

may make school violence the expected norm.

This trend also shifts the responsibility for teaching children away from teachers to counselors and police. When the shootings first took place, there was some serious discussion about the size and culture of schools. All the shootings occurred in large schools where kids outside the mainstream could easily fall through the cracks. Teachers and administrators claimed ignorance of the threat from neo-Nazi gangs and antisocial cliques.

But now the discussion has shifted almost entirely toward militarization and regimentation of schools and side issues of student dress codes.

Calling on students to eat lunch with kids they don't normally eat with is a nice idea but it avoids many of the responsibilities that adults should bare, like school restructuring.

Over the next decade we will spend billions in the construction of new gigantic high schools and junior highs. This is a recipe for more Littletons.

If we are serious about safe schools, one of the first things we need to consider is the creation of smaller communities of teachers and learners where kids are known by the people charged with educating them.

CALIFORNIA'S AGRICULTURAL EXPORT STRENGTH AND IT'S SIGNIFICANCE

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, in spite of all the jobs produced by foreign trade in California and the opening of a new round of agricultural trade negotiations expected during the World Trade Organization Ministerial meeting this fall, there continue to be those who claim the U.S. should not undertake new negotiations. I believe what we need are more ways to sell overseas so California farmers can take advantage of their ability to produce quality products.

Exports are vital to California's agricultural industry as well as the California economy. California's agriculture accounts for almost \$7 billion in exports every year. Cotton and almonds, which account for one quarter of California's agricultural exports, are the two largest exports with 83 percent and 55 percent of the crops respectively being sold to foreign markets. We have also seen a booming increase in wine exports, which have grown 80% since 1995. Wine is now the third largest California agricultural export. One third of all California's agriculture output goes to foreign markets.

The three leading export markets for California are Japan, Mexico, and Hong Kong. Japan still offers the largest growth potential in value added products. Mexico is recovering from the effects of the peso devaluation and has resumed its position as the largest market for California's farm agricultural exports. Hong Kong plays a key role as the gateway to Asia for exports. Thanks to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), tariffs between two of California's major markets, Mexico and Canada, are being phased out or have already been eliminated. These markets are not the only ones in which growth is expected.

California has the real possibility of making inroads into new emerging markets with long term potential. Many Asian markets were largely closed to foreign trade until this decade. Latin American nations also have potential to become important long-term importers of California's agricultural products.

Another contributing factor to California's agricultural export strength is the motivation to adopt useful latest technology. Approximately 90,000 farms in California currently have Internet access and the number of farms "on line" has doubled from 23% to 46% in the last two years. Using this tool, farmers have access to commodity prices, weather, news on the latest technology, advice from the USDA and market conditions. This improved access to information will give farmers more control over production and marketing.

In fact, California agriculture has demonstrated remarkable flexibility in marketing its products during the last ten years. Anyone who shops for produce is familiar with the bagged, ready-to-eat salad and vegetable products packed for consumers. Storage techniques have improved to the point where many types of produce are available for months after harvest with the same quality we have come to expect from fresh-picked products. Having perfected these techniques at home, Californians are positioned to offer foreign buyers high quality goods as well.

While California has grown to be the biggest agricultural producer and exporter in the U.S., we should remember that our farmers also have the ability to offset unfair trade restrictions or obtain time to adjust to new market conditions. For example, American lamb producers recently obtained a 3-year recovery program to battle the recent drastic increase in lamb imports. This tariff-rate quota system will impose high tariffs on any lamb imports exceeding a specified amount. This will give our domestic lamb market the ability to recover competitiveness.

Agricultural exports from California continue to grow and support our economy by creating jobs, revenue, and increasing our own economic stability. By continuing trade with our current customers, as well as researching new and emerging markets, California's agricultural production and value will continue to grow. We know we can prosper through trade. What we need to do most is pursue new places and means of trading with other countries.

HONORING SAN DIEGO COUNTY'S 1999 TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 21, 1999

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, as a strong advocate of excellence in education, I am honored today to give recognition to four men and women who have been named San Diego County Teachers of the Year.

These are: Alma Hills, O'Farrell Community School; Karen O'Connor, Sunset Hills Elementary School; Jan Patrick Mongoven, San Marcos High School; and Gualter do Rego Moura, Mission Bay High School.

Excellent education begins at home with strong families. It continues in the classroom, with teachers who do their jobs well, whose

lives are dedicated to the children and the young people that they enrich and inspire. As a former teacher and coach, I understand that teaching is a difficult job whose rewards are not always immediately evident. But nothing that is truly rewarding in life comes easily. And the dedication and commitment shown by San Diego County's finest teachers exemplifies the best of our schools, the best of our communities, and the best of America.

Because education is the passport to the American dream, I want for all of our Nation's young people to have the finest teachers. And while San Diego County has recognized these four for Teacher of the Year honors, eligible for further recognition at the State and national levels, the truth is that there are hundreds and thousands more outstanding teachers where these came from—in public and private schools, in public charter schools, and in home schools across our country. As we work to do better, we can learn from the best.

