

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO LYON COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, the United States House of Representatives recognizes the Lyon College Concert Choir on the occasion of their performance at the National Cathedral on March 17, 2002. Lyon College, located in Batesville, Arkansas, offers a liberal arts education of superior quality in a personalized setting.

A selective, independent, undergraduate, residential teaching and learning community affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Lyon encourages the free intellectual inquiry essential to social ethical and spiritual growth. With a rich scholarly and religious heritage, Lyon develops, in a culture of honor, responsible citizens and leaders committed to continued personal growth and service.

The Lyon College Concert Choir is directed by Dr. Michael Arshagouni and its members are:

SOPRANO: Cecilia Bogowith—Gainesville, MO; Briana Bopp—Black Rock, AR; Heather Copeland—Albuquerque, NM; Patricia A. Eusterbrock—Old Monroe, MO; Amber Haskins—Everton, AR; Laura Higginbottom—Ash Flat, AR; Annicia Johnson—Little Rock, AR; Laura Lofton—Hughes, AR; Bobbi Love—Cabot, AR; Jessica R. Miller—Cave City, AR; Melanie Morrison—Jonesboro, AR; Angela Polsgrove—Little Rock, AR; Lynsey M. Russell—Little Rock, AR; Rebecca Sharp—Evening Shade, AR; Meredith Shipman—Mountain View, AR; Jennifer Stottman—Russellville, AR;

ALTO: Kristy Barrington—Sherwood, AR; Edlira Bashari—Tirana, Albania; Holly Collins—Cabot, AR; Kristi Dement—Hot Springs, AR; Elizabeth Gabbard—Fort Smith, AR; Heather LeAnn Grantham—Hominy, OK; Teryn R. McDuff—Biloxi, MS; Chloé D. Robinson—West Memphis, AR; Shannon D. Spears—Blytheville, AR; Shannon Sullivan—Newark, AR; Allison Turner—The Woodlands, TX; Sarah Williams—Batesville, AR; Valarie Layne Wylie—Benton, AR.

TENOR: Stephen Briner—Walnut Ridge, AR; Josh Broughton—Benton, LA; Matt Buchanan—Perryville, AR; Laura Hignight—Benton, LA; Mike Horan—Omaha, NE; Brian Phillips—Batesville, AR; Kent Runnells—Little Rock, AR; Shannon Schoeller—Rogers, AR; Russ Swearingen—Rogers, AR;

BASS: Joshua Barnes—Vilonia, AR; Tony Davis—Judsonia, AR; Steven Jones—Los Alamos, NM; Andrew Kuszak—Rogers, AR; Cory McDaniel—Jonesboro, AR; Stephen A. Moore—Chicago, IL; William Lucas Patton—Forrest City, AR; Rob Yates—Jonesboro, AR; Jason Clark Zellmer—Little Rock.

WAUKESHA WEST WINS NATIONAL ACADEMIC DECATHLON

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 13, nine students from Waukesha West High School made history as the first team from outside of California or Texas to win the United States Academic Decathlon in its 21-year history.

The Academic Decathlon consists of 10 events with questions involving six subjects: art; music; economics and science; language and literature; mathematics; and social science. The students make presentations, write essays, give interviews and participate in the SuperQuiz, a Jeopardy-like challenge with nine rounds of five questions each along a common topic.

The Waukesha team broke new ground by winning the Wisconsin state championship. Then with that victory under their belt, they moved on to the nationals. There, they were named "rookie team of the year" and placed first among Division 11 schools. In the final round, they truly proved themselves first among equals by winning the overall competition.

Decathletes Ryan Ramlow, Katy Long, Jacob Kowalski, Adam Siegel, Jon Lindsley, Brian Kyle, Nicole Chartier, Nate Edwards and Scott Wilcox and alternates Steve Moon and Chris Schrader are to be congratulated for their accomplishments and the milestone they have set. Waukesha West won the overall competition that drew 55 top-notch teams representing 38 states.

Their victory could not have been accomplished without the help of coaches Duane Stein, Christine Beck and Lee Schmidt, as well as the parents, faculty and administrators of Waukesha West. It was with their encouragement that the team was able to win at the state and national competitions. Their pride was evident from the reception that welcomed the winning team home at Mitchell International Airport on the Monday after the victory with the same fervor usually reserved for sports heroes.

