

McGILL-TOOLEN STUDENTS VISIT
WASHINGTON

HON. SONNY CALLAHAN

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 1997

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, last month, members of the McGill-Toolen Pro-Life Club traveled to Washington to take part in the March for Life. With their very presence here, these young people, all of whom are from the First Congressional District of Alabama, exercised one of the most basic, yet cherished freedoms we have in this country: the right to free speech.

I applaud these young men and women, as well as their chaperons, for taking the time to come to their Nation's Capital to let their Congressman know their views. More importantly, these students joined with the voices of thousands of other people from all over the country, to participate in a peaceful march for the right of the unborn.

When I was meeting with the students, a young man, Patrick Roberts, asked how he and his fellow classmates could get their name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Think about that, Mr. Speaker. These young people wanted the world to know they were in Washington, DC, for a purpose. And what a noble purpose it was.

So, Mr. Speaker, I ask that the names of Patrick Roberts, and all of his classmates, be entered into the RECORD, so that from this day forward, the worthy mission of the McGill-Toolen Pro-Life Club will be duly noted. In alphabetical order, the participants included: Alex Almeida, Keith Battle, Robbie Beckmann, Fred Boni, Jay Boren, Shauna Boren, Julie Busbee, Kathy Carey, Yosuke Chiba, Andrea Dumas, Tierney Eaton, Hartley Griffith, Eric Grip, Patrick Hardy, Jessica Hanson, Karen Histing, Kelly Hollister, Carolyn Hughes, Ann Marie Johnson, Jake Kilborn, Robert Kurtts, Cathy Kurtts, Claire Kurtts, Elizabeth Lilly, Sara Mareno, Toni McCammon, Theresa McCown, Andrew Mulek, Julie Ogburn, Barclay O'Brien, Pat O'Meara, Jenny Parker, Cleveland Patterson, Amy Pearson, Mary Perkins, Mandy Reimer, Patrick Roberts, Ashley Russell, Mary Schlichting, Kate Titford, Bridget Young, Father Steve Williams, and Kathy Zitnik.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA HOCKEY TEAM

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 1997

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, just 1 week ago, I stood here on the House floor and shared the pride and excitement my fellow Minnesotans are experiencing this winter as our University of Minnesota men's basketball team won the Big Ten Championship for the first time in 15 years.

Today, I stand doubly proud. Last Saturday evening, following the basketball team's home celebration of the Big Ten title, the University of Minnesota men's hockey team clinched the Western Collegiate Hockey Association Con-

ference Championship with a hard fought 7-3 win over Wisconsin. In a matter of just two weeks, the Minnesota Golden Gophers have—for the first time ever—won conference championships in these two major sports in the same season.

Hockey success surely has not been rare during head coach Doug Woog's 12-year tenure as coach. Coach Woog last led his team to the WCHA championship during the 1991-1992 season and has coached each of his teams into the very selective NCAA tournament. The difference, Mr. Speaker, is this was expected to be a rebuilding year.

After losing 10 players to graduation last year, including the Nation's top scorer and half of the team's defensive corps, the young Gophers dedicated themselves to improvement to the point they were in the position to win a share of the conference title on the last day of the season.

Mr. Speaker, this achievement is especially gratifying as the University of Minnesota celebrates 75 years of Golden Gopher hockey. Coach Woog has continued our State's steep hockey tradition, one started by the father of American hockey, John Mariucci, by fielding an entire team of Minnesota-born players.

This team truly is Minnesota's pride on ice.

Mr. Speaker, this overachieving team is characterized by four dedicated, hard-working seniors who eagerly place team above self. Speedy cocaptain Nick Checco, nicknamed "Mr. March," has had a knack for scoring goals at crunch time and during tournament play.

Checco, along with forwards Dan Woog and Danny Hendrickson, paced a stingy penalty killing unit that led the conference and is seldom outworked in the gritty business of controlling the corners.

Defenseman Brian LaFluer, who missed 6 weeks with a shoulder injury, returned at the same level when he left, igniting the offense with his transitional play and solidifying the young defense.

The offense was led by All-American defenseman junior Mike Crowley, who tied for the conference scoring title. Junior sharpshooter Ryan Kraft led the team with 24 goals scored, while freshman Dave Spehar, the all-time leading high school scorer, quickly adjusted to college hockey by leading the team in game-winning goals and all WCHA freshman in points.

A talented group of sophomores have contributed to this team's success: Mike Anderson, Reggie Berg, and Eric Rasmussen—the first American selected in last year's National Hockey League amateur draft. Eric teamed with forward Wyatt Smith and freshman Ben Clymer to help lead the U.S. Junior National Team to a silver medal finish in the World Junior Tournament last December. The silver medal marked the best finish ever for a U.S. Junior National Team.

It is often said championships are won with defense. Junior goaltender Steve DeBus' play truly inspired this young team. DeBus led the conference in wins, was among conference leaders in save percentage and goals against. His calm under intense pressure and cat-quick reflexes gave his teammates confidence they had a chance in every game.

