

his promotion of academic and athletic excellence within the Atlantic Sun Conference, and his overall contributions to the local community.

Madam Speaker, for over 20 years Bobby Pope, Dean of the Atlantic Sun Conference, has served as the Athletic Director for Mercer University. During his tenure, Mercer athletics have thrived, and its student-athletes have achieved impressive success both on and off the field. The program now includes 14 NCAA Division I teams plus the addition of the first-ever fulltime coaches for men's and women's golf, tennis, and cross country. Largely thanks to Bobby, Mercer University will field Georgia's first NCAA Division I men's and women's lacrosse teams in the upcoming year. Bobby Pope's commitment to building and strengthening Mercer athletics can further be seen in the recent renovations of existing fields and the construction of a state-of-the-art facility for student-athletes and coaches.

With Bobby Pope at the helm, Mercer University has twice won the Atlantic Sun Conference's All-Academic Trophy. Since its inception in 2007, the Atlantic Sun Conference post-graduate scholarship recognizing excellence and integrity has been awarded to a Mercer student-athlete. During Bobby's tenure, the cumulative grade point average for Mercer Bear student-athletes never fell below 3.0—a testament to his commitment to academic excellence.

Madam Speaker, Bobby Pope's passion and commitment to athletics and promoting sportsmanship extend beyond Mercer University. He has been very active in the Atlantic Sun Conference—twice serving as Conference President, as well as serving as a member on numerous Conference committees. Bobby has also made innumerable contributions to the local community as treasurer of the Macon Touchdown Club and through his service on the Mayor's Recreation Master Plan Committee, as well as the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority. Indeed, he was recognized for his lifelong contributions to Middle Georgia Athletics when he was inducted into the Macon Sports Hall of Fame on April 28, 2006. Also, for over 35 years, his broadcast of local sports news on the "Saturday Scoreboard" gave us the good, the bad, and the ugly about our Georgia Bulldogs, Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, and other middle Georgia sports teams.

Also, for over 35 years, his broadcast of local sports news on the Saturday Scoreboard gave us the good, the bad, and the ugly about our Georgia Bulldogs, Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, and other Middle Georgia sports teams.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to include this brief acknowledgement of the accomplishments of Bobby Pope as Athletic Director of Mercer University. As he assumes his new role as the Executive Director for the Mercer Athletic Foundation, Bobby will undoubtedly continue to contribute to the success and accomplishments of Mercer Athletics. Few leave such enduringly positive legacies.

## RECOGNIZING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 284, introduced by Representative SESSIONS, which recognizes the hard work and importance of special education teachers.

In 1972, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that people with special needs or disabilities had the same right to the quality education in public schools as their nondisabled peers. This monumental case changed the way we view children with special needs as well as the increased need for teachers who are certified for educating children with special needs. Actually, today, about 10 percent of all school-aged children receive special education services. This number shows the necessity and importance of special education teachers nationwide.

It takes an exceptional person to educate children with disabilities. Special education teachers have to adapt to a wide variety of needs ranging from children who have autism, hearing and seeing impairments, and even orthopedic impairments. Special education teachers have to come up with individual-specific plans for each child enrolled in their class, tailored to help children reach their full learning potential. Special education teachers must possess unique characteristics including extreme patience, organization capabilities, and the ability to understand each individual's needs. What makes these unique characteristics and hard work of these educators especially significant is the fact that they help improve the lives of the neediest amongst us, the special education students. Therefore, it is evident that these special education teachers' hard work and dedication is truly deserving of the appreciation that Congress offers within H. Con. Res. 284.

DeKalb County School System located in the Fourth District of Georgia has a history of focused care and concern for students with special needs. In fact, DeKalb County School System has an internationally recognized Exceptional Education and Support Services Division that provides a support system for the students with special needs as well as for their parents. I am proud of programs within my district, such as this support division, that help special education teachers by giving them the option to offer this support system to their students. I want to personally thank the special education teachers in my district and across the United States.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

## RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CYBER DEFENSE COMPETITION

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2010*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1244,

"Recognizing the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition for its now five-year effort to promote cyber security curriculum in institutions of higher learning," as introduced by my fellow member of the Texas delegation, Rep. CIRO RODRIGUEZ.

