

bronze with a time of 12.76 seconds in the final. With her Athens repeat this year, Melissa became the only two-time American medalist in the 100 meter hurdles.

In the last couple of years Melissa has fought through serious adversity, including nagging injuries and personal tragedy. However, through unyielding determination and support from her loved ones, she never gave up. In the race where Melissa captured her second Olympic medal, she exemplified her never quit attitude. Melissa collided with two hurdles but continued to fight on. In fact, she addressed these hardships and gave us insight to her strong character by saying, "Mental strength got me through there and got me a bronze medal again this year."

Mr. Speaker, while I have only touched on a fraction of her accomplishments, I proudly join her friends, family, and teammates in congratulating Melissa's outstanding athletic achievements. I wish Melissa continued success both on and off the track, and would also like to congratulate her on the forthcoming marriage to fiancé Josephus Howard.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEE ELWOOD GILLIS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Lee Elwood Gillis and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as the District 63 representative to the Colorado House of Representatives. A representative since 1981, Lee is a dedicated public servant and leader in his community and I am honored to recognize his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this Nation today.

Lee was born in Texas and graduated with a bachelor's degree in business from West Texas State University before going on to serve in the Texas National Guard and the U.S. Army Rangers. He is a member of the National Federation of Independent Business and Director of the Heritage Savings and Loan from 1977 to the present. Lee began his public service career in 1980, when he was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives and subsequently reelected in 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, and 1990. Serving the people of Baca, Bent, and Otero County in District 63, Lee has long been an advocate of lowering property taxes on agricultural land, and establish an economic development office in Southeast Colorado. He served on the Game, Fish & Parks, Education, Appropriations, House Services, and Joint Budget Committees during his legislative career.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Lee Elwood Gillis has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his country and the people of Colorado as a State Representative. I am honored to bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service, Lee, and I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

CALLING FOR THE SUSPENSION OF SUDAN'S MEMBERSHIP ON THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 137.

The human rights violations in Darfur are reaching a crisis point. Since the beginning of the conflict in early 2003, more than 30,000 innocent civilians have been murdered, more than 400 villages have been destroyed, and hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced from their homes.

Tragically, the situation in Darfur has escalated from a rebellion by local militias into a full-scale ethnic cleansing campaign. The government in Khartoum has met this crisis with deliberate neglect at best, and direct support at worst. Congress rightly called this brutal and systematic slaughter a "genocide" in a resolution passed on July 22.

On July 30th, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted a resolution calling upon the Sudanese government to immediately fulfill its obligations to facilitate humanitarian relief, take steps to disarm the Janjaweed militias, and cooperate with an independent investigation of human rights violations in Darfur. However, it is time for the international community to make its authority felt through actions, not just words.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights binds member nations together in a pact to uphold universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Government of Sudan has broken this pledge and must be held accountable for its crime against humanity. I therefore urge Congress to call for the immediate suspension of Sudan from the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and pass Senate Concurrent Resolution 137.

IN HONOR OF DR. TREENA LIVINGSTON ARINZEH

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Treena Livingston Arinze for her outstanding work in the field of stem cell research. On September 9, 2003, President Bush presented her with the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Dedicated to researching stem cells, Dr. Arinze has made revolutionary findings that may lead to procedures that help people recover from a variety of diseases, spinal cord injuries, and bone and cartilage damage. Dr. Arinze has earned the respect of her colleagues and established herself as a scientist by publishing influential papers in the *Journal of Biomedical Materials Research* and the *Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery*.

The Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers is the highest honor a

young researcher can receive. Since 1996, the White House has acknowledged the achievements of such talented professionals. Each year, eight federal agencies nominate promising researchers and the winners receive up to five years of funding for their future work. The sole recipient from New Jersey, Dr. Arinze received a \$400,000 grant from the National Science Foundation.

Born and raised in Jersey City, Dr. Arinze is currently a professor of biomedical engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark. In addition to her research projects, Dr. Arinze devotes her time to developing new undergraduate and graduate programs in tissue engineering, as well as creating community outreach programs for high school students in New Jersey and New York.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Treena Livingston Arinze, a trailblazer in the field of stem cell research. I applaud her for her exceptional achievements. New Jersey and our nation will greatly benefit from her groundbreaking work.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CARL BLEDSOE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Carl Bledsoe and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as the Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives. A state representative since 1973, Carl is a dedicated public servant and leader in his community and I am honored to recognize his service before this body of Congress and this Nation today.

A resident of Aroya, Colorado, Carl graduated from Kit Carson High School in 1941 and served in the U.S. Army Air Corp from 1942 to 1945. He later earned a bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from Colorado State University. Carl began his impressive thirty-two year public service career in 1958 as secretary of the Lincoln County Stockmen's Association. He served 12 years on the Kit Carson Board of Education, including two years as President. Carl was the President of Cheyenne County Farm Bureau from 1962 to 1964, and the Colorado Cattlemen's Association in 1967. He has also served as a member of various organizations like the National Western Stock Show Association, the Colorado Housing Inc, Board, the Colorado State Board of Veterinary Medicine and the Colorado State Fiscal Policy Committee.

Carl was elected to the State House of Representatives in 1972 becoming the third member of his family to serve in the Colorado General Assembly. During his seventeen years as a legislator, Carl chaired the House Committee on Finance, the Legislative Audit Committee, the Western Region of the Council of State Governments, and was the vice-chairman of the International Trade Committee of the National Conference of State Legislatures and most recently Speaker of the House for the last five years. During his seventeen years of service he received many awards such as the Outstanding Rural Legislator of the Year, and the American Legislative Exchange Conference's Outstanding State Legislator award.