

A three-time national Judo champion, Rhadi was born in Portland Oregon, and earned a football scholarship to Howard University where he also wrestled and ran track. Rhadi won the 2004 U.S. Judo Trials in June and a bronze medal at the 2004 Pan American Games.

Rhadi Ferguson is an academic champion as well, having earned a master's degree in teaching at Howard University with a perfect 4.0 grade-point average, and he is now pursuing his doctorate in education.

Although many consider judo to be very similar to wrestling, the sport has as its origins in the ancient Japanese art of jujutsu, a system of hand-to-hand combat that is more than 2,000 years old.

Dr. Jigoro Kano, the founder of modern Judo, introduced many of the current techniques used today, and he is largely credited with Judo's inclusion in the 1964 Olympic Games. Kano described the sport as "the way to the most effective use of both physical and spiritual strength. By training you in attacks and defenses, it refines your body and your soul and helps you make the spiritual essence of Judo a part of your very being. In this way you are able to perfect yourself and contribute something of value to the world. This is the final goal of Judo discipline."

I am proud that one of my constituents, Rhadi Ferguson, has achieved the status of national champion, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on his participation in the 2004 Olympic Games.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WISCONSIN FIFTH DISTRICT OLYMPIC MEDAL WINNERS

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to four Americans who went to Athens to compete in the 28th Olympic Games last month, and came back as Olympic medal winners. With ties to Wisconsin's Fifth District, they are: Chris Ahrens (Whitefish Bay), Paul Hamm and Morgan Hamm (Town of Waukesha), and Bezie Madden (Bayside).

Winner of the gold medal in the U.S. Men's Eight (rowing), Chris started rowing by going out with his dad to the Milwaukee Rowing Club at 6 years of age. After finishing fifth in the 2000 Olympics in the Men's Eight, Chris retired and took 3 years off. Fortunately for America, in 2003, he changed his mind and returned to the sport to represent his Nation with success.

In the sport of gymnastics, Wisconsin was represented by Olympic gold and silver medal winner Paul Hamm, and his twin brother, Morgan Hamm, a silver medalist. Growing up on a farm in Waukesha, the Hamm twins practiced on makeshift equipment—a pommel horse constructed out of a maple tree, and the upholstery of a car; rings hung up in the attic; a trampoline set up in the barn, and parallel bars made from a stairway railing. This goes to show that you don't need state of the art equipment to create champions—you need heart.

In Athens, Bezie (Elizabeth) Madden was an integral part of the U.S. equestrian team that took the silver medal in Team Jumping. Nicknamed after her great-grandmother, Bezie took her first riding lesson at the age of 3. She got her first horse as a Christmas present when she was 4, and 2 years later, she competed in her first horse show.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all four of these athletes for representing our country with such honor, and congratulate them on their success.

RECOGNIZING PURDUE PHARMA AND LIFETIME LEARNING SYS- TEMS FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING WORK

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the wonderful work of Purdue Pharma, L.P. and the Weekly Reader to educate America's youth on the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

Purdue has partnered with Lifetime Learning Systems, publisher of Weekly Reader, to distribute drug abuse awareness materials, entitled "Painfully Obvious," in selected schools and classrooms throughout the country. Nearly 13,000 middle schools will receive these materials, which include a student discussion guide and a teacher's instructional guide, for distribution to more than 4 million fifth- to eighth-graders. The distribution will cover students throughout the Northeast, South and Midwest.

An estimated 9 million people aged 12 and older used prescription drugs for non-medical reasons in 1999, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Also, according to the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, the sharpest increases in new abusers of prescription drugs occur in 12-25 year olds. NIDA's 2003 Monitoring the Future survey, conducted amongst 8th, 10th and 12th grade high schoolers nationwide, found that Vicodin, a prescription drug, was the second most frequently reported drug used among 12th graders in high school, after marijuana. The same survey also found that 10.5 percent of 12th graders surveyed reported using Vicodin for non-medical reasons and 4.5 percent of 12th graders surveyed reported using OxyContin without a prescription. These statistics indicate a growing problem amongst the nation's teens. Individuals may also visit www.painfullyobvious.com to learn more about this important issue.

A critical first step in the prevention of prescription drug abuse by young people is to equip them with knowledge and information about its potentially devastating effects. America's youth will be in a better position to make the right choices because of this effort.

TRIBUTE TO JANET TRAUTWEIN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. I rise today to pay tribute to Janet Trautwein for receiving the

Gordon Memorial Award presented by the National Association of Health Underwriters. Since 1949, The National Association of Health Underwriters have been recognizing individuals that have generously and selflessly given their time and effort to the health insurance industry and the financial protection they provide to millions of Americans.

Janet Trautwein is well deserving of this award. She has served the association well as a staffer, but more notably in her years of uncompensated service as a former agent and active volunteer NAHU member in the state of Texas. Ms. Trautwein has exemplified the character of the Gordon Memorial Award by working hard to better the insurance industry without expecting anything in return.

