

CONGRATULATING THE DILLARD HIGH SCHOOL BOY'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE CLASS 5A FLORIDA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate the Dillard High School Boy's Basketball Team for winning the Class 5A Florida State Championship. The Panthers won a hard fought victory against St. Petersburg's Lakewood High School. I would like to call the attention of my distinguished colleagues to this historic win for Fort Lauderdale's Dillard High School, located in my Congressional District.

Few would have expected the championship game to be won easily. But with determination and grit, Dillard prevailed. With the score tied 26–26 at the half, it really was anyone's game. Dillard fell behind in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, through the leadership of their coach, Darryl Burrows, they were able to stage a comeback to win the game 61–55.

No one can deny the accomplishments of these young men, and they should not go unnoticed. It is a testament to their character that they were able to overcome such stiff competition. Only through countless hours of practice, both on and off the court, could they have gained such a victory. Prior to Dillard's State Championship win, no Broward County high school had won a class 5A state title since 2001.

Certainly, the Panthers can be proud of the prestige they brought to their high school. Similarly, Dillard High School can be proud that it produced such outstanding young men. The school's faculty helped cultivate and instill within the players the values of determination and sportsmanship that sharpened their skills. The names of the players, coaches, assistants, and administrators are: Kore White, Nigel Spikes, Xiangger Reliford, Ben Dinkins, Fred Landers, Javier Frazier, Sherman Gammage, Alen Hardy, Robert Burger, Rubyne Burrows, Courtney Ojeda, Jabari Caldwell, Jarrett Dieudonne, Eric Francis, Derek Foster, John Jackson, Clarence Doe, Darryl Burrows, Kanshea Jackson, Jamal DuBose, Junior Wade, DeAna'e DeSadier, Dwayne Nelson, Louis Wright, William Heastie, Marty Seidlin, Fred Battle, Juan Urbina, Zeb Wright, Quinton Williams, Tracie Latimer, Mr. Harrison, and Willie Kelly.

At this time of the year when America's basketball frenzy is at a fever pitch, it is easy to focus only on the accomplishments of college and professional players. However, we must remember the contributions of young people to our society. Certainly, as the Panthers' victory proves, young people can, and often do, accomplish great things. This victory belongs not only to the players, but also to their coaches, family, and friends. We need to continue to invest in our local communities to support the institutions that improve the lives of our Nation's youth. In doing this, we will see winning results that will lead our young people to accomplish great things.

Madam Speaker, we in Congress can learn a lot from the young men of Dillard High School. We need only recall their state cham-

ionship victory to remind us of the value of investing in our Nation's educational system and youth programs. The Panther's commitment should be honored within the halls of Congress, and these young men should know how much pride their victory has given to their school, Florida's 23rd Congressional District, and this institution.

RECOGNIZING MOLLY JARRELL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Molly Jarrell on achieving the Girl Scout Gold Award. Receiving the Gold Award is a testament to Miss Jarrell's leadership, citizenship, and service to her community.

For her Gold Award project, Molly Jarrell made 30 fleece blankets for the Project Linus Foundation to distribute to sick and traumatized children. These blankets give children comfort and help them cope with difficult situations.

The Girl Scouts of America promotes a positive influence for young women of today. I am honored to represent Molly Jarrell in earning the highest award bestowed in Girl Scouts. I commend her commitment and dedication for the betterment of her life, her community, and her country.

MISHA TRUJILLO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Misha Trujillo who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Misha Trujillo is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Misha Trujillo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Misha Trujillo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

HONORING DERICK BONNER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Derick Ray Bonner of

Kearney, Missouri. Derick is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Derick has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Derick has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Derick Ray Bonner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO LES CLARK

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Les Clark, a resident and community leader from Kern County, California, for his exemplary leadership and commitment to the oil patch in Kern County and on receiving the 2008 Ray Bradley/Tom Woodward Lifetime Achievement Award from the Independent Oil Producers' Agency, IOPA.

Les has been a resident of Taft, California, which I represent, for most of his life. He attended local schools and then graduated from Fresno State University. While at Fresno State, he worked for the Atlantic Richfield Oil Company and Petrotherm, Inc., which provided Les his first experience working in the oil industry. After graduating from college, he worked at Belridge Oil Company and Shell Oil Company, thereby continuing his lifelong commitment to the oil patch. Today, Les is the Executive Vice President at IOPA, which is an association comprised of independent oil companies that operate mainly in the San Joaquin Valley. At IOPA, with his industry knowledge and depth of experience, Les is responsible for analyzing all regulatory issues impacting San Joaquin independent oil producers, as well as being their principal contact with various government officials and regulators in the Valley. Les served as vice president of IOPA from 1980 to 1999 prior to serving there in his current capacity.

Active on the state and national level, Les is a board member on the American Petroleum Institute API, and has been honored with API's 2004 Oil Baron Award, the Desk & Derrick 1994 Oil Man of the Year Award, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Annual 1991 State Director's Award—Oil & Gas Program. Les has also been inducted into the Hall of Fame for the Kern County Officials Association in 1993.

Les also is a leading proponent and catalyst for oil industry innovation, spurring technological advances. In addition, recognizing the importance of keeping our environment clean for future generations to enjoy, he has devoted much time and taken leadership roles on many important environmental issues, particularly air quality; Les always takes a compelling and all-inclusive approach to addressing environmental issues. To that end, he has