

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF MR. LARRY BINGER
28TH NATIONAL VETERANS'
WHEELCHAIR GAMES ATHLETE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Mr. Larry Binger for his service and dedication as a veteran and accomplished wheelchair athlete. Mr. Binger is a disabled veteran who has become an enthusiastic competitor and an inspiration to the people of Delaware. As he has for the past twenty one years, he will serve as Delaware's lone representative at the twenty eighth National Veterans' Wheelchair Games in Omaha, Nebraska starting July 25.

Beginning in 1981, the Veteran's Affairs department and Paralyzed Veterans of America began the National Veterans' Wheelchair Games. The Games host nearly six hundred athletes from forty six states with the help of hundreds of sponsors. These athletes range from survivors of World War II to those who served in Afghanistan and Iraq. More than twenty five percent of the athletes have been disabled for more than twenty five years. The Games allow participants to compete in various sporting events despite their physical challenges.

While serving in Vietnam, Mr. Binger injured his back working on his ship, the USS *Shangri La*. Following his injury, in order to stay active, Mr. Binger began competing in wheelchair marathons. He represents Delaware at the National Games in multiple events including javelin, discus, archery, bowling, trapshooting and various fishing events. Mr. Binger competes in the masters division of these events, with an excellent showing last year. In addition to his perseverance and rigorous training, Mr. Binger is passionately committed to serving other veterans. He has been a member of the Patriot Guard Riders for several years, considering it an honor to attend the funerals of fallen comrades. In competing as a disabled athlete, Mr. Binger strives to set an example that will give hope to both long-time and recently disabled veterans in the tri-state area. The highest commendations should be bestowed upon this devoted individual.

I acknowledge and thank Mr. Larry Binger for his exceptional service to the Navy, our country, and now the community of Delaware. Our veterans here are truly privileged to have such an excellent competitor represent them in the National Veterans' Wheelchair Games. I am confident that Mr. Binger will continue to serve Delaware with honor. I wish him the best of luck at the Games next week and with all of his endeavors henceforth.

IN HONOR OF MINNESOTA'S NEW
VFW STATE COMMANDER, STAN
KOWALSKI

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Minnesota's new VFW Commander, Stan Kowalski, who was officially installed last month at a ceremony in Moorhead, Minnesota. As the VFW has itself noted, Stan Kowalski may very well be the last state commander nationwide to emerge from that Greatest Generation, veterans of the Second World War.

Though he numbers in years 82, Stan Kowalski is a vibrant, active, energetic citizen. In fact, he's made no secret of the fact that he entertains the idea of running for National Commander of the VFW in the future.

Kowalski is a strong advocate for those who once and those who now wear the uniform. He has been a frequent visitor to Camp Ripley and the Air Force Reserves' 934th Airlift Wing to see our troops headed off overseas. He's organized VFW post dinners for families of deployed Marines. And, he's served on the VFW's national POW/MIA Council. In fact, he gave the eulogy when PFC Robert Cahow returned home from Germany to Clear Lake, Wisconsin, after 57 years missing.

Kowalski has shown a particularly great deal of compassion for those of his comrades who have fallen on hard times and are experiencing a time of need. He has noted that during his tenure as state commander, he will work closely with the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans to help the estimated 700 homeless veterans across Minnesota. He calls those veterans a "Lost Brigade" and notes that his mission is "making sure they get found and get the help they need."

While his commitment to his fellow veterans runs strong and deep, he has also served his community in other ways. He was a longtime member of the School Board in Spring Lake Park District 16, a Little League coach, an Olympic torch carrier, and a 9/11 memorial organizer. Stan Kowalski, who many know from his 26-year career as a pro-wrestler with 19 major titles, has been a prolific fundraiser for efforts ranging from the Greater Twin Cities United Way to the ROTC to Save Our Sports for the University of Minnesota.

Madam Speaker, I join all of Minnesota in paying tribute to the great energy and good works of Commander Stan Kowalski.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY RAMAEKER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Shirley Ramaeker for her many

years of service at the Eagle Grove, Iowa, Fareway Economical Food Store.

