

Over 500 schools from 42 counties in the state participate in the California Academic Decathlon, which promotes education and teamwork.

The championship team from the Travis Unified School District in Solano County was led by Head Coach David Kenyon and included Team Members Erin Campos, Aleena Syed, Abdul Hassan, Nicolai McCrary, Elise Campos, Julieanne Cunningham, David Crowell, Adrian Bullock, and Tanya Campos.

Not only did the Vanden High School's Academic Decathlon Team win the State Title, becoming the first Solano County School to achieve such a feat; they broke the Division II scoring record by amassing a grand total of 45,372 points. The Team also won the State Super Quiz Title.

Prior to competing statewide, Vanden High School's Academic Decathlon Team won the first ever North Bay Regional Competition and also won the regional Super Quiz Title.

The theme for the statewide competition was climatology and China. The students were required to answer questions relating to math, art, music, and history.

The Vanden High School Academic Decathlon Team and coach put in numerous hours, including their lunch periods, to prepare for the regional and statewide competitions. This speaks volumes of their dedication to learn and work as a team.

While several of the members will be graduating and moving on to college, they should take pride in the solid foundation they help build and the standard they set.

Again, I would like to congratulate the Vanden High School Academic Decathlon Team for their monumental achievements and for bringing the State Academic Decathlon Title to Solano County. They represented their school and community extremely well. Go Vikings!

#### TAIWAN'S WHO MEMBERSHIP

### HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2007*

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, the government of Taiwan recently submitted a membership application to the World Health Organization. Since the objective of the WHO is "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health," Taiwan's 23 million people must be considered. For years now, Taiwan has had no representation in the World Health Organization, which is a gross injustice due to Taiwan's health needs and Taiwan's potential contribution to the global health network.

I support Taiwan's bid for membership and urge my colleagues to openly voice their support for Taiwan. At a minimum, Taiwan should be granted observer status at the World Health Assembly this May.

Though Taiwan is now applying to the World Health Organization under the name of "Taiwan," it does not mean there is any change to Taiwan's national status. Taiwan continues to be the same country as before and its Constitution has not changed. The use of the name "Taiwan" represents a fresh start for the people of Taiwan and is commonly used around the world. Applying for WHO

membership under the new name is consistent with Taiwan's past campaign for observer status in the World Health Assembly.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to lend their support to Taiwan's WHO application. No country should belittle Taiwan's sincere intent to be included in the global health network. Taiwan's bid to become a WHO member is too important to be sidetracked by political disagreements because disease knows no boundaries. It is time for China to drop its objections to Taiwan's bid and welcome the 23 million Taiwanese people to the World Health Organization. Taiwan has much to contribute to the health system in China and to all the countries in the world. Taiwan looks forward to fulfilling its obligations as a responsible global citizen and working with international health institutions through medical cooperation and emergency humanitarian work.

#### A TRIBUTE TO OPRAH WINFREY

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2007*

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I heartily join in congratulating Oprah Winfrey, who has been named the recipient of the Humanitarian Award from the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity, a venerable institution that combats indifference, intolerance and injustice through international dialogue and youth-focused programs.

Oprah Winfrey is such a visible figure in popular culture that her first name alone is iconic. The recognition she has earned through her talk show, acting, writing and various media enterprises has made her one of America's most recognizable people. And to her everlasting credit, she has put this visibility to good use in support of worthy causes.

A high-profile public figure who dedicates herself to helping the less-fortunate, Oprah sets an example for those of us in the public eye. She provides an inspiring model of the pursuit of meaning, hope, and fulfillment to millions. And as someone who has chosen children as the main focus of her philanthropy and her public service, she sets an example for all adults: Children are the bedrock foundation of our society, our chance for a more peaceful and healthy society, but because they are the least able to help themselves, they need and deserve our greatest efforts. As a grandfather of 17 wonderful grandchildren, I believe the message Oprah sends about kids is the most profound of all.

Motivated by this desire to help children in need, she founded The Oprah Winfrey Foundation in 1987. Since then, the foundation has made grants to organizations that support women and children around the world, providing education, training, and access to crucial resources. I laud Oprah's decision to focus the foundation internationally, not just in the United States. With our resources and our technology, we have a solemn responsibility to lift up the destitute in the rest of the world.

And The Oprah Winfrey Foundation demonstrates that private U.S. interests can combine with both governments and non-governmental organizations to foster that goal. I am particularly impressed that Oprah has also

used an inspirational partnership model in raising money. Oprah's Angel Network leverages her audiences as potential donors, with all the money they give going to NGOs that build schools, youth centers, and homes around the world. Her devotion to schoolgirls in South Africa is simply amazing. She has given so much money and time to the construction of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls to ensure that it will succeed, that those girls will succeed, and that South African society will improve from their education.

On a personal level, I am touched and grateful that Oprah has partnered with Elie Wiesel never to let us forget the Holocaust, the most horrible and harrowing moment in history and one to which Elie and I were witnesses. It speaks to Oprah's singular empathy that someone whose focus is often on modern-day trauma and travesty can so adeptly shine a light on the past. Simply the act of choosing Wiesel's classic "Night" for her book club spoke volumes. But her televised visit to Auschwitz with Wiesel last year made it real for everyone.

Indeed, Oprah has that uncanny and unparalleled ability to not just bring human experience in front of our eyes, but to make us feel it. And her desire and commitment to translating into public service the human capacity to feel for others is deserving of the deepest honor.

HONORING FAIRFAX COUNTY VIRGINIA POLICE DETECTIVE VICKY ANNE OWEN ARMEL AND MASTER POLICE OFFICER MICHAEL E. GARBARINO

### HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2007*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize two police officers from nearby Fairfax County, Virginia who served their community with great honor and distinction. Today marks the first anniversary of when Detective Vicky Anne Owen Armel and Master Police Officer Michael E. Garbarino were shot in the line of duty during a shooting incident at the Sully District Police Station in Chantilly, Virginia.

Detective Armel was killed while engaging and exchanging gunfire with the shooter. Master Police Officer Garbarino succumbed on May 17, 2006 to injuries sustained when the shooter opened fire on him in the Station's parking lot. Despite being shot five times, Master Police Officer Garbarino managed to get on the police radio to notify and warn fellow officers. The two line-of-duty slayings were the first in the 66-year history of the 1,364-member Fairfax County Police Department.

Detective Vicky Armel, badge 2806, spent 17 years as a dedicated law enforcement officer, eight years with the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office, and the last nine with the Fairfax County Police Department. Detective Armel is remembered for many things, including her devotion to family, faith, and an upbeat and positive attitude.

Master Police Officer Michael Garbarino, badge 1417, spent 23 years as a dedicated law enforcement officer with the Fairfax County Police Department. MPO Garbarino, also