

UCLA's defense. Furthermore, the Gators quickly demonstrated that their defense was the more domineering on the court, limiting their opponents' scoring options.

I want to recognize Coach Donovan and his assistant coaches, who have helped lead the Gators to national prominence. This is Coach Donovan's second title game appearance with UF, and with this victory, he becomes the second youngest head coach to win a national championship. I also would like to acknowledge the Gators' starters. Joakim Noah, the Final Four's Most Outstanding Player, led the Gators with 16 points, nine rebounds, three assists, and six blocked shots, a title game record. Taurean Green ran the point nearly to perfection, refusing to allow UCLA's pressure to lead to turnovers. Corey Brewer had great offensive statistics; however, it was his shutdown defense which held UCLA's leading scorer scoreless for most of the game. Al Horford helped control the interior and defend UF's basket, and Lee Humphrey's barrage of three-point jump shots helped put the game out of reach. Additionally, I would like to congratulate the Gators' only senior, Adrian Moss, who finished his college career with a sensational game, posting nine points and six rebounds in only ten minutes of play.

I also want to applaud the rest of the Gator team: Chris Richard, Walter Hodge, David Huertas, Garrett Tyler, Jimmie Sutton, Jack Berry, Brett Swanson, and everyone involved with the Men's basketball program. They are all to be commended for their contributions to the Gators' success.

This young team showed their maturity by playing unselfish basketball. We have seen the results when players are out for the greater good of the team, rather than playing for themselves. This Florida squad epitomizes that philosophy. They shared the ball, always looking for an open teammate rather than seeking personal glory.

I'm tremendously proud of these young men and honored to be an alumnus. It truly is great to be a Florida Gator!

TRIBUTE TO THE CHILD WITHIN,
INC.

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Celebrate the Child Within, Inc.—a unique organization in my home district that offers support and encouragement for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

Celebrate the Child Within is dedicated to helping negate the shame of childhood sex abuse, as well as the promotion of healing by recapturing happier childhood times. Those involved with CTCW, Inc. are committed to helping sufferers to focus on the little boy or girl within who endured the assault and survived to adulthood, and to celebrate that survival. The celebrations are done with wholesome, happy activities in order to help this specific group feel more accepted by society and to foster better understanding of themselves and their families.

Each year for the last three years CTCW's Board of Directors has identified a survivor of childhood sexual abuse who achieved excel-

lence in their field of endeavor as an adult. The board has held a celebratory event that involved the community to recognize their success—and to raise awareness about childhood abuse, as well as the potential for recovery.

More people than ever are willing to talk about this ongoing tragedy, which is a significant step in helping rid this problem from our society.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Celebrate the Child Within for their much-needed work, and to wish them many more years of success.

FREEDOM FOR ROBERTO DE
JESÚS GUERRA PÉREZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Roberto de Jesús Guerra Pérez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Guerra Pérez is an independent journalist and a chronicler of truth amid the lies and deceit of Castro's villainous regime. He writes about the reality of the reprehensible repression inflicted on the Cuban people by the dictatorship. Because of his belief in truth in print, truth for the people of Cuba, and truth to enable the world to better comprehend the daily horrors of totalitarian Cuba, Mr. Guerra Pérez was a target of the tyrannical regime. Make no mistake, brave men and women who seek truth and freedom are the enemies of Castro's totalitarian dictatorship.

According to Reporters Without Borders, Mr. Guerra Pérez was arrested for "disturbing the peace" on July 13, 2005, while staging a fast along with a dozen other opposition activists to protest against the incessant harassment of independent journalists. Over eight and half months later, he is still locked in the totalitarian gulag and still waiting for a trial.

Castro's ruthless machinery of repression does not stop after sentencing innocent Cubans to the totalitarian gulag. In the U.S. Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices—2005, it is reported:

Prison conditions continued to be harsh and life threatening. Conditions in detention facilities also were harsh. Prison authorities frequently beat, neglected, isolated, and denied medical treatment to detainees and prisoners, particularly those convicted of political crimes or those who persisted in expressing their views . . . Prisoners sometimes were held in "punishment cells," which usually were located in the basement of a prison, with continuous semi-dark conditions, no available water, and only a hole for a toilet.

