June 26, 2001


Perhaps Ali’s greatest testament was the only fight in which he declined to participate. With the war in Vietnam dragging on, the draft call was expanded, and the heavyweight champion of the world was reclassified as 1A, eligible for military service.

Ali was told the news at a training camp in Miami, and, badgered all day by the press, he came out with the now famous line: “I ain’t got no quarrel with them Viet Cong.”

It may have been a spontaneous remark, but he stuck by his word with courage, conviction and stood out against the conflict in Vietnam. His courage to stand by his belief in the years when the war was still favored by the majority of Americans will stand as a testament to those who protested.

I would encourage, Mr. Speaker, my colleagues in joining, along with the other 40 cosponsors, in awarding Muhammad Ali a Congressional Gold Medal. Please sign up.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARLTON ‘CHEWY’ JIMERSON, THIS YEAR’S OUTSTANDING PLAYER AT UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the University of Miami baseball team on its exceptional coach Jim Morris for the flawless performance that enabled them to win the College World Series. The Hurricanes celebrated their 12-to-1 win over Stanford, and this victory marks their second annual title in 3 years.

Professional teams have drafted 11 talented Hurricanes, but it is Charlton Jimerson who won this year’s Outstanding Player Award. Chewy, as he is called by his teammates, survived an unstable childhood. He was raised by his sister Lanette, who inspired confidence so that he would achieve and succeed. By writing a letter, Chewy invited himself to play at the University of Miami, and today this fifth-round draft choice of the Houston Astros is described as the emotional fuse for a dynomite team.

I ask my congressional colleagues to join me in commending outstanding player Charles Jimerson, his talented coach Jim Morris, and the amazing University of Miami baseball team for an outstanding victory once again.

FINGERPOINTING MAY WIN POLITICAL POINTS AT HOME BUT IT DOES NOT SOLVE OUR NATION’S ENERGY CRISIS

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

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, during this current energy situation, there has been a lot of finger pointing and blame in this Chamber. That may win political points at home, but it sure does not solve the problem.

President Bush has put forth a very responsible plan to solve our energy problem. He has taken the lead. It is a balanced plan that stresses conservation as well as increased supply. We, of course, want to protect the environment and be responsible with the plan. There is no question in that.

We also need to reduce our dependency on foreign sources of supply. It is time that America is in charge of our supply of energy, not Saddam Hussein.

IT IS DEMOCRATS WHO HAVE PUT CALIFORNIA INTO THIS ENERGY MESS

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

Mr. SAM JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, I am sick and tired of being sick and tired; sick and tired of hearing Democrats complain about the energy crisis. The last time I checked, the Democrat Governor Gray Davis was and is in charge of California. The last time I checked, Democrats also controlled the White House for 8 long years and did nothing. Bill Clinton and Al Gore had plenty of time to examine and solve the energy crisis in California while they were out there visiting Buddhist temples, but they did not. Instead, Democrats like Daschle and Gehrhardt just play the blame game.

Democrats are blaming George Bush and Dick Cheney for the California energy problem. They must have forgotten this administration just took office. If the Democrats had been wise, they would have been drilling for oil, building new energy plants and building new transmission lines. That is what it takes to solve the problem is finding resources. In short, it is the Democrats who are the energy hostages in this mess. Americans do not want, need or deserve the California energy problems.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ISAKSON). The Chair would remind Members that it is not in order to address members of the other Chamber.

PRICE CONTROLS, THE EVIDENCE IS THEY DO NOT WORK

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

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, wholesale electric price controls do not work. What better example of this than California? Leading energy experts have been saying for months that one major reason California is in its current energy mess is because of price controls. Now we have further evidence that the price controls are not the answer.

Last week the Department of Energy released a report indicating that if Governor Davis gets his way and a cost-plus-$25 price cap is implemented, Californians will be literally in the dark.

The Department of Energy report concludes that Governor Davis’ price caps would result in the delay or abandonment of about 1,300 megawatts of capacity scheduled to be constructed in the State. What does this mean to Californians? It means that 90,000 additional households could be affected.

As Pennsylvania learned, deregulation can be implemented with success, but price caps and unnecessary government regulations result in shortages and higher prices. We in Pennsylvania know that.”

HARD-WORKING AMERICANS DESERVE ANSWERS AND THEY DEMAND A SOUND ENERGY POLICY

(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, our economy over the last year has showed signs of slowing. Energy prices are already too high, and they are going higher. Much of our country faces either energy shortages, blackouts or both. Major energy shortages are expected throughout the summer for most of the West. Gas prices there top $2.25 a gallon at the pump. Hard-working Americans deserve answers, and they demand a sound energy policy.

Mr. Speaker, our Nation’s energy problems demand multifaceted solutions, including increased supplies of traditional fossil fuels and alternative sources of energy as well as improving energy conservation and efficiency. It will not be easy, and it will not be quick, but we have the technology and the resources to meet our energy needs for decades, even centuries, to come, while ensuring a clean environment as a legacy for our children as well.

We need to work with President Bush to create a balanced, comprehensive national energy policy that meets our energy challenges today and provides for our needs well into the future.