

young women from my community, and the ongoing efforts of the Lyric Opera of Kansas City to heighten the awareness of the importance of art and culture by sponsoring dozens of programs for young people. Katherine Lorenz, Rebecca Mozley, and Amber Woodward were the three regional finalists chosen to participate in the 2000–2001 Texaco Quiz Kids Program at Kansas City, Missouri's historic Lyric Opera.

The Texaco Quiz Kids Program is a distinguished nationwide competition that brings together talented youth performing arts scholars from six regions of North America. Students take part in a rigorous quiz show format in which they are tested upon their knowledge and understanding of selected operas that they have studied in depth. At the regional round their expertise was called upon to interpret "Aida," "Carmen," and "The Magic Flute."

All three of the young women chosen to represent the Greater Kansas City Area have demonstrated exceptional musical scholarship and dedication to the appreciation of the performing arts. During the regional finals, each of these young scholars demonstrated a comprehensive understanding and knowledge of legendary operas from the 19th Century. Each of their loves for the performing arts radiated from their impressive answers. They are representatives of the best our community has to offer.

Katherine is a senior at Lawrence High School who is involved in a number of organizations. She is Co-Vice President of the FYI Club, Treasurer of the Key Club, and is also an active member of the French Club, National Honor Society, and the cultural heritage panel. She is a teacher's aide for AP European history this year and sings with the Concert Choir. She played basketball through her sophomore year, and is an avid basketball fan. Katherine has studied piano for nine years with Eric Sakamura, and is currently a lesson assistant at Lawrence Piano Studio. Katherine is a National Merit Semifinalist who will begin college this fall, who hopes to major in History, French, and Music.

Rebecca Mozley is a senior at Raytown South High School. Rebecca loves to sing. She has been a member of Raytown South's Cardinal Choral her junior and senior years and has also sung in the Kansas City All District Choir both years. She is a 2-year member of the National Honor Society, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), and Future Teachers of America. This year she is President of SADD and is the cadet teacher for the Concert Choir Class. She is maintaining a 3.8+ GPA and plays the flute and French horn in the school band. Rebecca is also involved in church activities. She plays a handbell in the choir and sings in the teen choir. She also works in the nursery. Through her church, Rebecca has had the opportunity to go on mission trips to different parts of the country to paint and repair homes in low-income neighborhoods for the past four summers. At present, her plans are to attend Central Missouri State University next fall and major in either music education or elementary education.

Amber Woodward is a dedicated student who is maintaining a 4.3 GPA while taking all honors courses in her freshman year at Blue Valley North High School in Overland Park, Kansas. Throughout her academic career she

has won numerous good citizen and student awards. Through her participation in musical theater she has contributed time and effort to many charities. Amber has a love for the performing arts. She studies voice, dance, acting, and plays the clarinet and piano. Amber's devotion to the performing arts has led her to a detailed study of Opera. Amber is a coloratura soprano and hopes someday to pursue a career in Opera.

It is an honor for me to recognize Katherine, Rebecca, and Amber on this notable accomplishment. I wish all three of these young women continued success in all of their personal and academic endeavors. Each of the two semi-finalists received \$500 scholarships from Texaco. During Round II in Kansas City, Katherine Lorenz was selected to represent our region in the final round in Toronto at Canadian Broadcasting Center next month.

Mr. Speaker please join me in congratulating Kansas City's 2000–2001 Texaco Quiz Kids, Katherine Lorenz, Rebecca Mozley, and Amber Woodward. Also Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting the Lyric Opera of Kansas City, Texaco, and each of these student's dedicated teachers: Cathy Crispino, Mary Bodney, and Judy Bowser for investing in our youth to help instill the heritage and value which the performing arts have played in shaping our society.

THE CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO  
TECHNOLOGY ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Children's Access to Technology Act to provide the disadvantaged children of this country with the technology they need to succeed in life. My legislation is intended to provide Title I schools with additional financial resources to modernize their Internet delivery tools. Specifically, this legislation will utilize up to \$100 million in unspent e-rate funding to provide Title I schools with a maximum \$25,000 award to modernize their Internet labs.

Mr. Speaker, the e-rate program has been very effective in bringing the Internet to libraries and classrooms across America. As a strong supporter of that program, I was disturbed to learn that crucial e-rate funding was going unspent because recipients were not following through with their paperwork confirming receipt of service. According to a recent General Accounting Office (GAO) report, almost \$1.3 billion has gone unspent during the first two e-rate program years. The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has not yet been able to explain this discrepancy between funds authorized and funds allocated.

Because any unspent e-rate funding is lost at the end of each program year, my legislation will create a new funding mechanism, up to \$100 million using any unspent monies, that will allow Title I schools to update their computer hardware. Specifically, the legislation directs the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to establish a lottery system for Title I schools to enter and be eligible to receive up to \$25,000 to modernize their computer hardware.

In light of President Bush's commitment to strengthen and streamline the e-rate program, I believe we must ensure that all funding made available through the USAC be spent on improving our children's access to new and innovative technology. While I intend to seek clarification from the USAC concerning the large amount of unspent funds and the reason for these problem, I believe there will always be some unallocated funding at the end of each program year. In these instances, my legislation will provide an additional benefit to truly needy schools that are struggling to improve the delivery of Internet services to their students.

Our children are our future; without innovating new approaches to provide better tools in our classroom, the now-passable digital divide will become an impenetrable digital barrier, unbreachable no matter how much funding we throw at the problem.

Mr. Speaker, this is a complimentary piece of education legislation when compared with President Bush's proposals and will further enhance the educational opportunities of our children.

TRIBUTE TO STATE TROOPER  
JASON MANSPEAKER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I now honor an extraordinary human being and great American, State Trooper Jason Manspeaker. Mr. Manspeaker was described as a "teddy bear" of a man, who demonstrated both remarkable valor and compassion everyday. Sadly, Jason died last week while in the line of duty. As family, friends, and colleagues mourn this profound loss, I would like to honor this truly great American.

Mr. Manspeaker was an individual that served his county, state and nation well. For most of his life, Jason aspired to be a Colorado State Patrolman, a goal he would ultimately realize. As a State Trooper, countless individuals have been affected by Jason's selfless actions, each of whom are better off because of his service. Tragically, Jason's life was cut short while engaged in that service.

On January 23, 2001, Jason was in pursuit of a van that was believed to contain two of the Texas Seven fugitives the day after the other five were captured in nearby Colorado Springs. After passing eastbound through the Eisenhower Tunnel on relatively dry pavement, his Jeep Cherokee squad car hit the steep and icy off-ramp and failed to negotiate the turn, skidding into a snow covered trailer in a dirt pull out. Manspeaker's friend and colleague, Trooper Jeff Matthews, witnessed the crash in his rear view mirror and worked relentlessly, but ultimately unsuccessfully, to revive Manspeaker. "This is somebody who made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the public," said his supervisor, Captain Doyle Eicher, in a recent Denver Post story. "He was just that kind of guy." "It is really tough for us, I knew him personally, and he was an outstanding trooper, liked by everyone," said close friend Sgt. Brett Mattson in the Post's story.