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CONGRATULATING THE SPANISH FORT TOROS FOR WINNING THE ALABAMA CLASS 5-A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2012*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my congratulations to the Spanish Fort High School Toros for their decisive 45–14 victory over McCalla's McAdory High School Yellow Jackets in the Alabama High School Athletic Association's (AHSAA) 5–A football championship on December 6, 2012.

Spanish Fort's already impressive gridiron record of capturing two state championships in seven seasons is all the more noteworthy since the Toro's young football program only debuted in 2006.

According to the Mobile Press-Register, both teams brought impressive records into the championship game at Auburn University's Jordan-Hare Stadium. "Spanish Fort had the pinball offense averaging 39.5 points per game. McAdory had the swarming defense that forged an unbeaten season through 14 games."

However, in the end it was Spanish Fort who dominated the field on both offense and defense, with 377 total yards, while holding the Yellow Jackets to just 187 yards.

The Press-Register further noted, "Spanish Fort (14–1) extended a school record for points in a single season to 598 with its 45–14 win."

The Toros took an early lead in the game with two touchdowns before the Yellow Jackets answered with seven points. The Toros then fired back with a vengeance—adding 31 points to the scoreboard.

Senior quarterback Joel Poe was named the Class 5–A MVP after completing 17-of-24 passes for 177 yards and running for a 10-yard touchdown.

The Toros's 5–A victory placed an exclamation point on another season for the record books for Spanish Fort.

Congratulations to Head Coach Mark Freeman, and Assistant Coaches Duane Davis, Shawn DeFoor, Joseph German and Greg Crager, as well as to the Toros players—Sammy Tolbert, Edward Autry, Maxwell Goodwin, Samuel Harris, Myles York, Joel Poe, Matthew Hall, Devonte Patrick, Deon Johnson, Blain Crain, Ronald Smith, Jonathan Cook, Darren Tate, Gunner Hendrix, Chason Milner, Tyler Johnston, Eugene Leach, Ryan Brooks, Trey Shabel, Kristian Cotton, Kylan Cotton, Cameron Harrison, Caleb Valrie, Jacob Goodwin, Tony Mitchell, Javon Brown, Dominique Woodward, Miguel Restrepo, Preston Hall, Alexander Theodore, John Campbell, Deonte Cyprian, Caleb Hughes, Stephan Holcombe, Keland Dotch, Marcus Walton, Stephen Wilson, Hayden Falkenberry, Brady Vincent, Delong Harrison, John Williamson, Thomas Johnston, Keion White, David Keener, Drew Kitchens, Jeremy Murray, Braxton Armstead, Justin Murray, Jacob Clark, Matthew Thompson, Todd Shetler, Robert Riley, Iverson Diego Delapena, Samuel Howard, Davoris Thomas,

Maurice Cole, Chase Holliman, John Stockton, Cody Shultz, Grey Curtis, Taylor Murray, Logan Mangum, Victor Dunning, Chase Rowe, Christopher Morehouse, Tyler Brentzel, Brad Andre, Grant Horst, Michael Eubanks, Owen Betts, Trevor Pfeil, Kaleb Hall, Ian Bjuro, Brandon Prince, Hamilton Biggs, Austin Grobe, Wilton Cox, Deandre Townsend, Robert Rella, Mitchell Meador, William Petersen, Jimmy Ogletree, Lawton McGahey, Hunter Wood, Roger Lawhon, Tyler Howell, William Nelson, Darius Johnson, Bryan Williams and Jonathan Hoover.

RECOGNIZING TIMOTHY HOLABIRD

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2012*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the many contributions Timothy Holabird has made to Modoc, Lassen, Plumas, and Sierra counties located in north-eastern California.

Tim has combined experience and knowledge of the lands and people that define the region with a steadfast determination to help these rural communities. Federal agencies administer more than 80 percent of the land, and Tim has aggressively championed interests of people versus the seeming indifference and neglect of the bureaucracies. Bringing all parties together, establishing common goals and objectives, and actually solving problems has been his hallmark.

