

the glory of the moment to the memory of his best friend from college and former coaching staff colleague, Dave Rybczyk. Dave past away in September 1999, but he spent 11 years working as assistant coach along side his dear friend Howie. What a moving moment when Howie let Dave's son and former Blue Devil's player, Mark, cut the final strands of the net after the Northeast Conference Championship game in honor of his father.

I had the pleasure of going to college with How Dickenman so I know first hand what a caring individual he is, and how passionate he is about coaching. He takes the legacy passed down to him by his father, a former basketball coach at Norwich Free Academy in Norwich, CT, very seriously. So much so, that he carried one of the bowties that his father used to wear as a coach in his pocket during Central's championship game.

Words of gratitude for this "dream season" must also be expressed to the team's assistant coaches Steve Pikiell, Patrick Sellers, and Anthony Latina. Central's men's basketball program truly encompasses the meaning of the word "team." The dedication and support of Steve, Patrick, and Anthony played a key role in helping these amazing players be their best.

And finally, the amazing players. Each one has helped make this very special moment happen for the school and they should be extremely proud of their accomplishment. Wherever life may take them upon graduation from Central Connecticut State University, the memories of this remarkable season will remain with them forever.

We would be remiss if we did not mention the most selfless act of one player in particular, Victor Payne, which was observed by University President Richard Judd.

A dedicated fan, who is a wheelchair-bound Central student, has attended every one of the team's games. And the team's Northeast Conference championship game in Trenton, NJ, was no exception. After the net was lowered, Victor Payne cut off a string and quietly, without fanfare walked over to this student and handed it to him. What a heart-rendering act of team spirit that embodies what the athletic program at Central Connecticut State University is all about. Victor Payne wasn't told to do that, he just knew in his heart it was the right thing to do.

We offer out most sincere congratulations to the Central Connecticut State University Men's Basketball team on their many successes this season. Thank you for the wonderful memories you have provided.

We wish the Blue Devils many years of continued success. Thanks for making two of your biggest fans very proud.

#### TRIBUTE TO EDWARD HEALEY

### HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 22, 2000*

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a gentleman from southern Florida who devoted his life to public service. State Representative Edward Healey, a former opponent and a valued colleague passed away last Wednesday.

Ed dedicated his professional and personal life to the people of Florida and as a state leg-

islator he served as one of the most senior members in the history of the Florida House. His contributions to the lives of all Floridians will continue to pay dividends for generations to come. As he was fond of saying, "A life of service is the only life worth living."

Originally from New York, Ed was awarded the Purple Heart for his actions in northern France during the invasion of Normandy. He moved to Florida in 1957 and quickly became involved in public service. Never one to grandstand, Mr. Healey was a true statesman, following his convictions and transcending political wrangling.

Long before ethics and campaign finance reform became buzz words in elections, Ed Healey was an advocate of good government. He worked to build the infrastructure of Florida through a solid knowledge of transportation issues and his work on the Joint Management Committee. He was known as one of the hardest working members in Tallahassee.

He is the epitome of a gentleman. As a former opponent in state politics, I can say he was always a true gentleman and a fair competitor. Ed was a person that would reach out to people whether you agreed with his views or not and was as comfortable meeting with people in Dunkin Donuts as he was at the Breakers. He will be truly missed.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida, I would like to say thank you to Mr. Healey.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE IDEA FULL FUNDING ACT

### HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 22, 2000*

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the IDEA Full Funding Act of 2000 which will set us on the course of reaching the commitment the U.S. Congress made 24 years ago to children and families with special education needs. That commitment was to provide children with disabilities access to a quality public education and contribute 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure to assist States and local school districts with the excess costs of educating such children.

Unfortunately, we have failed to fully meet this commitment. Nevertheless, over the past four fiscal years (fiscal year 1997, fiscal year 1998, fiscal year 1999, and fiscal year 2000), we have fought for and achieved a dramatic \$2.6 billion funding increase for IDEA. This is a 115 percent increase in the Federal share for Part B of IDEA. However, this amounts to only 12.6 percent of the national average per pupil expenditure to assist with the excess expenses of educating children with disabilities.

Failing to meet our full commitment contradicts the goal of ensuring that children with disabilities receive a quality education.

The Congressional Research Service estimates that over \$15 billion would be needed to fully fund Part B of IDEA. The fiscal year 2000 appropriation for Part B was \$4.9 billion, leaving States and local school districts with an unfunded mandate of more than \$10 billion.

The bill I am introducing today sets a schedule to meet the 40 percent commitment by the year 2010. While many of us believe we

should already be paying our fair share, this bill will authorize increases of \$2 billion each year to ensure that our commitment becomes a reality in 10 years.

This Congress overwhelmingly passed a resolution stating that our highest education funding priority should be fully funding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

I think that before we create new programs out of Washington, the Congress needs to ensure that the Federal Government lives up to the promises it made to the students, parents, and schools over two decades ago. If we had followed that commitment, local school districts would have the funds necessary to build new schools, hire new teachers, reduce class size and buy more computers. All new programs that the Administration has promoted over the last several years without funding the promise we made in 1975.

In my district, the York City School District receives \$363,557. If IDEA were fully funded, this school district would receive \$1,440,000, an increase of \$1,080,000. The York City School District currently spends \$6.4 million each year on special education services, which represents about 16 percent of its total budget. The Federal contribution is currently only 5.7 percent of this.

If the Federal Government paid the promised 40 percent for special education, York City would have approximately \$1.1 million in additional funds to spend on other pressing educational needs. While \$1.1 million may not sound like a lot of money, I can assure you that in a school district like York City, this represents a significant source of funds.

Just 3 years ago, Congress and the administration worked together in a true bipartisan fashion to reauthorize IDEA so those children with special needs can have more options and services. It is my hope that we can continue that bipartisan work to fully fund the IDEA and finally make good on our commitment.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BELLE-SCOTT COMMITTEE

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 22, 2000*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 50th anniversary of the Belle-Scott Committee of Belleville and Scott Air Force Base, IL.

The Belle-Scott Committee evolved from the "Belleville Plan" which was created in 1950 by then Belleville mayor, H.V. Calhoun, Maj. Gen. Robert Harper, commander of the Air Training Command at Scott Air Force Base and Col. George W. Pardy, Scott's commanding officer.

The "Belleville Plan" was announced at the First "G.I. Pal Dinner" which was held on November 29, 1950, at the U.S.O. Canteen in Belleville, IL. This committee, which has been in continuous existence since that time, offers a direct means by which the two communities, military and civilian, work together to promote matters of mutual interest.

Military and civilian representatives meet on a monthly basis to discuss cooperative social, recreational and cultural efforts between Scott Air Force Base and the city of Belleville, IL.