

North Carolina is home to several HBCUs, and I am particularly proud of the two in my Congressional District; Shaw University and Fayetteville State University.

Shaw University, located in Raleigh, was founded in 1865, making it the oldest HBCU in the South. Shaw is a private, coeducational, liberal arts university, awarding degrees at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Affiliated with the Baptist Church, the primary mission of the University is teaching with the commitment to maintain excellence in research and academic programs that foster intellectual enhancement and technological skills. Shaw stresses character development, which includes religious, cultural, social and ethical values. The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, a major force in the Civil Rights Movement, got its start at a conference held at Shaw in 1960. Dr. Clarence G. Newsome currently serves as President of Shaw University.

Fayetteville State University is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina. The primary mission of the university is to provide quality education to its students through a basic liberal arts foundation, specialized professional training, and specific graduate programs. The university is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, individual university departments, degree programs, and service functions hold memberships and accreditations with appropriate professional organizations. Chancellor T.J. Bryan is the tenth Chief Executive Officer of the 138-year old HBCU and the first female to head the institution.

Mr. Speaker, as the former Superintendent of North Carolina's public schools, I know well the outstanding contributions made to our state and nation by Shaw University, Fayetteville State University and all of our Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and I am pleased to join my colleagues in paying tribute to national HBCUs Week.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. ROSS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. ROSS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IN RECOGNITION OF HBCU WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week. Historically Black Colleges and Universities play a critical role in the American higher education system. This year's theme—"The Tradition Continues: New Successes and Challenges"—is especially fitting considering the precarious state of affairs of higher education funding and student aid for all institutions of higher education. These theme is also appropriate as many HBCUs around the country welcomed students displaced last year by Hurricane Katrina.

For most of America's history, African Americans who received a college education could only get it from an HBCU. Today, HBCUs remain one of the surest ways for an African

American, or student of any race, to receive a high quality education. In 1965, Congress officially defined an HBCU in Title III of the Higher Education Act as an institution: whose principal mission was the education of black Americans; that is accredited; and that was established before 1964.

The first HBCU, Cheney University in Pennsylvania, was founded in 1837. Today, there are 105 Historically Black Colleges and Universities. I am proud to have 5 HBCUs in my home State of Virginia: Hampton University, Norfolk State University, Saint Paul's College, Virginia State University, and Virginia Union University.

HBCUs graduate far more than their share of African American professionals. While the 105 HBCUs represent just 3 percent of the Nation's institutions of higher learning, they graduate nearly one-quarter of African Americans who earn undergraduate degrees.

HBCUs, because of their unique sensibility to the special needs of young African American minds, remain the institutions that demonstrate the most effective ability to graduate African American students who are poised to be competitive in the corporate, research, academic, governmental and military arenas.

Consider these statistics:

Experts in their chosen field

Over half of all African American professionals are graduates of HBCUs.

Nine of the top ten colleges that graduate the most African Americans who go on to earn Ph.D.s are HBCUs.

More than 50 percent of the Nation's African American public school teachers and 70 percent of African American dentists earned degrees at HBCUs.

HBCUs Spelman College and Bennett College produce over half of the nation's African American female doctorates in all science fields.

Excellent Institutions

As ranked by Black Enterprise in 2003, seven of the top ten "Top Colleges and Universities for African Americans," including the top six, were HBCUs.

HBCU Xavier University #1 nationally in placing African-Americans into medical school. HBCUs also dominate the upper echelon in terms of numbers of African American graduates per school for the last academic year

Seven of the top eight producers of African-American baccalaureates overall were HBCUs, including #1 Florida A&M University and #2 Howard University.

Sixteen of the top 21 producers of African American baccalaureates in biological and biomedical sciences were HBCUs, including the entire top six: Xavier University of LA (#1), Hampton University (#2), Howard University (#3), Morgan State University (#4), Jackson State University (#5), and Tennessee State University (#6).

Eight of the top nine producers of African American baccalaureates in mathematics and statistics were HBCUs: #1 Morehouse College, #2 South Carolina State University, #3 Alabama State University, #3 Spelman College, #5 Southern University and A&M College, #6 Tennessee State University, #7 Hampton University, and #9 Howard University.

Three of the top five producers of African American baccalaureates in psychology were HBCUs: #1 Florida A&M University, #3 Hampton University, and #5 Howard University.

While these statistics overwhelmingly demonstrate the importance of HBCUs, the proof of the power of an HBCU is in the success of its graduates. I am proud to serve with 15 members of the U.S. House of Representatives that are graduates of these fine institutions.

Mr. Speaker, HBCUs have played an important role in educating African-American students. I would like to commend them for their past efforts and wish them continued success in the future. I am confident that HBCUs will continue to ensure that students of all races receives a quality higher education.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. SNYDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SNYDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PALLONE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HINCHEY addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. EMANUEL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EMANUEL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

THE WEEK THAT WAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. MCDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, What a week this has been. It began on Sunday when the President dispatched his Secretary of State and Vice President to the Sunday talk-shows to re-create the Administration's fiction that Iraq and al-Qaeda were connected.

Their appearances came shortly after the Republican controlled Senate Intelligence Committee told the American people in a bipartisan report that there were no ties between Iraq and al-Qaeda. No Ties.

But, the Secretary of State and Vice President wouldn't let the facts stand in the way. In appearance after appearance, they kept telling the American people to be afraid, to believe their fiction about Iraq.

