

waste dumps, chemical and weapons disposal in every State. We can make sure that somebody is in charge, that there is enough funding, and we get the job done so that no child will be at risk for death, dismemberment or serious illness as a result of the United States Government not cleaning up after itself.

CHINA: FRIEND OR FOE?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. STEARNS) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, in the last Congress and many before, many of us have heard predictions that have been made regarding China. Advocates last year stated that granting permanent normal trade relations to China would help bring reform to this Communist government, and establish a real friendship between our nations.

Reading the papers last year and this year, this week particularly, I see nothing to support that statement. I think relationships are pretty shaky as they are.

On February 11 of this year, Chinese officials detained an American family. In doing so, they separated the couple's 5-year-old son from his parents for 26 days. After 26 days, little Andrew was reunited with his father and expelled; but his mother is still being held.

President Bush is demanding the release of this Washington-based sociologist. Her family claims that the alleged spying charges are trumped up. The State Department has announced this woman was not even an agent of the American intelligence service.

Now China has detained a second American scholar. This hardly seems like a nation that is becoming cooperative after receiving permanent normal trade relations with the United States. China's already poor human rights record sadly worsened last year. I am pleased that the new administration has recognized that fact and has urged the United Nations to address the widespread oppression in China. The United States U.N. Ambassador stated that the U.S. "should not be silent when those who call for democratic government or more cultural preservation and religious freedom in Tibet and elsewhere in China are suppressed or when advocates of labor rights are thrown in jail." But sadly, this may never take place.

Mr. Speaker, every year since the 1989 killing of student protestors in and around Tiananmen Square, China's delegation has introduced a "no-action motion," therefore successfully stopping all attempts to examine its human rights record. It would seem naive to ask why.

All of this would seem troublesome enough, but now we face even larger concerns. On Sunday of this week, a U.S. Navy plane and a Chinese fighter jet collided over the South China Sea

causing the American craft to make an emergency landing in China and the Chinese plane to crash. Officials from China are claiming that the bulkier, clumsier American plane that is roughly the size of a Boeing 737 rammed the light, agile Chinese fighter jet. This would again seem to contradict our view of common sense. Many U.S. experts agree that the incident was most likely caused by an accident on the part of the Chinese.

Sensitivity to the situation will ultimately result from the Chinese handling of the American EP-3 and its crew of 24. It is a reconnaissance aircraft, so it would seem likely that the Chinese military experts would want to board the aircraft to assess what is there, and I understand this morning that diplomats are meeting with the crew.

U.S. officials state that the Chinese generally intercept one out of every three U.S. patrol flights. Recently, concern has been raised with the Chinese Government regarding the fact that Chinese pilots have "become more aggressive." Now, according to Admiral Dennis Blair, Chief of the U.S. Pacific Command, the U.S. has protested the "pattern of increasingly unsafe behavior," but "did not get a satisfactory response." It is presumed that all 24 crew members are safe, but there is yet to be a direct contact between the crew and American officials. American officials are there and are hoping to get in to talk to the crew.

Navy officials also claim that last week a confrontation occurred between a Chinese warship and a Navy surveillance ship in international waters. The officials describe the incident as threatening.

Other examples showing cracks within our forged relationship with China also bear noting, such as China's involvement with Pakistan's nuclear bomb program and their recent questionable involvement in Iraq, to name just a few.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that our relationship with China needs to be carefully reevaluated. Since PNTR, we have seen aggressive behavior on their part. Our prayers are with the 24 crew members, and I am hopeful that a speedy resolution will occur. I look to the Bush administration to move forward appropriately with China.

CONGRESS NEEDS TO FUND PROGRAMS TO HELP AT-RISK JUVENILES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have a long list here, and I am not going to read all of it, but we could start in 1994, Union, Kentucky.

1995, Redlands, California; Richmond, Virginia.

1997, Bethel, Alaska; Pearl, Mississippi.

1998, Jonesboro, Arkansas; Edinboro, Pennsylvania; Fayetteville, Tennessee; and Springfield, Oregon, my hometown.

1999, Deming, New Mexico.

2001, Santee, California; Williamsport, Pennsylvania; and El Cajon, California, all in 1 month.

This is, unfortunately, only a partial list of school shootings in the United States over the last decade.

