

Cavemen in the Indiana High School Athletic Association state wrestling championship. The championship was a repeat challenge between two-time defending state champions Mater Dei and the Cavemen, who had suffered defeat the year before. It took all their strength and motivation to turn the tables, but at the end of this year's tournament it was the Cavemen who were celebrating victory.

It was the perfect finish to a season full of intense physical training and exhausting practices. On its way to the state title, Mishawaka—ranked third overall—completed their season with a record of 31–1 and knocked off both the first and second-ranked teams. While they have appeared in the state finals for nine consecutive seasons, this is the first championship for Mishawaka since 1991.

Mater Dei had an early lead in the contest, but junior Tim Forte rallied to win his match 1–0. This gave the Cavemen a score of 9–7—a lead which they were able to maintain throughout the rest of the competition. Seniors Dave Balentine and Randy Morin and sophomore Paul Beck were all victorious in their matches, bringing the score to 22–10. But it was a win by junior and three-time individual state champion Josh Harper that finalized Mishawaka's victory.

These exceptional members of the Mishawaka team were joined by Danny Abu-Shehab, DJ Ballenger, Brandon Barcus, Jon Bennett, Christian Bergin, Dustin Boyd, Andrew Brogdon, Gary Brooks, Andrew Childress, Darius Cooley, David Delarosa, Anthony Eddy, Marty Friedman, Adam Guerra, Matt Guerra, Neal Kostro, Christian Lentz, Anthony Lewis, Darius Marshall, Hunter Marvin, Brandon Merisch, Aaron Merisch, Richard Morin, Tyler Nally, Robert Norris, Caleb Norville, Trenton Reinoehl, Tyler Reinoehl, Steven Sandefer, Nick Schrader, Joey Smith, Tylor Smith, Brandon Straub, Quinci Sullivan, Mitch Sutherland, Travis Thomas, Justin Traver, Eric Uitdenhowen, Austin Vegh, Alex White and Taylor Wisler. These dedicated young men should be commended for their accomplishments.

None of this would have been possible, however, without the support of Mishawaka High School's administration and staff. Special recognition should be given to head coach Darrick Snyder, assistant coaches Fabian Chavez and Mike Lehman and Athletic Director Robert Shriner for the continued support and guidance they give to the team. Volunteers Brad Addison, Pat Day, Mike Faulkner, Scott Gann, Nick Nicodemus, Mike Strycker, Brandon Trtan, and Junior Varsity Coach Brian Woodworth gave freely of their time and energy to make this championship possible. The team was not alone in this accomplishment, as family, friends, fans, members of the Mishawaka community and Mishawaka High School principal Dr. George Marzotto have all tirelessly cheered the team on to victory throughout the season.

The Mishawaka Cavemen wrestling team has achieved a memorable ending to an extraordinary season. I offer my congratulations to the members of the team, the coaching staff, Mishawaka High School and the greater Mishawaka community on this season's accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE CLEVELAND
FEDERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Cleveland Federal Executive Board, and all federal employees of our community for their individual and collective dedication as public servants, focused on the public good.

The community of federal employees in Cleveland, Ohio, is comprised of more than 25,000 individuals who contribute their talent, trade and expertise daily within an array of roles, including park rangers, administrators, accountants, clerical employees, attorneys, engineers, military personnel, mail carriers, scientists, nurses and physicians.

The professional contributions extended daily by federal employees serve as a foundation of support, safety and security throughout our community. Every day, the environment is monitored; the mail is delivered; veterans receive medical care; our national park is preserved; immigrants are guided to citizenship; citizens are provided with benefits and programs; and the universe is studied and explored by the astronomers.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the members of the Cleveland Federal Executive Board and the thousands of federal employees who live and work within our Cleveland community. Their dedication to their work continues to preserve, protect and strengthen our entire community.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR
2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2008

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 312) revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2010 through 2013:

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Progressive Caucus Budget Substitute.

This week, many of my constituents are visiting Washington, DC. They are here asking for more funding for important Federal programs.

I keep explaining to them, that I will do my best; we all will do our best. We will fight for them; we will fight with them.

