

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE EL CAMINO REAL HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the El Camino Real High School Academic Decathlon team on its extraordinary record-setting sixth victory as the United States Academic Decathlon champions.

I am extremely proud to represent this remarkable team of nine students of Woodland Hills, California. The students committed months of hard work together in preparation for this competition. The nationwide competition is very challenging and includes written and oral tests in seven subjects. The team set a record with its sixth United States Academic Championship and defeated 34 teams from around the country. They received an astounding 49,951.7 points out of a possible 60,000 and won and impressive 21 individual awards.

The nine winning team members are Vivian Cheng, Daniel de Haas, Evan Edmisten, Andrew Fann, Audrey Goldbaum, Jessica Lin, Daniel Moreh, Adriana Ureche and Michael Walker. The coaches are John Dalsass and Stephanie Franklin.

The students personify academic excellence and the power of teamwork. Their dedicated coaches, school, staff, families and entire community are tremendously proud of their achievement.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these remarkable students.

JORDYN BORREGO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jordyn Borrego who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jordyn Borrego is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jordyn Borrego is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Jordyn Borrego for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I would like to make a correction of my vote on passage of H.R. 2499. On April 29, for rollcall vote 242, the Puerto Rico Democracy Act of 2009, I was unintentionally recorded as voting "yea." I oppose the legislation and it was my intention to vote "nay."

KATERYNA KONDRATYSHYNA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kateryna Kondratyshyna who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kateryna Kondratyshyna is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kateryna Kondratyshyna is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kateryna Kondratyshyna for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

REQUESTING THAT MY NAME BE WITHDRAWN AS A COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2499, THE PUERTO RICO DEMOCRACY ACT

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I share Thomas Jefferson's belief that majority rule is "the vital principle of republics," therefore I am opposed to passage of H.R. 2499, and respectfully request that my name be withdrawn as a co-sponsor. I was mistaken in co-sponsoring this bill because it is not apparent from the language of the bill that it allows Puerto Rico to decide its future by less than a majority vote. I have also learned that current law enables Puerto Rico to hold an election to determine their future at any time, so this law is redundant—and we already have far too many

redundant unnecessary laws on the books. For these reasons I would ask that my name be withdrawn as a co-sponsor of this bill.

KATHERINE DUNLAP

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katherine Dunlap, who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Katherine Dunlap is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Katherine Dunlap is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Katherine Dunlap for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING BRIAN K. BETTS

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of Brian K. Betts. A resident of Silver Spring, Maryland, Mr. Betts served his community as a teacher and principal in the Montgomery County and District of Columbia public school systems. Tragically, on April 15, 2010, Mr. Betts lost his life in an act of senseless violence.

Mr. Betts was born in Manassas, Virginia to Delbert and Doris Betts. He attended public schools there and graduated from Stonewall Jackson High School. He continued his education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Hood College, receiving his Bachelor's and Master's degrees, respectively.

From the beginning of his teaching career as a middle school physical education teacher, Mr. Betts aspired to improve the quality of education in our community. With a boundless enthusiasm that motivated his students and gained the admiration of his peers, he made an impact in the lives of everyone who knew him. An unparalleled work ethic and passion for helping children succeed enabled Mr. Betts to quickly be recognized for his extraordinary talents and dedication. He was recognized early in his career for his outstanding leadership at Neelsville Middle School, located in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Germantown, Maryland, and received the prestigious Washington Post Agnes Meyer Award in 1999.

Part of what made Mr. Betts such an exceptional educator was his unique style of teaching that stressed self-improvement and personal goal-setting over more traditional teaching methods. Mr. Betts put his innovative teaching methods into wider use at the Loiederman Middle School in Silver Spring, Maryland, where he developed a magnet program that drew in students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds regardless of their academic achievement. As with most of Mr. Betts' efforts, the program became a rapid success. Under his guidance, the percentage of students with passing reading and math scores jumped by double digits within a two-year period.

Eager to take on new challenges, Mr. Betts accepted a position as principal of Shaw Middle School at Garnet-Patterson in Washington, DC, and worked tirelessly each and every day to bring positive change to a school that had been plagued with difficulties.

With the death of Mr. Betts, our nation has lost a rising star in the field of education. Yet, even in the face of this tragedy, we can take solace in knowing that his legacy and memory will be carried on in the lives of the countless students he touched and inspired.

Mr. Betts is survived by his parents, sister, and nieces, whom we hope find comfort in knowing how much Brian was loved by so many people.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the remarkable life of Brian K. Betts.