Our nation's critical infrastructure is composed of public and private institutions in the sectors of agriculture, food, water, public health, emergency services, government, defense industrial base, information and telecommunications, energy, transportation, banking and finance, chemicals and hazardous materials, and postal and shipping. Cyberspace is their nervous system—the control system of our country. Cyberspace is composed of hundreds of thousands of interconnected computers, servers, routers, switches, and fiber optic cables that allow our critical infrastructures to work. Thus, the healthy, secure, and efficient functioning of cyberspace is essential to both our economy and our national security.

One of the most significant security challenges that our Federal government faces today is ensuring that we have an abundance of adequately trained individuals defending our information infrastructure. In the past, I have been proud to sponsor bills that would increase funding for cybersecurity education programs, to ensure that we have a properly trained workforce to protect this vital infrastructure. The National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) is an important piece of the cybersecurity education puzzle.

Since 2005, the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition has given students in the field of cybersecurity the opportunity to showcase their abilities. Rather than having students design an "ideal" network, the CCDC requires participants to assume the administrative and protective duties for an existing "commercial" network. This allows participants to show their skill at "real world" situations, as very few cybersecurity workers will have the luxury of building a perfect system from the ground up. While we obviously want to build the most secure networks possible, our experts must be able to work with the infrastructure that exists, finding and eliminating weaknesses that may already exist, and making imperfect systems secure.

Over the last few years, the contest has grown to include regional competitions in Texas, Maine, Washington, California, and Minnesota, among other locations. This year, there were more than eighty schools that participated, from all parts of the country. The students participating in this contest have not only demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of this important function, but they have also had the opportunity to hone their skills by dealing with actual, real time issues. The National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition plays an important role in the development of our next generation of cybersecurity professionals, and I am proud to join Mr. RODRIGUEZ in recognizing it.

COMMENDING THE GEORGE MASON  
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' AND BOYS'  
SOCCER TEAMS ON WINNING THE  
VIRGINIA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2010*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize the George Mason High School girls' and boys' soccer teams for winning their respective State 1A Soccer Championships. On June 12th at Radford University, the George Mason High School Mustangs of Falls Church valiantly defeated Radford High School 3-1 to capture their third consecutive state title. The following day, the boys' team displayed equally outstanding talent by defeating Radford 2-1 to capture their second consecutive state championship.

The girls' championship win follows a remarkable season of 18 wins, 3 losses, and 1 tie. Junior midfielder Hannah Walker scored twice and sophomore forward Leah Roth had a goal and an assist. Nichole Mitchell played tough as the starting goalkeeper, only allowing one goal in the net from a penalty kick. After the final moment of the game, the George Mason players victoriously rushed the field and saluted their fans that had traveled 4 hours to watch the game.

The boys' championship game was led by Mustang seniors Nick Smirniotopoulos and Andrew Arias following a remarkable season of 19 wins, only 1 loss, and 4 ties. This is the second year in a row that the George Mason boys' soccer team has captured the state title. Smirniotopoulos, recently named to the 2010 All-Met team by the Washington Post, and Arias, each scored a goal to clinch the win. Just before halftime, junior goalkeeper Tyler Back made a remarkable save on a breakaway. Also standing as stalwarts on the defensive end were senior Natan Lailari and junior Franky Andrianarison. Like their counterparts on the girls' team, the lone goal scored against them came from a penalty shot.

I extend my congratulations to all of the athletes, coaches, and the entire George Mason High School community for their historic victories. Winning a state championship takes hundreds of hours of practice, preparation, and hard work. May your perseverance, strength, and diligence stay with you through all of your journeys in life.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE RE-  
GARDING ANNIVERSARY OF DIS-  
PUTED IRANIAN ELECTIONS

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, it has been 1 year since Iran's disputed elections brought thousands into the streets to protest the regime's fierce grip on fundamental liberties. Today we pause to pay tribute to the faces of freedom that rose up in peaceful and spontaneous demonstrations across Iran only to be met with brutal violence by the thuggish

paramilitaries of the Iranian revolutionary guard.

