

women are a class act, and I am proud to represent them and Rutgers University here in Congress.

After outrageous comments were made about the team by Don Imus on his CBS radio and MSNBC show, the team showed great courage in choosing to meet with him so he could see firsthand how wrong his sexist and racist comments were. During this emotionally and mentally exhausting ordeal, these remarkable young women were graceful and poised as they became media headlines for controversy.

And I strongly denounce Don Imus' divisive comments. They were disgusting, and they have no place in our everyday language, let alone on a nationally televised radio and television program. His comments not only affected these players, but resonated with women and African Americans across the Nation.

These were innocent student athletes living out their basketball dreams. They did not deserve to be his target. And MSNBC's decision to pull his television broadcast and CBS' firing of him displayed great moral character, and I support their choices.

His comments, Imus' comments, deprived these women of fully enjoying their accomplishments of being crowned Big East champions, going to the Final Four, and making history as the first athletic team from Rutgers to play for a national championship. All-Met Division I Player of the Year Kia Vaughn said it best when she said, "Our moment was stolen from us."

I want to talk about this team, Mr. Speaker. Rutgers had a Cinderella season that saw them come back from some devastating early season losses, including a 40-point loss to Duke. Under head coach C. Vivian Stringer, the Scarlet Knights finished their amazing season with a 27-9 record. The team fought improbable odds to reach the pinnacle NCAA title game, and maintained enormous composure when nasty comments overshadowed their record-breaking season.

I am immensely proud of this extraordinary team. Last week the Nation had an opportunity see a group of outstanding student athletes who were striving to reach lifetime goals, both on and off the basketball court. By excelling in academics, music and community service, they are great role models for student athletes across the Nation.

The Scarlet Knights women basketball players are excellent representatives of Rutgers University and the State of New Jersey, and they should be honored for their hard work, dedication, and heart.

Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a resolution commending the Scarlet Knights women's basketball team for their record-breaking season and their outstanding achievement off the basketball court. I am hopeful Congress will recognize these fine women by passing this resolution tomorrow.

#### HONORING BROWNIE SCOUT TROOP 114

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the patriotic efforts of Brownie Scout Troop 114 of Liberty Grove Baptist Church. This group of 18 young women has demonstrated a tangible commitment to supporting our troops stationed in Iraq. Last month they collected donations to send nearly 250 boxes of Girl Scout cookies to the brave men and women from their community who are serving in Iraq.

They pounded the pavement to sell cookies and find like-minded people who were willing to join them in sending cookies to a local North Carolina National Guard unit stationed near Tikrit, Iraq. I applaud the thoughtful and committed patriotism of these girls who invested their time to selflessly raise money and then send a token of appreciation to our Nation's troops.

The troops that are receiving the famous Girl Scout cookies are members of the headquarters 105th Engineer Group from Winston-Salem. For these men and women, there is no small act of kindness. No, this is much more than that. For our troops on the front line of the war on terror, to receive a package of cookies from a local Brownie Scout troop is like receiving a breath of fresh air from home. Whether or not these young women knew it, they were communicating to our soldiers that there are people who still care for our troops' welfare. They communicated that the youngest generation still values sacrifice and service to country.

I come to the floor today to celebrate this concentrated act of patriotic kindness and to honor the young ladies who have taken ownership of our Nation's great tradition of offering support to our troops serving abroad. Their example highlights what our great Nation is capable of producing in its youth.

We cannot emphasize enough how proud we are that these Scouts made this effort to brighten the days of hundreds of soldiers in Iraq. What may seem like a small token of gratitude will live on in the memory of the many troops who, in the coming weeks, will enjoy a box of Girl Scout cookies in the deserts of Iraq. I have no doubt that these men and women will look back with great fondness as they remember the day when the mail call brought them an unexpected box of sweets and a reminder that their community and their country stands behind them in this difficult time.

The members of the Brownie troop who sent this gift of baked goods are Alexandra Dillard, Reva Combs, Laken Harrold, Allison Livengood, Allie Barker, Lauren Johnson, Daniella Meeza, Kristina Meeza, Acacia Key, Charlotte York, Cheyenne Byrd, Alexis Baldwin, Erin McGee, Angela Nardini, Karlie

Cranfill, Caitlyn Minton and Hope Brown.

It is my hope that their example is reproduced by many others, and that the soldiers who receive the fruit of their labors feel honored and respected by this act of young-hearted kindness.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

#### CHILDREN: UNCOUNTED IRAQ CASUALTIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. McDERMOTT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I had intended to rise this evening to focus my attention on the suicide bombing last week in Baghdad that killed and wounded several members of the Parliament, including Osama al-Nujafii. He was a member of the Iraq Parliament who participated in a historic live teleconference I hosted last month linking several of my House colleagues with several Iraq Parliamentarians. I wish him and the others wounded in the attack a speedy recovery.

That attack occurred inside the Green Zone, and it confirms that no one is safe in Iraq, no matter how many checkpoints or blast walls or press releases out of the White House. It confirms that the President's military escalation has only escalated the violence and the casualties. It confirms that the President has no control whatsoever on the events on the ground. And it confirms that the American people are right to demand that the President work with the Democratic Congress and establish a firm timetable for the withdrawal of U.S. troops.

For now, most Americans are grimly aware of the weekend of bombings and killings across Iraq. But the situation is even worse. The Iraq war will live long after the U.S. forces leave the country.

As a child psychiatrist, I was shocked to learn of a new study looking at the effects this war is having on Iraqi children. I submit the story from USA Today for the RECORD. It is the first comprehensive look at the impact the war is having on innocent Iraqi children. The Ministry of Health surveyed 2,500 primary school kids in Baghdad, and 70 percent of those young kids displayed symptoms of trauma-related stress. As the USA Today reported, many Iraqi children have been physically wounded, and many are psychologically scarred. They are the uncounted casualties of the Iraq war. Thousands of innocent Iraqi children