As four fires ravaged the area this summer, Tim pursued the interests and concerns of local citizens to the point of his own physical exhaustion. He personally bridged the communication gap with agencies attacking the fires and the communities immediately threatened. In the devastating aftermath of the fires, Tim worked with all parties to restore and salvage. In particular, he has been relentless resolving the immediate, critical issue of thousands of acres of lost grazing land.

Tim understands the appropriate role of government in land and resource management and has personally sacrificed to uphold the public's interests. Mr. Speaker, while it seems the aim of our government agencies is to restrict access and the productive use of our federal lands, Timothy Holabird remains a steadfast advocate for access and use by the very best stewards of this land—the local citizens.

REMEMBERING THE LIVES LOST IN THE 1862 U.S.-DAKOTA CONFLICT

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 19, 2012*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of those who lost their lives in the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the conflict, reminding us of this tragic era in Minnesota's history, and how it has shaped the lives of the Dakota people to this day.

It is easy to consider history as a list of dates—a discovery, a war, a proclamation, an

election. We forget the complex human interactions that shape the past and continue to affect our communities today.

What has come to be known as the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 has its roots in the rapid expansion of Minnesota's population by white settlers, and the subsequent treatment of indigenous peoples. From 1850–1860, the numbers of white settlers in Minnesota grew from 5,000 to more than 170,000; in that same decade, Native Americans went from the majority of people in Minnesota to being outnumbered by whites 5–1. Treaties made between the Dakota people and the U.S. government pushed native communities off their ancestral lands with promises of money, food, and commodities. Forced assimilation policies further marginalized tribes by requiring the adoption of European style dress, hair, and culture. Tensions escalated when the government failed to pay promised annuities, a drought decreased the supply of food leaving many Dakota families hungry, and the U.S. government took back land set aside for Indian reservations, reducing the remaining reservation size drastically.

The first violent acts of the conflict occurred on August 17, 1862, when four young Dakota men killed five people at a farm near Acton, Minnesota. These murders divided the Dakota community; some argued it was time to go to war with the settlers who now claimed ancestral Dakota land, but much of the community wanted to maintain peace. Nevertheless, Dakota leader Little Crow led his Nation to War, understanding that the greater power of the U.S. government would most likely prevail.

The weeks of violence that followed in Southern Minnesota led to over 1,000 deaths. The U.S.-Dakota War is one of the bloodiest conflicts between a Native tribe and the U.S. government, surpassing both the conflicts of Little Big Horn and Wounded Knee. The War's end was marked by the largest mass execution in U.S. history, when 38 Dakota men were convicted in kangaroo courts and hung on December 26, 1862. Originally 303 Dakota men were tried and sentenced to death, but President Lincoln personally reviewed the cases and stayed the execution of those whose conviction was based on questionable testimony. Two additional Dakota warriors were forcibly returned from Canada and hanged at Fort Snelling in 1865.

Although the day of the execution stands out in history, the suffering of the Dakota people continued throughout the winter and into the coming years. Those Dakota who had surrendered to U.S. forces, many of whom opposed the war, were forced to march to an internment camp at Fort Snelling and suffer through a brutally cold winter filled with disease, food shortages, and assaults by soldiers and civilians alike. Hundreds perished over the winter, and those who survived were forcibly relocated to Western reservations where similar conditions led to more deaths. Some 6,000 displaced members of the Dakota community relocated to Canada and Western states and territories, and by the end of the decade a majority of the Dakota tribe had left its ancestral lands.

The U.S.-Dakota War reminds us of how the events of the past continue to reverberate to this day. Dakota tribe members are still dispersed over several states and into Canada as a direct result of this conflict. Most unfortunate, the Dakota Expulsion Act of 1863, a federal law making it illegal for Dakota people to