

Columbia Gorge Community College in Wasco and Hood River counties, Oregon and to single out the highly effective leadership of The Dalles-Wasco County Community Outreach Team.

This gorgeous area of Oregon benefits from some of the most dedicated and determined local leaders in the country. The Dalles-Wasco County Community Outreach Team provides an outstanding model of local government co-operation and their efforts, in conjunction with Columbia Gorge Community College, have had a very positive impact on the Columbia River Gorge economy. The Community Outreach Team's members band together at all levels of city and county leadership and work in synchronized fashion to both tout the benefits provided in their region and echo with one clear voice the ways government at all levels can better work together and deliver favorable results to local residents and employers and the large number of visitors who flock to this picturesque area.

The rural nursing program at Columbia Gorge Community College is hailed as a state and national model of instruction delivery in a rural region and has added to the College's clout as a premier center of learning and training in the West. Another feather in the cap of Columbia Gorge Community College is their renewable energy training program. The Pacific Northwest is witnessing unprecedented, rapid growth of renewable energy and Columbia Gorge Community College, in cooperation with its renewable energy industry and workforce partners, has initiated and deployed the first renewable energy program on the West Coast that offers wind energy technician training. As the co-chair of the bipartisan House Renewable Energy Caucus, I'm very proud of the College's national leadership on this front.

The renewable energy program at Columbia Gorge Community College will be sustained through the same highly successful industry partnership model as developed by the College's nursing program. The development of renewable energy contributes to our Nation's security by lessening reliance on imported fossil fuels, and its development substantially reduces the impact of fossil fuels on the important issue of climate change. Workforce training is an essential element of renewable energy expansion, and Columbia Gorge Community College is blazing trails on this exciting new front.

My colleagues, I ask you to join me in commending Columbia Gorge Community College and its industry and workforce partners for establishing the first program on the West Coast for renewable energy that offers wind energy technician training. They're providing outstanding results, and it's my honor to represent in the United States House of Representatives such dedicated local leaders.

HONORING NED BAUDAT FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE P.E. MARION SCIENCE/MATH SCHOLARSHIP

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Ned

Baudat for his contributions to the P.E. Marion Science/Math Scholarship that is offered to students at Aldine High School in our district. With Mr. Baudat's support, students from Aldine High School have the opportunity to further their collegiate studies in math and science. I know P.E. Marion and his excellent teaching ability, and it is an additional honor to have this scholarship in his name.

Our Nation is currently facing criticism relating to a decreased interest of American students in the study of math and science. For this reason, we are unable to keep up with the international community whose students often excel in their math and science studies. By encouraging advance study in these subjects, American students are able to better compete with students from all over the world, and we have persons like Ned Baudat to thank for this.

Mr. Baudat graduated at the top of his class from Aldine High School and went on to Rice University. During his career in the oil industry, he developed a patent regarding an improved method to convert liquid natural gas back into its original gaseous state. A portion of the proceeds from Mr. Baudat's patent were used to develop this scholarship.

I am very proud of his outstanding accomplishments as well as his continued support of the P.E. Marion Science/Math Scholarship. For his service to my constituents as well as the country, I offer Mr. Baudat my most sincere congratulations in his well deserved recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, April 24, I missed the vote on rollcall No. 252. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO FIRST ROBOTICS TEAM FROM MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCES AND WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (WPI)

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the FIRST Robotics team from the Massachusetts Academy of Mathematics and Sciences at WPI for their recent championship victory at the FIRST Championship at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. The team earned an invitation to this competition after months of demonstrated excellence in competitive play, sportsmanship, and development of partnerships among schools, businesses, and communities.

The diligent efforts of these students over the course of 6 weeks enabled them to channel their energy and creativity into the construction of robots while adhering to competition guidelines and design specifications. This final effort was the culmination of months of

competitive innovation among over 1,300 teams from across the United States and six other countries. The team was recognized earlier this year with the prestigious Regional Chairman's Award at the FIRST BAE Systems/Granite State Regional in Manchester, New Hampshire, making it the first team in the competition's history to win the award for the second consecutive year. The team has also been recognized with the Tournament Champion's Award and the Motorola Quality Award at the Silicon Valley Regional Robotics Tournament in San Jose, California.

FIRST is a not-for-profit whose acronym means "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," that was founded by Dean Kamen, a WPI alumnus. The organization provides programs to motivate youth to pursue opportunities in math, science, technology, and engineering, while also building practical life skills.

