

the year as the NCHSAA sectional runner-up with an impressive 26–1 record. These awards are especially notable considering North Carolina is considered a powerhouse for high school basketball.

Five players were recognized for their individual accomplishments by being named All-Conference. They include Will Carpenter, Micah Carter, Tanner Cogdill, Mark Thompson, and Jackson Simmons. Jackson Simmons also went on to be named the Conference Player of the Year for his extraordinary play during the season. The team's recognition did not stop with just the players. Head coach Jimmy Cleaveland was named Conference Coach of the Year.

As a former student athlete in Western North Carolina, I understand the commitment it takes to compete at such a high level. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the many accomplishments by the Smoky Mountain High School Mustangs 2010–2011 Men's Basketball Team.

FLOWER MOUND HIGH SCHOOL
CHOIR

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Flower Mound High School Choir. In 1999 the high school opened with the hope of becoming "A World Class School Educating Tomorrow's Leaders." Since then, Newsweek Magazine named it one of the "Top 1000 Best Public High Schools" in the U.S., based on AP scores. Of the school's many accomplishments, none resonate quite like the Flower Mound High School Choir.

The Flower Mound High School Choir regularly enjoys success at University Interscholastic League competitions as well as private competitions. Over time they have earned a slew of "Sweepstakes" awards as well as "Best of Class" and "Grand Champion" awards from all over the country. Students have also had the honor of performing throughout Europe, both at the Vatican and the Salzburg Cathedral. And just last week they were here in Washington D.C. to perform at the WWII Memorial. In their song choice, they sought to honor our nation's veterans.

It is heartening to know that this burgeoning generation continues to hold our veterans in such high regard. I want to thank the Flower Mound High School Choir for coming to our nation's capitol to honor our veterans.

HONORING ALEXANDER CHRISTIAN
NASON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alexander Christian Nason. Alexander is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alexander has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alexander has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alexander has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and the position of Senior Patrol Leader in his troop. Alexander has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Alexander planned and supervised the construction of a storage closet for Liberty United Methodist Church in Liberty, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alexander Christian Nason for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

AFGHANISTAN WAR POWERS
RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of swift U.S. troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. This decade-long war is costing our country tens of hundreds of lives and hundreds of billions of dollars. In 2010 alone, nearly 500 brave American men and women lost their lives, which is 63% more than the 2009 death toll. And as I speak, our government, which has vowed to reduce the deficit, has sent millions more overseas for a war with no foreseeable end. From 2008 to 2011, overall government spending has increased by 9%, while funding for the war in Afghanistan has increased by a startling 25%. As many of my colleagues demand \$100 billion budget cuts, they need look no further than our reckless war spending. For the good of our troops and the health of our economy, this war must end.

And this viewpoint is shared across the nation. According to a recent Washington Post poll, nearly two-thirds of the American people support an immediate withdrawal from Afghanistan. Mr. Speaker, our job in this chamber is to represent our constituents, and they have spoken loud and clear. The American people are fed up with a war that has done little to improve our national security or bolster our international standing. Furthermore, after nearly ten years of fighting, it is crystal clear that the problem in Afghanistan cannot be solved by military means alone. Stabilization and reconstruction, governance, and peace-building activities can help to stabilize states, promote rule of law, and bring enduring peace at a sliver of the cost we pay for troops on the ground.

Make no mistake about it: I firmly support our men and women in uniform. For this reason, we must bring them home from a battlefield with no real hope of military victory. I thank my colleague, Mr. KUCINICH from Ohio, for re-introducing this Resolution. I was proud to cosponsor it in the last Congress, and I will firmly offer my support today in hopes that we can finally end this war.

RECOGNIZING PENSACOLA STATE
COLLEGE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
TEAM AS STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Pensacola State College Women's Basketball Team on their recent victory as Champions of the 40th Florida Community College Activities Association Women's Basketball Tournament.

In 2010, the Pensacola State College Lady Pirates suffered a difficult defeat in the final seconds of the state semifinal game; however, under the leadership of Coach Chanda Rigby, PSC's players were able to use this defeat as motivation for their 2011 season. The Lady Pirates entered into the season with high expectations and ranked 14th nationally in the pre-season National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Basketball Poll.

