

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
LANE EVANS, MEMBER OF CON-
GRESS

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my colleague and treasured friend, LANE EVANS. As the 109th Congress comes to an end so, too, does the remarkable 24-year tenure in the House of Representatives of one of the bravest and most decent members to have served in this body.

I had the privilege of working in LANE EVANS' first campaign in 1982. At the time LANE declared his candidacy, he was considered a sacrificial lamb running against a well-entrenched Republican incumbent. His was a pipe dream—except to the many labor union workers, consumer and civil rights activists, and ordinary residents of this western Illinois district who saw something special in this young, legal assistance attorney.

When the incumbent lost his primary election to a State Representative from the far right wing of the party, LANE EVANS' campaign gained momentum and this young Democrat became the Congressman, the first Democrat to do so since the Civil War.

In the first campaign, LANE spent lots of time with his young volunteers. After all, he wasn't much older than they. He sported a Beatle-like bowl hair cut that he maintained until rather recently, resisting all good-natured recommendations for a style update. He was modest, unassuming, friendly, and also inspiring. He showed a humble respect for each and every voter, addressing them in the soft-spoken, sincere manner that he never lost. The quiet strength that came from being a United States Marine during the Vietnam era always shone through.

From the first day and throughout his career in the House, LANE EVANS remained true to his core progressive beliefs. The working and retired men and women of his district and the veterans throughout the nation could always count on LANE EVANS being there for them—no excuses, no exceptions. Environmentalists named him an "Environmental Hero."

There were those who encouraged LANE to trim his positions in order to ensure his reelection. In the end, his consistency proved to be a great asset, appreciated by his constituents who always knew exactly where he stood and who trusted that LANE would not bend with the changes in the polls.

As the Ranking Democrat of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, LANE EVANS is recognized as the leading advocate of veterans in Congress, responsible for legislation to compensate veterans and their families for the effects of Agent Orange, help Persian Gulf and women veterans, and those now returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The veterans' service organizations have honored Lane with their highest awards.

LANE EVANS has always been a leader in the fight for universal health care. Parkinson's disease has forced him to end his productive service in the House. Even now, however, he acknowledges how fortunate he is to be able to afford the best care, while so many Americans are not. He has become an advocate for

expanding funding for research into the cure for Parkinson's and many other diseases that might benefit from government-funded embryonic stem cell research. As in all things at all times, LANE EVANS is handling this newest challenge with courage and dignity.

On a personal note, LANE EVANS has been a close and dear friend to me and my husband, Bob Creamer, since that very first campaign in 1982. That friendship, through thick and thin, has been and will always be so precious to us. We are grateful to LANE for being such an important part of our lives. We love him very much.

LANE EVANS will be sorely missed on a day-to-day basis in this House of Representatives, but his legacy will ever be reflected in the improved lives of the veterans of the United States and all the working families who will continue to benefit from his outstanding service.

TRIBUTE TO THE MENOMINEE
MAROONS

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Menominee Maroons, my hometown high school football team that has demonstrated tenacity, courage and skill. Two weeks ago, the Maroons brought the Division 5 state football championship home to Menominee. The team qualified for the state championship after going undefeated in the regular season with a record of 9–0. Equally impressive, in five playoff games, the Menominee Maroons allowed only one touchdown, outscoring their opponents 201 to 6! The Maroons enjoy the distinction of being just the third team to shut out four playoff opponents. Also notable: this year's Menominee Maroons broke the school's previous single-season scoring record of 539 points in a season.

Head Coach Ken Hofer deserves much of the credit for shepherding his team to such success. Coach Hofer has the tenth winningest record in the state of Michigan: 266–122–2. This is the second championship that his teams have brought back to Menominee, having also won the Class BB title in 1998.

In some ways, Coach Hofer and his style of football harken back to an earlier era. Coach Hofer has been at the helm of the Menominee team for 38 years and during that time he has run the unique, "single-wing" offense that is reminiscent of 1940s football. Under this offense, no one player on Menominee's offensive backfield is a "traditional quarterback" as each of the four "backs" may run or pass the ball. This unique formation has successfully confused opponents around the state and allowed Menominee to achieve its solid winning record. Under the single-wing offense, the center makes a direct snap on each play to a player in the backfield. Unlike under the more commonly seen shotgun formation, the center snaps the football to a player who may not be directly behind him. Despite this irregular technique, Menominee saw hardly any turnovers throughout the season, which can be attributed to the team's unremitting practice. Ultimately, the single-wing formation relies more heavily on teamwork than other formations.

Menominee's single wing offense is taught throughout the Menominee area public school system, starting in 9th grade by Coaches Jeff Bayerl, Mark Bayerl and Jim Anderla. Maroons Junior Varsity is coached by Greg Langlois and Dave Mathieu. These freshman and junior varsity coaches are also part of the "scouting team," which traveled over 5,000 miles this past season to see and learn opponents' strengths and weaknesses in preparation for each Maroon victory.

