CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

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Mr. FORBES appeared at the bar of the House and took the oath of office, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

The SPEAKER. Congratulations, you are now a Member of the 107th Congress.

WELCOMING THE HONORABLE J. RANDY FORBES TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to welcome the newest Member of the House, RANDY FORBES, of Chesapeake, Virginia.

RANDY won a hard-fought battle to represent the Fourth District of Virginia, which was represented by our former colleague and very, very good friend, Norman Sisisky, for the last 18 years.

RANDY comes to Congress with a strong legislative background. He has served in the Virginia General Assembly since 1990, first as a member of the House of Delegates, then as a State senator since 1997. He held leadership positions in both bodies.

RANDY also served as the chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia. He had tremendous success recruiting candidates and is credited with helping Republicans take control of the Virginia House of Delegates for the first time in modern history.

While in the General Assembly, RANDY was a leader in the Commonwealth's drive to abolish parole and enact truth-in-sentencing laws. He was the chief patron of a bill that allows teachers to enforce discipline in their classrooms without fear of being sued. And he led the effort to create a school construction grants program to assist localities with the skyrocketing costs of building new schools to help reduce classroom overcrowding.

I have known RANDY for a long time. He is good, he is honest, he is ethical, he is decent, he is humble, he is very, very capable legislator. I know he will be an outstanding addition to the United States Congress. He has a longstanding relationship with a number of other Members, particularly with those of us from the Virginia delegation and will have no trouble at all adapting to how things are done here in Congress.

RANDY earned his law degree from the University of Virginia and was the valedictorian of his 1974 graduating class at Randolph-Macon College. He and his wife of 22 years, Shirley, live in Chesapeake, Virginia. They have four children.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to welcome RANDY to the United States Congress. Joining us today are Senator JOHN W. WARNER and Senator GEORGE ALLEN, I, along with my other colleagues from Virginia and across the country, look forward to working with you.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE ON ELECTION TO CONGRESS

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

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I can think of no honor greater than the privilege of joining the men and women of this body for whom I have such great respect. I want to personally thank you, the congressional leadership, and those men and women on both sides of the aisle who have been so gracious in assisting us in our quick transition to this new office.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank all the people of the Fourth Congressional District for giving me their trust and confidence. I particularly want to thank my wife, Shirley, my children, family, friends and constituents for all their help. I promise to each of you that I will give all my energy, all my ability, and all my passion to representing the ideals of this Congress and of fulfilling the hopes, dreams and needs of the people of the Fourth Congressional District of Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, last but certainly not least, I am grateful to the Lord for giving me the wonderful gift of living in the greatest Nation on the face of the earth. I will continue to pray that God will give me the wisdom and strength to serve the men and women of the fourth district and that He will continue to bless this great Nation.

REPUBLICANS TRIUMPH IN ANNUAL CONGRESSIONAL BASEBALL GAME

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

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today is the day of bragging rights for the congressional baseball game. I am proud to
announce that the Republican team won 9 to 1 on Thursday night. I want to thank MARTIN SABO and all the Demo- crats who participated as well as our own team for a wonderful game. We had over 3,000 people come out to the Baysox ballpark for the game and raised over $30,000 for charity, the Washington Literacy Council and the Boys and Girls Club of Washington.

We are very, very proud of that. This is a great tradition. This is the 40th congressional game in the modern era. I want to thank everybody who partici- pated.

I thought I would immortalize this year’s game in poetry so it goes down in the literary, as well as the sports, annals and, in the process, raising the level of culture a little bit in this great Chamber.

Many of my colleagues may remem- ber this famous poem by Gerald Hern on the old Boston Braves pitching stars, Warren Spahn and Johnny Sain. They were the team’s only two reliable pitchers:

First we’ll use Spahn
and then we’ll use Sain.

Then an off day
followed by rain.

Back will come Spahn
followed by Sain
and followed we hope
by 2 days of rain.

With apologies to Mr. Hern, I have adapted his poem into an ode to my starting pitcher and MVP. STEVE LARGENT, the gentleman from Okla- homa.