The FIRST Robotics Team from Massachusetts Academy of Math and Sciences at WPI works diligently in the pursuit of knowledge and innovation as they apply it to technology. The team's accomplishments this year illustrate their tremendous hard work, determination, and creativity. These achievements make them role models to their fellow youth and assets to the community at large. I encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating the team on their extraordinary achievement.

TRIBUTE TO 2007 INDUCTEES TO THE MEDFORD SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 10 talented men and women being inducted into the Medford Sports Hall of Fame on April 28, 2007, at the Skyline Plaza in Medford, OR. The Medford Sports Hall of Fame was established to ensure that local athletes, coaches, and contributors would be rightfully recognized for their significant support of athletics in southern Oregon both on and off the field. Today, I would like to share some of the stories that depict the inductees' illustrious athletic achievements.

Larry Binney has spent over 40 years coaching and teaching students the fundamentals of softball, the importance of good sportsmanship, and the values of teamwork. In his last 20 seasons as the head coach of the North Medford Black Tornado, he produced 16 conference championships and 4 State championships. In 1998, he was named the "National High School Coach of the Year." Mr. Binney concluded his distinguished coaching career at Southern Oregon University in 2006.

Dick Entinger's appreciation for sports began at an early age and his enthusiasm for promoting athletics continued as he moved to the community of Medford in 1976. As a two-time president of the Medford Linebackers, Mr. Entinger played a key role in raising money to support numerous community athletic programs and projects. Perhaps two of his most recognizable contributions include his role in raising \$700,000 to install FeldTurf and a new track at the Spiegelberg Stadium and another \$800,000 to open the stadium to local soccer,

band, and Pop Warner football teams. Today, many are able to participate in sports and utilize the fields, tracks, and stadiums that stand as a result of Mr. Entinger's hard work and commitment to the sporting community.

BG Gould has served as the team statistician for Medford area high school baseball, basketball, football, and softball teams since 1967. The 1970 Medford High School graduate spent 13 years as an official scorer for the Oakland A's minor league team, the Southern Oregon Timberjacks. BG also worked as an umpire in the Rogue Valley for over 35 years. Today, he continues to put his statistical and historical knowledge to work as the sports information director for School District 549-C in Medford.

Whitney Grant, a Klamath Falls native, started 4 years as a point guard on the University of Portland women's basketball team. By the time her collegiate career with the Pilots ended, Whitney ranked second in three-point baskets, seventh in assists, and twelfth in points scored on the team's all-time leaders list. Whitney was also a tremendous all-season athlete at South Medford High School, where she excelled in track, soccer, and volleyball. Whitney is currently working in Portland, OR, for Adidas.

Angie Jacobs, a Medford native and a graduate of Medford Senior High School, led Medford to their first State softball championship in 1984 as an all-state catcher. On scholarship at the University of California, Berkeley, she helped lead the softball team to a third-place finish in the 1986 NCAA tournament. As a senior, Angie was selected to the All Pac-10 team, a remarkable feat considering 6 months prior she had her right thumb reattached following an accident. Jacobs is a two-time Amateur Softball Association All-American and currently is finishing her first season as the head softball coach at the University of Utah.

Dr. Robert McIntyre is well known in Medford for his contributions to the medical community, where he has practiced medicine for 28 years. Others in the region know him for his flashing speed, State titles, and the track scholarship that led him to Stanford University. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. McIntyre was the State titleholder in the 440-yard dash with a time of 49.2 seconds. At Stanford, he ran a leg on Stanford's world record breaking 4 100 yard relay team, and his 1965 AAU All-American Team still holds the all-time Stanford relay record. Dr. McIntyre rounded out his athletic career participating in decathlons and twice finished as a national runner-up in his age group.

Dennis J. Murphy is one of the most successful coaches in South Medford High School history. He spent 19 years coaching the South Medford High School boys' basketball team, where he compiled 11 conference championships, four semifinal appearances, one state runner-up finish, and a state title. He has over 500 career victories since he started coaching in 1975. Dennis' ability to teach and coach spans further than just the hardwood. Prior to his time at South Medford High School, Dennis coached at St. Mary's as the offensive and defensive line coach where he guided St. Mary's to three state championships, and also won a title on the baseball diamond as the head coach in 1982.