Let the permanent RECORD of the Congress of the United States note the contributions that San Diego County's 1999 Teachers of the Year have made to the lives of young people in our community, the high standards of professionalism that they exemplify, and their love of teaching and learning.

I commend to my colleagues two news articles describing San Diego County's Teachers of the Year. The first is from the San Diego Union-Tribune of September 19, 1999, and the second is from the Escondido (Calif.) North County Times, of the same date.

[From the San Diego Union Tribune, Sept. 19, 1999]

FOUR SALUTED AS TEACHERS OF THE YEAR (By Angélica Pence)

Four teachers were saluted last night with the San Diego County Teacher of the Year Award for the creative and dedicated ways in which they bring out their students' potential.

Those honored were Alma Hills of O'Farrell Community School, Karen O'Connor of Sunset Hills Elementary School, Jan Patrick Mongoven of San Marcos High School and Gualter do Rego Moura of Mission Bay High School.

This year's winners were announced at a Salute to Teachers ceremony that was broadcast live on Cox Communications Channel 4. The event was held at San Diego's Civic Theatre and co-sponsored by the county Office of Education.

Thirty-one educators throughout the county were nominated by their peers and school districts. Given its size, the county submits four candidates for consideration for the state honor. The award is the first stepping-stone to state and national Teacher of the Year awards.

Candidates are selected on the basis of student achievement, professional development, community involvement and accountability. A nominee's teaching philosophy, personal style, knowledge of educational issues and trends, and promotion and development of the teaching profession are also considered.

For this year's crew of favorites, tapping into each student's talents is a key to their success.

Hills, a language arts and social studies teacher of O'Farrell, has helped prepare hundreds of teen-agers for high school and beyond.

"I live and constantly work with the anticipation that children can grow up to be productive adults in our society," the seventh-grade teacher wrote in her contest application. "I am very anxious about my responsibility to children and society, and so I

teach with a sense of urgency and determination."

Hills received a master's degree in teaching in 1989 from the University of California San Diego. The 13-year veteran is earning administrative credentials from National University.

"Alma believes that a child's education is a journey, not a race," wrote William Rose, O'Farrell's school programs coordinator. "And as their teacher, she has the obligation to monitor, encourage and support every child under her care to succeed on this journey."

Hills, who has worked at 1,490-student O'Farrell for eight years, was the San Diego Unified School District's Teacher of the Year for 1999.

"I have not found the solution to getting every student where he or she needs to be academically," Hills admitted. "But I am clear that I must never stop trying and I must never grow weary in my pursuit."

O'Connor, a third-grade teacher at San Diego's Sunset Hills Elementary, decided to take on teaching later in life than most.

"Because I came to the teaching profession at a relatively late date, I had more times than most to decide what I wanted to be when I grew up," she wrote. "My decision to be a teacher wavered at times, but I knew when I had children of my own and began volunteering at school that I had rediscovered my early desire to teach."

She earned a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, with honors, from Chapman University. This year her school, the Poway Unified School District and Wal-Mart each recognized her as Teacher of the Year.

O'Connor's ability to see each child as an individual is what sets her apart from other educators, said Sunset Hills principal Steve Hodge.

"I've watched her coach a highly gifted writer into making those subtle improvements that make a good piece of work," Hodge wrote. "Literally 30 seconds later, she's skillfully guiding a severely handicapped student into a learning game with his classmates."

Mongoven's chosen career, on the other hand, is a family tradition.

"One could say I was born into teaching," wrote Mongoven, who teaches genetics and a biotech lab to juniors and seniors at San Marcos High. "The first person to cuddle me and murmur soothing words into my ear was a teacher—my mother. The first person to lift my tiny being into the air and safely return it to the ground was another teacher—my father."

In 1994, Mongoven graduated from National University with a master's in counseling psychology, all the while earning a molecular biology workshop certification from California State University San Marcos.

A two-time National Teacher of the Year nominee, Mongoven was awarded 1999 Teacher of the Year honors in the San Marcos Unified School District.

But he counts his students' achievements, not his awards, among his greatest accomplishments.

"I feel so proud upon hearing that a former student has become a nurse, doctor, lab tech, chiropractor, research scientist or marine biologist," wrote Mongoven, who has been teaching for a quarter-century. Among them, "I proudly recall Karin Perkins (genetics class of '86) saying she was off to Stanford University as a graduate student to work on the Human Genome Project."

Moura, a Portuguese immigrant, learned early on to love and respect education.

"In Portugal, I learned that school is everything," he wrote. "Teachers were highly regarded—like demigods. Their words were the Golden Rule."

Since then, Moura has worked hard to pass his respect for learning to his students.