First we’ll use Largent
and then we’ll pitch him again.

As long as his arm’s good
we’ll pitch him in sun or in rain.

Sadly, now he’s retired like Spahn and like Sain.

I probably won’t see his likes again.

Auditioning new pitchers will be a big pain
because you know from last year
that walks drive me insane.

There’s just one honor
at which Steve can now aim,
not Governor but induction
in the Roll Call Baseball Hall of Fame.

There has been no contact with her since she was arrested over 4 months ago. All attempts to locate Gao Zhan have failed. The United States embassy in China and other United States officials as well as attorneys from both the United States and China have tried to locate the whereabouts of Gao Zhan. The Chinese government has refused to share any further information. I have introduced H.R. 1385, which grants Gao Zhan citizenship in the United States without her being ad- ministered the oath of renunciation and allegiance. This bill is critical since Gao Zhan is being held against her will in China and the law provides different treatment to United States citizens than it does to United States lawful permanent residents.

Congress needs to confer this citizenship on Gao Zhan. She is one who needs to be reunited with her family.

TIME TO STOP POINTING FINGERS

(Mr. FOLEY asked and was given per- mission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, in the past few weeks Governor Gray Davis has turned up the rhetorical heat while Californians have turned out their lights because of rolling blackouts ex- pected to plague the State all summer long.

The Governor has left no stone unturned in his campaign to point fingers in any direction. He has blamed the Federal Government. He has blamed electric utilities. He has blamed energy companies. He has even blamed President Bush. My God. He is the Energizer bunny of bankrupt ideas.

President Bush recognizes that America faces serious energy short- ages, so his administration is putting forward a comprehensive plan to pro- tect consumers from fluctuating fuel costs using 21st-century technology to diversify our clean and affordable en- ergy sources.

But what does Gray Davis do? He hires spin doctors at $30,000 a month paid for by the taxpayers to explain why his State is suffering. I am sure Governor Davis realizes this is an inap- propriate use of tax dollars, consider- ing he is sitting on $26 million in campaign cash.

This reminds me of another disaster, Mr. Governor, the Exxon Valdez. That is your administration.

MONUMENT NEEDED FOR SOME OF THE BRAVEST AMERICANS

(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, today is the 125th anniversary of Custer’s last stand, a sad chapter in American his- tory. To make it even worse, there is only one monument at Little Bighorn, to—General Custer!

Unbelievable. As the story goes, Uncle Sam took the whole Indian Na- tion and put them on a reservation. He took away their native tongue, taught English to their young, took away their way of life, killed their children and their wife. And even the beads they made by hand were then imported from Japan.

Beam me up. Is it any wonder that these brave warriors joined together massively for one lasting victory to be remembered throughout all of Amer- ican history?

Now, Mr. Speaker, their descendants fight along with our soldiers to keep America free.

I yield back the need to build a last- ing monument in tribute to some of the bravest Americans who ever lived right here in Washington, D.C.

PRICE CONTROLS MAY BE NICE POLITICS BUT THEY ARE LOUSY POLICY

(Mrs. BIGGERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, day in and day out I hear calls for price con- trols on electricity, and I wonder were the 1970s that long ago, or are we just suffering from convenient amnesia? Am I the only one who remembers the gas price controls imposed by Presi- dent Richard Nixon in an effort to en- sure an adequate supply of gasoline at reasonable rates? Am I the only one who remembers that the resulting arti- ficial low prices did not lower con- sumption, but did lower supply? If I am the only one who does not look fondly back on the days of long lines at the local service station and gas rationing. Price controls may be nice politics, but they are lousy policy. The bottom line is that we are trying to meet today’s energy needs with yesterday’s energy infrastructure, and it is not working.

Our energy demand has increased 47 percent over the last 30 years, and yet we have half as many oil refineries, static pipeline capacity and 20 times as many mandated gasoline blends. Low energy prices through the 1980s and 1990s have lulled American consumers and producers into believing that low prices will always be there, but now we know that is not true.

MUHAMMAD ALI

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today almost 1 week after the...