In the days and weeks following the election, dozens of protestors were killed, hundreds were injured, others were arrested and tortured and some even died while in police custody. In the year since, Iranian authorities have cracked down on numerous other gatherings and severely curtailed the ability for Iranians to gather for national and religious holidays.

Although the 2009 election was not the first subject to serious irregularities, vote tampering and corruption, the obvious vote rigging that led some provinces to report a turnout greater than 100 percent created a tipping point.

At one point the anti-election momentum fueled a "Twitter revolution," as tech-savvy Iranian youth mobilized gatherings through texting and instant messages. It was a telling sign of the opportunity for technology to surpass censorship and galvanize a freedom movement.

The Iranian people take great pride in their nation's vibrant history as a crossroads of the world, but the dangerous policies of the current government have made them more isolated than ever.

The government's reckless management of the economy has prioritized enriching the mullahs and the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps, while the average Iranian faces an unemployment rate approaching 30 percent.

The regime's illegal nuclear activities and dogged support for terrorist organizations have made Iran a pariah state in the community of nations. And now, with the recent passage of strict sanctions by the U.N. Security Council, the stagnant Iranian economy only stands to deteriorate further.

While tensions remain high between the United States and Iran, this resolution is a testament to our solidarity with the Iranian people and their courage to stand up for a better future. I am proud to be a cosponsor of the measure and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

ON THE PASSAGE OF THE RESO-  
LUTION CALLING FOR THE IM-  
MEDIATE RELEASE OF GILAD  
SHALIT

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2010*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased that the House passed H. Res. 1359, a resolution calling for the immediate and unconditional release of Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit. It has been four long years since Gilad, then 19 years old, was kidnapped by Hamas. Hamas, in direct violation of international human rights law, has refused to allow Gilad any contact with his family, and has further refused to allow the International Committee of the Red Cross access to determine his well-being. It is a war crime for Hamas to hold Gilad hostage in order to compel the Israeli government to accede to Hamas' demands.

Madam Speaker, the time for Hamas to release Gilad Shalit is now. Right now. It is simply unconscionable for Hamas to engage in such a vicious and cruel exercise in inhu-

manity. One of both Israeli and American societies' highest and most noble ideals is to never leave a soldier behind. The passage of this resolution reaffirms the United States commitment to continue fighting for Gilad's unconditional and immediate release so that he may return to his family.

HONORING RON GETTELFINGER  
FOR HIS LEADERSHIP OF THE  
UAW

SPEECH OF

**HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 23, 2010*

Mrs. HALVORSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in congratulating Ron Gettelfinger upon his retirement. Ron has been a true champion for American families, a leading advocate for American workers, and a dedicated president of the United Auto Workers.

I came to Congress to work on jumpstarting our economy and I'm reassured to know that under Ron's leadership, the UAW has been a steadfast voice for protecting American jobs and the rights of the hundreds of workers in my district. Prior to coming to Congress, I served in the Illinois State Senate and was proud to represent the hard working men and women, members of UAW Local 588, who work at the Ford Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights, Illinois. I'm now proud to represent members of UAW Local 2488, who work at the Mitsubishi Plant in Bloomington, Illinois. It has been an honor to represent all of these working families.

Ron's vision that our country's success is rooted in everyday working men and women is something many of us share and we are lucky to have had such a passionate advocate for this cause over the past eight years. It is this belief that has protected and advanced the rights of the American worker during Ron's tenure as UAW President. On behalf of the 11th Congressional District of Illinois, I thank Ron for his service and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

SIR PAUL MCCARTNEY,  
GLADWELL'S "OUTLIERS" AND BP

**HON. CLIFF STEARNS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2010*

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, I submit the following letter from my good friend Gene Jewett, who shares his thoughts on the phenomena of talent and the recent visit from Paul McCartney who received the Gershwin Award from the Library of Congress.

Dear Friends,

Recently, Sir Paul McCartney visited Washington where he exhibited his musical prowess for the politically powerful, initially at the Library of Congress and then at the White House. In the course of his performance on the first night, he revealed the process by which he had written one of his most famous tunes, one where the melody had come to him in a dream, a refrain that he was fortunate enough to recall. For days, he