that's most in shape. We're a running team and no one can catch us when they try those gimmick zone defenses, the 2–2–1 or the 1–2–2. We just skip right over that and score so many easy baskets.''

Neil set the tone right away for Matignon when he buried a 3–pointer from the right elbow just 30 seconds into the game. Southeastern stayed close over the next few minutes, trailing 10–9, and that's when Matignon blew the game wide open. The Warriors went on a 16–0 run, including three baskets by junior Jimmy Guerrier (12 points).

''We were just getting a lot of great looks,'' said Burke, whose team led 47–20 at the half. ''And the ball was falling in the basket. That's a good team over there and I think some of their early shots that didn't go in just took them out of their game.''

Matignon opened the second half with an 11–4 run, sparked by a 3-pointer and layup by Neil and a pair of baskets from McMahon.

TRIBUTE TO SONJA HOROSHKO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with much pleasure that I rise today to commend a distinguished artist, Sonja Horoshko of Cortez, Colorado, for expanding the reach of artistic endeavor in Montezuma County and the four-corners region. Sonja is a nationally recognized artist who brings an appreciation for art to diverse communities through her ''Drawing Together'' workshops. Today, I am honored to pay tribute to her accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

''Drawing Together'' encourages individuals, families and communities to create art collectively and with a wide variety of media. In 2001, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded Sonja a Challenge America Grant to present her workshops to four locations in Montezuma County. Eighty-one students, ages eight to sixty-two, participated. This summer a film drawn from one of her pioneering workshops with third grade Butterfly Dancers will be released at Aztec Ruins National Monument in New Mexico.

Since relocating to Montezuma County in 1993, Sonja has become a fixture of the Southwestern Colorado Art Community. She has been an artist in residence at Hovenweep National Monument and has received grants from Colorado Council of the Arts, the Utah Art Council, and the Mesa Verde Museum Association, among others. Internationally, she was invited to participate in the 53rd Conference on World Affairs in 2001, where she participated in panels connecting art to journalism, science, and politics. Sonja's art has also been a platform for activism in Colorado, as she represented the rural voice of Montezuma County at a conference in Denver focusing on critical statewide issues including economic development, tourism, and public health.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today and recognize Sonja Horoshko before this body of Congress and this nation. Sonja's career models the wide scope and influence of art in all its forms. Her workshops teach artistic expression to communities and individuals, both young and old, encouraging them to tell their own story in their own voice. It is my distinct honor to represent such a fine and creative American in this Congress and to know that there are individuals, like Sonja Horoshko, who constantly strive to create and appreciate beauty in our world.

IRAQ

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, my hopes for peace have given way to the reality of war. Although I agree with President Bush that Saddam Hussein is a dangerous man, I am not convinced that a military attack against Iraq is in the best interest of our nation. For this reason, I voted against a resolution last year that was the equivalent of a declaration of war which authorized the President to launch a military strike to disarm and possibly overthrow Saddam Hussein.

The issue is not whether or not Saddam Hussein is a dangerous dictator who should be disarmed. Just this past Sunday, we marked the fifteenth anniversary of Saddam Hussein's chemical weapons attack on a predominantly Kurdish village in northeastern Iraq where 5,000 civilians died. The international community has an important obligation to ensure that Saddam Hussein cannot repeat his aggression of the past, and as the world's most powerful country, we must be committed to lead. Through U.N. inspections, continued monitoring and increased scrutiny of Baghdad, I think we can meet that responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, we must realize that a possible military attack against Iraq would represent a major shift in American diplomatic and strategic thinking. For nearly fifty years, we relied upon deterrence to check Soviet expansionism. Deterrence brought us victory in the Cold War without having to fight a hot, shooting war under the shadow of nuclear annihilation. That same strategy has kept Iraq at bay for more than a decade. Now that doctrine is on the verge of being discarded.

There are several other critical questions to which we've heard very few answers. We must have a clear plan on how an attack on Iraq would transpire, including identifying our military options, determining our strategy to change the regime, calculating the potential casualties, and estimating how much an operation would cost and how it will be funded.

We must also see a plan to build democratic and free-market institutions in a post-Saddam Iraq. History teaches us that how we win the peace is just as critical as how we win the war. Thus far, these crucial issues have received little attention.

For those of us who counseled a peaceful strategy to disarm Iraq in the months before this point, it is now time to unite in our support for the 300,000 brave men and women in the region. I fervently and completely join the President in the hope and prayer for the safe and quick return of our soldiers to their homes and families.

I know that members of our military serve this nation's ideals and they demonstrate those ideals in their code and in their character. I have seen their love of this country and devotion to the cause of peace and freedom. I know that their mission is dangerous, and I personally thank them for their service. May God bless our troops and their families, and may God bless America.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAID SAFETY NET IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, today Congresswoman WILSON and I are introducing the Medicaid Safety Net Improvement Act of 2003. This important legislation would increase the allowed federal Medicaid disproportionate share hospital (DSH) allotment in ''extremely low-DSH'' states from one percent to three percent of Medicaid program costs.

In the mid-1980s, Congress established the Medicaid DSH program to provide additional funds to certain hospitals that deliver a disproportionate share of health care services to low-income patients, including Medicaid recipients and the uninsured. By providing financial relief to these facilities, this program ensures that all Americans—regardless of ability to pay—have access to critical hospital care.

Unfortunately, due to limitations imposed by the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (BBA) and the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Benefits Improvement and Protection Act of 2000 (BIPA), there are significant inequities in how these funds are distributed among states. For 18 states, including the State of Wisconsin, the federal DSH allotments are not allowed to exceed one percent of the state's Medicaid program costs. The average state spends about eight percent of its Medicaid funding on DSH.

This bipartisan legislation would address this inequity by raising the share of federal funds to extremely low-DSH states. The 18 states that would benefit from this proposal include: Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. It is important to note that this bill would not redistribute or reduce the federal DSH allotments in other states.

The Medicaid DSH program plays a tremendous role in the survival of the safety net that serves our most vulnerable populations, particularly the rising number of uninsured Americans, which at last count stands at nearly 42 million. For many hospital facilities, Medicaid DSH is the main reason they are able to keep their doors open. Providing an increase to three percent of Medicaid spending in the allowable DSH allotment would do a great deal to help these low-DSH states support low-income medical care.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation.