

game, both sides worthy of accolades. The Falcon defense, however, was able to take over in the second half while paving the way for the win. The Falcons define team work and dedication and that starts with the Head Coach Scott Young and all of his assistants.

With many players returning next season, including the offensive and defensive MVPs, the Falcons have vowed to continue their winning streak. On February 3, 2011, I was honored to meet with the team and offer my personal congratulations on another outstanding season.

The players on this championship team are Tyler Stamp, Trey Mashore, Daishon Barger, Odell McBride, Clifford Long, BJ Sherrill, Dinkin Miller, Quentin Sifford, Connor Edwards, Jamarian Mabry, Eric Cowan, Ethan Wansley, Harvey Landy, Taylor Garczynski, Jockaile Burnside, Bertin Suarez, Jarvis Morgan, Domonique Noble, Kendall Hosch, John Dunlap, Darryl Jackson Jr., Andrew Garrison, Trey Cuthbertson, Brandon Ijames, Mack Flanagan, Terence Robinson, Troy Culbertson, Patrick Hampton, Trevor Loudin, Desmond Jackson, Emmanuel Gbunblee, Trey Shepherd, Tacoma McNeely, Cody Eggers, Kiero Cuthbertson, Jacob Tomlin, Logan Stoodley, Jordan Davenport, Terrence Polk, Andre Archie, Matthew Choi, Charles Holloway, Preston Garner, Chad Bailey, Brandon Hansen, Xavier Still, Cody Haire, Hunter Mashburn, Josh Bailey, Jordan Myers, Greg Dixon, Mike Norman, Rashad Sherrill, Zeke Blackwood, Davon Quarles, Jarius Lewis, Louis Kraft, Hobie Proctor, Jalen Morrow, Ahmed Blackwell, Quinton Phifer, Maurice Warren, Kelly Miller, Keyows Weeks, Justin Teeter, Jovani Alvirer, Daisean Reddick, Ray Bath, Derrick Fortson, Teoz Mauney, and Michael Pinkston.

Every great team needs a great coaching staff, as well as support from their school community. Plaudits must go to Head Coach Scott Young, Assistant Coaches Ed Bowles, Butch Browning, Durwood Bynum, Jeff Chapman, Tim Dixon, Ralph Ellis, Dave Hunt, Lee Linville, Darrell Misenhiemer, Joe Nixon, Kevin Parks Sr., Stevie Williams, James Collins, Zeb Link, and Mark Young. In addition, it should be noted that Scott Young has been honored as the Associated Press Prep Football Coach of the Year for North Carolina.

In addition, we need to congratulate Head Trainer Amber DeDoming along with student trainers J.J. Pangburn, Ashley Gaston and Nicole Barber. Additionally the cameramen Alan Champion and Jonathan Brown, the ball girls Ally Young, Sarah Day and Mary Sobataka and ball boys Bryant Young, Owen White, Marcus Corry and Brandon Wallace, all deserve to be recognized for the total team effort.

Last, but certainly not least, we offer our congratulations to Athletic Director Todd Bell and Principal Dr. Jamie Durant for their support of a national high school football dynasty.

Again on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate the West Rowan High School football team, faculty, staff, students, and fans for another history-making season. This team will be remembered for many years to come for its perfection on the field and resilience in securing a third straight North Carolina 3-A state championship.

## FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 17, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes:

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Chair, under the Higher Education Act, proprietary colleges and universities and career training programs are required to offer programs that lead to gainful employment in a legally recognized occupation in order to participate in the federal student aid programs. In July 2010, the Department of Education published a proposed rule to enforce this statutory requirement. While I share the Department's desire to ensure that federal financial aid dollars are spent wisely and that students are not taken advantage of, my concern is that the proposed rule does not accurately address this purpose and the consequences have not been fully considered.

Rather than using actual measures of educational quality such as job placement and graduation rates, the Department is promulgating a regulation that defines "gainful employment" through a complex matrix that examines the student loan debt-to-income ratio of graduates to the student loan repayment rate of graduates in the programs. The proposed rule would also require the US Department of Education to approve every new program created at a proprietary institution prior to the start of the program. This proposed rule needs to be further developed and possible unintended consequences considered.

In the midst of our economic crisis and high national unemployment rate, there remains a group of employers who struggle to find workers with skill sets required for today's changing job market. These employers have, in some cases, partnered with community and career colleges to build a 21st century workforce. Today, more than 6 million non-traditional students—including single parents, displaced workers, and low income individuals—are enrolled in community colleges and another 2.8 million in career colleges to develop the skills necessary to advance in the 21st century workplace.

Yes, there are "bad apples" among career preparation programs, who are taking advantage of vulnerable populations. In fact, before coming to Congress, I was at the forefront of an effort to close a beauty school in New Jersey which had done a disservice to students in the area. For this reason, again, I share the concern of many regarding the abuse of Title IV funds as well as any institutional action which would cause a student academic failure or financial harm. However, I also know that many good career colleges and community college programs exist that remain strong partners in the effort to meet the President's goal of leading the world in the percentage of college graduates by 2020.

My concern is that the Department's rule, while addressing poor quality programs, will have a negative impact on high quality pro-

grams as well. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment to provide for the reevaluation of the proposed metric system and full consideration of its impact.

RECOGNIZING KATHY ICHTER, DIRECTOR OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION UPON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 18, 2011*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Kathy Ichter, the Director of the Fairfax County Department of Transportation for her long and dedicated service to the residents of Fairfax County, Virginia, and to wish her well in her retirement. Ms. Ichter started with the County in 1984, and spent 27 years working tirelessly to improve regional transportation. She began as a Transportation Planner, served for twelve years as the Division Chief of the Department's Transportation Planning and Operations Division, and was subsequently appointed as Director of the entire Department in 2005. I was a Member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors at that time, and happily supported Ms. Ichter's appointment. Having worked closely with her on many transportation issues over the years, I developed a profound respect for her abilities and dedication.

Ms. Ichter was instrumental in improving all modes of transportation, including roadways, supporting pedestrian and transit opportunities and implementing innovative alternatives such as telework. While no one transportation project will completely eliminate challenges in urbanized areas, Ms. Ichter's wide-ranging focus provided residents with a number of options for their daily commutes. During her time as Director, she facilitated a partnership with the private sector to expand capacity on the Washington Beltway at no cost to taxpayers, oversaw the final planning and start of construction on extending Metrorail to Dulles Airport—one of our region's most significant transportation improvements, and planned redevelopment for the Tysons Corner area to transform the currently gridlocked urban core into a workable community. In addition, she worked diligently with me when I served as Chairman of the Board to enact two Four-Year Transportation Plans, the first such efforts in Fairfax to develop and implement a comprehensive, long-term transportation strategy.

Throughout her years of service, Ms. Ichter received a number of awards recognizing her efforts and leadership, including the Les Dorson Public Leadership Award in 2004 and the A. Heath Onthank Award, the highest honor awarded to Fairfax County government employees, in 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in providing further recognition to Kathy Ichter and thanking her for her years of service to the citizens of Fairfax County and her dedication to improving the National Capital region's transportation challenges.