TRIBUTE TO M&M FOOTBALL GAME

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a time honored tradition observed in my district and, specifically, in my hometown of Menominee, Michigan. Nearly every year, since 1894, Menominee High School's football team, known as the Maroons, has played their rivals just across the Wisconsin border, the Marinette High School Marines. The annual rivalry is known as the M&M (Marinette & Menominee) game. In many ways, it parallels the annual contest in the professional football between the Chicago Bears and the Green Bay Packers, another longstanding rivalry.

Since 1894, the M&M game has developed into one of the oldest interstate athletic competitions in the United States. In fact, until 2005, the National Federation of State High School Associations recognized the M&M game as the oldest interstate series in the United States. Last year, the National Federation of State High School Associations found that two other interstate athletic series were older. Nonetheless, the proud tradition of the M&M game remains the oldest interstate high school football competition in the Midwest and the third oldest in the nation.

To understand what this competition means to the people of Menominee and Marinette, one needs to know a little about the area. These two communities are separated only by the Menominee River, which serves as the state border. The communities are so closely tied together economically that in many ways the residents think of the two cities as one, disregarding the state border that separates the two states.

However, every fall, town pride boils up and the team colors come out as the two towns prepare for the annual game. Together, Marinette and Menominee are transformed into an exceptional Midwestern fall festival as area residents organize a celebration of this great tradition. Through events like parades, tug of war contests, battles of the drums, a community yell contest, a powder puff game, fireworks and a bonfire, the people of Menominee and Marinette celebrate their shared history through good natured competition.

Over the years, the Menominee-Marinette competition has produced a whole range of football stars, many of whom went on to play football for Big Ten schools like the University of Wisconsin, the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. The two schools have also produced athletes who played in the National Football League. A particularly remarkable photo from 1958 shows three NFL players—Billy Wells, Dick Deschaine, and Earl ''Gug'' Girard. All three were on the field at the same time during a Pittsburgh Steelers-Cleveland Browns game and, interestingly, all three hail from the Menominee-Marinette area.

This year is particularly important for these two communities and for this tradition. While this rivalry originated in 1893, for a variety of reasons, the two schools did not play each other a few years, making 2006 the year that Menominee and Marinette will play their one-hundredth game. The Marinette-Menominee community will mark this centennial with a number of special events, including the first ever M&M Twin Cities Parade, the first parade that will originate in Menominee, proceed through town, cross the Menominee River and the Wisconsin border and then finish in Marinette, Wisconsin. Every year, the teams rotate where the game will be played and this year the game will take place at Higley field in Marinette, Wisconsin.

Mr. Speaker, high school football is a uniquely American institution and tradition that brings our communities together. Rivalries between neighboring schools serve to remind us of our roots and why our hometowns are special to each of us. The older and deeper the rivalry, the greater the passion it elicits from fans and alums. The Menominee-Marinette rivalry is unique in many ways. Holding the title of the third oldest interstate high school competition makes this game special.

Perhaps what is most unique about the annual M&M game is that such an intense rivalry draws two communities together into a spirit of shared kinship. These two cities, separated only by a river and a state line, rediscover their unique identities every fall by rooting for the Marinette Marines or the Menominee Maroons. At the same time that these two communities celebrate their rivalry, they also acknowledge their longstanding shared history.

As the Menominee Maroons and the Marinette Marines prepare to don their respective maroon and purple uniforms for their one-hundredth game, I ask that the U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting the players of today and yesterday as well as these two communities for continuing this unique tradition.

ON THE DEATH OF TEXAS GOVERNOR ANN RICHARDS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to report to the House the loss of an American original and the First Lady of Texas politics, the great Ann Richards. Governor Richards died yesterday after a long battle with throat cancer. She was 73.

Dorothy Ann Willis Richards began her career in politics in the early 1970s after having raised four children. A Democrat, she served as County Commissioner in Travis County, Texas from 1977 to 1982. Richards was elected to the first of two terms as Texas State Treasurer in 1982. We who knew and loved her will remember her always as a forcefully articulate and amusingly folksy speaker. She first gained national prominence with her keynote address at the 1988 Democratic National Convention. In 1990 she was elected governor of Texas, the first woman chief executive of Texas in more than fifty years.

Dorothy Ann Willis was born in Lakeview, Texas. She grew up in Waco, Texas, and graduated from Waco High School in 1950, participating in Girls State. She received a bachelor's degree from Baylor University while on a debate scholarship. She married her high school sweetheart, David Richards, and moved to Austin, Texas, where she earned a teaching certificate from the University of Texas at Austin.

