

IN RECOGNITION OF ERNEST  
PEPPLES AND HIS SERVICE TO  
THE U.S. TOBACCO INDUSTRY

**HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2001*

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an individual, Ernest Pepples, for his significant efforts on behalf of a valuable yet ever more challenged industry. Ernie has had a distinguished and honorable career within the global and U.S. tobacco industry and deserves the recognition of Congress at the time of his retirement.

Mr. Ernest Pepples joined Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corporation in 1972 and was appointed vice president and general counsel and became a member of the company's board of directors in 1975. He was named senior vice president in 1980. At the time of his retirement, he was responsible for the company's legislative representation and government affairs efforts including its relations with Congress.

Prior to joining Brown & Williamson, he was partner in the Louisville, Kentucky, law firm of Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs. A native of Louisville, Mr. Pepples is a graduate of Yale University and the University of Virginia Law School. He also is a member of the American, Kentucky, and Louisville Bar Associations.

Throughout his career, Ernie has served in leadership positions for a variety of boards and councils including the board of directors of the Tobacco Merchants Association of Princeton, New Jersey, and the Kentucky Tobacco Research Board of Lexington, Kentucky.

Now, in recognition of his retirement from Brown & Williamson and the tobacco industry after 30 years of service, I believe he should be duly recognized by this body for his integrity and personal efforts to find common ground on many difficult issues. Indeed, Ernie developed a reputation as a leading expert on regulatory and business issues involving not only tobacco manufacturers but also tobacco growers, suppliers, consumers, wholesalers and retailers. My district in Georgia has been a direct beneficiary of Ernie's talent.

It is with this background that I say thank you Ernie for his dedication and service over the years and congratulate him on an outstanding career. He has worked hard for his home state of Kentucky, Georgia and the entire tobacco community within our country. Those of us who have been privileged to work with Ernie will miss his hard work, honesty, and dedication. We will also miss his great smile.

Congratulations Ernie on an outstanding career and best wishes to you and your family upon retirement.

HONORING OSCAR FELDENKREIS

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2001*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is my very great pleasure to warmly congratulate

Oscar Feldenkreis on being honored for receiving the National Community Service Award by the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

Oscar Feldenkreis has become a successful entrepreneur and civic leader in the South Florida community. Following the wonderful example of success established by his father, Simon Wiesenthal Center Trustee and Miami leader, George Feldenkreis, Oscar diligently worked to build his empire in the apparel field. He began his career while still a student in high school, first in retail sales and then working at the headquarters of Supreme International, the company his father started. He has been President and Chief Operating Officer of Perry Ellis International since 1992.

Oscar is actively involved with the State of Israel Bonds for which he has served as president of the Cuban Hebrew Division. He has devoted his time and attention to the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Temple Menorah and the Lehrman Day School and is currently the chairman of the Florida Israel Chamber of Commerce.

First and foremost of all his accomplishments, he is the proud and loving father of three beautiful daughters (Jennifer, Erica and Stephanie) and is deeply devoted to his wife, Ellen. I want to join with his family, friends, and colleagues in celebrating this outstanding honor and I wish him every future success.

TRIBUTE TO DOMINIK HASEK

**HON. JACK QUINN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2001*

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the greatest goaltender of all time, Dominik Hasek, for his most generous gift to the city of Buffalo, NY. Yesterday, the Dominator provided \$1 million—the largest single donation ever by a Buffalo athlete—to establish his own charitable foundation called Hasek's Heroes. The money will be used to create a hockey and skating program for underprivileged Buffalo youth.

The program, to go into effect in September, will be overseen by a board of directors and operated by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. The program will include a USA Hockey-certified coaching staff, and will initially be open to children ages 6–14.

The plan is to expand the program to those 18 and younger and establish teams that will play a competitive schedule throughout the region.

In closing, I want to once again thank the Dominator for becoming a Donator, and as a loyal Sabres fan I look forward to watching him shutdown the rest of the Eastern Conference in the upcoming NHL playoffs.

A TRIBUTE TO PHILIP COYLE,  
PENTAGON TESTING CHIEF

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2001*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to pay tribute to Mr. Philip E.

Coyle III, who recently left government service after six years as Director of Operational Test and Evaluation in the Department of Defense. Since he was confirmed in 1994, Mr. Coyle provided the leadership that sought to ensure that our men and women in uniform can feel confident in their safety while using the increasingly complex and deadly weapons systems being developed for the 21st Century.

Before joining the Pentagon in 1994, Mr. Coyle spent 33 years in service at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, where he was involved in the nuclear weapons testing program. From 1981 to 1984, he was named Associate Director for Test, and from 1987–93 he served as Laboratory Associate Director and Deputy to the Laboratory Director. He was also Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs in the Department of Energy under President Carter.

Since taking over the chief tester job, Mr. Coyle made a reputation for being pragmatic, balanced, knowledgeable, and candid. He has been called upon to effectively test jet fighters that can turn tighter, fly faster and be more stealthy than anything produced by this nation in the past. He has worked with the designers of our National Missile Defense program to devise tests that can gauge the success rate of a system that is often referred to as "hitting a bullet with a bullet." And he has helped ensure that a myriad of other planes, ships and land vehicles operate as effectively and safely as possible, both during training and in actual engagements.

The American military is the most advanced, strongest and best trained in history. Our soldiers, sailors, Marines and pilots are always ready to put their lives on the line to defend our nation and to protect freedom around the world. Their dedication and professionalism is respected and emulated by friend and foe alike. To a very great degree, their confidence in taking up the cause of freedom is based on their faith in the equipment we have provided them. And that faith is based on the knowledge that Mr. Coyle and his testers have done everything in their power to ensure that this equipment will respond when it is most needed.

Mr. Speaker, Philip Coyle has been named the recipient of the "Beyond the Headlines" award by the Project on Government Oversight public interest group, honoring his years of public service behind the scenes. His dedication to the safety and success of those who defend our nation surely makes him deserving of such an award. I ask my colleagues to join me in similarly recognizing him as a valuable public servant, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

BUCKEYES

**HON. DEBORAH PRYCE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2001*

Ms. PRYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Ohio State University Women's Basketball program, which on Wednesday night concluded in dramatic fashion its 2001 season by winning the Women's National Invitation Tournament.