But the problem is the war in Iraq. Every penny we spend on this war is another penny that will cost our children, our grandchildren, our great grandchildren. Every cent we spend on this war in an emergency supplemental is off-budget. But every dollar we invest in health care, unemployment insurance, housing, in child welfare is subject to devastating cuts.

This administration believes that we have an endless pot of money for war, but no money for hard-working Americans.

Across the country people are struggling. They are struggling to keep up with their bills. Struggling to pay their mortgages, pay for college, pay for food, pay for gas. They come here and ask us to invest in their needs. They ask us to provide funding not for the war but for their communities.

Mr. Chairman, this budget amendment does just that. We provide nearly \$132 billion more than the President to assist struggling Americans. This proposal responds to our constituents. It says we found a way to fund what is important to you.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote "yes" on this amendment.

THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
GAS ATTACK OF THE KURDS OF
HALABJA

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to solemnly remember the 20th anniversary of a terrible crime committed against the Kurdish people, the gassing of the inhabitants of the city of Halabja on March 16, 1988. This attack on men, women, and children was a crime against humanity. On that day, Iraqi planes dropped chemical munitions, including mustard gas and nerve gas; the planes concentrated their attack on the city as well as the roads leading out of the town. More than 5,000 people were killed and another 10,000 were injured. Twenty years later, the survivors of this attack are still suffering from the effects of that horrendous onslaught.

As a staffer with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee at the time, I had the opportunity to travel to the region after this attack, in September 1988, and observed first hand the effects of that terrible campaign against the Kurds. With my colleague, Peter Galbraith, I interviewed Kurdish survivors of other chemical attacks that followed. We had the sad but important task of documenting chemical attacks on 49 Kurdish villages. These attacks were part of a year-long brutal campaign that resulted in the deaths and disappearances of approximately 180,000 Iraqi Kurds.

Because of these brutal attacks against the Kurds, the Senate passed stiff economic sanctions against the Saddam Hussein regime at the time, but the Reagan Administration defeated this effort and failed to penalize this regime with any meaningful measures. That failure sent a terrible signal to Saddam Hussein, and he may have concluded that he could subsequently attack Kuwait with impunity. After the Persian Gulf war of 1991, the United States imposed a no-fly zone over the Kurdish region of Iraq, which helped the inhabitants of that area to begin to restore their shattered lives.

Today, the Iraqi Kurdistan region is one of the most stable and peaceful regions of Iraq, and its brave people are trying to concentrate on political and economic development. As we try to assist these people we should also be mindful of what they have lived through and the loved ones they have lost. We must never

forget the crime against the inhabitants of Halabja and other Kurdish towns and villages.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL F. GILL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Riverside, California are exceptional. Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Paul Gill is one of these individuals. On March 26, 2008, a celebration will be held in honor of Paul Gill's retirement—and of the next chapter in his life of public service as the Chief Operations Officer of Pittsburgh Public Schools.

Paul Gill is the Senior Vice President, Regional Operations, for American Dental Partners, a leading dental practice management services organization. He is responsible for supervising California operations, and building a strong dental network for the West Coast. Since 1993, Paul served as the Administrator for Riverside Dental Group.

Prior to coming to Riverside Dental Group, Paul served as Community Development Director for the City of Moreno Valley. In that capacity, he managed the city activities of Planning, Building, and Code Compliance.

Before his position with the City, Paul served more than 23 years in the United States Air Force, last serving as the Wing Commander at March Air Force Base, California. In the Air Force, Paul served in various commands throughout the country and overseas as a pilot, instructor pilot, evaluator pilot and at various levels of operational staff and command. He has flown approximately 4,000 hours, of which more than 800 were in combat.

Paul has a B.S. degree from Duquesne University, an M.S. from Syracuse University, as well as an M.A. from Creighton University. Among his community activities, he served as Chairman, March Joint Powers Authority Technical Advisory Committee, Director of the Silver Eagles, and the LeMay Foundation. Paul has also served as Chairman of Riverside County's Airport Land Use Commission, Chairman of the Silver Eagles, Director of Riverside County's Regional Hospital Foundation, the Monday Morning Group, and the Moreno Valley Action Committee. He and his wife Mary Anne have four grown children.

