

China a better life. But this plan would move them from badly eroded land to a barren high-altitude plain, currently used by nomads, that is itself environmentally fragile. Even though the project would involve construction of a dam and extensive irrigation works, it did not receive a full environmental assessment. Nor does it appear that the plan fully complies with World Bank policies designed to protect ethnic minorities and indigenous peoples from the adverse effects of development.

The World Bank has worked hard to overcome its reputation for insensitivity to local cultural and ecological concerns. Approval of this loan would be a significant step backward.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

BASEBALL

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

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, America has a long-standing fascination with baseball.

Perhaps only apple pie and the American flag can compete with its association to this country.

And with good reason.

Baseball, like many team sports, is beloved in part because of the unity it brings to our nation's communities.

Poet Walt Whitman once wrote, "I see great things in baseball. It's our game—the American game. It will take our people out-of-doors, fill them with oxygen, give them a larger physical stoicism. (It will) repair these losses and be a blessing to us."

Throughout times of hardship and strife, baseball has been a constant source of entertainment and pride, on both a local and national level.

In towns and cities across the country, friends and family gather together to pull for the home team, play baseball together in their backyards, or gather around their televisions to cheer for their favorite players.

In the Third District of North Carolina, which I am proud to represent, a group of young men recently gave their community and the entire state a reason to celebrate.

The Rose High baseball team from Greenville, NC had an undefeated season this year, winning 28 games and capturing the second 4-A State title in three years.

These 29 young men embody the spirit of teamwork.

They have proven that with enough hard work and dedication, success is within the reach of every young person who dares to achieve it.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that every one of these outstanding baseball players can appreciate their victory.

But what they have learned on their path to success may be even more valuable than a perfect 28-0 season.

One of the greatest lessons that I learned growing up, playing team sports, is the ability to work together to accomplish a goal.

Playing baseball and basketball in school, I learned to work hard because I knew that my teammates were depending on me to always do my best.

This work ethic is something that I have carried with me throughout my life.

I use it now in Congress to face the challenges of working with 434 other Members of the House.

Sometimes we have disagreements, but our greatest successes come when we work together as a team.

The Rose High Rampant's have already mastered this lesson.

And all the while, they have let us watch and cheer from the sidelines.

Mr. Speaker, part of the enjoyment in watching these young men play and succeed is watching the families and the community that rally behind the players.

Baseball is a team sport and its instills a sense of excitement and enthusiasm to all that watch and participate behind the scenes.

Because of the community spirit that baseball inspires, when Rose won, we all won.

I salute the players, coaches, families, and fans that made this championship possible.

To the players . . . James Bengala, Jr., Kenneth Biggs, Jeffrey Blick, William Brinson, Ashley Capps, David Creech, John Finch, Brian Flye, Michael Gordon, Matthew Grace, Michael Harrington, Kelly Hodges, Dylan Jackson, John Landen, Vincent Langston, Jefferson Lea, Vincent Logan, Demond Mayo, Julian Morgan, Adrian Moye, James Paige, IV, Bryan Pair, Justin Phillips, Robert Riggs II, William Teel, Reid Twine, Adam Tysinger, Joseph White, and Jesse Williams III.

Coach Ronald Vincent and assistant coaches . . . Paul Hill, Marvin Jarman, Steven Lovett, Ryan Meadows, and Eric Jarman and coaches, congratulations.

You brought together your community.

And through your dedication and hard work, you have made us all proud.

Thank you Rose High State champions for letting us share in your success.

SMALLER SCHOOLS FOR BETTER EDUCATION

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

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, right after the Columbine shootings I mentioned as one of the many causes of some of these problems the fact that many of our high schools are simply too big. We have done a good job in getting class sizes down, but we made a bad mistake going from small neighborhood or community-based high schools to centralized, consolidated mega-sized high schools.

Columbine had almost 2,000 students. Most young people can handle this, but some feel they have to resort to weird or sometimes even dangerous behavior to get noticed or get attention in a school where they are little more than a number.

In a small school, a young person has a better chance of making a team or being a leader in a club or a cheerleader or being elected to the student council or standing out in some positive way. I wish we did not have to have a high school of more than 500 students. Young people will be much better off going to a smaller school even if they had to go into an older building or where fewer courses were offered.

Bill Kauffman, writing in the new issue of *Chronicles Magazine* has some very interesting comments concerning the need for smaller schools and the shootings in Colorado, and this is a very lengthy quote, but I think it is worth listening to. Writing about our mobile and anonymous society he said,

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"Harris was an Army brat, spawn of a bizarre subculture that prizes rootlessness and places transience next to godliness. He grew up on a series of Socialist reservations. The family's final move was from Plattsburgh, New York, to Littleton, 2,000 miles distant. There he became just another brick in the wall of the inhumanly large Columbine High, whose 1,950 students were connected by a web so attenuated that dozens might fall through the cracks without the principal even knowing their names.

"Impersonal education factories like Columbine were a domestic innovation of the Cold War. The consolidation of small and rural schools into centralized warehouses was given its greatest push by Harvard President James B. Conant, who, subsidized by the Carnegie Corporation, produced a series of postwar reports arguing for the 'elimination of the small high school.'

Mr. Kaufman continued, "According to Conant, defenders of human-scale education were still living in a dream world which knew neither nuclear weapons nor Soviet imperialism. They believe they can live and prosper in an isolated, insulated United States." Conant, the barbarian, triumphed: The number of school districts plummeted from 83,000 in 1950 to 18,000 in 1970. Mr. Kaufman said, "Brutish kids will always make fun of others, but in a small school, parents or other adults have a fighting chance to enforce at least a minimal code of respect. And children in small, settled communities grow up with each other; by high school they almost certainly will have been to each other's homes and birthday parties and been on each other's ball clubs. Each student is essential to the small rural or neighborhood school; sports teams and the school play and a handful of clubs, 4-H rather than a model U.N., depend upon widespread participation. In a stable, which is to say blessedly immobile, community, kids know one another, and while to know Eric and Dylan may not have been to love them,

the ties of human sympathy and lifelong friendship with at least some of their classmates might have braked the homicidal slide.’

So, Mr. Speaker, I would say again, we need to go back to smaller high schools, even if in older buildings or even with fewer courses.

Let me mention one other thing, Mr. Speaker. Insight Magazine, a publication of the Washington Times, had a cover story a few days ago which said, almost all of these school shootings over the last 2 or 3 years have been done by young people who were taking or had recently taken very strong, mood-altering drugs such as Ritalin or Prozac.

I remember another article in the Knoxville News-Sentinel, which said we were prescribing Ritalin in the United States at six times the rate of any other industrialized Nation.

This article quoted a former top official of the DEA who said Ritalin had the same properties as cocaine and some of the strongest illegal narcotics. One study I heard about said Ritalin was most often taken by young boys who had both parents working full time.

I know some of this may be necessary, but I question whether we need it at six times the rate of other industrialized nations. Some of it may be essential, but some of these children may be just boys crying out for more attention.

We certainly should not be turning our children into drug addicts.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, we need smaller schools and fewer drugs and more time and attention for our children.

HONORING NEW PSALMIST BAPTIST CHURCH ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize significant events that occurred 100 years ago, in the year of 1899.

A century ago our Nation was engaged in the Philippine-American War and ending the Spanish-American War. Two great literary works were being created by two of the few African-American authors, Booker T. Washington's *Up From Slavery* and W.E.B. DuBois' *The Philadelphia Negro*. Two automobile empires would begin to prosper, with the entrance of Henry Ford and David Buick into the industry; and Duke Ellington and Ernest Hemingway, and, most significantly, New Psalmist Baptist Church of Baltimore City were born.

As we reflect 100 years later on this rich history, it is my honor and privilege to congratulate my pastor, Dr.

