

torque. They also possess extraordinary cornering power and a steering capacity unsurpassed in the history of the automobile. Today's cars also have braking systems designed to bring thousands of pounds to a halt rapidly. All these forces express themselves through four patches, each the size of a human hand. That tires perform 700 revolutions per mile, mile after mile to 50,000 miles and beyond with such low rates of failure is extraordinary.

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. said, "great cases, like hard cases, make bad law." Congress was put under extraordinary pressure to act quickly on an extremely complex issue in developing the TREAD Act. The TREAD Act should not be viewed as a panacea for the recent car tragedies. While the TREAD Act sets higher standards for tire performance, tires will continue to fail. Because of the imperfect nature of the tire, it will take continual attention from the industry, consumer groups, regulators and Congress to assure the safety of tire consumers above and beyond the TREAD Act.

While Congress cannot legislate a perfect tire, this is good law and improves current safety standards. In spite of the time constraints, intricacy of the issue, and politically charged atmosphere, the TREAD Act sets out realistic standards that improve safety and can also be reasonably implemented by the industry and enforced by NHTSA.

First, the Act requires manufacturers to report comprehensive foreign and domestic tire data, such as claims and warranty information, that will help NHTSA uncover safety problems across the world, not just in the United States.

Second, the Act holds NHTSA accountable for any data it receives from manufacturers. The agency must tell Congress how it plans to analyze the data as well as what systems it has in place to process the data. This way Congress and the public knows that the information will be used to help identify safety problems and not filed away behind some regulators desk.

The TREAD Act presents a balanced approach to improving tire safety. Because of this Act, we can expect that when a problem occurs, it is identified, its cause is established, and consumers are better protected. In the end, we crafted a bill that is a significant achievement and moves toward greatly improving consumer safety.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SAMOAN HEAVYWEIGHT BOXER DAVID TUA

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, what is it that Olympian gold-medalist volleyballer Eric Fonoimoana, Junior Seau of the San Diego Chargers, Joe Salvare'a of the Tennessee Titans, Edwin Mulitalo of the Baltimore Ravens, Naomi Multaupo of the Utah Starzz, Marcus Tuiasopopo of the Washington Huskies, All-American UCLA discus thrower Seilala Su'a, Yokozuna Sumo Grand Champion Musashimaru, Ozeki Sumo Champion Konishiki, WWF Wrestling Champion Tuipei, "The Rock", and heavyweight boxer David Tua all have in common? Mr. Speaker, they

are all Samoans. Not Somalians. Mr. Speaker—they are Samoan Polynesians who share the same cultural heritage like the Maoris of New Zealand, the Hawaiians or Kanaka Maoli, Tongans, and Tahitians.

After the elections Mr. Speaker, I suggest to my colleagues and to the millions of boxing fans throughout America, to kick back and turn their TV sets on to HBO and witness one of the most historical events that will transpire on the evening of November 11th in Las Vegas—the world heavyweight boxing championship fight between Lennox Lewis and Samoan heavyweight boxer David Tua.

Mr. Speaker, it is against Samoan tradition to be boastful and arrogant—but as a totally neutral observer and with all due respect—Lennox Lewis is going to painfully wake up the next morning and count how many ribs he has left, and then he will wonder if he was hit by either a dump-truck or a D-nine caterpillar tractor, after fighting against David Tua.

You see, Mr. Speaker, this guy David Tua—he has the heart and soul of a true Polynesian warrior. He's got a nasty left hook and a deadly right hand knockout punch. He only weighs about 250 pounds. He has no neck, and his legs and calves are like tree trunks—which is typical of Samoan men who also wear what we here in America describe as skirts, but they are actually lavalavas.

I want to express my personal thanks and appreciation to the good people of New Zealand—all the pakehas and our Polynesian cousins the Tangata Maohi for looking after David Tua and his family, and for their acceptance of David Tua—and I say to my Maori cousins—"Tena Koutou! Tena Koutou!" Thank you, Thank you!

Mr. Speaker, in describing David Tua's physical presence, I am reminded of a poem that a Hawaiian comedian Frank Delima once wrote about Samoans. By the way, Mr. Speaker, David Tua's favorite past time is writing poetry. Anyway, the poem, in part, is entitled "Abdullah Fata'ai" and it goes like this:

I'm nine feet tall and six feet wide.
I got a neck made of elephant hide
I scrape da haoles off the soles of my feet
I drive my Volkswagen from the back seat

* * * * *
I eat green bananas, tree and all
My favorite game is tackle football
I wear a skirt, but you better not laugh
Cause it won't be funny when I break you in half

I'm as gentle and sweet as a grizzly bear
Only difference is he got more hair

* * * * *
I got the nicest smile in all the Pacific
I got an island home that's super terrific
But I don't like fight and you don't like die
So when I say, "Talofa!" you better say, "Hi!"