"My greatest success in teaching is instilling the belief in students that they can accomplish anything they desire," wrote Moura, who has taught mathematics at Mission Bay High for six years. "I must help students realize and recognize their potential and help the formation of an appreciation for mathematics."

Moura has degrees and teaching credentials from National University, San Diego State University and Mesa College. During the 1998-99 school year, he was named Teacher of the Year by his school as well as the San Diego Unified School District.

"Gualter Moura is a man for all seasons!" wrote Donna Bullock, head counselor at Mission Bay High. "He is one who is able to deal with the exceptional math students as well as the student who (has) difficulty with language. The counselors occasionally assign students to his classes who are unable to achieve in another environment."

[From the Escondido (Calif.) North County Times, Sept. 19, 1999]

2 LOCAL TEACHERS NAMED BEST IN COUNTY (By Joseph Gimenez)

SAN DIEGO.—Two North County teachers were among the four educators who received San Diego County Teacher of the Year awards Saturday night.

Jan Mongoven, a science teacher at San Marcos High School, and Karen O'Connor, a third-grade teacher who specializes in writing instruction at Poway's Sunset Hills Elementary School, joined two San Diego Unified District teachers as the honorees at a banquet at the San Diego Civic Theatre. O'Connor accepted her award, saying, "I can't believe this. Thank you so much."

"They told us to have a 15-second speech ready in case we won, but I didn't," she said. "It has been a humbling experience." Mongoven thanked his parents and family. "I couldn't stand up without the support of my wife and my sons," he said.

Moura of Mission Bay High School and Alma Hills of O'Farrell Community School also received the Cox Communications-sponsored awards at Saturday's 26-year-old ceremony.

Each school district in the county selects a Teacher of the Year who can apply for the county award. Saturday's four winners were among 10 finalists who advanced to the awards ceremonies after interviews and screenings. The 10 finalists selected from 31 nominees included two other North County teachers: Mary Lou Schultz of Pacific View School in Encinitas and Giff Asimos of Ramona High School.

O'Connor has taught third- and fourth-graders in Poway since 1986. She is a San Diego State University graduate who earned teaching credentials from the University of San Diego and a master's degree in curriculum and instruction at Chapman University.

"One thing that really sets Karen apart is her incredible ability to see each child as an individual and to know exactly what each child needs to succeed," Sunset Hills Principal Steve Hodge wrote in a background package for the nominees.

"I've watched her coach a highly gifted writer into making those subtle improvements that make a good piece of writing a great piece of work. Literally 30 seconds later, she's skillfully guiding a severely handicapped, fully included student into a learning game with his classmates. But, most remarkably, she knows exactly what that average child, the one who does average work and demands little attention, needs to

move to the next stage in his or her development."

O'Connor also assists the district with its proprietary writing programs and assessments.

Mongoven has been a teacher and athletic coach at San Marcos High School since 1974. He attended San Diego State University, where he earned his bachelor of science degree in zoology and his teaching credentials.

He earned his master's degree in counseling psychology at National University in 1994. In his application letter, Mongoven credited his parents, who had six decades of teaching experience between them, and other instructors who inspired him.

"I have indelible memories of my finest teachers," Mongoven wrote.

"Hoisting me by the back of the shirt collar, Mr. Bradford dangled this would-be class clown like a mortified Howdy Doody in front of his sixth-grade chums (saying) 'Jan, I expect more of you.'"

San Marcos District Superintendent Larry Maw praised Mongoven's professionalism in a letter to the county selection committee. "Jan is an expert in his subject matter of biology and genetics, and is recognized throughout the county and state as a leader in his field," Maw wrote.

"His unique courses provide students the opportunity to experience a college-level course while still on the high school campus. ...The high success rate of his students reflects his philosophy of presenting material in a way so that all students will succeed in his classroom."

All four of Saturday's honorees qualify to compete for the state's Teacher of the Year award. The four were each presented \$1,000 in cash, etched crystal apples, and an all-expenses-paid trip for two to Washington, D.C. Hewlett-Packard is donating computer equipment to the schools of all 10 finalists this year.

O'Connor joins four other Poway district teachers—Robert Pacilio, Linda Foote, Lori Brickley and Kristie Szentesi—in winning the county award since 1995. Five other Poway district teachers won the awards in the '70s and '80s. Mongoven joins Carol Scurlock, who won the award in 1993, as the two San Marcos district teachers to win the award since 1974.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 1059, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, the following is the agreement reached between Chairman SPENCE, Chairman BILEY, and myself in regard to the respective jurisdictions of each of our committees over the newly created National Nuclear Security Administration.

STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING CONCERNING JURISDICTIONAL IMPLICATIONS OF TITLE XXXII OF S. 1059, THE CONFERENCE REPORT FOR THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000, SEPTEMBER 14, 1999

This statement addresses the intent and understanding of the undersigned as it pertains to the impact of title XXXII (National Nuclear Security Administration Act) of S. 1059, the conference report for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year