

Sergeant Hoskins received many awards during his service as a United States Marine, including three combat ribbons, three sea service deployment ribbons, an Iraqi Campaign Medal, a Navy Marine Corps Achievement medal, a National Defense Service Medal, a Global War on Terror Service medal, a Good Conduct medal, and a Purple Heart, along with other pending medals, as well as rifle and pistol expert badges.

Known as an unwavering Christian devoted to his wife, his children, his family, and his country, Sergeant Hoskins lived his life with strong moral character, a strong faith, and a strong sense of service. He was loved and respected by those that knew him, and he will not be forgotten.

Sergeant Hoskins is survived by his wife Chandler McRae Hoskins of Paris, Texas, their son Tristen, and a second child due in January; his mother, Michelle Sparks Widner and step-father, Chris Widner; his father, Danny Hoskins; two sisters, Amber Young and Chelsie Hoskins; a brother, Cameron Widner; along with many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Let us all continue to support our troops, and remember that freedom does come at a price. Madam Speaker, I ask those here today to join me in paying tribute to this American patriot, United States Marine Sergeant Jay Michael Hoskins.

RECOGNIZING THE ATHLETIC  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BOYS  
SOCCER TEAM AT ST. FRANCIS  
DESALES HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the many outstanding athletic accomplishments achieved by students at St. Francis DeSales High School in Columbus, Ohio. DeSales High School is in my congressional district, and I am proud to recognize a school that excels in and out of the classroom. Most recently, this fine academic institution won the 2009 Ohio Division II Boys Soccer Team Championship.

As you know, this sort of achievement is earned only through many hours of practice, perspiration and strong commitment. The soccer team, led by Coach Domenic Romanelli finished its remarkable postseason without allowing a single goal. In the championship game, where they beat Bay Village High School 1-0, David Harper scored the lone goal, while keeper Chris Weisgarber finished his accomplished season with yet another shutout. This is the fourth title for the Stallion soccer team, and their first since 1997.

Everyone at DeSales should be extremely proud of this group of student-athletes and the standard they have established. Their accomplishments attest to the outstanding athletic department at DeSales High School. It is an honor to represent such a fine group of young people who have a strong dedication to each other, their sport and their academics. I know every member of this championship team will treasure the memories of their remarkable season and I commend them, and the greater DeSales community, for this truly great achievement.

CELEBRATING A CENTURY WITH  
THE CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO

**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today a proud Chattanooga with the distinct privilege of recognizing the 100th anniversary of the world famous Chattanooga Choo-Choo. As one of the city's oldest and most well-known attractions, the appeal of the Choo-Choo has stood the test of time reaching far beyond the banks of the Tennessee River.

History recalls a bitterly cold winter morning of December 1, 1909, as a crowd of several hundred gathered in the 1400 block of Market Street for the dedication of Chattanooga's "Gateway"—Terminal Station, and the first train pulled into the station that day. At its pinnacle, the depot grew to serve nearly 50 passenger trains a day. Over the years, the Choo-Choo has welcomed many honored guests including three United States Presidents—Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, and my political role model, Theodore Roosevelt.

This Terminal Station's place in history was literally recorded by the Glenn Miller Orchestra in 1941 in the movie *Sun Valley Serenade*. Over the years, those words, "Pardon me boy . . . is that the Chattanooga Choo-Choo," have actually become more well known than the movie that introduced the Choo-Choo to the world.

Even though the last train stopped on August 11, 1970, the Chattanooga Choo-Choo has thrived as a unique vacation and business gathering complex. As part of the Centennial Celebration, the Chattanooga Choo-Choo will join the prestigious group of Historic Hotels of America as one of HHA's two-hundred plus unique historic properties, hotels and inns across the country. This is a remarkable accomplishment for a facility that was spared the wrecking ball in 1973 by a group of local businessmen. In 1974, it was most appropriately added to the National Register of Historic Places. The Choo-Choo is a great testament to the citizens of Chattanooga who have remained committed to preserving our city's history for future generations to enjoy.

HONORING WILLIAM J. ROGERS

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of William J. Rogers of Auburn, ME.

Bill Rogers was a model American. He fought to protect our country, was an advocate for veterans and a leader in his community. Bill was born and grew up in Auburn, Maine. He attended Syracuse University, but his education was cut short when he enlisted in the Navy to fight in World War II. During flight school he was classmates with Major League Baseball Hall of Famer Ted Williams and Boston Red Sox great Johnny Pesky. He was roommates with the latter. Bill Rogers flew F6F Hellcat Fighter planes and Lockheed Ventura Submarine hunters in the pacific theatre.

When he left the military after the war in 1946, his decorations included the Air Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation.

After the war, he became very active in veterans affairs. He was a founding member of American Legion Post 153 in Auburn, where he held several offices at both the local and state levels including adjutant, vice commander and department commander. On the national level, he was Maine's national executive committeeman, a member of the liaison committee to the National Public Relations Commission and national vice commander from 1965 to 1966. In 1976, he was elected national commander of the American Legion, the first national commander from the State of Maine. In his capacity as commander, he met with Panamanian dictator General Omar Torrijos and then testified before a congressional committee on the process of returning the canal back to Panama.

During his tenure as commander, he also met with Presidents Ford and Carter, Mexico's President Lopez Portillo, Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, and President Chieng of the Republic of China. During his year as national commander, he traveled more than 300,000 miles throughout the world representing millions of veterans in all 50 states and 17 countries.

Bill Rogers was a lifelong member of the American Legion, the Army/Navy Club, the Navy League of the U.S., the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a trustee of the Maine Veterans' Home. Bill was named Auburn Maine's Citizen of the Year in 1995. The State of Maine and the American Legion are honoring his memory and hard work by dedicating American Legion Post 153 to him.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring William J. Rogers for his life of dedication and service to his community and his country.

RECOGNIZING THE CHAMPIONSHIP  
SEASON OF WORTHINGTON  
CHRISTIAN'S BOYS SOCCER  
TEAM

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 1, 2009*

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, it is with pleasure I congratulate the members of the Worthington Christian Boys Soccer team as they recently won the Division III State Championship.

The soccer team finished its remarkable season by beating Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy 2-1 when junior midfielder, Trent Smith scored the winning goal in the first overtime. Led by Head Coach Dan Roads, the victory reflects his team's outstanding perseverance as they rebounded from losing in last year's final to win the 2009 championship.

After their winning 2009 season, the school can proudly display their second title in four years. With a history like that, I'm sure the future is bright for this fine soccer program.

This team has set a standard for future Worthington Christian athletes of all sports to strive toward. Everyone at this fine academic institution should be extremely proud of this group of student-athletes, and I'm proud to congratulate this team and join with them in celebrating the history made with their State Championship title.