Kevin Towers, a 1979 Medford High School graduate, became the Executive Vice President/General Manager of the San Diego Pa-

dres in 1995. His 27-year professional baseball career began when Towers was selected in the first round of the 1982 draft by the San Diego Padres. He pitched for the Padres' minor league teams until arm operations forced him to retire. Upon retirement, Kevin moved to the front office where he is the longest-tenured general manager in Padres history. Under his guidance, the Padres won the National League West titles in 1996, 1998, 2005, and 2006, and won the National League pennant in 1998.

Dr. Steven J. Wisely spent 18 years as the superintendent of the Medford School District. He also represented the region as the school district's athletic director from 1990 to 2003. Whether he was working with the local YMCA to ensure elementary sports were available to students or assisting in the development of soccer fields at North Medford High School, Dr. Wisely played a significant role in providing athletic opportunities for all youth in the community.

Robert "Bob" Wolcott, a North Medford High School graduate, made the jump from high school to pro baseball in 1992. Selected by the Seattle Mariners in the second round, he spent three years in the minors before advancing to the big leagues in 1995. Bob may be most notable for his winning decision in Game 1 of the 1995 American League Championship Series, where he led his Mariners to a 3-2 victory over the Cleveland Indians. He finished the 1995 season with a victory over Roger Clemens and twice as many victories as losses. He currently works as a contract engineer for Intel.

These highlights are just a few of the remarkable accomplishments made by these ten outstanding athletes and sports enthusiasts. However, they help illustrate the impact each has contributed to the community and the younger athletes that will follow in their footsteps.

My colleagues, please join me in congratulating the newest inductees into the Medford Sports Hall of Fame.

HONORING INTERFAITH LEADERSHIP AWARD WINNERS MARILYN PINSKY AND KATHRYN RUSCITTO

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Marilyn Pinsky and Kathryn Ruscitto, recipients of the 2007 Interfaith Leadership Award from Interfaith Works, for their devotion to religion, distinction in career, and dedication to community.

Marilyn L. Pinsky served in Onondaga County government for 35 years, retiring in 2006 from the position of Commissioner of the Onondaga County Department of Aging and Youth. She is a graduate of Syracuse University, earning her Masters of Public Administration from the Maxwell School. She has been a prominent member of multiple community organizations, including the Community Foundation of Central New York, the Success by Six Policy Council, and the United Way. Her work in the community has benefited many and has distinguished her as a leader and an example for all of us.

Kathryn H. Ruscitto has served as Senior Vice President for Strategic Planning and Organization Development at St. Joseph's Hospital since 2001. She earned her Bachelor's in Political Science and Education at LeMoyne College, and her Masters in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Syracuse University. She has been involved with many community organizations and activities, including serving as a trustee for the Health Care Foundation of Western and Central New York, serving on the LeMoyne College Board of Regents, and as an Advisory Board member for Key Bank. Through her efforts on behalf of others, Mrs. Ruscitto has become a notable member of our community.

I am proud to use this opportunity to publicly recognize Mrs. Pinsky and Mrs. Ruscitto for their outstanding dedication and service, and for earning this much deserved award.

TRIBUTE TO VALERIAN HUVAR

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, 2007 marks Valerian Huvar's 52nd year of service as the county clerk for Victoria, Texas, making him the longest serving county clerk in Texas history. I am pleased to join the residents of Victoria in extending my thanks and congratulations to Mr. Huvar.

Mr. Huvar, the son of Fred and Stella Huvar, was born in El Campo, Texas on October 19, 1919. Mr. Huvar has resided in Victoria since he was 4 months old. A 1937 graduate of St. Joseph High School, Mr. Huvar worked for the local Goodyear Tire Store until December 30, 1941, when he entered the military. Mr. Huvar spent 5 years in the Army Air Corps Ordnance Department, earning the rank of Master Sergeant.

After his discharge from active duty, Mr. Huvar returned to the local Goodyear Tire Store, this time as the store's manager. Soon thereafter he went to work at the local Montgomery Ward where he set up their business office. In 1950, he went to work as a teller in the First Victoria National Bank.

In 1954, Mr. Huvar successfully ran for Victoria County Clerk. He was officially sworn in on January 1, 1955, and has held the position ever since.

Mr. Huvar married Luella Edwards of Blanco, Texas, on May 4, 1947. She passed away on January 7, 1984. Valerian and Luella have four children—Charlotte, Carolyn, Dennis, and Michael, 10 grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, for over 5 decades the people of Victoria County have benefited from Mr. Valerian Huvar's dedication and professionalism. I am pleased to join my constituents and friends in Victoria in paying tribute to the accomplishments of this remarkable Texan.

HONORING DR. CHARLES DARLAND

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Charles Darland,