Mr. Speaker, today, more than ever, volunteers are coveted members of our communities, selflessly giving their precious time and effort for the greater good. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Janet Trautwein for her service and for receiving the Gordon Memorial Award from the National Association of Health Underwriters.

FORT KING

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 10, 2004 Fort King of Ocala, Florida was designated as a national historic landmark in front of 200 guests at the downtown square in Ocala, Florida. Many speakers were present and told of the underlying significance of Fort King, where Osceola fought against the United States, as a key fort in a chapter of American history, the Second Seminole War from 1835-1842. Henry Sheldon, an engineer of Gainesville, Florida, who is a member of the Seminole Wars Historic Foundation, was one of the speakers that evening. Below is his brief account of the historical significance of Fort King:

THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF FORT KING;
FORT KING CEREMONY, MAY 10, 2004

(By Henry A. Sheldon)

Imagine standing at this spot in Florida two hundred years ago. Before you would be an immense forest, unbroken except by rivers, prairies, and lakes. It was said that if a squirrel could leap the rivers, it could walk on the tree tops from St. Augustine to Texas.

The sounds were those of the forest—the wind in the pines, the dying crash of a 500 year old mammoth oak, the cry of a hawk in the clouds, or the scream of a panther at the edge of the hammock.

For thousands of years native Americans passed by this spot in pursuit of deer and buffalo. Maybe a hunter sat right where you stand catching his breath as the pursuit continued. Maybe a town stood here. Maybe there were cook fires and children playing over there. The people were dressed in deerskins.

Then one day a different sound was heard in the forest. It was the sound of wagons, and horses and men shouting orders. "Pull up, veer to the left of that big pine, keep the wagons moving." They were soldiers, heading that way—East, toward the giant Silver Spring. They were dressed in blue and white and carried flintlock muskets similar to those used in the French and Indian War, the American Revolution, and the War of 1812. They had orders to build a fort.

They were looking for a hilltop, near water. They found such a spot 3 miles east of here on the first high ground west of the Silver Spring. Now the sound was of axes and the great pines on the hill began to fall to be used for the walls and blockhouses of the fort. The year was 1827.

The fort was similar to wilderness forts constructed by the French and the English during the 1600's and 1700's. It was the same type of picket fort constructed by George Washington at Fort Necessity in 1754. It was similar to the British Fort William Henry captured by the Marquis De Montcalm in the siege of 1757 and memorialized in James Fenimore Cooper's *Last of the Mohicans*.

Like Fort Leavenworth in Kansas, Fort Sill in Oklahoma, and Fort Laramie, in Wyoming, Fort King advanced the frontier. Many of these frontier forts became our cities. Fort Pontchartrain, became Detroit, Fort Dearborn became Chicago, Fort Pitt became Pittsburgh, Fort Brooke became Tampa, and Fort King became Ocala.

For 15 years (1827-42) Fort King was to be a main stage in the heroic and tragic saga of the advance of the American Frontier in Florida. It was constructed to administer the Treaty of Moultrie Creek which relocated the Seminoles to central Florida. Fort King was to promote law and order in the wilderness by protecting the Seminoles from trespassing settlers and adventurers.

Initially, Fort King and the Indian Agency were viewed positively by the Seminoles. As Coahajo said to Gad Humphreys, the Indian Agent in Jan 1829, "This house was built for us, so that when we had any difficulty, we might come here and settle it." It represented the 'Great Father's' (i.e., the US President's) commitment to them for their safety and well being. Chief John Hicks said to Gad Humphreys "We know that the Great Father's power is great, and he can do with us as he chooses; but we hope that his justice is as great as his power." They trusted the Great Father and his Indian Agents. To the Seminoles, Fort King was a symbol of hope.

But the Great Father could not stop the overwhelming advance of the white settlers, the whisky peddlers, and the slave hunters. Two years after being constructed, Fort King was abandoned due to budget cuts from the recession of 1829. The Seminoles were left without the soldiers to protect them from marauding whites. Justice lapsed.

The government reduced their annuity. The Seminoles could not buy corn. They began to starve. Captain John Sprague wrote: "The Indian, exasperated by repeated wrongs, was reckless of the future—indeed, cared but little of results. Revenge, ever sweet to him, whatever may be the consequences, was all he sought."

Fort King stood empty for 3 years (1829-32), but the Seminoles did not disturb it. The Seminoles waited for the return of the soldiers to protect them under the terms of the Treaty of Moultrie Creek. However, in May 1832, the Great Father (Andrew Jackson) made them sign a new treaty at Paynes Landing on the Oklawaha River.

In June 1832, one month after the signing of the Treaty of Paynes Landing, the soldiers returned. Fort King was re-garrisoned. But now the Seminoles were told that they must leave Florida entirely and forever. Instead of a symbol of freedom, hope and justice, Fort King and its soldiers became a symbol of hate and oppression.