The truth affirmed—again—that there was no national security interest served by invading Iraq.

The President diverted the nation from Afghanistan and the hunt for bin Laden.

And, the President diluted our resources by continuing to commit manpower and money to the wrong place, at the wrong time, without a national security priority. Instead of leading America back to the front line of the war on terror, the President continues to push America deeper into a civil war in Iraq.

The fifth anniversary of 9/11 could have been marked by the President leading the nation in quiet, personal reflection. Instead, the President used a prime time television address to try to shore up his own faltering support among the American people.

The Administration's singular focus today is to sustain a fiction about Iraq and al-Qaeda. They are trapped inside their own rhetoric and keep talking as if that will produce a different outcome.

On Sunday the Vice President gave us fear. On Monday, the President gave us fiction. On Tuesday, the Republican Majority Leader gave us inflammatory rhetoric worthy of a nation without Democracy as its form of government.

Terrified at the prospect of losing power, Republicans will say anything to make people afraid.

In a meeting with reporters, the majority leader wondered aloud whether Americans who disagree with the President might be giving aid and comfort to the enemy, might be guilty of treason.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that we are a nation of laws, not men, even in a time of war, and that the President must follow the law like everyone else. Instead of affirmation, we got accusations last night from a Republican leader.

The President, Vice President and Speaker of the House—all Republicans—were silent in response.

We are going to need a lot of jail cells to house the millions of Americans, including the Supreme Court, who believe America is a nation of laws worth defending and upholding.

The majority of the American people want their government to remain Of the People, By the People and For the People.

Republicans have a different vision. They govern by accusation in order to obtain acquiescence.

Since Sunday, Republicans have moved from fear, to fiction, from inflammatory rhetoric to closed debate.

House Republican leaders are not interested in having America stand united.

That's why they passed a resolution that has to do with clinging to power, not 9/11.

The resolution will not make America safer, but it was passed in the hope of making Republicans safer.

The Republican resolution was about November 7, not September 11 and Republicans sacrificed patriotism for political ambition.

Trapped by their own rhetoric, and led by a President who has lost the trust of the American people, Republicans have retreated to their last stand—Making you afraid.

Every time they rise, remember this: Republicans have propped up this President by spending more on the Iraq War than on domestic security. Many Republicans in this House know the truth. They just can't speak it, for fear of being outed by their own Party Leadership.

Republicans will only say what the President wants you to hear. And it is not the truth. The American people are getting that somewhere else. Republicans gave us fear and fiction around the fifth anniversary of 9/11. Just imagine what they have in store for us in the weeks ahead.

Fear has never made America safer. But that's all the Republicans have to offer. And that's simply not enough to protect and defend America in the 21st century.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. STUPAK addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ZOE LOFGREN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. HONDA addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. ESHOO addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SHERMAN addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

IRAQ WATCH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. LARSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I once again thank distinguished members who will be joining me here on the floor to continue a process that was begun by Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. KUCINICH, and Mr. INSLEE called The Iraq Watch.

This was formed in the spirit of understanding, as I think the Nation has come to understand, that within this Beltway and within this Nation and specifically here in Congress, that we have one-party rule. The Republican Party controls the administration and

all of its agencies, it controls the House of Representatives and the United States Senate, and in the process, has stifled opportunity for oversight and review and a thorough discussion on the pressing issue of Iraq that concerns the entire American republic. I commend my colleagues for having initiated The Iraq Watch.

This evening, as in others, we start with an acknowledgement that, fortunately, because of the efforts of so many who have served in our military, we in Congress on both sides of this aisle have come to understand and differentiate between the war and the warriors, those brave men and women who serve our country on a daily basis and who are in harm's way in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and around this globe on our behalf. We come here because we desire an opportunity to speak truth to power.

Earlier this evening, one of our esteemed colleagues from the other side rose and said, "What are the Democrats for?" We are for an administration that will level with the American people, starting first and foremost with leveling with our troops, especially the families of our troops; specifically, the Reservists and National Guardsmen who have been deployed, redeployed, deployed, and redeployed again in Afghanistan and Iraq with no certainty given to them. And we are for an administration that is worthy of the sacrifice that has been put forward by the men and women of our armed services.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." And in this very solemn week where we pause to reflect on our brave heroes of 9/11, those innocent people who perished in the towers in New York, at the Pentagon, and in the fields of Pennsylvania, and those brave and valiant first responders who rallied to the call in New York, here at the Pentagon and in Pennsylvania, we are for the vigilance of the survivors, and victims of 9/11 who called and prevailed upon this body to pass all the 9/11 recommendations.

We are for passing all the 9/11 recommendations, more than half of which have not been enacted by this Congress 5 years after September 11. We are for accountability, as Mr. SCHIFF pointed out in his comments, because we understand that in a one-party town where there is no oversight and review and no one willing on the other side of the aisle to speak truth to power, that it falls on the shoulders of the Democrats to speak out on behalf of the American public, to speak truth where there has been little.

Graham Allison pointed out that the occupation in Iraq has placed us in a situation where we have diverted essential resources from the fight against al Qaeda, allowed the Taliban to regroup in Afghanistan, fostered neglect of the Iranian nuclear threat, undermined alliances critical to preventing terrorism, devastated America's standing with every country in Europe, and