After graduation, she taught social studies and history at Fulmore Junior High School in Austin, Texas from 1955 to 1956. She had also two daughters and two sons in the following years, and she campaigned for Texas liberals and progressives such as Henry B. Gonzalez, Ralph Yarborough, and Sarah Weddington. One of her daughters, Cecile Richards became president of Planned Parenthood in 2006. Throughout her life Ann Richards was a forceful champion for economic and social justice for all Americans, especially women and the disadvantaged.

In 1976, Richards ran against and defeated a three-term incumbent on the Travis County, Texas Commissioner Court, holding the position for six years. She then was elected State Treasurer in 1982, becoming the first woman elected to statewide office in more than fifty years. In winning the Democratic nomination for treasurer, Richards ended the career of a Texas politician with the same name as a president (but no relation), Warren G. Harding. In 1986, she was re-elected treasurer without opposition.

Ann Richards delivered the keynote address to the 1988 Democratic National Convention, a move which put her in the national spotlight with the line ''Poor George [H.W. Bush], he can't help it . . . He was born with a silver foot in his mouth.'' The speech set the tone for her political future; she described herself as a real Texan (in supposed contrast to George H.W. Bush), established herself as a feminist, and reached out to African-Americans and Hispanics. In 1989, with co-author Peter Knobler, she wrote her autobiography, Straight from the Heart.

In 1990, she sought and won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination besting such venerable vote getters as Texas Attorney General James ''Jim'' Mattox and former governor Mark White. In the general election she defeated multi-millionaire rancher Clayton Williams after a brutal campaign and was inaugurated the 45th governor of Texas in January 1991.

The Texas economy had been in a slump since the mid-1980s, compounded by a downturn in the U.S. economy. Governor Richards responded with a program of economic revitalization, yielding growth in 1991 of 2% when the U.S. economy as a whole shrank. She also streamlined Texas's government and regulatory institutions for business and the public. Her efforts helped to revitalize and position Texas's corporate infrastructure for the explosive economic growth it experienced later in the decade. Her audits on the state bureaucracy saved Texas taxpayers more than $6 billion.

Governor Richards reformed the Texas prison system, establishing a substance abuse program for inmates, reducing the number of violent offenders released, and increasing prison space to deal with a growing prison population (from less than 60,000 in 1992 to more than 80,000 in 1994). She backed proposals to reduce the sale of semi-automatic firearms and ''cop- killer'' bullets in the state.

The Texas Lottery was also instituted during her governorship—advocated as a means of supplementing school finances; Ann Richards purchased the first lotto ticket on May 29, 1992. However, most of the income from the lottery went into the state's general fund rather

than specifically to education, until 1997, when all lottery net revenue was redirected to the state's Foundation School Fund, which supports public education. School finance remained one of the key issues of her governorship and of those succeeding hers; the famous Robin Hood plan was launched in the 1992–1993 biennium which attempted to make school funding more equitable across school districts. Richards also sought to decentralize control over education policy to districts and individual campuses; she instituted ''site-based management'' to this end.

In March 2006, Richards announced that she had been diagnosed with esophageal cancer and will be seeking treatment at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. The disease has a five-year survival rate of 25 percent. Despite the statistics, Governor Richards vowed to beat her illness and battled valiantly until the very last day, when she finished her journey on earth and ascended to the heavens.

None of us who knew and loved Ann Richards will ever forget her or the way she brightened the lives of all the people she served. She was one in a million and she will be deeply missed. She will never be replaced. She was an American original. She was my friend.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GAME BETWEEN MARINETTE, WISCONSIN AND MENOMINEE, MICHIGAN

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the Marinette Marines from Marinette High School and the Menominee High School Maroons as they prepare for the 100th meeting of their football teams.

This celebrated gridiron contest began over a century ago when the teams first met on Thanksgiving Day in 1894. Over one hundred years later, the Marinette and Menominee High School football game is one of the oldest interstate high school football rivalries in the nation.

In true Midwestern football spirit, the historic game between Marinette and Menominee is one of the biggest events of the year for locals. While many shops and factories close for the day to enjoy the game, others decorate their storefronts with school colors. Without a doubt, the stands are filled each and every year with screaming fans—all anxious to show pride in their school and town.