KATHRYN MURRAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kathryn Murray who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kathryn Murray is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kathryn Murray is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kathryn Murray for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

HONORING DR. RICK GROSBERG OF
UC DAVIS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rich

Grosberg of University of California, Davis. Dr. Rich Grosberg is the 2010 recipient of the UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement. This \$40,000 prize, first awarded in 1987, is believed to be the largest undergraduate teaching award in the nation. The prize is awarded to recognize scholars who are successful not only in their research, but convey their excitement and love of scholarship to students they teach.

Over time, many UC Davis donors—including members of the Davis Chancellor's Club, alumni and trustees and trustees emeriti of the UC Davis Foundation—have made philanthropic contributions to support the prize. The winner is selected based on the recommendations of other professors, research peers, representatives from the UC Davis Foundation Board of Trustees and students.

As a Professor of Evolution and Ecology, questions matter to Rick Grosberg—and he carries out his research on evolution and family conflict in a manner that seeks to show his students that science is not just about mastering a body of knowledge, but also about asking the right questions and challenging authority.

Upon learning he was this year's recipient, Grosberg said he was "deeply honored" to be receiving the award, adding, "I owe a huge debt to my teachers and mentors, who challenged and inspired me throughout my education, my family and my students—all of them—who continue to challenge, inspire and teach me every day."

Having to explain scientific concepts to a hall full of students also helps him ask better questions in his research, Grosberg said. "I'm a much more incisive researcher as a result of teaching."

As an undergraduate at UC Santa Cruz, Grosberg did not initially consider biology as a profession. He considered majoring in English. "I just assumed that being a scientist reflected the way I'd been taught science: It was received knowledge, a fact-finding mission."

Then he took Cowell Biology, an eclectic course on the history of biology and the personalities who created the field.

"It showed me that biology is about people who step outside their culture and society and ask novel questions, and the best example is Charles Darwin," Grosberg said. "That turned me on to biology."

His research deals with conflict and cooperation between living things, usually marine invertebrates. "Sometimes we help each other and sometimes we kill each other, and there are good evolutionary reasons for both," he said. The evolution of altruism is an old problem in evolutionary biology. Why should one animal expend effort and energy to help another, instead of conserving resources so they can leave the most descendants? The answer, in most cases, is that animals share many of their genes with close relatives. By helping a sibling who shares half your genes, you can still have a genetic impact on the next generation.

On the other hand, relatives can also come into conflict. Those conflicts might be between individuals, between the sexes, between siblings, between generations and sometimes all those at once.

Grosberg earned his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1982 and spent a year at the University of Padua, Italy, as a NATO postdoctoral fellow. He joined UC Davis as an assistant

professor in what was then the Department of Zoology in 1983.

"Professor Grosberg understands the value to our undergraduates of the hands-on research experience and, as a mentor, he is deeply committed to ensuring our students' success," said Chancellor Linda Katehi. "That mindset is one that we place a very high value on at UC Davis and it is at the very heart of the UC Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement."

Ken Burtis, Dean of the College of Biological Sciences, said, "Professor Grosberg has a truly extraordinary passion and talent for teaching, whether mentoring small groups of students exploring the interface between math and biology or delivering the fundamentals of biology to hundreds of students through his highly-praised lectures. He exemplifies the best that UC Davis has to offer."

"Enthusiastic" is the term that comes up again and again in student evaluations of Grosberg's classes, along with "energetic" and "entertaining." His teaching ranges from the team-taught "Introduction to Biology: Principles of Ecology and Evolution," which teaches about 2,000 students a year, to the CLIMB, Collaborative Learning at the Interface of Mathematics and Biology, training program, which includes just seven or eight students.

"He made me want to learn more," one student wrote of Grosberg's introductory evolution class last year. "The best instructor I have had so far at UCD," wrote another.

Among professional honors, Grosberg was awarded the Division of Biological Sciences Teaching Award in 2000 and the UC Davis Academic Senate's Distinguished Teaching Award in 2002. In 2004, he was president of the American Society of Naturalists. He has served as an adviser to The Nature Conservancy, the American Farmland Trust and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He is an elected fellow of the California Academy of Sciences and former director of the UC Davis Center for Population Biology.

At this time, it is appropriate to recognize and acknowledge Dr. Grosberg for his years of exemplary work as a scholar and educator, and congratulate him on receiving this well deserved award. His commitment to inspiring and educating students has been unwavering, and he deserves our collective recognition and thanks.

KAYLA RHOADES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 3, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kayla Rhoades who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kayla Rhoades is a 12th grader at Warren Tech North and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kayla Rhoades is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.