

member countries. In fact, it agreed to specific provisions in article 15 of the protocol which permit WTO countries to use alternative benchmarks for measuring subsidies in China. Yet, unbelievably, the Government of China is arguing in the New Page case that the Department of Commerce is legally prohibited from applying countervailing duty laws to imports from China.

This is exactly why our legislation is still needed, despite the Department of Commerce's acceptance of New Page's case. If U.S. law is clear on the subject of whether anti-subsidy petitions can be filed against nonmarket economies, countries such as China cannot use U.S. courts to dispute that fact. In addition, the Department of Commerce will not be able to summarily reject future antisubsidy petitions against nonmarket economies due to a change in leadership in the department or for political reasons.

I want to point out that this bill also includes a number of new provisions that are designed to strengthen our government's ability to hold our trading partners accountable for their illegal trade practices. The bill makes clear that the United States can use information from third countries and alternative methodologies when calculating China's subsidies. This is consistent with what China itself agreed to in its WTO accession protocol. The bill provides that a determination by the Department of Commerce to revoke a country's status as a nonmarket economy under U.S. antidumping law must be approved by Congress. Finally, the bill requires the U.S. International Trade Commission to conduct a study regarding how the People's Republic of China uses government intervention to promote investment, employment, and exports.

Unfair market conditions cannot continue to cause our manufacturers to hemorrhage jobs. No State understands this more than my home State of Maine. According to the United States Department of Labor, 10,400 manufacturing jobs in Maine have been lost since 2001, a 14.8 percent decline. This is why organizations such as the Maine Forest Products Council and the Maine Wood Products Association have strongly endorsed our proposal to extend U.S. countervailing duty laws to nonmarket economies.

The stopping overseas subsidies bill is a bipartisan, bicameral bill that has a broad range of support across many industries and geographical areas. A companion bill has been introduced in the House by Representatives by ARTUR DAVIS of Alabama and PHIL ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.

U.S. industries don't want protection—they want fair competition. Illegal subsidies distort fair competition, regardless of the economic system in which they are used. Our legislation simply levels the playing field by allowing antisubsidy petitions to be brought against nonmarket economies in addition to market economies.

Some countries, such as China, want to have all the benefits of engaging in international trading institutions and systems yet continue to cheat on the system with no penalties. It is time these countries were held to the same standards as other countries around the world. I ask you to join me in supporting the SOS bill to ensure that all countries are held accountable for their trade practices.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HONORING THE MADISON HIGH SCHOOL GYMNASTICS TEAM

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I rise to honor the Madison High School gymnastics team. On February 16, 2007, the Lady Bulldogs won the South Dakota Class A State Gymnastics Title. This impressive accomplishment allowed the Lady Bulldogs to tie the national record of 13 consecutive championship wins. They currently share the national record with Sehome High School in Bellingham, WA, who set the record from 1973 to 1985.

The Lady Bulldogs finished the season with an outstanding performance at the South Dakota Class A State Gymnastics Meet. With a final score of 141.893 points they not only tied the national record for consecutive State championships, but also set a South Dakota Class A State record. These two records highlight the talent and dedication that has characterized Madison's gymnastics team for the past 13 years.

Head Coach Maridee Dossett has demonstrated her allegiance to the Lady Bulldogs both as an athlete and a coach. She was a senior on the team that brought home the first State title for the Madison gymnasts in 1995. Since that time, she has continued to contribute to the success of the team through her dedication and strong leadership.

Leading Madison to victory was Katie Finck in the uneven bars and floor exercise categories, and Katie Breuer in the balance beam, vault and all around categories. Following the example set by these two gymnasts, the Lady Bulldogs illustrated their extraordinary teamwork and successfully dominated each category of the competition.

I would like to take this opportunity to honor and thank all those dedicated to the Madison Central School District: Head Coach Maridee Dossett, Assistant Coach Kindra Norby, Athletic Director Bud Postma, Principal Sharon Knowlton, and Superintendent Dr. Frank Palleria. The time and effort put forth by these individuals have made it possible for the Lady Bulldogs to be one of the most successful gymnastics teams of all time.

I would also like to recognize the gymnast's parents for their support and devotion to the team. This great honor was made possible by your en-

couragement and dedication to your daughters and their teammates.

Most of all I would like to congratulate the women who won the State championship this year and all the athletes who have been a part of this record-tying streak. The gymnasts of the 2006-2007 Lady Bulldog team, in alphabetical order, are as follows: Katie Breuer, Kassie Finck, Theresa Knapp, Katie Mackenzie, Heidi Mogck, Mara Riedel, Sara Rogers, Kaitlyn Walker, and Heather Williams.

These student-athletes should be very proud of their remarkable achievements over the past years. The inspiration of the gymnasts that began this record success in 1995 has empowered those who have followed in their footsteps and will continue to bring motivation to Madison's student-athletes in the future.

