

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman. The pages have given to this institution and the page program. You have set a bar by which we can now challenge other page classes, and I want to thank you.

Mr. Speaker, also joining us is the gentleman from California (Mr. SCHIFF).

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time and for all of his work with the page program. I want to thank all of the pages for their service and take a moment to brag a little because Stella is from my district. I know how great Stella is, and I know you know how great she is. We were so delighted to have her join us. She has added a great deal to the page class, including directing the play "The Black Rose." Stella's folks are here today and are going on a tour. So please say hello to them. We are proud of the work you did and the work all of you did.

Mr. Speaker, I had a chance during college to intern here on Capitol Hill twice. It was a different experience than the page experience, but I hope many of you will come back as interns, as staff, and ultimately come back as Members of the House. And if you are lucky, you can become lords in the Senate and then we will have to show even greater respect to all of you.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all the pages very much for their work. It is tremendously appreciated. I want to wish you, Stella, and wish the entire class all the best of luck.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to steal some thunder from some of the words I will mention tomorrow afternoon and tomorrow evening, but you know what you have been doing and you know the role you have played here and the friends you have made and the relationships you have built. You take a unique quality back with you.

As a former high school history teacher, it is not the book learning; you have actually lived it. You are now some of the most informed people in the operating of the House of Representatives from the whole congressional district in which you reside. You know truth from fiction. You know, as the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) said, that people come here well intentioned to do the best job they can for their districts. You have seen the debates, and you have run out of the Capitol. You understand the environment we live in here, that representatives try to balance a thousand balls in the air at one time, and you have had to do that, too.

I am also speaking here for the floor staff on both sides of the aisle who have worked with you diligently, and you have worked with them, whether it is the school program which I applaud you on and your efforts in that respect, or it is the dorm staff. You truly have been a class that many of the people you have had to work with over the past year are honestly saying that they are going to miss you. I cannot think

of a better tribute to pay to a group of young men and women, than for those, especially adults that you have had to work with for over a year, to say I am going to miss that class.

Mr. Speaker, these pages have set the bar. We will challenge the incoming classes to try to meet their high standard. I hope they do. I hope we will continue to be better for that.

This period of time is in honor of the pages. You will get to celebrate with your families tomorrow night, say your good-byes and make America stronger by having well-informed young women and young men to get back into the everyday activities of our homes and how to make our country better. Thank you, God bless you all, and God bless the United States of America.

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my personal gratitude to all of the pages who have served so diligently in the House of Representatives during the 109th Congress. I have attached a list of the fine young people who have served this House as Pages.

We all recognize the important role that congressional pages play in helping the U.S. House of Representatives operate. This group of young people, who come from all across our Nation, represent what is good about our country.

To become a page, these young people have proven themselves to be academically qualified. They have ventured away from the security of their homes and families to spend time in an unfamiliar city. Through this experience, they have witnessed a new culture, made new friends, and learned the details of how our Government operates.

As we all know, the job of a congressional page is not an easy one. Along with being away from home, the pages must possess the maturity to balance competing demands for their time and energy.

In addition, they must have the dedication to work long hours and the ability to interact with people at a personal level. At the same time, they face a challenging academic schedule of classes in the House Page School.

I am sure they will consider their time spent in Washington, DC to be one of the most valuable and exciting experiences of their lives, and that with this experience they will all move ahead to lead successful and productive lives.

Mr. Speaker, as the Democratic Member on the House Page Board, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this group of distinguished young Americans. They certainly will be missed.

SPRING 2005 PAGES

Katy Ake—CA
Paul Bennett—FL
Rachel Bentley—OH
Emily Berger—CA
Katharine Billingslea—NC
Lauren Boswell—MD
Suzanne Brangan—TX
Stephen Burke—NJ
Kerrianna Butler—CA
Jon Calvo—GU
Elsbeth Centola—OR
Joy Chung—IA
Daniel Ciucci—CO
Stella Clingmon—CA
Stephanie Collard—RI
Juleah Cordi—CA
Matthew Cujak—WI
Awapuhi Dancil—HI

Ruben Davis—PA
Lauren DeNunez—CA
Caroline Dickerson—TX
Edward Dumoulin—IL
Timothy Ford—MI
Adam Hammond—ID
Lane Hartley—VA
Alexandra Heard—MD
Lauren Henley—IL
Allison Holmer—CA
Amanda Huth—TX
Sarah Jaeschke—AR
Derek Jannarone—NJ
Holly Johnson—VA
Krystal Johnson—AL
Jaclyn Kahn—NJ
Rosemary Kelley—VA
Zachary Kirihara—CA
Dean Ladin—IL
Thomas Leonard—PA
Peter Linscheid—MI
Seth Lloyd—VI
Anthony Lupo—CA
Tyson McBride—UT
Caitlin McGowan—MN
Conor McManus—FL
Shannon Magnuson—FL
Jeremy Moore—MI
Chelsie Morales—AZ
Richard Moses—KY
Lucy Nicholas—CT
Darren Nowels—MD
Travis Proctor—KS
Danielle Raines—AZ
Rachel Romer—CO
Taylor Salisbury—MO
Matthew Sheldon—NM
Sara Skiles—MS
Kellie Staab—PA
Elizabeth Stone—TN
Joshua Strazanac—MI
Michael Trummel—WY
Dustin Tryggestad—WI
Allison Vanderboll—WA
Sarah Walker—AR
Whitley Wallace—UT
Ginger Wells—KS
Wesley Williams—MA
David Wilson—PA
Kevin Wood—TX

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MACK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

EXCHANGE OF SPECIAL ORDER TIME

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim the time of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

THREAT TO OUR SOUTHERN BORDER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.