

Haley Hanes all contributed to this special season with their pitching, hitting, base running, and fine defense.

Accolades are also in order for the talented coaching staff, including, of course, Head Coach and Athletic Director Gene Poindexter who brought his team back to the finals after a difficult loss in that game last year. His hard work over the past 8 years has been instrumental to the Spartans' success. The assistant coaches—Steve Hayes, Brian Starnes, Jim Welborn, Greg Leonard, Richard Cid, Sterling Charles, Mike Pickett, and Jordan Stogner—all deserve special recognition. This sensational season would not have been possible without their help or without the support of Principal Kevin Firquin. And I cannot forget to mention the terrific fans who supported the team throughout the entire season and who came out in force to cheer on the Spartans in the state tournament.

Madam Speaker, this was a spectacular season for the Central Davidson High School softball team. I am sure that everyone in the Sixth District of North Carolina will join me in congratulating all of these fine athletes and the rest of the Central Davidson High School community on their outstanding achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID BYRON CHAPEL AS A U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLAR

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor David Byron Chapel, a constituent from Parma, Michigan who has been named a member of the 43rd Class of Presidential Scholars. The Presidential Scholarship was established in 1964 to honor our country's most distinguished graduating high school seniors. Only 144 high school seniors are offered the title of a Presidential Scholar, and I am proud to honor David Byron Chapel as one of Michigan's two Presidential Scholars.

Mr. Chapel's work has spanned all areas of community service; from mission trips with his youth group, local service projects, peer tutoring and his church music program. David has touched the lives of many with his service.

Highlights of Mr. Chapel's volunteer work include a center for underprivileged children, summer Vacation Bible School, fundraising projects for his school's Academic Boosters Club, frequent visits to his local nursing home to spend time with the elderly, and service as a substitute Church pianist. In addition, David has spent numerous weekends helping with Church maintenance, local landscaping and yard work, as well as operating his own small-scale lawn care business.

David's academic achievements are exemplified through the numerous scholarships he has already been awarded. He has received such awards as the Marsh Family Scholarship and the University of Michigan Regents Merit Scholarship for exemplary academic performances throughout his high school career. In addition to these prestigious awards, David has received numerous other recognitions.

These are not the first awards Mr. Chapel has received to honor his achievements. David has been named a National Merit Finalist, Student of the Month, Big 10 Drum Major and Best Supporting Actor in his high school drama program. He has also worked diligently to receive his Academic Letter and Pin, the Community Service award all four years of high school, Honor Roll and All A's Award's each semester.

I offer the congratulations of the U.S. House of Representatives to Mr. David Byron Chapel for his leadership, dedication to community service, and being named a U.S. Presidential Scholar.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND JOAN SHAMP

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great couple who are a wonderful example of what is right with America. John and Joan Shamp just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary! Sadly, in America, it has become a rare thing for two people to stay together this long.

They are the proud parents of five children and very involved in the lives of their grandchildren. They exemplify achieving the American dream through hard work, and they demonstrate the love of a strong family who are there to help each other and others daily. I wish them many more happy years!

HONORING UNITED STATES COAST GUARD COMMANDER WILLIAM J. QUIGLEY

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise before you today to honor the outstanding career of William J. Quigley, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Coast Guard.

Commander William J. Quigley is the Prospective Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Cryptologic Group. He assumed his current duties as the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Commander, Naval Security Group, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland in 2004. Immediately prior to this assignment, he served as Chief, Intelligence Resource Management Office, Intelligence Directorate, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C.

Commander Quigley was born in Lowell, Massachusetts and grew up in Hudson, New Hampshire. A 1984 graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, Commander Quigley began his career as a deck watch officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) ALERT (WMEC-630) in Cape May, New Jersey. Commander Quigley's service included numerous afloat assignments and is a qualified Coast Guard Cutterman.

Commander Quigley's shore side assignments include duty as a Watch Officer at the Coast Guard Intelligence Coordination Center in Washington, D.C.; the supervisor of the Coast Guard Detachment at the Navy Operational Intelligence Center in Suitland, Maryland; the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Department of State in Washington, D.C. and Chief, Operational Analysis and Planning Division, Office of Operations Strategic and Business Planning, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters.

Commander Quigley holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering (BSEE) from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut and a Master of Science degree in Strategic Intelligence (MSSI), earned at the Joint Military Intelligence College, Washington, DC. Individual military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Coast Guard Commendation Medal with gold star and operational distinguishing device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal with gold star and operational distinguishing device, the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal and the Humanitarian Service Medal. Commander Quigley is married to the former Paula May Harris of Hampden, Massachusetts. They currently reside in Millersville, Maryland with their two sons, Kyle and Connor.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today in honoring Commander William J. Quigley, a man whose deep commitment to the United States and the United States Coast Guard has gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to our great country.

IN PRAISE OF ARMY SGT MATTHEW SOPER

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and praise Sergeant Matthew Soper, a constituent of mine who died while serving his country in Iraq; Sgt. Soper's truck was hit by an IED in Iraq on June 6, 2007.

SGT Soper of Jackson was 25-years-old. Sergeant Matthew Soper served in the Michigan Army National Guard's 1461st Transportation Company based in Jackson. Sergeant Soper was courageous as he manned the front vehicle gun in his company.

SGT Soper's family has said the military changed their son and brother. His sister stated he joined the military to "call something his own," and to make people proud. Nothing serves as greater evidence to the heart of this young man than his selflessness in volunteering for a second tour of duty in Iraq. SGT Soper's first tour was in 2004 and 2005. I stand here today to tell the country and SGT Soper's family how proud of him I am.

The country mourns the loss of a soldier and we celebrate his life. My thoughts and prayers are with Matthew's family. I thank them for their beloved sons' dedicated service to the United States. May God be with them.