

Mr. KUCINICH stated his view that, "Under this bill, GAO would retain its traditional role as auditor . . . [the bill] preserves GAO's traditional role as auditor." I do not agree with his view. Instead, S. 1198 requires GAO to prepare an independent evaluation or analysis of agency regulatory proposals. Evaluation is not equivalent to auditing; evaluation requires a thorough analysis, e.g., consideration of less costly or non-regulatory alternatives not presented in an agency's documents. Second, Mr. KUCINICH stated, "Furthermore, [the bill] would not require the agency to conduct any new analysis." GAO's independent evaluation should lead agencies to prepare missing cost/benefit, small business impact, federalism impact, or any other missing analysis. S. 1198 does not require an agency to prepare a missing analysis but neither does it preclude an agency from doing so.

A TRIBUTE TO LIBBIE HICKMAN

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2000

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a dedicated Olympian from my district who is an inspiration to all athletes. Libbie Hickman, a resident of Fort Collins, Colorado, recently earned the proud distinction of representing our great nation at the 27th Olympic Summer Games in Sydney, Australia. Libbie was the fastest American runner in the qualifying race held Wednesday, September 27th, recording a time of thirty-two minutes and fifty-nine seconds. This qualifying time enabled Ms. Hickman to race in last Saturday's finals where she valiantly represented our nation in its quest for gold.

A graduate of Colorado State University, Libbie Hickman has always dreamed of achieving Olympic glory. She first started running at the age of eight, racing against her brothers in the front yard as her father timed them with his stopwatch. Libbie became serious about her running career during her senior year of college, changing her specialty from the 1,500 meter race to the 3,000 meter race. However, it wasn't until four years later, in 1991, that Libbie Hickman truly made her mark by winning the Association of Road Running Athletes (ARRA) circuit title. Since then, Libbie has placed in the top ten of the finishers in twenty-one of the races in which she has participated. In 14 of those races, she finished in the top 5, and in 5 of them, she won the event.

In her spare time, Libbie Hickman is a self-described "gardening freak" who thinks she might have been a professional gardener if her passion for running were not so strong. Passion for her sport has driven her to work hard in pursuit of her Olympic dream. This passion was on display Wednesday as she led the American team to a qualifying spot in the 10,000 meter finals. Libbie finished 10th in her heat, and 20th overall. She was the only American woman who qualified to go to the finals on Saturday. While Libbie did not win the race, she won our hearts and proved herself a fierce and respected competitor, and an

inspiration to the people of Colorado, and the entire nation.

It is with great pride that I stand today to congratulate one of Colorado's genuine Olympic heroes. Libbie Hickman is a true American heroine. She has displayed courage and perseverance in the tireless pursuit of excellence. She has competed on the world's biggest track and given her all to fulfill her Olympic dream. She has made us proud.

VETERANS' ORAL HISTORY
PROJECT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 3, 2000

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin, the Veterans' Oral History Project, because it encompasses American pride and patriotism. Our veterans are the heroes who helped preserve our American heritage. They are living evidence that freedom is never free, and they carry the honor of hundreds of thousands who breathed their last breath on the field of battle.

Some months ago, I introduced legislation to recognize the American G.I. as the most influential figure of the 20th century. I was proud that my legislation passed this House unanimously, and I believe the legislation we debate this evening is critical to our effort to recognize and preserve a record of the sacrifices of every man and woman who served our Nation. The importance of documenting the personal accounts of our country's veterans cannot be understated. For generations, American troops have served to ensure freedom and democracy in all corners of the world. Their contributions are woven not only into the history of a grateful nation but also the history of a peaceful world.

Over the course of the last few months, I have asked veterans throughout my district, the 8th District of North Carolina, to share with me their wartime experiences. Their response has been amazing. Every American should have the opportunity to read the brave accounts of veterans like James Holt, James Wells, and Willie Monday—to name just a few. Crew Chief Holt recounts his WWII missions and America's contribution in defeating Hitler. Similarly, Mrs. Shuping writes on behalf of her father, James Archie Wells, who fought to liberate Okinawa, and Captain Monday recalls his reconnaissance missions over the Philippines. This, Mr. Speaker, is the best of American history—and there is an abundance of it. That's why this legislation is so very important. The memory of those we lost and the sacrifice of those who lived to tell the tale must be preserved and held in high esteem by a Congress and a country that extends our veterans its utmost respect and heartfelt gratitude.

I commend my colleague from Wisconsin for his initiative on this issue and urge my colleagues support for this worthy legislation.

IN HONOR OF ABBOT ROGER W.
GRIES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Abbot Roger W. Gries who has been named "Catholic Man of the Year" by the Greater Cleveland Knights of Columbus Luncheon Club.

This is certainly a well-deserved title for Abbot Gries, a native Clevelander who has devoted most of his life to education, his faith and the Catholic Church. He professed his vows as a Benedictine monk more than 40 years ago and was ordained to the priesthood in 1963. Throughout his many years of dedicated service to Benedictine High School, Abbot Gries has held a number of different posts. He started out teaching mathematics, but his extraordinary skill as an educator was soon recognized as he was named Assistant Principal in 1965 and Principal in 1968.

Abbot Gries continued his successful reign as Principal at Benedictine until 1977, when he was appointed Prior of St. Andrew Abbey, the second superior of the monastery. Because of his outstanding work as Prior, his fellow monks elected him the fourth abbot of St. Andrew Abbey on June 9, 1981, a position that he holds to this day. In addition to his commitment to St. Andrew Abbey, Abbot Gries is also President of Benedictine High School. At this time, he is overseeing the implementation of the Master Plan currently underway at the Abbey and high school in the Buckeye-Woodland community.

Aside from his prominent role as an educator and abbot of St. Andrew Abbey, Abbot Gries also served at the Holy Family Parish in Parma, OH on weekends for 18 years and previously acted as the chaplain of the Maple Heights Knights of Columbus. He continues his active association with the Alhambra.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in honoring Abbot Roger W. Gries. This remarkable man reminds us all of the importance of faith, community, and volunteerism. We are truly lucky to have him in Cleveland.

TRIBUTE TO PRISCILLA HILLGREN

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 4, 2000

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, and I am proud to recognize Priscilla A. Hillgren in the Congress for her invaluable contributions and service to our nation.

Priscilla Hillgren distinguished herself through her devotion to her family, friends, and community. She was born in Beresford, South Dakota on June 26th, 1904, the daughter of a Lutheran minister. Her family instilled in her the value of an education, and she and her sisters attended college, which she interrupted twice to teach in a country school.