One of the goals when the Academic Decathlon was founded in 1981 was to develop interest in academics among all students. Teams are comprised of individuals representing a range of skill levels: three A students, three B students and three C students. The competition promotes the value of academic excellence, and stresses the importance of involvement for all students.

Waukesha West High School's win shows that great things can be accomplished through the hard work and dedication of students, teachers and parents acting together. This is not only a goal of the Academic Decathlon program, but also the education system as a whole.

HONORING THE WOODBRIDGE FATHERS BASEBALL LEAGUE ON THEIR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to an outstanding organization in our community, the Woodbridge Fathers Baseball League, as they celebrate their thirtieth anniversary. This Saturday, I will have the honor of joining the WFBL as they kick-off this season with their Opening Day ceremonies.

For three decades, the WFBL has provided children between the ages of 5 and 15 with the opportunity to participate in softball and baseball—our country's greatest pastime. The league was born out of the concern of several fathers in Woodbridge who wanted to provide a more competitive baseball league for their children. In only a few short months, the WFBL was formed and, in its initial season, had about 200 children that made up fifteen teams. Today, with the addition of softball and a Rookies League Division, the WFBL has 575 participating children, making up forty-eight teams.

Baseball and softball, like all sports, teaches us the value of team work, practice, camaraderie, and commitment to excellence. These are the skills that will serve our young people well as they begin to make a difference in the world. Through baseball or softball, the WFBL has given the children of Woodbridge and Bethany the opportunity to develop strong bonds of friendship based on many years of teamwork that often last well beyond their high school years. This is the true gift that the WFBL has and continues to give to the young people of Woodbridge and Bethany.

As a symbol of the start of spring, Opening Day has always been one of my favorite times to visit communities—especially Woodbridge, Connecticut. Every year, families from throughout the community gather to celebrate the beginning of the season—it is one of this community's most enjoyable spring rituals. Every team is in first place, dreaming of a championship that will be theirs at the end of the summer. The smell of a new glove, the crack of a bat, and the chatter of the outfield remind us why this is America's favorite pastime.

This year, as the Woodbridge community celebrates Opening Day and what has become a symbol of America, we will also take a moment to reflect on one of our country's greatest tragedies. In the months that have passed since September 11th, the American people have struggled to regain a sense of normalcy. Who can forget the truly awesome scene at Yankee Stadium, with the brilliant voice of a New York Police Officer singing God Bless America as an eagle swooped through the stadium—unifying our nation and

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

strengthening our resolve. In these past months, communities across the nation have developed a new found respect for those who dedicate their careers to protecting our families and our communities. I am honored to join the Woodbridge Fathers Baseball League and the Woodbridge community in extending my deepest thanks and appreciation to the Woodbridge Volunteer Fire Department. Their commitment and unparalleled courage make a real difference in our community.

Celebrating thirty years of prosperity and fun, it is with my sincere thanks that I join the Woodbridge community in congratulating the Woodbridge Fathers Baseball League on their 30th Anniversary. From your first president, Tony Malafronte, to the current president Dwight Rowland, this organization has left an indelible mark on this community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 117, H.R. 169, the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002 (Concur in Senate Amendment). Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 118, S. 2248, the Export-Import Bank Extension Act. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

I was also unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 119, H. Con. Res. 386, Supporting a National Charter Schools Week. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

AMERICAN SAMOA MEDICAID PROGRAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALDOMAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. FALDOMAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to provide American Samoa with treatment under the medicaid program similar to that provided to States.

American Samoa receives only about \$3 million annually in medicaid reimbursement. Each year, American Samoa's expenditures exceed its federal fiscal ceiling. For example, in FY 2000, Medicaid expenditures were \$4,909,677, or \$1,709,677 over ceiling. Although Congress adjusts the federal fiscal ceiling annually for the states based on the percentage change in the medical care component of the consumer price index for the preceding year ending in March, this adjustment has very little relation to the needs of American Samoa.

The fact of the matter is American Samoa pays a higher federal match than 40 other states yet the per capita income in American Samoa is less than \$4,500 per year. More than 56% of the population lives below the poverty level. All on-island health care is provided by the LBJ Tropical Medical Center.

