

The national independence movement had reached a remarkable momentum with hundreds of thousands demonstrating for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. The emerging democratic groups and protesters called for independence from the Soviet Union and removal of Communists officials. On the night of January 19–20, more than 130 people died, 611 were injured, 841 were arrested and 5 went missing. In the days after the invasion, thousands of Azerbaijanis surrounded Communist Party headquarters demanding the resignation of the republic's leadership. Soviet troops were eventually withdrawn from Baku, but political control was maintained for almost another 2 years until Azerbaijan's parliament declared independence in October 1991. The Republic of Azerbaijan has maintained its independence for more than 17 years.

Today, Azerbaijan has developed into a thriving country with double digit growth, in large part due to a freely elected president and parliament, free market reforms led by the energy sector, and, most importantly, no foreign troops on its soil.

Mr. Speaker, let us remember those who sacrificed their lives and those who stood against communism and dictatorship on the monumental "Black January" day on January 20, 1990.

HONORING THE CARROLL SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOL DRAGON FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Carroll Senior High School Dragon football team for winning the 2011 Class 5A Division I Texas State Championship title.

The Dragons finished the season with a perfect 16–0 record and the program's eighth state championship. Carroll High School competes in the University Interscholastic League Class 5A, the most competitive athletic class composed of the largest schools in Texas.

Carroll had a thrilling 2011 season, winning three playoff games after being behind in the second half. The state championship was especially exciting where the Dragons played Fort Bend Hightower High School at Cowboys Stadium with an attending crowd of 42,822.

Hightower had a 29–28 lead over Carroll starting the fourth quarter. In Hightower's first possession of the fourth quarter, Carroll linebacker Will Davis caused a fumble that was recovered by the Dragons on Hightower's 29-yard line. With key positioning in Hightower territory, Carroll quarterback Kenny Hill led the offense to a touchdown with five plays. Carroll then scored a two-point conversion giving them a lead of 36–28.

With 9:18 left in the fourth quarter, the Carroll defense shut down the Hightower offense. On a second down, cornerback Sabian Holmes made a pivotal play breaking up a pass near the end zone, and on the third down, linebackers Will Davis and Jeff Miller sacked the Hightower quarterback, forcing a punt. Following the punt return, the Dragon of-

fense shrewdly ran down the clock to win the state championship title.

I am extremely proud of the entire Carroll football team. I would like to take a moment to recognize all of the players who contributed to this championship:

Drew Ahmuty, Derek McLemore, Ryan Weigel, Jared Bales, Ray Crockett, Peyton Williams, Cameron Feuchter, Ben Segó, Connor Dyer, Corey Kemp, Tanner Jacobson, Austin Miller, Kyle McKinney, Blake McWhirter, Sean Dickson, Brandon Viohl, Kenny Hill, Conner Combs, Tyler Hunter, Ian Moss, Tyler Barnes, Kellen Day, David Stroope, Tanner Hutyra, Britton Wallace, Michael Stephens, Anthony Custable, Matthew Zauber, Chris Swart, Luke Kissick, James Noetzel, Sabian Holmes, Reid Hall, Roy Peryea, Robert Harless, Jeremy McClellan, Zach Hernandez, AJ Ezzard, Nick Melocik, Aaron Hoagland, Carter Bishop, Adaryan Jones, Matt Swoyer, Travis Martin, Derek Kalata, Hunter Westmoreland, Drew Brown, Will Davis, Conor Owens, Alex Johnston, Sam Downey, Joseph Formella, Steven Bergmark, Nash Neu, Dillon Rake, Jacob White, Landon Howard, Christian Poucket, Jeff Miller, Brian Bonacci, Nick Arst, Jackson Mitchell, Korbin Wayton, Edgar Gonzalez, Hunter Lackey, Michael Gavin, Nicholas Berman, Austin Tyrone, Dustin Flegle, JJ Prince, Alec Deutsch, Brady Stallings, Kyle Arpaia, Patrick Mundlin, Raymond Proietti, Ryan Hauser, Caleb LaCombe, Kyle Rae, Jack Proskovec, Evan Brown, Clay Hochstrate, Avery Hill, Connor Chase, Andrew Olear, Gabe Callan, Matt Jackson, Holden Sheehan, Connor Wakeham, Grant Drowelow, Cam Manning, Chad Kwong, Garrett Hale, Keaton Duhon, Joe Heineman, Sammy Silver, Haydn Billman, Caden Carlton, Brandon Gordon, Hunter Peck, Jesse Martinez, Cenani Lalani, Luke Timian, Blake Collins, Jake Webb, Al Tolbert, Matt Watford, Davin Campbell, Connor Page, James Hagerman, Scott Marks, Brock Sales, Ty Cummings, Joseph Depinto, Nash Dickey, Spencer Sunstrum.

Of course, no championship team is complete without those behind the scenes. Head Coach Hal Wasson; Asst. Coaches Clayton George, Tim Wasson, Mike Loveless, Tony Holmes, Austin Cranford, Aaron Lineweaver, Robert Drake, Brad Skinner, Kirk Rogers, Rob Royer and Brandon Murdock; Team Managers Colt Meachem, Nick Foster, Nick Bromley and Brendon James; Athletic Trainers Derek Abell, Allison Loftin and Carrie Saulters; and Student Trainers Sye Noble, Cameron Spence, Ragan Sims, Scott Miritillo, James Sarandis, and Brad Mason were all key contributors to Carroll's 2011 championship.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the Carroll Senior High School Dragons football team for its victory in the 2011 Class 5A Division I state Texas state championship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT L. TURNER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, because of travel delays due to inclement weather,

I missed the two votes on January 23, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on House Resolution 3117, the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2011 (Rollcall 5) as well as House Resolution 1141, the Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act (Rollcall 6).

I understand the responsibility of representing the residents of the Ninth Congressional District of New York and I regret missing these two votes.

CONGRATULATING BACARDI ON  
ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bacardi on its 150th anniversary. The company was founded by Don Facundo Bacardi Massó in Santiago de Cuba on February 4, 1862, and overcame multiple adversities to become the largest privately-held spirits company, one that today sells more than 200 brands and labels in more than 150 markets globally, and the third largest spirits company in the world. Family-owned and run for seven generations, the Company employs nearly 6,000 people around the world. Bacardi has a significant presence and history in the United States.

As its business grew in Cuba, Bacardi capitalized on growing opportunities abroad and expanded outside of Cuba as Cuba's first multinational company. In 1916, the Company established a bottling facility in New York City. Bacardi rum is distributed by Bacardi U.S.A., Inc. based in my home district of Coral Gables, Florida. Having toured the offices recently, I've seen first hand the energy and excitement in the employees about the company.

I congratulate the Bacardi rum brand on its 150th anniversary and commend the Bacardi Company for 150 years of business perseverance and commitment to continue sustainable business practices, fairness to employees and generosity to the community at large that built Bacardi during the past 150 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ST.  
IGNATIUS FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 24, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the St. Ignatius Football Team, which won the 2011 Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA) Division I State Championship.

St. Ignatius High School was founded in September of 1886 on Cleveland's West 30th