

Jr., aged 44, died in Iraq from injuries sustained during combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Major Culver was raised in Shreveport, LA, by his loving parents, Ronald and Betty Culver, and graduated from Louisiana State University in Shreveport. He lived and worked in El Dorado, AR, for most of his life and has been the commander of the John C. Carroll VFW Post 2413 in El Dorado for the last three years.

He was an active member of the El Dorado community and served on the Union County 4-H Foundation Board, helping to raise funds for the local 4-H program's activities.

Major Culver served in the Army National Guard for 22 years. He carried out his duties with pride in his country and without reservation and each of us owes him our eternal gratitude for his selfless sacrifice.

Major Culver was a highly-decorated combat veteran and received numerous awards and citations during his 22-year career, including the Bronze Star; Purple Heart; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Iraq Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device; Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; Louisiana War Cross; Louisiana Commendation Medal; Louisiana Longevity Ribbon; Louisiana Emergency Services Ribbon; Louisiana Cross of Merit; Combat Action Badge; and Overseas Service Bar.

Major Culver committed his life to his family; his community and his country. My deepest thoughts and prayers are with his loving wife, Tracey, and two children who live in El Dorado, his parents and the rest of his friends and family during this extraordinarily difficult time.

Our Nation is safer and stronger because of brave heroes like Major Culver. Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life of Major Wayne Culver and his legacy, as well as each man and woman in our Armed Forces who give the ultimate sacrifice in service to our great country.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5136) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Chair, when the President announced his decision to repeal the current policy, known as "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," earlier this year, the military service chiefs and the Secretary of Defense requested the opportunity to carry out the President's directive in an orderly manner that would assure the maintenance of discipline and morale in the Armed Forces. It

was agreed at that time, including by the President, that a survey would be sent to all the troops so that their input would be taken into account regarding how best to implement the new policy, and that a report with such recommendations as to how to best implement the new policy would be issued this December, before any legislative action was taken. I believe that that process, which was agreed to by the President pursuant to the request of the service chiefs and the Secretary of Defense, should be followed.

Breaking the agreement now by having this vote is most unfortunate, and I strongly disagree with the decision of the President, the Speaker, and the majority leadership to break that agreement today.

HONORING THE CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS IN THE STANLEY CUP FINALS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today because the Roar is back on Madison.

My Chicago Blackhawks are Western Conference champions and just a day away from Game 1 of the Stanley Cup finals.

Diehard Hawks fans have been waiting since 1961 for the Cup to come home to the Windy City.

And it's on behalf of every last one of them that I want to thank the brain trust that has made this all possible.

In just three years, Rocky Wirtz, Dale Tallon, John McDonough, Stan Bowman, and Jay Blunk have resurrected a franchise and reminded Chicago that it has always been a hockey town.

Tomorrow night the United Center will be bathed in red and rocking so loud folks might just mistake it for the old Chicago Stadium.

As I've said here before, I look forward to coming back this summer with Lord Stanley's Cup freshly engraved with names like Toews, Kane, Byfuglien, and Niemi.

We're just four wins away.

CONGRATULATING THE PATRIOTS OF PACE HIGH SCHOOL'S BASEBALL TEAM

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today and congratulate the Patriots of Pace High School on becoming the Region 1 Class 5A Baseball State Champions. The hard work and dedication of all the young men on the team is truly extraordinary. For that reason, Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor and recognize their accomplishments.

Pace High School's baseball team, led by Coach Charlie Warner, finished the season with an impressive 29-2 record. While they were ultimately able to achieve their goal and bring home a State championship, it was not done without countless hours of practice and immeasurable amounts of sacrifice. The time

the team spent together on and off the field will not only be remembered for leading them to a second state title in five years, but the forged friendships and lessons learned will never be forgotten. The character, talent and commitment of the young men on Pace High School's baseball team has indeed set the bar high for their classmates and the community.

On behalf of the United States Congress and the entire community of Northwest Florida, I congratulate Pace High School's baseball team for winning their fourth State championship. Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of these young men. My wife Vicki and I wish them much continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL ARTHRITIS AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, May is National Arthritis Awareness Month and I rise to let Americans know how they can prevent and decrease the pain and disability of arthritis. Arthritis is the nation's most common cause of disability in the U.S., affecting 46 million adults and 300,000 children. Arthritis is also a common co-morbidity for most other chronic diseases. For example, 57% of adults with heart disease and 52% of adults with diabetes also have arthritis.

There are over 100 types of arthritis. Osteoarthritis, the most common form, affects 27 million Americans, often causing severe pain and disability, interfering with work productivity, and resulting in joint replacement. The risk of osteoarthritis increases rapidly beginning at age 45, affecting many people in their prime working years. The combination of the aging Baby Boomer population, increased longevity, and the obesity epidemic are creating a "perfect storm" for dramatically increasing the prevalence of osteoarthritis, especially in women.

Despite this troubling prediction, there is some good news. Numerous new initiatives are underway to address these issues. The National Public Health Agenda for Osteoarthritis, developed through a partnership of the Arthritis Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and 50 other organizations, a blueprint for actions to stem the tide of osteoarthritis. The Agenda states the need to increase availability of evidence-based intervention strategies; increase public health attention for prevention and disease management; increase research to better understand disease risk factors and other effective disease management strategies.

In addition, a new national public service advertising campaign is being undertaken and the Arthritis Foundation is encouraging adults to take simple steps to prevent or decrease the pain and disability of osteoarthritis. The new multimedia campaign features messages about the important role that physical activity and weight reduction play in preventing and managing osteoarthritis. The related website—www.fightarthritispain.org—includes important information, like an osteoarthritis risk assessment tool for people to find out their risk level and learn how to fight osteoarthritis pain, and