country free. Great soldiers come in mind: General George Washington, General George Patton, Army Nurse Murph, the less famous but no less important vet. John Joseph Kunkes, my grandfather, fought in Korea. He was missing from action from his platoon for one month. He was on his own staying alive on skills taught to him by the U.S. Army.

Thinking about my grandfather's adventures makes me remember every veteran has their tale to tell. It would be to our best interest to seek out his story and appreciate his commitments to his country and his branch of service.

To some, Veterans Day is a day off of school or work. But World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam fighters make me shiver. They fought in those wars and risked their lives that makes them so great.

On Veterans Day, remember and pray for courageous vets and honor them with the respect and dignity they deserve. To all past, present, and future veterans, remember we are all behind you.

**Veterans Day**

(By Julian Ollry, Nathan Hale Middle School)

Many brave men and women have given their lives in wartime for our country. One that was not so far in the past was the Vietnam War. The veterans of this war must be especially honored for their valor and loyalty at the most crucial time in American History.

This war was difficult for Americans because many of them disagreed with the war. In 1973, the United States government had agreed to stop fighting in Vietnam. When many soldiers returned from the hardships during the war, their friends or relatives died in battle, many Americans did not support them and many soldiers felt very unappreciated. Veterans are now beginning to be recognized by other foreign war heroes. Veterans gather at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC to place gifts and stand quiet vigil at the names of their friends and relatives who fell in the Vietnam War. Families have lost sons and/or daughters in wars. Their thoughts and many others are toward peace and the avoidance of future wars.

Today, let us give thanks to these Vietnam veterans and all the brave men and women who fought for America. These soldiers are our heroes. They gave their lives for us and for the cause of freedom. May each and everyone be honored for eternity.

**What Veterans Day Means to Me**

(By Amanda Lally, Grade 7, St. Jane de Chantal Elementary School)

Veterans Day is a very important holiday in our country. It honors all of those who are living and dead—who served with the US armed forces in times of war. We owe so much to those brave men and women who fought for our freedom and protected our country.

I am very proud to have family members who have served for our country. My great-grandfather fought in World War II. He was captured by the enemy and became a prisoner of war, but he survived and came home. My great-uncle fought in the Korean Conflict. They were both proud to serve our country, so that everyone would be able to lead happy, safe lives.

So, to me, Veterans Day is a very important holiday, because it helps people realize what others went through to help the nation.

**Veterans Day**

(By William Matuszak, St. Rene Goupil Elementary School)

Veterans Day is a time to remember and honor men and women who have served in the Armed Forces. This holiday is celebrated on November 11.

Veterans Day is important to me for many reasons. Both my grandfathers have served in a war. One served in World War II and the other in the Korean Conflict. It is not only important to me, but to everyone, because many families have served in armies and have fought for their countries in wars. Veterans Day can also show people between each other in the Korean Conflict. It is not only important for veterans, but for every American. Veterans Day is a time to honor all who have died and all who are still living that have served their nation in the military. Let us keep all of the men and women who are presently serving in our military that God will keep them out of harm’s way.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all of these fine authors the best of luck in their future studies.

**College Student Credit Card Protection Act**

Mr. Stenholm. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a great deal of Texas pride to recognize
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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

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an outstanding individual, Gordon Wood of Brownwood, Texas.

In today's edition of the Dallas Morning News, the newspaper named Coach Wood, the "Coach of the Century" as part of its 100 Years of Texas High School Football series. I can think of no one more deserving. Coach Wood not only led and inspired many young people during his career but also brought great achievements to several Texas communities.

"Coach" was an important figure during the formative years of my life, and he has remained so. Early in his career, he coached in my hometown of Stamford. He led our team to two State championships, and I am proud to have been part of his early success. He went on to lead the Brownwood Lions to seven State championships and won a total of 405 games in his 43-year career.

Coach Wood is a legend in Texas not only for his coaching but for the way he has led his life. To me, that puts him in the Ranks of Tom Landry, Bear Bryant and Joe Paterno. I wish to include in the RECORD a copy of the article that ran this morning in the Dallas Morning News.

This is a great tribute to Coach Wood and his wife, Katharine, and I know there are many folks who join me in sending them congratulations and best wishes.

[From the Dallas Morning News, Nov. 17, 1999]

ALWAYS IN THE GAME—FOOTBALL, GORDON Wood STILE, STILL ABSORBS COACH OF CENTURY

( Kevin Sherrington)

BROWNWOOD, Texas.—Gordon Wood wears hearing aids in both ears. He had a triple bypass in 1990, and five years ago a stroke punched a few holes in his memory. He's working on his third artificial hip. He's diabetic. A faint white web of scars runs wild working on his third artificial hip. He's diabetic. A faint white web of scars runs wild.

This is what can happen to you if you live 85 years.

He can't play golf because of the bad left hip. He won't play checkers anymore because that's what he was doing when the world started spinning, and he walked into a rest-room and couldn't find his way out. A stroke, the doctors told him. A woman came to get him in the restroom and asked him to step back with his right foot. He tried to comply but stepped forward instead, right into the toilet.