After an impressive early season run, including a victory over the 5th ranked team in the Nation, the Lady Pirates soared to the ranks of 3rd in the Nation on November 17. The following week the Lady Pirates continued to rise in the rankings, moving all the way to the number 1 slot. The Lady Pirates did not let the pressure of being the top ranked team affect their performance, and they finished the regular season with a perfect record, 29–0, never relinquishing their place atop the polls.

Victories in their first two games of the Florida state championship set up a fourth meeting with nationally ranked Northwest Florida State College. The previous three meetings between these teams were highly competitive, with two of those three outcomes decided in overtime. The championship game was an equally competitive affair. Ultimately, however, the Lady Pirates' season-long goal was fulfilled, as they cut down the nets, improving to 32–0 and moving on to the National Junior College Athletic Association's national tournament, where they finished their season with a victory in the consolation game and the number 3 national ranking.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I congratulate the Pensacola State College Lady Pirates for their outstanding accomplishments. My wife Vicki joins me in offering our best wishes to the players, coaches, faculty and staff at Pensacola State College for their continued success.

SOUTHWEST GUILFORD GIRLS WIN
IT ALL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to recognize the girls' basketball team of Southwest Guilford High School, located in the Sixth District of North Carolina, for winning their first 4–A state championship since 1985. The Southwest Cowgirls defeated their opponent, Raleigh Millbrook, in convincing fashion by a nine point margin with the final score of 44–35.

Southwest Guilford scored the first seven points and never relinquished the lead

throughout the contest. "This is a very surreal moment," Southwest senior Shannon Buchanan told the (Greensboro) News & Record, "We've all worked since forever. This is what you dream of when you're a little kid, and now this is finally here."

The Southwest Guilford Cowgirls finished the season with a 30–2 record and an undefeated 12–0 record in their conference. The win marked their second consecutive season as Regular Season Conference Champions and Conference Tournament Champions. With 9 points and 14 rebounds, senior Shannon Buchanan earned 4–A All Conference, News & Record 2nd Team, and All District 2nd Team accolades. Junior Zena Lovette had 14 points and 7 rebounds and was named 4–A Piedmont Triad Player of the Year, State Regional Tournament Most Valuable Player, State Championship Most Outstanding Player, and to the News & Record 1st Team as well as the All-District 1st Team. Another junior, Jessica "JP" Pone had 13 points and 3 rebounds and was named the game's Kay Yow Most Valuable Player and was also named to the 4–A All Conference Team. Head Coach Jessica Bryan was named District Coach of the Year, the News & Record Coach of the Year, and to top it all, she was named as the Associated Press 2010–11 girls high school basketball coach for all of North Carolina.

The Cowgirls were led by seniors Shannon Buchanan and Brittany Connor, along with Jasmine Pinnix, Briana Burgins, Duncan Hackney, Kennedy Porter, Shanel Lawrence, Aja Mott, Zena Lovette, Jessica Pone, Jessica Bridges, Jenea Rogers and Ayana Rivers. Of course, they could not have achieved the state championship without outstanding coaching led by Head Coach Jessica Bryan and Assistant Coaches Samuel D. Warren I, Tashocka Belk and Nick Scarborough.

Also deserving mention are Quierra Lovette (Scorekeeper), Jasmine Rogers (Statistician), JaNiya Williams (Statistician), Alexis Couch (Water), and Shay Barr-Poole (Film).

Congratulations are also warranted for all of those who supported the girls' basketball program at Southwest Guilford High School including Principal Alan Parker, Assistant Principals Enid Barnum, Joseph Johnson and Michael Hettenbach as well as Athletic Director Brindon Christman.

Again, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the Southwest Guilford High School girls' basketball team, along with the faculty, staff and students for their championship season.

CONGRATULATING THE WINTER PARK HIGH SCHOOL WILDCATS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2010–2011 Wildcat boys Basketball team of Winter Park High School, the reigning state champions from Central Florida.

Long before the first whistle blew in the regular season, the Wildcats aspired to the highest standard with their mantra, "Make History." As the reigning 6A State Champions,

the boys were determined to exceed all expectations and become the first team from Central Florida to win back-to-back state titles. Recognized by USA Today as one of the top four teams in the country, these scholar-athletes persevered through a daunting schedule of nationally ranked opponents, with courageously fought losses and inspiring victories, to gain their fourth birth in five years to the Florida state Final Four. Facing their cross town rival in the final game of the state championship for the second consecutive year, the Wildcats were victorious; ending the season with a 28–5 record.