To protest these grotesque abuses, Mr. Guerra Pérez has conducted four hunger strikes to call international attention to the inhuman treatment in the gulag. In a cry of solidarity for Mr. Guerra Pérez, Reporters Without Borders said, "We are all the more concerned about this hunger strike as he had only called off the preceding one a few days before and he was still very weak. There are no serious grounds for holding him as all he did was describe what life is really like for Cubans. We demand his immediate release."

Mr. Speaker, it is intolerable for Mr. Guerra Pérez to languish in a gulag where he is

abused and tortured. It is morally abhorrent that, in the 21st Century, brave men and women like Mr. Guerra Pérez are still locked in repugnant gulags for reporting the truth. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Roberto de Jesús Guerra Pérez and every prisoner of conscience languishing in the totalitarian gulags of the nightmare called the Castro regime.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR
WILLIE BEASLEY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Sergeant Major Willie Beasley on his retirement from Collinwood High School in Cleveland, Ohio. Sergeant Major Beasley has served as Assistant Instructor and Military Property Custodian at Collinwood High School for the past 12 years.

Sergeant Major Beasley is a valued member of the faculty at Collinwood High School and has earned the reputation of being an outstanding teacher and mentor to young adults. He is highly regarded in the community for his dedication to the cadets in the Army JROTC program at Collinwood. Through the Army JROTC, over 1200 students have been directed under his tutelage.

Sergeant Major Beasley also served in the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam where he demonstrated leadership in combat as a platoon sergeant and acting platoon leader. There he distinguished himself earning a Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Sergeant Major Beasley's selfless service, superior achievement and loyal dedication to the youth of the City of Cleveland are immeasurable. On behalf of the nation and the constituents of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, I thank you for your service and tremendous sacrifices you have made for our country. Congratulations on your retirement and on a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHIL LARSON,
2006 FRESNO COUNTY FARM BUREAU
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Representatives CARDOZA, NUNES and RADANOVICH, to honor Phil Larson of Kerman, California, the recipient of the 2006 Fresno County Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service" Award.

Phil has been a lifelong farmer and Fresno County resident. He began his career as an agricultural chemical sales representative and worked for over 37 years for the Wilbur Ellis Company. While fulfilling this job, he also farmed for his family's vineyard in Kerman; where today, he still farms raisins. The expertise he gained over the years in agriculture earned Phil much respect from members in

the agriculture community, particularly the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Phil has had an extensive and outstanding career in the Fresno County Farm Bureau. Following his long membership, he became involved on the board of directors where he served as the first agricultural chemical chairman in the late 1980s. In 1996, he became the president of the bureau and served for over two years. Phil believes, and once stated, the "Farm Bureau represents the morality of agriculture."

During his term as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, Phil was a strong advocate for agriculture and farming industries. He spearheaded the advancement and introduction of several water supply, pesticide use and farm related pieces of legislation. Phil was also on the forefront of several priority-setting documents such as "A Landscape of Choice"—the land use policy document of April 1998. He was extremely dedicated in addressing agricultural issues and was deemed a "24-hour President" for his unrelenting commitment to serve the bureau.

Amazingly enough, the 24-hour President also found time to lend a helping hand in his community. Phil Larson's involvement in his community has been far-reaching, ranging from serving as the Kerman High football announcer to the California Farm Bureau Federation State Director for District 7 in 2000–2001. He has served on the State board of California Agriculture Production Consultants Association and has been involved with several other boards and organizations including the Western Crop Protection Chemicals Association, Fresno County/City Chamber of Commerce, Kerman Unified School District Board, Kerman Covenant Church Board and Kerman High Boosters. At present, he serves as the District One supervisor and chair of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

As the supervisor for District One and board chair, Phil Larson represents the Fresno County Board of Supervisors on several boards and commissions such as the Central Valley Project Authority, Mid-Valley Water Authority, San Joaquin River Conservancy, San Joaquin Valley Supervisors Endangered Species Committee, Transportation Authority and the Governing Board of the Fresno Madera Area Agency on Aging. Undoubtedly, Phil continues to serve his community and has received numerous awards and recognitions for his exceptional service.

Phil Larson's commitment to advance the agricultural industry in the Valley and his wide-ranging contributions to the community, and his church are accomplishments worthy of recognition. It is my pleasure to honor such a great man and I want to extend, on behalf of the residents of Fresno County, my sincerest appreciation for his dedication and service and offer my heartfelt congratulations to Phil for receiving the 2006 Fresno County Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service" Award.