Checkers was fun, and he was good at it, but it's not worth it if it reminds him of... makes it 21-3, Brownwood.

How far is it?"

Gaw-dang," Wood says.

Wood drove five hours a day to watch Tech's line backers. He drove every day for two weeks to learn something from a coach half his age. Parcells said Wood had as much influence on him as Halsas, Lombardi, Noll or Landry, and he thinks about him every summer when training camp starts, thinks about the old man with more than 300 wins "driving five hours a day to find out something."

Wood has gone farther than that. Every year, for 43 years, he has traveled around the country to the American Football Coaches Association meeting. He has lectured at coaching clinics in 18 states, most of them more than once. He spoke in Tennessee last summer.

He went to Canada three times, in the summers of 1967, '69 and '71. He was guest coach for the CFL's Winnipeg Blue Bombers, coached by a man named Jim Spavtoli, who played at Oklahoma State and first met Wood in the Navy.

After one of his summer trips north, Katharine spoke to him. "They're just overgrown boys," he said.

He only had a few players who went on to play professional football—prime example was Lawrence Elkins, the Baylor receiver, his career ruined by injuries in the NFL. The best set was the three Southall brothers—St., Terry and Shae—all quarterbacks, the sons of his long-time assistant, Morris Southall.

Southall helped run the offense. In the Wing-T, the Lions flipped the offensive line to double their number of plays and simplify blocking assignments. Wood told Royal about it in 1960, when Royal invited him on a trip to New York. Royal used the flip-flop in 1963, when he won his first national championship.

"We ran more formations than most teams run plays," Wood says. "We'd run 36, 39, 42 plays a week in practice, and the second team got just as many reps as the first team."

Checkers was fun, and he was good at it, but it's not worth it if it reminds him of... makes it 21-3, Brownwood.

And, always, the rules were the same. "Kid makes a mistake in practice," Wood says, "we run it over again."

But it is his obsessive perfectionism that drives him. He watches anxiously from his press box seat, talking to someone about how in the world Joshua can be moving the ball at all when he suddenly realizes that the Joshua band is playing.

"Did they score?" he asks, incredulous.

Forty-year-old field goal, someone says. Makes it 21-3, Brownwood.

"Gaw-dang," Wood says.

Ever the teacher, he comes back to talking about offense. He got plays everywhere. He'd see something in a college game on Saturday...
afternoon and put it in the game plan Sunday night.

He has spoken at so many clinics that most of what he says seems as if he were reading it off the walls of a locker room.

On a coach who wouldn’t leave his team for a week: “If you can’t leave for four days, you’ve got a poor group of assistant coaches. And if you leave for four days, the kids will listen to you more when you come back.”

On the variety of offenses available: “It doesn’t make a dang what you line up in; it’s what you do after you get there.”

On his coaching philosophy: “It’s not the big things that beat you; it’s a million little things.”

The little things might surprise you. He watched a coach in practice one day and noticed that, on every offensive play, he put the ball down on a yard line. Wood couldn’t believe it. How often does that happen in a game? Move the ball around, he told them. Make the players look to see where the ball is, and maybe they won’t draw foolish penalties for lining up offsides.

His assistants know what he wanted. Southall, the only assistant over elected president of the Texas High School Coaches Association, worked for him 31 of his last 38 years in coaching.

Southall left him only a couple of times, once to be head coach at Winters after Wood left from Stamford, where he won state championships in 1955 and ’56.

“If I had him at Stamford . . .” Wood says of Southall and stops in mid-sentence that’s two balls they’ve dropped,” he says, “you’re wasting your time going to college. You’ll just be a teacher or preacher, and you’ll starve.”

Gordon Wood was the only one of A.V.s who recently became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Ohio.

Hoisting Ron R. Rogers as he is Installed as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in Ohio.

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ronald R. Rogers, a constituent, who recently became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for 1999–2000.

Mr. Rogers has an extensive Masonic record. He began his Masonic career as Master Councilor of Ivanhoe Chapter of the Order of DeMolay. He received his Chavalier Degree in 1952 and was awarded the Active Legion of Honor in 1976. He became a Master Mason in Norwood Lodge No. 576 in 1972. Before becoming Grand Master, Mr. Rogers was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1996, Senior Grand Warden in 1997, and Deputy Grand Master in 1998.

A Cincinnati native, Mr. Rogers is a graduate of Norwood High School and received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati. He worked for Clayton L. Scroggins, a management consulting firm, for 35 years. Mr. Rogers is the proud father of a daughter, Robin, and the proud grandfather of a granddaughter, Leslie.

Active in his community, Mr. Rogers is a member of the Forest Chapel United Methodist Church. He has served Forest Chapel as Chairman of Finance, Chairman of Music and a member of the Administrative Board. He sang in the Forest Chapel Chancel Choir and also served as its president. Mr. Rogers is a past Area Financial Officer of United Way and past President of the Forest Park Band Boosters.

We congratulate Ronald Rogers on his position as Grand Master, and wish him every success during his tenure.

Communications Satellite Competition and Privatization Act of 1999

Mr. BILEY, Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3261. I am pleased that today we will