

The players on both teams displayed talent, dedication, tenacity, skill and the hearts of champions.

But this year the boys team was challenged to go to the highest levels of sportsmanship, humility and grace—and they met the challenge.

Despite clear and compelling video evidence proving the timeliness of a Warrior's game-winning shot—at the buzzer in the semifinals—the refs reversed their call and gave the game away. Ultimately, they denied the Warriors their rightful advancement to the state finals—an unbelievable turn of events.

At some point in his or her career, every athlete must wrestle with the agony of defeat. Few, however, are called upon to deal with a blown call that crowns a wrongful winner in the semi-finals.

Today, no one believes that Manasquan lost that game. Yet when the powers that be refused to right the wrong, the Manasquan Warriors remained unfairly “boxed out” of their rightful victory.

Especially worthy of note is this team's actions at the subsequent championship competition later that week

Despite the great disappointment and emotion from players, family, fans and the community that the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) would not overturn what it acknowledged as an officiating error, Coach Bilodeau and his persevering Warriors attended the state finals game, showing the highest character and class. They congratulated Camden High—the inadvertent benefactors of the officiating miscue—and gave them a standing ovation upon their victory in the championship game.

Such civility and strength of character is deeply admired, and it will serve these Warriors well in any and every future endeavor.

Mr. Speaker, I believe I speak for all of my constituents in Manasquan when I say that we could not be prouder of the way both the girls and boys teams acted on and off the courts. To have both teams in the playoffs in the same year, in the same sport, in the same final days offered spectacular and legendary memories for fans and players alike.

The Manasquan boys team's handling of the costly and admitted referees' error was remarkable and admirable. Still, reforms are needed at the NJSIAA who issued an apology but offered no justice.

I strongly support the efforts at the state level, including by my good friend and Manasquan's Assemblyman Sean Kean, to help maintain the integrity of high school sports.

Assemblyman Kean's legislation aims to prevent a similar situation from occurring again by prompting the use of instant replay in NJ playoff tournament basketball games. The National Federation of High School Sports guidelines allow state high school associations to use video replay during basketball championships. States other than NJ have done so since 2015.

Mr. Speaker, both the Manasquan High School girls and boys teams give us reason to celebrate their achievements. Well done to all of the players, coaches and managers who make us proud.

The 2023–2024 Manasquan High School Girls Basketball Varsity Program Members:

Players Katie Collins, McKenna Karlson, Carlie Lapinski, Hope Masonius, Shea Don-

nelly, Shannon Heine, Grace Love, Olivia Shaughnessy, Ava Frith, Jordyn Hollowell, Lily Johnson, Shannon Looney, Logan McCarthy, Rose Latesta, Managers Kristina Walthall, Juliann Martell, Kylie Rothery, Kathy Minchala-Ramirez, Paige Donnelly, Caroline Watson, Findleigh Tuite, Head Coach Lisa Kukoda; Assistant Coaches Keara Homan, Rich Kirk, Sarah Kurtz, Joe Roman, Bill Shaughnessy.

The 2023–2024 Manasquan High School Boys Basketball Varsity Program Members.

Players Ryan Frauenheim, Alex Konov, Jason Larned, Ryan Mulvaney, Luke Roy, Mike Nitta, Julian Walthall, Dan McManus, Griffin Linstra, Matteo Chiarella, Brandon Kunz, Keegan Hertel, Jack O'Reilly, Jack Lattimer, Logan Cleveland, Rey Weinsseimer, Managers Rylie Eldridge, Sophia Bilodeau, Reagan Prime, Lily McKiever, Charlotte Michko, Head Coach Andrew Bilodeau, Assistant Coaches Ryan Ritchey, Colin Eldridge, Sean Fitzgerald, Ed Breheny, Jack Heenan, Bob Wright.

Under the direction of Manasquan Superintendent of Schools Dr Frank Kasyan, High School Principal Robert Goodall, Athletic Director Donald Bramley, and Athletic Trainer Kevin Hyland.

HONORING ROBERT NEMER

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 2024

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Robert Nemer, who has been selected by the Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce to receive the 35th Annual J. Walter Juckett Community Service Award.

Robert embodies the philanthropic spirit of the award's namesake. Since moving to the North Country in 1970 to assist his father with the operations of his car dealership, he and his brother have transformed the enterprise into a successful business with several locations across Upstate New York. Robert's community is something he cherishes deeply, and throughout his life, he has gone above and beyond to give back.

As a former teacher, the needs of young students are a matter of special concern for Robert. Alongside the Tri-County United Way and the Post Star, he founded the Kids with Packs program to ensure that students have the supplies they need to start each school year strong. In keeping with this devotion to education, Robert and his wife Francine have also helped to facilitate various youth enrichment programs run by the Hyde Collection.