Mr. Speaker, it's my pleasure to recognize this historic football game and pay tribute to the one hundred years of tradition surrounding it. On behalf of the residents of Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District, I want to say congratulations, best of luck, and go Marines!

HONORING 2006 PRESIDENTIAL FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS IN THE 20TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and recognize 20 exceptional high school students in my Congressional District that were the recipients of the 2006 Presidential Freedom Scholarship. The immeasurable amount of time and effort that these students have volunteered this past year has helped countless citizens of my district, and has made New York's 20th a better place to live.

The Presidential Freedom Scholarship promotes student service and civic engagement by recognizing high school students for outstanding leadership in service to their community and neighbors. This year's recipients in my Congressional District include:

David Casazza, Paige Hanselman, Andrea E. Holmes, Chad M. Shippee, Vanessa A. Merrill, Kathleen B. Price, Renee C. O'Toole, Eric R. Reeve, Craig Millward, Nicholas Kitsock, Patrick K. Gavin-Brynes, Meghan G. Michael, Brian Driscoll, Katelin M. Meehan, Michael Fueston, Stephen R. McGrath, Philip J. Schools, Kathleen Dillon, Jaimie N. DeJager, and Vincent A. Newell.

By completing at least 100 hours of community service, these high school students are solving problems in their communities, demonstrating compassion for others, and assisting those who need support.

Our neighborhoods and communities are stronger because of volunteers and these students are truly a role model for our nation and their peers. It is my privilege to honor such selfless and dedicated members of my district. On behalf of the United States Congress, I offer my best wishes to them for continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET E. ''PEARL'' MILLER

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness and tremendous gratitude to honor the life of my good friend, Margaret E. Miller, a generous and dedicated member of the community who will be greatly missed in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Miller, known to her many friends as ''Pearl'', was a woman of character, ability and charm, and we shall all miss her very much.

Pearl Miller was renowned for her unswerving loyalty to her friends and family. She worked to make a difference in the lives of others and everyone who met her was warmed by her friendliness and hospitality.

While establishing her reputation as a loving wife and mother, Pearl also distinguished herself as a gracious hostess and active supporter of many admirable causes. Pearl Miller was a woman of integrity, compassion, and dedication. She carried out her responsibilities as mother, wife, hostess, campaign advisor, and friend with a grace and style, which few could match. Her loss is felt deeply throughout Delaware County, particularly in Springfield, the town she proudly called home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Pearl Miller, a dedicated friend to many in the 7th Congressional District. I wish Pearl's husband, Rutherford S. ''Ford'' Miller, Sr. and family my heartfelt condolences. May they find comfort in knowing that the many people she impacted deeply value her dedication and generosity and the example of her life and work.

DETROIT SHOCK CHAMPIONSHIP CELEBRATION

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, the Detroit Shock were crowned 2006 WNBA Champions after their 80–75 victory in Game 5 against the Sacramento Monarchs. This is the Shock's second WNBA title in franchise history. The Shock also won in 2003.

The Shock proved they have ''got game'' by becoming one of three teams to win two championships. Houston and Los Angeles are the others. The Shock's two titles in four seasons rank them among best in league history.

Flint native Deanna Nolan was named Most Valuable Player, MVP of the 2006 WNBA Finals.

Former Detroit Piston Bill Laimbeer is the Head Coach; former Detroit Pistons Rick Mahorn is an assistant coach. Cheryl Reeve is the other assistant coach.

The Shock's regular season record was 23–11.

This is the WNBA's 10th anniversary. Women's basketball announced ''We Got Next!'' when the NBA Board of Governors approved the WNBA concept in 1996.

The Detroit Shock serve as examples to young women everywhere. Their accomplishments encourage others to make HERstory. They demonstrate how you can achieve success by setting goals, doing your best, and practicing teamwork.

Shock Players include Jackie Batteast, Kara Braxton, Swin Cash*, Cheryl Ford*, Kedra Holland-Corn*, Deanna Nolan*, Sabrina Palie, Plenette Pierson, Elaine Powell*, Ruth Riley*, Katie Smith, and Angelina Williams.

*Members of the 2003 and 2006 teams.

HOMELESS VETERANS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 14, 2006

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, each night nearly 200,000 veterans are homeless. They live on the streets, in alleys, in cars, in barns and under bridges. Many other veterans are just one paycheck away from being homeless.

The Government Accountability Office has just reported that the Department of Veterans Affairs' largest program to provide homeless