

their projects with MEP Centers that year. Additionally, an estimate of the Federal return on our investment in MEP Centers is \$4 in Federal tax revenue for every \$1 invested in the program.

MEP has a documented positive impact on our manufacturing sector, and is particularly vital to our small manufacturers. As vital as this program is to our manufacturers, fiscal year 2006 funding is vital to MEP.

In addition to the funding restored to MEP, I am also pleased with the increase given to the National Science Foundation. NSF is the most important funding source for universities who educate the next generation of scientists engineers and thereby plant the seed for America's future prosperity.

I hope that NSF will continue its strong support of university based laboratories and user facilities, including the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory at Michigan State University. These NSF-supported labs create powerful synergies between cutting edge research and education and are a model of state and federal partnership.

We can't afford to underestimate the importance of these programs. Our educators tell us that students are attracted by on-campus capabilities; not by the promise of an airline ticket to some remote laboratory in the U.S. or even abroad where they can visit for a few weeks.

As well, the current funding level should provide NSF with the flexibility to support both its planned activities and fund peer-reviewed, non-solicited proposals. Progress in science is often unpredictable and NSF must reserve the institutional agility to invest in "bottom-up" ideas that result from fast-breaking research discoveries.

Timely, flexible funding through NSF is a critical investment in our economic future and continued scientific leadership in the world. It deserves our support.

In closing, I would like to again extend my thanks to Chairman WOLF for his excellent work, and I encourage all of my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Chairman, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MARCHANT) having assumed the chair, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Chairman of the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2862) making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 939

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 939.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2745, HENRY J. HYDE UNITED NATIONS REFORM ACT OF 2005

Mr. BISHOP of Utah, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 109-132) on the resolution (H. Res. 319) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2745) to reform the United Nations, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH JACKSON, MORGAN BOAEN AND THEIR PARENTS

(Mr. KINGSTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit for the RECORD a great article on Elizabeth Jackson, who is a high school junior in Savannah, Georgia, going to St. Vincent's Academy. The article also talks about another young lady that I have had the privilege of knowing most of her life, Morgan Boalen.

Elizabeth is the daughter of Libby and Kevin Jackson, and Morgan is the daughter of Danny and Robin Boalen, all of Savannah. These two young women are very aggressive, very hard-working, very strong up-and-coming athletes. The article talks about how they play aggressively, how they play on the team, how they give it their best effort, and how they play to win.

It is interesting, having known these young women all their lives, to know what great competitors they are. And although all parents are very, very strong supporters of their children, Robin Boalen is certainly a great enthusiastic parent from the stands, and Kevin Jackson, who is Elizabeth's father, is also very, very vocal and loud as a parent. And I always say if you are going to go to one of these games, you do not want to be sitting in between Kevin Jackson and Robin Boalen because they will be calling every shot from the stands.

But it takes great parents to have great athletes, and both these young ladies are blessed to have parents who are supportive, and getting them there through those tough moments and the long practices and the long drives across the State of Georgia to go to some of those games. So I applaud the efforts of the families and Elizabeth and Morgan.

And I want to say that I am sure in the next few years they will be playing college-level soccer, and we will be hearing about them regionally and nationally in the years to come.

JACKSON SET UP SVA FOR SUCCESSFUL SEASON

When Elizabeth Jackson takes the center of the soccer field, she expects to be heckled.

The 5-foot-1 midfielder knows sooner or later she'll win a 50/50 ball against a smaller girl.

That player will end up on the ground looking to officials for relief.

Parents follow by blaming Jackson for the next series of grass stains.

Fair play or not, she is the one viewed as dirty.

"I'm a very aggressive player," Jackson said. "When I step on the field it's game time. I don't play around. I go for the ball. I don't care who the player is."

Conversely, coaches and opponents immediately recognize the girl nicknamed "E.J." by her St. Vincent's teammates.

Not just because of how Jackson goes after the soccer balls but what she does with them at her feet.

At St. Vincent's this season, the junior emerged as the communicator, the workhorse, the power and the playmaker for the Saints (15-1-2).

She merged the talents of a speedy defense behind her and a precise offense in front.

Her efforts helped the Saints move forward to the Class AAA semifinals and earned Jackson 2005 All-Greater Savannah Area Girls' Soccer Player of the Year honors.

"She didn't go out and plow through everybody," said Sister Pat Coward, who coached St. Vincent's with Andy Kaplan. "She listened, analyzed her opponents and figured out what she had to do (to make the play)."

Her teammates responded.

Midfeeder Morgan Boalen, for instance, signaled Jackson again and again this season with a click of her right hand. Her index finger pointed straight to goal.

"She would put her hand up and that was my key," Jackson said. "I'd put it right where she wanted it."

With just one or two touches, Jackson could move the ball from her skilled fullbacks to the midfield.

Her teammates would bounce passes back and forth as though parts of a pinball machine.

If Jackson wasn't delivering the breakthrough chip or through ball, she directed the players who did.

The Saints facilitated goals and wins off the well-scripted plays.

Boalen ended the year as the statistical leader of the Saints' offense with 20 assists. Jackson initiated many of those connections.

"This is my role on the team," she said. "I don't care if I'm not the finisher."

Her chief heckler did mind for a time, though.

Jackson's father, Kevin, a former University of Georgia football player, used to wonder about his daughter's style.

No doubt he roared a wish or two from the sidelines that she would "Shoot!"

"All I ever wanted her to do was score," Kevin Jackson said. "I'd say, 'You didn't have a good game because you didn't score any goals.' Then you realize there is so much more to it."

Many more people likely realized the thrust of Jackson's talent this season. She didn't just put down opponents. She set up St. Vincent's.

"What would we have been like without Elizabeth?" Coward asked, rhetorically. "Who would know? Game after game we never took her out. We never tried it."

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.