record to 5–2. Amazingly, Vanessa is also on the wrestling team.

As if this accomplishment were not enough, during half-time of the same game, Vanessa was crowned Freshman Princess for homecoming, still wearing her No. 11 jersey. The gown she wore to the dance that night was green and yellow—the Dons' colors.

Since this wonderful achievement, Vanessa has received enormous attention from the New Mexico and national media. In addition to news stories chronicling her actions, she has been the subject of glowing newspaper editorials. She was also invited on NBC's Today Show and interviewed by Matt Lauer. This media interest has not only made Vanessa's family and friends proud of her, it has brought favorable attention to our great state.

What has happened in Las Vegas is larger than just an athletic accomplishment. With Vanessa's dual victories, she is helping to break down stereotypes that, unfortunately, are still common in our country. We should be happy with all of the progress we have made providing girls and women with opportunities previously denied them. However, we must continue our efforts to promote gender equality. As Vanessa is fond of saying, "It's only a guy's sport until a girl joins." Indeed.

At a time when far too many American children have sedentary lives where they do not move off the couch, and many are obese, we must support programs that lead to improved fitness and health. Adolescent female athletes are more apt than nonathletes to develop a positive body image, less likely to become pregnant, and are less at risk for developing women's diseases such as osteoporosis and breast cancer.

In addition, sports provide a safe and healthy alternative to drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, and to antisocial behavior.

Vanessa, unknowingly, has become a role model for girls everywhere. I am very proud that she and her family hail from my congressional district. Both of her accomplishments have made us so proud.

Mr. Speaker, Vanessa Lucero is a special young woman and a valued citizen of San Miguel County and the state of New Mexico. I am honored to join with my colleagues in congratulating her for all of her successes.

HONORING THE NATIONAL
GUARD'S 41ST BRIGADE COT-
TAGE GROVE, OREGON UPON
BEING DEPLOYED TO IRAQ

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I regret the congressional schedule keeps me from attending the deployment ceremony to honor members of the 41st Brigade. This ceremony marks just a portion of the honor and debt of gratitude that our state and our nation owe you for your

service. We also owe a debt of gratitude to your family and friends for their understanding, support, and sacrifice.

The media talks so much of high tech and secret weapons, but the enduring strength and real secret behind the military power of the United States is men and women like you who have volunteered to serve as the new citizen soldiers, highly trained and motivated. You constitute the key to the success of our total force—a military second to none in the world. You and the other 8,000 Members of the Oregon National Guard continue a long and honored tradition of service to Oregon's citizens in times of disaster, crisis, or strife, while training and preparing to defend our nation in time of need.

The mission ahead of you will be both difficult and dangerous—to bring stability and order to a ravaged nation in the midst of one of the most volatile regions on Earth. All Americans and our allies around the world will be more safe and secure if this region can be moved toward peace, but this course is not easy or certain.

I pledge to do all I can in Congress to ensure that you have the best training and equipment necessary to accomplish your mission and return home safely. I further pledge that your service and sacrifice will not be forgotten and will be reflected in the treatment and benefits you and your family receive.

From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of all the citizens of Oregon's 4th Congressional District, thank you and Godspeed.

HONORING ASHLAND, KY CITY
WORKERS FOR HEROIC FLOOD
RESCUE

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to three remarkable individuals from my home state of Kentucky. My brother-in law William Gambill, Kermit Nethercutt, and William Ott, all employees with the Ashland, Kentucky Water Department, were involved in a courageous rescue of a local woman during the heavy rains and flooding that occurred in my state last spring.

On May 5, Mrs. Mary Newmark of Ashland became stuck in mud and waist-deep water while clearing a creek near her home. For a terrifying hour, with creek waters rapidly rising around her, nobody could hear her desperate pleas for help. Gratefully, her shouts were soon detected by three city employees working on a nearby water line.

The three men responded immediately, frantically searching for Mrs. Newmark in the dense greenery surrounding the creek. Mrs. Newmark was finally able to end her ordeal by tossing a ball, that she'd earlier cleared from the swollen creek, into the air allowing the men to locate and assist her.

The joint effort of Mr. Ott, Mr. Gambill, and Mr. Nethercutt demonstrates a selfless and admirable devotion to their community. Their quick action saved a young mother from what could have been a very serious injury.

On behalf of the citizens of Ashland, I am honored to recognize William Ott, William Gambill, and Kermit Nethercutt for their Good