Mr. Speaker, the Gophers celebrated their championship in grand hockey tradition; 25 student-athletes, circling the ice, each holding the MacNaughton Cup and proudly hoisting it

high over their head. With this show of unity, the contributions of forward Casey Hankinson are proudly displayed. Casey, a junior co-captain, is the glue that held this team together. An emotional leader, his hard work in practice, at game time, and fiery intermission orations combined to inspire his teammates to strive for excellence.

Mr. Speaker, today I want to offer my heartfelt congratulations to the University of Minnesota hockey team, true champions of the heart as well as the Western Collegiate Hockey Association.

HONORING THE GRANITE STATE CHAPTER NO. 1, PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN E. SUNUNU

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 1997

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and recognize those members of the Granite State Chapter No. 1, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association on the occasion of their 25th anniversary.

December 7, 1941 will forever stand as one of the darkest days in our Nation's history—one of pain, one of sacrifice, and above all, one of loss. We cannot erase the terrifying images of bullets, bombs, and bloodshed from our memories, nor should we. Never before had our country experienced such an attack, not only on the territory within our borders, but on the spirit within our people.

It is for these reasons, Mr. Speaker, that I am compelled to recognize those individuals who put forth their minds, bodies, and souls to fight and survive the onslaught of the overwhelming Japanese forces on that day. The members of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association can stand proud knowing that their courage and character is duly remembered by all citizens of a grateful Nation, and will serve as a benchmark of honor for all Americans in the future. Although the destruction of our military machinery was vast during this horrific battle, the patriotism of these heroes remained unscathed. These individuals should rest assured knowing that their colossal efforts defending our country in such an adverse situation inspired our troops to a proud victory in the end.

Mr. Speaker, it is with particular privilege that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Granite State Chapter No. 1, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and ask that they and those Americans who died during the invasion of Pearl Harbor be remembered on the year of the association's silver anniversary.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE FALL OF THE ALAMO, 1836

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 1997

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, today, March 6, 1997, marks the 161st anniversary of the fall of the Alamo in 1836.

One of the most treasured memorials of our national heritage is the Alamo; millions of

American and Mexican citizens travel each year to see where this epic battle between America and Mexico was fought. History records that approximately 184 Americans and over 600 Mexicans gave their lives in the battle. Each country fought valiantly, driven by a sincere love for their nations.

At the Alamo, two known battle flags were flown. History teaches us that one flag was destroyed, and the other, the battle flag of the New Orleans' Greys militia unit, was captured by the Mexican leader Santa Anna. The battle flag was then sent to Mexico City as proof that the Alamo had been receiving help from rebel forces in America, and as proof to Mexico that Santa Anna had captured the Alamo.

This flag is known to exist and has been seen within the last decade by legitimate sources. It is reported to be in the same basic condition as when it was originally sent to Mexico so many years ago.

This valued and treasured artifact of Mexican and American history needs to be returned to its rightful place, the Alamo, so it can be displayed as a memorial tribute to the men who fought and died for their Nations' beliefs.

At present, the Texas State Legislature has been authorized to pursue the loan or trade of three Mexican flags captured at the subsequent battle of San Jacinto in return for the Alamo flag, and also has funding set aside to assist in the restoration and preservation of the flag upon its return.

At no previous time in history have our two nations enjoyed a better economic relationship

with respect to trade and diplomatic relations. I ask that my colleagues and fellow Americans take this opportunity to reach out to our friends in Mexico, to request that the battle flag be returned to its rightful place at the Alamo.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL AMENDING THE RAILWAY LABOR ACT ON BEHALF OF AIRLINE PILOTS ENGAGED IN FOREIGN FLYING

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 6, 1997

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce a bill which was pending before the 104th Congress concerning the applicability of the Railway Labor Act to flight crews of United States air carriers engaged in flight operations outside the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the bill I and my colleagues have reintroduced clarifies the intent of Congress that the RLA covers the collective bargaining right of flight deck crew members employed by U.S. air carriers when they are based overseas or are performing their duties exclusively outside the United States.

Historically, airlines and the bargaining representative of their pilots have negotiated and honored numerous agreements governing their overseas operations. It is our contention

that coverage of these agreements is currently available under existing law, namely the RLA. However, there have been at least two conflicting Federal court decisions over the past two decades on the issue of the enforceability of such agreements under the RLA. The opinions in these cases acknowledge that Congress has the power to apply its laws in extraterritorial circumstances, but it must do so expressly; and the courts have held that in the case of the RLA the intent of Congress to do so has not been clearly expressed.

The legislation introduced today will once and for all clarify existing law. Doing so would confirm that the terms and conditions of the overseas flight operations of U.S. airlines are subject to negotiation between their managements and the selected bargaining representatives of their pilots under the same statutory authority as the terms and conditions of their domestic flying.

The legislation does not impose our labor laws on foreign countries; it does not cover employees providing ground and related services for U.S. carriers exclusively in foreign countries; it does not preclude negotiation of wages and terms and conditions of employment tailored to flight deck crew members that perform overseas operations.

If any of my colleagues are interested in becoming cosponsors of this important legislation, or if you have any questions, please call me or Mrs. Kyle on my staff at extension 53452.