

CONGRATULATIONS TO GEORGIA  
WARE**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 1998*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, anyone who has been an employer can tell you the difference great employees can make on behalf of a business or organization. Exceptional employees are the foundation of exceptional endeavors, happy clients or customers, successful businesses and extremely pleased bosses. It's true—great employees make their bosses look good!

When Georgia Ware retires from her job as Peter Herschend's Administrative Assistant at Silver Dollar City this October, Peter is going to have to work harder to keep up his image. Georgia has made him and Silver Dollar City in Branson, Missouri look really good for almost twenty years.

Many people only know Georgia Ware by telephone. When people call Peter Herschend, the Vice Chairman of Silver Dollar City, Inc.—the internationally—known family-oriented attraction in Branson—Georgia is who they talk to first and first impressions are important.

Georgia is more than an assistant. Her voice has the ultimate sound of hospitality blended with just the right amount of authority needed to represent a very busy and very sought after boss, as he tends to this unique family-owned business. She knows how to respond to CEO's, family friends, local business leaders, Governors, and even Congressmen—with just the right touch. Georgia is the perfect diplomat, ambassador and empathizer. Even "no" sound pretty good when she says it.

Georgia will be leaving Southwest Missouri to move closer to her only son, Jerry, his wife, Debbie and their daughter, Mindy. We know they look forward to her arrival and she surely is ready to be closer to them.

Silver Dollar City and all of us who work with them will sorely miss her contributions to their every day efforts. My best wishes and many thanks to Georgia—she is exceptional.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM RYUN**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 1998*

Mr. RYUN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote no. 426 on S. 2206, the Human Services Reauthorization Act of 1998. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT KENNETH  
R. HOBSON, II**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 1998*

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the memory of one of our Nation's brave young soldiers who gave his life in service to this

country. Sergeant Kenneth R. Hobson, II lost his life in the tragic bombing of the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi, Kenya.

This 27-year-old hero from Nevada, MO, was assigned to the U.S. Army Defense Attache, Kenya, in April 1998 as an administrative specialist. He dedicated almost ten years of his life to serving our country in the U.S. Army, enlisting in July 1989. Sergeant Hobson was a soldier whose bravery and skill were tested during the Persian Gulf War. As a result of his commitment to duty and freedom in that conflict, he was awarded the Southwest Asia Medal with two bronze service stars and two Kuwait Liberation Medals. He also served our Nation proudly in Germany during two previous tours there.

Sergeant Hobson was an accomplished soldier—the recipient of the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, three Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Air Assault Badge, and the Expert Marksmanship Badge.

Sergeant Hobson loved his country and believed in our Nation's tenets and principles. His beliefs were manifested in his dedication to the duties he was charged with and the commitment he displayed in service to our Nation, half a world away. Although his life was cut short by a terrorist's cruel attack, it is my sincere hope that his values and beliefs, instilled in him by his parents, Kenneth and Bonnie Sue, will be carried on by his wife, Deborah and daughter, Megan.

I invite my colleagues to join me in remembering Sergeant Kenneth R. Hobson, II and his family. I pray that we all let his courage and selfless commitment guide our public service and that we ensure his memory will never be forgotten.

## TRIBUTE TO ORLANDO COONS

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to honor Mr. Orlando Coons who passed away on September 7, 1998. Mr. Coons was born in Clark County, Ohio on November 1, 1915 to Grace and Blaine Coons. He moved to Los Angeles at an early age, where he attended and later graduated from Jefferson High School. While at Jefferson High School, Orlando ran track, played football, and taught himself gymnastics.

After graduating from high school, Orlando joined the Civilian Conservation Corps which eventually brought him to San Diego where he met and married Nellie Margaret Cheaves. In 1936, Orlando enrolled into San Diego State College, and majored in Engineering. He eventually transferred to the University of California at Berkeley where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering. Orlando Coon's lifelong occupation was as an Aeronautical and Aerospace Engineer for the Federal government at the North Island Naval Station in San Diego for 37 years.

While at San Diego State College, Orlando competed in track and field and gymnastics. He was very successful as a gymnast, earning honors including the California College Athletic Association Championship in 1939 when he

won an astounding six individual events. Orlando was the CCAA "All-Around" gymnastic champion in 1939 and 1940. In four gymnastic meets, Orlando Coons amassed the amazing total of ten firsts, two seconds, and two thirds, all attained against top competition.

As a reward for his performance, San Diego State College Dean C.E. Peterson appointed Orlando Coons as the Head Coach of the Gymnastics Team, making him the first African-American coach at San Diego State College. His team went on to win hundreds of awards. He won a 6th place medal at the United States Gymnastic Championships which automatically made him a member of the prestigious United States Gymnastic Team—thus becoming the first African-American ever on the United States team. Orlando Coons was invited to participate in the Pan American Games and was later appointed as an alternate on the United States Olympic Team.

For over a decade, Orlando Coons was considered the best gymnast on the West Coast. He was honored by the National YMCA for more than 50 years of community service as a gymnastics coach.

Orlando provided a tremendous amount of love and caring, discipline and love to his family and community. Orlando and wife Nellie had four children, and all received college and university degrees in higher education. He will be truly missed by family, friends and a grateful community.

A BIPARTISAN PROCESS SHOULD  
BE FUNDAMENTALLY FAIR TO  
ALL PARTIES**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 15, 1998*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, there was much discussion, in the media and in the halls of Congress, about how Congress would handle Independent Counsel Kenneth W. Starr's report on President Clinton. While members on both sides of the aisle agreed to work on a bipartisan basis, there remained an important area of contention. The failure to resolve that issue resulted in a process that is fundamentally unfair to the subject of the report, the President.

The President's private attorney, David Kendall, requested from Mr. Starr that he allow the President's legal team to see a copy of the report before transmitting it to Congress. Mr. Starr denied Mr. Kendall's request and delivered the report to Congress without including the President's views. There was, however, another opportunity for the President to be given a chance to read the report and submit any additional views. Speaker GINGRICH claimed repeatedly that there was no precedent for letting the President review the report even before it is released to the public. I respectfully disagree. There are several precedents for granting the targets such a period of review.

First, in August of 1993, the judges who supervised Special Prosecutor Lawrence Walsh's Iran-Contra investigation gave the targets of the investigation 30 days to read the report and submit comments. After releasing to the public in unclassified portions of the report and the subjects' comments, the court