I would be remiss if I did not discuss the defense of the Maroons and their shutout performance through the playoffs and their efforts to hold Madison Heights, their state final opponents, to six points. Equally important, the Maroons held their opponents to just 38 points during the entire regular season. In the 9 games of the regular season, the Menominee Maroons outscored their opponents 332–38, truly an astonishing feat. Menominee's performance in the championship game built upon this strong showing. The Maroons out-gained Madison Heights 442 yards to 232, despite Madison controlling the clock by almost 10 more minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting the 2006 Menominee Maroons football team of Brian Boye, Tom Janson, Ethan Shaver, Nathan Shaver, David Oczus, Matt LaCanne, Dustin Kovar, Austin Fernstrum, Jacob McMahon, Bryan Colvin, Matt Eisenzoph, Robert Forgette, Mike Hansen, Derek Rye, Blake Chouinard, Scott Demars, Aaron Thomsen, Ryan Paliewicz, Anthony Polazzo, Josh Johnson, Tom Carriveau, Zac Robertson, Sam Piche, Ian Rider, Brian Smith, Tyler Blom, Donald Jones, Steve Busick, Josh Blavat, Andrew Whipp, Nathan Linsmeier, Justin Ketchum, Brian Busick, Joe Klitze, Kert Roubal, Trevor Powell, Jacob Pedersen and Cody Woods. I would also ask that you join me in honoring the Assistant Coaches "Satch" Englund, Joe Noha and Jamie Schomer who helped drive this team to victory as well as Managers Jared Thiesen and Bobby Olsen. Athletic Trainers Derek Butler and Dr. Michael Karkkainen and Athletic Director Dale Van Duinen should also be recognized for their contributions to the Maroons' success.

Of course, Head Coach Ken Hofer has earned the thanks, respect and admiration of all of Menominee, not only for this season, but for the 38 that preceded it. Coach Hofer has done great work in bringing out the best in his players. Coach Hofer said of this year's Menominee Maroons, "These young men came to practice every day, and I don't mean just show up. They came to practice hard. And in every game they went all out."

The 2006 Menominee Maroons football team members are also champions off the field. Menominee football is more than just passing, punting, running, kicking and tackling; it is about developing the "inner athlete". Coach Hofer and his entire staff know that the lessons of life can be learned on the gridiron. Coach Hofer often talked about the team's "focus". This team's dedication, commitment and focus are why so many Maroon fans followed, supported and believed in their team. The 2006 state champion Menominee Maroons have clearly learned the lessons of life embodied in what another well respected Menominee County coach, the late Dale Fountain, often stated:

WHAT REALLY MATTERS

"Never lose track of what really matters. It does not matter how many points you earn, medals you win or trophies you take home. What really matters is what kind of competitor you are, what kind of son or daughter you are, what kind of student you are, and what kind of adult you will become!"

Mr. Speaker, my wife, Laurie, and I know many of these championship football players and recognize that each of them is a champion in our community. Menominee and the people of the Upper Peninsula know that when we proudly chant "U.P. Power", it is a reflection of our pride in our Menominee Marathon football tradition and the fine young men who brought home another football championship to our fine community. It is with great pride that I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating and honoring these football champions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately as the result of a death in the family and my need to return to Illinois by Saturday morning for the funeral services, I was unable to cast my votes on the following pieces of legislation. I request that the RECORD state my intentions on these votes had I been present to vote.

I would have voted "aye" for H. Res. 1100, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 6406, to modify temporarily certain rates of duty and make other technical amendments to the trade laws, to extend certain trade preference programs, and for other purposes.

I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 5948, the Belarus Democracy Reauthorization Act of 2006. Passage of the Belarus Democracy Reauthorization Act supports Belarus as an emerging democracy with U.S. assistance by strengthening democratic institutions and processes within the country. Our country has a long history of promoting democracy worldwide and this bill will assist the people of Belarus with foreign aid and the risk of U.S. sanctions should the recent political upheavals and the repression of democratic groups in the country continue.

I would have voted "present" in response to the Call of the House. I am sorry to have missed Speaker J. DENNIS HASTERT's farewell speech. I respect and admire him, and am proud to serve with him in the Illinois congressional delegation. His long tenure as the Speaker of the House is historic, and he will be celebrated as an esteemed statesman.

I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 6406, to modify temporarily certain rates of duty and make other technical amendments to the trade laws, to extend certain trade preference programs, and for other purposes. This package contains trade provisions I have supported in the past and will continue to do so in the future. These provisions will help expand the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturers and exporters within the global marketplace.

