

victory on March 22. Principal Max Cole and Athletic Director Gary Hinkle also provided the team with support and encouragement in their impressive victory.

Junior Stacey Hinkle, second-time MVP, proved to be an integral part of the team with 22 points. Leslie Thomas also helped the Panthers by scoring 8 of the 13 bench points scored during the game. Two players, Laurie Smith and Amanda Reece, braved recent surgery worries in order to play in the championship game. Stephanie Sharp, Lauren Craven, Misty Sharp, Brooke Embler, Kristin Berrier, Whitney Patterson, Amy Wells, Amanda Besaw, and Julie Reece all aided in Ledford's successful season and victory against Saint Pauls.

A championship is a great accomplishment but, for High Point Central High School, this 3-A basketball State title means so much more. During the season, the women's basketball team lost more games than the previous 3 years combined. However, the team pulled together to win the one game that meant the very most. Coach Kenny Carter was quoted in the High Point Enterprise explaining the journey that his team has faced, "Early in the year I didn't know if they believed everything that I said could happen." The team succeeded in allowing all 13 members of the team to make a basket during the course of the game. The most memorable shot was made in the closing 3.4 seconds of the game by Tameika McRae which clinched the 66-64 victory.

The score was close for the entire game with the half time score being tied at 21. Supreme efforts were made by all of the players of the team, the Most Valuable Player, Mandy Hall, Katie Copeland, Lee Culp, Sherelle Gladney, Ashley Hedgecock, Brendle Howard, Staci Murray, Kaneica Obie, Elizabeth Redpath, Jenni Tinsley, Mandi Tinsley, and Katie Yoemans, to secure the victory of the Bisons. The coaches of this championship team are Kenny Carter, Jetanna McClain, Scotti Carter, and Steve Martin who have help from the managers Michelle McCallum and Charita Clark and the trainers Brandy Owen and Steven Goodrich. Overseeing this group are athletic director Gary Whitman, statistician Kim Liptrop, and principal Bill Collins.

These two supreme teams will have a difficult year ahead of them as they are forced to play each other in the same conference. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate these teams for winning the women's State 2-A and 3-A basketball championships.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent during rollcall vote 110. If present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 110.

WARM WELCOME TO EAST JESSAMINE MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. SCOTTY BAESLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. BAESLER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to welcome the eighth-grade class from East Jessamine Middle School. These students traveled from Nicholasville, KY to explore the Capital of the United States. This city is alive with history, educational adventures, and stunning monuments. I am proud that these eighth graders are taking advantage of the opportunity to visit Washington, DC. I am sure that many fond memories will be created. I wish these outstanding young men and women the best for a bright and successful future.

THE POTOMAC—AN ENDANGERED RIVER

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, this morning the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus held its monthly information briefing. This morning's briefing was on fishing in the Washington, DC area. Each month these breakfasts focus on different aspects of wildlife conservation. This morning's breakfast hit home with many of the Members because it highlighted the area where many of us live and fish. I have attached an article written by Charles Verharen that highlights the threats to the Potomac fishery. I hope that my colleagues will read this article and work to restore and protect our local fishery.

THE POTOMAC—AN ENDANGERED RIVER?

(By Charles C. Verharen)

Imagine standing at the base of Little Falls on a brilliant spring day on the Potomac, just above Chain Bridge in Washington, D.C. Flocks of black cormorants stream north. Thousands of silver and black hickory shad fight their way up the surging rapids. Sparkling emerald water breaks against black granite. This wilderness-like setting in the Capital's city limits takes your breath away—until you look downstream.

Just below the falls what looks like gusher of Texas crude oil jets into the crystalline water. A hundred yards below the falls, green and black merge into dismal gray. A motorist on Chain Bridge can look upstream and see a Potomac that's in "better shape today than it has been in a century," according to Bill Matuszeski, director of the Chesapeake Bay Program (Post, 4/17/97, D8).

That same motorist can look downstream and see a Potomac that deserves its place on the list of America's endangered rivers. Beth Norcross, a director of the American Rivers group that maintains the list, admits that the "Potomac is in fabulous shape." Maybe she doesn't know about the black filth surging into the Potomac at Little Falls. She thinks the primary threat is bacteria-laden run-off from poultry farms in West Virginia. The U.S. and West Virginia Departments of Agriculture acknowledge the problem as well.

In an ironic twist of fate, bacteria are the indirect cause of the gout of black ooze. A by-product of the Washington Aqueduct

water treatment plant, the black goo is sediment from the plant's holding basins, containing such chemicals as aluminum silicate, copper, chlorine, and heavy metals from Potomac run-off.

The treatment plant discharges its waste into the Potomac above and below Little Falls. On some days Little Falls creek above the falls runs milky white like a glacial stream with aluminum silicate discharge from Washington Aqueduct. On the other days it runs a bright fluorescent green with copper silicate discharge.