On behalf of the city of Madison and the State of South Dakota, I am pleased to say congratulations Lady Bulldogs on this impressive national accomplishment and keep up the great work.●

##### HONORING DEPAUW UNIVERSITY'S WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the DePauw University women's basketball team for winning the 2007 NCAA Division III National Championship. The Tigers defeated Washington University in St. Louis on Saturday at the "Birthplace of Basketball," Springfield College. This is DePauw University's first national athletic championship and a proud moment for our State.

In being told of their victory, I was reminded of what people say about teamwork, that at the end of the day we are only as strong as the shoulders we lean on. The talent of the Tigers was apparent throughout their school record 31-3 season, but it was their extraordinary teamwork that brought the championship trophy back to Greencastle. These young women are a testament to what student athletes should be, and they should be commended for winning with class, courage, and character.

While the members of the team have put in countless hours practicing and developing their skills, the parents and coaching staff dedicated should also be recognized for their role supporting and preparing the team. As a father of two young boys who love to play sports, I know how rewarding it can be to watch my sons' games. I also know how dedicated parents must be to drive their children to practice every day, make it to the games, and cheer the whole game through. It is this kind of dedication that builds a support network worthy of a national championship.

Throughout the season, the Tigers' true character shined as they never lost faith in themselves and prevailed as a team. Their conduct this season should be an example for all other student athletes to follow. I congratulate

the DePauw University Tigers on their National Championship and commend them for the example they set for all student athletes who I hope are inspired by their example.

The 2006-2007 DePauw University Tigers are; Kristy Mahon, Suzy Doughty, Tina Frierson, Cassie Pruzin, Kalei Lowes, K.C. Stoll, Kelsey Flanagan, Caitlin McGonigal, Adedrea Chaney, Liz Bondi, Gretchen and Gwen Haehl, Kristin Barrow, Jenna Fernandez, Tegan Krouse, Bridget Bailey, Andrea Travelstead, Emily Marshall, Meghan Warner, Katie O'Connor and Sarah Merkel. They are coached by Kris Huffman, Mary Smith, Tria Yoder and Brian Kern.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 545. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify that territories and Indian tribes are eligible to receive grants for confronting the use of methamphetamine.

H.R. 1227. An act to assist in the provision of affordable housing to low-income families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

H.R. 1591. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 66. Concurrent resolution permitting the use of the Rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony as part of the commemoration of the days of remembrance of victims of the Holocaust.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1227. An act to assist in the provision of affordable housing to low-income families affected by Hurricane Katrina; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1591. An act making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 545. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to clarify that territories and Indian tribes are eligible to receive grants for confronting the use of methamphetamine.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1162. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, the report of draft legislation intended to authorize the Secretary to dispose of certain National Forest System land and retain the receipts for certain purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1163. A communication from the Secretary of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Nunn-McCurdy Unit Cost thresholds for the Warfighter Information Network-Tactical Program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1164. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations, received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1165. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions and Clarifications of License Exception Availability, License Requirements and Licensing Policy for Certain Crime Control Items" (RIN0694-AD47) received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1166. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Public Access to HUD Records Under the Freedom of Information Act and Production of Material or Provision of Testimony by HUD Employees" ((RIN2501-AD18) (FR-5015-F-02)) received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1167. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Third Extension of the South Pacific Tuna Treaty" (RIN0648-AP61) received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1168. A communication from the Director, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office's Annual Report for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1169. A communication from the Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reclassification of the American Crocodile Distinct Population Segment in Florida from Endangered to Threatened; Final Rule" (RIN1018-AI41) received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1170. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the exercise of the President's waiver authority with regard to the prohibition on military assistance provided to Chad; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1171. A communication from the Acting Executive Secretary, United States Agency for International Development, transmit-

ting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Administrator, received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-1172. A communication from the Human Resources Specialist, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, 2 reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received on March 22, 2007; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1173. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Letter Report: Audit of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8A for Fiscal Years 2004 Through 2006, as of March 31, 2006"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1174. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Auditor's Examination of Privatization of Parking Meters Operations and Contractor's Performance Billing Under Parking Meter Services Contract"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1175. A communication from the Acting Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's activities with regard to prison rape abatement during calendar year 2005; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-30. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners urging the Florida Legislature to authorize local governments to accept restrictive covenants with regard to certain properties; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-31. A resolution adopted by the Lauderdale Lakes City Commission urging Congress to increase funding for the Community Development Block Grant Fund; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-32. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners urging the State of Florida to expand the use of its Department of Elder Affairs Optional State Supplemental Assistance Program Payments; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-33. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners urging the Florida Legislature to establish a program to provide matching funds for solar and other energy saving water heater installations for low-income homeowners; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-34. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners urging the Florida Legislature to designate part of the Florida Turnpike Homestead Extension in South Miami-Dade County the "John F. Cosgrove Highway"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

POM-35. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners urging the Florida Legislature to reinstate the property tax exemption currently authorized in the Florida Constitution for certain energy systems; to the Committee on Finance.