Mr. Speaker, we have got to ask what has been the coordinated and thoughtful response of our policymakers here in Washington, D.C., and I think we would find it lacking. Now, there is certainly no easy answer. There is no one-size-fits-all solution to these problems. But, Mr. Speaker, there are proven programs that are underfunded that could be better funded that might help prevent future tragedies, that might get to one disturbed youth, one at-risk family, that might bring forward some other students before the fact, and we should be doing all we can to encourage and fund those programs.

Mr. Speaker, we often expect that somebody somewhere is going to take care of the violence, is going to make things better, but really who is the somebody here? We all have to take some responsibility, every one of us. In my own hometown of Springfield, there was an incredible community response and a response from other communities, and statewide, and people from other States who came to help us, and even some help from the Federal Government in working through the immediate aftermath. But I fear some of that urgency is gone now, as the violence has gone elsewhere, and now those communities are in a crisis.

Mr. Speaker, we need a more coordinated approach. I am reintroducing legislation today that has a number of parts. It is not comprehensive, but it is a good start at helping to address these problems.

First and foremost, increased funding for Head Start and other early intervention prevention programs, a program for Federal funding for community programs, like the Birth to 3 in my State that intervenes with young, at-risk women and helps them before they become a problem or get into a situation that is a problem with their children. More money for child abuse programs that focus on community-based family preservation and crisis intervention, a funding increase for the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention programs, including court schools.

I visited court schools. It is a tremendous program. We take a kid today who threatens violence or has been expelled from school, and what do we do? There they are, they are out on the street for the most part. Those kids need a more structured environment. For many of them, it does not even seem like punishment to be thrown out of school. They should be removed and placed in a court school, which is a more rigid environment, which brings

in community resources and counseling resources to help them deal with their problems in the hope that we can get them back into the public school environment, and that they can become productive citizens. Do not just send them down to the mall or out in the streets with an expulsion order. Court schools work, and we need some more Federal assistance for those programs.

The National Guard has a very, very successful program, the Youth Challenge Program. It is underfunded. There is a long waiting list of States that want to have programs. We have one in Oregon that has been inadequately funded. The rate of recidivism of the kids that get in that program is minuscule. It works. It is not for every kid. That is not the solution for every kid, but it is a part of the puzzle, and it works, and why not put more money there. We can afford that. If we can afford to give tax breaks to billionaires, we can afford a few more dollars for the National Guard Youth Challenge program, assistance to schools and local police departments to combat juvenile crime, including funds for placing police officers in schools.

Mr. Speaker, let us help the communities who want to engage in prevention and intervention. We can institute a 72-hour hold, a mandate for a 72-hour hold for juveniles caught with a firearm on school grounds. The list goes on and on. These are simple things. They are things we could be doing, I say to my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support my wide-reaching package as a beginning of an indication that the Federal Government cares and will work in partnership with communities and concerned citizens and parents and kids to resolve this problem.

COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2001 NCAA WOMEN'S BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

THE SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ADERHOLT). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. ROEMER) is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, the famous sports writer Grantland Rice once wrote these words: "Outlined against a blue-gray October sky, the four horsemen rode again. In dramatic lore they are known as famine, pestilence, destruction and death."

These famous words name the four horsemen with the University of Notre Dame football team. With the women's national championship win, with the Notre Dame basketball program Sunday night, we have at least four new names in Irish legend and in "Hoosier Hysteria." They are Ratay and Ivey, Riley and Siemon, players that fought with tenacity and heart to come back from a 16-point deficit against the defending champs, the University of Con-

necticut, in a semifinal game and win by 15 points. They are the team that came back from 12 points down in the national championship game against the respected intrastate rivals, the Purdue Boilermakers with all-American Katie Douglas, and won the national championship by 2 points Sunday night.

I have to say to my colleagues in the House of Representatives, this was a flat-out exciting game that was one of the best national championships fought between men or women's games in the history of national basketball tournaments. This was a game that was exciting to watch in person or in one's living rooms for men and women and boys and girls across the country, to see Ruth Riley, the all-American star for the University of Notre Dame, score 28 points, rip down 13 rebounds and block 7 shots, all-American standards by any definition.

