

and practice . . . and played with purpose, endurance and confidence.

Lopez High School Principal Maggie Gutierrez summed up the lessons for the team to learn in this sweet victory. "This team has a spirit of never giving up no matter what," she said. "Lopez Lobos are born to succeed, and no one else will tell them any different." These athletes learned an important lesson in this championship: They are absolutely capable of doing great things; my prayer is that their imaginations will be their only limits in this world.

I offer my proud congratulations to each member of the team, to the coaches and their assistants, to the parents who must endure the practices and the injuries, and to the principal and teachers who set the example of combining education and athletics. Mostly, I want these young people to understand that they won far more than the respect that comes with a championship . . . they now know that dreams can come true.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our best wishes to the Lopez High School Lobos for their hard-fought and well-deserved victory at the Texas Class 4A State soccer championship.

RECOGNITION OF LAWRENCE ROBERTS

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to salute a student at Mississippi State University who has demonstrated athletic excellence this year and distinguished himself in the ranks of college basketball not only in my state, but across the country.

Mississippi State's SEC Player of the Year, Lawrence Roberts, is the first Bulldog player since Rickey Brown (1979–80) to average a double-double for an entire season. Roberts completed the 2003–04 campaign as the SEC's No. 7 scorer (16.9 points per game) and second-leading rebounder (10.1 rebounds per game). Roberts also finished the year ranked fifth in the league in field-goal percentage (51.9%). With an SEC-leading 16 double-doubles on the season, the 6-foot-9, 235-pound Roberts ranks fourth nationally among active NCAA Division I players with 38 career double-doubles. The former University of Baylor transfer and Houston, Texas native has averaged 16.3 points (1,400 career points) and 9.5 rebounds (821 career rebounds) per contest during his three-year, 86-game collegiate career.

This season, Roberts helped lead Associated Press SEC Coach of the Year Rick Stansbury's eighth-ranked Bulldogs to a 26–4 overall record and league-best 14–2 SEC mark en route to claiming the school's first outright SEC regular-season championship since 1962–63. This year's State squad also made school history by appearing in a fourth consecutive postseason tournament and earning a third straight NCAA Tournament berth.

Roberts' teamwork benefited the entire Bulldogs squad. But his skill on the court distinguished him individually, and he has been recognized for his achievements. The accolades continue to roll in.

In addition to being named the SEC Player of the Year, Roberts is the first Associated Press All-American First Team selection from a Mississippi Division I school since fellow Bulldog Bailey Howell in 1958–59. In addition to earning a slot on the gold standard of postseason teams, Roberts has also garnered first-team all-America recognition this season by both the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) and United States Basketball Writers Association (USBWA).

He adds first-team national honors by the Sports Illustrated.com and College Insider.com Web sites as well as by the Adolph F. Rupp Award committee. Roberts has also collected second-team all-America accolades by the Basketball Times publication and ESPN.com.

Roberts has been named a top five finalist for the 28th Annual John R. Wooden Award along with Stanford's Josh Childress, Chris Duhon of Duke, Jameer Nelson of Saint Joseph's, and Connecticut's Emeka Okafor. Roberts becomes Mississippi State's first-ever Wooden Award All-American, which dates back to the 1976–77 hoops campaign.

Bulldog fans will wait till mid-June to see whether Roberts will return for his senior year or enter the NBA draft. This young man has time to make that decision and consider his opportunities, but fans in Mississippi will be watching him either way, either on the collegiate court or in the professional arena.

THE PASSING OF LARISA BOGORAZ

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on April 6 of this year, one of the true giants of the Soviet and Russian human rights movements, Larisa Bogoraz, passed away.

Born in eastern Ukraine, Larisa Iosifovna Bogoraz was by profession a linguist. In 1950, she married the writer Yuli Daniel who, together with Andrei Sinyavsky, was subsequently arrested by Soviet authorities in 1965 for publishing their stories abroad. This trial, marking the first prosecution of Soviet writers for their literary activities since the time of Stalin, gained international attention and laid the groundwork for the Soviet human rights movement.

Daniel and Sinyavsky were convicted by a kangaroo court and sentenced to long terms in a Soviet labor camp in the Mordovia region. Traveling to visit her incarcerated husband, Larisa Bogoraz met relatives of other political prisoners. Soon she was deeply involved in drafting and distributing petitions calling upon the Soviet Government to observe the basic civil liberties enumerated in the 1936 Soviet constitution.