Mr. Speaker, I call upon the Prime Minister of the Independent and Sovereign State of Samoa and the Governor of the U.S. Territory of American Samoa to declare November 11th as National David Tua Day. It will be a day that will be remembered by Samoans throughout the world—the Samoan "David" going up against the Goliath "Lennox Lewis"—and we all know the results of that famous encounter.

I do not know if David Tua is listening to this presentation, Mr. Speaker, but I do know that David Tua is a humble man—never speaks ill of his opponents, and I believe the American people and boxing fans around the world are

going to remember him well for his talents, and above all, his sportsmanship like conduct.

As we say in the Samoan language, (the gentleman spoke in Samoan) "la pouliuli lou tino, ma ia malamalama ou mata, ma tafe toto ou ala—ou mama na, David Tua," which means, Mr. Speaker, "May your body be as invisible as the air and may your eyes be as bright as the sun. May you be victorious in battle—all our hopes and aspirations are with you, David Tua."

PAUL HAMM'S 2000 SUMMER OLYMPIC PERFORMANCE APPLAUDED

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding young man from my district who has recently returned from Sydney, Australia, where he represented his country proudly in Olympic competition. In August Paul Hamm, along with his brother Morgan, became the first set of twins to ever qualify for the United States' men's gymnastics team. At 18, the young men from Waukesha, Wisconsin, are also the second youngest male gymnasts in U.S. Olympic history.

Paul's overall performance earned him a 14th place finish in the all around competition. The Olympics are always a time of pride in our nation's athletes, however this was especially true for the people of southeastern Wisconsin this summer. Paul and Morgan's story gave us all another reason to watch and cheer for two of our own.

Paul has put years of hard work and dedication into perfecting the skills that have taken him to the pinnacle of his sport. He has worked with his coach, Stacy Maloney, since the age of six to earn the right to compete with the best in the world. To reach the Olympic stature at such a young age and with relatively little experience in major events is truly amazing.

Of course Paul would not have been able to reach the heights that he has attained without a strong support system. The natural competition he had with his brother Morgan pushed them both to be their best. Their parents, Sandy and Cecily, are to be commended for the sacrifices that they have made to help their sons reach their goals. From the time Sandy convinced Stacy Maloney to coach his six year old sons to the trip to Sydney, the Hamms have provided their sons with the opportunity to excel.

Paul is not only an exceptional athlete, he is also a role model for the young people of America. Despite squeezing two daily practices in between his classes, he is an honor student at Waukesha South High School. Even though he has missed the entire fall semester, he intends to graduate with the rest of his class next spring. Paul's successes, both in the gym and in the classroom, prove just how much can be accomplished through hard work and dedication.

And so it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Paul Hamm on his Olympic accomplishments, and wish him all the best as he looks forward to a long career leading the U.S. men's gymnastics team into the new century.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN TOM
BLILEY

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am going to miss TOM BLILEY. He has been wonderful to work with—always a man of his word, always a gentleman, consistent and honorable in his philosophical approach to government.

We worked together as Chairman and Ranking Member of the old House District of Columbia Committee on a bipartisan basis, reflecting the joint agreement among liberal and the conservative ideas that there should be minimal interference in the internal, local affairs of a group of U.S. citizens who do not have all the rights and privileges of the rest of the nation.

This year, we have worked together to expose the outrageous behavior of some of the nation's largest pharmaceutical manufacturers in abusing Medicare, Medicaid, private insurers, and patients through falsified pricing data. The drug companies are huge contributors to both parties, but Chairman BLILEY has subpoenaed and exposed internal company documents that describe a conspiracy against the American people by companies like Glaxo, Pharmacia, and others. I know there was tremendous pressure not to expose these documents, but Chairman BLILEY did the right thing.

The Nation will miss, I will miss Chairman BLILEY's courtly, quiet presence, and I hope he will stay in contact with us in the years ahead.

HONORING THE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS AND THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the California Conservation Corps and the California Department of Conservation.

The partnership between these agencies have spawned the Salmon Restoration Program. Since 1980 the Salmon Restoration Program has improved more than 1,000 stream miles, presented more than 65,000 hours of watershed curricula to tens of thousands of Californians, worked in hundreds of watersheds, and planted well over one million trees.