On to the stage came a new Seminole—His name was Osceola. His first appearance to the world was at Fort King in October 1834. Here, the defiant young war chief rejected the US orders to leave Florida and threatened war unless the Seminoles were left alone. There was no trust left.

Then came the fateful day of Dec 28, 1835. That morning 40 miles to the south along the

Fort King Road, the Seminoles ambushed and annihilated two companies of US Army regulars in route to Fort King. That afternoon, Osceola shot and killed the Indian Agent Wiley Thompson outside the walls of Fort King. The Second Seminole War had begun.

During the seven year guerilla war that followed, every major general and every regiment of the US Army was stationed at or passed through Fort King. Here stood the Generals: Gaines, Scott, Clinch, Jesup, Taylor, and Armistead. Here stood the junior officers Worth, Johnson, Prince, Bragg, Meade, and Pemberton—men who would gain fame in the Mexican and Civil Wars. And here stood the enlisted men: Bemrose, Clarke, and hundreds of others who served in the Florida War.

Following the initial series of engagements, most of which the Seminoles won, US forces withdrew from the interior of Florida abandoning Fort King in May 1836. The Seminoles stood victorious. At this zenith of their success and hopes, the Seminoles burned the hated Fort King to the ground.

But it would be a short lived victory. The Army returned a year later and rebuilt Fort King. It would be garrisoned throughout the remaining 5 years of the war and from here the Army of the South would direct dragoon and infantry units in unrelenting search and destroy missions against the Seminoles.

When it ended in 1842, most of the Seminoles had been killed or captured and relocated to Indian Territory in Oklahoma. These native Americans constitute the Seminole Nation of today. An unconquered and defiant few withdrew to the vastness of the Florida Everglades and survived to the present as the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

In March 1843, Fort King was abandoned by the US Army for the last time and transferred to the people of Marion County. The Fort was used as the County's first courthouse and public building. In 1846, it was dismantled by the citizens of Marion County for its lumber. The great pines had done their job.

Hated and loved, Fort King was the stuff that dreams are made of. To the pioneers, it represented America in the wilderness. It was to these people—the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, The Bill of Rights, and freedom and democracy as we knew it. To the Seminoles—this fort was first a symbol of justice and goodwill and then a symbol of arrogance, intolerance, and persecution. Hated and loved—In the end, Fort King is us.

The historical significance of Fort King is that it links us to our past and to our future. To stand on that hilltop puts us in the footsteps of Osceola and the native Americans who roamed and lived on this land for thousands of years before the Spanish, French, English, and Americans ruled it. It is a place in the modern city that links us to our wilderness past. It reminds us of the difficulties faced by our young republic in maintaining justice and peace on the Frontier. It is how we got here. Here is our story on the exact spot of land where it all happened.

The lesson learned from Fort King is our need to assimilate and accept people of other cultures who in the final analysis value being American as much as we. Can we become a better people? The fact that we stand here as friends with the Seminoles, the very people we oppressed at the start of our State, is a testament that we can. Fort King is a place of hope.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, combating terrorism has emerged as one of the most important U.S. foreign policy and national security priorities. The number of terrorist groups is reportedly growing and the technology to inflict mass casualties is becoming more readily available. The United States and other cooperating nations are confronted with four major tasks, namely, (1) deterring and identifying terrorists and their sponsors and supporters (2) weakening terrorist financial ability and infrastructure (3) making potential targets extremely difficult to be accomplished, and (4) containing damage in the aftermath of terrorist attacks. Given these priorities Congress and the administration should accept the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Report as a guidance document toward effectively combating terrorism without diminishing the people's civil liberties and rights.

Combating terrorism requires government activity designed to gather information on, and restrict the activities of individual terrorists and groups seeking to engage in direct or indirect terrorist activity. This is a challenge facing the Congress as to how—in a growing age of globalization, deregulation, democracy and individual freedom—to institute effective communication between various intelligence agencies, information sharing across Federal, State and local governments and private sectors and the method of implementing regulatory and monitoring systems which will help deter, identify, and track terrorists and stop their activities.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION HONORING THOSE VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP AMERICA'S MILITARY FAMILIES

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 7, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer, along with my colleague and friend Representative JO ANN DAVIS from Virginia, a resolution honoring those who selflessly volunteer their time and energy to support America's brave military families.

Mr. Speaker, since the conflicts in Afghanistan and in Iraq began, the strain on our military families has been tremendous—with extended tours of duty and several activations and reactivations.

During this time, our military families face unique and trying challenges. While their loved ones are deployed overseas or away for extended periods, these families must cope with the anxiety and a fear of a different kind than experienced in combat.

This anxiety can be just as intense. "Will my husband come home?" "Is my daughter's unit in the line of fire?" "How will I make ends meet while the kids' father is gone?" "How should I explain this to our kids?"

These are the questions that race through the minds of the spouses and the children of