EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the best students in my district, Brandi Nichole Gaskey, has just graduated from Farragut High School. She has had an amazing four years in high school. She was a member of the National Honor Society all four years, and she was also President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes her junior and senior year.

Brandi was also involved in sports at Farragut and was voted most athletic, as well.

Mr. Speaker, recently Brandi Gaskey was asked to give the commencement address at Farragut High School. I have attached a copy of her remarks that I would like to share with you today how to develop your character, and exactly why it does count.

Mr. Mandela tells us, "Persevering of our character is like the forming of an icicle. He concludes that an icicle complete one drop at a time until it is about one foot or two long. If the water is clear, the icicle grows through the year, honored." His words come to mind when we face challenges and setbacks. The forming of an icicle, for example, starts with just a little bit of water. But as it freezes, it grows longer and longer, until it is a beautiful, shiny icicle. The same is true for our character. It may start small, but with time and effort, it can grow into something beautiful and strong.

Hope for this year in which we proudly finished with a winning record of 16-12. Or hope that our character will count in the future. Our nation, hope that what we do matters.

Just like the Bible says, your character produces hope. Hope through God that we will see the A. Character is all these things. It is your character that will determine your future. The dreams you have, the goals you set, and the path you choose will all be shaped by your character.

Hope through character 1999 GRADUATION ADDRESS

(By Brandi Nichole Gaskey)

Mr. Superintendent, friends, family, distinguished guests, faculty, and fellow graduates of the class of 1999, before we called our commencement address, the question was asked “Does character count?”

Although I could not think of one word to define character, I respond with an enthusiastic YES, character does count. I counts for you and me and every person we will ever come in contact with. It counts in a big way through the small things we do or say every day. Character is who you are in the dark, when no one is looking. It’s the inside, the gutsy stuff you’re made of that still lives life in the best way he can, or someone who works so hard and only makes enough money to feed his/her family. Or someone who falls so many times but keeps on trying and trying again and no one knows how bad they’ve hurt or hard they’ve worked. It’s studying so hard for an AP Latin test, a math exam or a foreign language exam to realize you make a D, so the next time you study so much harder and finally make the A. Character is all those things. It is your character that will determine your future. The dreams you have, the goals you set, and the path you choose will all be shaped by your character.

Character is your set of values that are non negotiable. It’s the quality of life given to you by God to say that is right and to stand up for it. For you see, your character can make a difference, hope that we are going to be the best future leaders, parents, teachers, ministers, and merchants in the history of our nation, hope that what we do matters, and hope that our character will count informing a better tomorrow. So be the people the character you are called to be and work daily on strengthening your soul and developing your inner spirit. Margot Isobel once said that reveals the importance of your true heart and true character. She said, “I think t’would be lovely to live and do good, to grow up to be the girl that I should. A heart full of sunshine and a life full of grace are beauty far better than beauty of face. I think t’would be lovely to make people glad, to cheer up the lonely, discouraged, and sad. What matter if homely or pleasant face, if homely and pleasant heart is going to be.” So you see your character can make a difference in the lives of others. It’s what’s on the inside, your inner spirit, it’s what’s inside that counts. More than 18 years, what you’ve persevered through at home and at school, it’s your character that

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know soon whether this procedure worked to treat primary tumors" if the cancers have not returned, he says.

That’s part of phase II of the China project. In four to six weeks, Vance will choose 10 more patients in China to have primary tumors of the lung removed and Sewell will perform their surgeries. A month later, those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography (PET) scans to examine whether their cancers are indeed destroyed. Since lung cancer is aggressive, about a month after surgery is an ideal time to evaluate the outcome, and Vance says.

“We will evaluate the effects of radiofrequency ablation with and without combined chemotherapy and radiation therapy . . . to assess overall survival,” states Vance. Both mid- and late-stage lung cancer are being treated in the China project.

“We’ll collect the data, publish it, and hope to prove our hypothesis—that this will be an effective way to treat a variety of lung tumors,” Sewell concludes.

CLEVELAND WILL MISS DON WEBSTER
HOl. STEVE C. LATouRette
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, November 18, 1999

Mr. LATouRette. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a Cleveland legend who is leaving our fair city and heading south. Don Webster will no longer give Clevelanders watching him are losing our hair. When it comes to tanning, Don Webster gives us a beautiful Hilton Head, South Carolina, where I’ve known him since I was about 10 years old.

It’s Academic and The Ohio Lottery Show to working in management as station manager. In his 35 years with Channel 5, Don Webster did a little bit of everything—from hosting the show—the second-highest-rated game show in America as the host of nationally syndicated, rock ‘n’ roll dance show Upbeat. Don Webster hosted the show—the second-longest running show of its kind in history—for seven years. He got to meet just about every character with his meteorological prowess whenever he choose 10 more patients in China to have primary tumors of the lung removed and Sewell will perform their surgeries. A month later, those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography (PET) scans to determine those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography (PET) scans to determine those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography (PET) scans to determine those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography (PET) scans to determine those 10 patients will have positron emission tomography (PET) scans to determine.