I would have voted "aye" on the Conference Report on H.R. 5682, the Henry J. Hyde U.S.-

India Peaceful Atomic Energy Cooperation Act of 2006. India has been a longtime and important ally to the U.S. and U.S. assistance in the development of a civilian nuclear energy program will only cement the strategic partnership between our two countries. With the passage of the cooperation agreement with India the U.S. can be assured the peaceful sharing of nuclear energy technologies under international safeguards while preventing the spread of nuclear weapon information to rogue countries, such as North Korea and Iran.

I would have voted "aye" on H.J. Res. 102, making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2007. While I am disappointed that we were not able to pass the remaining appropriations bills under regular order, I feel that it is important that we continue to fund our government program at adequate levels until we can address the appropriations bills in the next session of Congress.

Finally, I would have voted "aye" on the following bills, considered under suspension of the rules:

1. H.R. 6407—Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act

2. H. Res. 1104—Providing for a severance payment for employees of leadership offices and committees of the House of Representatives who are separated from employment solely and directly as a result of a change in the party holding the majority of the membership in the House

3. H.R. 6060—Department of State Authorities Act of 2006

4. S. 4050—Sergeant First Class Robert Lee 'Bobby' Hollar, Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act

5. S. 4093—A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to extend a suspension of limitation on the period for which certain borrowers are eligible for guaranteed assistance

6. H.R. 5304—Preventing Harassment through Outbound Number Enforcement Act

7. S. 3821—COMPETE Act of 2006

8. S. 4042—A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit disruptions of funerals of members or former members of the Armed Forces

9. H.R. 6427—To increase the amount in certain funding agreements relating to patents and nonprofit organizations to be used for scientific research, development, and education, and for other purposes

10. H.R. 6428—To authorize the Secretary of the Army to carry out certain elements of the project for hurricane and storm damage reduction, Morganza to the Gulf of Mexico, Louisiana

11. S. 2735—Dam Safety Act of 2006

12. S. Con. Res. 123—A concurrent resolution providing for correction to the enrollment of the bill H.R. 5946

13. H.R. 5946—Stevens-Inouye International Fisheries Monitoring and Compliance Legacy Act of 2006

14. H.R. 4075—Marine Mammal Protection Act Amendments of 2006

TRIBUTE TO MR. BRIAN J. HARD

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 8, 2006

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight, our final night of the 109th Congress,

to express my gratitude to and appreciation for a very good friend of mine, Mr. Brian J. Hard. I've had the honor of counting on Brian's exemplary service to my office and the people of Oregon's Second Congressional District for the past 8 years, and at the end of this month Brian will conclude his service in the United States House of Representatives as he returns home to the great State of Oregon with his lovely bride, Laura. This occasion will cap 12 years of outstanding public service by Brian in the Congress, and this distinguished institution will be losing one of its finest staff members.

I first got to know Brian when I was the Majority Leader of the Oregon House of Representatives and he was fresh out of Oregon State University and had begun his service to our state in the Oregon Capitol. He succeeded in numerous professional capacities in Oregon and eventually accepted a key staff position in 1995 with one of my predecessors in the Oregon congressional delegation in Washington, DC. Brian and I renewed our ties in 1998 when I first ran for election to Congress and he was working for the honorable Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, Bob Smith, whom I succeeded. I was very fortunate when Brian accepted my offer to work in my office upon my election, thus beginning a harmonious and successful relationship.

As my Legislative Director for the vast majority of my service in the House, Brian has played a pivotal role in so many accomplishments we've worked hard to achieve for the people of Oregon. He has been a highly effective point person for numerous key issues over the years, from commerce, telecommunications and health care, to transportation, agriculture, trade matters and many other issues that have arisen and quickly needed a steady hand to manage. In addition to the legislative issues that consume much of our focus in the Congress, Brian has recruited and led a strong team of legislative staff in my office. He's also fostered extensive relationships with a great number of citizens, leaders and public officials in the Pacific Northwest and Washington, DC. And when the sheer overload of activity has heightened stress levels, we've always been able to count on Brian's fantastic sense of humor to bring a much-needed dose of comic relief.

Brian's professional attributes have been a tremendous resource for me and those I represent. For his public service and dedication, I'm grateful. As important to me as the constant hard work Brian has exerted in our effort to deliver to Oregonians is the strong friendship I share with him. Brian is simply one of the most sincere and likable persons one can have the good fortune of knowing well. This goes for Laura Hard too. They're a wonderful couple, and I'm very proud to count them as close friends.

As Brian and Laura begin their journey homeward bound, I ask my colleagues to join me in bidding them a heartfelt official farewell, with significant thanks to Brian for 12 years of outstanding service to Oregon and our Nation. You will be sorely missed.

Go Ducks!