

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—Wednesday, December 19, 2001

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 19, 2001.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

O Lord, You are our God. We will extol You and praise Your name, for You have fulfilled Your wonderful plans of old, faithful and true.

From the barren earth You bring forth new life. From injustice and disaster You draw forth goodness and promises that reshape the world. We look to You, O Lord, ever faithful, in the midst of darkness and fear, to give birth to wisdom, at a time pregnant with insecurity, and promise to breathe forth integrity.

Bless this Congress with Your almighty power and gentle grace. Let not today's problems be left for tomorrow, rather lead this Nation to take steps that prepare the way for Your swift coming with justice and peace. Fulfill in our day Your true promise of abundant life and lasting security. We praise Your holy name both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. DOOLEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DOOLEY of California led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain 15 1-minutes from each side.

FAILED SCIENTIFIC PROCESS

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, well, here we go again. Last week, the Department of Energy changed the ground rules once again for judging the suitability of Yucca Mountain.

How convenient for them to change the guidelines after scientists began to conclude the natural features of the mountain would not work.

You cannot change the rules of the game once the game has begun, Mr. Speaker. The audacity of the Department of Energy is deplorable. First, their own Inspector General cites 9 years of possible collusion of a corrupt law firm; then, the GAO warns that the plans the DOE has shown to Congress and the Nevadans may not describe the facility the GAO would actually build and develop. And now, after changing the regulations to suit their science, we, the American people, are supposed to trust them?

The Department of Energy should be ashamed of itself. It is time to put the safety of Nevadans and Americans ahead of their own desire to win at any cost.

TRIBUTE TO WASHINGTON, WEST ALLEGHENY, AND ROCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAMS

(Mr. MASCARA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very special group of high schools in western Pennsylvania: Washington, West Allegheny, and Rochester High Schools. All three became Pennsylvania State football champions in their respective divisions.

The Washington High School Little Prexies defeated Pen Argyle 19 to 12 to win their first Pennsylvania State championship. The Little Prexies finished their season with a perfect record of 15 and 0, the only team in their division to finish their season without a loss. They are also the first team in Washington County to win a State championship game.

The West Allegheny Indians defeated Strath Haven 28 to 13, breaking Strath Haven's 44-game winning streak. This is the third consecutive year these two teams have met in the State finals, and West Allegheny's first win.

The Rochester Rams defeated Southern Columbia 16 to 0 to win their third Pennsylvania State championship, only the fourth team ever to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I know the entire House of Representatives joins me in congratulating the Washington High School Little Prexies, the West Allegheny Indians, and the Rochester Rams on their well-deserved State championships.

IN HONOR OF PHILIP LAMONACO

(Mr. LOBIONDO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a fallen New Jersey State Trooper, a man who served our State proudly. Twenty years ago Friday, Trooper Philip Lamonaco was shot and killed by two self-avowed revolutionaries during a traffic stop on a stretch of highway in Warren County. Trooper Lamonaco, who was named "Trooper of the Year" in 1979, left behind a wife and three children.

His murder sparked a dogged manhunt for his killers, and they were tracked down and jailed. Philip Lamonaco was the kind of law enforcement professional that inspires others to take up the fight to protect our communities. Since Philip's murder, his wife Donna, who I have met at several functions, has worked tirelessly as an advocate for police and their families. And earlier this year, Trooper Lamonaco's son Michael joined the New Jersey State Police, following the example of his father.

To the Lamonaco family, his friends and colleagues, I extend my condolences on this sad anniversary, and I extend the thanks of the people of New Jersey for his service. Philip Lamonaco will never be forgotten.

FAA MAILS PILOT LICENSES TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, while Congress continues to pass airline security measures, pilot licenses are flying to foreign countries faster than bin Laden's been running.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.