The California Conservation Corps and the California Department of Conservation are at the forefront of the science of stream salmonid habitat restoration. The Salmon Restoration Program is the largest and longest running project of its kind in the country.

Mr. Speaker, because salmon restoration is an issue of national importance, and because the Salmon Restoration Project has reduced the decline in salmon population, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge the outstanding efforts and twenty-year anniversary of California's Salmon Restoration Project.

BUILDING SKILLS FOR AMERICA

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday September 20, 2000, more than 300 students from across the country converged to support the Skills USA-VICA's "Building Skills for America" campaign.

These students collected more than 200,000 signatures from business and industry in support of worker training. The enclosed letter, which was signed by forty members of Congress, recognizes the fine work of the students of Skills USA-VICA. I submit the following letter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
Washington, DC, September 26, 2000.

SKILLS USA-VICA,
*P.O. Box 3000,
Leesburg, VA.*

DEAR STUDENTS: The undersigned Members of Congress applaud and congratulate your participation in the "Building Skills for America" campaign.

America is projected to have 50.6 million job openings between now and 2006, most of which will require highly developed skills. Unfortunately, employers across the country are experiencing difficulty finding enough qualified, skilled employees. This shortage is a threat to our strong economy and hampers the ability of American businesses to compete successfully.

Our nation can do more to promote careers in skilled occupations. Programs such as Skills USA-VICA's "Building Skills for America" demonstrate the strong support for vocational and technical education, as students were able to collect more than 200,000 signatures from business and industry that support worker training.

The "Building Skills for America" campaign is also important because it brings students together with the business and industry that will be their future employers. These partnerships provide students with the occupational and professional experience they need to succeed in the workplace, while at the same time increasing the pool from which industry can draw capable employees.

All of you who have participated in the "Building Skills for America" campaign should be proud of your accomplishment. We congratulate you for this impressive achievement, and look forward to working with you to ensure that we continue to build a strong and productive American workforce.

Sincerely,

Tom Sawyer, John Peterson, and 43 other
Members of Congress.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MORGAN
HAMM OF WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN,
ON HIS OLYMPIC PERFORMANCE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 18 year-old Morgan Hamm of Waukesha, Wisconsin, on his accomplishments in the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. In August Morgan and his brother Paul became the second youngest

gymnasts to ever qualify for the United States' men's team. The Hamms are also the first set of twins in U.S. Olympic gymnastics history.

Morgan beat out stiff competition to earn an at-large berth onto the team. He returned from Sydney with a 7th place finish in the floor competition. In southeastern Wisconsin the excitement of the Olympics was heightened this year by the knowledge that we would have two home town heroes competing half way around the world.

Morgan's accomplishments are not confined to the gymnasium. Despite squeezing two daily practices in between his classes, he is an honor student at Waukesha South High School. After missing a full semester to tour with the Olympic team, Morgan still intends to graduate with the rest of his class next spring.

As much work as Morgan has put into reaching his goals, he could not have made it on his own. Competing with Paul pushed both twins to be their very best. The sacrifices of their parents, Sandy and Cecily, have provided the Hamms with the opportunity to excel.

The years of work with his brother, their sister Betsy and their coach, Stacy Maloney, has earned Morgan the right to compete with the best in the world. To reach the Olympic stature at such a young age and with relatively little experience in major events is truly amazing.

And so it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Morgan Hamm on all that he accomplished thus far, and wish him all the best in his Olympic endeavors still to come.

RAISING AWARENESS FOR
ANGELMAN'S SYNDROME

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 17, 2000

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss Angelman's Syndrome after a tragic circumstance in my district illustrated the need for greater awareness of this little known and often misunderstood disease.

Denise and Kyle Marx are parents of Nicholas, a ten-year-old boy with Angelman's Syndrome. Those familiar with special needs children know the demands, but also the tremendous blessings that Nicholas has bestowed on his family. Due to recent events, the need to better understand and treat this disorder has become obvious. Today, Nicholas is in a coma and has only a few months to live after being administered medication that caused an allergic reaction. This happened, in part, because those with Angelman's Syndrome are unable to communicate pain or discomfort and Nicolas was powerless to express the effects that the medication was having on his body. Today, I am asking Congress to make efforts to provide for research so that Angelman's Syndrome can be better understood and treated more effectively.

Angelman's Syndrome is a genetic disorder usually caused by a small deletion of molecules on the long arm of the fifteenth chromosome. In some rare cases, Angelman's can also be caused when a child inherits both long arms of the fifteenth chromosome from the father. The effects of this disease include speech impairment, with minimal or almost no