Paul's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, California. I am proud to call Paul a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires from the Riverside Dental Group. I wish Paul and his wife all the best as they embark on a new adventure in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. They will be sorely missed.

RECOGNIZING MR. BENSON AU-YEUNG AS THE 2008 MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Benson Au-Yeung on being named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2008 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for Guam.

Benson grew up on Guam and has contributed to our community throughout his life. He was born in Kowloon, Hong Kong where he studied the English language for 13 years. In 1976, his family relocated to Guam. He attended Cathedral Grade School, Bishop Baumgartner Junior High School, and graduated with honors from Father Duenas Memorial School. He then left for a short period to obtain a bachelor of science degree in computer science from the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Benson returned to Guam in 1986 to devote his time to the family business, a successful local company geared toward the visitor industry. He combined their services with his experience in computer programming and started Soft Pacific, Inc which equips Guam and Saipan businesses with Japanese language computers.

In 1998, Benson expanded Soft Pacific, Inc. and acquired the 3M Graphics Division on Guam. Eventually this acquisition resulted in the development of Benz Sign Supplies, a successful sign supply company on Guam. Benz Sign Supplies provides a variety of signage products to the local market and has widened its clientele to include the overseas market, including the U.S. mainland and Canada.

After 10 years, Benson's small business continues to provide important products and services to our community. He is an active member of the Guam Contractors Association, Guam Hotel and Restaurant Association, Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Guam, and the Guam Chinese Tennis Club. I congratulate him for his achievement as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2008 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for Guam.

IN HONOR OF DR. LAWRENCE S. SYKOFF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Lawrence S. Sykoff's lasting contributions and dedication to education. After 15 years as Head of Ranney School, Dr. Sykoff has transformed Ranney into one of the premier independent schools in New Jersey.

Dr. Sykoff has been committed to the field of education for 35 years. Before accepting his position at Ranney, Dr. Sykoff served as Head of the Birch Wathen Lenox School in New York, and as a math teacher at the La Jolla Country Day School. He is nationally acclaimed for his studies in Middle School education and curriculum development, and his

work on the education of pre- and early adolescent children has been used as a model in schools across the country.

At Ranney, Dr. Sykoff has successfully launched an impressive campaign to expand the school and enhance the education of its students by increasing enrollment, building new facilities, and broadening the scope of Ranney's technological capabilities. Under Dr. Sykoff's leadership, Ranney continues to maintain a strong relationship with its neighborhood and Monmouth County by supporting the Tinton Falls Police Youth Academy and the Tinton Falls City Council.

Currently Dr. Sykoff is very active in the community. He sits on the Board of Trustees of the American Cancer Society and the historic Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, NJ. He is also a past member of the Board of the Monmouth County Family and Children's Service.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating Lawrence Sykoff. His efforts in advancing the quality of education and his commitment to excellence will continue to benefit and inspire my constituents and all NJ residents.

DESIGNATING APRIL 2008 AS 'NATIONAL FACIAL PROTECTION MONTH'

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker,

Whereas 5 million teeth are knocked out each year during sports activities;

Whereas an athlete participating in contact sports has a 10% chance of sustaining a significant oral-facial injury each season;

Whereas studies indicate that approximately one third of all dental injuries and approximately 19% of head and face injuries are sports-related;

Whereas an athlete is 60 times more likely to sustain damage to the teeth when not wearing a protective mouth guard;

Whereas emerging evidence supports that youth athletes wearing full facial protection during baseball, softball, hockey, and lacrosse can significantly reduce their risk of oral-facial trauma;

Whereas the Task Force on Community Preventive Services found that there is insufficient evidence—due to a lack of available research data—to support intervention programs to encourage the use of helmets, facemasks, and mouth guards to reduce oral-facial trauma in contact sports;

Whereas the Task Force on Community Preventive Services has recommended additional research on the effectiveness of intervention programs to encourage the use of helmets, facemasks, and mouth guards;

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) designates April 2008 as 'National Facial Protection Month';

(2) declares it is critical—

(a) to raise awareness about the importance of using proper dental and facial protection during sporting activities;

(b) to conduct additional research to study the effectiveness of intervention programs to encourage use of helmets, facemasks, and mouth guards;

(3) calls on sports health care professionals, parents, and coaches—