Fishermen on the Potomac downstream of the falls report that discharges from the treatment plant have increased since the EPA found evidence of contamination of drinking water in the Washington area last year. They claim that the discharge endangers the spawning fish. The fish simply disappear during the discharge period.

Thomas P. Jacobus, chief of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers division that runs the Washington Aqueduct, said he's discharging heavily in the period from March to June to help the spawning fish. He said he thought the spawning season was from June through August.

When he learned that the spawning season is on right now, he said he couldn't stop the discharge in any event. His regulatory agencies, including the Environmental Protection Association, forbid discharge during summer's typically low river flow to protect fish habitats.

The American Rivers group, the EPA, and the Army Corp of Engineers need to get together with the Atlantic Marine Fisheries Commission and sport fishing associations to settle on a water treatment discharge schedule that will protect the spawning fish.

And politicians and residents of the Washington area need to figure out a way to purify Potomac water without polluting it.

REMARKS BY BENJAMIN MEED ON THE OCCASION OF THE DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY IN THE U.S. CAPITOL ROTUNDA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today at a most moving ceremony in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol, Members of Congress, members of the Diplomatic Corps, representatives of the Executive and Judicial branches, and hundreds of survivors of the Holocaust and their friends gathered to commemorate the National Days of Remembrance.

The theme of this year's Days of Remembrance commemoration was "From Holocaust to New Life." This remarkable ceremony celebrated the lives and legacy of those who survived those darkest days, triumphed with hope and compassion. One of those survivors was my dear friend, Benjamin Meed, who serves as chairman of the Days of Remembrance Committee. Ben has dedicated his life to keeping the lessons and memories of the Holocaust alive. I encourage my colleagues to read Benjamin Meed's outstanding remarks from today's ceremony.

Justice Scalia, distinguished Ambassadors, Members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, fellow survivors, ladies and gentleman:

When we, survivors of the Holocaust, see the American flag and the flag of the United

States Army that liberated the concentration camps march into this hall, we feel pride as Americans. They are symbols of hope and freedom—and may they always be. We feel gratitude for this great nation, and a strong sense of hope for the future.

Half a century ago, a continent away from these beautiful shores and worlds away from the reality we share today, the American army began entering some of the Nazi German concentration camps. Those brave soldiers came too late for many, yet just in time for some.

We will remain forever grateful to our liberators.

Over fifty years ago we survivors were considered “displaced persons.” The cities of our youth had changed. The streets were familiar, but where were our mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, and especially our children? Please imagine more than a million children murdered. Not even a trace of the once vibrant Jewish life remained. We had endured the worst reign of tyranny and murder in history. We became refugees determined to build a future in freedom, to go on with lives which had been so cruelly interrupted.

For many, Israel offered an answer—the promise to change our destiny and a symbol of defiance to those who would have us disappear. For others, America offered freedom and the promise of good future. Most of us

came here with little more than the clothing on our backs. Vladka and I came with eight dollars in our possession.

Today, survivors are found in every State of the Union and in every walk of life—we are artists and musicians, lawyers and doctors, writers and philosophers, philanthropists and industrialists, rabbis and teachers.

Our children, conceived in freedom, nurtured on two great traditions—Jewish and American—have taken their own places in this country’s life. Survivors as well as their children have served in the House and Senate, in the White House and in the Cabinet, on the Bench and in the United Nations.

Survivors have become witnesses. We share our memories with others. We believe that in remembrance lies hope and the protection of another generation who might otherwise be abandoned and forgotten—even tortured and killed. The Holocaust was unparalleled and unique but its lessons are universal.

Survivors have not demanded vengeance, but rather remembrance. Survivors helped to establish the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington. Without the involvement and dedication of survivors, institutions of remembrance would not have been built in Houston, Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, Boston, Chicago and Montreal, to name only a few. Without the help of survivors, the Days of Remembrance would not have entered the American consciousness.

Survivors can speak today of achievement. Look at us and see the power of the those whose answer to death was love and hope. We have lived three lives—before, during and after the Holocaust. We have traversed years, continents and worlds. We have witnessed horror and death, courage, and determination, faith in the future and respect of the past. We have spent a half century uniting the different threads of our lives into a fabric that is whole.

All that we have seen, all that we have done, all that we created, is for a purpose. To bear witness. We hope that future generations of Americans will remember and use the power of this vision to protect people everywhere.

Rooted in a past that was shattered, we have become a cry of conscience to the world and a voice determined to create a future that is worthy of our journey to hell and back—from darkness to light, from tyranny to freedom, from Holocaust to new life.

We have rebuilt our lives not because our losses can be replaced, but so our call will be heeded by those future generations whose losses can yet be prevented. We say to you, and through you them—more urgently now, for each day we are fewer—remember with us.

Thank you.