

RECOGNIZING THE HOWARD COLLEGE HAWKS 2009 JUNIOR COLLEGE NATIONAL BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I proudly congratulate the Howard College Hawks baseball team of Howard County Junior College in Big Spring, Texas for winning the 2009 Junior College National Baseball Championship.

The Hawks finished the season with a 63–1 record; the best record ever by a World Series championship team at any level of collegiate baseball. The championship squad includes sophomores Andrew Collazo, Jonathon Castillo, Tommy Vukovich, Nick Popescu, Caleb Nine, Bryan Johns, Runey Davis, Kane Kimrey, Hunter Hill, B.J. Armstrong, Dylan Cacciola, Monk Kreder, Chase Adams, Miles Hamblin, Marvin Prestridge, David de la Chapelle, Zach Neal, Jared Butler, William Calhoun, Corey Sartor, Anthony Collazo, Cody Henry, Juan Villarreal, and freshmen Kyle Padden, Tanner Ross, Zak Anderson, Blake Barnes, Brandon Parrent, Landon Steinhagen, Stephen Niedwiecki, Joe Leftridge, MacKenzie Harrison, Duncan McGee, Burch Smith, Josh Brewer. Led by head coach Britt Smith, the coaching staff includes assistant coaches J. Bob Thomas and Jack Geise.

Several players received individual recognition for their outstanding performance. Runey Davis and Miles Hamblin had the top fielding average as the Hawks led the nation in team fielding percentage. The NJCAA/Easton Division I Baseball Defensive Player of the Year award went to Hawk centerfielder Runey Davis. Andrew Collazo was honored as the tournament's Most Valuable Player and Best Defensive Player. William Calhoun was awarded the Rawlings Big Stick Award with a regular season batting average of .527—the highest in the nation.

Three of the Hawks were named to the All American team: designated hitter William Calhoun, Pitcher Zach Neal, and Catcher Miles Hamblin.

With great support from the community, the Hawks have brought home the national championship to Big Spring. I applaud the Howard College Hawks for their hard work and success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PROBLEM GAMBLING ACT OF 2009

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce, along with Representatives LEE TERRY and FRANK WOLF, the Comprehensive Problem Gambling Act of 2009, which would for the first time devote federal resources toward the prevention and treatment of problem and pathological gambling.

According to the National Council on Problem Gambling, approximately 6–9 million

American adults meet the criteria for a gambling problem, which includes gambling behavior patterns that compromise, disrupt or damage personal, family or vocational pursuits. Over the past decade, gaming and gambling has grown in the United States and many states have expanded legalized gaming, including regulated casino-style games and lotteries. The recent economic downturn only compounds this situation as many states consider relaxing gaming laws in an effort to raise state revenues.

At the same time, the federal government and most states have devoted very little, if any, resources to the prevention and treatment of compulsive gambling. Problem gambling can destroy a person's career and financial standing, disrupt marriages and personal relationships, and encourage participation in criminal activity. Currently, no federal agency has responsibility for coordinating efforts to treat problem gambling.

The Comprehensive Problem Gambling Act of 2009 would begin to address this deficiency by designating the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA) as the lead agency on problem gambling, allowing them to coordinate Federal action. The legislation would allow SAMSHA to conduct research, develop guidelines for effective prevention and treatment programs, and provide assistance for community-based services. In addition, this legislation would authorize annual appropriations of \$200,000 for a coordinated public awareness campaign, \$4 million for an advisory commission to research problem gambling, and \$10 million for grants to state, local, and tribal governments and non-profit organizations to provide treatment and prevention programs.

Legal gambling revenue, excluding most sports betting, poker and Internet gambling, has grown into an approximately \$100 billion a year industry. In 2006, the IRS reported that individuals claimed \$27.902 billion in gambling winnings on their income tax returns, resulting in \$5.3 billion in federal tax revenue. I feel the responsible action is to invest a modest amount (the five-year cost of this bill is less than one-fourth of 1 percent of the yearly federal tax revenues from gambling) in prevention and treatment efforts.

While there may be disagreement over the degree to which gambling should be regulated, we should all be able to support efforts to minimize the negative effects of problem gambling. I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this important legislation.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding the two earmarks I secured as part of H.R. 2847, Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010.

My first request, totaling \$250,000, will come from the Community Oriented Policing Services technology account at the Department of Justice for the City of Rockford, Illinois

to acquire a new Records Management System and new crime fighting software for their police department to assist them in identifying, deploying, and effectively apprehending criminals. A major component of Rockford's crime reduction strategy has been to utilize technology to improve productivity and deploy resources in the most strategic and efficient manner possible. This leveraging of technology will be a force multiplier for the City and will help to reduce the crime rate in local neighborhoods. Rockford, and the surrounding areas of Winnebago County, has long struggled with high per capita crime rates. While crime has recently fallen in Rockford, too many people still do not feel safe in their own neighborhoods and dare not cross into someone else's part of town. Plus, with the decline in the national economy and the local unemployment rate in Rockford reaching 14.5 percent, higher crime rates may soon reemerge. This funding is needed to help the Rockford police use modern technology to help them confront the next challenges in law enforcement. The entity to receive this funding is the City of Rockford located at 425 East State Street in Rockford, Illinois 61104.

My second request, totaling \$250,000, will also come from the Community Oriented Policing Services technology account at the Department of Justice for the Office of the Sheriff of Winnebago County, Illinois to purchase new modern, interoperable mobile radios to improve communications among multiple law enforcement agencies in several counties along Illinois-Wisconsin border. The radios currently in use by the Sheriff's Department operate on older technology that the manufacturer no longer supports replacement parts. Having new communications equipment will allow their field operations units to have direct communications within their agency, as well as other law enforcement agencies within Winnebago County and adjoining counties in northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. This request will help fulfill the Congressional mandate to have communications interoperability among first responders. The entity to receive this funding is the Office of the Sheriff of Winnebago County located at 650 West State Street in Rockford, Illinois, 61102.

Madam Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Representative DAVID OBEY, and the Ranking Minority Member, Representative JERRY LEWIS, and the Chairman of the CJS Appropriations Subcommittee, Representative ALAN MOLLOHAN, and the Ranking Minority Member, Representative FRANK WOLF, for working with me in a bipartisan manner to include these two critical law enforcement requests in this spending bill.

FIRST RxiMPACT DAY ON CAPITOL HILL

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the first RxiMPACT Day on Capitol Hill. Advocates from nearly 30 states travelled to the Washington, DC area on June 16–17 to talk about the contribution they make in providing quality