Walter Scott Thomas, and my New Psalmist Baptist Church family on our 100th anniversary to be celebrated this week. What a blessing for our church celebration to be a part of a centennial anniversary of so many momentous events in our Nation's history.

From its meager beginnings in an alley, New Psalmist was guided by Reverend Junius Gray, its founder and visionary leader. From its home at Riggs Avenue and Woodyear Street to North and Druid Hill Avenues in Baltimore, Reverend Frederick Atkins took the reins and preserved the traditions and spirit of the church.

Over the years, New Psalmist Baptist Church has flourished, expanding from a membership of 5 to more than 5,000. Under the illustrious leadership of its current pastor, Dr. Walter Scott Thomas, the church has done the following:

Birthing 13 ministers; founded a fully accredited Christian school, grades pre-K through 5; an education ministry; establish a 3-year discipleship program; launched two radio broadcasts aired throughout the Mid-Atlantic region and a television ministry aired twice weekly; and established several outreach ministries, including those focused on seniors, youth, health and prison.

I was especially honored to welcome our Nation's top leader, President Bill Clinton, to our church on November 1, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, 100 years after the birth of New Psalmist, our Nation has also made tremendous strides. Our Nation has fought and won numerous wars and strives to encourage the principles of democracy worldwide.

African-American literature, movies and music have infiltrated American culture and have become widely recognized by the mainstream. The automobile industry has developed battery-operated and electric motor vehicles, and there are 39 African-Americans that have been elected to serve as Members of the United States House of Representatives.

Even with all of these changes, albeit positive, it is still good to know that some things do remain the same. New Psalmist remains a key cornerstone of spiritual leadership to my home district of Baltimore and to the Nation, as well as a source of inspirational outreach and education.

Pastor Thomas, associate ministers, officers and members have carried on a legacy of selfless dedication and commitment to the greater Baltimore community. Not only are souls being saved, but lives are being revitalized and uplifted. Members are educating Baltimore's youth, assisting in getting people to work, and ensuring that citizens are getting appropriate health care. In other words, the church is helping real people with real-life issues.

Walking in faith and working together for good, New Psalmist has pro-

vided leadership and strength to families, men, women and children, searching for a church home. Personally, Pastor Thomas and the members have had a profound impact and have been a constant source of strength in my life and that of my family's, and it is good to have my minister and my church to call upon in good and tough times.

So it is today that I applaud New Psalmist on its continued spiritual tradition and congratulate Pastor Walter Scott Thomas and my church family on its 100th anniversary.

MANAGED CARE REFORM

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

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, at first it was campaign finance reform, then it was gun safety and school violence; now it is health care reform where we see an unfortunate recurring pattern taking place by our Republican leadership.

Mr. Speaker, on issue after issue, the leadership uses its power to stomp out any real discussion on the House floor. Once again, those of us who care about patients' rights have no alternative, no alternative but to sign a discharge petition to force a discussion on managed care reform, because, my colleagues, serious proposals for meaningful health care reform have been rejected by the Republican leadership.

Why? I am not sure, but it certainly looks like they are trying to protect the profits of the managed care industry. And that is protecting managed care industry's profits over the protection of all of our constituents, every single Member of the House of Representatives and the people we work for.

While they claim reform would actually allow the Federal Government to interfere with the doctor-patient relationship, our families are left unprotected.

Democrats in Congress have been waiting 2 years to pass a Patients' Bill of Rights, because we are ready. We are ready to improve Americans' access to health care. On the other hand, the leadership in this Congress has taken their sham bill from last year, broken it into eight pieces, eight pieces that they want to sell this year as health care reform.

Well, we have to be clear about this. There is no real change in their piecemeal approach. Their same refusal to protect doctors and patients from the insult of an insurance clerk's ability to dictate medical treatment procedures remains. The American Medical Association, in fact, says that their package falls short of the mark; says it does not solve any of the problems our doctors and patients have.

It is time, Mr. Speaker, to put doctors and patients back in charge of our