I am happy to recognize the contribution of coaches and players to the Wildcats' historic season. Assistant coaches Eric Faber, David Jacobin, David Stock, and Tom Beard and their longtime head coach David Bailey, offered wisdom and careful instruction to develop the team's innate talent. The starting lineup, all seniors, all going onto college next year, includes Brett Comer, Alex Swanson, and Austin Keel. The Captains, James Ferrell, recipient of the Coaches Achievement award, and Austin Rivers, future Duke University athlete and ESPN #1 ranked player in the nation, also deserve recognition here today. I wish only the best for these young men, as they apply their dedication and work ethic towards even higher pursuits.

As the seniors graduate and move on from Winter Park High, they will pass the mantle of leadership along to the younger players whose consistent effort proved invaluable all season long. Brian Klusman, Perry Klusman, Michael Merlano, Billydee Williams, Josh Williams, Malcom Laws and Kyle Brown, will provide the direction and experience to guide the Wildcats team next year.

In conclusion, I wish the Wildcats success in the upcoming ESPN Rise National High School Invitational. I know that whatever the final score, these players have performed with excellence for a truly extraordinary season.

A TRIBUTE TO NEBRASKA'S WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 29, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of 19 women who were inducted into the Nebraska Aviation Hall of Fame on January 27, 2011. These women served as Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASPs, during World War II.

From 1942–1944, more than 1,100 women left behind their homes and jobs for once-in-a-lifetime opportunity—to serve as civilian pilots for the U.S. Army Air Forces. As the first women to fly military aircraft during World War II, WASPs towed aerial gunnery targets, transported personnel and cargo, and ferried airplanes to training fields and embarkation points. At the height of the war, WASPs flew more than 60 million miles which freed male pilots for combat and played a critical role in our victory.

The Nebraskans who served as WASPs were: Dorothy L. Bancroft, Lincoln; Mary B. Beecham, Omaha; Lois V. Boien, Omaha; Lois A. Bristol, Bayard; Grace "Betty" E.

Clements, Elmwood; Mary A. Jershin, Omaha; Eileen "Ikey" A. Kealy, Omaha; Marybelle J. Lyall, Hastings; Esther L. Mueller, Thayer; Roberta E. Mundt, Berea; Margaret "Peggy" L. Nispel, Lincoln; Millicent A. Peterson, Chappell; Alice L. Riss, Omaha; Evelyn G. Sharp, Ord; B. Kristin Swan, Minden; Helen A. Turner, Cairo; Isabel E. Tynon, Peru; Jane E. Waite, Scottsbluff; and Mary E. Williamson, Omaha.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the distinguished service of Nebraska's Women Airforce Service Pilots to our nation.

PROHIBITING FEDERAL FUNDING OF NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 17, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1076.

Without so much as a single hearing, the legislation being debated today would dismantle a public radio system depended upon by 34 million Americans weekly, many of whom are from rural America.

In fact, in many rural areas of our country like the one I represent, public broadcasters are among the few journalists still around who actually deliver local news to residents.

One needs to look no further than last week's massive earthquake in Japan and the resulting tsunami that devastated communities on the west coast to understand how important public broadcasting is in these rural areas.

A small community in my district, Crescent City, California was hit the hardest. Eight foot waves of water destroyed the city's harbor, caused over \$36 million dollars in damage, and took the life of an individual who was swept into the sea.

When the tsunami warnings were first issued, KHSU public radio, the most-listened-to station on the North Coast of California, broadcast essential information to the people of Crescent City and the surrounding areas.

KHSU was on the air with tsunami warnings by 6 a.m. local time—telling residents to evacuate the low coastal areas, announcing school closings, and letting people know where emergency shelters were located in both Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

KHSU kept up with this information until the warning was lifted later in the afternoon.

This critically important local coverage was coupled with breaking news from NPR about the earthquake in Japan, the tsunami warning for the entire west coast, and the science and analysis behind this event and how it can affect us—immediately and in the long run.

If H.R. 1076 is passed into law, KHSU would be prohibited from using CPB funds to acquire this necessary programming in the future, even though it was critically important during this local emergency.

There is no doubt that public radio's ability to effectively serve rural America will be permanently impaired if this legislation is signed into law.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to protect this critically important resource and vote against H.R. 1076.