TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST KENNETH ALAN ''KENNY'' MELTON

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero. Specialist Kenneth Alan ''Kenny'' Melton was killed when the convoy he was riding in was hit by a roadside bomb and small fire by insurgents near Baghdad. Specialist Melton was 30 years old.

Specialist Melton joined the Army in 1992 and served in Iraq as a member of the Arkansas National Guard's 39th Infantry Brigade. He was following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, who also served their country in the Army. His service is a testament to his dedication to the spirit of this nation and should be admired and respected.

Despite his notable dedication to his country, he was a husband and a father first. A son, a brother and a friend to the community, Specialist Melton was a very positive young man with an overwhelming sense of patriotism.

We can ask nothing greater from a human being than to anonymously fight to help people they may have never met. To die for the freedom of others may not carry with it an adequate expression to illustrate the debt it generates. Specialist Melton has the respect of those whose lives he touched, and, now, grieving family and friends who I offer my deepest sympathies.

Specialist Melton will be remembered for his honor, his mettle, his bravery and his commitment to his family, his God and his country. On behalf of the Congress, I extend my utmost respect for a fine American, a loving father, husband and son, and the perfect model of a patriot.

RECOGNIZING CLAY/PLATTE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the members of the Clay/Platte Development Corporation who are meeting today to celebrate the past years' successes. They represent the kind of community leadership that is necessary for strong and thriving communities.

Established in 1982, in conjunction with the Clay County EDC, its mission is to provide economic development assistance to businesses in Platte and Clay counties. By proactively seeking businesses and providing them with much needed capital, the Clay/Platte Development Corporation is a cornerstone for business growth in the Northland.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending both the past and present members of the Clay/Platte Development Corporation. Their contributions to the people of Missouri's Sixth District are important and commendable.

RECOGNIZING BENEFITS AND IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL-BASED MUSIC EDUCATION

SPEECH OF

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2004

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support House Concurrent Resolution 408, which congratulates the University of Denver for winning the 2004 NCAA Men's Hockey championship. DU's national title, its first since 1969, came against the top-ranked Maine Black Bears, in a nail-biter that stunned the collegiate hockey world.

The championship game on Saturday, April 10, 2004 was college hockey at its best. I watched as the Pioneers took an early lead with a goal by Gabe Gauthier in the first period. The rest of the game was a scoreless defensive struggle. Hockey fans from the Rocky Mountains to the New England coast held their breath during the excruciating final two minutes of the game. In a sequence only fitting for the nationally televised season finale, Maine secured a Power Play while trailing Denver 1–0 when the Pioneers were assessed with two penalties, giving the Black Bears a two-man advantage. In the final minute of play, Maine pulled its goaltender to add another attacker, putting Denver at a 6–3 disadvantage. The clock slowly ticked down to zero, and DU emerged victorious, led by an extraordinary 24-save performance by goaltender Adam Berkhoel, who was named the NCAA Tournament's Most Outstanding Player. His shutout was only the third in the history of the championship game.

It was a great way to end the season for the seven seniors on the Pioneer team. The class of 2004 won more games at the University of Denver than any since the 1973 graduating seniors. Head Coach Geoge Gwozecky is to be congratulated as well. He is the only person to ever win NCAA titles as a player, assistant coach, and head coach.

The Denver Post noted that the championship game between the University of Denver and the University of Maine was amazing because ''they proved that two mid-sized universities can excel in one of the country's mainstay sports.'' This year's champion Pioneers added a sixth hockey championship to the university's fine athletic record, which includes a record 17 Division I ski team championships, and two titles for the women's gymnastic program. Not only does the University of Denver excel in athletics, it is a prestigious academic institution as well. U.S. News and World Report recently ranked three DU graduate programs among the country's best.

The championship is especially poignant, because the University of Denver hockey program tragically lost one of its most famed alumni just before Christmas last year. Keith Magnuson, the captain of the last DU team to capture the national title 35 years ago, was killed in a car accident just four months ago. Still active with the University, Magnuson regularly attended hockey games, gave locker room speeches to the team, and even played in the school's homecoming game this season. Following his death, the team dedicated the season to his memory, but no one could have imagined the success the team has enjoyed.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to sponsor this bill, which congratulates the University of Denver 2004 championship hockey team. I am happy to report that the entire Colorado congressional delegation cosponsored H. Con. Res. 408. I also wish to congratulate the Maine Black Bears for an excellent season, and a hard fought championship game. I look forward to a victory celebration for the Pioneers at the U.S. Capitol. I thank the Speaker for bringing this bill to the floor and urge my colleagues to support me in congratulating the University of Denver.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF ARTHUR NAPARSTEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Professor Arthur Naparstek—devoted family man, caring professor, friend and mentor, and internationally known visionary in the area of urban development.

The son of Polish immigrants, Professor Naparstek was born and raised in New York City. He graduated with a master's degree in social work from New York University, and a doctorate from Brandeis University's Florence Heiler School of Advanced Studies in Social Welfare Administration. Professor Naparstek's professional commitment to economic and social justice began in the early sixties, when he worked as the assistant to Richard G. Hatcher, the first African American mayor of Gary, Indiana. Later, Professor Naparstek joined the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs in Washington, DC, and worked closely with Congress to create legislation focused on empowering our most vulnerable citizens—our poor.

As professor and Dean of the Case Western Reserve University School of Applied Social Sciences, Mr. Naparstek taught by example and served as an inspiration and mentor to countless students and instructors throughout his tenure. His acclaimed urban redevelopment projects and individual empowerment programs were sought by the administrations of President Carter and President Clinton. As director of the Cleveland Foundation's Commission on Poverty during the early 1990's, Professor Naparstek was instrumental in creating the redevelopment plan for several of Cleveland's most fragile neighborhoods. Because of his vision and heart, the shroud of decline has been lifted from our neighborhoods, illuminating the promise of restoration and possibility along many of our city streets.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Professor Arthur C. Naparstek—an exceptional man, visionary, and leader whose life reflected accomplishment, caring and concern for others. I offer my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Belleruth; his beloved children, Keila, Aaron, and Abe; and to his extended family and friends. His brilliant and flawless legacy—both personally and professionally will be remembered forever by family, friends and colleagues. Professor Naparstek's vision, heart and leadership will forever serve as a beacon of promise and hope throughout our community, and far beyond.