In early 1968, Larisa Bogoraz joined Pavel Litvinov to produce a petition addressed to the international community and protesting the trial of dissident Alexandr Ginzburg, who had compiled the well-known "White Book" on the trial of Daniel and Sinyavsky. In August of that year, when, as Ludmilla Alexeyeva wrote so eloquently, "the Politburo decided to 'strengthen peace' by invading a sovereign country," Larisa and six other brave souls met on Red Square and unfurled banners in defense of

Czechoslovakia and condemnation of the crushing of "Prague Spring." For their noble efforts, they were arrested by the KGB, tried, and convicted of "slander" against the Soviet Union. Bogoraz was sentenced to 4 years of internal exile in the Irkutsk region of eastern Siberia, where she worked in a wood-processing factory. In a show of solidarity and respect for her, Larisa's dissident friends combined their resources and bought her a house to live in while she served her exile term. When she completed her sentence, she sold the house and gave the proceeds to a fund for political prisoners.

By 1976, she was back in Moscow actively involved in the compilation of the "samizdat" publication "Memory" dedicated to chronicling the repressions of the Stalin era.

Meanwhile, personal tragedy struck. Larisa's second husband, Moscow Helsinki Group member and political prisoner Anatoly Marchenko, died of a hunger strike in Chistopol Prison in December 1986. The Helsinki Commission, which I am proud to chair, had raised the Marchenko case on several occasions, and the late Warren Christopher, our head of delegation at the CSCE meeting in Vienna, led a moment of silence in memory of Mr. Marchenko. The Soviet and East German delegations walked out in protest, but a few weeks later Dr. Andrei Sakharov was released from his Gorky exile, and in February 1987 General Secretary Gorbachev initiated the wholesale release of Soviet political prisoners.

After the fall of the Soviet Union, Larisa Bogoraz continued her involvement in human rights activity, working with her colleagues from days past as well as a new generation of activists from Russia and the newly independent countries of the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Speaker, in its eulogy to this dissident heroine, the Ryazan Memorial Society writes, ". . . texts that were signed 'L. Bogoraz still remain,' and our children will learn from them."

So might we all.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN S. BURD, PRESIDENT, BRENAU UNIVERSITY

HON. NATHAN DEAL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the House to honor a pioneer and friend within the higher education arena of Georgia. It is with immense pride and a great honor that I pay tribute to a man that has made similar contributions to our region, but in the higher education arena. Please join me recognizing a friend and a community servant, Dr. John S. Burd, as he retires as president of Brenau University in Gainesville, GA.

Since donning the mantle of president of what was then known as Brenau College in 1985, it could be argued that Dr. Burd has accomplished more in under twenty years than all previous presidents did in the first 107 years of this fine institution's history. Since he first assumed office, his vision of private liberal arts higher education, his dedication, hard work, personal sacrifice, and love of the arts have transformed the college into a nationally recognized university and enhanced the lives

of thousands of children and adults of all ages. This multifaceted institution has flourished academically, by student enrollment, by improved facilities, and economically.

In one of his first acts as college president, Jack Burd created the State's very first weekend college in 1986, enabling thousands of returning adult students an opportunity to advance their education and their career potential at Brenau. Just about every college and university in Georgia now emulates this educational model. In 1993, under Dr. Burd's leadership, Brenau College became Brenau University to more accurately reflect the comprehensive nature of the institution. Now graduate programs serve educators and business leaders in management, accounting, and healthcare, continuing education programs engage retired adults, and traditional and non-traditional scheduling formats serve a local, regional, and worldwide student population. And to even further extend the university's outreach, Dr. Burd created the Online College in 2001. This unique institution now includes the Women's College, the Evening and Weekend College, the Online College and Brenau Academy.

Jack Burd's greatest accomplishment may be that he was able to preserve the 125-year-old heritage and legacy of Brenau's original mission, which is the Women's College. At one time there were two-hundred plus women's colleges across the United States. Today there are only sixty-eight. According to the Women's College Coalition, the decline is despite evidence that proves going to a women's college greatly increases the chances that a woman will become a leader, that she will become a scientist or elected official and that she will keep her sights high. Brenau women are leaders in their chosen professions and in their communities.

Under Jack Burd's leadership, the arts assumed center stage at Brenau. The Permanent Art Collection, now one of the fastest growing collections of any college in the United States, boasts more than 1,200 pieces with such names as Renoir and Lichtenstein. Nationally and internationally acclaimed artists exhibit regularly at Brenau with works seldom seen outside New York or Los Angeles. School children by the thousands come to view exhibits and experience hands-on workshops hosted by the art & design department. The performing arts have also flourished under Burd's direction. He negotiated one of the first ever collaborations in higher education between a public institution, Gainesville College, and a private institution, Brenau. The merger, called the Gainesville Theatre Alliance, has brought accolades and honors, regionally and nationally, to all involved.

During Jack Burd's tenure the campus, located in downtown Gainesville, Georgia, has enlarged to include a new library, a new business and communication arts building, performing arts center, fitness center, tennis center, several student houses and apartment buildings. There has been extensive renovation of buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places—upgrading 19th century buildings for 21st century use. By preserving the university's heritage, Jack Burd brought stability to a neighborhood of Gainesville that is but two blocks from the center of town. Once a declining area with many structures in need of repair, Burd's endeavors and fundraising increased property values and the

safety and security of the area, and revitalized what is now a vibrant, desirable area.

