

are expected to climb further, we have an obligation to act now to shore up our public education system. The School of the Future is leading that journey.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to The School of the Future as it strives to bring our public education system into the next millennium. The School's important work with New York City's children is priceless. It is an honor to have the School in my district.

TRIBUTE TO COACH ROBERT
"BOB" HUGHES

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and give honor to a Texas legend: Coach Robert "Bob" Hughes whose name is synonymous with the game of basketball. Coach Hughes has a winning reputation that stretches far beyond the great State of Texas and the mark he continues to make on the sporting culture of this great country is without argument an indelible one.

This remarkable man's career spans almost four decades. He began his career at the proud and the historic I.M. Terrell school. After the unfortunate closing of I.M. Terrell, Coach Hughes carried on his winning tradition at Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School where he continues coaching today and is an exemplar of integrity and sportsmanship. Among his many outstanding accomplishments: 19 district championships, 3 State championships, Coach of the Year 22 times. He has been featured in Sports Illustrated, and seen on the CNN. He also has more wins than any other high school coach in America at 1,120 and counting.

People in Fort Worth often associate Bob Hughes with his young Wildcat teams, but it needs to be noted that this man has been directly responsible for producing many of the fine business and community leaders who contribute so much to our city and country every day.

Congratulations Coach Hughes on the well-deserved honor you are receiving from Dunbar High. This is yet another momentous occasion in a life filled with them.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL COWBOY
POETRY AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Sixth Annual Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival that took place at the historic Melody Ranch in Santa Clarita, CA. For 4 days, cowboy enthusiasts such as myself, were entertained by local residents, as well as individuals from 22 different states and 2 foreign nations.

This ranch has a significant historical background, Mr. Speaker. Once owned by Gene

Autry, the Melody Ranch was used for some of the greatest western movies featuring legendary stars such as Tom Mix, Hopalong Cassidy, Gary Cooper, John Wayne, and Ronald Reagan.

In celebration of our Western Heritage, this festival brought together communities from around the nation and around the world to my hometown to enjoy in a bygone era of cowboys, campfires, and country music. Cowboy music, poetry, and food provided everyone with what Santa Claritas know to be true, that country and western tradition are among the very best that our nation has to offer.

Whether it was the special performances at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage, the mansion of silent film star William S. Hart, or the Heritage Junction Historic Park this festival can be called nothing less than an overwhelming success. I would like to applaud the organizers, the participants, and the community as a whole for their participation in this event.

Mr. Speaker, as I end these remarks and I reflect back on the Cowboy Poetry and Music Festival, I am reminded of the end of so many of the western movies that show the cowboy riding off into the sunset. We sure hope that he returns next year to make certain that future generations never forget this indispensable history.

HONORING WEBSTER HIGH
SCHOOL'S VICTORY IN THE NYS
SCIENCE OLYMPIAD CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

Mrs. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to take a moment to call attention to the outstanding accomplishments of a dedicated team of students from the Rochester region. In March 1999, the Webster High School Science Olympiad team competed in the New York State Science Olympiad championship and finished in first place. This is the second time in 3 years that students from Webster have been victorious in this challenging and difficult competition. In addition, this year's victory is the 5th year in a row that the team has placed first or second state-wide.

The Science Olympiad focuses on confronting the critical situation of declining academic achievement in science classes nationwide. The rigorous academic competitions are dedicated towards the goals of improving the quality of science education, increasing student interest in science, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers. The atmosphere surrounding these events strikes a balance among science facts, concepts, skills, and applications, while simultaneously encouraging teamwork and enthusiasm. Since the first national tournament in 1985, this organization has helped to create a significant increase in student interest in science.

As members of the Student Olympiad, this group of Webster students have committed themselves to these goals. Their exemplary

performance is a clear indication of their hard work and dedication, as well as an example of their commitment to academic excellence and intellectual achievement. In March they competed against 40 high schools in 25 events focusing on topics such as biology, earth science, chemistry, physics, problem solving, and technology.

It is my distinct privilege to recognize the members of the Webster High School Science Olympiad team as residents of my district. Their accomplishments create an academic standard which all students should strive to attain. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the students and the coaches on their victory in the 1999 Science Olympiad New York State championship.

HOME EDUCATION

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join the Missouri State Senate and Missouri House of Representatives in support of home education. The Missouri General Assembly has designated the first week of May as Home Education Week. Missouri is looked to as a leader nationwide in home education movement.

Home education in Missouri has enjoyed considerable success in recent years because of the tremendous support received from countless citizens who realize the significance of family participation in the education process. Home education allows parents to ensure that the positive character traits and moral values instilled in their children at home are reinforced by the educational process.

Home education is successful and history proves it. Since the founding of America many famous Americans have been home educated. That list includes George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Booker T. Washington, Thomas Edison, Andrew Carnegie, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mark Twain and Sandra Day O'Connor. Home education is practiced by over 4,600 citizens of Missouri.

Without hesitation, I thank each parent who is at home teaching their child the skills they will need to succeed in the competitive world we live in today. I hope that my colleagues will join me today to let you know that your efforts are generally appreciated.

HONORING McDONALD'S RESTAURANT OWNERS FOR THEIR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 1999

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the nearly 200 independent McDonald's Restaurant Owners of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut for launching the Arching into Education Scholarship program. These locally owned and operated restaurants have a long-standing commitment to the communities they