When we talk about high-caliber standards, nobody sets them better than the coach, Muffet McGraw, who has been at the helm of the University of Notre Dame for 14 years. This past year, she won three coach of the year awards, the Naismith Award, the Associated Press Award, and the WBCA National Coach of the Year Award, for her stellar coaching performance, in a 34 wins and 2 losses season. She did not do it by herself. Coach Owens, Coach McGruff, Coach Washington all helped her and these great teammates to win the national championship.

They had a lot of talent on this stellar team, not just the four names that I mentioned that go down in Irish lore, but the entire team dedicated to high academic standards and playing their hearts out on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I want to conclude by recognizing their outstanding season. I was privileged enough to attend their very first practice on October 15 and talk to the team and try to encourage them on to have a successful season. Those are high standards that we live up to in Indiana, where we have the legend of Larry Bird, where we have high school gyms that see 10,000 and 12,000 people for great games at the high-school level, and where tiny, small, little Milan High School won the State championship in 1954, creating the legendary Hoosiers movie. We now have the University of Notre Dame Fighting Irish 2001 national champions to enter into the lore, the legend, and the "Hoosier Hysteria." Congratulations. We are proud of you. Congratulations to the continuing ascendancy of women's basketball in America.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Notre Dame Women's Basketball Team. The Fighting Irish claimed the 2001 NCAA Women's Basketball National Championship on April 1 in St. Louis, Missouri against intrastate rival, the Purdue University Boilermakers, in a classic Hoosier contest that will be long remembered as one of the best championship games in history.

By winning the national championship on Sunday, the Fighting Irish provided a fitting

end to an extraordinary season. Their record was an outstanding thirty-four wins and only two defeats. This team embodied the true spirit of college athletics and the two hard fought games in the Final Four serve as a testament to their heart. In the semifinal game against the defending national champion and Big East Conference rival, University of Connecticut, the Irish staged a remarkable come from behind victory thanks to the dominant play of Naismith National Player of the Year, Ruth Riley, and the Frances Pomeroy Naismith Award winner, Niele Ivey. As the second half commenced, the Irish trailed the Connecticut Huskies by as many as sixteen points. The Irish refused to quit, however. Riley, Ivey, sharp shooter Alicia Ratay and the rest of the Irish scored on 15 of their next 20 possessions. Thanks to a 14-0 run, the Irish avenged a heart-breaking loss to the Huskies in the Big East Conference Tournament Final and ended up with a triumphant 90-75 victory. The comeback was the biggest in NCAA Final Four history. The Irish also made eight of their 11 three-point attempts, a national semifinal record.

The Irish saved more heroics for the National Championship game against intrastate rival Purdue. Trailing by as many as twelve points, the Irish responded with grit and determination. Notre Dame relied on balanced scoring. Junior Ericka Haney contributed thirteen points, Ivey had twelve points, and senior Kelley Siemon tallied ten points. Ratay tied the game at 62 with a three point shot four minutes to play in the game. But it was Riley who provided the heroics fitting of a champion. Riley erased Purdue's final lead of the game with a layup off a pass from Ratay. The game was tied at 66 with less than one minute to play. With 5.8 seconds to play, Riley was fouled and headed to the foul line with the national championship literally on the line. Riley made both free throws to seal the victory and the championship for the Fighting Irish. Riley finished the game with 28 points, 13 rebounds, and 7 blocked shots and was awarded the distinction of Most Outstanding Player.

In Muffet McGraw's fourteen years as head coach of the Women's Basketball team at Notre Dame, fans have grown accustomed to watching the Irish win with class. Coach McGraw has elevated the program to the pinnacle of college basketball while demanding academic excellence and exemplary sportsmanship from her players. McGraw's savvy coaching skills and dedication to playing with class are shining examples of why she was honored with three National Coach of the Year awards (Naismith, Associated Press, and the WBCA National Coach of the Year) this season. In winning her first national championship and reaching her second Final Four, Coach McGraw has proven that you can win with class and with the highest of academic standards. Coach McGraw's assistant coaches, Carol Owens, Kevin McGuff, and Coquese Washington (Notre Dame '92) must also be honored for their dedication to the team and to Notre Dame.

Coach McGraw's expectation to win with class was put into practice by this year's seniors. The strong character and the fierce determination of Riley, Ivey, Kelley Siemon, Meaghan Leahy, and Imani Dunbar set the tone for this season. They were able to end their illustrious collegiate careers with a victory and a championship.