

Mr. Speaker, education is the foundation upon which we reach our human potential. Students in my District are developing their talents, furthering their education and pursuing their aspirations in life through programs like 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, Gregory Kyle Rader, Ralph King Anderson IV, Kody Douglas Carpenter, Dianne Lisette Rousseau, Lauren Whitney Scott, Jennifer Renea Fowler, Samantha Joy White, Chad Darrel Brown, Casey Jo Calhoun, Bryan Hill, David Clayton Blake, Stephanie Leigh Huntsman, Danielle Diane Brown.

Matthew Wyn Lewis, Kristin Averitt Dickinson, Brittany Nichole Goodenough, Haylee Laura Lynne Ortiz, Drew Martin Swain, Sarah Christine Wilson, Marianne Wynn Lassiter, Amy Beth Shemwell, Brandon Bowron, Jerika Nashea Wilson, Melissa Nail, Kathryn Elizabeth Gill, Jonathan Christopher Bass, Zachary Daniel Ferguson, Erika Elaine MacMillan.

Ryan David Mullen, Andrew Christian Chiles, Barry Eli Knoblock, Paul Thomas Latham, Joshua Allen Fitzhugh, Sarah Christine Wilson, William Matthew Suiter, Amy Nicole Adams, Norman Bradley Fox, Juliana Elyse Patterson, Robert Kyle Whitaker, Pretesh Parmar, Nicholas Pickford Thompson, Dustin Glynn Kostalek, Ann Marie Crabtree.

Kellye Lynn Smiley, Meera Ramesh Patel, John Hayes Laster, Emily Scott, Sarah Beth Vied, Alicia Lynn Morris, Ashley Chearning, Brittany S. Hurt, Brittnee Collins, Chelsea Barnett, Corrinna M. Kinnard, Janelle Nichol Gilmer, Megan Gray, Sam Mitchell.

Sherry Cheatham, Wesley Croom, Bree Raquel Hokulani Goodwin, Brooke Davies, Elizabeth Settle, Emily Beatty, Kate Milani, Laura Beth Baggett, Morgan C. Murray, Sarah C. Hazelmyer, Shelley L. Traylor, Taylor Queen, Wendy A. Johnson, Andrew Landreth, Chelsea Musselman, Jacob Kyle Langston, Jonathan A. Chavez, Megan Jones.

Melissa Starks, Molly Ware Stuard, Nadeem Ramzi Haroun, Rachel Brown, Sarah Elaine Howell, Sarah Elizabeth Fields, Chelsea Rae Prince, Chris Kirkman, Erin Hamilton Oakley, George W. Barnes, Helen G. Crenshaw, Hunter Carroll, John Paul Bointnott, Kaleb Anderson Greene, Kelsey Fish, Lindsay Elizabeth Gray, Shane Veteto.

Mr. Speaker, these students embody the spirit, commitment and sacrifice that we all should strive for in our daily lives. I am proud to represent them in my District. I extend my thanks to these students for their efforts, and I am proud to bring their accomplishments to the attention of this House.

ACKNOWLEDGING JASON
CRAWFORTH'S CONTRIBUTION TO
IDAHO

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the attention of the House to an individual from my district whose initiative and vision might well be paying dividends in Idaho from years to come.

Through hard work and passion, Jason Crawforth gathered support from many medium and large technical institutions throughout my great state in support of a promotional effort in the Wall Street Journal on behalf of Idaho's outstanding business environment.

Companies such as Jason's own Treetop Tech, Micron Technology, Hewlett-Packard, Dell, and Extended Systems are just a few of America's top technology businesses that have chosen to locate large operations in Idaho over the years.

Anyone who spends even a short time in Idaho soon comes to realize the enormous potential of my State and its people, and the great benefits of doing business there.

From the low cost of living and absence of urban congestion to the overall quality of life, Idaho has a lot to offer the technology industry. Jason Crawforth is one of Idaho's greatest advocates, and leaders like him are among our most valuable assets. I hope the House will join me in acknowledging Jason's contribution.

FOR THE RELIEF OF THE PAR-
ENTS OF THERESA MARIE
SCHIAVO

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Sunday, March 20, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the heart-wrenching details of Ms. Terri Schiavo's case are well known to all of us. Her personal case, not to mention the family rift that has resulted, is certainly a tragedy and my heart goes out to Terri, her husband, parents, and loved ones who all are trying to do what they believe is best for Terri.

However, Mr. Speaker, this is an issue that should be determined by those very people. This is not a matter for Congress to decide. Unfortunately, since Terri's family has been unable to agree on the best course of action, they have had to undergo, and continue to undergo today, lengthy legal battles. While it is unfortunate, that is what our legal process is for, and it has repeatedly ruled in favor of Terri's husband. Bringing this bill to the floor of the House marks yet another example of the Congressional leadership's subversion of the judicial process. Anytime the leadership disagrees with a ruling by a court, they strip its power. This is not the way these matters should be handled. It is not only subversion of the legal process, but of the Constitution of the United States of America.

In fact, in a 1990 case before the Supreme Court that pertained to some of the very same issues of the Schiavo case, Justice Antonin Scalia, one of the most conservative justices on the court, stated that he wished that the Supreme Court had stated, "clearly and promptly, that the federal courts have no business in this field." He went on further to say, "the point at which life becomes 'worthless' and the point at which the means necessary to preserve it become 'extraordinary' or 'inappropriate' are neither set forth in the Constitution nor known to the nine justices of this court any better than they are known to nine people picked at random from the Kansas City telephone directory."

Justice Scalia's statement highlights both the difficult nature of the issues involved, as well as his clear belief that matters such as these have no business in the federal courts. This is a highly private issue, and though it is unfortunate that Terri's family was forced to go to the courts, it should remain at the state level.

Congress should not have interfered by passing S. 686. It represents a gross overreach of Congressional power into a highly private issue. An issue, Mr. Speaker, that is at root between Mr. Schiavo and his wife Terri, and on the immediate periphery, between Mr. Schiavo and the Schindlers. It is amazing that some have chosen to play politics with this tragic family situation. My prayers are with the entire family, especially now that Terri has passed away.

This case does highlight, however, the need for individuals to make their personal and private health care decisions and embody them in a living will. At the very least, family members should have the comfort of knowing they're doing what their loved ones would have wanted. One of the best things that can emerge from this heartbreaking case will be an increase in families discussing and creating living wills.

Finally, I regret that I was unable to return in time for the debate and vote on S. 686. Once I received official notice of a recorded vote, it was impossible for me to arrive in Washington, DC in time for consideration of this measure. That being said Mr. Speaker, I rise now to state for the record that I would have voted against S. 686.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SGT
MICHAEL T. HIESTER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is written if you owe debts, pay debts; if honor, then honor; if respect, then respect.

I rise humbly today to pay a debt of honor and respect to Army National Guard Master Sergeant Mike Hiester of Bluffton, Indiana.

As I saw firsthand last December at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan, Hoosiers have made an extraordinary difference for freedom in Operation Enduring Freedom, and Master Sergeant Mike Hiester was a leader of men in that place. His military awards include the Bronze Star Medal (posthumous), Purple Heart (posthumous), two Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, four Good Conduct Medals, three Reserve Components Achievement Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, Global War on Terrorism expeditionary and Service Medals, Armed Forced Reserve Medal with M device and Bronze Hour Glass device, NATO Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon with "3" device, Order of St. George, Pathfinder Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge (posthumous) and the German armed forces Schutzenschnur. His state awards include the Indiana Long Service Medal (2nd award), Indiana Overseas Service Ribbon, and Indiana Outside Continental United States Ribbon (2nd award).