STATEMENT ON THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today, on the 38th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering this solemn day. Yet while we reflect on Dr. King's death, we should also celebrate his legacy of service and justice—for he was ever hopeful about the future of our nation.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15, 1929. He was one of three children of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., and Alberta Williams King, in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King graduated high school two years early and went on to study at Morehouse College, Crozer Theological Seminary, and Boston University. He began his career as an assistant pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta.

During his time leading the civil rights movement, Dr. King was arrested on more than thirty occasions for doing the right thing. He served as president of the Montgomery Improvement Association during the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott. He founded and led the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from 1957 until his death in 1968. He led the March on Washington in 1963, delivering the "I Have A Dream" speech to thousands, and focusing the eyes of the world on the American civil rights movement.

Martin Luther King, Jr., worked tirelessly to promote the political, economic and social rights of millions of Americans, particularly those who felt that equal justice was beyond their reach. His passion was unmatched, his strength and perseverance were remarkable, and his enduring commitment to peace has provided an example to us all.

On April 3, 1968, Dr. King was in Memphis to support the striking Sanitation Workers' Union. The night before his assassination, Dr. King prophetically declared that the movement for racial equality may have to continue without him. That night, he and other civil rights activists stayed at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

The next afternoon, April 4, Dr. King, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, and Memphis minister Rev. Billy Kyles, met at the Lorraine motel. The three of them spoke briefly before Dr. King and Rev. Kyles stepped out onto the balcony. His colleagues, including the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the Reverend James Bevel, Hosea Williams, and the Reverend Andrew Young Jr. waited in the parking lot below with the car that would have taken Dr. King to his dinner. At 6:01 PM, a single shot rang out. One hour later, Dr. King, the icon of peaceful, nonviolent change, was pronounced dead at St. Joseph's Hospital.

The following day, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared Sunday, April 7 a day of national mourning. Attending his funeral on April 9 were nearly 100,000 mourners who had felt Dr. King's impact and had come to pay their

respects. His coffin traveled through his hometown of Atlanta from Ebenezer Baptist Church to Morehouse College, his alma mater.

In the years since his death, his widow, Coretta Scott King, whom we mourned in January, carried on his work and his legacy. So many others who fought alongside Dr. King have also dedicated themselves to keeping the dream alive. I consider it an honor to serve on the Ways and Means Committee with my friend and colleague, John Lewis, who spoke so eloquently this morning of his friendship with Dr. King.

The anniversary of Dr. King's assassination should remind us that America has far to go in the struggle to recognize all its citizens as equals. I look forward to the vote in this chamber to renew the Voting Rights Act before its provisions expire in the summer of 2007, and I would hope that we would remember and honor Dr. King's commitment to end poverty and injustice in all our work in the House.

At Dr. King's funeral, former Morehouse President Dr. Benjamin Mays spoke these words: "Martin Luther King, Jr., believed in a united America. He believed that the walls of separation brought on by legal and de facto segregation, and discrimination based on race and color, could be eradicated." Let us all share in Dr. King's beliefs and his dream for a better America.

CELEBRATING DOMINIC PETER TORLONE'S 80TH YEAR AND CONTINUED COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today we extend best wishes on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Dominic Peter Torlone of Huntington, West Virginia. Born in Logan, West Virginia on April 7, 1926, Dominic has lived in Huntington for the past 44 years and was the long-time owner and operator of Torlone's Community Bakery, a staple of the Huntington community, along with his brothers, Louie and Alfred. His parents, Peter and Carmela Maria Torlone, originally opened Torlone's Bakery in 1946.

As any Huntington native will attest, Dominic is loved by all in the community. He is always ready with a warm smile and cheerful greeting for his fellow Huntingtonians, either in English or his favorite Italian. He exemplifies the decency and strong citizenship of his generation.

Dominic and his wife, Mrs. Harriet Torlone, are the proud parents of four children, Amy Harris, Lisa Koch, Mark Torlone, and Beth Sigall, and nine grandchildren. Although he officially retired from Torlone's Bakery in 1995, he remains an active member of Huntington's civic landscape, devoting many hours of service to worthy causes such as the Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph's Catholic Church, where he attends daily mass. He is truly a favorite son of West Virginia and we salute his continued service to Huntington on this his 80th birthday.