

The Springhill High School Lumberjacks won the Class 2A State championship on Saturday with a 70-66 victory over Many High School. Antonious Markray ended a stellar high-school career with a game high of 29 points for the Lumberjacks. This is the first State title in the modern era for Springhill, Louisiana.

Also winning a State title this week-end were the Class B champions from Zwolle High School. The Hawks beat Rapides 55-53 with Antonio Holmes leading the way. He finished with 17 points and was awarded the MVP trophy. This is the third State title in 4 years for Zwolle.

Congratulations to the players, coaches and parents of the Lumberjacks and the Hawks for a job well done.

HONORING THE EDEN PRAIRIE EAGLES BOYS HOCKEY TEAM

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Eden Prairie Eagles boys hockey team that won the Minnesota State High School Class AA Tournament just this past weekend.

Minnesota is known as the "State of Hockey," and I submit we have the highest quality high school hockey tournament in the Nation. Led by coach Lee Smith, the talented Eden Prairie team had a tough road to the title.

They beat defending State champion Hill-Murray in the opening round, and they followed that win with a victory over a tough Blaine team. In the final, they defeated a tough Moorhead team as well, 3-0, to win the school's very first high school hockey championship for Eden Prairie.

As a resident of Eden Prairie myself, I am especially proud of the Eagles. I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our praises and congratulations to the coaches, the parents and the talented group of scholar athletes for a great season. And I also heartily applaud the school spirit of the student cheering section, which was the largest at the tournament.

OUTRAGE OVER HARASSMENT OF U.S. UNARMED CIVILIANS IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I have watched in the last several minutes as one by one people have come up to these podiums and beaten them and talked about being outraged. But 10 days ago, one of our naval vessels that was unarmed, full of civilians, was harassed by a Chinese aircraft and five Chinese vessels, and this House has not had time to express the outrage for what has happened with that.

We had time to pass a bill that expressed our outrage of how they treat-

ed the people of Tibet, but not over unarmed American civilians. We had time yesterday to pass three pieces of enormous legislation naming post offices, but not time to express our outrage over the harassment of U.S. civilians who are unarmed in international waters. Today we will leave at 3 o'clock, but we won't have time to express our outrage over unarmed civilians.

Mr. Speaker, I hope this House leadership will change its position, bring the resolution to the floor and send a message that we are going to protect and defend our people when they are in international waters.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET SPENDS TOO MUCH, TAXES TOO MUCH AND BORROWS TOO MUCH

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. It's St. Patrick's Day, Mr. Speaker, and my Irish grandfather would want me to do nothing short of acknowledging that and wearing the green. But I have to tell you, with the headlines about bailouts, the President's budget for \$3.5 trillion and more spending and more taxes to grow government and pay for more bailouts, it's enough to get my Irish up.

Reality is that when the American people are taking a closer and closer look at this administration's budget, they know three things. This President's budget spends too much, it taxes too much and it borrows too much.

Believe it or not, in these times when the American people are saying enough is enough on big government spending and bailouts, this administration is poised to raise taxes on small business owners. Fifty percent of Americans who file taxes above the level the President wants to raise them are actually small business owners filing as individuals.

The average American household will pay \$3,100 more with the President's new energy tax. And with the President capping charitable giving, charities in this country, churches and synagogues and the like could lose \$9 billion this year alone.

Enough is enough. We have to say no to the President's budget and give the American people a budget that is strong and diverse and restrained and committed to growth as they are.

HOUSE CONSERVATIVES AND THE MINORITY TODAY ARE READY TO LEAD AND OFFER ALTER- NATIVES

(Mr. CULBERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, the conservatives who won re-election in the House are those who overwhelmingly voted against the massive spending programs that were proposed over

the course of the last administration, who voted against the \$1.5 trillion of new spending of this new administration. And we, House conservatives and the minority today, are ready to lead. We are offering alternatives to this massive spending program proposed by this new administration.

In only 38 legislative days, Mr. Speaker, the new liberal majority that rules Congress and rules the White House has managed to spend more money in less time than any Congress in the history of the United States. Never before have so few spent so much money in so little time.

This budget proposed by the White House, spending \$3.5 trillion, driving up the deficit to triple the level of last year, doubling the national debt in 8 years, ignores the financial hurricane just over the horizon that House conservatives are ready to deal with. This Nation faces unfunded liabilities at unprecedented levels, and we have got to just say "no" to more spending.

SMALL BUSINESSES AND NEW TAX BURDEN

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, growing up, my father ran two small businesses, a sporting goods business and a marina, both of which I worked at over the years. My grandfather's family worked a local dairy and farm.

So, Mr. Speaker, I was a bit taken back when the administration's budget proposal came across my desk last week. I know you often hear politicians speak about small business being the backbone of our economy, but it's true, and even more so in the American rural communities that I represent.

With 710 new jobs created by small business owners, these individuals are key to the revitalization of our economy and putting folks back to work. This budget proposal will increase the tax burden on every single small business owner not once, but twice. Overhead costs, raw materials, transportation, and every other segment of the supply chain will skyrocket under this proposal.