Construction of the LBJ medical center was completed in 1967. The in-patient wards have

not been renovated since this time. The patient wards have no air conditioning. Bathroom and washroom facilities are inadequate and many of these wards do not even meet fire safety codes and ADA standards and requirements.

In order to meet fire safety codes and ADA standards, the LBJ Tropical Medical Center is in need of upgrading or installing restrooms, medical air, medical vacuums, piped oxygen, proper lighting, a nurse call system, a fire sprinkler system, and sufficient electrical outlets for medical equipment.

However, the LBJ Tropical Medical Center does not operate at a profit and is consistently strapped for funds because every year medicaid expenditures exceed the federal fiscal ceiling. Mr. Speaker, I am not asking for millions of dollars to address the inequity that currently exists in the way we provide for the medicaid needs of American Samoa.

I am simply asking that the federal ceiling for American Samoa be raised to \$10 million. I am also asking that the calculations used to determine the federal match for the states be applied to American Samoa. Currently, our federal match is fixed at 50%. Year after year we're at 50% with no thought or review or consideration by Congress to adjust this match to more adequately address our needs.

Mr. Speaker, it is time for the U.S. Congress to take this issue seriously. The bill I have put forth is a fair and reasonable approach to provide for the health care needs of low-income residents in American Samoa. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN HONOR OF CAUSE-VISION 21 AND ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The month of May marks the 25th year in which we honor the accomplishments and struggles of the Asian Pacific American community in this great nation.

I am proud that the region I represent in Congress is a diverse one and is home to many people of Asian Pacific heritage. So many constituents have distinguished themselves through their accomplishments in education, business, medicine and science, and other forms of public and private sector involvement, and through a strong successful family life. To commemorate Asian Pacific Heritage Month, I would like to highlight the remarkable accomplishments of an organization in my Congressional district, committed to supporting and inspiring change in the area of civic participation for the Chinese American and Asian American communities.

Cause-Vision 21, established in 1993, is dedicated to advancing the political empowerment of the Chinese American and Asian American communities through voter education, community outreach and leadership development. They have established dynamic and innovative programs designed to increase awareness and access to the political process.

Once such program, the Chinese American Student Internship Coalition (CASIC), cele-

brating its tenth year, provides Chinese American college students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with the political process and a deeper understanding of issues important to the Chinese American community. By being placed in a legislative office, each student is given an opportunity to become more aware of current legislative initiatives being debated in California's State Legislature.

Along with CASIC, Cause-Vision 21 offers a number of community forums on a broad range of issues, voter registration drives, and get-out-the-vote efforts. Due to their efforts, the political awareness of the Chinese American community has risen exponentially and the voter registration of this group has grown considerably since the organization's inception.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me in honoring Cause-Vision 21, an organization striving to ensure that Asian Americans have a strong voice in the democratic process. Their efforts on behalf of the community have been extraordinary.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE AND ORAL EDWARDS

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to two great American citizens, and I am proud to recognize Christine and Oral Edwards in the Congress for their invaluable contributions and service to Arkansas on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary.

Chris, the daughter of Frank and Effie Austin of Blytheville, and Oral, the son of Jesse and Grace Edwards, were married on May 11, 1952 at the First Baptist Church in Blytheville, AR by Reverend David McPeak. The story of their meeting is practically lifted from the pages of a Hollywood movie script.

They met in the summer of 1951 when Chris was home from Southwestern College and working at Farmer's Bank and Trust in Blytheville. A friend of hers had told her about Oral, and she wanted to meet him. She knew that he worked at the grocery store on Saturdays, so she went to shop with her parents one Saturday.

Oral ended up carrying out her family's groceries to the car. When he turned to go back in the store, she called out his name. When he turned around, she knew it was him, and she invited him to go to church with her. He didn't go, but later called for a date. They dated for about a year and decided to get married. They had no money and no car. Friends chipped in to help with the wedding arrangement, and they had a beautiful wedding. The rest as they say is history.

The Edwardses have two children and six grandchildren. Steve, their first born, lives in Marianna with his wife, Laura. Steve and Laura have three children. Ashley, the oldest, lives in Maumelle with her husband Paul Rowton. Leigh is a student at Arkansas State University, and Steve, Jr., the youngest, is a first grader at Lee Academy.

Susan, their daughter, lives in Memphis, Tennessee with her husband, Dr. Jim DeRossitt. Susan and Jim also have three