Equally remarkable is the commitment Robert has shown to the North Country hospitals and doctors. Through the Nemer Auto Group, he has granted considerable financial support to the Glenn Falls, Saint Peter's, and Saratoga hospitals while simultaneously serving on the board of the Hudson Headwaters Health Network. In his spare time, Robert may be found either volunteering with these very same institutions or working for another cause close to his heart: the preservation of his beloved Lake George. The Lake George Association simply would not look the same without Robert's efforts.

Over the years, Robert Nemer has proven himself to be a consistent force for good in his

adopted home state. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I thank Robert for his contributions to the life of our district and congratulate him on this richly deserved award.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. ADA M.
JACKSON LEE

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a devoted wife, loving mother, doting grandmother, community servant, and Civil Rights icon, Mrs. Ada M. Jackson Lee. Family, friends, and community leaders will celebrate the Fourth Anniversary of her passing and 100th birthday on April 6, 2024, at Ada Lee Park in Warner Robins, Georgia.

The journey of the remarkable life of Ada Lee began on March 6, 1924, when she was born to the union of the late Mr. Lewis D. Jackson and the late Mrs. Annie B Jackson in Wellston, Georgia.

A lifelong and persistent learner, Mrs. Lee graduated from Booker T. Washington High School and the Culinary Arts Program at The Fort Valley State University. She went on to work as an Urban Renewal specialist where she later retired.

She was married to the late Sylvester Lee and to this union three children were born. Daron Lewis Lee, Virey Anne Ferguson and Dorothea Rita Scott. Mrs. Lee was a woman after God's own heart who served her community with distinction and pride. “It has been said that service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth.” Mrs. Lee paid her rent, and she paid it well. She was nothing short of a trailblazer with several historic firsts for the Warner Robins community—first Director of the Warner Robins Day Care Center, she formed the first Girl Scout Troop for African-American girls and the first Director of the Head Start Program in Warner Robins.

When Mrs. Lee saw a need in the community, she made sure that it was addressed. When she saw a need for a safe space for children to play, she approached the mayor and made it happen. Now that same park is named in her honor. She was a strong advocate for her community and for women. She truly believed in the words of Shirley Chisolm, “if they don't give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.” Because of her lifetime service she was recognized with many awards to include The Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis for Outstanding Volunteer Services, The NAACP Trailblazer Award, Ms. Senior Warner Robins as well as one of the fifty Influential Women in Middle Georgia.

She gave her time, talent, and treasure to many organizations to include Board Member of the Family Support Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Warner Robins Housing Authority, Houston County Democratic Advisory, Warner Robins Day Care Center, NAACP, SCLC and served as a member of the Christian Women United Association and the Georgia Council on Human Relations. She was also an honorary member of the Order of Eastern Star, Cinderella Chapter No. 406.

But more important than all of these accolades and memberships, Mrs. Lee was a

woman of faith. A dedicated member of the Warner Robins Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Mrs. Lee was a member of stewardship board, missionary board, Lay Council, We Care-Golden Age, Social Concerns Hospitality Circle and served as Founder of the Pastor's Aide Board. The scripture tells us in Proverbs 3:6 that "In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths." The Lord truly directed the paths of Mrs. Ada Johnson Lee. The Middle Georgia Community, The State of Georgia, our country, and the world are better because Mrs. Lee passed this way.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and my wife Vivian, and the 765,000 people of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in honoring the life and legacy of Mrs. Ada Johnson Lee. May her life continue to be an inspiration to her family, friends, and all those that she touched during her remarkable life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 2024

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, on March 20, 2024, I was ill and unable to cast my votes. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 89 and No. 90; Yea on Roll Call No. 91 and No. 92; Nay on Roll Call No. 93; Yea on Roll Call No. 94; and Nay on Roll Call No. 95. As a strong proponent of clean energy and the environment, I oppose H.R. 6009, the Restoring American Energy Dominance Act, and H.R. 1121, the Protecting American Energy Production Act.

NORTHWEST OHIO WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH RECOGNITION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 2024

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate Women's History Month by shining a spotlight on four remarkable women hailing from Ohio's 9th District in our Northwest Ohio region who have etched their names in the annals of history.

Growing up in a world where gender roles were rigidly defined, these women demonstrated a commitment to uplifting women and improving their communities within Northwestern Ohio and beyond.

Born in Toledo, Ohio, Mari Evans was a prominent African American poet, writer, and dramatist known for her association with the Black Arts Movement.

While she initially pursued fashion design at the University of Toledo, she ultimately decided to embark on a career in music, and then in writing.

Throughout the 1960's and 1970's, Evans gained recognition for her poetry, which often explored themes of race, identity, and social justice.

One of her most notable works is entitled "I Am a Black Woman." This seminal piece encapsulates the essence of her poetic voice.

