



Morning Business

Youth Summit. House Minority Leader **Nancy Pelosi** (Calif.), Senate Minority Leader **Tom Daschle** (S.D.) and New York **Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton** will host the Next Generation Democratic Summit on Capitol Hill today to encourage youth participation in public service and bring attention to issues affecting young people.

About 15 House and Senate Members and 250 students and community leaders will meet at the daylong summit, which will feature professional wrestlers **Chris Nowinski** and **Shelton Benjamin**.

Gideon Yago of MTV will moderate a town hall-style event featuring discussions with Members and young leaders on education, the economy and national security.

"We are pleased to have the talent and enthusiasm of young Americans across the country who volunteer in their communities to help make our country a better place," Pelosi said.

Fresh Ink. With House mail delivery back on schedule, the House Administration Committee will once again require genuine signatures on a range of official documents.

The administration panel implemented a temporary waiver of House rules for some documents — including payroll authorizations, certifications or corrective action forms, as well as lump-sum payment forms, overtime pay forms and furlough authorizations — while mail-processing procedures were revamped after ricin was discovered on Capitol Hill in February.

"Accordingly, effective immediately, facsimile signatures will no longer be accepted ..." House Chief Administrative Officer **Jay Eagen** wrote in an April 15 "Dear Colleague" letter. "Each of these documents will now require the original signature of the authorizing official, i.e. Member, Committee Chair, Leadership, or House Officer."

For more information, call the Financial Counseling Office (202) 225-7474 or the Payroll Office at (202) 225-2450.

— **Erin P. Billings**
and **Jennifer Yachnin**

Correction

A chart accompanying the April 20 article "They're in the Money" incorrectly identified the Democratic candidate in Utah's 2nd House district. He is Rep. Jim Matheson.

Half of Hill GOP Has Given to Bush

By **Ethan Wallison**
ROLL CALL STAFF

Almost half of the 279 Republicans in Congress contributed to the Bush-Cheney re-election campaign through the first three months of the year.

The Members, giving either from their campaign accounts or through aligned political action committees, together have accounted for more than a quarter-million dollars to the Bush-Cheney effort. As many as 135 current lawmakers have contributed, according to committee disbursement records.

The dollar amount itself is a pittance next to the \$180 million-plus raised by the Bush-Cheney campaign so far. Nonetheless, this level of financial backing from Members is unprecedented for a presidential contest, where lawmakers typically rely on the support the ticket provides — or doesn't provide — to party candidates down-ballot.

John Feehery, a spokesman for Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), who first encouraged Members to help Bush, suggested that "team building" is as much a goal as the contributions themselves.

"These are symbolic yet significant contributions," Feehery said.

The donations show that Members consider it important for their own interests that Pres-

ident Bush is re-elected, Feehery said.

"Look, these [Members] have come from eight years of not having the bully pulpit, of not having their party in control of the White House," said Carl Forti, a spokesman for the National Republican Congressional Committee. "They don't want to lose that."

In fact, the Bush-Cheney effort has also received a considerable amount of support from former Republican lawmakers, failed candidates and current Congressional aspirants.

Among the former Members who have given to the Bush-Cheney campaign are former Reps. Thomas Bliley (Va.), Tillie Fowler (Fla.) and Connie Morella (Md.) and former Sens. Jesse Helms (N.C.) and Fred Thompson (Tenn.). Republican candidates or one-time Congressional aspirants include Janice Bowling (Tenn.), Gene DeRossett (Mich.), Chuck Floyd (Md.), Louis Gohmert (Texas), Jay Helvey (N.C.), Virginia Johnson (N.C.), Alice Forgy Kerr (Ky.), Brose McVey (Ind.) and Scott Rolle (Md.).

A spokeswoman for Helvey, a businessman who is seeking to replace Rep. Richard Burr (R-N.C.), who is running for Senate, said the candidate contributed to the Bush-Cheney campaign to express common cause with the incumbent.

"Jay Helvey gave the money because he

feels very strongly about standing with President Bush, and he fully supports President Bush's leadership and determination during a time of war," Helvey spokeswoman Tara Staley said.

The disbursement records, which are based on campaign finance disclosures through the first three months of this year, were compiled by PoliticalMoneyLine.com, a political database. Some Members recorded contributions both from their campaign committees and their separate leadership PACs.

The support from Members has been amply reciprocated by the Bush administration. Vice President Cheney has devoted roughly half his campaign schedule to fundraising for incumbents and Congressional candidates.

And in recent weeks, first lady Laura Bush has done her first Congressional campaigning this cycle, appearing at events for Bev Kilmer, who is challenging Rep. Allen Boyd (D) in the Florida Panhandle, and Rep. Rob Simmons (R-Conn.).

Gordon Johndroe, a spokesman for the first lady, said Mrs. Bush will do a "handful" of events for House and Senate candidates this cycle, but indicated that long-term details were not yet available. The first lady is scheduled to appear at a reception in Washington this week for Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska).

SUPPORTING THE DREAM ACT



Tom Williams/Roll Call

Odeline Clerger (from left) and **Mirvole Louis**, both Haitian born, and **Yewhoalashet Aytenfisu**, who was born in Ethiopia, talk to a TV reporter before a mock graduation Monday on the West Lawn of the Capitol in support of the Student Adjustment Act and Senate companion Dream Act. The acts would help provide a pathway to legalization for U.S.-raised immigrant students who lack legal immigration status.

Ex-Hill Staffer Offers Handbook for Public Relations

By **Amy Keller**
ROLL CALL STAFF

Former Capitol Hill aide Brad Fitch has done a huge favor for press secretaries and wannabe spokesmen everywhere with the publishing of his new book, "Media Relations Handbook for Agencies, Associations, Nonprofits and Congress."

The textbook title belies a delightful immersion into the invigorating, frustrating and sometimes thankless world of public affairs — a world that Fitch came to know firsthand

through his stints on the staffs of four Members of Congress — and provides valuable advice for those who flack for a living.

Fitch, who currently serves as the deputy director of Congressional Management Foundation, a nonprofit group that provides training, consulting and research to help improve the management of Congressional offices, expertly translates his own personal experiences into candid lessons for those pursuing careers in the field.

When describing his first job on the Hill

working for then-Rep. Tom McMillen (D-Md.), Fitch describes a piece of key advice he received from McMillen's administrative assistant, Jerry Grant, a guy who he says usually dressed in "casual shirts and docksiders, with a good cigar nearby."

"Jerry knew all the messy communications problems a young press secretary could get into, and he helped me avoid most of them," Fitch writes in the first chapter, "First Steps." "When I wanted to fire back at an editor who (I thought) had unfairly criticized the con-

gressman in an editorial, Jerry gave me my first political rule: 'Never get in a pissing contest with someone who buys ink by the barrel.'"

The 345-page book covers all the terrain — from the technical how-tos of writing press releases, backgrounders and op-eds to interacting with Congressional campaign operations or handling communications in a time of crisis.

One fascinating read is the contrasting case
See BOOK, page 22