

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE  
FRESNO BEE

**HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Fresno Bee on receiving the first-place award for general excellence from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. This is the second straight year the newspaper has won the organization's highest honor and the Fresno Bee is very deserving of this award.

The Fresno Bee has a daily circulation of 158,851 and a Sunday circulation of 191,963. It was judged against other daily newspapers with circulations of 75,001 to 200,000 copies. Clearly, this award displays the outstanding efforts of not only the Fresno Bee journalists, but of an entire newspaper staff who are committed to giving Fresno and the Central Valley a comprehensive, first-class newspaper. Naturally, the Fresno Bee exhibits strong local coverage, outstanding local photography and good local enterprise stories.

In addition to the general excellence award, the Fresno Bee received first-place awards for editorial comment, illustration/information graphics and design.

Associate Editor Russell Minick was honored for an editorial on a white supremacist groups' spreading of propaganda on the California State University Fresno campus. Mr. Minick took second place in the same category one year ago.

Bee artists John Alvin, Bob Campbell, Andrea Cooper and Severiano Galvan were given the graphics award for a two-page layout on the once-dominating Central Valley wetlands. Mr. Galvan earned the first-place award in the same category one year ago.

Bee photographer John Walker took second place for his photos featured in his portrait of Little Rascals star Tommy "Butch" Bond.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I congratulate the Fresno Bee on receiving the first-place award for general excellence from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. The Fresno Bee has provided 75 years of outstanding service to the Central Valley, using its excellent staff to create what truly is a first-class production. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Fresno Bee and its staff many more years of success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I was unable to be present for roll call votes 279 through 308. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on roll call votes 279, 281, 286, 287, 288, 290, 294, 295, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 303, 305 and nay on roll call votes 280, 282, 283, 284, 285, 298, 291, 292, 293, 296, 302, 304, 306, 307, and 308.

HONORING GRAND MASTER SEOUNG EUI SHIN FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NASHVILLE COMMUNITY AND THE SUCCESS OF THE SOUTHERN U.S.A. TAE KWON DO CHAMPIONSHIPS

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Grand Master Seoung Eui Shin and the 23rd Southern U.S.A. Open Tae Kwon Do Championships, of which he is director. Master Shin has served the Nashville community faithfully for more than twenty years, donating his time and talents to make a difference in the lives of countless children and young adults.

Master Shin was born in North Korea and grew up in South Korea during the turbulent times following World War II. By the age of 13, he had earned his black belt in Tae Kwon Do. He began to teach the art in high school and, later, in the Korean Army. He came to the United States and Nashville in 1974, and has been an invaluable member of the community ever since.

Now a ninth degree black belt, Master Shin is recognized around the world for his Tae Kwon Do abilities and his contributions to the martial art. He has become a leader in Nashville's Korean community and operates Shin's Martial Arts Institute in Bellevue. He gives freely of his time to programs at local elementary schools and community centers. Through his instruction, Master Shin has influenced the lives of many of his students. His students learn the value of control and self-discipline while gaining new respect for themselves and others. Several of Master Shin's students have gone on to teach Tae Kwon Do themselves, passing on what they have learned.

Seoung Eui Shin, by giving selflessly of his time to the youth of Nashville, has quietly made our world a better place and his become a role-model for us all. I thank you Master Shin for your contributions to our community and congratulate you and all the participants in the 23rd Southern U.S.A. Tae Kwon Do Championships.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. GLENN POSHARD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 29, 1998*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4194) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.:

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Chairman, it is with deep regret that I rise today in opposition to

the VA-HUD Appropriations measure for fiscal year 1999. I believe it provides inadequate funding for veterans' health care, and I cannot support a bill that shortchanges America's veterans in such an unjust manner.

As a veteran, I am acutely aware of and deeply grateful for the sacrifices that America's veterans have made in service to their country. As a legislator, I am committed to ensuring that the needs of these citizens are accorded the highest priority. I have great respect for Chairman LEWIS and Representative STOKES and am convinced of their concern for the welfare of our veterans. I also recognize the budget constraints which have forced them to make many difficult decisions. However, I believe that we can do better, and I am voting against this measure with the hope that veterans' health care and other programs will be granted the funding they deserve once it is made clear that this House will not tolerate such treatment of veterans' programs.

The funding levels provided in this measure are simply not sufficient to ensure the high quality health care our veterans deserve. The tragic result of such a shortfall will surely be the elimination or reduction of many VA specialized care programs and the inability of the VA to guarantee adequate care to the veterans who depend on its services. I trust that my fellow Members will agree that this is not the way we should demonstrate our appreciation for their service and sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this measure in an effort to make it clear to the American people and to the leadership of this body that we assign the utmost importance to funding programs that will meet the needs of America's veterans, and that this bill is a woefully inadequate expression of that priority.

COMMEND SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE EFFORTS TO REVIVE FAST TRACK

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 30, 1998*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would take a moment to commend the members of the Senate Finance Committee for their efforts last Tuesday to give "fast-track" authority to the President by attaching fast-track legislation to S. 778, the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. This action by the Senate was also applauded on the editorial page in the July 24, 1998, edition of The Omaha World-Herald, as necessary to protecting the economic health of our nation by giving the President the flexibility and authority to negotiate international trade agreements expeditiously.

Unfortunately, the Clinton administration, which initially stated fast track was one of their top legislative priorities, labeled this initiative by the Senate Finance Committee as "political mischief." Why is it that the Nebraska press can readily identify legislation designed to safeguard the interests of U.S. workers and consumers when all the administration can do is play politics?