

Columbia Gorge Community College in Wasco and Hood River counties, Oregon and to single out the highly effective leadership of The Dalles-Wasco County Community Outreach Team.

This gorgeous area of Oregon benefits from some of the most dedicated and determined local leaders in the country. The Dalles-Wasco County Community Outreach Team provides an outstanding model of local government cooperation and their efforts, in conjunction with Columbia Gorge Community College, have had a very positive impact on the Columbia River Gorge economy. The Community Outreach Team's members band together at all levels of city and county leadership and work in synchronized fashion to both tout the benefits provided in their region and echo with one clear voice the ways government at all levels can better work together and deliver favorable results to local residents and employers and the large number of visitors who flock to this picturesque area.

The rural nursing program at Columbia Gorge Community College is hailed as a state and national model of instruction delivery in a rural region and has added to the College's clout as a premier center of learning and training in the West. Another feather in the cap of Columbia Gorge Community College is their renewable energy training program. The Pacific Northwest is witnessing unprecedented, rapid growth of renewable energy and Columbia Gorge Community College, in cooperation with its renewable energy industry and workforce partners, has initiated and deployed the first renewable energy program on the West Coast that offers wind energy technician training. As the co-chair of the bipartisan House Renewable Energy Caucus, I'm very proud of the College's national leadership on this front.

The renewable energy program at Columbia Gorge Community College will be sustained through the same highly successful industry partnership model as developed by the College's nursing program. The development of renewable energy contributes to our Nation's security by lessening reliance on imported fossil fuels, and its development substantially reduces the impact of fossil fuels on the important issue of climate change. Workforce training is an essential element of renewable energy expansion, and Columbia Gorge Community College is blazing trails on this exciting new front.

My colleagues, I ask you to join me in commending Columbia Gorge Community College and its industry and workforce partners for establishing the first program on the West Coast for renewable energy that offers wind energy technician training. They're providing outstanding results, and it's my honor to represent in the United States House of Representatives such dedicated local leaders.

HONORING NED BAUDAT FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE P.E. MARION SCIENCE/MATH SCHOLARSHIP

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Ned

Baudat for his contributions to the P.E. Marion Science/Math Scholarship that is offered to students at Aldine High School in our district. With Mr. Baudat's support, students from Aldine High School have the opportunity to further their collegiate studies in math and science. I know P.E. Marion and his excellent teaching ability, and it is an additional honor to have this scholarship in his name.

Our Nation is currently facing criticism relating to a decreased interest of American students in the study of math and science. For this reason, we are unable to keep up with the international community whose students often excel in their math and science studies. By encouraging advance study in these subjects, American students are able to better compete with students from all over the world, and we have persons like Ned Baudat to thank for this.

Mr. Baudat graduated at the top of his class from Aldine High School and went on to Rice University. During his career in the oil industry, he developed a patent regarding an improved method to convert liquid natural gas back into its original gaseous state. A portion of the proceeds from Mr. Baudat's patent were used to develop this scholarship.

I am very proud of his outstanding accomplishments as well as his continued support of the P.E. Marion Science/Math Scholarship. For his service to my constituents as well as the country, I offer Mr. Baudat my most sincere congratulations in his well deserved recognition.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, April 24, I missed the vote on rollcall No. 252. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO FIRST ROBOTICS TEAM FROM MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCES AND WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (WPI)

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the FIRST Robotics team from the Massachusetts Academy of Mathematics and Sciences at WPI for their recent championship victory at the FIRST Championship at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta. The team earned an invitation to this competition after months of demonstrated excellence in competitive play, sportsmanship, and development of partnerships among schools, businesses, and communities.

The diligent efforts of these students over the course of 6 weeks enabled them to channel their energy and creativity into the construction of robots while adhering to competition guidelines and design specifications. This final effort was the culmination of months of

competitive innovation among over 1,300 teams from across the United States and six other countries. The team was recognized earlier this year with the prestigious Regional Chairman's Award at the FIRST BAE Systems/Granite State Regional in Manchester, New Hampshire, making it the first team in the competition's history to win the award for the second consecutive year. The team has also been recognized with the Tournament Champion's Award and the Motorola Quality Award at the Silicon Valley Regional Robotics Tournament in San Jose, California.

FIRST is a not-for-profit whose acronym means "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology," that was founded by Dean Kamen, a WPI alumnus. The organization provides programs to motivate youth to pursue opportunities in math, science, technology, and engineering, while also building practical life skills.

The FIRST Robotics Team from Massachusetts Academy of Math and Sciences at WPI works diligently in the pursuit of knowledge and innovation as they apply it to technology. The team's accomplishments this year illustrate their tremendous hard work, determination, and creativity. These achievements make them role models to their fellow youth and assets to the community at large. I encourage my colleagues to join me in congratulating the team on their extraordinary achievement.

TRIBUTE TO 2007 INDUCTEES TO THE MEDFORD SPORTS HALL OF FAME

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 25, 2007*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 10 talented men and women being inducted into the Medford Sports Hall of Fame on April 28, 2007, at the Skyline Plaza in Medford, OR. The Medford Sports Hall of Fame was established to ensure that local athletes, coaches, and contributors would be rightfully recognized for their significant support of athletics in southern Oregon both on and off the field. Today, I would like to share some of the stories that depict the inductees' illustrious athletic achievements.

Larry Binney has spent over 40 years coaching and teaching students the fundamentals of softball, the importance of good sportsmanship, and the values of teamwork. In his last 20 seasons as the head coach of the North Medford Black Tornado, he produced 16 conference championships and 4 State championships. In 1998, he was named the "National High School Coach of the Year." Mr. Binney concluded his distinguished coaching career at Southern Oregon University in 2006.

Dick Entinger's appreciation for sports began at an early age and his enthusiasm for promoting athletics continued as he moved to the community of Medford in 1976. As a two-time president of the Medford Linebackers, Mr. Entinger played a key role in raising money to support numerous community athletic programs and projects. Perhaps two of his most recognizable contributions include his role in raising \$700,000 to install FeildTurf and a new track at the Spiegelberg Stadium and another \$800,000 to open the stadium to local soccer,