

for the rest of the world the best of the American character.

[From the Duluth News-Tribune, Mar. 3, 1995]
A SAILOR, A SAVIOR—WRENSHALL MAN, CREW
SAVE 38

(By Jason Skog)

When Scott Gardner heard there were babies on board the rapidly sinking water taxi, he jumped from the pier into the swift Bahamian channel's current and began saving lives.

After throwing dozens of life jackets into the water and swimming some frightened tourists to safety, Gardner and his fellow U.S. Navy crew members saved 38 people.

Gardner, a 24-year-old Wrenshall native serving aboard the USS Yellowstone, was docked in Nassau, Bahamas, on Feb. 22 when the alarms sounded. He humbly retold his story of heroism and bravery from a pay phone in Norfolk, VA., where his ship was docked this week.

Gardner's latest rescue came almost a year after he got wet saving a drunken German sailor from drowning off the coast of Corfu, Greece.

It was around dinner time and Gardner was washing up when the Yellowstone's alarm sounded, signaling somebody was in danger.

He grabbed his gear and ran up top to the deck, where he saw a boat in the channel sinking quickly. Panicked and without life jackets, people on the sinking boat began jumping into the water.

"We were throwing life jackets off the pier, but we couldn't throw them all the way and they were washing against the pier," Gardner said.

Gardner said he wasn't sacred.

"I saw them and something just clicks and you say, 'Hey, idiot. Go in and help.'"

When the rescue ended, the Navy crew learned there were nearly 50 people aboard the flooded boat. Gardner's crew alone had saved 38 of them, including two babies. The others were saved by passing boats.

The Navy's Yellowstone is a repair ship that fixes other boats. Gardner, who joined the navy in 1992 after graduating from technical college, works as a machinist and fireman on the ship.

The captain of the Yellowstone had planned to stop in the Bahamas for a little fun, sun and snorkeling. The crew had just finished training drills in Cuba and the captain felt his crew needed a break before sailing to the Mediterranean Sea.

And if the alarm sounds again?

"If they made the call at 2 a.m., we'd be running down the pier," Gardner said. "Because if we were in the water, we'd want somebody running to save us."

PROMINENT CIS SCIENTISTS PROTEST CHECHNYA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as I noted yesterday, Russia has now passed the hundredth day of its armed intervention in Chechnya. The brutality continues. Moscow gives soothing words about a cease-fire, but the shelling and the bombing continue unabated.

With this in mind, I would call attention to an open letter that I recently received, courtesy of the American Foreign Policy Council. This letter was written by three of the most prominent

scientists currently living in the former Soviet Union. In this letter, A. Belavin, a physicist, and two mathematicians, V. Drinfeld and B. Feigin, characterize Moscow's actions as "genocide and crimes against humanity" and say, as I have maintained all along, that "these actions cannot be considered merely an internal affair of Russia." I urge President Clinton and others in his administration to keep in mind the powerful message in this letter, and hope that it would be included in the President's briefing book for his upcoming trip to Moscow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the full text of this letter be inserted in the RECORD at this time.

DEAR FRIEND: We are compelled to write to you from the feeling that terrible crimes committed by Russian authorities and armed forces in Chechnya are not accidental, and that we are all responsible for them. These crimes, according to the testimony of journalists, human rights defenders, and mothers of the soldiers fighting there, include not only the bombing of towns and villages inhabited by civilians, but also the capturing of hostages, robberies, [and] the organization of filtration camps where people, incarcerated on the basis of their race, and cruelly beaten, tortured, maimed and murdered.

All these actions should be characterized as GENOCIDE and crimes against humanity. They cannot be considered merely an internal affair of Russia.

The Chechen crisis is not accidental. It reveals the criminal essence of the political regime that is being formed in Russia. The most dangerous aspect of the present situation is the absence of a clear appreciation of this fact.

Instead, in the public opinion, especially in the West, there still exists the myth that Russia is moving toward democracy and reforms and, unless Yeltsin is supported, fascists of the type of Zhirinovskiy will take over.

We consider this opinion as deeply erroneous. Supporting democracy and human rights by words, the regime is persecuting them in a cynical and brutal way [*sic*]. Many facts give evidence for this, such as beatings and killings of honest journalists and human rights defenders who get and publish information dangerous for the regime, the criminal and corrupted methods of privatization, and many other things. Now there is an attempt of annihilation of a whole nation.

Acting by fascist methods, the regime uses Zhirinovskiy and the threat of fascism for manipulating public opinion.

Russia is not moving by the path of democracy and human rights. A new regime, unusual in its cruelty and falsehood, is being born. Whether the criminal regime or democracy with a human face will take over in Russia, will, in the first place, depend on people in Russia, our ability to understand the danger and take responsibility, [and] our courage and will to stand against evil.

However, the realization by people in the West of the true state of affairs of Russia and the support of democracy, not Yeltsin, are also crucial.

We ask your help in spreading our letter.

A. BELAVIN,
V. DRINFELD,
B. FEIGIN.

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF FULL COMPETITION IN ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS MAR- KETS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 22, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, in July 1993, I submitted for our colleagues highlights of the first WEFA [Wharton Econometric Forecasting Associates] Group study on the economic benefits of full competition in all telecommunications markets. In that study, the WEFA Group predicted that more than 3 million new jobs would be created over the next 10 years if all lines-of-business restrictions were lifted on the regional Bell companies.

The biggest obstacle to fulfilling the promise of telecommunications to the American people is the maintenance of policies at the Federal and State levels of government that restrict competition in communications markets. Regulation has failed to keep pace with the changes that have occurred in the telecommunications industry and the laws governing the industry are seriously outdated and need to be reformed. As Congress takes on the task of reforming and updating the Nation's telecommunications laws, policymakers should be mindful of the results of the most recent study by the WEFA Group that evaluated the economic impact of removing all regulatory barriers to entry in communications and permitting full competition in all communications markets.

Under one scenario, WEFA estimated the effects of immediate and simultaneous removal of all restrictions on competition in telecommunications, long distance, information services, and equipment manufacturing markets as well as the replacement of rate-of-return regulation with price regulation in all Federal and State jurisdictions. The predicted response by the economy, as determined by the WEFA Group—perhaps the Nation's preeminent economic forecasting group—gives overwhelming evidence and support that such change in policy is needed in the national interest. Under this scenario the economy would stand to gain an additional 3.4 million jobs over the next decade compared to the baseline forecast. In my home State of Michigan, immediate regulatory relief for all telecommunications companies would create more than 35,000 new jobs throughout the entire State's economy by 1998 and nearly 71,500 jobs by the turn of the century. Because telecommunications is so important to the functioning of the economy, the additional jobs created by the change of policy would be spread across all States and all major industry groups. Job gains would be realized as lower prices, service enhancements, and technology innovations all serve to boost economic activity. The surge in job growth would, in effect, discount the unemployment rate at the end of the 10-year period by 0.4 percent of a percentage point compared to the baseline forecast. At the conclusion of my remarks, I will include a statement by Morton Bahr, president of the Communications Workers of America, commending the WEFA Group study and stating that "we applaud any legislation that will bring jobs to communications workers and