Evans' writing style was marked by its lyrical simplicity, direct themes, and its ability to capture the African American experience.

Outside of her literary endeavors, Evans was actively engaged in community service, advocating for prison reform and volunteering with organizations focused on social issues.

Her legacy endures through her powerful poetry, her commitment to social activism, and her impact on generations of readers and writers exploring the complexities of identity and experience.

Feminist icon Gloria Steinem was also born in Toledo, Ohio.

She sought to challenge the societal norms that constrained women's opportunities and perpetuated systemic injustice.

After graduating from Smith College, she honed her craft as a writer and developed a keen awareness of the pervasive gender bias within the media industry.

Determined to challenge these stereotypes, Steinem began to infuse her writing with feminist perspectives, shedding light on issues such as workplace discrimination, reproductive rights, and the intersectionality of oppression.

In 1971, Steinem co-founded Ms. Magazine, a groundbreaking publication that quickly became a platform for feminist thought and activism.

Through the magazine, Steinem and her colleagues tackled taboo subjects with courage and candor, sparking national conversations about women's rights and challenging the status quo.

Ms. Magazine provided a voice for marginalized women and served as a rallying point for the burgeoning feminist movement, inspiring many to join the fight for equality.

Steinem's activism extended far beyond the pages of the magazine, as she emerged a tireless advocate for women's rights on the national stage.

Her willingness to confront uncomfortable truths and challenge entrenched power structures cemented her status as a fearless leader and trailblazer.

Sheree Hovsepian, a luminary in the realm of contemporary art, bridges her Iranian heritage with her American upbringing to craft compelling reflections on identity and the human form.

Raised in northwestern Ohio after her family's immigration to the United States in 1976, Hovsepian skillfully intertwines the organic with the geometric, inviting viewers to embark on a profound journey of introspection and exploration.

Her adept fusion of materials—from fabric and paper to wood and string—imbues her creations with a palpable depth, earning her acclaim and placement in prestigious public museum collections such as the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and the Studio Museum in Harlem.

Recently celebrated at the 59th International Art Exhibition of La Biennale di Venezia, Hovsepian's work continues to captivate audiences, serving as a reminder of the transformative power of art in evoking dialogue and understanding.

Beyond her creative endeavors, Hovsepian remains steadfast in her commitment to fostering the arts community, actively participating in various committees of cultural institutions and championing arts education and development initiatives.

Mildred Benson considered herself a newspaper reporter first and an author second.

An American journalist and writer known for her contributions to children's literature, she

touched readers of The Toledo Blade and Toledo Times for seven decades.

As a pillar of the community, she penned a weekly column for the Blade until mere weeks before her death.

She wrote under a pseudonym for the Stratemeyer Syndicate, creating the adventurous personality of Nancy Drew in many of her early mysteries.

Inspiring millions of young American women, Ms. Benson's work on the famous series helped shape the character's iconic traits and adventurous spirit.

She leaves behind a significant legacy, both for the children whose love of reading she inspired and for readers of the Toledo Blade in her community.

During Women's History Month and all year round, it is important to recognize the strong and talented women who broke down barriers and shattered glass ceilings, alongside those who continue to do so today.

Today, I proudly honor Mari Evans, Gloria Steinem, Sheree Hovsepian, and Mildred Benson.

They are Pioneers whose remarkable contributions have not only enriched the tapestry of Northwest Ohio and the 9th District, but have also left an indelible imprint on the collective history of our Nation.

HONORING TONY "DOC" FUENTES

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 22, 2024

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Tony "Doc" Fuentes, a San Antonio native who has dedicated his life to placing the needs of others before his own. His giving spirit represents the best of our city of San Antonio.

When Mr. Fuentes graduated from South San High School in 1970, he knew that his family would be unable to bear the burden of college tuition. Seeking another way to honor his family and to serve others, Mr. Fuentes enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was deployed to Southeast Asia the following year, where he was assigned to the 24th Evacuation Hospital in Long Binh, Vietnam. While there, Mr. Fuentes volunteered for a front-line medevac unit to help transport soldiers who were wounded on the front lines.

After his time in the service, Mr. Fuentes returned to San Antonio and was taken under the wing of Lt. Col. Hector Villarreal, who became his mentor and provided Mr. Fuentes with the support needed to fully "return home." Shortly before Lt. Col. Villarreal passed away in 2020, he designated Mr. Fuentes as his successor to lead the San Antonio Coalition for Veterans and Families, an organization dedicated to helping San Antonio's veterans through difficult times. He stepped into the role in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, with a surge of veterans seeking assistance. Since then, the San Antonio Coalition for Veterans and Families has expanded its scope and operations every year to help even more veterans and their families with basic needs and emergency support.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the honorable achievements of Mr. Tony "Doc" Fuentes. His efforts have led to increased support systems for San Antonio's