This is not acceptable and will only lengthen this recession and penalize the very best people that are best equipped to put folks back to work. Now, I will give credit where credit is due. I was pleased to see the President take a step in the right direction yesterday by relaxing the lending rules at the Small Business Administration to allow credit to flow more freely.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET TAXES TOO MUCH

(Mr. NEUGEBAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, hardworking Americans across this country are trimming their budgets and finding ways to save and make sacrifices. In these tough economic times the Federal Government should be held to that same standard.

During a time of economic instability, we cannot start raising taxes to pay for more government spending. Unfortunately, that's exactly what the President has proposed in his budget that he has submitted to Congress. The administration proposes to raise taxes \$1.4 trillion over the next 10 years, which includes taxes on small businesses, the backbone of our economy.

Let's be clear about what \$1 trillion is. If you started counting to \$1 trillion, 1, 2, 3, it would only take you 31,708 years to count to 1 trillion. Yet we are talking about \$1.3 trillion in new taxes.

The American taxpayers deserve a better plan for individuals and small businesses. We must empower American individuals and families. The road to economic recovery is paved with healthy small business communities creating jobs and opportunity.

Congress and the administration should focus on solutions that empower individuals and businesses to succeed in the economy, rather than solutions that spend too much, borrow too much and tax too much.

PRESIDENT'S BUDGET IS RECIPE FOR HIGH INFLATION

(Mr. COFFMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, the President's budget is a recipe for high inflation, higher interest rates and a permanent downsizing of the U.S. economy.

For the President to say that this budget has fiscal year discipline defies all common sense. The President says he will cut the deficit in half over the next 5 years. However, that is only after he hikes it to over \$1 trillion in the first year. His promise of never having a balanced budget has even caused our largest public debt holder, the People's Republic of China, to take notice and express concern over the lack of fiscal responsibilities in this budget.

When the economy begins to recover, public borrowing under the President's budget will compete with the demand for private borrowing, leading to a dramatic rise in interest rates and inflation, weakening the value of the dollar and lessening the value of U.S. Treasury notes.

Mr. Speaker, this budget taxes too much, spends too much and borrows too much and must be defeated.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING NORDIC SKI CLUB

(Mrs. LUMMIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LUMMIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an achievement of the University of Wyoming Nordic Ski Club.

Two weeks ago, this team swept the United States Collegiate Ski and Snowboard Association Nationals, with the men's and women's team both bringing home the gold.

I would like to congratulate coaches Christi Boggs and Rachel Watson, who led this team to double championship titles at Devil's Thumb Ranch in Colorado. This is the fourth national title for the University of Wyoming's women's program and the second for the men's program in 10 years.

Particular recognition should also go to Daniel Lewis, who came away with three individual championships, as well as his fellow teammates on the men's championship relay team, Eliah Pedersen and Evgeniy Panzhinskiy. In addition to these three accomplished young men, John Kirlin was named an Overall Individual All-American.

On the women's team, this title was awarded to Gracey Lewis, Kari Boroff, Gwynn Barrows and Marie Cartwright.

Again, I congratulate the University of Wyoming ski teams, my alma mater ski teams, on all their success. The Cowboy State is proud of these young men and women.

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CAP-AND-TAX PROVISION HURTS AN AILING ECONOMY

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. The President today said that he was frustrated at the Republicans' "just say no" attitude. Well, this is what I am going to say "no" to. I am saying "no" to a 686 billion carbon tax increase. What does that mean?

This is Peabody Mine No. 10 in 1990. After the last Clean Air amendments, this mine was shut down. We lost over 1,200 mineworkers' jobs because of that.

The carbon tax, the cap-and-tax provision in the budget bill, will raise costs to every energy user in this country, hurting manufacturing, hurting retail industries. It's egregious, it's not necessary, and it only hurts an ailing economy.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

SUPPORTING PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH AND WORLD SOCIAL WORK DAY

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 240) to support the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 240

Whereas social workers have the demonstrated education and experience to guide individuals, families, and communities through complex issues and choices;

Whereas social workers help people in all stages of life, from children to the elderly, and in all situations from adoption to hospice care;

Whereas social workers are in schools, courtrooms, drug clinics, hospitals, senior centers, shelters, nursing homes, the military, disaster relief, prisons, and corporations;

Whereas social workers are dedicated to improving the society in which we live and connecting individuals, families, and communities to available resources;

Whereas social workers stand up for others to make sure everyone has access to the same basic rights, protections, and opportunities;

Whereas social workers, such as Harry Hopkins, Frances Perkins, Whitney M. Young, Jr., and Dr. Dorothy I. Height have been the driving force behind important social movements in the United States and abroad;

Whereas, according to the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment for social workers is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations;

Whereas Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day, which is March 17, 2009, will build awareness of the role of professional social workers and their commitment and dedication to individuals, families, and communities everywhere through service delivery, research, education, and legislative advocacy; and

Whereas the 2009 Social Work Month theme—Social Work: Purpose and Possibility—highlights the special characteristics of those who choose social work as a profession, and underscores the goals of their work: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day;

(2) acknowledges the diligent efforts of individuals and groups who promote the importance of social work and who are observing Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day;

(3) encourages the American people to engage in appropriate ceremonies and activities to further promote awareness of the life-changing role of social workers;

(4) recognizes with gratitude the contributions of the millions of caring individuals who have chosen to serve their communities through social work; and

(5) encourages young people to seek out educational and professional opportunities to become social workers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from