For the past 20 years, Shirley has served the people of Eagle Grove as an outstanding and dedicated employee, offering reliable and friendly service. In fact, members of the community often wait in her line just to have their groceries checked out by her. Shirley's commitment to her job and her customers has earned her admiration, trust and friendship from her fellow co-workers. Great service goes a long way, and I am honored to see fellow Iowans like Shirley providing service second to none.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Shirley Ramaeker for her service to Eagle Grove and the Fareway Food Store. I consider it an honor to represent her in Congress, and I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT WILLIAM RYAN FRITSCHÉ

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the life of a soldier who died honorably serving his country in Afghanistan as a part of Operation Enduring Freedom. Staff Sergeant William Ryan Fritsche made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and we honor him for his service.

Staff Sergeant Fritsche joined the U.S. Army under the delayed entry program at the age of 17, two weeks after the September 11, 2001 attacks. He was first stationed with the Old Guard, the 3rd United States Infantry Regiment, the Army's official ceremonial unit and Escort to the President, which is based in Arlington, Virginia. In January 2007, Staff Sergeant Fritsche left the Old Guard and joined the 1st Brigade, 91st Calvary regiment, 173rd Airborne unit based out of Vincesca, Italy. With this new unit, he left in March for a 15 month deployment to Afghanistan.

In July of 2007 at the age of 23, Staff Sergeant Fritsche was killed in action while leading a dismounted patrol in Kamu, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, a NATO citation, an Afghanistan Campaign Ribbon and the Combat Infantry Badge.

I commend Staff Sergeant Fritsche for his commitment to our country and his courage to fight for freedom in an unsettled world. Without doubt, his bravery gives his mother, Mrs. Volitta Fritsche of Martinsville, Indiana, and his widow, Mrs. Brandi Nicole Fritsche of Maryland's 2nd Congressional District, great pride. In honor of Staff Sergeant Fritsche's commitment to preserving the freedom of our nation, friends and relatives have established an ongoing scholarship in his name, the SSG W. Ryan Fritsche Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the patriotism and dedication of

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Staff Sergeant William Ryan Fritsche. His love of country and willingness to serve will forever reverberate in our memories. It gives me great pride to honor one of our nation's fallen heroes.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTEGRATION OF THE ARMED FORCES

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2008

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to stand before you today in support of H. Con. Res. 297, a measure that recognizes the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Services.

On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9981, declaring that all members of the military are equal regardless of race, color, religion, or national origin. These long-overdue words marked the beginning of the end of institutionalized discrimination in the U.S. Armed Services, and instilled into the military the democratic principle of equality.

Prior to this executive order, minority soldiers not only fought against our enemies, but also struggled against prejudice at home and in the military. In spite of these unjust circumstances, many segregated units were universally renowned for their courage and valor, such as the 54th Massachusetts Regiment during the American Civil War, the Harlem Hellfighters (369th Infantry Regiment) in World War I, and the Tuskegee Airmen and the 100th Battalion and the 442nd Combat Infantry group in World War II. We should never forget the sacrifices they made to preserve the ideals of freedom and democracy.

It has been 60 years since President Truman courageously and justly integrated the U.S. Armed Services. Our military was strong then, but it is stronger now, in no small part because all service men and women serve together as equals. Indeed, this year America may elect its first African-American Commander in Chief.

Indiana's First Congressional District enjoys a rich diversity that has helped produce some of the most capable units in the armed services. Servicemembers from Northwest Indiana have fought in integrated units during every military engagement since World War II. Right now, Indiana has the fourth-largest National Guard in the United States, with more troops deployed in Iraq than any other State in the union. I am extremely proud of the patriotic men and women from Indiana who have served and are serving in uniform, and thank them for their service to our country. The successes of Indiana's men and women in uniform of all races, colors, religions, and countries of origin, and across all generations, have been echoed throughout the Nation.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Services. Such integration has enriched our military with the same democratic equality that they have fought so valiantly to protect.

