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Sunday, June 17, 2007

The Honorable Alberto Gonzales
Attorney General, United States Department of Justice

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LEFT: The Honorable Kwame Kilpatrick, Mayor of Detroit, The Honorable Barack Obama, Senator for Illinois, and Don Barden, Barden Companies, Inc.



BELOW: Gary Cowger, General Motors Corporation and Eleanor Josatis, Focus:HOPE

ABOVE: Christopher Kittides, BEI Associates, Inc., George Johnson, George Johnson & Co., Larry Alexander, Metropolitan Detroit Convention and Visitors Bureau



BELOW: Edward Ratzenberger and Richard Venet

ABOVE: The Honorable Barack Obama speaks to the Detroit Economic Club, May 7, 2007.



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DEC | "SCENE" AT THE CLUB



DEC | THEY SAID IT AT THE DEC

HAROLD MCGRAW III
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT & CEO
THE MCGRAW-HILL COMPANIES
CHAIRMAN, BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

"We need to work together to provide every American worker in every community the opportunity to succeed."

—MAY 2, 2007



Harold McGraw spoke to the Detroit Economic Club on "Strengthening America's Competitiveness." As the global economy introduces new competitors and challenges, the U. S. must take steps now to ensure that it can compete and prosper. McGraw addressed the shared responsibility of business,

government and workers in the global economy and the strategies needed to strengthen America's competitiveness. "I believe we need to promote innovation, entrepreneurship and trade. In the 21st Century, these are some of the key drivers and they're tightly linked. And they need to be top-of-mind thoughts that guide our behavior. Boosting them will require both new forms of cooperation and creative processes."

McGraw said the issue transcends partisan politics and goes to the heart of our ability to expand the economy, create jobs and raise standards of living. "We need to bring our leaders and organizations together to develop an innovation and competitiveness strategy; to work together to provide every American worker in every community the opportunity to succeed in this exciting and challenging

new economy. But we can't afford to wait until the next President takes office in 2009. The election is a year and a half away and it will take the next administration at least six to nine months to put in place its leadership team and develop its road map. The rapidly transforming global economy is not going to pause during that time. As a nation with serious priorities, sitting on the sidelines and watching is not a viable option." □

THE HONORABLE BARACK OBAMA
U.S. SENATOR FOR ILLINOIS
2008 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

"For the sake of our security, our economy, our jobs and our planet, the age of oil must end in our time."

—MAY 7, 2007



Senator Barack Obama spoke to a sold-out crowd about the need to change the cars we drive and the fuels we use in order to fight the causes of global climate change and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. "Here in Detroit, three giants of American industry are hemorrhaging jobs and profits as foreign competitors answer the

rising global demands for fuel-efficient cars. America simply cannot continue on this path. The need to drastically change our energy policy is no longer a debatable proposition. It is not a question of whether, but how; it's not a question of if, but when. For the sake of our security, our economy, our jobs and our planet, the age of oil must end in our time."

Senator Obama's proposal would gradually raise fuel economy standards by four percent and establish different fuel standards for different types of cars. It would also provide tax incentives to help automakers upgrade existing plants in order to meet the demands of producing more fuel-efficient vehicles. "For too long, we've been either too afraid to ask our automakers to meet higher fuel standards or unwilling to help them do it. But the truth is, if we hope for another miracle out of Detroit, we have to do both. We must demand that they revamp their production, we must assist that transition, and we must make the choice to buy these cars when we have the option."

Senator Obama says his energy plan will cut oil consumption by 2.5 million barrels of oil per day, take 50 million cars' worth of pollution off the road and save more than \$50 billion at the gas pump. □

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THEY SAID IT AT THE DEC CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

DEC | STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



ABOVE: Detroit Academy of Finance with Harold McGraw III, McGraw-Hill Companies, David Hunke, Detroit Media Partnership, sponsored by Wachovia Securities. May 2, 2007



ABOVE: U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales engages the students in a question and answer period before the luncheon. May 8, 2007



ABOVE: Saline High School with Congressman John Dingell and Anthony Earley, Jr., DTE Energy, sponsored by General Motors. May 14, 2007

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Upcoming Meetings

Friday, June 15, 2007

Steven Ballmer

Chief Executive Officer, Microsoft Corporation

Special Breakfast and Annual Membership Meeting

Wednesday, July 11, 2007

The Honorable John Snow

Chairman, Cerberus Capital Management, L.P.

For more information on these meetings, please visit our website at www.econclub.org

DEC | THEY SAID IT AT THE DEC

**THE HONORABLE ALBERTO GONZALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

"I accept full responsibility for the mistakes that I made."

—MAY 8, 2007



Attorney General Alberto Gonzales updated the DEC on Department of Justice initiatives and priorities, including human trafficking, religious freedoms, and voting rights.

During the question and answer period following his speech, Gonzales was asked whether he thought the Attorney General

office should remain a presidential cabinet position, or an appointment to a long, fixed term.

"Like every other member of the Cabinet, the Attorney General – I'm a member of the President's team. I'm expected to support and promote his policies. The President is elected by the American people to pursue a set of policies; as a member of the President's cabinet, I have an obligation to do that. But I also wear another hat, and I'm the Chief Law Enforcement Officer of the country. And my job is to make sure that the laws are enforced without any kind of partisan or political bias. And that means that there may be instances where I may have to prosecute, or someone in the White House may have to be investigated. And that's what makes it difficult for the system that we have."

In light of recent controversies surrounding the firings of eight U.S. attorneys, Gonzales was asked what lessons he had learned from the subsequent investigations.

"I think that I've already said a lot about this issue in my hearing and statements, both written and oral, and clearly that I accept full responsibility for the mistakes that I made here. And, I thought we had a process that didn't turn out to be the process that I thought, and I think that I should have done a better job in supervising the people working on this issue, and that going forward I will do a better job of doing so." □

**THE HONORABLE JOHN DINGELL
CHAIRMAN, U.S. HOUSE ENERGY AND
COMMERCE COMMITTEE,
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE**

"I intended to write legislation before the court decision, and I will write legislation after the court decision."

—MAY 14, 2007



Congressman Dingell discussed how environmental concerns, such as global warming, are shaping Congressional debates and driving industry changes.

While Congressman Dingell disagrees with last month's Supreme Court decision favoring governmental regulation of carbon dioxide emissions, he says

it will not hamper his efforts in striving for bi-partisan environmental and energy solutions. "It doesn't change a thing," Dingell said. "I intended to write legislation before the court decision, and I will write legislation after the court decision. And I can assure you that if I have my say, this legislation will be conducted in a bi-partisan manner, in which everyone has a chance to be heard and in which we can review with the greatest of care all of the consequences, good and bad, of what it is we are about to do. I am optimistic that we can do this this year."

Congressman Dingell also provided an update on what the U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee is doing to address global warming in a way that does not compromise America's standing in the global market. "Cap-and-trade...which really is a form of tax, is the most realistic way for us to address the question of greenhouse emissions...major questions will of course involve production of energy from petroleum, but also from coal. And I've heard a lot of concerns about environmental impacts of coal use, but I would observe that the United States is indeed the Saudi Arabia of coal, and for that reason I cannot, and I will not, refuse to have coal be a part of the solution to the problems we confront. I expect a lot of discussion on this, and I also expect a significant amount of discussion on questions like nuclear energy – and I will tell you that in my view at this time, nuclear energy is an absolute essential part of the solution to these questions." □

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