Spare time is hard to come by for a president of a busy college. But, Jack found time to lend his considerable talents for leadership and organizational planning to myriad community service groups such as Northeast Georgia Medical Center Advisory Board, First United Methodist Church, the Women's College Coalition, the Gainesville/Hall County Chamber of Commerce, Crawford W. Long Museum, Gainesville Symphony and the Georgia Association of Colleges.

In conclusion, to list all of the Brenau's accomplishments under Dr. Burd's leadership would be laborious and impossible. But a few notable ones that occurred over the past nineteen years include; increasing enrollment by more than 60 percent to 2,300 students; adding 7 graduate level degrees; renovating, constructing, and acquiring 19 campus buildings; obtaining national accreditation; and improving the university's financial situation dramatically from a meager endowment of \$2.5 million in 1985 to more than \$50 million today. There is no operational deficit and the university's economic contribution to the region is estimated to be \$38 million.

How can one exaggerate the importance of what this man has given to northeast Georgia? He leads a private college that manages its finances wisely, contributes to the economic welfare of all, returns highly qualified people to the workforce, and augments our quality of life with cultural events that feed the soul.

Thank you Dr. John S. Burd for all you have given the citizens of northeast Georgia. Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement.

**RECOGNITION OF ASPHALT GREEN
AND THREE OF ITS OUT-
STANDING LEADERS, STEWART
B. CLIFFORD, AL ZESIGER, AND
BARRIE ZESIGER, ON THE
EVENING OF THE BIG SWIM BEN-
EFIT**

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Asphalt Green and its honorees, Stewart B. Clifford, Al Zesiger and Barrie Zesiger, on the evening of the Big Swim Benefit and Asphalt Green's 30th anniversary celebration. Asphalt Green is a wonderful nonprofit organization that offers a wide array of health and fitness facilities to New York City residents. Our community is truly fortunate to have such an enjoyable and necessary resource.

The Asphalt Green facility began in 1974 as one of the last city-owned open spaces on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. By 1976, the Asphalt Green campus included a one-and-a-half acre park, gardens and a wading pool, all of which were available for public use free of charge. Later that year, Stewart B. Clifford assisted the organization's successful efforts to persuade the City to designate the asphalt plant adjacent to the organization's park (Asphalt Green's namesake) as a New York City landmark and to convert the plant into a multi-use community center. In 1984, the former

plant was renamed the George and Annette Murphy Center, in honor of the organization's founder, Dr. George Murphy.

The next phase in Asphalt Green's development began when Dr. Murphy enlisted the help of two of this evening's honorees, Al and Barrie Zesiger, to add an Olympic-sized swimming pool to Asphalt Green's already extensive facilities. The pool, along with a full-service sports and fitness complex, opened in 1993. These facilities have been of tremendous benefit to New Yorkers—and not just on hot summer days. Indeed, water exercise classes at the pool are available year-round, and are particularly well-suited to the fitness needs of the elderly, who are susceptible to the joint and muscle stresses associated with dry-land exercise. In all, more than 42,000 New Yorkers use Asphalt Green's facilities each year.

This evening, Asphalt Green will hold its annual Big Swim benefit, which will raise funds for the organization's Waterproofing program, a joint venture with the New York City Public School District to teach underprivileged children how to swim. Swimming ability is strongly linked with both socio-economic status and race: only 14 percent of those with annual incomes under \$10,000 know how to swim, and the rate of drowning among African-Americans is significantly higher than that of other ethnic groups. The Waterproofing program is notable not only because it encourages a lifetime of fitness, but also because it helps to save lives.

The foregoing would not have been possible without Al and Barrie Zesiger's dedication to public service and financial support, and the leadership of Stewart B. Clifford, a member of Asphalt Green's Board for more than twenty years. All three of these great citizens of New York will be honored at this evening's benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to this fine organization and its honorees, Al and Barrie Zesiger and Stewart B. Clifford.

TRIBUTE TO FREDDY FENDER

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an American patriot, cultural icon, and leader in our South Texas community: Freddy Fender, an accomplished artist whose appeal is ageless. Freddy proved his everlasting influence in 2002 when he won the Grammy for Best Latin Pop Album and again this year, as the Texas Folklife Resources celebrated 50 years of Freddy's music with a concert as part of its Folk Masters series on Saturday, April 10, 2004, at the Paramount Theatre in Austin, Texas.

A San Benito, Texas, native and legendary performer, Freddy was born Baldemar Huerta. He began his career as teenager recording popular English language songs in Spanish that found an audience in Mexico and Latin America in the 1950s. In the 1960's his career took off in the United States with the hit, "Wasted Days and Wasted Nights."

Those wild, early days eventually put him on more disciplined path. He went back to school and worked as a mechanic, but he continued singing.