RECOGNIZING ARIZONA STATE ATHLETICS

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Arizona State University Athletics Program, the top school in Sports Illustrated's SI.Com 2007–2008 collegiate athletic rankings. I am proud to have such a prestigious athletic and academic institution housed in my district!

This year, Sports Illustrated commissioned its own ranking system for top collegiate athletic programs because the magazine believed that the National Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA's) system for determining the top collegiate athletics program was too complicated. Based upon three qualifications—the number of national championships won in the 2007–2008 season, number of top 30 finishes in each sport, and the number of conference championships—ASU was awarded the top honor.

The Sun Devils pulled off this feat by claiming three NCAA national titles in Men's and Women's Indoor track and ASU Women's softball, four conference championships including women's softball, men's baseball, men's golf and men's track, and 12 top 30 finishes including a surprising top 20 finish in men's football. With three national titles, ASU led the NCAA in championships this season. In addition, ASU placed fourth in the Director's Cup standings, the official award given out by the NCAA for top collegiate athletic programs. This is the Sun Devils' highest ranking in school history!

As an alumnus of Arizona State, I am honored and excited to see my alma mater's athletic excellence honored on a national stage. I want to congratulate President Michael Crow, athletic director Lisa Love, all the coaches and staffs, and most of all, the student athletes who excel on the field and in the classroom.

Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating the remarkable success of Sun Devil athletics. Go, Devils!

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAVIS COLLEGE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker. I rise to recognize the sesquicentennial celebration of Davis College in Northwest Ohio. The Toledo, Ohio college has offered post-secondary business education to generations of students for 150 years and continues to grow.

Toledo Business College was established in 1858. It came into its own in 1881, when "Matthew H. Davis left his chairmanship in the mathematics department and his position as director of the business department at Albert College, Belleville, Ontario, to accept the management of Toledo Business College." Under his tutelage the school grew tenfold, from 35 students to 350.

The college's history recounts that under Davis' direction, four other schools were ab-

sorbed and the school was renamed Davis Business College. "The curriculum was gradually changed from Latin, German, Greek, calculus, and epistolary writing to banking, mercantile trades, shorthand, and typing.

"After Davis' death in 1904, his son, Thurber P. Davis, left the University of Michigan to take over the management of Davis Business College. Under the leadership of the younger Davis, electric typewriters were added, making the College one of the best equipped in the United States. Stenotype and data processing augmented the expanding curriculum.

"In 1948, when Thurber became ill, his daughter, Ruth L. Davis, became the third generation of the Davis family to lead the school. In 1953, Davis Business College was among the first to be accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Business Schools. In 1964, it met commission requirements for a junior college of business. Office management, payroll accounting, and the Automation Institute were added to meet the growing needs of business and technology.

"In 1983, John Lambert became President of Davis College. President Lambert expanded the Davis curriculum to include allied health, aviation, computer, and graphic design programs, which doubled the College's enrollment. In 1986, Davis met the requirements for accreditation by the American Association of Medical Assistants. In 1991, Davis College was granted accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association.

"In 1993, Diane Brunner became the fifth President of Davis College. At the time of her appointment, she was the youngest female college president in Ohio. In 2002, Davis College hosted its first student conference, bringing nationally renowned authors to the institution. As was true of all past Davis College leadership, President Brunner is dedicated to the promotion of higher educational standards and continuing the College's service to the community."

This family owned century business in Toledo, Ohio remains a standard of business education in our region, all the while expanding into other fields of study. In the present day, the college was named as one of the 2008 Ohio's best employers by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce. This year as well, Davis College earned the Better Business Bureau's Torch Award for marketplace ethics. As Davis College grows into its third century in the business of educating people, it remains true to its founders' dedication to preparing its students for success while adhering to the highest standards and latest technologies in the fields of study. Standing on the shoulders of those who built its foundation, Davis College honors the vision of its past leaders while looking forward to a bright future.

TRIBUTE TO IOWA SELECT FARMS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 22, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Iowa Select Farms in Iowa Falls, Iowa for earning the "Above and Beyond" award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) organization, for