

second consecutive Missouri Class 5 Boys Basketball Championship for the Poplar Bluff Mules.

Anchored by an aggressive defense and a balanced offense, the Mules turned back many deserving opponents in their march to the championship.

I also congratulate their coach, John David Pattillo, and the excellent leadership he has provided. With a staff of dedicated assistant coaches and a great deal of support from students and parents, he created a program for which all of us can be proud.

I congratulate the students and coaches of Poplar Bluff High School on their exceptional championship season.●

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE REGIONAL ACADEMIC KENTUCKY NEW ERA/ROTARY REGIONAL ACADEMIC ALL-STAR TEAM PROGRAM

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize nominees for the Regional Academic All-Star Team from the Pennyroyal region in western Kentucky.

The regional Academic All-Star program's purpose is to recognize top academic scholars and performers. Students from Caldwell, Christian, Trigg and Todd Counties of Kentucky were nominated based on their academic performance in seven disciplines: English, foreign language, journalism, mathematics, science, social studies and the creative and performing arts. The students are judged on their core academic score, the curriculum of the student, their grade point average, academic honors earned, unique accomplishments and achievements, extracurricular activities, employment history, and an autobiographical essay.

Education is the foundation upon which we reach our human potential. Students in Kentucky are developing their talents, furthering their education, and pursuing their aspirations in life through programs such as the Academic All-Star program. Encouragement and recognition develop confidence and achievement among young Americans—the future leaders of our country.

The following students have been nominated for their academic excellence:

Griffin Blane, Christian Co. High School; Gregory Kyle Rader, Hopkinsville High School; Ralph King Anderson IV, Trigg Co. High School; Kody Douglas Carpenter, University Heights Academy; Dianne Lisette Rousseau, Caldwell Co. High School; Lauren Whitney Scott, Heritage Christian Academy; Jennifer Renea Fowler, Todd Co. Central High School; Samantha Joy White, Christian Co. High School; Chad Darrel Brown, Todd Co. Central High School; Casey Jo Calhoun, Trigg Co. High School; Bryan Hill, Hopkinsville High School; David Clayton Blake, Heritage Christian Academy; Stephanie Leigh Huntsman, Caldwell

Co. High School; Danielle Diane Brown, Heritage Christian Academy; Matthew Wyn Lewis, Hopkinsville High School; Kristin Averitt Dickinson, Todd Co. Central High School; Brittany Nichole Goodenough, Trigg Co. High School; Haylee Laura Lynne Ortiz, Christian Co. High School; Drew Martin Swain, University Heights Academy; Sarah Christine Wilson, Heritage Christian Academy; Marianne Wynn Lassiter, Hopkinsville High School; Amy Beth Shemwell, Todd Co. Central High School; Brandon Bowron, Trigg Co. High School; Jerika Nashea Wilson, Trigg Co. High School; Melissa Nail, Hopkinsville High School; Kathryn Elizabeth Gill, Todd Co. Central High School; Jonathan Christopher Bass, University Heights Academy; Zachary Daniel Ferguson, Christian Co. High School; Erika Elaine MacMillan, Heritage Christian Academy; Ryan David Mullen, University Heights Academy; Andrew Christian Chiles, Hopkinsville High School; Barry Eli Knoblock, Todd Co. Central High School; Paul Thomas Latham, Christian Co. High School; Joshua Allen Fitzhugh, Trigg Co. High School; Sarah Christine Wilson, Heritage Christian Academy; William Matthew Suiter, Todd Co. Central High School; Amy Nicole Adams, Caldwell Co. High School; Norman Bradley Fox, University Heights Academy; Juliana Elyse Patterson, Trigg Co. High School; Robert Kyle Whitaker, Heritage Christian Academy; Pretesh Parmar, Hopkinsville High School; Nicholas Pickford Thompson, Christian Co. High School; Dustin Glynn Kostalek, Hopkinsville High School; Ann Marie Crabtree, Trigg Co. High School; Kelley Lynn Smiley, Christian Co. High School; Meera Ramesh Patel, University Heights Academy; John Hayes Laster, Todd Co. Central High School; Emily Scott, Heritage Christian Academy; Sarah Beth Vied, Caldwell Co. High School.

These students embody the spirit, commitment, and sacrifice that we all should strive for in our daily lives. The citizens of Kentucky should be proud to have these young men and women in their community. Their example of dedication and hard work should be an inspiration to the entire Commonwealth. I extend my thanks to these students for their efforts, and I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of the Senate.●

#### HATTIE CARAWAY

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, every year in March we celebrate Women's History Month. It offers us the opportunity to honor the women who have made historical contributions to our Nation. It also allows us time to reflect on their achievements, which continue to inspire us every single day.

Today, I rise in tribute to one of these very special women. A woman dear to my heart and dear to the hearts of generations of Arkansans, whose courage and convictions forever

changed the history of this Great Body. That woman is Hattie Ophelia Wyatt Caraway. On January 12, 1932, this Arkansan became the first woman ever elected to the United States Senate.

When we think of the life of Hattie Caraway, we think of a life devoted to the family, State, and country that she loved so deeply. Those who knew her were drawn to her endearing sense of humor, her gentle and dignified manner, and her warmth. The example she set, both personally and professionally, has always been an inspiration to me, and as the second woman to serve Arkansas in the U.S. Senate, I feel a special bond with Hattie and am humbled to follow in her footsteps.

Hattie Caraway came to this distinguished body on November 13, 1931, following the death of her husband, Senator Thaddeus Caraway. An appointment by the Governor of Arkansas allowed her to temporarily fill the seat of her husband, and the historic special election that followed allowed her to achieve what no woman had ever achieved—an elected seat in the U.S. Senate. It was not only a testament to the openmindedness and fairness of the people of Arkansas, but it was a testament to Hattie Caraway and the kind of woman she was.

Upon the conclusion of her husband's term, it was generally expected that Hattie would retire and quietly settle down with her family back in Arkansas. In doing so, the seat that she and her husband had proudly served for 12 years would go to one of the candidates, including a former Governor and U.S. Senator, who were now running for the nomination. But Hattie Caraway was never one to make decisions based on the expectations of others. With a firm belief that "women are just as loyal, courageous, and self-sacrificing as men," she stood boldly in the face of overwhelming odds to campaign for a full Senate term. Although she had little campaign funding and was less experienced than her male opponents, she got support from an unlikely source—the legendary Senator Huey Long, of neighboring Louisiana.

Not only were the Caraways and the Longs close friends but Senator Long had come to respect his new female colleague for her undaunted courage in voting against special interests and standing up for the people in her home State. Upon arriving in Arkansas for the campaign, what the two of them would accomplish together that first week of August in 1931 would become legend. The week-long "Hattie and Huey Tour" wound its way through the State, speaking in more than 35 communities, traveling over 2,000 miles, and drawing huge crowds. With the fiery Long imploring crowds that, "If Wall Street and their gang succeed in defeating enough Senators who have stood with the people like this little woman from Arkansas has . . . You'll never be able to get anyone from this State to stand by you again," he effectively introduced Hattie to new areas