

National Invitational Tournament. This impressive accomplishment capped off an extremely successful season in which the Jacks finished with a record of 25-6.

The SDSU women's basketball team has a long tradition of postseason success. During the 1970s and early 1980s, the Jacks qualified for 10 AIAW regional tournaments. As NCAA Division II competitors, they made nine postseason appearances and won the national title in 2003. Additionally, the Jackrabbits reached the Elite Eight in each of their last three seasons as a Division II team.

In 2004, SDSU transitioned its athletic program to compete in NCAA Division I, becoming the first school in South Dakota to do so. Since this transition, the Jackrabbits women's basketball team has successfully risen to meet the challenge that comes with this new level of competition. By defeating well-known teams with much bigger budgets, this year's team once again proved that SDSU can compete with the top programs in the Nation.

The Jackrabbits were led by Aaron Johnston, who has served as head coach of the SDSU women's basketball team for the past seven seasons. Coach Johnston was responsible for taking the Jacks to the top of NCAA Division II and has shown his strong leadership skills in successfully transitioning the team to Division I. He was the 2006 South Dakota Sportswriters Women's College Basketball Coach of the Year and has been named the Division I Independent Coach of the Year for the past two seasons. Johnston was supported by Assistant Coaches Laurie Melum, Jina Johansen, and Matt Stamerjohn.

Of course, this historic season would be impossible without the players themselves. The athletes of the 2006-2007 South Dakota State University women's basketball team, in alphabetical order, are as follows: Alison Anderson, Maria Boever, Ketty Cornemann, Courtney Grimsrud, Nicole Helsper, Abby Kratovil, Morgan Meier, Ashlea Muckenhirn, Laura Nielsen, Stacie Oistad, Andrea Verdegan, Megan Vogel, and Jennifer Warkenthen.

While all of these women should be commended for their efforts, I would like to especially recognize the team's only senior, Megan Vogel. A 4-year starter, Vogel ended her career as the second leading scorer in SDSU school history with 1,850 career points. During this past season, she led the Jacks in scoring with 17.5 points per game and was chosen as a first-team all-Division I Independent selection for the second time. After participating in the WNBA Pre-Draft Camp, Vogel was chosen as a second round draft pick by the Washington Mystics. Selected as the 19th overall pick, Vogel became the first Jackrabbit and first player from a South Dakota college to be taken in the WNBA draft.

These are just a few of the many firsts that the Jacks accomplished this

season. These student-athletes should be very proud of all of their remarkable achievements. On behalf of the State of South Dakota, I am pleased to say congratulations Jackrabbits on this impressive accomplishment and keep up the great work.●

ROBERT WINGET: IN MEMORIAM

● Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of a respected law enforcement officer, Officer Robert Winget of the Ripon Police Department.

For the past 3 years, Officer Winget worked tirelessly to provide the residents of Ripon with safety and service. On the morning of April 10, 2007, Officer Winget's life was tragically cut short in the line of duty as a result of a vehicle accident while patrolling the heavily wooded banks of the Stanislaus River.

Officer Winget began his law enforcement career at the Los Angeles Police Department in the early 1970s. In a career that would span 37 years, Officer Winget also worked for the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Department before lending his considerable talents to the Ripon Police Department. Throughout his career, Officer Winget demonstrated a passion for law enforcement and commitment to helping others, qualities that enabled him to become a beloved member of the Ripon Police Department. Officer Winget's colleagues and the people whom he protected shall always remember him for his devotion to serving the community.

Officer Winget is survived by his wife and four children. Officer Winget served the people of Ripon with honor and dignity and fulfilled his oath as a peace officer. His contributions to law enforcement and the many lives he touched will serve as a shining example of his legacy.

We shall always be grateful for Officer Wignet's service and the dedication that he displayed while serving the people of Ripon.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:42 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1361. An act to improve the disaster relief programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:36 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1132. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide waivers relating to grants for preventive health measures with respect to breast and cervical cancers.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. CASEY).

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1571. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the assessment of the cattle and hog industries; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1572. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Department's intent to close the Defense commissary stores at Bad Nauheim, Germany, on or about June 30, 2007, and at Giessen, Germany, on or about September 1, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1573. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the determination that the Joint Cargo Aircraft is subject to realistic survivability testing; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1574. A communication from the Senior Attorney-Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Home Loan Bank Appointive Directors" (RIN3069-AB33) received on April 17, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1575. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "HOME Investment Partnerships Program; American Dream Downpayment Initiative and Amendments to Homeownership Affordability" ((RIN2501-AC93)(FR-4832-F-02)) received on April 17, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1576. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval of Condominiums in Puerto Rico on Evidence of Presentation of Legal Documents" ((RIN2502-AI36)(FR-5009-F-02)) received on April 17, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1577. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Processor Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area" (ID No. 031507D) received on April 17, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1578. A communication from the Acting Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 of the Gulf of Alaska" (ID No. 032607F) received on April 17, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1579. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 610 of the Gulf of Alaska" (ID No. 031507D) received on April 17, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.